



Saint Andrew Parish

GATHER • LEARN • LOVE



“Rejoice always.”
1:Thes 5:16

Parish Information

If you need to make contact with the parish staff, please call 773-255-3016 and leave a message.

Contacting Parish Staff:

All Saint Andrew Parish buildings are **closed to the public**.

Meanwhile, the parish staff is working remotely with periodic check-ins. If you need to make contact with the parish staff, please call 773-525-3016 and leave a message. Someone on staff will check voicemails every half hour from M-F 8:00am to 8:00pm and on Saturday and Sunday from 8:00am to 2:00pm.

Christmas Services – Make Your Reservation

Sign up has begun for the public Christmas services at Saint Andrew Parish. Parishioners are invited to celebrate Christmas in one of three ways.

- 1) Attend the ***Come to the Manger*** outdoor prayer services on December 15, 17, 19, 21, 22, or 23 at 5:30pm, 6:00pm and 6:30pm.
- 2) Attend one of our Christmas Masses.

Christmas Eve Mass – December 24, 2020 at 3:00 & 5:00pm
Christmas Day Mass – December 25, 2020 at 9:00 & 11:00am

- 3) Watch the live stream of Mass on Christmas Eve at 3:00pm or Christmas Day at 9:00am.

Reservations are required. Please make your reservation at www.standrew.org/Christmas.



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Sergio Romo
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Engineer: Alfred Benkiser
Resident Priest: Rev. Arlin Jean Louis
Contact Parish staff by phone at 773-525-3016

School Administration

Principal: Allen Ackermann
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Assistant Principal: Sarah Casavechia
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trinidadmahadeo@gosaintandrew.com
Admissions: Anne Japsen
annejapsen@gosaintandrew.com
Contact School Administration by phone at 773-248-2500



Pastoral Letter

by David Heimann, Pastoral Associate



I enjoy anytime an author or poet updates an ancient religious text with modern language and metaphors. Things like taking the phrase “God is my rock, my fortress, my deliver.” and changing it to “God is my rock, my home-security system, my Grub-hub guy.” (*Although that may be a mis-transliteration of the word “deliverer.”*) The point being that ancient texts always elicit a certain energy when you find the right contemporary analogy to generate a parallel encounter. I am even more pleased when a successful poet can make it happen over the course of several phrases.

In the hubris of believing I could be so profound, I began to do that to the text of this weekend’s First Reading to articulate how I am feeling these days. The original scripture passage is on the left and my version is on the right.

I rejoice heartily in the Lord,
In God is the joy of my soul;
For he has clothed me with a robe of salvation
And wrapped me in a mantle of justice
Like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem,
Like a bride bedecked with her jewels.
As the earth brings forth its plants
And a garden makes its growth spring up,
So will the Lord god make justice and praise
Spring up before all the nations.

*I rejoice heartily in the promise of a COVID vaccine
In a shot, I will find the joy of my soul;
For God has clothed the scientists in white jackets
And given them the mantle of intelligence
Like the bridegroom who can finally get married
Like the bride who is sick of quarantines
As the earth brings forth medical manufacturing plants
And we figure out an equitable distribution system
So will the Lord god help us get vaccinated
And we can get back to our normal lives.*

“When are you going to start taking responsibility for ‘right now’ instead of always postponing what you need to do to be happy?”

I know we are all really excited and hopeful for the world to get back to normal. With a vaccine coming, there is hope, even if it is still several months away. I can imagine the rejoicing many of us will embody if, sometime in the summertime, we can once again bask in an outdoor concert in Grant Park while bathing in the cool air of twilight coming off Lake Michigan. Sounds heavenly. Right?

It is both my blessing and curse that I had a spiritual director who worked with me for years to get out of the habit of outsourcing my happiness to a future that was uncertain. He noticed that I would come in to meet with him month after month and I would always have the same refrain. “Things are really busy right now; I just need to get through the next few months.”

Month after month I came in with the same story and nothing ever changed. He told me, “When are you going to start taking responsibility for ‘right now’ instead of always postponing what you need to do to be happy?” That’s good advice for us today as we enter into the darkest days of the year and the darkest days of the pandemic.

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This week is “Gaudate” Sunday in the Church. Gaudete means “Rejoice.” We hear the word “rejoice” repeated several times throughout the Mass, especially in the in the scriptures readings. The hard thing for us to remember is that this is an imperative command inviting us to rejoice now, not a few months from now.

I’m not suggesting we suspend our pandemic protocols and hold a party. It is more of our state of mind. We need to ask ourselves how we can rejoice here and now. Rejoice within our limitations. Rejoice because of our limitations. Rejoice in our hope. Rejoice in the hope of our hope. In all things, let us rejoice “for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.” 1Theselonians 5:18.

