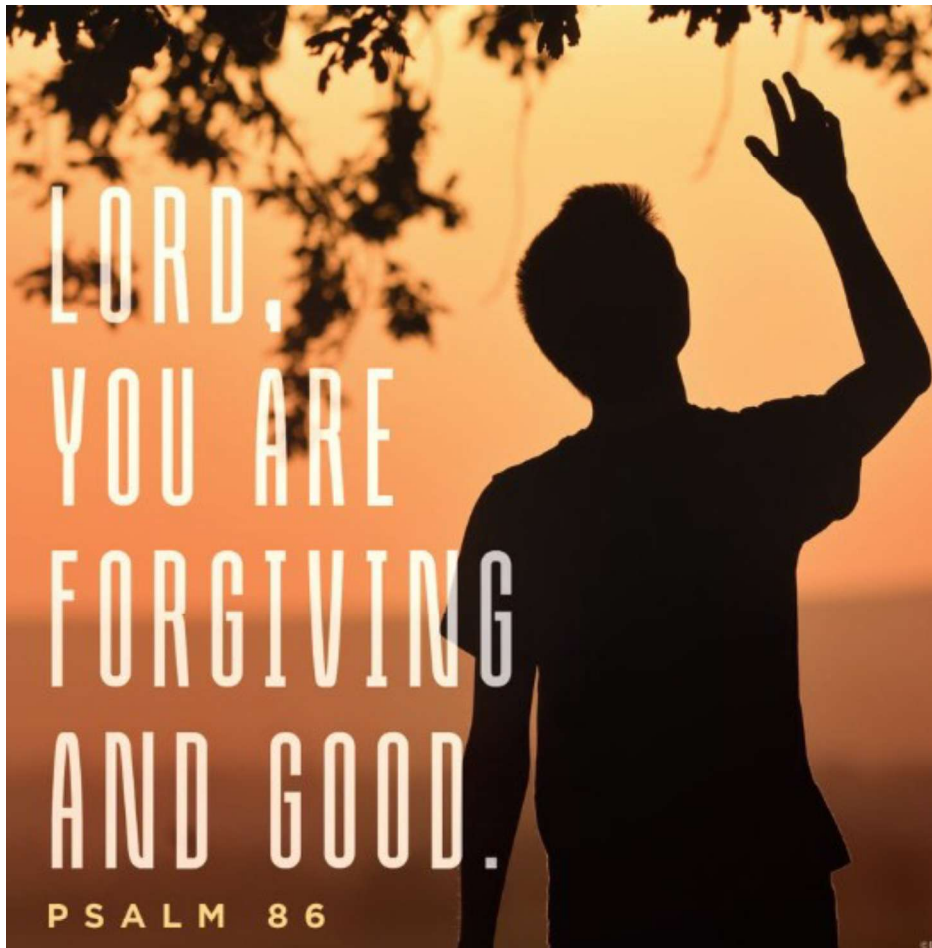




SAINT GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH

FAITH, COMMUNITY AND SERVICE

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JULY 19, 2026



PARISH OFFICE

6707 West 175th Street
Tinley Park, Illinois 60477
708-532-2243
Fax: 708-532-2055
www.stgeorge60477.org

Monday, Wednesday &
Friday:

8:45 AM to 3:00 PM

Tuesday & Thursday:

8:45 AM to 6:00 PM

Office Closed: 12:00 PM
to 1:00 PM Monday
through Friday

PARISH SCHOOL

6700 West 176th St.
Tinley Park, IL 60477
708-532-2626
www.stgeorgeschool.org

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

6670 West 176th St.
Tinley Park, IL 60477
Phone: 708-532-8211

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM

Monday - Friday: 8:15 AM

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

ADORATION / PRIVATE PRAYER

Tuesday: 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
in Church with Benediction
Monday through Friday:
11:00 AM to Midnight in
Holy Family Chapel

PASTOR

Reverend Paul G. Seaman
frpaul@stgeorge60477.org

PASTOR EMERITUS

Reverend Kenneth Fleck

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Reverend John Zurek
frjohn@stgeorge60477.org

DEACONS

Gregory Bartos
gbartos@stgeorge60477.org
Timothy Keating
tkeating@stgeorge60477.org
Joe Panek
jpanek@stgeorge60477.org
Thomas Schutzius
tschutzius@stgeorge60477.org
Jerry Souta
jsouta@stgeorge60477.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

Renee Beemsterboer
Phone: 708-532-2243
Fax: 708-532-2055
rbeemsterboer@stgeorge60477.org

DIRECTOR OF LIFE LONG FORMATION

Jeanne Lassandrello
Phone: 708-532-8211
Fax: 708-532-3372
jlassandrello@stgeorge60477.org

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Charlotte Prati
Phone: 708-532-2626
Fax: 708-532-2025
cprati@stgeorgeschool.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tim Quistorff
Phone: 708-532-2243 X510
tquistorff@stgeorge60477.org



