

OCTOBER 2023

October 1-31

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

WELCOME TO OUR Parish Community

PASTORAL STAFF

FR. MANUEL DORANTES

Pastor

mdorantes@saintmarys.org

FR. ERICK DIAZ

Associate Pastor

ediaz@saintmarys.or

FR. JESÚS ROMERO

Associate Pastor

frjesus@saintmarys.org

FR. VINCE COSTELLO

Resident Priest

vcostello@saintmarys.org

SR. GUADALUPE LIMAS, FCJ Faith Formation & Hispanic Ministry

glimas@saintmarys.org

SR. CLAUDIA SANCHEZ, FCJ

Faith Formation & Hispanic Ministry

MARC VEGA

Pastoral Associate

mvega@saintmarys.org

MICHAEL RUZICKI

Director of Sacred Music & Liturgy

mruzicki@saintmarys.org

JENNI DRESSLER

Parish Counselor

idressler.claret@amail.com

PARISH STAFF

GEOFF PAUTSCH

Director of Operations

gpautsch@saintmarys.org

GABRIEL MAYHUGH

Administrative Manager

gmayhugh@saintmarys.org

Administrative Assistants
CAROL BROWN

CAROL BROWN

cbrown@samunarys.org

ROSA GARCIA

raarcia@saintmarvs.ora

JACQUELINE ROMERO

jromero@saintmarys.org

Maintenance & Facilities

SERGIO CIENFUEGOS

MARIA PATINO

AMALIO SANTIAGO



Our Two Places of Worship

PARISH CHURCH

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE

4220 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60613



CHAPFI

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

4640 N. Ashland Ave, Chicago, IL 60640

MASS TIMES

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:30 PM - English

Sunday

8:30 AM - English

10:30 AM - English

12:30 PM - Spanish

DAILY MASSES

Monday - Saturday

9:00 AM - English

RECONCILIATION

Thursdays - 7:00 PM Saturdays - 9:30 AM

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays - 7:00 PM

PRIVATE PRAYER

Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 7:30 PM

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

WEEKEND MASSES

Sunday

9:00 AM - English

11:00 AM - Spanish

ADORATION & PRIVATE PRAYER

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM

PARISH OFFICE

Saint Mary of the Lake
4220 N. Sheridan Rd, Chicago, IL 60613
(773) 280-7700
office@saintmarys.org

Monday - Friday | 9:00am - 8:00pm Saturdays & Sundays | 9:00am - 2:00pm

A MESSAGE FROM Father Erick

JESUS CALLS US TO A DEEP ENCOUNTER WITH HIM.

Dear parishioners, I greet you with the same affection as always. This month we will reflect on how to have a personal encounter with Jesus. The first question that may arise in this regard will be: Where to have this meeting? The church affirms that Jesus is present in a special way in four moments within the liturgy. Especially, in the broken and shared Eucharist; in the person of the presiding priest minister; in the word of God; and in the assembly of the people of God (Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy, CSL 7).

Of these four ways we will focus on one. The Eucharist. When Jesus stated that whoever ate and drank it, referring to the bread and wine, they would be eating him and drinking his blood, the Jews were scandalized. Many left, many doubted him and left him alone. Jesus asked the 12 apostles and you too go away. Peter responded. To whom will we go if only you have the word of eternal life. Jesus is the word made flesh that we wanted to perpetuate in his Eucharistic presence. The Eucharist is not an appearance, but Jesus himself who is there waiting for each one to give him life and life in abundance.

Many in these times do not recognize him, do not adore him, do not accept him, many doubt if Jesus is really there. Many are like the Jews of Jesus' time who abandoned him, because they did not like the way Jesus spoke. Today many have distanced themselves from Jesus. However, Jesus has not distanced himself from anyone, he patiently continues to wait for each person's return. Jesus is still alive waiting for each of the Christians to become worshipers and deep believers in his presence. Jesus is not only present at the moment of Mass, but he is still present and alive in the tabernacle. The bright little box as the children say. There in that little box that remains in every Catholic temple around the world is Jesus in fullness. In fullness, because he is omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent.

