

# ALL SOULS CATHOLIC PARISH

3010 RIDGE ROAD, LANSING, IL | 708.895.6700 | WWW.ALLSOULSCATHOLICPARISH.ORG

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025



THE VIRGIN SHALL  
**CONCEIVE.**

— MATTHEW 1:23 —

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

©LPI

## OUR VISION

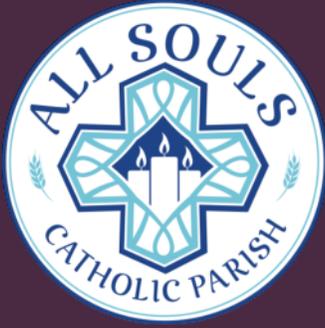
All Souls Catholic Parish aspires to be an inviting faith community where members and newcomers alike are engaged, inspired, and spiritually nourished among friends that become family.

## OUR MISSION

As a welcoming and united parish, the All Souls Family of Faith is committed to loving God, loving our neighbors, and inviting others to know and serve Jesus Christ and recognize Him in one another.

Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels.

— *Hebrews 13:2*



December 21, 2025

# All Souls Catholic Parish

The Communities of St. Ann, St. James, & St. John  
Reverend Mark Kalema, Pastor

## St. Ann Church & Parish Office

3010 Ridge Road, Lansing  
708.895-6700/708-895-6877 (Fax)

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday: Closed

### Confessions

Saturdays at 3:00 p.m. or Any Weekday by Appointment

### Adoration

Monday & Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

## Mass Schedule

*Followed by Rosary on Weekdays*

### Communion Service

Monday: 7:30 a.m.

### Morning Mass

Tuesday - Friday: 7:30 a.m.

### Saturday Mass

4:00 p.m.

### Sunday Masses

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

[www.allsoulscatholicparish.org](http://www.allsoulscatholicparish.org)

Parish email: [office@allsoulscatholicparish.org](mailto:office@allsoulscatholicparish.org)  
 Fr. Mark's email: [frmark@allsoulscatholicparish.org](mailto:frmark@allsoulscatholicparish.org)  
 Operations Director: [jsummerrise@allsoulscatholicparish.org](mailto:jsummerrise@allsoulscatholicparish.org)  
 Bulletin email: [jgray@allsoulscatholicparish.org](mailto:jgray@allsoulscatholicparish.org)  
 Prayer Tree email: [debndnut@aol.com](mailto:debndnut@aol.com)  
 Religious Ed. Office: [dmauch@allsoulscatholicparish.org](mailto:dmauch@allsoulscatholicparish.org)  
 708-895-6700 x114  
 St. Vincent DePaul: 708-745-4760  
 Youth Group email: [youthgroup@allsoulscatholicparish.org](mailto:youthgroup@allsoulscatholicparish.org)

### Please call the office:

- for baptism (2nd & 4th Sundays), marriage, anointing of the sick, Quinceañeras, and RCIA/RCIY
- for Ministry of Care to the homebound or hospitalized
- for Mass intentions
- to request prayers for the sick
- to make a Confession appointment

Subscribe to the bulletin and have it delivered to your email:  
[www.parishesonline.com/organization/all-souls-catholic-parish-60438](http://www.parishesonline.com/organization/all-souls-catholic-parish-60438)

### Automate Your Weekly and Other Giving at [www.givecentral.org](http://www.givecentral.org)

Click "Find Your Charity" and search for All Souls Catholic Parish, visit [givecentral.org/location/100](http://givecentral.org/location/100) or scan the handy QR code here.



In these difficult economic times, know that the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Ann is here to assist you in your time of need. All information is kept confidential. Please do not wait until matters become insurmountable. Please call 708-745-4760.

### New Members Welcome!

We would love to have you join us! Please fill out the information below, and place in the Offertory Collection or send to the Parish Office. You may also request a registration form at 708-895-6700 or register on our website at >About >Becoming a Parishioner

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Town/Zip

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Once you register and have a number assigned, you will be able to receive envelopes and play the weekly 50/50.

