



Saint Andrew Parish

GATHER • LEARN • LOVE



“The one who began a good work in you
will continue to complete it.” Philippians 1:6

Parish Information

Parish Office Hours:

The parish office is open seven days a week. Hours are Monday through Friday 8:00am to 7:00pm and Saturdays from 9:00am to 2pm and Sundays from 9:00am 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.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Saint Andrew Parish will celebrate the Solemnity Feast of the Immaculate Conception on **Wednesday, December 8, 2021** with Mass at 7:00pm in the main church.

This feast is not only a solemnity for the global Catholic Church but also a celebration of the patroness of the United States. Please join us on this holy occasion.



Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Sergio Romo
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FrSilvanus@standrew.org
Pastoral Associate: David Heimann
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Deacon: Mark Purdome
Mark@standrew.org
Deacon: Eric Sorensen
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Fundraising/Development: Julie Richards
Julie@standrew.org

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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 Deacon Mark Purdome



“Saint Nicholas teaches us more about giving than getting.”

This week we celebrate Saint Nicholas Day on Monday, December 6. It is my favorite Saint’s day, not because Saint Nick is the patron saint of children, but because it is my birthday - really, it is quite amazing that I’m not named Nick, but my mother didn’t remember that it was Saint Nicholas Day until after I was already named. Since it is my birthday, it has always been a party day for me, but many, especially in Eastern Europe, also celebrate the feast of Saint Nicholas with gift giving and gatherings.

We don’t know much about Saint Nicholas. While we know that he was a bishop in during the fourth century, very little is known about his life. He is remembered as a man of great faith and compassion. But he left behind no writings: the legends surrounding his life are all we have.

But the legends are compelling. According to tradition, Nicholas’ parents died when he was young, leaving him a large sum of money. With his inheritance, Nicholas practiced charity, helping those in need. One legend in particular is used to explain the tradition of hanging up stockings at Christmas.

It seems that a poor man in the community didn’t have enough money to pay a dowry so that his three daughters could get married. In his time, a father had to pay the groom an amount of money on the wedding day, and so his daughters couldn’t get married, and were likely to be sold as slaves. Saint Nicholas heard of the man’s plight, and so, as the legend goes, he dropped three bags of gold down the chimney. The bags happened to fall into a stocking hanging to dry, and people began to attribute secret gifts to the Saint.

But Saint Nicholas teaches us more about giving than getting. It is easy to get caught up in the buying and giving presents to family and friends, but the most poignant lesson is in how Saint Nicholas, either in legend or fact, is the giver of gifts that give freedom from poverty and desperation. His life is characterized by true charity, and is an example of how we, too, should seek to act in this season of giving.

As we continue the season of Advent, as we decorate our homes with stockings and plan for the joy of Christmas, let’s look around at the needs of those around us. Let’s celebrate in the spirit of Saint Nicholas, not only giving and getting gifts, but taking action to end poverty and desperation.

God bless!

-Deacon Mark



Giving Tree - Pick Up Deadline

This is the last weekend to pick up ornaments for the Giving Tree located in the back of the church. Pick up an ornament as a commitment to purchase new, unwrapped gloves/mittens, socks, scarf or hat for the individual named on the ornament.

Items must be returned to the rectory by **Thursday, December 9th**. Please email Julie Richards with questions at julie@standrew.org

Read more about the Giving Tree on page 6 of the bulletin.



Biddy Basketball

Biddy Basketball returns this January for children in Pre K through 3rd grade in the Saint Andrew gymnasium. The 2022 season begins on **Sunday, January 9, 2021** and continues through Sunday, February 20, 2021 with the weekend of Super School Sunday, January 30 as an off-week.

All games are held from 12:30 – 4:00 PM on Sunday afternoons in the Saint Andrew gym on the corner of Addison and Paulina.

For more information about the program, registration, and costs, please visit www.standrew.org/biddy



Help the Hungry - Volunteer

Join fellow parishioners on **Saturday, December 18 2021 from 8:30am to 11:15am** at the Greater Chicago Food Depository 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.



Celebrating Christmas at Saint Andrew

Christmas Eve & Day Masses

Christmas Eve Masses will be held on **Friday, December 24, 2021** at 3:00pm, 3:15pm (chapel), and 5:00pm and on Christmas Day at 9:00am and 11:00am Masses.

Reservation will be required for the Christmas Eve Masses at 3:00, 3:15, and 5:00pm. We will begin taking reservations through our website starting **Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 11:00am**

Seating during Masses will retain the distance of an empty pew between all parties and masks are required by all attendees. Please visit www.standrew.org/christmas for more information.