Jesus continues to invite us to return to the source. The source is the Eucharist, where all the spiritual forces of the Christian life and the life of the church emanate. Hence, without the Eucharist there is no priest and vice versa. Without the Eucharist the church cannot be sustained. Given this, Padre Pio said: it is easier for the world to survive without the sun than to survive without the Eucharist.

Today a Eucharistic revival is urgently needed in the Church. A revival of beating hearts and worshipers of the real presence of Jesus. Today the world is hurt. Today people are hurt.



Today Jesus wants to heal society, families, people. But it is urgent that people fall on their knees before him. Jesus wants to renew lives, he wants to renew hearts, he wants to transform families, he wants to restore homes. but he waits patiently for someone to initiate that renewal, that desire to find him and he will let himself be found. Our parish offers personal Eucharistic adoration in both churches. Santa María every day from 9 to 8 at night and in Lourdes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 and 30 am to 8 at night.

Come with confidence to Jesus and experience a revival in your heart, because he himself has told us that he is the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world. Jn 6,51.

Jesus, then, wants to find everyone. And everyone is invited to embrace that tender and merciful love that wants to save you and take you to heaven.

I finish with this. Do you want to go to heaven? The Eucharistic revival begins today and God will begin to transform everything. The best battles are won on your knees before Jesus, worshiping him and speaking confidently with him, as Moses did. When Moses raised his arms, Israel won the battle; but when he lowered his arms, he lost the battle. The best battles will only be won on your knees before Jesus, with an open heart and your arms raised before him with confidence.

Fr. Erick

LET US PRAY Tagether



Our Music Ministry is Growing! ...and we want you to be a part of it!

Liturgical music fosters a communal celebration of the Eucharist thus nourishing us for a life of discipleship. Those experienced with singing in a choir are invited to exercise your baptismal responsibilities by serving as a musician at the 9:00am (OLL) or 10:30am (SML) Sunday Masses. If you don't have experience or don't read music but can hold a tune and sing along at Mass, we can work with you. Instrumentalists are welcome, too!

Being a part of a choir has non-musicial benefits, too. Participating in a church choir becomes a small faith community that supports you in your own spiritual journey.

For more information, contact Michael, our Director of Sacred Music and Liturgy, at mruzicki@saintmarys.org.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Marcela Rodriguez, Hector De León, Griffin Marks, Rod Reyes, Maria Estela Alvarez, Austreberta Escobar, Adolfo Ruiz Baca, Melissa Velazquez, Molly Morris, Alfredo Pinon, Rose Mueller, Michael Snyder, Angela Bates, Angelica Luviano, Lauren Troy, Jack Denihan, Maria Pardo, Rachel Hohner, Angela Turley, Mary Pilarczyk, William Himmelmann, Marilyn Trant, Vivian Morales, John Okeeffe, Benjamin Blanco, Elvira Blanco and for all our sick parishioners and those who are in nursing homes.







MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE **MONTH OF OCTOBER**

The following are prayer requests we have received from the Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes community. Please keep them in your prayers.

Deceased

† Rev. Dudley Day, OSA † Casimiro Nolasco Jr. † Henry Osorio † Albeiro Osorio † Matías Eliu † Alvaro Villaseñor Paredes † Obdulia Munoz Espinoza † John Selep † Jeanette Salamanski

† Jan Durociak

† Bill Bower

† Jesus Martinez

† Freddy Subia

† Olga Guevara

† Gustavo Tomala

† Philip A. Faro

† Alice Day

† Celia Perez

† Maria Lourdes Delgado

† Mauricio Garrido

† Atanacio Deloria

† Pilar Trayvilla

† Juana Maria Hernandez

† All Souls in Purgatory

Health

John Okeeffe

Birthday

Andrew Ojeda

Special Prayers

Ana Karen Ojeda



For the members of our parish community who have recently passed away.

