



Saint Andrew Parish

GATHER • LEARN • LOVE



“I will gather them from the ends of the world.”
Jeremiah 31:8

Parish Information

Parish Office New Hours:

The parish office has now returned to being open seven days a week. The new hours are Monday through Friday 8:00am to 7:00 pm and Saturdays from 9:00am to 3pm and Sundays from 9:00 am to noon. Parishioners may stop by to make prayer requests, pay Mass stipends, or seek assistance. Please wear masks when entering the office and remain socially distanced.

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

Mass Schedule & Confessions:

All are welcome to join us for Mass at the following times:

Saturday Vigil - 4:00pm, Sunday Morning - 9:00am and 11:00am.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturdays at 3:00pm in the main church.

Current Safety Measures:

The Archdiocese has instructed parishes to comply with the City of Chicago's indoor mask mandate.

All worshipers, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear masks while inside the church. Our Safety Team will provide masks for those entering the church who do not have one.

Thank you for helping to keep a safe environment at Saint Andrew so that all can worship.

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Sergio Romo
FrSergio@standrew.org
Associate Pastor: Rev. Silvanus Kidaha
FrSilvanus@standrew.org
Pastoral Associate: David Heimann
David@standrew.org
Deacon: Mark Purdome
Mark@standrew.org
Deacon: Eric Sorensen
Eric@standrew.org
Business Manager: Esperanza Benavides
Essie@standrew.org
Fundraising/Development: Julie Richards
Julie@standrew.org

Office Manager: Christina O'Malley
Chris@standrew.org
Receptionists: 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 Fr. Sergio Romo, Pastor



“We must never rebuke someone and tell them to be silent.”

In this Sunday’s Gospel we hear the story of Bartimaeus, a blind man who begged by the road that lead out of Jericho. Moved by a desire for deeper faith, Bartimaeus called out as Jesus passed by and said “Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.” The Evangelist Mark tells us that “Many rebuked him, telling him to be silent.” But this only encouraged him to call out again. Jesus heard him and asked him what he wanted, to which Bartimaeus responded, “Master, I want to see.” And Jesus responded, “Go your way; your faith has saved you.” And with those words Bartimaeus immediately received his sight and began to follow Jesus on the way.

This Gospel is more than a story about a miracle done by Jesus. The key to understanding what is really at work is found in the part of the story where the people try to silence Bartimaeus. As a blind man forced to beg on the street, Bartimaeus would have experienced many difficulties in his life. The biggest suffering he experienced was not just the loss of sight but also the loss of his human dignity. He lived in a world where, because of his condition, he did not matter. His life was expendable. And there was no way for him to improve his condition. Even his courageous attempt to call Jesus’ attention was met with resistance. He was forced into silence.

In our own day and age, there are many groups of people who suffer and are forced into silence. Among them are our LGBTQ+ siblings. In the Church, they are like the “new Bartimaeus” of our time. As I’ve mentioned before, over the years I have become more aware of many of our young people, both in Saint Andrew School and our Religious Education program, coming to terms with their sexual identity. This process takes time and often involves much suffering for those not in a dominant identity. What do we as a Christian community offer them by way of accompaniment? Sadly, we often offer very little, if anything, thus effectively forcing them like Bartimaeus into silence.

Over the last couple of months the priests and staffs of Saint Andrew and Saint Benedict parishes have worked with Fortunate Families to begin discerning our response to the LGBTQ+ members of our community. Fortunate Families is a Catholic ministry that helps parishes develop a pastoral response to the LGBTQ+ community, while at the same time remaining faithful to the Church’s teaching. While no concrete decisions have been made, we are in agreement that this is a ministry of such importance that it requires a coordinated effort by our two parishes. As our discernment progresses into possible pastoral responses we can take, we will inform you. In the meantime, we ask for your prayers, both for those of us discerning, and for the LGBTQ+ members of our community.

In no way am I trying to make a parallel between Bartimaeus who was cured of his blindness and vain attempts to try and “cure” LGBTQ+ people. Scientific studies have shown that conversion therapies are ineffective and inflict much harm. No, the point of the story is not that Jesus cured Bartimaeus. The point is that Jesus recognized someone who’s dignity was disregarded by the seeing community and who himself was ultimately forced into silence. Jesus’ response was to affirm Bartimaeus’ dignity by allowing him to determine his own path by asking him what he wanted. That’s what accompaniment looks like.

This month is Respect Life Month when we pray for, affirm, and defend the dignity of all human life, from conception to natural death. “All human life” includes the LGBTQ+ members of our world; our neighbors, co-workers, parents, children, and friends. How we will do that at Saint Andrew Parish has yet to be determined. We need time to allow the Holy Spirit to illuminate our minds and set our hearts on fire. We need to ask our LGBTQ+ siblings, “What do you want us to do for you?” This is what Jesus did and what we also must do. Ultimately, we must never rebuke someone, and tell them to be silent.



Trunk or Treat - Sunday October 31, 2021

The Saint Andrew School Board is pleased to announce the return of Trunk-or-Treat - a fun Parish event that will allow the young (and young at heart) to trick-or-treat from trunk-to-trunk in the Parish parking lot. The event will be held on **Sunday, October 31st at 10 a.m.** Please join us at Mass at 9:00am or 11:00am and gather outdoor before or after as a community for Halloween fun. Costumes welcome! Also, because of this event, the Church parking lot will be closed October 31st from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.. We apologize for any inconvenience, but hope the fun makes up for it!



