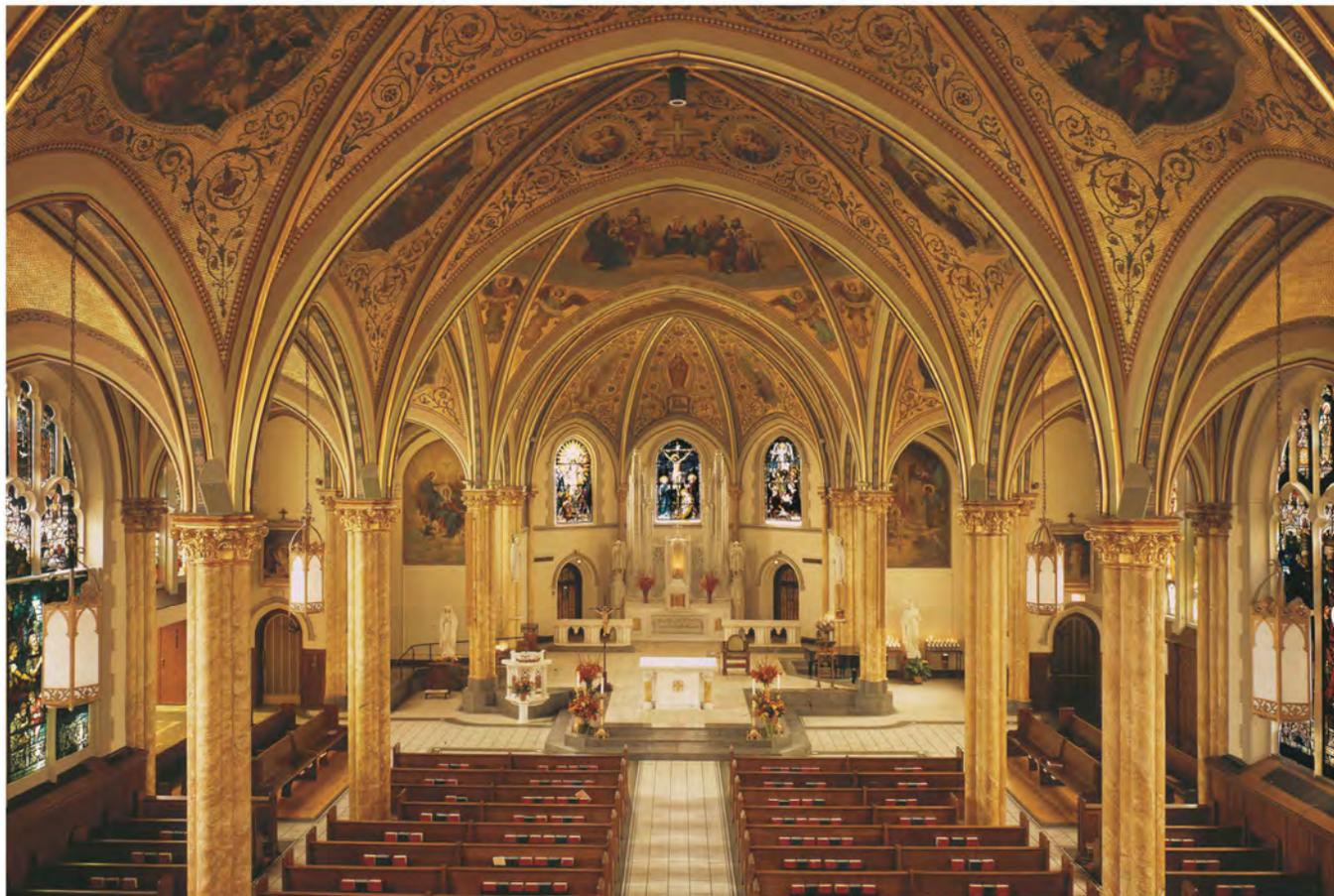


Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park

September 13, 2020



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
Ms. Kelly Dobbs-Mickus, Director of Music

Mrs. Christine A. Rousakis, Manager, Parish Office
Mr. Al Vargas, Facilities Manager

Rev. John Lucas, *Weekend Presider*
Rev. Gene Gratkowski, *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

**Permanent link to St. Edmund Parish
Saturday, 5:30pm live-streaming mass: [https://
www.youtube.com/stedmund](https://www.youtube.com/stedmund)**

Dear Parishioners,

Perhaps like me, you are asking yourselves, “How did we get to September already?”