## Mass Intentions

**Monday, December 22**

**Tuesday, December 23**

7:30 a.m. Mass

† Gertrude & Roy Bowers

† Stefanie Sharer

**Wednesday, December 24**

4:00 p.m. Shepherds & Angels Mass

† People of the Parish

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

† People of the Parish

**Thursday, December 25 (Christmas Day)**

8:30 a.m. Mass

† People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. Mass

† People of the Parish

**Friday, December 26 (St. Stephen)**

7:30 a.m. Mass

† People of the Parish

**Saturday, December 27 (St. John)**

4:00 p.m. Mass

† Armando & Yolanda & Family  
(Their Daughters)

**Sunday, December 28 (The Holy Family  
of Jesus, Mary & Joseph)**

8:30 a.m. Mass

† Katherine Liszewski  
(Martin Liszewski)

10:30 a.m. Mass

† People of the Parish

**The 2025 Mass Book is open for your  
special intentions. Please call the office  
FMI or to schedule Mass intentions.  
The suggested donation is \$10.**

## Readings for the Week

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

## This Week's Activities

### Monday, December 22

Communion Service/Rosary	7:30am	Chapel
Adoration	8:00am - 6:00pm	Chapel
Legion of Mary (Spanish)	6:00pm	Parish Office

### Tuesday, December 23

Daily Mass Followed by Rosary	7:30am	Chapel
OCIA	6:00pm	Parish Office
Boy Scouts	7:00pm	Parish Hall

### Wednesday, December 24

### CHRISTMAS EVE

OFFICE CLOSED

Daily Mass Followed by Rosary	7:30am	Chapel
Shepherds & Angels Mass	4:00pm	Church
A.A. Meeting	8:00pm	Parish Hall
Choral Preludes	11:30pm	Church
Midnight Mass	Midnight	Church

### Thursday, December 25

### CHRISTMAS DAY

OFFICE CLOSED

Christmas Masses	8:30 & 10:30am	Church
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### Friday, December 26

Daily Mass Followed by Rosary	7:30am	Church
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### Saturday, December 27

Bereavement Group	11:00am	School Door C1
Confessions	3:00pm	Chapel
Mass	4:00pm	Church

### Sunday, December 28

Masses (Baptisms @10:30)	8:30 & 10:30am	Church
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**For parish updates, please visit the website & click on the  
Calendar tab: [www.allsoulscatholicparish.org](http://www.allsoulscatholicparish.org)**

**To add to the calendar or to schedule the Narthex or other meet-  
ing spaces, please visit the Parish Office to fill out a request form.  
All activities MUST be on the calendar in case of emergency.**



**All through Advent,  
Oplatki Christmas wafers will  
be available for purchase in  
the Narthex after Masses,  
or you can ask a sacristan  
before Mass.  
A \$2 donation is  
suggested.**

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT and CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

The readings of the Fourth Sunday of Advent invite us into the quiet yet powerful mystery of God's nearness — Emmanuel, "God-with-us." As we stand on the threshold of Christmas, the readings today draw our hearts to the faithfulness of God's promise and the courage of those who believed in it.

In the first reading (Isaiah 7:10–14), King Ahaz is offered a sign from God, yet he hesitates, cloaking his doubt in false humility. But God, ever faithful, gives a sign anyway: "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." This prophecy is not merely about a miraculous birth; it is about God's unwavering commitment to His people. Even when human leaders falter, God's plan of salvation moves forward. The sign of Emmanuel is the assurance that God does not abandon His people, even when their faith wavers. For us today, this is a reminder that God's presence is not dependent on our perfection. He comes into our world — into our fears, uncertainties, and brokenness — to dwell with us. The sign of Emmanuel is not distant history, it is a living reality.

In the second reading (Romans 1:1–7), St. Paul proclaims the Good News that God's ancient promise has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Paul introduces himself as a "servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the Gospel of God." Paul's greeting to the Romans reminds us that we, too, are "called to belong to Jesus Christ." Advent is not just about waiting for Christ's birth; it is about renewing our sense of calling — to live as witnesses of the Gospel, to be signs of Emmanuel for others.

The Gospel (Matthew 1:18–25), presents Joseph, a man of quiet strength and deep faith. Faced with a situation that defies understanding, Joseph chooses mercy over judgment and obedience over fear. When the angel reveals that Mary's child is conceived by the Holy Spirit, Joseph does not hesitate. He takes Mary into his home, embracing the mystery of God's plan. Joseph's "yes" mirrors Mary's "yes" at the Annunciation. Both teach us that faith is not the absence of doubt, but the courage to trust God's word even when we do not fully understand. Through Joseph's obedience, the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled: "They shall name him Emmanuel."