FROM THE PASTOR

To kick off the month, I had the blessing of being able to get away for awhile. I call it my annual West Coast Swing. For many years, I have used this time to visit two very important people in my life. One is a priest friend who now lives in Concord, California. Father Richard Mangini hosted me, as he had done for many seminarians, at his parish in San Leandro, California. I was doing a student chaplaincy program at the University of California San Francisco Medical Center. Father Mangini became a mentor to me in how to be a good person, a priest and pastor. He and I have maintained a friendship for over forty years. Time and distance have not strained our good relationship. He is now eighty-five and I enjoy spending time with him and reminding him what a vital role he plays in my life.

From there, I went to Portland, Oregon, as is my routine on my West Coast Swing. There I would visit an old friend, Virginia Haacke. I came to know her through her son, Mark, who was a close friend of mine. Mark became very ill and died in 1988, but his family and I remained in contact. His father passed away about ten years ago. Unfortunately, Virginia died at age ninety-nine about ten days before I arrived. I still wanted to go to Portland because her other son, Randy and I have kept a good friendship, and we shared some time together.

As I reflect on this trip, it reminds me how important my family and friends are to me. I feel closer to some of my family than ever. I am grateful for the many friends I have made with priests, parishioners and those who God just drops in our lives to make us better people. Sometimes I feel like I let down some friends because it is hard to keep up with everyone! But still, the effort is worthy, and for me, very important.

I've been able to take some quiet time to read Pope Leo's encyclical letter "Magnifica Humanitas, On the Safeguarding of the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence." It is quite a work that I am still wading through. It is dense, enlightening and very important. Pope Leo takes us through the history of the Church's Social Doctrine which has its roots in the Gospel, but for our times, blossomed with Pope Leo XIII's "Rerum Novarum" which means, "New Things." It is a deceptively simple title for a profoundly important document.

The link between these two documents is the desire to lift up the cause of human dignity. While Leo XIII's teaching came at a time of great industrial expansion, so now Leo XIV's work is concerned with the AI revolution. A common problem faced in both is the danger of basing a person's value in what they can produce. In other words, people can become mere commodities, like so many products. There is also the common concern of wealth (financial and intellectual) being concentrated in the hands of a few to the point that our minds and perspectives are formed by them, not by the individual. We see that in the algorithms that dictate the items that pop up on our computers, often putting us in an echo chamber of our own thoughts, right or wrong, being affirmed without any personal analysis or discernment. For a very simplified synopsis, go to pontificalmissions.org.

HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR...

OUR SICK...

Patrick Amtman, Arlene Astrowski, Paul Baio, Terrence Baker, Claudette Bialka, Don Borus, Dominick Byrne, Grace Caffee, Brent Caruso, Laurie Cassidy, David Charleston, Brittany Clausius, Debbie Clausius, Sharon Clifford, Terri Cobban, Margaret Concannon, Pat Conroy, Diane Cosgrave, Paula Dettmann, Dorothy Dolan, Julia Donohoe, Abigail Fanscali, Elmer Flannagan, Jennifer Godzer Grimm, Rafael Gomez, Marirose Grosschadl, Rosemarie Gunnell, Harleigh H., Tom Heenan, Gil Herrera, Diane Herse, Jace Hettinger, Michael Hogan, Paul Hosso, John Jacobsen, Sandra Jakala, Mary Kelly, Beverly Klosowski, Paul Larsen, Donald Lavey, Frank Lesinski, Carol Manow, Francisco Marcos, Jack McGrury, Kelsey Mercado, Cynthia Metzger, Gunner Metzger, Robert Metzger, Kathleen Mohan, Katie Moran, Deborah Mraz, Cath Murphy, Patricia Murphy, David Murray, Fred Neidermeyer, Judy Nelson, Brian O'Connor, Bria and Baby Omatto, Mario Ortigara, Baby Vincent Nicholas Pacheco, Deacon Joe Panek, Dennis Parsons, Pat Paul, Hailey Polk, Janice Pumfery, Wendy Radtke, Jack Ramey, Renee Randell, John Rangel, Bernadine Raymond, Eunice Robey, Ronald & Linda Rose, Jon Schlange, Loretta Schultz, Theresa Schultz, Jay Scott, Marilyn Seaman, Rita Shanklin, Ellen Silski, Cynthia Sinko, Paul Smiley, Mary Ann Stewart, Richard Stewart, Brian Streeter, Tony Streeter, Matt Taylor, Sara Taylor, Marge Thomas, Dennis Torii, Marlene Torii, Noreen Torii, Leslie Vaicik, Stella Vaicik, Colette Verdun, Diana Vish, James Walker, Ed Weston, Barbara Rose Whalen, Julie Wigboldy, JoAnne Wojcik, Edward Worner, Robert Wyatt

If you or a loved one needs prayers due to an illness, please call the parish office to put your name on the prayer list. Names are kept on the list for four weeks unless we are notified the person has not recovered.

OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED...

Kirk Gerard Hayes, Antonia Arellano, Patricia Bruno, Richard Gawel, Christine Sawyer, Mrs. Tari Goldstein

OUR MILITARY...

Please pray for those serving in the military, and for a peaceful and just solution to conflict and violence.

SSG Matthew Daliege (Army)

We are in the process of updating the list of parishioners who are serving in the United States military. If there are parishioners currently serving in the United States military, we would like to know. Please call the parish office and tell us the name of your dear one and he/she will be remembered in the prayers of our community, and the name will be posted in the bulletin. Please indicate branch of service and rank.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JULY 18

4:00 PM Rita Kiely+
Bernardine Smith+
Eugene C. Braun+

SUNDAY, JULY 19

7:30 AM Charlie Cavanaugh+
Charlotte Borrmann+
Jacob Schmitt+

9:30 AM Mass for Parishioners
Ted & Marilyn Knuckey+
Jack & Janice Clough+

11:30 AM Deceased Members of the Payonk
Family+
Mass for Fathers
Tomas P. Torres, Jr.+

MONDAY, JULY 20

8:15 AM Stanley Mikos+
Eileen Regan+
Pilar Tua+

TUESDAY, JULY 21

8:15 AM Joseph Sues+
Josephine Grela+
Jeanne Long+

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

8:15 AM Kathleen Servin+
James Malone+
20th Wedding Anniversary -
Patrickson & Obe Toulabo Duran

THURSDAY, JULY 23

8:15 AM Thomas Vander Sanden+
Patricia O'Brien+
Maryanne Knaack+

FRIDAY, JULY 24

8:15 AM Julie Luksetich+
Patricia O'Brien+
Eileen Regan+

SATURDAY, JULY 25

4:00 PM Fred Murphy+
Roy Stambaugh+
Dennis Payonk+

SUNDAY, JULY 26

7:30 AM Mass for All Souls+
Audrey Zurek+
Mary Lou Kavanaugh+

9:30 AM Margaret Quitter+
Nancy K. Gatto+
Gerald McGuinn & Eugene Braun+

11:30 AM Deceased Members of the Knights
of Columbus+
Raymond Rose Marie & Deceased
Members of the Lamberty Family
Esther Calzavara+

+ Deceased

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JULY 25 - 4:00 PM

Celebrant: Father John
 Deacon: Tom Schutzius
 Eucharistic: Pamela Kavanaugh – Cup
 Ministers: Mary Lou Lesiecki – Cup
 Mary Spengler – Cup
 Sue Stanton – Cup
 Raymond Bibzak – Bread
 Fran Clark – Bread
 Joanne Saidikowski – Bread
 Michael Woolf – Bread
 Lector: Linda Jones

SUNDAY, JULY 26 - 7:30 AM

Celebrant: Father John
 Deacon: Greg Bartos
 Eucharistic: Phyllis Hendzell – Cup
 Ministers: Gary Ryczyn – Cup
 Ray Schulze – Cup
 Rita Walker – Cup
 Julie Newtoff – Bread
 Jim Walker – Bread
 Lector: Teri Ryczyn

SUNDAY, JULY 26 - 9:30 AM

Celebrant: Father Kevin McCray
 Deacon: Greg Bartos
 Eucharistic: Thomas Kavanaugh – Cup
 Ministers: Ventura Quatrini – Cup
 Rebecca Schutzius – Cup
 Kathy Wilson – Cup
 Jennifer Galvin – Bread
 Lisa Hummitsch – Bread
 Rosa Jimenez – Bread
 Eva McCulley – Bread
 Lector: Ini Adelakun

SUNDAY, JULY 26 - 11:30 AM

Celebrant: Father John
 Deacon: Jerry Souta
 Eucharistic: Tim Doyle – Cup
 Ministers: Jean Gaytan – Cup
 Tim McCabe – Cup
 Wally Wawzenek – Cup
 Eric Susnis – Bread
 Shirley Wiesenthal Grivakis – Bread
 Lector: Diane Wawzenek

WEEKLY READINGS

SUNDAY, JULY 19

Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10,
 15-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43
 or 13:24-30

MONDAY, JULY 20

Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-
 17, 21 and 23/Mt 12:38-42

TUESDAY, JULY 21

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7
 -8/Mt 12:46-50

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2,
 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

THURSDAY, JULY 23

Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab,
 8-9, 10-11/Mt 13:10-17

FRIDAY, JULY 24

Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/
 Mt 13:18-23

SATURDAY, JULY 25

2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-
 3, 4-5, 6/Mt 20:20-28

SUNDAY, JULY 26

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-
 77, 127-128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-
 30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

