



Saint Andrew Parish

GATHER • LEARN • LOVE



“For nothing will be impossible for God.”

Luke 1:37

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 9, 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

*Indicates a live streamed Mass viewable at www.standrew.org/christmas

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

Christmas Eve Masses are full and only accepting names on the waiting list. Reservations are required for all Masses. Please make your reservation at www.standrew.org/Christmas.



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Sergio Romo

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Associate Pastor: Rev. Silvanus Kidaha

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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. John Farry

Pastoral Associate: David Heimann

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Deacon: Eric Sorensen

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Receptionists: Veronica Salazar, Terry Ryan, Christine Chua

Engineer: Alfred Benkiser

Resident Priest: Rev. Arlin Jean Louis

Contact Parish staff by phone at 773-525-3016

School Administration

Principal: Allen Ackermann

allenackermann@gosaintandrew.com

Assistant Principal: Sarah Casavechia

sarahcasavechia@gosaintandrew.com

Reception: Trini Mahadeo

trinidadmahadeo@gosaintandrew.com

Admissions: Anne Japsen

annejapsen@gosaintandrew.com

Contact School Administration by phone at 773-248-2500



Pastoral Letter

by Deacon Eric Sorensen



*"Mary said, Yes!
She remembered
and freely
consented.
Indeed, let us too
remember the
impossible
this Christmas,
and give our full
and free consent."*

When we read Scripture we find a variety of genres of literature. There is storytelling, historical accounts, songs of thanksgiving and sorrow, writings of wisdom, messages from God, and various teachings. We are also confronted with passages that are beyond understanding, incomprehensible, that escapes our reality. These are written in God's language, the language of Love, and they show 'nothing is impossible for God.'

Luke's Gospel reading is one such passage of God speaking to us in his Love. The Archangel Gabriel is sent to Mary, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." Mary is found in God's favor and receives the gift of a son, the Son of God. And she given the knowledge of Elizabeth's pregnancy - the impossible made possible. She responds and Gabriel departs, leaving Mary in her reality, our reality, the physical reality of our lives.

In Loyola's Advent retreat, "When They Saw The Star," Kevin Pease asks the question - **Why Mary?** Why of all the women mentioned in Scriptures does Mary stand out amongst the poor and humble of the Lord, that through her the new plan of salvation is established? Is it because of the grace by which she was conceived, immaculately prepared to give her free submission to God? Yes! As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC) #490 states, "in order for Mary to be able to give the free consent of her faith, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God's grace."

Yet, Kevin suggests something more - **Mary Remembers!**

Mary too was born into a world of good and evil. She too was tempted by the root of sin; of not feeling worthy. All her life she resisted this temptation and always remembered the Love in which she was created, in God's Love. In doing this she shows us the significant value of God's creatures; that they are created to receive the Creator! God wanted that "free cooperation of a creature that remembers," -- Mary. Her free will to contribute to the coming of life for all of us, through her son, our Lord Jesus Christ. (CCC 488)

Why Us? Yes, we too are tempted to forget the Love of God, to be persuaded to think we are unworthy. But we are all conceived in his Love, without which we would not be. Our creation has already established our worth. He has created us in his own image and brought us into his friendship. All he wants to do is hold our hearts; but will we let him?

Mary said, Yes! She remembered and freely consented. Indeed, let us too remember the impossible this Christmas, and give our full and free consent. "Behold, I am *the maidservant/the manservant* of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word!"

Merry Christmas and Stay Healthy, Deacon Eric



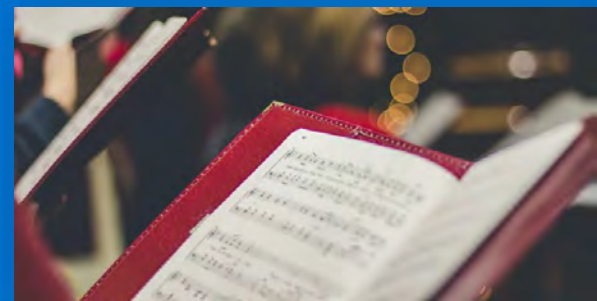
Come to the Manger - Outdoor Service

Saturday, December 19, 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



Advent Speaker Series Recap

The Saint Andrew Advent Speaker Series was held by Zoom video calls this year and was well attended. Sr. Sallie Latkovich took us on a tour of Bethlehem, Fr. Sergio gave us an art history lesson on the imagery of Jesus and how we imagine him today, and Megan Daigle facilitated numerous parishioners reflecting and praying over the carols we sing to recall the birth of the newborn King. If you missed one session or all of them, the recordings of the presentations can still be viewed as a way of preparing for Christmas in the week ahead. To watch past sessions visit www.standrew.org/Christmas2020



Join Others in Helping the Hungry

The parish can now send volunteers as a group to the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Join us on *Saturday, January 9, 2020 from 8:30 am to 11:15am* to sort food items that will be distributed to food pantries serving the hungry throughout Chicagoland. Your volunteer time and help feed hundreds of people!

Contact Nancy Holland at neh213@gmail.com to express interest.

Volunteers must be 11 years of age and up. 11-15 year olds must be accompanied by and parent.



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 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 Ryan Disanti and Nicole Mills: Anniversary Belssings + Laura Krismer
Monday 21	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Sg 2: 8-14 Lk 1: 39-45 Our departed Parishioners
Tuesday 22	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	1 Sm 1: 24-28 Lk 1: 46-56 +Marte Vinzons
Wednesday 23	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24 Lk 1: 57-66 +Mary Doyle
Thursday Christmas Eve 24	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 9:1-6 Ti 2: 11-14 Lk 2: 1-14 All Parishioners
Friday Christmas 25	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 52: 7-10 Heb 1: 1-6 Jn 1: 1-18 All Parishioners
The Holy Family Sunday 27	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14 Col 3: 12-21 Lk 2: 22-40 +Deceased of the Vinzons Family

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.com

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for more information!



Spirit. Study. Service.

Saint Andrew School • 1710 W. Addison Street • Chicago • (773) 248-2500

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