April 24, 2016

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Vote for Harmony, Hope, & Healing!

Turn to page 17 for more information.
Almost all primal and traditional societies, which is most of humanity since the beginning of time, have believed that meaning is not created or manufactured by the individual; meaning is discovered, and because it is universal, it will be discovered by many others too. That is the basis for community and the good meaning of Tradition. It’s already there. All you have to do is recognize it and surrender to it. This essentially describes the contemplative worldview. The contemplative mind knows that I don’t create the patterns, nor do I have to understand them. I simply must be willing to stand in awe, readiness, and humility before the patterns of reality until they reveal themselves—because they’re already there, shared by other true seers or contemplatives. It is an enchanted universe fraught with meaning. This relieves the psyche of a great deal of anxiety and gives the soul hope.

Much of Western culture is saddled with the conviction that humans must rationally create and explain all meaning for themselves. But this task is impossible, and so the search for meaning inevitably collapses into nihilism. The seeker gives up, assuming, “Since I can’t figure it out, everything must be absurd and meaningless. There is no meaning, except what I manufacture, what I decide to believe.” No civilization or community can be founded on this individualistic worldview, because it is simply a collection of competing egos fighting for their dominant story based on private individuals’ experience, hurts, perception, and education. This is most of North America and Europe today.

Our lives must be grounded in awareness of the universal patterns, the big story. The best any community can do is align itself with the foundational reality that already exists rather than try to construct some new, artificial source of meaning. Shane Claiborne puts it this way:

God is doing something fresh and new, but it’s also good to be reminded that it’s not a fleeting trend. Renewals like the Franciscan movement remind us that we are not the first. My friend, Chris Haw, has an analogy that helps me. At first I thought I was in a kayak, riding the wild rapids of a river. Then I realized it’s more like being in a rowboat, facing backward as I move downstream. You have to look backward in order to go forward. [1]

If we look at the great myths of religious and secular history, we see that events, historical trials, and concrete circumstances are themselves the primary teachers. For the Jewish and Christian tradition, God is specifically encountered in history and relationships, not in analysis. Community and experiencing life together in the context of human history—which is longer and wider than our individual lives—help us trust reality and grow into fullness.

We must help people connect to The Story, the mystery of God and the universe, so that they can understand the significance of their lives as part of the body of Christ and the Great Pattern, what Jesus calls “the kingdom of God.” More than ever before, our species must discover a common meaning, a shared story, to give our lives purpose and harmony. Perhaps cosmology and science itself can help bring us all together toward a common meaning, saving our planet and ourselves, because most are in such reaction against the smaller Jewish and Christian readings of their own history. Wouldn’t it be humbling if the “invisible believers”—those not associated with religion—understood and lived the message at a much higher rate than the visible ones? God is used to operating invisibly.

Gateways to Silence:

We are one in the Spirit.

References:

Mental Spring Cleaning
By: Sarah Thompson

With the recent warm weather, it feels like Chicago spring is finally here. The energy and joy of new life surrounds us as the trees and flowers bloom and the joyful music of migrating birds early morning songs return. People seem to reflect that same change as well. Research tells us with the change of weather and an increased time outside, our mood, memory, and cognitive abilities improve. It is a time where we step out of a stagnant and enclosed mindset into an improved state of mind. As we put away our boots and gloves and bring out the sandals, it’s also a good time to focus the things we want to personally rid ourselves of moving forward. I like to call it mental spring cleaning.

Like a favorite closet, our mind needs to be cleaned up and reorganized every once in a while. Information we thought we could use or that seemed important at one time become disorganized clutter, keeping us from finding what we want and need. Over time, ideas, memories, and concerns accumulate because they seem significant at the time. As we accumulate experiences the original value, importance, or interest often changes, and the closet of our mind can get overwhelming. Every time we avoid dealing with something we chip away at our self-respect. We might feel relieved in the short run when we put something off, but our self-esteem takes a hit over time. This is because part of our psyche knows we are avoiding our responsibility, and that usually adds wear and tear to the soul. When we deal directly with issues, even the unpleasant items, we typically feel better. But more often than not we toss things in the back of the closet of our mind to avoid them, and tell ourselves we’ll get to them later. Later never comes, and when too much builds up, we clog our soul. Self-care is an essential element of spiritual vitality. To neglect one’s own needs is not a sign of Christian piety, but rather a show of disregard for the very temple of God.

In today’s Gospel, the command to love others as we love ourselves presupposes an adequate love of self. Self-love or self-care is not self-centered or selfish; they are Biblical prerequisites for loving and caring for others. We cannot give what we do not first possess; we cannot hold new wine in old wineskins of spiritual malaise, physical lethargy, and unresolved emotional issues. The human being is a complex amalgam of spirit, mind, and body; none of which operate independently from the rest. In order to adequately care for ourselves, a holistic approach is necessary. Proper diet and exercise benefit the body but also help keep our emotions balanced. Healthy spirituality involving regular prayer and worship feeds the spirit and also keeps us emotionally healthy. Caring for our emotional needs in turn opens our spirits to soar to the places to which God has called us.

In Pope Francis’s landmark document “Amoris Laetitia” he asks us to meet people where they are. If we clean out our negative thoughts, our judgmental views of those different from us, we will be more open to understanding our fellow human beings in all their complexities and be more compassionate, open, and supportive of others. In combination with healthy spiritual disciplines and physical fitness, mental and emotional fitness is an essential component of a holistic and Biblical approach to self-care. Ultimately, finding the appropriate balance of these facets of self-care can improve our ability to reach out to others effectively and with the love of God. As Jesus tells us through today’s gospel, John 13:33-35 “Where I go you cannot come, so now I say it to you. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

For us to effectively carry out this commandment, we should first make sure we are on the journey to finding peace within ourselves.