-David Heimann

Advent Speaker Series

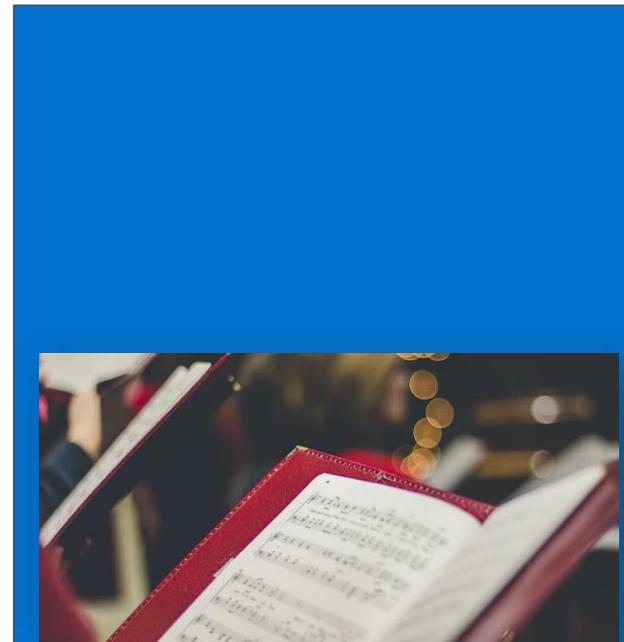
The Saint Andrew Advent Speaker Series enters its last week this week with *Lessons and Carols* on Monday night, December 14 (see below). Held by Zoom call, the series has explored the birthplace of Jesus and the images artists have used to portray Jesus over the centuries. These sessions can still be viewed online. To watch past sessions and to register for the final session visit www.standrew.org/Christmas2020

Praise Jesus – Lessons and Carols.

Monday, December 14, 2020, 7:00pm to 8:30pm via Zoom call. We give praise to the newborn Jesus through the Christmas Carols we sing. Take a moment to learn more about the history of some famous Christmas Carols and sing along (from at home). This final evening in our Advent Speaker series will prepare participants for singing during our “Come to the Manger” and ultimately Christmas. Presented by Megan Daigle and parish musicians.

Come to the Manger - Outdoor Service

Tuesday, December 15, 2020 through Wednesday, December 23, 2020 5:30pm, 6:00pm, and 6:30pm on the corner of Addison and Paulina. To provide a chance to show devotion to our savior in this important time of year, parishioners are invited to tie ribbons on the railing in front of our outdoor manger representing their petitions, thanksgivings, and prayers. This will be accompanied by brief prayer services on select evenings starting December 15. To help us ensure social distancing, please sign up to attend. Reservations are now being taken at www.standrew.org/christmas



Christmas Vacation Bible School

Make sure your child hears the story of Christmas this year in a fun and dynamic way!

The Light of the World Vacation Bible school will be a virtual program for children (open to all but targeted for children grade K-4) held on **December 21, 22, & 23 at 9:00am** via Zoom call. Every morning children will pray, dance, sing, learn about the story of Christmas, and have crafts to prepare at home.

Registration has been extended for a limited number of participants. Register at www.standrew.org/vbs

Cost is \$20 per family.

Collection for Retired Religious

Religious men and women gave their whole self for the needs of others. Many of us benefited from this in our education, our healthcare, and in our spiritual life as well. Now, many are retired without the sufficient funds they need to support themselves. The annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious is a chance for us to give back to the men and women who gave so much to us.

Make a donation to support the Retirement Fund for Religious at <https://www.givecentral.org/location/299/event/26890> or go to www.standrew.org/give

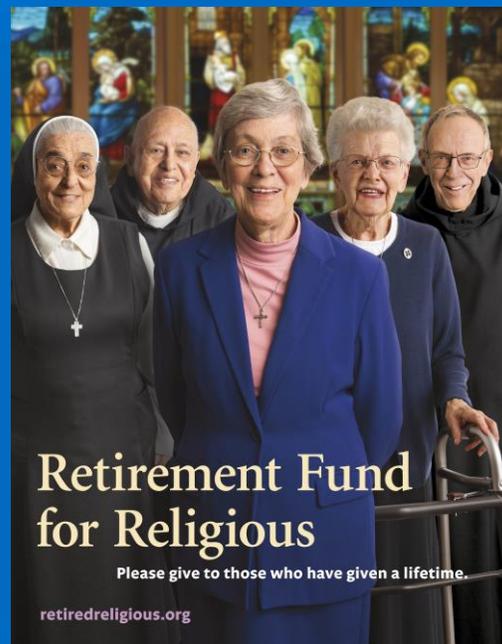
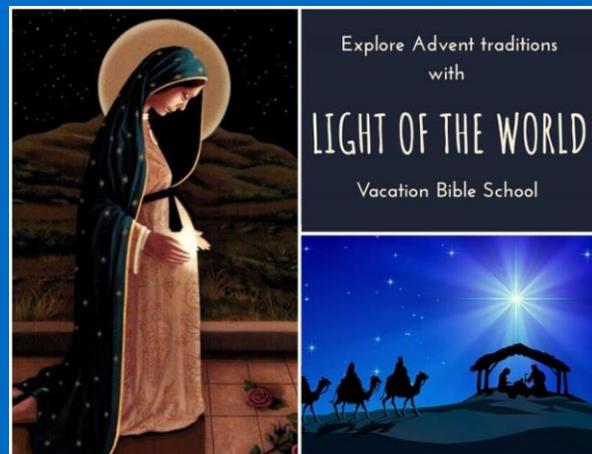
Support Parishioner Owned Restaurants

The pandemic has been tough on restaurants in Chicago which has affected a number of parishioners who own restaurants.

