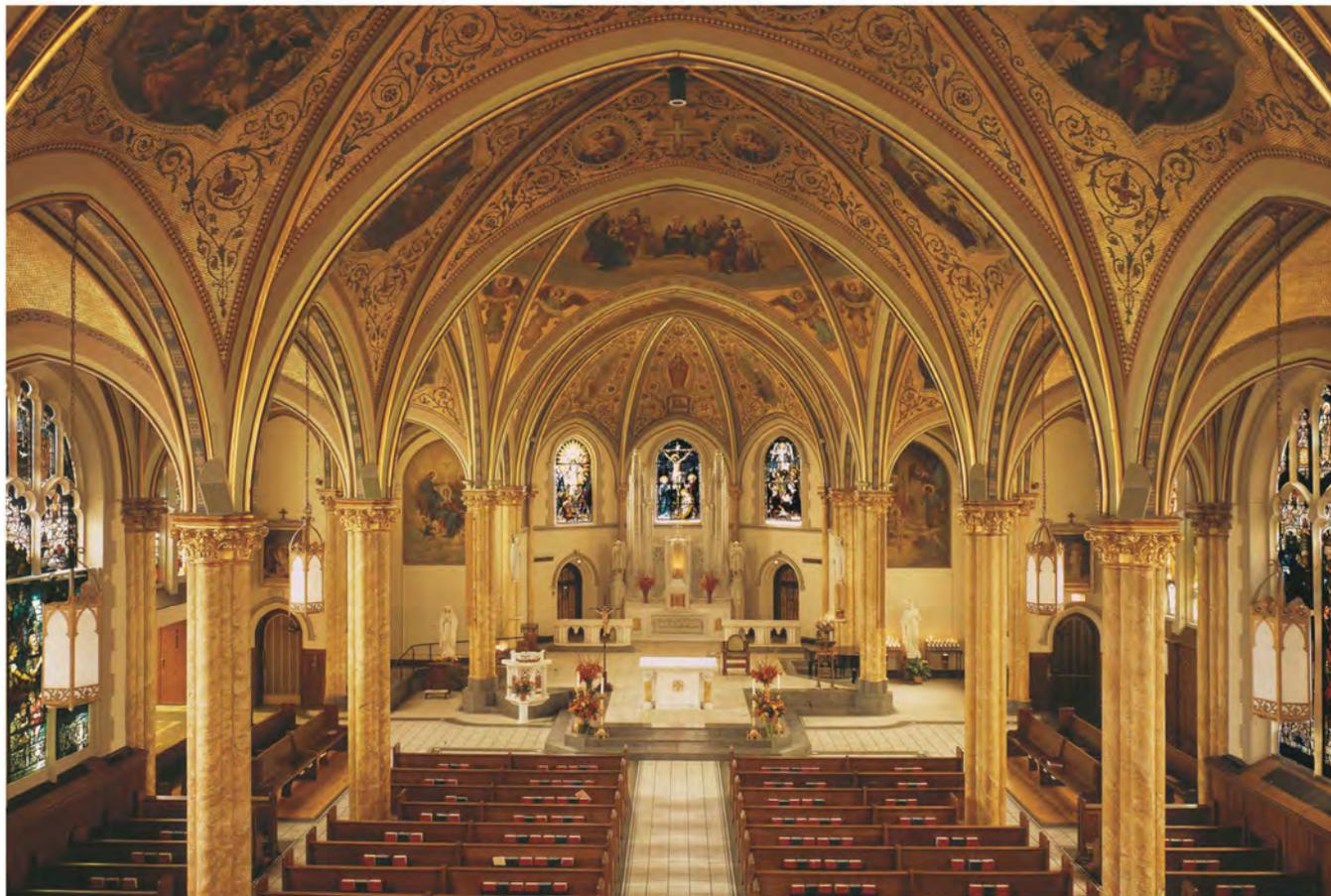


# Saint Edmund Parish *Echoes*

*Reaching out from the heart of Oak Park*

September 9, 2018



## Parish Office

188 S. Oak Park Avenue Oak Park, Illinois 60302; Telephone: 708-848-4417; Fax Line: 708-848-0049  
Parish Center Summer Office Hours: Monday, 9am - 8:00pm, Tuesday - Thursday, 9am - 4:30pm, Friday, 9am - 4pm  
Saturday 9am - 3pm; Sunday 9:00am - 1pm