Come to the Manger - Outdoor Devotion

Saint Andrew Parish is pleased to announce the return of our outdoor Christmas devotion "Come to the Manger." This brief outdoor prayer service on the steps of the church began during the pandemic as a way to show our gratitude for the birth of Jesus while staying socially distanced. Featuring a light show on the church and a chance to sing with the church bells, this devotion will be done in 30 minute increments from 6:30 to 7:30pm on **December 13, 14, 15, and 21**. Make plans to join us for this beautiful new tradition!

Advent Speaker Series - The Gifts We Bring

During the season of Advent, Saint Andrew provides an annual faith enrichment program that prepares the heart for Christmas. This year we are re-presenting our program "The Gifts We Bring" which explores the spirituality of our giftedness through the lense of the Clifford Strengths Finder, an often used human resourcing tool used in corporate offices. These sessions will take place on Thursday nights, December 9, 16, and 23 from 7:00pm to 8:30pm over video conference. Registration for the program must be completed before December 8 in order to participate. Register at <http://standrew.org/post/advent-speaker-series-2021-the-gifts-we-bring/>





Season's Greetings!!

Since 2015, Saint Andrew Parish and School has partnered with Saint Mary of the Lake and St. Thomas of Canterbury, located in the Uptown neighborhood, with a Christmas service project through a Giving Tree. Saint Andrew has helped students ranging from Pre-K thru 8th grade stay warm over the cold, winter, Chicago months.

The trees are up and stocked full of ornaments! There is one inside the Saint Andrew School and another in the back of Saint Andrew Church. Families will be able to select these ornaments off the trees and begin their holiday shopping. For our Early Childhood kids, there will be ornaments available in the classroom to send home or pick up during drop off or pick up times. Look for emails from your kids' teachers on those details.

Giving Tree volunteers will also be handing out ornaments several days a week at drop off and pick up starting **Monday, November 29th – Wednesday, December 8th with our "MOBILE GIVING TREE"**. Please stop by and grab some ornaments for these well deserving kids!

As a reminder, here's how it will work:

Each student from Saint Mary of the Lake and St. Thomas of Canterbury is going to receive a gift from a Saint Andrew family (families can take more than one child if they choose) equaling **no more** than \$25.00. This gift will include two (2) **NEW** items from a pair of gloves/mittens, socks, a winter hat or scarf. Please refrain from purchasing toys, coats, candy, etc. How thankful these children will be to have two brand new winter warmth items this Christmas!

Once your shopping is complete, please return the two (2) **NEW, UNWRAPPED** items **AND** the **ORNAMENT** in a ziplock bag to either the school or the rectory by **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9th**. Please **DO NOT** leave any items under the tree in the Church.

For any questions please email Julie Richards at julie@standrew.org.

God Bless and thank you for all your support!

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, 2021

Sunday 05	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Bar 5: 1-9 Phil 1: 4-6, 8-11 Lk 3: 1-6 +Diane Ghattas, +David Kuhlhanek, +Livia Ledesma and +Norma Salaria
Monday 06	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 35: 1-10 Lk 5: 17-26 +Fernando Vinzons, Jr.
Tuesday 07	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 40: 1-11 Mt 18: 12-14 Our departed Parishioners
Wednesday Immaculate Conception 08	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Gn 3: 9-15, 20 Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12 Lk 1: 26-38 +Richard Doran
Thursday 09	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 41: 13-20 Mt 11: 11-15 Our departed Parishioners
Friday 10	First Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Is 48: 17-19 Mt 11: 16-19 Our departed Parishioners
Sunday 12	First Reading Second Reading Gospel Mass Intentions	Zep 3: 14-18a Phil 4: 4-7 Lk 3: 10-18 +Gwen Dolyn McCarten & Deceased Family members, +Thomas Cooney Family, +Dockory Family and +Geraldine Klemy

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 +Diane Ghattas, +David Kuhlhanek, +Livia Ledesma and +Norma Salaria

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

October 2021 Offering	
Envelopes Collection	10,876
Automated Giving	24,369
Loose Cash	2,854
Total Offertory	38,099
Monthly Budgeted Expenses	38,500
ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL 2021	
Goal	33,945
Amount Pledged	50,955
Amount Paid	49,050
Balance Due	1,905



Saint Andrew School



Preschool to 8th Grade Admission Sessions

9am

November 9th March 8th

December 14th April 12th

January 11th May 10th

February 8th



Join us for an
Open House on
November 18th at 6pm!
(773) 248-2500
www.GoSaintAndrew.com

Spirit. Study. Service.

- 2013 & 2020 National Blue Ribbon School
- 3 & 4 year old Full Day Preschool programs
- Full Day Kindergarten program
- A rigorous curriculum tailored to each student
- Art, Music, Spanish, Technology and Phys. Ed.
- Catholic values for life: Spirit. Study. Service.
- Before + After school care
- A vibrant family community