† Bishop Kevin M. Birmingham † Mercedes Perez Ramirez † Graciela Covena Perez

WELCOME OUR NEW *Cassociate Pastor*





FR. JESÚS ROMERO GALÁN

NEWLY APPOINTED ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE AND OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH

Greetings to all of you. I am Fr. Jesus Romero Galan. I'm the fifth of seven children of Manuel Romero and Margarita Galan. I was born and raised in Jalapa, Veracruz, Mexico. On August 15, 2004, I started my formation in the Archdiocesan Seminary of Jalapa where I studied the Minor Seminary and Philosophy. After that I moved to a seminary near Mexico City where I studied one year of diocesan-Dominican spirituality. While I was studying there, I received an invitation from Cardinal George, of blessed memory, to come to Chicago to serve the people of God in this Archdiocese. I came to Chicago in August of 2011 with zero knowledge of the English language. After one year of intensive classes of English at UIC, I was admitted to Mundelein Seminary. After one more year of English there, I started my Theological studies. In May of 2018, I was ordained priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

When I was a little kid, I never thought of traveling out of my hometown. I was born in a humble family, maybe financially poor, but rich in moral values and love towards others. I thought I wouldn't be able to join the seminary, because the financial situation of my family made it almost impossible, but God's Divine Providence has never abandoned me, and until now, after fourteen years in seminary formation, and 5 years of priesthood, God has sustained my vocation through loving and generous people. Since this adventure started, I have never doubted of my vocation, because God has always been at my side letting me experience His support on my vocation.

By accepting God's call to the priesthood, I thought I had left everything aside, but in reality, I gained everything with God. One of my major dreams while growing up, especially while dating my girlfriend, was having children, and even that God has given to me very generously. Of course! Not the way I was hoping, but the way God knew would make me happier: He made me a spiritual father of His own children. I thought I was generous with God by giving up my dreams, but He taught me that His dreams surpassed those of my own. God is not outdone in generosity.

Now, God, in his love and mercy, has sent me to this wonderful community of Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes. I feel so grateful to Cardinal Cupich and Fr. Manuel for giving me this opportunity to serve God in all of you. May God help us to grow in holiness together, and through the intercession of our Beloved Mother Mary, may we become instruments of God's tender and merciful love for all those around us.

Please, keep me in your prayers; rest assured that you are in mine.

PARISH NEWS & Events



OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO 2023 AT SAINT MARYS

Open House Chicago is just around the corner! **Save the date for October 14 and 15, 2023**. Saint Mary of the Lake will be a visiting site for Open House Chicago 2023.

We are in need of volunteers to serve as a presence during the event; greeting visitors, answering questions and providing tours. These shifts will be on Saturday, October 14th at 10AM, 12 Noon and 2PM for two hour increments. Also on Sunday, October 15th for one three hour increment starting at 2PM.

Those who are interesting in volunteering, please contact parishioner Ron Schnorbus at rschnorbus@gmail.com or the parish office.

WHY JOIN THE YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY?

Join the Young Adults Community! The Young Adults of St. Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes are a vibrant, inclusive group of parishioners, ages 21-39, dedicated to living and growing in our Catholic faith.

For more info or questions contact YoungAdults@saintmarys.org



Scan the QR code to be added to the email list and learn more about the upcoming events.

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CANDY DONATIONS ARE NEEDED

The Young Adults will be handing out candy for Halloween with Buena Park Neighbors. If interested, donations of bags of wrapped candy can be brought to the parish office.

MONTHLY MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

We continue in celebrating a special Mass on the 11th of each month in honor of the blessed Virgin of Lourdes. The Mass will also offer the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. This monthly Mass will be held every 11th of the month and at Saint Mary of the Lake (4220 N Sheridan Rd, Chicago, IL 60613) until the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes in February.

The Mass will alternate languages each month from Spanish to English, but all parishioners and friends are welcome to join as often as you desire.

The next Mass will be held on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 7:00pm in English.

Our Lady of Lourdes...pray for us!



OUTREACH AND Social Justice

SOUP KITCHEN & SACK MEAL PROGRAM

Volunteers are needed to **MAKE SACK MEALS** and to help with service on Wednesday nights. To make this a success consistently each week, we need 80 individuals/families to commit to donating at least once a month.