Visit the parish web-site at [stedmund.org](http://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. Kathleen Halfpenny, 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 · RE/Fax Line: 708-386-5616

Visit the parish web-site at [stedmund.org](http://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.

## On Friendship

One of the richest experiences of grace that we can have this side of eternity is the experience of friendship. Dictionaries define friendship as a relationship of mutual affection, a bond richer than mere association. They then go on to link friendship to a number of words: kindness, love, sympathy, empathy, honesty, altruism, loyalty, understanding, compassion, comfort and (not least) trust. Friends, the dictionaries assert, enjoy each other's company, express their feelings to each other, and make mistakes without fear of judgment from the other. That basically covers things, but to better grasp the real grace in friendship a number of things inside that definition need explication.

First, as the Greek Stoics affirmed and as is evident in the Christian spirituality, true friendship is only possible among people who are practicing virtue. A gang is not a circle of friendship, nor are many ideological circles. Why? Because friendship needs to bring grace and grace is only found in virtue.

Next, friendship is more than merely human, though it is wonderfully human. When it is genuine, friendship is nothing less than a participation in the flow of life and love that's inside of God. Scripture tells us that God is love, but the word it uses for love in this case is the Greek word *agape* (love), a term which might be rendered as "family", "community", or the "sharing of life". Hence the famous text ("God is Love") might be transliterated to read: God is family, God is community, God is shared existence, and whoever shares his or her existence inside of community and friendship is participating in the very flow of life and love that is inside the Trinity.

But this isn't always true. Friendship and family can take different forms. Parke Palmer, the contemporary Quaker writer, submits: "If you come here faithfully, you bring great blessing." Conversely, the great Sufi mystic, Rumi, writes: "If you are here unfaithfully, you bring great harm." Family and community can bring grace or block it. Our circle can be one of love and grace, or it can be a one of hatred and sin. Only the former merits the name friendship. Friendship, says St. Augustine, is the beauty of the soul. Deep, life-giving friendship, as we all know, is as difficult as it is rare.

Why? We all long for it in the depths of our soul, so why is it so difficult to find? We all know why: We're different from each other, unique, and rightly cautious as to whom we give entry into our soul. And so it isn't easy to find a soulmate, to have that kind of affinity and trust. Nor is it easy to sustain a friendship once we have found one. Sustained friendship takes hard commitment and

that's not our strong point as our psyches and our world forever shift and turn. Moreover, today, virtual friendships don't always translate into real friendships.

Finally, not least, friendship is often hindered or derailed by sex and sexual tension. This is simply a fact of nature and a fact within our culture and all other cultures. Sex and sexuality, while they ideally should be the basis for deep friendship, often are the major hindrance to friendship. Moreover, in our own culture (whose ethics prizes sex over friendship) friendship is often seen as a substitute, and a second-best one at that, for sex.

But while that may be in our cultural ethos, it's clearly not what's deepest in our souls. There we long for something that's ultimately deeper than sex - or is sex in a fuller flowering. There's a deep desire in us all) be that a deeper form of sexual desire or a desire for something that's beyond sex) for a soulmate, for someone to sleep with morally. More deeply that we ache for a sexual partner, we ache for a moral partner, though these desires aren't mutually exclusive, just hard to combine. Friendship, like love, is always partly a mystery, something beyond us. It's a struggle in all cultures. Part of this is simply our humanity. The pearl of great price is not easily found nor easily retained. True friendship is an eschatological thing, found, though never perfectly in this life.

Cultural and religious factors always work against friendship, as does the omnipresence of sexual tension.