MAKE SUMMER VISITS TO HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL

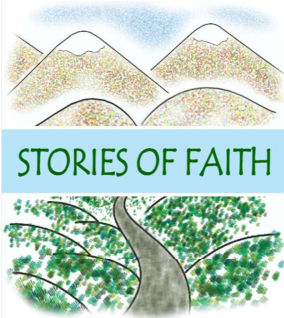
Summer is almost here. Plan some time this summer for visits to Holy Family Chapel. Seek meaning and new insights about the challenges of everyday life by visiting Jesus for guidance. Your visit offers the opportunity to seek insight from Jesus in the Eucharist. You will receive the grace and love radiating from Jesus present in the Sacred Host. It will not take long before you feel peace and love while in front of Jesus. Even if you are not certain how to pray, just know that you are before Jesus who knows you inside-out. You might even decide to join fellow parishioners as a frequent visitor, or by taking a regular hour each week. Find an hour where you can get away from the fast pace of life to seek insight from Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Holy Family Chapel is open 13 hours per day on Monday through Friday from 11:00 AM to midnight to provide that opportunity. Use this link to get more information and to

register for an hour that works for you: <http://stgeorge60477.org/eucharistic-adoration/>.

Choose "Click Here To Sign Up" below the monstrance image, press "Weekly Commitment," select the hour you prefer, and enter the requested contact information. Press "Signup" to finish registering. If you do not have electronic access, please call Bill Beckman at 708-429-2762 to register your hour.

Tuesday 3:00 PM and 11:00 PM need a new adorer. While there are many hours to consider that might fit your schedule, if possible, see if one of the following hours might work as your regular hour: Monday: Noon, 1:00 PM, 2:00 PM; Tuesday: 3:00 PM; Wednesday: Noon, 1:00 PM; Friday: Noon, 1:00 PM, 2:00 PM. If making a regular hour is difficult because your schedule changes, please consider becoming a substitute adorer by pressing "Become a Sub" (under "Weekly Commitment").



SAINT GEORGE STORIES OF FAITH

The Christian life requires time --- time to reflect, to come to a deeper understanding of our life and our life-events; to recognize God's gifts and be grateful; to see our own story for what it is and perhaps

come to a more compassionate approach to others and their stories. Do you have a story of your own faith and how it has helped, comforted or challenged you? Here is the first submitted by Bob Paszczyk of what we hope will be a series of such reflections. If you would like to submit your thoughts for consideration, please send them to our Director of Liturgy, Ms. Sheila Vaclavik at svaclavik@stgeorge60477.org.

"... For Better or Worse, in Sickness and in Health..."

For almost 56 years, we lived a life of better and health. We enjoyed successful careers. We traveled the world. We enjoyed time with our friends. And, we enjoyed our family of sons and grandsons. But most importantly, we enjoyed time with each other in a loving relationship.

Then in April of this year, we faced the negatives of our matrimonial vows: Worse and Sickness. I thank you for being my support in enduring these negatives. Times have been tough for me, but they have been worse for you. You have had to perform actions that were demanding like cooking unique meals, driving me to doctors and hospitals. Performing actions individually because I could not help. And most of all, giving up your personal lifestyle and time while taking care of me.

You have shown me, and lived the lifetime commitment "to Love and to Cherish." I will Love You "Until death do Us part."

Love,

THIS WEEK AT SAINT GEORGE

SUNDAY, JULY 19

9:30 AM Bread & Word (MR 4)
10:30 AM Parish Registration (MR 1)
1:00 PM Baptisms (Church)
5:00 PM Adult Volleyball League (Gym)

MONDAY, JULY 20

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School (MR 1-4, G)
6:00 PM SVDP Meeting (BR)
6:30 PM Parish Finance Mtg. (MR 1)
7:30 PM Al-Anon (O'Ch)

TUESDAY, JULY 21

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School (MR 1-4, G)
6:00 PM Adoration (Church)
6:30 PM Caregiver Support Group (MR 4)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

6:00 PM Vacation Bible School (MR 1-4, G)
6:00 PM Summer Band

THURSDAY, JULY 23

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School (MR 1-4, G)
9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (BR)

FRIDAY, JULY 24

9:00 AM Vacation Bible School (MR 1-4, G)
7:00 PM Bingo (Gym)

SATURDAY, JULY 25

Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Sale
3:00 PM Reconciliation (Church)
7:00 PM Adult Volleyball (Gym)

SUNDAY, JULY 26

Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Sale
9:30 AM Bread & Word (MR 4)
1:00 PM Baptisms (Church)
5:00 PM Adult Volleyball League (Gym)



REMEMBER ME

We have a communication vehicle called "Remember Me".

We will email notification of funerals at Saint George to

anyone who requests this service. If you wish to be included in this email group, please send your email address to Barbara Black in the parish office at bblack@stgeorge60477.org. You will be responsible for notifying us of any change in an email address.