Sarah Thompson is the Parish Counselor at Old St. Pat’s.
#WeAreOSP

**Photo of the Week**

**“Bread Board Mass”**

Submitted by: Kathy Kosmala

FXW First Communiants at the Bread Board Mass this past Sunday at 8 a.m. with Fr. Paul Novak.

Submit a photo by emailing bulletin@oldstpats.org or following oldstpatschicago on Instagram and tagging your photo #weareosp!

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**Old St. Pat’s Book Club**

Sunday, May 15th

9:30-11 a.m. 711 Monroe

“**The Innocents Abroad**” by Mark Twain

Mark Twain acclaims his voyage from New York City to Europe and the Holy Land in June 1867. His adventures produced The Innocents Abroad, a book so funny and provocative it made him an international star for the rest of his life.
2016 STRATEGIC PLAN
WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

As Old St. Pats continues our strategic planning process, we are grateful for all of the excellent input and creative ideas generated in our conversations with members and staff.

Perhaps you are someone who attends Mass here but has not quite found your niche in a program, committee, or team. With so many opportunities and ministries, we know it can be a lot to navigate -- especially if you are new to Old St. Pat's. But we also know you have unique suggestions and input for the future of our faith community.

If this sounds like where you are right now, we invite you to a special focus group next Sunday, May 1. We want to hear more about your experiences as part of our faith community and how we can grow and improve our work in the years to come.

Join our conversation on May 1 at 12:30 p.m. (right after the 11:15 a.m. liturgy). We hope to gather 12-20 folks for this focus group. We'll gather in library (3rd Floor, 711 W. Monroe) to hear your ideas and continuing creating a vibrant and faith-filled church.

To sign up, contact Tim Liston today at tliston@oldstpats.org.

Kinship Initiative Monthly Gathering
Tuesday, April 26 | 6 - 8 p.m.
St. Agatha Church Hall
3151 W. Douglas Blvd, Chicago, IL 60623
All are welcome!

Anti-Racist Stations of the Cross
Hosted by Fr. Larry Dowling and the people of St. Agatha Catholic Church

An interfaith, cross-cultural ritual journey through Jesus' passion and death. The experience will spur relevant thought, conversation, prayer and action leading to true racial justice today in the North Lawndale neighborhood, at Old St. Pat's and beyond.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Ample, free curbside parking is available.

Questions?
Contact Vincent Guider, North Lawndale Kinship Initiative Director, at vincentg@oldstpats.org
Pope Francis Cordially Invites You to a Conversaion on Mercy

On April 13, we will use the first five chapters of the book as our springboard and on April 27, we will focus on the last four chapters. In order that we may provide you with our best hospitality, please let us know if you plan to attend by registering at www.signmeup.com/113540 or by calling Tammy Roeder at 312.798.2350. There is no fee for this program.

Jack Shea, Senior Fellow of the Ministry Leadership Center, and Claire Noonan, Vice President for Mission and Ministry of Dominican University, will resource and facilitate the conversation.

The Name of God is Mercy is readily available at bookstores and through online booksellers.

You Are Not Alone

“You Are Not Alone” is a chance to talk with other men and women who are separated or divorced. This group meets to discuss topics of importance to those seeking to heal during and after one of life’s most difficult transitions. This is not a group of professional counselors, but a group of your peers who have been there and simply wish to listen and offer encouragement. This group meets every other Sunday, from 10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. at the Fr. Jack Wall Mission Center, 2nd Fl., 711 W. Monroe, Chicago 60661.

May 1, 15 & 22

This is a free, drop-in, networking group. For more information, please contact Debbie at debromeo55@gmail.com.

17th Annual Spring Food Drive for Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly

Sunday, April 24*

*Collections before and after All Masses

Come share your abundance with elders that are served by Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly (LBFE). LBFE customizes each elder food bag and delivers bags with a friendly visit. Requested items include:

GROCERY SHOPPING LIST

- Low sugar cereal & regular cereal
- Canned tuna (in water)
- Low salt & regular canned vegetables
- Low salt canned soup
- Low salt crackers (Saltines, wheat)
- Canned tomatoes
- Canned tomato paste
- Pasta (in boxes)
- Rice or Beans (small bags)
- Pasta sauce (plastic containers)
- Canned fruit
- Hard candy (sugar free & regular)
- Chocolate (sugar free & regular)
- Oatmeal – instant and regular
- Creamy peanut butter in plastic jar
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Boxed instant potatoes
- Regular & Decaf Coffee (small cans or packets)
- Juice (small cans or individual boxes)
- Individual Serving Cups (Pudding, Jello, Apple Sauce, or Fruit Cocktail)
- Snack Foods Individually Wrapped (like for school lunches): crackers, cookies, trail mix, chips, nuts, or granola bars

*Please avoid glass jars & check food expiration dates
Easter, Liturgy, and Life

Good Shepherd Sunday
The Fourth Sunday of Easter always holds up for us to ponder the image of Christ the Good Shepherd. Notice that in the second reading, it is the Lamb (the newborn sheep—newborn from the dead!) that is the shepherd. One of the sheep’s (our) very own becomes the shepherd. Who better to lead them (us)? Lead us where? To springs of life-giving water, to the font of baptism! Did you know we have a small stained-glass window of the Lamb spoken of in the Book of Revelation in our church? It is beyond the statue of St. Patrick, in the back curved wall (the apse). Check it out!