2020 is certainly a year for the record books! Do you recall back in January how the new year started with devastating wildfires across the entire continent of Australia? Shortly thereafter, covid-19 broke out and spread across the entire world. There was the shocking news of Kobe Bryant’s death, along with his daughter and entourage in that helicopter crash. Most recently, the actor Chadwick Boseman died. Of course, on July 17, 2020, civil rights icon and heroic patriot Congressman John Lewis died.

In 2020, civil unrest has become commonplace across our country as people of color and so many others recognize and cry out against the systemic racism in American society. I think that we can all agree that the vast majority of our police personnel are good, hard-working men and women of integrity whom we applaud and appreciate. It does not change the fact, however, that there is a long list of Black individuals who have been killed at the hands of overzealous and yes, possibly, racist first responders. From Portland, Oregon to Portland, Maine people are taking to the streets to protest their experience of racism and inequality in America. Sadly, there are those who have chosen to exploit this time of civil unrest with looting, criminal activity and even murder.

Then, of course, there were 2 hurricanes this summer, the crazy *derecho* wind that wrought havoc throughout the Midwest, and now, the wildfires currently blazing in the American West.

Yes, 2020 is a year that none of us will soon or ever forget. What, however, are the lessons we will have learned from all the challenges of this year? Have we realized just how important our loved ones are to us? Can you have imagined that a time would come upon us when we haven’t hugged or kissed our loved ones in months?

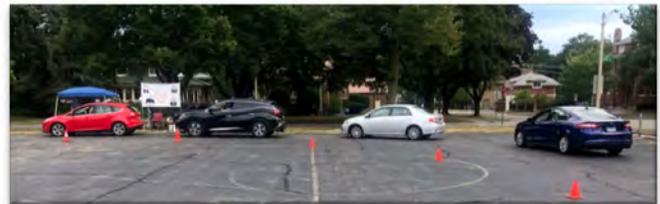
Have you come to realize that everyone of us has our own biases? Of course we all do, and the only way to address them, when they are the cause of our dislike or mistrust, is to confront them-to bring them out into the light of day, to acknowledge their reality so that we can then come up with a plan to eradicate them.

Have we learned to become just a bit gentler with one another? This pandemic has forever changed our lives. People are sad, lonely, depressed, have become unemployed, and many have caught this deadly virus. (My own niece, Julia, has recently been diagnosed with covid-19, and thankfully, her symptoms are relatively mild.) We cannot know what is in the hearts, minds, and

lives of others. What we can know is that everyone is somehow challenged by this virus. Wouldn’t it be a blessing if we could simply be kinder and gentler and more understanding?

I know that I’ve gone on a bit here, but these are some of the thoughts that have been running through my mind. On to some business...

At the evening mass last Saturday (5:30pm) our long-time music director, Kathy Halfpenny, played her last mass before retirement. Kathy has been an integral part of our music ministry for 50 years! That is an amazing statistic. You do realize that she has played at the weddings and funerals of your lives as well as all the Sunday masses, Christmases and Easters of your lives for the past 50 years! Here is a photo of the “Thank You but *NOT* Farewell Drive-By Party” we held for Kathy last Sunday.



As we say “thank you” to Kathy and wish her well on her retirement, we also welcome Kelly Dobbs-Mickus who now joins us as our new Music Director.

Kelly is a very talented organist, pianist and choral director who brings a wealth of knowledge and talent to the position. You will find her to be friendly and approachable. Please welcome Kelly when you see her in church or around the parish campus.



