



**DECEMBER 2023**  
December 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](mailto:mdorantes@saintmarys.org)

**FR. JESÚS ROMERO**  
*Associate Pastor*  
[frjesus@saintmarys.org](mailto:frjesus@saintmarys.org)

**FR. ALPHONSE TWIZERIMANA**  
*Associate Pastor*  
[fralphonse@saintmarys.org](mailto:fralphonse@saintmarys.org)

**FR. VINCE COSTELLO**  
*Resident Priest*  
[vcostello@saintmarys.org](mailto:vcostello@saintmarys.org)

**SR. GUADALUPE LIMAS, FCJ**  
*Faith Formation & Hispanic Ministry*  
[glimas@saintmarys.org](mailto:glimas@saintmarys.org)

**SR. CLAUDIA SANCHEZ, FCJ**  
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**MARC VEGA**  
*Pastoral Associate*  
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**MICHAEL RUZICKI**  
*Director of Sacred Music & Liturgy*  
[mruzicki@saintmarys.org](mailto:mruzicki@saintmarys.org)

**JENNI DRESSLER**  
*Parish Counselor*  
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## PARISH STAFF

**GEOFF PAUTSCH**  
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[gpautsch@saintmarys.org](mailto:gpautsch@saintmarys.org)

**GABRIEL MAYHUGH**  
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*Administrative Assistants*  
**CAROL BROWN**  
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**JACQUELINE ROMERO**  
[jromero@saintmarys.org](mailto: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



**CHAPEL**  
**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

#### EUCARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays - 7:00 PM

#### PRIVATE PRAYER

#### ST. GABRIEL CHAPEL

*Monday - Friday*  
9:30 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](mailto:office@saintmarys.org)

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

# A MESSAGE FROM Father Jesus

## DEAR PARISHIONERS,

A few days ago we celebrated the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. With this solemnity we complete the liturgical year and give way to the Season of Advent, with which we begin a New Liturgical Year within the Church.

By recognizing and celebrating Jesus as King of Kings, we must deepen into what this means. This Solemnity is the culmination that gives meaning to what we will celebrate throughout this liturgical year that we are beginning; It is the advent of the Lord who comes to the world, no longer as a Little Baby, but in all His glory to reign over the creation redeemed by the sacrifice of Mount Calvary.

When we talk about a reign or a monarchy, our imagination immediately brings to our mind the image of a person seated on a throne, a crown, elegant clothes, a scepter and plenty of servants attentive to the needs of "his majesty," whose powerful army was always victorious in great fights against other kingdoms. It is precisely that idea that will take the Three Wise Men to Herod's palace in search of the King who has been born.

That is also the idea that, at first, the apostles and the Jewish community had of Jesus. They thought that Jesus, as the Messiah and "Son of David," would be the one who would finally free them from the hands of their oppressors, which at that time was the Roman Empire. This idea was so real among the people that even the apostles themselves fought to get a position of honor once the kingdom of Jesus was established.

But the reign of Jesus is not like that of the "kings" of our world. Certainly, Jesus is a king and has ascended to the throne, but his throne is not made of marble, much less draped in gold, but made of humble and fragile wood draped and adorned with his Precious Blood. He certainly has a crown, but not covered with emeralds and diamonds to adorn his head, but one with sharp thorns that breakthrough his already bloody head. He does not have silk clothes embroidered with gold threads, but only his skin torn and disfigured by so many lashes and spit. His scepter is not made of precious metals to point at people and to condemn his subjects, but his scepter is made of his own words of love and mercy that points the way to all who approach Him with a sincere and repentant heart. And unlike our rulers, Jesus does not sit at ease waiting to be served and adulated, but he himself girds the robe and begins to serve even to the point of giving his life for those he loves. His mighty army is not sent to kill and conquer with a strong hand and sharp swords, but to love and win souls for heaven through the announcement of the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.