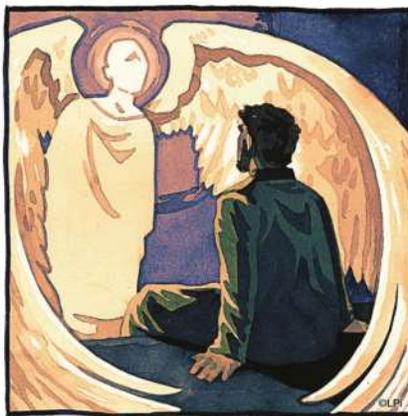
As Advent draws to a close, these readings call us to a faith that is trusting, obedient, and hopeful.

- Like Ahaz, we are invited to believe that God's presence is real, even when circumstances seem uncertain.

- Like Paul, we are called to proclaim the Good News with conviction and joy.
- Like Joseph, we are challenged to act in faith, to let God's plan unfold in our lives even when it surprises us.

Emmanuel — God-with-us — is not a distant theological idea. It is the heartbeat of our faith. In every act of love, forgiveness, and compassion, God continues to dwell among us.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us open our hearts to the God who keeps His promises, who enters our world not in power and glory, but in humility and love. May our lives, like Joseph's, become a dwelling place for Emmanuel — the God who is always with us.



Since Christmas is the same week as the fourth Sunday, I will give a brief reflection of Christmas in this same article.

Merry Christmas! Christmas 2025 comes to us in a world that feels deeply divided — nations at odds, families torn by misunderstanding, communities burdened by fear, and neighbors struggling quietly with loneliness or loss. The lights and songs of the season can sometimes feel far removed from the heaviness many carry in their hearts. Yet it is precisely into such a world that Christ was born.

On that first Christmas night, the world was not peaceful or perfect. It was marked by oppression, poverty, and uncertainty. Yet amid that darkness, God chose to come — not in power or wealth, but as a fragile child, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. The message is clear: God enters our brokenness, not to escape it, but to redeem it.

In our divided and anxious world, the birth of Jesus reminds us that God's answer to human tension is not more power or control, but love — love that listens, heals, and reconciles. The manger teaches us that holiness is found not in comfort, but in compassion, not in isolation, but in presence.

For the neighbor who feels forgotten or weighed down this Christmas, the story of Bethlehem whispers: You are not alone. Emmanuel — "God with us" — means God is with you, right where you are.

As followers of Christ, we are called to be signs of that same presence. When we reach out to the lonely, forgive those who hurt us, or share what we have with those in need, we make the love of the newborn Christ visible again in our time.

This Christmas, may we not only celebrate the birth of Jesus but become His presence — bringing light where there is darkness, peace where there is division, and hope where hearts are weary. For in Christ, even in a world of tension, love has the final word. Amen

*Fr. Mark Kalema, Pastor*

# WEEKLY MONEY MATTERS

12-7-2025

ONLINE/GIVE CENTRAL: \$	1,472.00
DROP OFF/MAIL IN: \$	<u>6,489.50</u>
	\$ 7,961.50
50-50 CLUB: \$	535.00
BUILDING FUND: \$	1,203.00



*Thank you for your continued support!  
 Figures include all collection basket, mailed-in,  
 dropped-off, and online contributions.*

## ALL SOULS SPLIT \$ ~ 50/50 CLUB ~ \$

**Our December 7 winning number was #0575.  
 #0575 WOULD HAVE WON \$1,693.50.  
 DON'T MISS OUT ON YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!**

To be eligible, both your 50-50 (\$5.00) and weekly collection envelopes (no limit, but at least \$5) with separate payments **must be in the parish office by 9:00 a.m. Monday.**

You may make your 50-50 donation at Give Central, along with your weekly and other contributions! If you donate by check, you need to write two separate checks.

**A NEW CHANCE TO WIN EVERY WEEK!**



# CHRISTMAS OFFERING

We are now accepting In Memoriam donations for the beautiful Christmas decor that will adorn All Souls/St. Ann during the holiday season—there is a donor envelope in your packet, or you may indicate on a plain envelope in whose honor you are making your gift.