Remember Our Beloved Dead

There will be a Mass of Remembrance to remember all of our beloved dead on the Feast of All Souls, **Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 7:00pm.** In this year when so many people have died, there hasn't always been the space to mourn the loss of our loved ones. Parishioners may bring photos of friends and family who have died in the past year to place on our Altar of Remembrance. During the Mass there will be a chance to light a candle in their honor. If you cannot attend, you are encouraged to send photos those recently deceased to info@standrew.org so they may be included in this year's Altar of Remembrance.



Filling Shoes That Are Hard to Fill

It is difficult to find enough platitudes to describe the extraordinary impact that Mr. Allen Ackermann has had on Saint Andrew while serving as Assistant Principal and now Principal at Saint Andrew School. At the end of last school year, he indicated that this would be his final year of service as principal. While we continue to enjoy his leadership, vision, and enthusiasm, we have begun the search for a new principal at Saint Andrew School for the 2022-23 academic school year. A search committee has been formed and is working with our School Board to find the best candidate. Please pray for this process and the committee's work. We also ask that you help advise individuals to apply when we begin accepting applications.



Learn at Home, for Individuals & Families

God our Creator

For thousands of years, people have given God different names and attributes. In our Catholic tradition, the triune (three in one) God, exists in a beautiful, mysterious relationship between Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We participate in this relationship too! Our connection to God as part of creation not only compels us to rely on God's love for our very existence, but also calls us to participate as stewards of the earth, in caring for the gift of our planet - the earth, the skies, the water, and all living creatures who live among us.

In Genesis 1:28, God instructs humanity to "Have dominion over [...] all the living things that crawl on the earth." Dominion in this sense does not mean domination - we are not to use and abuse the earth purely for our own pleasure and profit. If we are made in the image and likeness of God, we are also made to reflect God's mercy, grace, love, and respect for all living things.

God places humanity in creation as part of a larger plan, both as members of creation and as trusted guardians.

Do At Home

Watch: Swap your TV shows for a documentary on God's creation.

Read: Writings of Gerard Manley Hopkins, Jesuit priest and poet. Try "God's Grandeur" or "Pied Beauty."

Do: Put on gloves and take a trash bag out to clean up your neighborhood with your family or a couple of friends.

Pray: There are two beautiful prayers at the conclusion of Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si: Care for Our Common Home*. Scroll to the bottom of [this website](#) to find the prayers.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK TO READ & PRAY AT HOME

Masses will be said privately for the intentions listed below.

OCTOBER, 2021

Sunday 24	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Jer 31: 7-9 Heb 5: 1-6 Mk 10:46-52 +Thomas Cooney Family+ Dockery Family,+Ricson Asilum, +Mary Lou Jone and +John Kaufman
Monday 25	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Rom 8: 12-17 Lk 13: 10-17 Our departed Parishioners
Tuesday 26	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Rom 8: 18-25 Lk 13: 18-21 +Matt Suhar
Wednesday 27	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Rom 8: 26-30 Lk 13: 22-30 Our departed Parishioners
Thursday 28	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Eph 2: 19-22 Lk 6: 12-16 Our departed Parishioners
Friday 29	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Rom 9: 1-5 Lk 14: 1-6 Our departed Parishioners
Sunday 31	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Dt 6: 2-6 Heb 7: 23-28 Mk 12: 28b-34 +Thomas Cooney Family, +The Dockery Family, and +Joseph Nguyen Loc

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 +Thomas Cooney Family, +The Dockery Family, +Ricson Alilum, +Mary Lou Jones and +John Kaufman

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Enrich – Expand - Grow	
Income	1,855,847
Interest on Income	32,764
Total Income	1,888,980
Consulting Operating Expense	180,000
Archdiocesan Contribution	196,800
Church Lighting (Actual)	250,517
Church Lighting (Consultant)	10,480
Church Windows (Actual)	157,120
School Addition (Actual)	17,030
Total Expense	811,947
Balance	1,077,033

PARISH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

September, 2021 Offering	
Envelopes Collection	9,663
Automated Giving	23,163
Loose Cash	1,583
Total Offertory	34,409
Monthly Budgeted Expenses	38,500
ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2021	
Goal	33,945
Amount Pledged	49,855
Amount Paid	47,685
Balance Due	2,170

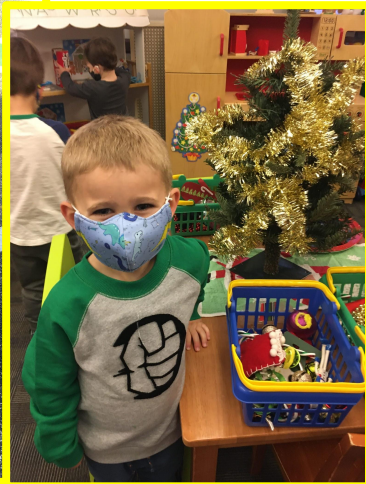


Saint Andrew School



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
for more information!



Spirit. Study. Service.