If you have any questions, contact Barbara Black at bblack@stgeorge60477.org

TOOTSIE ROLL SALE FOR SPRED - JULY 25 & 26



The Knights of Columbus will be selling Tootsie Roll "banks" after each Mass on Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26 to benefit the SPRED group at Saint George. SPRED provides religious education and parish assembly activities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The banks sell for \$3.00 each, are full of chocolate or fruit flavored Tootsie Rolls, and can be recycled as a coin bank. Thank you for your support of those with intellectual disabilities.

Thanks very much.



EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT SAINT GEORGE SCHOOL

Located in the gym

Doors open at 5:00 PM
and games begin at 7:00 PM.

Come for fun and fellowship!
Bring your own snacks!

For more information,
call the school office at
708-532-2626.

SAINT GEORGE BLOCK PARTY

SAVE THE DATE
SUNDAY
AUGUST 23
12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Save the date for a lively block party filled with community spirit, laughter and positive energy. It will be a great opportunity to connect with parishioners, make new friends and celebrate our parish's unique unity.

(More details to follow)



SAINT GEORGE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Guardians of Virtue:
God's Superheroes

Vacation Bible School

for children entering first through sixth grade
July 20-24 – 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Skits Crafts Games Snacks
Prayer Bible Stories Saints

Come learn about the Cardinal and Theological Virtues, and the Bible Figures and Saints who embodied them! For more information, contact the Religious Ed office or Fran Fancsali at ffatpts@ameritech.net.

To access the registration forms, please visit <https://stgeorge60477.org/vacation-bible-school-2/> or click on the QR code on the right.



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

JULY 4 & 5, 2026

Weekly Offering / Holy Days	\$ 13,253.65
Weekly Offering / Holy Days - Budgeted	\$ 17,500.00
Difference	\$ (4,246.35)
School Fund	\$ 1,256.25
Sharing Parish: Lord of Mercy	\$ 289.00
Peter's Pence	\$ 366.00
Fund for Retired Priests	\$ 60.00
Catholic Charities	\$ 20.00
Church in Poland	\$ 50.00
Initial Offering	\$ 50.00
Saint Vincent de Paul	\$ 10.00

FISCAL YEAR 2026 YEAR-TO-DATE

YTD Weekly Offering / Holy Days	\$ 13,253.65
YTD Weekly Offering / Holy Days - Budgeted	\$ 17,500.00
YTD Difference	\$ (4,246.35)

We are grateful to those who continue to financially support our parish. God bless you! Your support is deeply appreciated and needed.

If you drop off envelopes at the parish office, please use the mail slot in the wall marked, "Key Deposit" which will bring them safely into the parish office.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Saint George Church does not "pass the basket" during the offertory. Instead, please drop your contributions in the collection boxes located near the pews in church.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Give Central is an option more people are choosing. You can go to our website - www.stgeorge60477.org to learn how to make your weekly or monthly donations or use the new archdiocesan universal offertory website at: www.archchicago/support. Your weekly donation can also be made by clicking on the QR code on the right.

Donations can be made by credit card, debit card and electronic payments. For more information, please contact Renee Beemsterboer at rbeemsterboer@stgeorge60477.org or 708-532-2243. Thank you for your generosity!



PLANNED GIVING

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

Reflection: Jesus teaches that the Kingdom is like a field with both wheat and weeds, growing together until God separates them at the harvest. This reminds us that good and evil coexist, but God is patient, giving time for growth and conversion. We are called to trust His timing rather than judge.

Takeaway of the Week: Let us continue to focus on growing the wheat in our lives with virtue, faith, and holiness. A gift of life insurance is a powerful and simple way to tend to the fields and provide future support for our parish.

For More Information, contact: Renee Beemsterboer at 708-532-2243 or rbeemsterboer@stgeorge60477.org with any additional questions or contact, Deacon Greg Vogt, Philanthropy Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312-995-0686 or gvogt@archchicago.org.



Please visit the Saint George Website for additional information about Saint George www.stgeorge60477.org. Like us on Facebook.

SAINT GEORGE SCHOOL



TIME TO VOTE FOR SAINT GEORGE SCHOOL AS SOUTHLAND'S BEST FOR THE SIXTH YEAR IN A ROW!

Voting begins today! Please text 225 and then 226 to 219-300-8255 to vote for our school, and vote every day until July 26.

If you wish to also vote for our church, text 227 to the same phone number.

If you prefer to vote online, go to <https://thetimesofnorthwestindiana.secondstreetapp.com/2026-Southlands-Best/>

Be sure to vote for us in BOTH best PreK and Best Private K-8. You may vote once per day on each platform until July 26. Please ask friends and family to also vote for Saint George! Thank you!