If you prefer to give electronically, there is a link on our Give Central site:

[www.givecentral.org/location/100/allevnts](http://www.givecentral.org/location/100/allevnts)

Be sure to call the office or email [pamlep3010@gmail.com](mailto:pamlep3010@gmail.com) with the name of your memorial intention. Likewise, the link for Christmas offerings is now live at the same Give Central site. Thank you for your generosity.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MONTHLY WINE SPONSOR

Matt & Lena Martinez sponsored the December wine in memory of Daena Ayala and Delia Martinez.



*Miss Me—But Let Me Go  
 In Loving Memory of  
 Marie Keller*

## Today's Readings

**First Reading:** Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee. (Isa 35:10)

**Psalms:** Lord, come and save us. (Ps 146)

**Second Reading:** Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. (Jas 5:7)

**Gospel:** Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them." (Mt 11:4-5)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPi

## Reflect & Respond to Scripture

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading Question:** The prophet Isaiah taught his community to "be strong, fear not!" because God has planned a remarkable future where both the people and the land will be restored. Is there a friend or co-worker who needs your encouragement this week?

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Question:** James encourages his community to be patient and firm of heart in waiting for the coming of the Lord. What are you waiting for during this Advent season?

**Gospel Question:** In prison, John the Baptist seemed uncertain about who Jesus is. Who do you talk to when you have questions about Jesus?

©LPi



- ✦ Please mark your calendars and plan to join us in welcoming the Vicar General, Bishop Larry Sullivan, who will celebrate Mass with us on Saturday, December 20 at 4:00 p.m. We invite everyone to come together and extend a heartfelt and warm welcome to the Bishop!
- ✦ Are you looking for ways to experience God? Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul invite you to share in their ministry of experiencing God by serving people living in poverty. We see Christ in our friends in need and, when we see Christ, we experience God. Please contact us at 708-745-4760 if you are interested in becoming a Vincentian.



Look for "All Souls Catholic Parish" on Facebook, and "like" us for updates and breaking news. about the parish and our communities.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



### The Vicar for Deacons

Have you ever considered the call to be a Deacon of the Catholic Church?

Join us at 7 p.m. on  
**January 19, 2026** at:  
**Office of the Diaconate**  
 816 Marengo  
 Forest Park, IL 60130



We will provide an overview of the **Deacon Formation Program, the application process** and **information on the ministry of a deacon**. Men, single or married, are invited to attend. Wives are strongly encouraged to accompany their husbands. For more information and to register for this session, contact the Office of the Diaconate at **708.366.8900**.

**"Whom shall I send? Who will go for us? 'Here I am, send me!'" –Isaiah 6:8**

## You Are Invited to Help Us Decorate All Souls for Christmas on Sunday, December 21 at 11:30 a.m.



The more, the merrier! Each year, our talented Art & Environment team transforms the Church into a beautiful and joyous atmosphere for Christmas. Would you like to participate in this meaningful endeavor that brings happiness to so many? We will gather after 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 21 to put the finishing touches on the altar and sanctuary, which includes hanging banners and wreaths, assembling and lighting trees, and erecting the manger. Won't you join us? This is a great opportunity for those needing service hours, for families to spend time together, or for meeting new people and simply giving of your time. It's so much fun to spend time together during Advent! We hope to see you—please call the Parish Office at 708.895.6700 FMI.



The ladies of All Souls kicked off the holiday season with their annual luncheon and festivities earlier in December.

Special thanks to Judy Wohadlo for organizing and to J.J. Kelley's for providing the delicious meal. A good time was had by all!



## ALL SOULS CATHOLIC PARISH 2025-26 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

### CHRISTMAS

#### Wednesday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Bilingual Shepherds & Angels Mass  
11:30 p.m. Preludes/12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

#### Thursday, December 25

8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day Masses

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY

(A Holy Day of Obligation)

Wednesday, December 31 — 4:00 p.m. Vigil

Thursday, January 1 — 10:30 a.m. Mass



**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**  
All Souls Catholic Parish at St. Ann Church  
3010 Ridge Road, Lansing \* 708. 895.6700  
[www.allsoulscatholicparish.org](http://www.allsoulscatholicparish.org)

## Upcoming Events

Advent Mission: December 14-16

Church Decorating: December 18 & 21

Bereavement Group: December 27

Family Mass: January 11

Lansing Historical  
Museum  
**Festival of Lights  
Christmas Trees  
Around the World**  
Lansing Public Library,  
Lower Level,  
2750 Indiana Ave.