Holy Water
Each Sunday during the Easter Season, we are sprinkled with holy water from the baptismal font, water that was blessed at the Easter Vigil and first used to baptize 10 new followers of Jesus. What a wonderful tradition and sign “holy water” is! By giving thanks and praise to God over the water in our font at the Easter Vigil, by asking God to bless the water of our font and make it fertile, by naming this water “holy,” we are in fact committing ourselves to see all water as a gracious gift from God. By receiving the holy water this morning at the start of Mass, we commit ourselves always to use water (to drink, to wash, to nurture, to grow) joyfully, thankfully. And we commit ourselves always to use water wisely, carefully, and with others in mind. We are blessed, living on the shore of the Great Lake Michigan, the second largest Great Lake by volume with just under 1,180 cubic miles of fresh water, averaging 279 feet deep, but 925 feet at its deepest point. So not only do we strive to use water with care, reverence, and joy ourselves, but we also want to show concern, speaking out for and standing in solidarity with those who lack clean water—whether they live in Ngao ya Kiome, Kenya, Soyapango, El Salvador, Karnataka, India or Flint, Michigan.

Water Rite, Water Rights
Our rite of sprinkling holy water each Sunday opens our ears and our hearts to the call of Pope Francis in his encyclical letter on the care of creation, Laudato Si: “One particularly serious problem is the quality of water available to the poor. Every day, unsafe water results in many deaths and the spread of water-related diseases, including those caused by microorganisms and chemical substances. Dysentery and cholera, linked to inadequate hygiene and water supplies, are a significant cause of suffering and of infant mortality. Underground water sources in many places are threatened by the pollution produced in certain mining, farming and industrial activities, especially in countries lacking adequate regulation or controls. It is not only a question of industrial waste. Detergents and chemical products, commonly used in many places of the world, continue to pour into our rivers, lakes and seas. Even as the quality of available water is constantly diminishing, in some places there is a growing tendency, despite its scarcity, to privatize this resource, turning it into a commodity subject to the laws of the market. Yet access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival and, as such, is a condition for the exercise of other human rights.” (#29-30)

Pentecost Plan
Pentecost, the 50th day, brings our joyful Easter Season to a close. This year it’s May 15th. We’re planning a great celebration here at Old S. Patrick’s, with a single Mass at 10:30 AM outside, in the parking lot at the corner of Adams and Desplaines. After Mass, we’ll work together to make meals for some our partner organizations who feed the hungry. We want all 2500 of us who typically celebrate Mass here each Sunday to come together at 10:30 and be together until about 2 PM. All ages are welcome and expected! Watch The Crossroads and www.oldstpats.org for more information. And wear clothes that are red and orange and yellow that day!
World's Largest Block Party

Saturday, June 25
UIC Festival Lot at Taylor & Morgan Streets

Featuring performances from...

Passion Pit
JD McPherson

Tickets on sale Monday, May 16!

Visit www.worldslargestblockparty.com for more information.

Visit our website at www.oldstpats.org.
Follow Old St. Pat’s on: facebook, twitter
Comprehensive Community Planning Process Launches with Enthusiasm

The North Lawndale Community Planning Kickoff, hosted by the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council (NLCCC), was held on Saturday, April 16 at DRW College Prep on South Homan Avenue. Organizers expected 200 participants for the first such comprehensive community development planning process in 50 years, but the event actually exceeded its goal. Nearly 300 energized and engaged neighborhood residents, elected officials, representatives from organizations throughout the community and members of Old St. Pat’s and the North Lawndale Kinship Initiative gathered to commence an 18 month strategic planning process for community revitalization. The historic process will address 16 key areas of community vitality such as housing, infrastructure, economic and workforce development, jobs, education, parks and recreation, health and safety, youth development and more. Congratulations to the NLCCC leadership, Alderman Michael Scott, the other elected official who attended and all who organized this important event.

Old St. Pat’s Church and the people of North Lawndale continue to pray with and for one another as our communities walk alongside one another in friendship during the next phases of our journeys.

MLK Fair Housing Exhibit Remembers the Chicago Freedom Movement of 1966

Did you know that Dr. M.L. King, his wife Coretta and members of his national team actually lived at the corner of 15th and Hamlin in the North Lawndale neighborhood for nearly a year? Today, an exhibit center and modern apartments sit at the site to commemorate this important time in American Civil Rights history.

On Sunday, April 17 there was a discussion and book signing at the exhibit center for the newly released work, *The Chicago Freedom Movement: Martin Luther King Jr and Civil Rights Activism in the North*. (Available through Amazon at http://www.amazon.com/The-Chicago-Freedom-Movement-Activism/dp/0813166500)

This volume, compiled by an eminent team of scholars and activists, offers an alternative assessment of the *Chicago Freedom Movement’s* impact on race relations and social justice both in Chicago and across the nation. The contributing authors, all present with Dr. King in 1966, led Sunday’s discussion and wrote the book to reexamine the movement and its lasting contributions. North Lawndale community members and Old St. Pat’s members filled the room for conversation, to view the newly released book and to share good old Sunday afternoon soul food. Many thanks to Larry Dixon, Kate Ronan, Michelle Bella and other Kinship Initiative members for spearheading his hugely successful event.

*Sound like something you want to be a part of? Contact Vincent Guider for more info on the Kinship Initiative, the work of NLCCC and the MLK Fair Housing Exhibit.*
## Learn about Earth Day 2016

More than 1 million people attended the first Earth Day celebration in Central Park in New York City on April 22, 1970. Since then Earth Day has grown to a global event, with thousands of communities participating throughout the world. A goal for Earth Day this year is to begin an effort to plant 7.8 billion trees by 2020. Trees combat climate change by absorbing CO2 from our atmosphere. They also help impoverished communities achieve long term economic and environmental sustainability as a renewable resource. To learn more, visit [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org).

Let’s help save the trees we have by stopping unwanted magazines, catalogs, etc. coming to our homes. Go to [https://www.catalogchoice.org/](https://www.catalogchoice.org/) for help in doing this.