Sometimes poets can reach where academics cannot and so I offer these insights from a poet vis-à-vis the interrelationship between friendship and sex. Friendship, Rainer Marie Rilke suggests, is often one of the great taboos within a culture, but it remains always the endgame: "In a deep, felicitous love between two people you can eventually become the loving protectors of each other's solitude...Sex is, admittedly, very powerful, but no matter how powerful, beautiful and wondrous it may be, if you become the loving protectors of each other's solitude, love gradually turns to friendship."

And as Montaigne once affirmed: "The end of friendship may be more important than love. The ephiphanies of youth are meant to blossom and ripen into something everlasting."

Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI  
San Antonio, Texas

### *Parish Gathering on the Green* September 8-9

The annual parish *Gathering on the Green* will be held on the parish lawn this weekend, September 8-9 after the masses. All parishioners and visitors who will be worshipping with us are invited to gather for fellowship, camaraderie and treats! Enjoy the beautiful flowers, lush lawn and lingering scents of the Summer.



*Sponsored by the Parish Pastoral Council*

## Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



### Statement of Cardinal Blase J. Cupich on Misleading NBC Chicago Report

August 29, 2018

An NBC Chicago TV report that aired Monday night was edited in such a way that gave the false impression that Pope Francis and I consider the protection of children to be less important than other issues, such as the environment or immigration. Nothing could be further from the truth.

A review of the unedited footage of that interview shows that I was referring to the recent letter by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, not the terrible crime of clergy sexual abuse. I said that it was not appropriate, or even possible for Pope Francis to respond to the letter's many undocumented allegations, and I endorsed his request that journalists determine their veracity.

I was then asked whether there should be an independent investigation of the Archbishop Theodore McCarrick case, and I endorsed the call of Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, for a thorough investigation.

The edited report created the false impression that my comment that the pope should not "go down the rabbit hole" of the allegations in the Viganò letter was about sexual abuse. As the unedited footage shows, it was not.

As I wrote in my letter responding to the Pennsylvania Grand Jury report: "Whatever words we may use to describe the anguish of reading about these heinous acts, they can never capture the reality of suffering endured by victims of sexual abuse, suffering compounded by the woeful responses of bishops who failed to protect the people they were ordained to serve. ... We must resolve to face our failures and hold each other accountable. We must resolve to be clear-eyed about what we have done, what we have failed to do, and what remains to be done. We must resolve to live in the light of humility, of repentance, of honesty — the light of Christ. As your bishop, I pledge to continue holding firm to that resolve. And I ask for you to pray for all victims of abuse."

### **New Housing Forw>rd Shelter Season Soon to Begin** *We Need Your Help Tuesday Nights/Wednesday Mornings*

In 1 week, the Shelter Season begins. St. Edmund Parish is committed to the hands-on running of the shelter ministry mid-September-May.



We have in total over 200 volunteers serving the homeless population by preparing breakfasts, lunches and dinners, setting up and breaking down dining and sleeping facilities, registering guests, and many other ways.

As we begin the shelter ministry for this fall and winter, we are in need of a few more volunteers in various capacities to ensure that we have all the positions covered and can offer a well-managed and fully-prepared service to the shelter guests. All volunteer positions listed are asked to meet once a month.

- **First Shift (Check-In) Teams:** We need 2 more individuals to help from 7-9pm.
- **Overnight Shifts:** We need 3-4 more individuals who are willing to help. Shifts can be broken into 2 shifts (10pm-2am/2am-5am) or can be done in 1 7-hour shift. Ideally, we will have 2 individuals over night at all times.
- **Breakdown Teams** are needed from 5-6:45am. We need 2-3 individuals to comprise a team.

Please contact Fr. John McGivern ([jwmcgivern@stedmund.org](mailto:jwmcgivern@stedmund.org)) or Peggy Leddy ([pleddy@stedmund.org](mailto:pleddy@stedmund.org)) for further information about particular roles and/or to volunteer. Thank you.