During this Advent, we must strive to imitate that King whom we wait for and whose birth we celebrate. As baptized members of the Church, we all share three characteristics that should distinguish us as Christians in the world: We are priests; we share the common priesthood with which we can offer our daily sacrifices to God through prayer, penance, fasting, etc., for our own and / or our brothers' sake; We are prophets, called to announce the Good News, and at the same time, to denounce sin; and finally, we are kings, called to reign with Christ and like Christ at the service of the Heavenly Father through charity and mercy



**FR. JESUS ROMERO**  
*Associate Pastor*

shown to our neighbor.

With the Solemnity of Christ the King still fresh in our minds, and aware that Advent is that time of preparation for the second coming of the Lord, let us remain aware during the year ahead, that both the Child who is born and the Lord who returns in glory and majesty are the same King of Kings who comes to implant truth, justice, love, forgiveness and full life. Just as He was sent to the world with that mission, He also sends us to announce to every creature the Good News of the Reign of Christ. May we rediscover our Christian identity and go to the encounter to the naked, the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the imprisoned, and the needy, so that at the end of our days, when the Lord comes, surrounded by his glory, he may say to us: "Come, blessed of my father; take possession of the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world ... "because you were able to find me in your brother in need.

May God bless you.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Jesus

# LET US PRAY Together

## MASS INTENTIONS

To request a Mass Intention in memory of a deceased loved one, for someone who is sick or for general prayers please call the parish office. Note that these requests will be mentioned in the Mass time you request and published in our monthly bulletin. Please contact the office one week in advance to request an intention. The suggested donation is \$15 per intention.

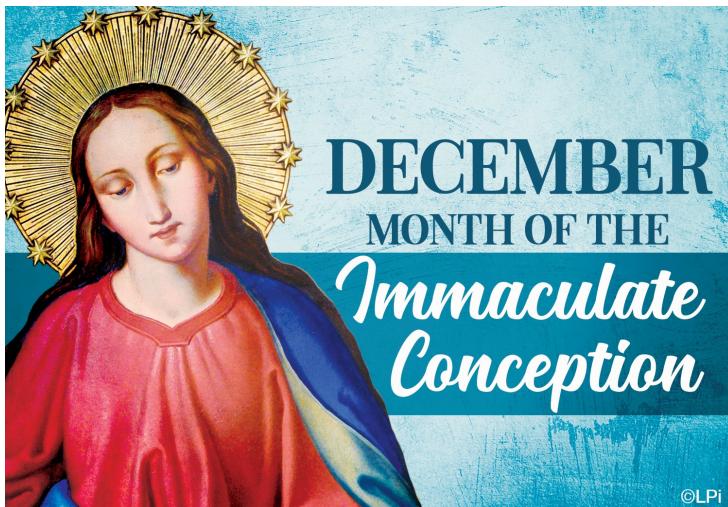
Please note that any mass intentions received after the 15th OF THE MONTH will not be published in the bulletin, however it will still be prayed for at mass.

## SICK LIST

If you would like to add a family member or friend to our general Prayer List for the Sick, please contact the parish office and provide the name. These names will be published in our monthly bulletin and weekly newsletters so that our community can pray for them. There is no donation requested for these requests.

## 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, Kenneth



©LPI



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

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

† John Phillips  
† Aury Gutierrez  
† Mary Durkin Lucas  
† Animas del Sto. Purgatorio  
† Frederick C. Exter Jr.  
† Alice Palmer  
† Peggy (Hurley)Rich  
† Darlene Martin  
† Mary Lou Eilers  
† Kenneth W. Hansen  
† Philip A. Faro  
† Freddy Subia  
† Olga Guevara  
† Gustavo Tomala  
† David Van Derbeck  
† Mary Ellen Costello  
† Nala Gray  
† Terri Moran  
† Victoriano Unzueta  
† Carmelita Villegas  
† Maria & Ricardo Manrique

### Health

Joe Klochan

### Birthday

Macedonia Ruiz

### Anniversary

Juanita y Alfredo Martinez  
Jorge y Luz Panora



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

† Maria de Lourdes Ballesteros  
† Juan Castaneda

# WELCOME TO OUR NEW Associate Pastor

## WELCOME OUR NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR: FATHER ALPHONSE TWIZERIMANA



Dear Parishioners and Friends of Saint Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes,

It gives me great joy to share with you that effective today, Cardinal Cupich has appointed a second associate pastor to assist me in serving the members of our community. He is Father Alphonse Twizerimana.