## Celebrate Earth Day as a Family

There are many ways families can celebrate Earth Day. Go for a nature walk and talk about the things you see: birds, plants, animal tracks …Plant a garden… Decorate a recycling container …Pick up litter in your neighborhood or at a local park…Make a paint chip mosaic of the earth…Ride bikes together…Buy local and talk about your choices with your kids…Find books at the library about endangered plants and animals, and read them together…Visit a local zoo, arboretum, or botanic garden…Try to learn the names of all the trees in your neighborhood. Find out what works for you and your family, and create a family tradition by celebrating Earth Day every year!

## Old St. Pat’s Creation Care Team: Green Corner

Inspired by the message of Pope Francis in his groundbreaking encyclical *Laudato Si*, on Care for Our Common Home, a group of parishioners at Old St. Pat’s decided to come together and form a Green Team. Our group began taking shape in the summer of 2015 as one of Old St. Pat’s Social Justice Initiatives. Each month on the fourth Sunday of the month, we will share ways to incorporate sustainability into your personal and work lives, describe steps Old St. Pat’s is taking to become more energy efficient and reduce waste; talk about local environmental events where you can learn about what others are doing to care for the earth.

*We celebrate the beauty of our planet, our common home and a gift from God. Our faith tells us that because God is with us, we can change course and move towards an ecological conversion.*

## Support the Paris Agreement

In 2015, 195 countries reached an historic agreement in Paris at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change. The countries in attendance recognized that climate change is a common concern of all humankind. They realized that climate change unchecked is a huge and potentially irreversible threat to human society and the planet, and that there is an urgent need to promote universal access to sustainable energy in both developing and developed countries. This landmark agreement will be signed at the United Nations in New York on Earth Day, April 22, 2016. Our country will be a critical partner in the success of the Paris Agreement; we need to support efforts to implement this document.

Go to [https://www.climateralityproject.org/content/sign-paris-agreement-earth-day](https://www.climateralityproject.org/content/sign-paris-agreement-earth-day)

## Connect with Faith Based Environmental Groups

Many people of faith from other religions have taken up the cause of environmentalism, including our own Pope Francis. He addressed his encyclical to the entire world to acknowledge that the degradation of the environment concerns us all.

*Faith in Place* is a nonprofit organization based in Illinois that inspires religious people of diverse faiths to care for the earth through education, connection, and advocacy. Faith in Place traveled to Springfield on Thursday April 21 to advocate for climate legislation with state government officials. Read more about their effort to ensure our state leaders prioritize people and the planet over polluters, on page 12. Buses leave from several Chicago locations. For more details see their website [http://www.faithinplace.org/news-events/events/advocacy-day-2016-earth-day-action](http://www.faithinplace.org/news-events/events/advocacy-day-2016-earth-day-action)

Celebrate a Mass in honor of Earth Day at Old St. Patricks on April 24 at 5 p.m. Please contact Rachel Lyons at (312) 798-2399 if you are interested in finding out more about the OSP Green Team. New members are always welcome!
“A small step, in the midst of great human limitations, can be more pleasing to God than a life which appears outwardly in order but moves through the day without confronting great difficulties.”

-Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel

ONE in FOUR people in Cook County aren't sure where they will get their next meal.

Food for all. This should be a given right for humanity and all of creation, and yet it is a great difficulty of our time. We hear in Matthew 25, “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink.” Often those of us with wealth and access to food take meals for granted. Yet we know that hunger ends when we decide to take action and end it for our neighbors. O God, to those who have hunger, give bread, and to those who have bread, give a hunger for justice. Here at Old St. Pat’s, our Social Action Ministry invites you into the corporal works of mercy as a way to enrich the Easter season and this special Year of Mercy. Join us as we bring the Gospel message beyond our church walls in service, kinship, and justice.

Outreach - Beth Marek directs our Outreach programs and volunteer ministry to under-resourced communities, bringing material goods and fellowship to our neighbors throughout Chicago and abroad.

Kinship Initiative - Vince Guider directs our Kinship Initiative in North Lawndale, bringing together the people of North Lawndale and Old St. Patrick’s Church to walk alongside one another in friendship and mutual transformation.

Advocacy - Rachel Lyons directs our Social Justice in Action ministry, focusing on justice education, leadership development, and political advocacy to create systemic change in our city and state.

See below for more information on each element of our Social Action Ministry and how we are living out the corporal work of mercy for April - Giving food to the hungry. We look forward to spreading God’s mercy and love in the days to come. Share how YOU are taking action today!

**Kinship Initiative**

- Serve a meal at My brother’s Kitchen on Saturday
- Donate to St. Agatha Church food pantry

**Outreach**

- Donate to Little Brothers - Friends of the Eldery drive
- Volunteer at Greater Chicago Food Depository

**Work of Mercy:**

**Give Food to the Hungry**

**Advocacy**

- Bread of the World Offering of Letters - Child Nutrition policy
- Demand a Fair Tax in IL to fund hunger programs
I often meet folks at Old St. Pat’s who stop me before or after mass and share their gratitude for this place, especially for our Social Action ministry and the justice work that I help lead and support. While I am always ready to smile and appreciate their recognition of this good work, I often wonder what it would mean to harness the power of every person in our pews towards political action for the common good. People are grateful to attend a church that puts its faith into action and addresses real issues in neighborhoods and communities, and that is good. Many of you reading this are bold agents of change in your circles of influence, and I am deeply thankful for all that you do. And yet, I am pushing onward in faith and hope to the day when we each take up the Gospel call to bring forth the kingdom: to demand rights for workers, ensure those imprisoned by criminal records are free to get jobs and housing, foster positive schools and education systems for our children, and secure funding for vital services to immigrants, people living on the street, and survivors of domestic violence. I pray that God’s courageous and unbounded love sustains our work to hold elected officials accountable and to dream of a city with safe parks, thriving families, and peaceful streets. We know this is not an easy road, nor a short one, but I trust in the Spirit to guide us.