## Spiritual Week at St. Edmund Parish

### We Pray for our Sick

Clara Ballard	Annyce Dunbar	Vera Schenone
Susan Becker	Mary Evans	Rachael Schopp
Dolores Benedict	Bill Garcia	Mike Scully
Susan Benedict	Clint Hight	Ethel Thomas
Carol Bonus	Pat Michalski	Sadie Thomson
Susan Chicola	George Nedved	
Shawn Cornell	Mary Ellen Nedved	
Florence Dalessandro	Hannah Paist	

### One in Prayer with Loved Ones in the Military

Ian Adams, US Navy  
 Staff Sgt. Jason L. Anderson, US Army  
 Capt. John Paul Andree, Pilot US Air Force  
 Sgt. Ramiro D. Banda, US Marine Corps  
 Gunnery Sgt. Boatman, US Marine Corps  
 Specialist Brown, US Army  
 Specialist Christopher Buscher, US Army, SPC  
 Cpt. Jason Caboot  
 Sgt. Thomas J. Dutton, 10th Mountain Division  
 William Edwards, US Army Reservist  
 Private Kristopher Ellis, US Marine Corps  
 First Sgt. Daniel S. Greider US Army  
 Sgt. Michael Hoover, Army Reserve Afghanistan  
 Major Roselita Labbe, US Air Force  
 Jonathan McLean, US Marine Corps  
 Kristen Meyer, US Navy  
 Lance Cpl. Robert Miller, US Marine Corps  
 Cpt. Steven Nelson  
 Lt. Col. Edward Nevera, US Air Force  
 Lt. Col. Ken Schlorf, Army Reserve Iraq  
 Gian Franco Solari, US Air Force  
 Brian Walsh, First Lieutenant US Army  
 Kimyatta Wellington, US Navy



### Our Parish Remains One in Prayer

Do you have a loved one who is currently serving in the military? Let us know and we will add your loved one's name to our prayer list.

In addition, please let us know if your loved one has returned safely. *God Bless our troops!*

### Eternal Rest Grant unto These, O Lord

*Please pray for all of those whom we have in mind.*

### Special Remembrances at Daily Eucharist

<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 10</b>
9:00am	† Martha Stewart Pelem † Barrett Fellows
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>September 11</b>
8:30am	† Gino and Argene Giannetti
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>September 12</b>
8:30am	George Kramer (l.i.) † Judy Harmon
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>September 13 (John Chrysostom)</b>
8:30am	Barbara Boril (l.i.) † Zeno Jacquat
<b>Friday</b>	<b>September 14 (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)</b>
8:30am	† Deceased Parishioners
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 15 (Our Lady of Sorrows)</b>
5:30pm	† Josh Nemeth Maxine Klim (l.i.)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 16 (24th Sunday in O.T.)</b>
9:00am	† Marion B. Kramer † Paul Bowman
11:00am	† Donald Patterson

“The world must be educated to love Peace,  
to build it up and defend it.”

- Pope Paul VI, 1968

### Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-7, 12; Lk 6:6-11
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Cor 6:1-11; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 6:12-19
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45:11-12, 14-17; Lk 6:20-26
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24; Lk 6:27-38
<b>Friday:</b>	Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-13, 17-18; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116:1-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

### Liturgical Ministers for the Weekend of September 15/16

Mass Time	Altar Servers	Lectors	Commentator	Cantors	Extraordinary Ministers
<b>(Saturday) 5:30pm</b>	G. LeBlanc A. Noyszewski	W. Carlton T. Mackey	A. Glanton	T. McCoy	M. Bielawa, M.S. Egan, Y. Franco, G. Gervais, D. Giannetti, M. Kolovitz, J. Lewandowski
<b>9:00am</b>	T. Cullinane	D. Kane M. Fedota	D. Celeschi	K. Corcos	M. Lee, M. Lorenzi
<b>11:00am</b>	J. Patston	J. Leonard J. Angone	A. Pizzo	J. Senger	J. Berggren