SAINT GEORGE DRAGON GOLF CLASSIC

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19



George W. Dunne
National Golf Course
16310 Central Avenue,
Oak Forest, Illinois

PRIZES FOR:

- Longest Drive
- Beat the Priest
- Hole in One
- Closest to the Pin

AVAILABLE PRIZES FOR AN ADDITIONAL DONATION:

- Split the Pot
- Liquor Cooler Raffle
- Golf Ball Drop Contest

TICKET PRICES

Individual Players - \$160

Before August 19
Group of 4 - \$560

After August 19
Group of 4 - \$600

Lunch & Drinks Included

For registration or more information, visit www.stgeorgedragonongolf.com or contact Cathy Faricelli at cfaricelli@stgeorgeschool.org or text: 708-607-5859



WHAT MAKES CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SPECIAL

SAINT GEORGE SCHOOL

Saint George Catholic School, educating today's children for tomorrow's world.
SPIRIT— GRACE—SUCCESS

We offer a safe, full-time, learning experience for students in PreK-3 through 8th grade.

We are very proud of our rich traditions and our Catholic values, which are infused into our school culture and academic curriculum.

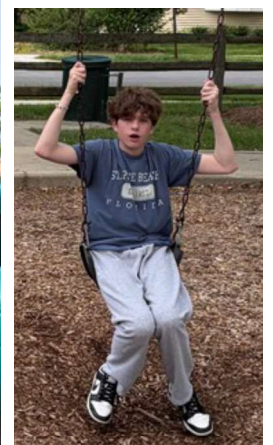
- Students experience a 21st Century education with a one to one educational approach
- Weekly Masses and a faith based curriculum
- Smaller class sizes
- Excellent committed faculty
- AM / PM extended day programs
- Athletic programs
- Extra curricular activities

To learn more about our school and why Saint George would be the best fit for your family, visit us at www.stgeorgeschool.org or follow us on Facebook@stgeorgeschool. Call for a tour at 708-532-2626.

SAINT GEORGE SCHOOL MOMENTS TO REMEMBER

Our eighth graders enjoyed a well-deserved Park Day, celebrating the end of their elementary school journey together. The day was filled with fun, laughter, friendship, and gratitude for the many memories made along the way.

We are so proud of these students and wish them much success in high school.





OCIA—ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

BEGINNING THE JOURNEY, COME AND SEE

THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

For many people who are interested in becoming Catholic or entering into full communion with the Catholic Church, the process may seem confusing or even intimidating. Joining the Catholic Church is a major decision—one that is both exciting and life-changing. It offers an opportunity to deepen your personal faith and strengthen your relationship with God, others, and yourself.

Many individuals have completed the OCIA journey and now live lives rooted in faith, service, and love. One such individual, Bessie (2025), shared her experience:

"When I began my journey through OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults), I was looking to deepen my understanding of the Catholic faith. What I found was something far greater than I ever expected; it became a journey that transformed not only my knowledge of the Church, but also how I view God, others, and the way I want to live my life.

Week after week, I explored the foundations of Christianity and the richness of the Catholic faith. I discovered that being Catholic is not simply about attending Mass or knowing Church teachings; it is about allowing Christ to shape your heart, your decisions, and the way you treat others every day.

OCIA also challenged me to think deeply about real-world issues through the lens of Catholic teaching, including the dignity of every human life, the death penalty, abortion, and contraception. While some of these topics were difficult and challenged my assumptions, I never felt pressured. Instead, I found a community that welcomed honest questions and helped us understand not only what the Church teaches, but why.

As my faith grew, I found myself becoming more patient, compassionate, and intentional. My relationship with God

became more personal, prayer became more meaningful, and I began to recognize His presence in both the ordinary and extraordinary moments of my life.

One of the greatest gifts of OCIA was realizing that I do not have to have all the answers. I was surrounded by people who encouraged me and reminded me that faith is a lifelong journey of learning and trusting God.

Looking back, I can honestly say that OCIA changed my life. It strengthened my faith, fostered a deeper love for the Church, and challenged me to become the woman God is calling me to be. I am grateful for every lesson and every person who walked beside me."

If you are searching for something more, have questions about the faith, or want to grow closer to God, I encourage you to consider OCIA. You will find more than information—you will find a welcoming community and a journey that may change your life forever.

Perhaps you or someone you know is wondering where to begin this journey. If so, welcome! We are honored to accompany all explorers of the Catholic faith.

The next step is simple. Please contact Jeanne Lassandrello at jllassandrello@stgeorge60477.org or 708-532-8211.

I would be happy to answer your questions and help you move forward in your discernment process.

We are currently accepting participants for OCIA. In collaboration with Saint Elizabeth Seton Parish and Saint Stephen Parish, we offer a rich and diverse experience that fosters learning, prayer, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

We look forward to welcoming you on this journey of faith.