I am blessed to know the leaders from Old St. Pat’s and churches across the Chicagoland area who spent a day in Springfield on April 12 meeting face-to-face with elected officials and sharing their worries, their stories, their anger and their solutions to the issues we face today. Let us take inspiration from these leaders as we find ways to activate our own selves as agents of change in a world that needs people of faith, hope, and love.

Rachel Lyons is the Director of Social Action and leads initiatives for justice education and advocacy at Old St. Patrick’s Church.
**THREE MAIN CRS ISSUES FOR 2016 DAY OF FAITH AT THE CAPITOL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vision of Justice</th>
<th>Current Issue/Obstacles</th>
<th>Solution</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic opportunity for people reintegrating from prison and our neighbors who have criminal records</td>
<td>Absolute bars to employment for folks with records exist in many industries and sectors, prohibiting people from rebuilding their lives and providing for themselves and their families</td>
<td>SB42: Removes life-time bans for qualified health care professionals with criminal records and returns discretion for licensing to the Dept. of Professional Regulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A moral budget which reflects our values of preferential option for the poor and care for our brothers and sisters marginalized by society</td>
<td>Nearly TEN months without a state budget for Illinois and continued cuts for vital community services like education, child care, and mental health</td>
<td>Fair Tax (SJRCA1/HJRCA8): Would allow IL voters to approve a constitutional amendment to tax higher incomes at a higher rate and lower incomes at a lower rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive community rapport with police officers and an accountable system to report police misconduct</td>
<td>A signed sworn affidavit is required to file a complaint about an officer, deterring community members from submitting one for fear of retribution</td>
<td>SB2758: Removes a sworn affidavit as a requirement in order to file a complaint for police misconduct</td>
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**MEMBER REFLECTIONS**

"I had the privilege of traveling to Springfield to promote justice with other people of faith. Three of the four senators and reps that we spoke to listened intently to our message, and Rep. Reaves-Harris agreed to co-sponsor a bill that we educated her about. I have been feeling frustrated about the lack of a state budget and the inability of persons with records to rejoin the workforce, and I was finally able to do something about it."  -Katie Koren

"There was inspiration and power in joining other churches in making a strong statement on legislation that impacts social change."  -Brian Lynch

"It was amazing to see the dedication of the people in our team. I was with folks from St. Agatha's in Lawndale, and one gentleman in our group named Lawrence looked to be in his 70's. He walked with a cane and there was lots of walking in our day as we went back and forth between buildings trying to catch our assigned reps, yet he was with us all the way. What heart! I think these efforts are very important. There are paid lobbyists at the capital all the time arguing for different things, mostly that benefit corporations. It is good for all our elected officials to know common ordinary people have a different agenda that calls for state government to have a fair taxation system, and help the most vulnerable in our society, including supporting the non profits like our partners in North Lawndale."  -Eileen Sutter
Is your to-do list doing you in?
We’ve got a crew that can bail you out!

Foundations Workday

May 28th, 2016

This Memorial Day weekend, our teens are willing to work for you! Hire the experienced teens from Old St. Patrick’s Foundations Youth Ministry to get your to-do list done.

Cleaning the garage, yardwork, staining the deck,
Organizing playrooms, prepping for a garage sale and washing windows,
The possibilities are endless!
And so is the energy of our teens!

You supply the project and materials and let Foundations teens and parents supply the labor.

For more information and to register:
www.ospfoundations.org
phone: Courtney at 312-798-2329
email: foundations.workday@gmail.com

We ask that you register by May 22nd, 2016
Reserve a crew for a morning, an afternoon or all day!

Proceeds benefit this summer’s Foundations Worktour Service Trips and other programming
OSP Next is the community for Young Adults at Old St. Pat’s! There’s nothing formal to join - if you’re here, you ARE the community! Simply join us anytime for one of the events or opportunities listed here. Meet your fellow OSP young adults as we Engage, Encounter & Serve. Looking to do even more? Join a committee anytime! Email OSPnext@oldstpats.org.

OSP Next Fellowship
Sundays, April 24 after 5 p.m. Mass
OSP Next Fellowships are an opportunity to get to know one another over some food and conversation after most 5 p.m. Masses. BYO cash! We’ll meet outside church (Look for the OSP Next Green Shirt Volunteers) and we’ll head somewhere in the West Loop together! Questions? Email OSPnext@oldstpats.org.

OSP Next Book Club
The Book Cellar | Monday, April 25 at 7 p.m. | 4736 N Lincoln Ave
For April, we’re reading Modern Romance by Aziz Ansari, an exploration of the perils and pleasures of modern dating and how our culture of love has changed. This one is pretty popular, so put a hold on it now if you’re getting it from the library!

Save the Date!
Summer Brewing | Fundraiser for Blessed Sacrament Youth Center
Monday, June 13 at 7 p.m. | THE Basement @ Lagunitas Brewing
Warm up your Chicago summer by helping the OSP Kinship Initiative raise funds for their partnering organization, Blessed Sacrament Youth Center!

Sign up for the OSP Next Mailing List or ‘Connect’ with us by emailing OSPnext@oldstpats.org or visiting our webpage at www.oldstpats.org.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram too!
Healing from Break-up to Break-through is offered to those experiencing the heartbreak of divorce, separation or a failed long-term relationship. The content of the program is continually updated, so that each session will be a slightly different experience due to variations in content and participants.

This four-week experiential program will focus on your healing, using your values, strengths, and positive aspects of your life; and will work on envisioning and building your new, healthier, happier life going forward.