**Monday - Thursday  
5:00 to 7:30 p.m.  
Through January 6,  
2026**

(Closed December 24, 25, 31 & January 1)

- More than 37 trees and displays
- Holiday customs in other lands
- Stories and recipes from other countries
- No admission charge
- For tours at other times, call 708-474-7497



**Saturday,  
January 10  
7:00 p.m.  
\$10 Per  
Person**

**Fr. Lyons Hall  
Our Lady of Knock, Calumet City**

Teams of up to six players compete in a trivia competition covering any and all kinds of questions. You are welcome to bring snacks, and we will have beverages for sale (pop, beer, wine, water, and hard seltzer). There will also be a 50/50 raffle and door prizes. If you haven't been to Trivia Night before, give it a try, we always have fun! Proceeds benefit Jesus Shepherd of Souls Parish.

FMI, call 708-862-1568  
or email [gjgrenchik@aol.com](mailto:gjgrenchik@aol.com)

**Visit with  
Santa & Mrs. Claus  
@ Santa House**  
18112 Henry St., Lansing, Illinois  
North of and adjacent to Fox Pointe,  
18138 Henry St.

**CANCELED**  
Friday & Saturday,  
Dec. 12 & 13

**RESCHEDULED TO**  
Friday, Dec. 19  
6-8 p.m.  
Saturday, Dec. 20  
Noon-3 p.m.

**FOX POINTE**  
FOXPOINTE.ORG





# faith in motion

## HYGIENE & CLOTHING DRIVE

The All Souls Confirmation students are seeking your help to provide essential items for those in need. These items will be donated to the women's and men's shelters in Hammond and Gary, IN.

### LIST OF ESSENTIAL ITEMS NEEDED:

- |                        |                                |                                |                  |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| + Toothbrushes         | + Conditioner                  | + Hair Ties                    | + Hand Sanitizer |
| + Toothpaste           | + Body wash                    | + Razors                       | + Wet Wipes      |
| + Dental floss         | + Lotion/moisturizer           | + Shaving Cream                | + Facial Tissues |
| + Mouthwash            | + Deodorant/<br>Antiperspirant | + Nail Clippers                | + Cotton Swabs   |
| + Soap (Bar or Liquid) | + Combs and Brushes            | + Feminine Hygiene<br>Products | + Lip Balm       |
| + Shampoo              |                                |                                | + Washcloths     |

### LIST OF CLOTHING ITEMS NEEDED: MENS/WOMENS/CHILDRENS NEW OR LIGHTLY USED

- + Coats & Jackets
- + Sweaters & Hoodies
- + Thermal Underwear
- + Scarves
- + Gloves & Mittens
- + Hats & Beanies
- + Warm Socks
- + Winter Boots



### OTHER NEEDS:

- + Granola/Protein Bars
- + Instant Oatmeal packages
- + Cereal (single serve)
- + Ramen cups
- + Mac and Cheese cups
- + Canned Soup
- + Canned Goods
- + Peanut Butter
- + Juice Boxes



Items may be brought to the Parish Office or left in the container located in the Narthex through January 11, 2026. You don't have time to shop? We can also accept cash donations—please send to the office or through the collection basket in an envelope marked HYGIENE & CLOTHING DRIVE. *Thank you for your generosity to those in need!*



# esj COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent • Matthew 1:18-24

# DRAW

Draw a picture of baby Jesus.

# MISSION

Tonight after dinner, ask your family to light some candles, turn off the lights, and sing some of your favorite Christmas songs about Jesus.



# GOSPEL

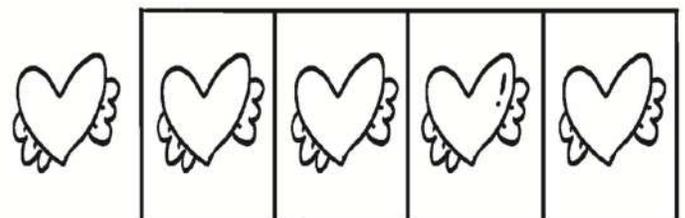
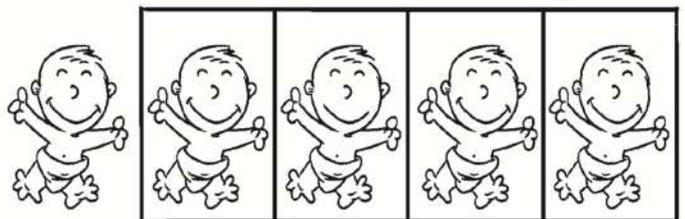
God brought Jesus into the world as a tiny baby. Jesus was God's Son. He was so powerful that he could have gotten anything he wanted. But Jesus did not come to earth to be a rich, selfish ruler. He did not need a palace or fancy clothes. Jesus came to show you that God is with you all the time. He was born to be the king over your life. He gave up his own life to rescue you from your sins, so that you could be close to God forever.

# PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to rescue me.

# PUZZLE

In each series color the image within the box that is identical to the one outside the box. Make sure to notice all the details





## Christmas 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our Christmas celebrations coincide with the beginning of winter. There is less light at this time of year and more cold than we might want. The contrast is striking for people of faith. We remember God's only begotten Son born of the Virgin Mary. He comes into a dark and cold world as its light and its warmth.

In chapter four of Matthew's gospel at the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus, the evangelist cites words of the prophet Isaiah:

*...the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region  
and shadow of death  
light has dawned. (Mt 4:16)*

Events of this past year could suggest that all we have is indeed a cold and dark world. That seems to be the message of the wars fought around the world, of the tragic school shootings and political assassinations in our nation, and of our frayed connections with each other.

Again, for us as people of faith, the contrast is stark. We are realistic, and we know well the challenges of our world in this tense moment of the world's history. We also know, however, a larger narrative of God's love incarnate in Jesus Christ, the light that breaks the power of sin and death. Saint John wrote of him: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5) This light enlightens us and warms us. Whatever struggles we face, we are assured because he walks with us.

As you gather with family and friends and fellow parishioners, I urge you to reassure each other with our convictions of faith. Take responsibility in the world to be a sign of hope and a source of encouragement for others. In this way, you will bring Christ the light to those who need him.

Join me and pray for our world, our nation, and our local communities that we can all walk in the light.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Blase Cardinal Cupich*  
Archbishop of Chicago





## ECUMENISM METRO CHICAGO

SAVE THE DATE: **Saturday, January 24, 2026, 2:00 - 4:00pm.**

Growing in Christian unity and the care for God's creation, we will gather in prayer and action for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU)** at St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church, 6700 W. Diversey Ave., Chicago, IL 60707

This ecumenical prayer service will be grounded in the WPCU theme "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" (Ephesians 4:4). This reflects the mission of EMC that "seeks to engage all the baptized, their communions and extended ministries in Chicagoland in living together with prayer, action and a coordinated voice that respects distinctions among traditions and extends God's love through Christ and the Holy Spirit, for all the world."

At the closing of the service, EMC judicatories will sign joint statements of actions which are grounded in EMC's Declaration of care, protect and preserve God's gift of creation, for all of the earth is the Lord's. (Psalm 24:1). The two statements proclaim our Christian resolve to *Protect Children, Grandchildren, Future Generations by Adopting Climate Change Mitigating Strategies* and *Protect Children, Grandchildren, Future Generations by Providing Clean, Safe Drinking Water* (please see attached). These statements are a clear public witness of EMC's Declaration that "taking decisive restorative action is a moral and religious imperative."

Ecumenism Metro Chicago: "Bringing Christians together for prayer, action, and the creation of a coordinated voice to provide a clear witness of Jesus Christ in Chicagoland." <https://eia.archchicago.org/ecumenical-relations/ecumenism-metro-chicago-emc>  
E-mail: [eia@archchicago.org](mailto:eia@archchicago.org) Post Office Box 1979 Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979  
Phone: 312-534-5325 Fax: 312-534-0357  
"Like" us on Facebook at Ecumenism Metro Chicago

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# MARRIAGE PREPARATION FACILITATOR TRAINING

Join us for PreCana Marriage Preparation Facilitator Training/Refresher. All current PreCana facilitators and any married couples feeling called to marriage ministry and interested in facilitating PreCana sessions to inspire engaged couples in the vocation and mission of marriage are invited to this upcoming training.

**Saturday, February 7, 2026 | 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Cardinal Meyer Center**

3525 South Lake Park Avenue, Chicago, IL 60653

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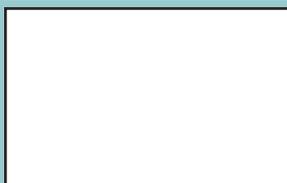


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