Each sack meal should contain:

- 2 lunch meat sandwiches with no condiments, cheese is optional but a nice addition
- 2 cheese sticks
- 1 bag of chips (or similar)
- 1 piece of soft fruit (for example, orange, banana, grapes)
- Dessert (cookies or candy bar)
- Beverage (juice box, can of soda, or 8 oz water bottle/sports drink)
- Napkin

Please pack each meal in a gallon-sized plastic bag (like Ziploc). Or please use a plastic grocery bag.

DROP OFF

Wednesday between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00pm, drop off at the parish reception desk, as they will be handed out beginning at 6:00pm.

WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed to help with the distribution of sack meals, set up and serving a hot meal to our unhoused community members every week. Help is needed every Wednesday from 4:30-7:30pm.

To sign-up to make sack meals or to help on Wednesday nights please visit the parish website or contact Darlene at dkelly@saintmarys.org





LAUNDRY MINISTRY

The Laundry Ministry is a service to LGBTQ homeless youth in the community. Volunteers serve on a weekly basis to pick up bags of laundry at the Center on Halsted, and then take it to a nearby laundromat to wash and fold. This ministry is currently serving on Wednesday evenings between 3-6pm.

For more information please contact Ron Schnorbus at rschnorbus@gmail.com



FOOD FOR ALL: COME TO THE TABLE!

Mark your calendar: Our next food distribution will be <u>Saturday</u>, October 21st on the Saint Mary of the Lake Plaza, with preordering on Wednesday, October 18th and Thursday, October 19th.

All parishioners and friends are welcome to register and place an order for pick up on Saint Mary's Plaza!

The process is very simple:

- 1. Register your account by using the link on our website at www.saintmarys.org/foodforall.html (no documentation required)
- 2. Place your order online through the link on our website on Wednesday, October 18th and Thursday, October 19th from 12:01am-11:59pm.
- 3. Pickup your custom order on Saturday, October 21st between 11am and 12pm on Saint Mary's Plaza.

If you have registered, all you need to do is order online. If you have not registered, please make sure to register online through the link on our website.

For more information or if you need help, you can call the parish office or go to the parish website.



IF YOU NEED HELP, **PLEASE REACH OUT TO OUR PARISH COUNSELOR TODAY**

> JENNI DRESSLER **Parish Counselor**

Phone/Text: 872-228-1490 **Email:** JDressler.Claret@gmail.com

FAITH & Testimony



WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

We gladly welcome the following children into the family of God and into the faith community of Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes, who were baptized during the **month of September**. Please pray for them and their families.

Hanna Nora Levy
Lianna Celena Barahona
Alvaro Jose Reyes Lopez
Justin Alexander Farez
Alexander Remiel Martinez Roque
Emiliano Carmona
Filly Gael Carmona
Mia Valentina Carmona
Aziel Garcia Castrejon
Aiden Garcia Castrejon



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY MARRIED

We congratulate the following people who were married during the **month of September**. May they and their marriage be blessed abundantly in the years to come!

Gildardo Nicolas & Julia Madrigal

Hung Tran & Julie Ann Gegantenio





Regina, Renato and Rory

MEETING THE MEMBERS OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

How long have you been parishioners of Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes?

We have been a part of the community for 2 years.

Why did you decide to be part of the community of Saint Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes when there are so many other parishes in Chicago? We enjoy hearing the teachings we receive from hearing the Gospel and in the homily. The homilies really touch our hearts and is true. We appreciate hearing about the priests' experiences as well. We enjoy attending the events the parish hosts.

What part of the Mass do you feel you connect the most with God?

The part of the Mass that connects us with God the most is the Gospel and the homily. It is helpful and relatable to our life.

Has worshipping with our community helped you strengthen your faith and spirituality?

We [Regina and Rory] attend religious education on Saturdays, so we feel we are able to learn and grow in our faith both on Saturdays and Sundays.