Jeanne Lassandrello



YOUTH MINISTRY



2026 Co-Ed 8TH GRADE - HIGH SCHOOL AGE YOUTH 16" SOFTBALL

MONDAYS, JUNE 8 — AUGUST 10
6:30 PM START. ARRIVE 6:00 PM - 6:15 PM

All games played at Saint Christina Fields, 3271 West 111th Street, Chicago. Transportation on youth's own.

Bats and softballs provided.

A completed parent/guardian registration form, located on the GodSEND Website (sendyouthministry.org) must be turned into John Sobol before a player can compete.

For more information regarding GodSEND Youth Ministry or the listed offerings, please contact Deacon John Sobol by phone/text, 708-986-2446 or email, jsobol@steseton.com, or visit the website at <https://sendyouthministry.org>.

THE POPE'S PRAYER MINISTRY

MONTHLY PRAYER FOR MENTAL HEALTH - JULY 2026

The Pope's Prayer Intention for July is Respect for Human Life for respect for human life.

People who live with a mental illness can lead lives of faith and courage. But all too often the lives of people who are struggling with a serious mental illness are not valued and shown respect. The value of a person's life is not diminished because they live with a serious mental illness. Christ always loves people who are frail and vulnerable and gives them hope. Pope Leo XIV said to a woman who lived with serious depression and survived a suicide attempt, "through contact with Jesus, even those who feel lost regain confidence in life ... they can rise to live again." The Holy Father reminds us that "Life is a gift...even in the midst of pain and suffering.

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in recognizing it as a gift from god.

The International Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers (<https://www.catholicmhm.org/click-to-pray>)

CREATION CARE CORNER



"...we see how environmental deterioration and human and ethical degradation are closely linked" (LS 56).

—Pope Francis

ECOLOGICAL SIN

In Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, a holistic understanding of sin is presented. It is the rupture of the basic relationship with the Creator, with our fellow human beings and with creation itself. All of creation is a message of love from God. As such, the destruction of our planetary home is a sin against God. It constitutes nothing less than disrespect towards the Creator. Similarly, it constitutes a sin against our fellow human beings, since a healthy natural environment is for the collective good.

Pollution of land, water or air that harms the health of others is to be considered sinful. In the case of anthropogenic climate change, excessive greenhouse gas emissions which impact poor or vulnerable communities are also considered sinful. If ecological sin is a rupture of fundamental human relationships with the Creator and the rest of creation, then we need to heal that rupture. "It is significant that the harmony which Saint Francis of Assisi experienced with all creatures was seen as healing that rupture" (LS 66).

Attribution: Fr. Joshtrom Kureethadam – Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, from his book *The Ten Green Commandments of Laudato Si'* (p.73-87)

POPE LEO XIV ON PONTIFEX



Lord of life, today we ask for the grace to recognize and protect the unique and unrepeatable value of every human being.

May we learn to

welcome life unconditionally, to tenderly care for fragility, to accompany each stage with respect, and to bravely defend those who have no voice. Let's #PrayTogether at popesprayer.va/ praywiththepope/.

SAINT GEORGE RESPECT LIFE

DANGER OF ABORTION DRUGS

Last year a comprehensive study of health statistics revealed that one in ten women face serious health consequences after using the abortion drugs Mifepristone and Misoprostol, often referred to as a "chemical abortion." These results are far more dangerous than the "official" label warning. According to the FDA's label, roughly one in 25 women who use these abortion drugs end up in the emergency room. Ignoring both of these statistics. Planned Parenthood claims the abortion drugs Mifepristone and Misoprostol are safe and effective. Through their and other abortion providers promotion of "chemical abortion", nearly two thirds of all abortions nationally are now committed using these dangerous drugs. As a result, women and girls across the nation have suffered serious, even life-threatening, complications such as severe bleeding, infections, or sepsis. With the state government in Illinois fully supporting abortion under all circumstances, no actions will be taken to address these dangers. If you know someone who is considering abortion, encourage them to call 800-712-4357 to find a nearby pregnancy help center where they can get accurate information and assistance.

SAVE THE DATE: PRAY FOR OUR NATION

The annual Pray For Our Nation event will be held on Friday, August 7 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The program will take place at the Grotto of Our Lady of Sorrows (5900 West 147th St, Oak Forest). Prayers, songs and speakers will be featured during the two hours, so plan to attend part or all.

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Hearing this Gospel, we can trust that God knows our love and good deeds, and that he will mercifully gather us into his kingdom.

This week, please say a special prayer each day for the poor and forgotten in our parish. By your gift to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul you will reveal the love of the "Good Shepherd" to your suffering brothers and sisters. Know that the members of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul bring your gift directly to the poor and suffering in our parish. As you give your gift to

the poor through the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, in your heart you also will find the good news of God's love. The Saint Vincent de Paul poor boxes are located inside the inner church doors at all exits.