Finally, I wish to reiterate that the next weekend liturgy to open to the public will be the Sunday 11am mass, beginning on September 27th. Remember that you must register online (stedmund.org and click on the “RESERVATIONS” link). For those who do not use the internet, we keep 10 of the 50 slots open for people who prefer to call the parish office to make a reservation. Reservations become open on the Monday just prior to the upcoming liturgy.

Please know that I pray for you every day.

Very sincerely from your pastor,

M. John McGowan

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SAVE THE DATE!
Autumn Harvest Collection
Supports *Beyond Hunger*
Monday, 9/21/20; 5pm - 7pm
Parish Parking Lot
Co-Sponsors:
Peace and Justice Committee
Human Concerns Commission



Offertory for Weekend of August 29/30

Budgeted..... \$11,300.00
 Weekend collection..... \$ 9,969.50
 Weekly shortfall/surplus.....- 1,330.56

Offertory for Weekend of September 5/6

Budgeted.....\$11,300.00
 Weekend collection..... \$ 8,214.56
 Weekly shortfall/surplus.....- 3,085.56



You're always welcome to visit the parish website at: www.stedmund.org for ease of making donations to the parish. Click the Give Central link if you wish to make one-time, on-going or weekly or monthly donations through your credit card. Thank you!

Congratulations Lorne and Rachel Golman!

On September 4th, our parishioner Lorne Golman and his fiancée Rachel Pazda, were married here at St. Edmund Parish. Lorne's mother, Christine is a long-time parishioner. Lorne and his brother Alex grew up here at St. Edmund's and remain parishioners today. Along with their father Fritz, the Golman family are a lovely family who have shared their lives and their lives of faith with us for many years. We wish Lorne and Rachel years and years of shared love and joy.

You may not know that Lorne is the president/owner of Perfect Cut Productions, who has been live-streaming our Saturday 5:30pm mass since the pandemic hit in March. Lorne has done this gratis, as a gift to the parish. It is our hope, therefore, that when you are seeking such professional services, you will first consider Perfect Cut Productions (perfectcutproductions.com).

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 13 through
 Sunday, September 20

Most parish-related activities and meetings have been suspended or are taking place virtually. Please call the office if you have questions.

Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

We Pray for our Sick

Dudley Cuj,	Deborah Smith,
Florence Dalessandro	Irv Schmidt,
Ron Fernandopulle,	Kelly Scott,
Newman Kiamco,	Paula Stumpe,
Tom Norris,	Greg White,
	Violet Zaklan

If you had previously scheduled someone to be prayed for at a particular mass that is not currently taking place, we will follow up with you when that mass resumes.

Ways to Adapt - Pope Francis

"Christian Spirituality proposes a growth marked by moderation and the capacity to be happy with little. It is a return to that simplicity that allows us to stop and appreciate the small things." Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home" / Paragraph 222

Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

Victims of the wildfires on the West Coast.

Readings for the Week

Consider praying the daily mass readings at home. Log on to usccb.org and follow the link to the "Daily Readings."

Monday: Nm 21: 4b-9, Phil 2: 6-11, Jn 3: 13-17
Tuesday: 1 Cor 12: 12-14, 27-31a, Jn 19: 25-27
Wednesday: 1 Cor 12: 31: 13, Lk 7: 31-35
Thursday: 1 Cor 15: 1-11, Lk 7: 36-50
Friday: 1 Cor 15: 12-20, Lk 8: 1-3
Saturday: 1 Cor 1: 35-37, 42-49, Lk 8: 4-15
Sunday: Is 55: 6-9, Phil 1: 20c- 24, 27a
 Mt 20: 1-16a

Next weekend, only the Saturday, 9/19, 5:30pm liturgy will take place with a limit of 50 people. You must register to attend by logging on to the parish website: stedmund.org and click on the "RESERVATIONS" link. You may also call the parish office at 708-848-4417 x2011.