How would you explain to a family member or friend who is away from the Church, the importance of attending Mass and strengthening their faith?

I would explain to them by bringing up their favorite things to learn and helping the connect and apply it with what we also learn in Church. I think they can strengthen their faith by simply coming to Mass and giving one hour of their time to be with God.

Look for more parishioners' stories in the upcoming bulletins and continue to meet the members of our faith community!

CELEBRATING OUR Community

FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM PARISHIONER BOB **CORAZZA**

Hello fellow parishioners,

My name is Bob Corazza. I have been a part of the St. Mary's of the Lake community for 7 years though I'm in the process of moving to Florida. Yes, I'm old!

As a 70 year old man I've attended many parishes, mostly in the suburbs. I have never felt as welcomed as I do at St. Mary's. The calmness that descends on me as I sit in pew 53 isn't hard to explain. It's looking at the diverse flock that sits about me and feeling at home.

St.Mary's opens it doors to all regardless of color, socio economic status or sexual orientation. The smiles exchanged before and after Mass are genuine. Amid high mental illness in the area, this oasis is called home by many, Gods home.

I reached out to Fr. Manny last week after Mass to tell him of my impending move. The dialogue turned emotional as I asked for his blessing. I have mixed emotions about the move, with leaving St. Mary's among them. With so many parishes closing, our Pastor has made the necessary changes needed for our parish to thrive.

Fr. Manny's warm style is the source of this unity of followers. Fr. Vince and I always greet each other like long lost friends. Our banter is part comedy part thoughtfulness. The jokes we use are old but so are we. I will miss you, Vince.

Fr. Don and I will always share a common hurt. Don administered to the homeless in LA that my eldest son had been swallowed up by. The frank talks we had gave me hope that I hadn't had before. I hope that Don is doing well.

To think that at my age I can call my parish priests by their first names like my parents did, is a full circle moment for me.

And a smile from above. This is what family is.

Respectfully, Bob Corazza

> Photo: Bob and his granddaughter Maggie





A warm welcome to our newly registered parishioners of our parish community! The following persons and families registered this past August and September! Welcome to Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes!

> Veronica Cruz Cameron Finzer Mario Coria Cervantes Maria Martinez Kate Robison Dora Galicia Martha Romero Jefferson De Dos Santos Sugey Nunez Maria Taquite Elizabeth Lammert Vitalino Aquilar Jesus Madera Emma Bixby Lucya Jaramillo Eric Torres Noel Rivas Mary Maloney Ruben Villatoro Karina Chaparro Jose Pena Yeice Hidalgo Jolimar Josefina Salazar Julio Cesar Sinfontes Ponceleon Marino Marquez Gonzalez Belkis Gonzalez Pujol Teresita Vidal Carmen Adriana Bertoletti Bridget Maul Maritza Ayello Noemi Gutierrez Urdaneta Darwin Castaneda Yelitza Gonzalez Espinoza Andreina Valera Tania Camacho Alexandra Loque Victoria Kulhanek Alisa Rosales Maria Magdalena Fuerte

Carlos Contreras

Juanita Leslie

PARISH News & Events

OCTOBER 2023 SPECIAL LITURGIES

Wednesday, October 11: 7:00pm *English Mass* (Saint Mary's)
Mass with the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

FRIDAY BIKING & FELLOWSHIP

Join your fellow parishioners for biking and fellowship on the first Friday of each month, May through October. The group meets at 6PM on the church steps. We will take a leisurely ride to a variety of points around the city, followed by fellowship at someone's home or a local establishment. All riding abilities will be accomodated and we will try to utilize bike paths or dedicated bike lanes. You are responsible for your own bike, a helmet, following signage and using hand signals. Contact Ron Schnorbus at rschnorbus@gmail.com with questions or to be added to our email list.

THE COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO

The Community of Sant'Egidio is a movement of lay people dedicated to communicating and living out the Gospel through prayer, solidarity with the poor and service to peace. It was born among high school students in Rome in 1968, in the period following the Second Vatican Council and today is present in Rome, the rest of Italy, and in seventy other countries throughout the world.

