

Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park

September 12, 2021



Parish Office

188 S. Oak Park Avenue Oak Park, Illinois 60302; Telephone: 708-848-4417

New Parish Center Office Hours during COVID-19: Monday - Saturday: 10am - 3pm

Sunday: closed

Visit the parish web-site at stedmund.org. You may also e-mail us from the web-site.

 Follow us on Twitter at: St. Edmunds-Oak Park or @edmunds_oakpark

Parish Administration and Staff

Rev. John McGivern, Pastor

Ms. Peggy Leddy, Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Maria Allori, Development Director

Deacon Thomas Dwyer, Parish Business Manager

Mr. Donald Giannetti, Parish Assistant

Mrs. Kelly Dobbs-Mickus, Director of Music

Mrs. Christine A. Rousakis, Manager, Parish Office

Rev. Gene Gratkowski, *Weekend Presider*

Rev. John Lucas, *Weekend Presider*

Rev. John O'Callaghan, S.J., *Weekend Presider*

School of Religious Education

200 S. Oak Park Avenue Oak Park, Illinois 60302

School of Religious Education Telephone: 708-848-7220

Visit the parish web-site at stedmund.org. You may also e-mail us from the web-site.

Religious Education Program Administration and Staff

Mrs. Janet Bennick, Coordinator of Religious Education · Ms. Kaydee Sproat, Program Secretary



All are welcome. An entrance ramp and push-bar automatic door is located at the eastern entrance of the church.

Staff Notes

In today's passage from the Gospel of Mark, St. Peter proclaimed to Jesus: "You are the Christ." Peter's response to Jesus' query, "Who do you say that I am," was the right answer, but not at all in the way that Peter intended it.

All the people of Israel expected their long-awaited Messiah to save them from their captives and make them politically and militarily superior to all their enemies. They expected it, as we say today, in "real time," and not in some too-distant-to-imagine future.

Of course, Jesus rebuked this improper notion of his "Messiah-ship," and in response to Peter's misunderstanding, he explained for the first time that being the "anointed one," the "Messiah," the "Christ," was very different than what they were taught to expect. It was a moment of raw emotion for Jesus. "Get behind me, Satan," he scolded Peter.

In the Marcan Gospel passage proclaimed at mass today, Jesus makes a prediction of his passion. Next Sunday, he will make this prediction a second time, and he will ask his disciples this question: "What were you arguing about on the way?" The disciples remained silent for they were wondering who among them was the greatest.

The response from the disciples in both today's and next week's passages makes it clear that they were hard-pressed to let go of their own desires for power and prestige, and while they may have been compelled by his person and his teaching, they also hoped that Jesus was their ticket to the good life—in this world!

Throughout the course of his public ministry, Jesus not only preached his gospel message of peace, forgiveness, humility and love, his behavior and activity was an overwhelming demonstration, an overwhelming model of how to live the words he proclaimed. And still, the disciples refused to understand.

As the story continues, in what could be understood

as his frustration, Jesus placed a child in the midst of the disciples and said: "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me."

This is a loaded sentence with a lot to unpack. The child is represented differently than we are accustomed to thinking. We look at children and think how precious and precocious they are. At the time of our Lord, while this perspective may have been true, the child was also considered the lowest of the low. A child had no power, no status even as an individual. Understood in this light, Jesus is challenging his disciples to love even the lowest and least powerful, and seemingly least worthy among them. This alarming statement flies directly in the face of their attempt to claim the prize of greatest among them. For if one with no status or earthly value holds the opportunity to "receive not [only Jesus] but the One who sent [him]," then the disciples would have no choice but to understand the identity of Jesus as the "Christ" in a new, albeit, radically different way.

We know that the disciples had much to learn; ultimately, it took a cross to be raised above them, before they would understand. True though this may be, let us be careful not to judge the disciples too harshly.

Like the disciples, you and I listen to the words of Jesus; and like them, we have been witness to his peace, forgiveness, humility and love in action. Why, then, do we continue to find ourselves overwhelmingly drawn to the lure of this world's fleeting joys? Why is it that we can hear the voice of God in our midst and still lust after the empty desire to be the greatest among others? Like the disciples before us, it is only when we choose to place ourselves at the foot of the cross can we begin to understand who Jesus is, and what it actually means to call him "the Christ."