If your family or someone close to you is in need, please contact us at 708-532-2243 Ext. 515. A representative will return your call as soon as possible to arrange a confidential conversation. Confidentiality and compassion are the cornerstones of our ministry.



THE CHALICE PROJECT - PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Saint George started the Chalice Project on Sunday, November 30. Each week at Mass, a family can volunteer to take the gifts to the altar during the Offertory.

At the end of Mass, the family will be invited by the priest to come forward to receive the chalice and a blessing. The family will then take the chalice home to display it in a prominent place in their home. Each day for five days, during the family's prayer time, they will pray for an increase in vocations. These days have strengthened my hope. Not only because of what we shared, but because of the way we did so. In a time marked by polarization, even the way in which the Church listens and engages in dialogue becomes part of her proclamation. If we are able to continue seeking the will of the Lord together, allowing ourselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit, I am certain that our communion will become ever more fruitful for the mission of the Church and for service to the entire human family. vocations. Optional prayers will be provided. On the following Friday, the family will return the chalice so another family can take it home.

Please consider this as an opportunity for you to pray for an increase in vocations. Registration for this event is available on the website or by scanning the QR code on the right. Sign-up boards are also available in the narthex.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Black Catholic Deacons of Chicago
Praying for Non-Violence
in our Hearts-Schools-Family-Streets



THESE STREETS ARE HOLY SUNRISE PRAYER SERVICE, AUGUST 22

6:30 AM to 8:30 AM

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Since 2010, on the shores of Lake Michigan, the BCDC has hosted annual sunrise Masses to pray for the protection of our children. The BCDC prays for non-violence in our hearts, schools, families and streets.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



SAMUEL GROUP

DISCERNMENT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Meets monthly on Sunday afternoons at
Saint Benedict.

Register:

vocations.archchicago.org/events/samuel-group

More info: Katie, Hazen, khazen@archchicago.org



THE TINLEY PARK FOOD PANTRY...

needs your help to send 100+ kids to school this Fall with the proper supplies! If you can help in any way, please leave your donations in one of the carts by July 27. Thank you.

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For more information, contact Deacon Ed at deacon@stjulie.org.

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PARISH INFORMATION

BAPTISMS will take place at 1:00 PM on the first Sunday of the month and at the 11:30 AM Sunday Mass on the third Sunday of the month. The family must be registered. A baptismal preparation program is obligatory in advance; please call the parish office to register and for more [information](#).

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS is a program for anyone inquiring and seeking information about entering the Catholic faith. Contact the parish office.

WEDDING arrangements must be made four months in advance of the wedding date. You must be a registered parishioner for six months prior to making arrangements. Please schedule your church date before reserving your hall.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK / RECONCILIATION can be arranged by contacting the Parish Office to have a priest celebrate the sacraments with the person who is seriously ill or homebound.

HOSPITAL VISITS can be made by our priests or deacons, if notified by family members or friends. Although sacramental needs of patients are administered by the hospital chaplain or by a local priest, in an emergency, Saint George clergy will respond to sacramental needs.

MINISTRY OF CARE: Mandated Agape Ministers of Care are available to visit, pray with, and bring Holy Communion to those who are sick and unable to attend Mass. Notify the parish office when this service is needed.

REGISTRATION: We welcome new members with open arms. Please call the parish office for additional information.

FUNERALS, BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: To make arrangements, please call the parish office at 708-532-2243.

STEWARDSHIP involves your time, talent and treasure. Contact the parish office for assistance in getting started in any of the Parish's ministries and organizations. Please remember Saint George Parish when planning your estate or preparing your will.

MASS: Each week, we celebrate a Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday at 4:00 PM, and three Masses on Sunday — 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM, as well as a weekday Mass Monday through Friday at 8:15 AM.

The 4:00 PM Mass on Saturday and the 9:30 AM Mass on Sunday are broadcast via 101.7 FM to the parking lot. Please park on the east side of the parking lot by 175th Street. Communion will be brought to your car.

The Saturday 4:00 PM Anticipated Mass is live streamed on Facebook.

RECONCILIATION: Every Saturday from 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM

PRAY THE ROSARY: Please join us to pray the Rosary before morning Mass Monday through Friday starting at 7:45 AM.

ADORATION AND PRIVATE PRAYER: In church every Tuesday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. 11:00 AM to Midnight Monday through Friday in the Adoration Chapel. You may come and go as is convenient for you during this time.

BULLETIN INFORMATION provides updates on parish and Archdiocesan events. Please submit articles or recommendations to bulletin@stgeorge60477.org by 4:00 PM on the Friday ten days before publication date. Because of space limitations, articles regarding Saint George activities and information, as well as Archdiocesan events and news will take priority. All articles are subject to editing and will be published at the discretion of the Pastor. No guarantees can be made as to size or placement of the articles.



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