This ministry meets regularly on Monday nights at 6:30pm in the St. Gabriel Chapel in the parish office. For more info call our office or contact Krysten McOsker at krystenmcosker@gmail.com

NAVIGATING DIVORCE MINISTRY

The Navigating Divorce ministry is offered each **Sunday from 9:15-10:15 AM in-person in the Parish Office**. This ministry consists of confidential small group discussion and sharing for any woman or man experiencing the various stages of grief which accompany the overall divorce process as it moves toward Roman Catholic healing objectives.

Questions can be directed to Dr. Milt Kobus, at drmkobus@gmail.com

ADULT CONFIRMATION

For adults (18 years or older) who are baptized Catholic and seeking to receive the Sacraments of First Communion or Confirmation please contact Marc Vega at mvega@saintmarys.org or 773-280-7700 x402. **Sessions begin October 18.**

BECOMING CATHOLIC

If you are someone who is interested in becoming Catholic and learning more about this process, please reach out to Marc Vega at mvega@saintmarys.org or 773-280-7700 x402. We look forward to walking with you on your journey of faith! **Sessions begin October 18.**

SAINT MARY'S WINS PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION AWARD

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

We were notified that our parish church, Saint Mary of the Lake, won the Chicago-Midwest Chapter of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art Acanthus Awards for Preservation & Restoration 2023. These awards recognize and promote excellence in Classical and Vernacular design. The Acanthus Awards are open to all design professionals, students and artisans practicing within the boundaries of the Chicago-Midwest region of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art which includes: Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and the upper peninsula of Michigan.

We are grateful to Parishioner Mark Losher for his generosity that made this restoration possible in January of 2023 and the artistic team at Conrad Schmitt Studios for their amazing work. May this work of beauty elevate the hearts, minds and souls of future generations.



PARISH Stewardship



SUNDAY COLLECTIONS SEPTEMBER 2023	SEPTEMBER 2-3	SEPTEMBER 9-10	SEPTEMBER 16-17	SEPTEMBER 23-24	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE
4:30 p.m.	\$1,256.00	\$621.48	\$1,438.00	\$1,905.00	76
8:30 a.m.	\$789.00	\$1,022.00	\$970.00	\$998.00	116
10:30 a.m.	\$1,396.00	\$1,205.00	\$1,407.00	\$1,177.48	248
12:30 p.m.	\$1,008.03	\$1,121.00	\$1,135.00	\$1,195.00	274
Online Giving	\$4,187.00	\$1,839.00	\$3,312.00	\$3,856.00	TOTAL
Saint Mary of the Lake	\$8,636.03	\$5,808.48	\$8,262.00	\$9,131.48	713
9:00 a.m.	\$781.50	\$886.50	\$814.00	\$536.50	115
11:00 a.m.	\$1,346.00	\$2,159.00	\$1,331.00	\$1,719.00	314
Online Giving	\$474.00	\$359.00	\$304.00	\$339.00	TOTAL
Our Lady of Lourdes	\$2,601.50	\$3,404.50	\$2,449.00	\$2,594.50	429
WEEKEND TOTAL	\$11,237.53	\$9,212.98	\$10,711.00	\$11,725.98	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TOWARD THE SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND - \$1,952.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF **OUR MISSION AND PARISH!**

SEPTEMBER 2023 **TOTAL SUNDAY GIVING**

\$42,887.49

(AUGUST 2023 - \$41,129.50)

AVERAGE WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE IN SEPTEMBER 2023

1,142 people

SECOND COLLECTION - OCTOBER 22, 2023

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

We recommit ourselves to our common vocation through Baptism to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by generously sharing our gifts. The annual World Mission Sunday collection provides critical financial support to missionaries and communities of faith in the most economically disadvantaged regions of the globe through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. Working with limited means, local churches bear witness to the Gospel amid scarcity, conflict and instability. Missionaries address all forms of material and spiritual needs to build up the church, affirm human dignity, alleviate poverty, encourage dialogue and inspire hope.