This group has a very positive focus, on your present and future. We will not go into your past experiences or your former partner. The group is intended only for those who are ready to leave the past behind and move forward in the healthiest way possible.

Healing from Break-up to Break-through will meet for four 2-hour sessions, at the Jack Wall Mission Center, at 711 W. Monroe in Room 25A, on:

- Sunday, June 5, from 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Sunday, June 12, from 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Sunday, June 19, from 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Sunday, June 26, from 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.

For your own benefit and for the trust level of the group, we ask that you commit to attending all four sessions.

Registration is required so that we may offer our best hospitality.

For additional information, and to register, please contact Patty Stiles at pstiles224@comcast.net.

The Next Chapter is here to provide:

- Practical support and compassionate healing for the widow community.
- A safe place to meet others who have lost their spouse and engage in conversation with those who understand such loss.
- To minister to the community of widows who have passed through the initial stages of grief who want to connect with others who can offer support for their new future.
- To discuss and prepare creative solutions to the problems and issues of this life journey through fellowship, love and education.

Upcoming Dates:

- Sunday, May 15  Library
- Sunday, June 19  Room 25 A-B
- Sunday, July 17  Room 25 A-B
- Sunday, August 21 Room 25 A-B
- Sunday, September 18 Room 25
Off-Site Insight

Off-Site/Insight is an Old St. Patrick’s Church member led initiative that brings a taste of Old St. Pat’s programming to your doorstep. These monthly “off-site” gatherings welcome you and your friends to come together to encounter an interesting speaker and engage in enriching conversations. It’s also a fun way to connect with other Old St. Pat’s members and friends who live out your way!

Old St. Pat’s Church Staff Contact  Bob Kolatorowicz 312.831.9379 bobk@oldstpats.org

Format:
6:30 p.m. Refreshments and Welcome 7 p.m. Presentation 8:15 p.m. Prayer and Announcements 8:30 p.m. Program concludes
*A free will donation to cover our meeting room costs is much appreciated. Free Parking is available.

Monday, April 25, 2016
"Faith On Tough Streets"
with Fr. Dan Brandt, Chaplain, Chicago Police Department

It is difficult for some to find God in the worst and ugliest of times. Ministry to police officers is unique and critical since they experience more evil in the course of an eight hour shift than the general public witness in an entire lifetime.

It is the job of the police chaplain to provide 24/7 crisis ministry and pastoral care to these souls, sometimes physically injured or even killed, and often deeply affected by what they see and do every day.

Police Chaplains try to regularly remind officers that they are performing a God-ordained task and are engaged in the most noble of professions.

West: Carmelite Spirituality Center 8419 Bailey Road, Darien, IL 60561 | 630.969.4141

Coordinators Judy McLaughlin judy.mclaughlin3@gmail.com 630.852.7269 | Joan Noe noe.joan6@gmail.com |
Mary Kay Slowikowski marykayslowikowski@gmail.com 630.985.7570

Exciting News for Harmony, Hope & Healing!

Harmony, Hope & Healing is one of eight finalists in The Lyric Opera’s Chicago Voices Community Created Performances program! Community Created Performances are original music theater works created and performed by community groups using a core element of opera: storytelling through song.

The finalists will each undertake a 16-week creative process to develop an original music theater work with the support of a professional team and a $10,000 stipend. Groups will receive artistic support to create original songs and scripts, culminating in fully-realized productions, which will be presented to the public in the fall.

Public voting is underway! You can vote once each day for HHH until 11:59 pm on May 1st athttp://www.chicagovvoices.org. The top three finalists will be announced on May 2, so be sure to vote daily for Harmony, Hope & Healing!

If you want to hear the HHH story in a brand new way, remember to vote tomorrow each day until May 1st, and share with your friends and family—every vote counts!

Harmony, Hope & Healing (HHH) is a creative music program offering dignity and spiritual healing to the homeless and underserved in Chicago. Volunteer opportunities are available in fundraising, event planning, and administrative assistance. Join us today! Simply send an email to info@harmonyhopeandhealing.org.
"We have no money" seems to be a mantra from all levels of government, city, county, state and national. As public budgets get tighter and money more scarce, decisions are being made on who and what will be funded by government and from whom money will be taken away. The work of social service agencies, jails, health care facilities, subsidized housing, job training, drug rehabilitation, and education appear to be the immediate victims.

The President of the Cook County Board, Toni Preckwinkle, is in a position to see this dilemma on a daily basis. Her office has responsibility for Cook County jail, the Cook County Hospital, the Cook County Sheriff’s Office, to name but a few.

She was elected President of the Cook County Board in December 2010. Since then she has had to rebuild the credibility of County Government. She faced a deficit of $1.4 billion. She cut $465 million in expenditures while focusing on County services that help the least among us. The First Friday Club is honored to have President ToniPreckwinkle speak to us on Friday, May 6, 2016.

To reserve your place for the May 6th meeting of The First Friday Club of Chicago, please MAKE YOUR RESERVATION AND PAY ONLINE by FRIDAY, April 29th. Please give all the details for your reservation; if you wish to be seated with one of the church groups, any dietary requirements in the Comments section.

Are you looking to reflect upon how you respond to Pope Francis’s call to serve? Have you had a service experience where you have encountered injustice or those living on the margins?

Join with others to:

- Connect with others who are passionate about issues of justice
- Encounter the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching by reflecting on your own experiences of service
- Grow in your commitment to respond to the Gospel call in your daily life
- This retreat is jointly presented by Old St. Patrick’s Church, Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House, and Charis.

Join others interested in service and justice for this opportunity to connect and reflect.