Father Alphonse is a Rwandan born priest and was ordained to the priesthood on July 10th, 2004. He is the middle child of three siblings, one older brother and one younger sister. As a child, he enjoyed playing soccer, volleyball, and altar serving.

He also had a passion for education which continued from the refugee camp into his adult life.

Due to the war and genocide that happened in his home country, Father Alphonse moved in 1994 from

his home country to Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Zambia. It is during this moving from one place to the other that he learned about many different peoples and their cultures. He strongly feels it is essential to learn from other people's cultures and understand them.

From his young age, Father Alphonse felt a calling to become a priest. He was inspired to take on his vocation by the priests who used to visit his home village. The priests helped his community prosper and organized many activities for the children and youth, including the young Father Alphonse. Father Alphonse found the priests' work to be noble and was inspired to imitate them. As a priest, he loves celebrating mass, working with the community, reading, and teaching.

Father Alphonse did his primary education and his junior seminary in Rwanda. He did his propaedeutic year, his philosophy, his theology, and his master's degree in educational management and administration in Zambia.

Father Alphonse served as an associate pastor and a pastor at Christ the King Parish in Zambia until December 2007 when he was called back by his bishop to return to serve in his home diocese, Ruhengeri, in the Northern part of Rwanda.

In Rwanda, Father Alphonse served as a spiritual director for one year, and as a school principal for twelve years at Groupe Scolaire Saint Jerome Janja, a boarding school of 1,000 middle school and high school students.

Father Alphonse came to the United States in January 2021 to begin Doctoral studies in Educational Leadership at DePaul University. While doing his coursework, Father Alphonse was a resident priest at Saint Josaphat Parish in Lincoln Park. He is currently working on his dissertation.

Father Alphonse is proficient in Kinyarwanda, French, English, and three local Zambian languages.

Please join me in welcoming Father Alphonse to our community. Next time you are in church please introduce yourself to him. You may also contact him by emailing him at [FrAlphonse@saintmarys.org](mailto:FrAlphonse@saintmarys.org)

Most grateful for you,  
Father Manny



# LITURGY AND Prayer

## ADVENT 2023

### ADVENT GIVING TREE

December 3–17, 2023

Helping our brothers and sister in need within our ministries of Sant'Egidio, the Soup Kitchen and Migrant Ministry. Thank you for your generous support!

### ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION AND CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

6:00 PM in English at Saint Mary of the Lake

### SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Friday, December 8, 2023

6:00 PM in English at Saint Mary of the Lake

7:30 PM in Spanish at Saint Mary of the Lake

### SIMBANG GABI

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

6:30pm Mass in English at Saint Mary of the Lake

7:30pm Celebration to follow in the Parish Hall

### PASTORELA NAVIDEÑA “CHRISTMAS PLAY”

Saturday, December 23, 2023

6:00 pm in Spanish in the Parish Hall. Celebration to immediately follow. All are welcome!