To give them a boost, parishioners are asked to patronize some of these restaurants. Each week one restaurant is selected and often times they have responded by giving Saint Andrew Parishioners special deals.

Up next is Commonwealth on **Monday, December 18, 2020**.

See the full list at <http://www.standrew.org/post/parishioner-owned-restaurants/>



Learn at Home, for Individuals & Families

Celebrating Advent Together

Ask a typical first grader about the liturgical year, and you will likely hear about Christmas, Easter, and Ordinary (or “oh, ya know.. just the *regular*”) time. There is usually some confusion about the difference between Advent and Lent. What is very clear to these young people is that both are a period of intense waiting... particularly when it comes to Christmas. So how can we celebrate advent in a special way at home?

For some, taking turns lighting each candle of an advent wreath indicates that the weeks are ticking by. Advent calendars are all over grocery stores, containing scripture passages or small treats, giving us a foretaste of the sweetness of Christmas. If you attend mass at Saint Andrew or have watched a live stream recently, you may have noticed the large advent wreath in front of the Mary altar. We can think of this as our parish family’s wreath!

Others may have a nativity in their home, and traditions vary from family to family about who appears in the nativity at a certain time. Many hide baby Jesus in a special place until Christmas Eve or Christmas Day (don’t forget where he is!). It can also be fun for your three kings to go on an adventure through your home as they follow the star to Bethlehem, arriving on Epiphany to celebrate Jesus with gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Advent is a season of anticipation and a season of Hope. The coming of Jesus in Advent is bound up with the reason for his birth - to be Savior of the World. His coming is threefold: We celebrate Jesus’s first coming in the Nativity, live in expectation of his second coming at the end of time, as well as rejoice in his presence in our midst today as risen Lord.

However you celebrate Advent, allow yourself to live in the reason for THIS season.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK TO READ & PRAY AT HOME

Masses will be said privately for the intentions listed below.

DECEMBER

Sunday 13	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 61: 1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes 5: 16-24 Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28 +Caroline Lupori
Monday 14	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Nm 24: 2-7, 15-17a Mt 21: 23-27 Our departed Parishioners
Tuesday 15	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Zep 3: 1-2, 9-13 Mt 21: 28-32 Our departed Parishioners
Wednesday 16	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 45: 6c-8, 18, 21c-25 Lk 7: 18b-23 +Mary Doyle
Thursday 17	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Gn 49: 2, 8-10 Mt 1: 1-17 +Victoria Meer Castillo
Friday 18	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Jer 23: 5-8 Mt 1: 18-25 Our departed Parishioners
Sunday 20	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	2 Sm 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Rom 16: 25-27 Lk 1: 26-38 Our departed Parishioners

For daily readings, please visit www.usccb.org



PRAYER INTENTIONS

We would ask you to keep the following people and intentions in your prayers.

For the health and wellbeing of all who are recovering from the effects of COVID-19 including the ill, the deceased, and those suffering job loss.

That government leaders find the wisdom and strength to lead our country, states, and municipalities to overcome racial discrimination and injustice.

For the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed including Sandra Burns, Loretta Ferenzi, Robert Ledvina, and Antonio Seranilla

If you would like us to keep a particular intention in the prayers of the parish, please submit your request to www.standrew.org/prayers You can also submit a request for the pastoral staff to light a candle in the church using this link. We will include your intentions in this bulletin when possible and the pastoral staff will personally pray for these intentions before the Blessed Sacrament.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Enrich – Expand - Grow	
Income	1,705,490
Interest on Income	28,917
Total Income	1,734,407
Consulting Operating Expense	180,000
Archdiocesan Contribution	196,800
Church Lighting (Actual)	250,517
Church Lighting (Consultant)	10,480
Church Windows (Actual)	156,520
School Addition (Actual)	17,030
Total Expense	811,347
Balance	922,460

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

November 2020 Offering	
Envelopes Collection	14,482
Automated Giving	24,843
Loose Cash	1,013
Total Offertory	40,338
Monthly Budgeted Expenses	38,500
Annual Catholic Appeal	
2020 Goal	34,114
Amount Pledged	73,342
Amount Paid	59,374
Balance Due	13,968



Saint Andrew School



Saint Andrew School Introduces Full Day Pre-School for 3 and 4 Year Olds, With Options for Half Day Programs!

Contact Anne Japsen in
Admissions at

[annejapsen@gosaintandrew.co](mailto:annejapsen@gosaintandrew.com)

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for more information!



Spirit. Study. Service.

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