**Pricing Options:**

- Cost: $100
- Discount: $89 (Early bird registration ends May 2)

Payment must be paid online at [https://charis.website/scripts/](https://charis.website/scripts/).

Financial assistance is available for this event. For more information, please contact Lauren Gaffey at lgaffey@charis.org.
North Lawndale College Prep, part of the North Lawndale Kinship Initiative, is in need of panelists to serve as judges for their annual Senior Project Panel. We are looking for OSP members to serve as “panelists” or “judges” as the school’s seniors present their final capstone projects on Friday, May 13, Monday, May 16, and Thursday, May 26. For more information or to sign up, please call 847.868.4324 or visit www.nlcphs.org/seniorproject

Wondering what mercy really means in this Year of Mercy for our church? Curious about how you can support caring for the environment for our children and future generations?

Gather together with 5-10 people in your neighborhood and host one of the Pathway Programs this spring. We are offering two engaging programs (2 hours each): Taking Mercy to Heart explores mercy through the lens of forgiveness and Taking Care of Our Common Home explores how we can answer the cry of the Earth and her people. We will provide the facilitation materials if you would like to lead either session, or we can have a facilitator come and lead the session at your house.

For more information on hosting and/or facilitating these sessions, contact Dennis O’Donnell: dodonnell25@gmail.com.
Visit our website at www.oldstpats.org.

Women and Men of Faith

April 21

St. Anselm
(1033-1107)

Indifferent toward religion as a young man, Anselm became one of the Church’s greatest theologians and leaders. He received the title “Father of Scholasticism” for his attempt to analyze and illuminate the truths of faith through the aid of reason.

At 15, Anselm wanted to enter a monastery, but was refused acceptance because of his father’s opposition. Twelve years later, after careless disinterest in religion and years of worldly living, he finally fulfilled his desire to be a monk. He entered the monastery of Bec in Normandy, three years later was elected prior and 15 years later was unanimously chosen abbot.

Considered an original and independent thinker, Anselm was admired for his patience, gentleness and teaching skill. Under his leadership, the abbey of Bec became a monastic school, influential in philosophical and theological studies.

During these years, at the community’s request, Anselm began publishing his theological works, comparable to those of St. Augustine (August 28). His best-known work is the book Cur Deus Homo (“Why God Became Man”).

At 60, against his will, Anselm was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury in 1093. His appointment was opposed at first by England’s King William Rufus and later accepted. Rufus persisted to cooperate with efforts to reform the Church.

Anselm finally went into voluntary exile until Rufus died in 1100. He was then recalled to England by Rufus’s brother and successor, Henry I. Disagreeing fearlessly with Henry over the king’s insistence on investing England’s bishops, Anselm spent another three years in exile in Rome.

Prayer Requests

For Those Who Are Sick

Gary Chaney, Nicholas & Karen Neumann, Deb Stefanek, Dr. James Kline, Dr. Dukn chin Kim & Mrs. Seon choo Kim, Barb Gibson, Bob Hurst, Dean Chatterton, Tommy Peebles, Father John Denny O.S.A., Greg Kunkle, Ginnie Dalton, Keeley Barr, Grace Digan, Jim Keane, Katie Heaps, London Lotarski, Jane Ryan, Greg Kunkle, Ginnie Dalton, Lindsay Benham, Patti Reynolds, Keeley Barr & Grace Digan, Maureen Moore

For Those Who Have Recently Died


Adapted from www.americancatholic.org.

Prayer Requests: Names of the sick or recently deceased are listed for one week in the prayers of the faithful and two subsequent weeks in the bulletin. Please call Bernadette Gibson at 312.798.2389 to add a name to the list.
Mass Schedule

Sunday
7 a.m., 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 5 p.m., and 8 p.m.

Monday – Friday (Daily Mass)
7 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.

Church is open for Personal Prayer:
Monday – Friday: 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Reconciliation
Fridays at 11:45 a.m., or upon request.

Litururgical Ministry
If you feel called to serve as a Hospitality Minister, Eucharistic Minister or Lector for one of our Sunday liturgies, please contact David Philippart at davidp@oldstpats.org, or 312.831.9372. Training for Hospitality Ministers and Eucharistic Ministers takes place four times per year. Training for Lectors occurs annually.

Weddings
If you are engaged and would like to be married at Old St. Patrick’s Church, please contact Jo Ann O’Brien, wedding scheduler/coordinator, at JoAnnO@oldstpats.org, or 312.831.9383.

The Baptismal Program & Schedule
To schedule a baptism, please contact Betty O’Toole, Baptism Scheduler, at 312.798.2366.

Nursery Service
Nursery service is available during the 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. Masses in the Frances Xavier Warde School building. Enter the school on Des Plaines Street.

Low-gluten Host
Old St. Pat’s has low-gluten hosts available for those members who, for health reasons, could not receive regular Communion hosts. If you would like to receive a low-gluten host, please contact David Philippart, Liturgy Ministry, at davidp@oldstpats.org, or 312.831.9372.

Sign-Language Interpreter
Upon request, a sign language interpreter can be available at the 11:15 a.m. or 5 p.m. Mass on Sundays, as well as for holidays and holy days of obligation. It would be most appreciative if you would give us 5 days of advance notice. To request access to a sign language interpreter at Mass, please contact Katie Kearns at 312.831.9372, or katiek@oldstpats.org.

Old St. Patrick’s Website
Be sure to visit our website, www.oldstpats.org, for the most up-to-date information.

Wedding Schedule
If you are engaged and would like to be married at Old St. Patrick’s Church, please contact Jo Ann O’Brien, wedding scheduler/coordinator, at JoAnnO@oldstpats.org, or 312.831.9383.

May the Winds of Heaven Dance Between You.