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2023

### Sunday, December 24, 2023

Regular Sunday Schedule in the Morning

#### Christmas Eve

*Saint Mary of the Lake*

4:30pm in English

9:00pm in English

*Our Lady of Lourdes*

8:00pm in Spanish

### Monday, December 25, 2023

Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord / Christmas Day

*Saint Mary of the Lake*

10:30am in English

12:30pm in Spanish

*Our Lady of Lourdes*

9:00am in English

11:00am in Spanish

### Sunday, December 31, 2023

Regular Sunday Schedule in the Morning

#### New Year's Eve

*Saint Mary of the Lake*

4:30pm in Bilingual

### Monday, January 1, 2024

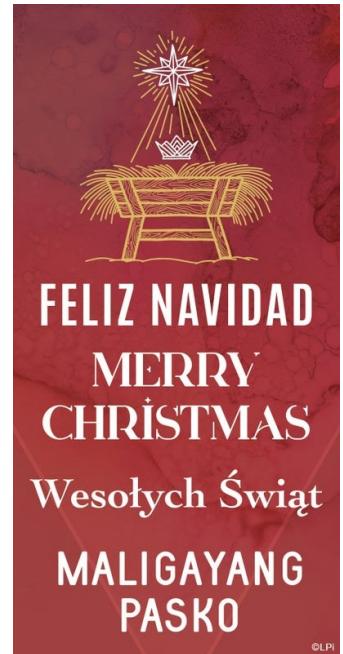
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

*Saint Mary of the Lake*

10:30am in English

12:30pm in Spanish

The parish office will  
be closed from  
December 24 until  
January 1. Merry  
Christmas and Happy  
New Year!



# 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](mailto: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](mailto:rschnorbus@gmail.com)



## FOOD FOR ALL: COME TO THE TABLE!

Mark your calendar: Our next food distribution will be Saturday, December 16th on the Saint Mary of the Lake Plaza, with pre-ordering on Wednesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 14.

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](http://www.saintmarys.org/foodforall.html) (no documentation required)

2. Place your order online through the link on our website on Wednesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 14 from 12:01am-11:59pm.

3. Pickup your custom order on Saturday, December 16th 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](mailto: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 November**. Please pray for them and their families.

Theodore Anthony Karel Arnold

Nathan Abdiel Barrios



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

Alyssa Denyes  
Michelle Bonjour  
Jennifer Guerrero  
Rosie Murphy  
Lisa Bommarito  
Shaunna Richardson  
Carol Aguirre



## TRIDUUM FOR OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

All are welcome to join our Latino community in celebrating our Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Guadalupe!

**December 9-11, 2023**

7:00 PM Rosary and Triduum in Spanish (Saint Mary's)

**December 10, 2023**

6:30 PM Dance Performance (Saint Mary's)

**December 11, 2023**

8:00 PM Serenade to the Blessed Mother

9:00 PM Mass in Spanish (Saint Mary's)

**December 12, 2023**

5:00 AM Mañanitas (Serenade) with a Mariachi

6:00 AM Mass

7:00 PM Mass of the Roses (Spanish)

Celebration to follow in the Parish Hall

## Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Des Plaines, IL

9:30 PM Blessing of Pilgrims (Our Lady of Lourdes)



*CELEBRATING Culture*

# THE NEWBERRY CONSORT

## A Latin American Christmas

Liza Malamut, Artistic Director & Salomé Sandoval, Guest Co-Director

A multi-lingual holiday program of music from  
Mexico, Peru, Guatemala, Panama, and Spain  
*including a nativity drama, villancicos, and dances composed for  
voices, winds, historical percussion and plucked instruments.*

St. Mary of the Lake

December 17

4:00 pm



**\*\$25 General Admission\***

Free for children 16 & under

Family 10 packs for \$100

More information at [newberryconsort.org](http://newberryconsort.org)

# PARISH News & Events

## 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](mailto:drmkobus@gmail.com).

## 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 please contact Krysten McOske at [krystenmcosker@gmail.com](mailto:krystenmcosker@gmail.com)



## Prayer for Peace

### About 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.

### About the Prayer for Peace

Every first Monday of the month we gather to pray for peace and for all the peoples in the world who are suffering because of war. During the prayer, afflicted countries will be named and a candle will be lit for peace in those nations.