Fr. John McGowan

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:30pm (Sunday Anticipatory)

Sunday: 11:00am

Monday & Friday: 8:30am

(Tue. & Wed. 8:30am at St. Catherine/St. Lucy Parish)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:30pm, Saturday

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:

Please call the Parish Office.

Sacrament of Baptism for Infants

Parents are asked to register at least 2 months in advance to attend the preparation class. Please note that the date of Baptism is not confirmed until parents complete the class.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Adults seeking to complete initiation or inquiring about becoming Catholic may call the Parish Office for information.

We Will Never Forget

9/11/01 - 9/11/21

We pray for all those living and deceased who suffered at the hands of terrorism.

We pray also for a conversion of heart for all those who perpetrate evil and hatred.



Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass, Sunday, 9/19

Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary are invited to The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass scheduled to be held next Sunday, September 19 at 2:30pm at St. John Brebeuf Parish in Niles, IL. Please contact *familyminis-*



Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

School of Religious Education



We currently have twenty-one (21) new or returning families enrolled at this time. This number includes three families from St. Catherine/St. Lucy Parish. We are very pleased to be able to share the Faith with all the young children that will be in St. Edmund Religious Education for 2021-22.

Religious Education classes begin today, Sunday, September 12 from 9:30am - 10:45am. Haven't had to time to register? You may still do so! Contact Janet Bennick at: jbennickstedmund@gmail.com or call 708-848-7220. We eagerly await your return!

Offertory for Weekend of August 28/29

Budgeted.....\$10,000.00
Weekend collection.....\$ 8,382.50

Deficit.....- 1,617.50

Offertory for Weekend of September 4/5

Budgeted.....\$10,000.00
Weekend collection.....\$ 7,584.45

Deficit.....- 2,415.50

Special Collection this Weekend

The annual collection for Housing Forward and other outreach ministries will be taken this weekend, September 11-12. Your support will help continue our ministry of caring for the homeless.. We thank you for your generosity.

Faith & Fellowship Seeking Compassionate Help

The mission of *Faith & Fellowship* is the creation of small communities of faith in which adults with severe and persistent mental illness can experience the loving presence of God. Volunteers meet weekly to provide accompaniment and inclusion with those whose illness is debilitating and disabling. We're offering an opportunity to learn more about this ministry at an Information/Orientation session on Wed., Sept. 15, 7-9pm, and repeated on Thurs., Sept. 16, 1-3pm, at St. Catherine St. Lucy rectory, 38 N. Austin Blvd. Parking is available south of the rectory, and covid precautions will be carefully followed. Contact Connie Rakitan at: faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or 708-383-9276.

Week at a Glance

September 12		
Sunday	9:30am	Religious Education School
	11am	Mass Church
	12:30pm	Baptism Church
September 13		
Monday	8:30am	Mass Church
September 17		
Friday	8:30am	Mass Church
September 18		
Saturday	5:30pm	Mass Church
September 19		
Sunday	11am	Mass Church

Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

We Pray for our Sick

Susan Becker,	Kelly Scott,
Bill Bokholdt,	Suzanne Sloma,
Sr. Mary Ruth Broz,	Paula Stumpe,
Dudley Cuj,	Claire Vaillancourt
Phil Kolovitz,	
Joseph A. Norton,	
Irv Schmidt,	

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Geraldine Bandera,
sister of Barbara Boril

Weddings this Weekend

Ann Sarpy and Bernard Elam

Special Remembrances at Daily Eucharist

Monday September 13
8:30am † Geraldine Bandera
Barbara Boril (*living intention*)

Friday September 17
8:30am † Rose Potje

Saturday September 18
5:30pm † Josh Nemeth, † Peter McDonnell,
† Donald Patterson

Sunday September 19 (25th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
11:00am † Perry Morrissey and Paula Partipilo

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Tm 2: 1-8, Lk 7: 1-10
Tuesday: Nm 21: 4b-9, Phil 2: 6-11
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3: 14-16, Jn 19: 25-27
Thursday: 1 Tm 4: 12-16, Lk 7: 36-50
Friday: 1 Tm 6: 2c-12, Lk 8: 1-3
Saturday: 1 Tm 6: 13-16, Lk 8: 4-15
Sunday: Wis 2: 12, 17-20, Jas 3: 16-4:3
Mk 9: 30-37