Photo Credit: Becky Hill Photography

I. April 30, 2016
First Communion; No weddings

II. May 7, 2016
Michael "Mike" James Warble & Anna Rosalee Whelan
Jennifer Tamas & Joe Obringer

III. May 14, 2016
Joshua Yeung & Veronica DelReal
Brennan Patrick Taylor & Cristin Colleen Monaghan
Brad William Lewis & Abigail "Abby" Alice Elliot

Pastoral Care: Do you know someone in need of Pastoral Care amongst our Old St. Pat’s community? Please contact Bernadette Moore Gibson at 312.493.8737.

Parish Counselor: If you or someone you know is in need of counseling services, please contact Old St. Patrick’s Parish Counselor, Sarah Thompson at sarah@oldstpats.org or 773.234.9630.
**Accounting**
Janette Nunez  
312.798.2305  
janetten@oldstpats.org

Linda Vasquez  
312.798.2307  
lindav@oldstpats.org

**Adult Education Ministries**
Bob Kolatorowicz  
312.831.9379  
bobk@oldstpats.org

**Advancement**
Tim Liston  
312.798.2381  
tliston@oldstpats.org

*Sunday Giving Commitment & Book of Patrick (Memorial for Loved Ones)*
Bridget Carey  
312.831.9355  
bcarey@oldstpats.org

**Annulment Support Ministry**
Patty Stiles  
847.220.3011  
pstiles224@comcast.net

**Baptisms**
Betty O'Toole, scheduler  
312.798.2366  
bettyo@oldstpats.org

**Buildings/Grounds**
Andrew Hayden  
312.798.2345  
ahayden@oldstpats.org

**Clergy - Pastor**
Fr. Thomas J. Hurley  
312.831.9363  
tomh@oldstpats.org

Admin. Assistant to Pastor  
Skye Darke  
312.831.9377  
skyed@oldstpats.org

**Visiting Clergy**
Fr. John Cusick  
Fr. Edward Foley, OFM Cap.  
Fr. Pat McGrath, SJ  
Fr. Paul Novak, OSM  
Fr. William O'Shea

Msgr. Kenneth Velo  
Fr. John J. Wall

**Communications & Media**
Lauren Kezon  
312.831.9364  
laurenk@oldstpats.org

Lauren Breiting  
bulletin@oldstpats.org

**Community Outreach**
Beth Marek  
312.831.9361  
elizabethm@oldstpats.org

Adult Literacy Program  
Marilyn and Joe Antonik  
773.286.3390  
marantonik@att.net

Blood Drive  
Mark Buciak*  
773.307.0033  
mark.buciak@rcn.com

The Cara Program  
Maria Kim  
312.798.3319

Chicago Food Depository  
Mary Beth Riley*  
630.655.9447  
mbriley07@yahoo.com

Jim Holbrook*  
773.237.2625  
JamesHolbrookJr@yahoo.com

The Children’s Place  
Katie Byrne*  
312.863.1120  
kmbyrne@aol.com

House of Mary and Joseph  
Kate Boege*  
312.337.7953  
kateboege@yahoo.com

Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly  
Joe Harzich*  
312.835.4932  
jharzich@aol.com

Special Olympics  
Greg Benacka*  
708.271.4460  
benacka.gregory@district205.net

St. Agatha’s Sharing Parish  
Beth Marek  
312.831.9361  
elizabethm@oldstpats.org

Su Casa  
Jim Karczewski*  
630.279.0144  
jkarcze877@aol.com

Trinity Volunteer Corps  
Marty Kenahan  
708.567.0518  
mkenahan@trinityvolunteers.org

U of I Hospital Pediatrics  
Sue Sierkierski*  
312.546.4312  
sasiek18@hotmail.com

**Counseling Services**
Sarah Thompson  
773.234.9630  
sarah@oldstpats.org

**Encore: 50+ Active Adults**
Mary Kay Slowikowski  
marykayslowikowski@gmail.com

**Faith Formation**
Keara Ette  
312.798.2328  
kearae@oldstpats.org

**Family Ministry**
Bea Cunningham  
312.831.9351  
bea@oldstpats.org

Katie Brandt  
312.831.9352  
family.ministry@oldstpats.org

**Funerals**
Bernadette Gibson  
bernadetteg@oldstpats.org

312.493.8737 pastoral cell

**Gay & Lesbian; Friends & Families Outreach (Old St. Pat’s)**
John Parro*  
johnwparro@gmail.com

Bob Kolatorowicz  
bobk@oldstpats.org,  
312.831.9379

Listening Parent Ministry  
Maureen Schuneman*  
listeningparent@gmail.com

**Grief Support Facilitators**
Judi Black, Bill Brennan  
312.798.2358

**Hospitality**
Bridget Carey  
312.831.9355  
bcarey@oldstpats.org

**Jewish Catholic Ministry**
Jewish Catholic Dialogue  
Gina Lakin*  
773.485.9966  
ginalakin@gmail.com

Eileen O’Farrell Smith*  
eileen@theinterfaithunion.org

Family School  
David Kovacs  
kovacswriter@gmail.com

Interfaith Union  
Eileen O’Farrell Smith  
eileen@theinterfaithunion.org

**Liturgy**
David Philippart  
david@oldstpats.org

312.831.9367

Katie Kearns  
katiek@oldstpats.org  
312.831.9372

**Marriage Preparation**
Jack Berkemeyer - Pre-Cana Experience  
312.798.2386  
jackb@oldstpats.org

Patty Stiles - Pre-Marital Assessment  
847.220.3011  
pstiles224@comcast.net

**Old St. Patrick’s Church Administrative Office • Fr. Jack Wall Mission Center • 711 W. Monroe • Chicago, IL 60661 • p 312.648.1021 • f 312.648.9025**
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