#### Details

6:30 pm

St. Mary of the Lake  
St. Gabriel Chapel  
4220 N. Sheridan Rd.  
Chicago, 60613

## GIVING WITH THE HEAD AND THE HEART

As we approach the end of the calendar/tax year, it is a time when many think about their year-end charitable giving. Here are a few ways to maximize your charitable donations while minimizing your tax liability and saving yourself time and money in the process.

- **Donor Advised Fund (DAF):** A DAF is a type of charitable giving account: you make a donation to your DAF account, receive a tax deduction for the current tax year, and have the flexibility to direct your DAF balance as gifts to the parish at any time in the future. It's simple, flexible and tax efficient.
- **Stocks and Mutual Funds:** Giving stocks, bonds, mutual funds or ETFs to the parish rather than cash could increase the value of your gifts, cost you less money, and lower your tax bill. Donating publicly traded securities allows you to avoid capital gains taxes (which can be as high as 20% on long-term holdings) and you are still able to claim a charitable deduction for the full fair-market value of the donated securities. That stretches your dollar further than just selling the stock and giving cash.
- **Gifts from Your Individual Retirement Account (IRA):** Are you taking Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from an IRA? You can avoid income taxes on your RMD by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA and avoid paying taxes on the distribution. That's a huge tax advantage that satisfies part or all of your required minimum distribution. Thank you for considering St. Mary of the Lake-Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in your charitable giving plans.
- **Remember to leave the parish in your estate plans:** The parish sometimes learns that former or current parishioners, who recently passed away, left the parish in their will or named the parish as a beneficiary of some of their remaining assets. This is a remarkable way to memorialize your own legacy. With such gifts, the parish invests and uses these funds for long-term planning and investment of the parish or as the donor intends.

Thank you for your generous giving and faithful sharing with the parish. The parish administration strives to be the best stewards of your gifts. If you are in need of any information or have questions, please contact our Operations Director, Geoff Pautsch, in the Parish Office.

# PARISH Stewardship

SUNDAY COLLECTION NOVEMBER 2023	NOVEMBER 4-5	NOVEMBER 11-12	NOVEMBER 18-19	NOVEMBER 25-26	TOTAL
Total (In-Pew)	\$8,647.00	\$8,198.00	\$7,091.00	\$7,698.00	\$31,634.00
Total (Online)	\$5,788.00	\$2,515.00	\$1,795.00	\$2,292.00	\$12,390.00
<b>WEEKEND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,435.00</b>	<b>\$10,713.00</b>	<b>\$8,886.00</b>	<b>\$9,990.00</b>	<b>\$44,024.00</b>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF  
OUR MISSION AND PARISH!

NOVEMBER 2023  
TOTAL SUNDAY GIVING  
**\$44,024.00**

(OCTOBER 2023 - \$51,115.00)

AVERAGE WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE  
IN NOVEMBER 2023  
**1,285 people**

**SECOND COLLECTION**  
DECEMBER 10, 2023

RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE  
RELIGIOUS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY  
DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER...

THE CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN  
FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT  
**\$2,066.00**

ALL SAINTS DAY  
**\$1,748.00**

ALL SOULS DAY  
**\$1,602.00**

THANKSGIVING DAY  
**\$2,305.00**

## END OF YEAR *Giving*

### *Supporting the Future of Our Parish*

We are grateful to all those who give of their time, talent and treasure to Saint Mary of the Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes!

We are blessed with many dedicated and faithful volunteers, whether it be through serving at our soup kitchen, participating in a ministry as a lector, musician, catechist, reopening volunteer and more...

We are beyond grateful for you!

We are also thankful for the financial support we have received throughout the year. Without this support our beloved Saint Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes would not be what it is today!

We invite you to consider making your  
End of the Year contribution to Saint Mary of the  
Lake and Our Lady of Lourdes!

*All donations made to Saint Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes are 501(c)3 tax deductible.*

You can give to Saint Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes by visiting  
our website:

**[www.saintmarys.org/give](http://www.saintmarys.org/give)**

*May God bless and reward you abundantly for all you do for our parish community. Thank you!*