A celebration of life and love for adoptive families, adoptees, birthparents, friends, and all whose lives have been impacted by the miracle of adoption.

The Adoption Creed
Not flesh of my flesh nor bone of my bone, but still miraculously my own. Never forget for a single minute, you didn’t grow under my heart, but in it. ~ Author unknown
Love: The Highest Form of Knowing

By Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM

My good friend, Franciscan sister and scientist Ilia Delio, has written a wonderful autobiography. In it she recounts how her parents decided to name her Denise. (She would have been named Denis had she been a boy.) Later in life, she was delighted to find a meaningful connection with the man who first approached theology in an explicitly mystical way in his text Mystical Theology. Delio writes:

When I was doing my doctoral work in theology at Fordham University, I was introduced to the master of mystical theology, Denis the Areopagite, or Pseudo-Dionysius [who wrote in the late fifth to early sixth century]. I was immediately struck by the name “Denis”—the mysterious person who wrote the most exquisite words stretching into the mystery of the incomprehensible God... God is the name of absolute divine mystery beyond any speech or thought or movement. God’s love is so tremendous, this mystical writer claimed, that God is like a sober drunk, falling over himself in the desire to share divine life.

God, the *eros* of divine love
God, *agape*, giving Godself away
God, *ek-static*, standing outside Godself, in the creation of the world
God, the volcanic eruption of divine *life*.

Because God’s eros is cosmic, Dionysius claimed, the whole universe is drawn to God, who is always utterly transcendent. God is both hidden and revealed, and there is no access to the hidden God except by way of God manifested in creation.

We long for God because God longs for us; God eternally desires to give Godself away in love so we can give ourselves in love; love always stands outside itself in the other.

To be united to God we must “break through” the sensible world and pass beyond the human condition to move beyond knowing to unknowing, from knowledge to love. In his *De mystica theologia* Denis wrote: “As we plunge into that darkness which is beyond intellect, we shall find ourselves not simply running short of words but actually speechless and unknowing.”[1]...

Christian mystics understood love as the core of reality and spoke of a deep relationship between love and knowledge. “Love is the highest form of knowing,” Saint Augustine wrote. [2] Gregory the Great said, “Love itself is a form of knowing” (*amor ipse notitia est*), meaning that the love by which we reach God implies a form of knowing above ordinary reason.

[3] William of St. Thierry put it beautifully in this way: “In the contemplation of God where love is chiefly operative, reason passes into love and is transformed into a certain spiritual and divine understanding which transcends and absorbs all reason.”[4]

Wisdom is knowledge deepened by love. The wise person knows more deeply by way of love than by way of argument because the eye of the heart can see the truth of reality. Hence the wise person is one who knows and sees God shining through everything, even what seems ugly or despised.

References:


Image credit: Clearing up, Coast of Sicily (detail), Andreas Achenbach, 1847, The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, Maryland.

This article was originally published on January 31, 2020 on CAC.org (Center for Action and Contemplation).
Lent Begins with Ash Wednesday on February 26

Taking a Moment to Recall Some Lenten Basics

Naming the Season
Lent is closely associated with the transition from winter to spring. The word “lent,” for example, comes from the Anglo-Saxon word for springtime, lencten. It describes the gradual lengthening of daylight after the winter solstice.

Forty Days
Early in Christianity the discipline of fasting became associated with the number forty. This gradually determined the length of Lent. Fasting by catechumens, and then by other Christians, was done in imitation of Jesus’ forty-day fast in the desert, Moses’ forty days on Mount Sinai, Elijah’s forty-day fast on his journey to Mount Horeb, and the forty years the Israelites spent in the desert. The church’s official name for Lent, Quadragesima, is Latin for “forty.”

These forty days were originally counted back from the beginning of the Easter Triduum that began on Holy Thursday evening. This determined the date of the First Sunday of Lent. Fasting, however, was never done on Sundays, which were always considered weekly memorials of Jesus’ resurrection, and therefore as “little Easters.” By the seventh century, the six week season of Lent was anticipated on Ash Wednesday and included Good Friday and Holy Saturday to keep the days of fasting at forty.

Source: Catholic Customs and Traditions by Greg Dues

Q. Why do we say that there are forty days of Lent? When you count all the days from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, there are 46.
A. It might be more accurate to say that there is the “forty day fast within Lent.” Historically, Lent has varied from a week to three weeks to the present configuration of 46 days. The forty day fast, however, has been more stable. The Sundays of Lent are certainly part of the Time of Lent, but they are not prescribed days of fast and abstinence.

Q. So does that mean that when we give something up for Lent, we can have it on Sundays?
A. Apart from the prescribed days of fast and abstinence on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and the days of abstinence every Friday of Lent, Catholics have traditionally chosen additional penitential practices for the whole Time of Lent. These practices are disciplinary in nature and often more effective if they are continuous, i.e., kept on Sundays as well. That being said, such practices are not regulated by the Church, but by individual conscience.

Q. I understand that Catholics ages 18 to 59 should fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, but what exactly are the rules for these fasts?
A. Fasting on these days means we can have only one full, meatless meal. Some food can be taken at the other regular meal times if necessary, but combined they should be less than a full meal. Liquids are allowed at any time, but no solid food should be consumed between meals.

Q. Are there exemptions other than for age from the requirement to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday?
A. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

Source: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Pope Francis Reflects on the Traditional Practices of Lent

Prayer, teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy.

Fasting, that is, learning to change our attitude towards others and all of creation, turning away from the temptation to “devour” everything to satisfy our voracity and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts.

Almsgiving, whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. And thus to rediscover the joy of God’s plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love him, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

Source: Libreria Editrice Vaticana
February at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adoption Celebration Mass</td>
<td>Sunday, Feb. 16</td>
<td>5 pm</td>
<td>Old St. Patrick’s Church</td>
<td>Cynthia and Ed St. Peter <a href="mailto:estpeter@att.net">estpeter@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offsite/Insight</td>
<td>Monday, Feb. 24</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Carmelite Spirituality Center</td>
<td>Joan Noe <a href="mailto:noe.joan6@gmail.com">noe.joan6@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old St. Pat’s Family Dance</td>
<td>Friday, Feb. 28</td>
<td>6:30 - 8:30 pm</td>
<td>625 W. Adams St.</td>
<td>bit.ly/ospfamilydance2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Friday Club with Lori Lightfoot</td>
<td>Friday, March 6</td>
<td>Noon - 1:15 pm</td>
<td>Union League Club</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ffcc@firstfridayclubchicago.org">ffcc@firstfridayclubchicago.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siamsa na nGael</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 11</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Symphony Center</td>
<td>cso.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shamrock’n the Block</td>
<td>Saturday, March 14</td>
<td>12 - 6 pm</td>
<td>OSP Campus - Desplaines St.</td>
<td>bit.ly/shamrockntheblock</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GIVING TO OSP

Sunday Giving comprises 96% of Old St. Pat’s operating budget. Everything we do here – from liturgy and music to educating our youngest members to our Kinship Initiative in North Lawndale to Pastoral Care to our transformative RCIA experience to Encore, Gay+, the Men’s Group, OSP Next, etc. – is made possible by your generous support of Sunday Giving. To make a one time gift or set up a recurring gift, please visit oldstpats.org/giving or scan the QR code below to pay through our secure payment processor on your smartphone.

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE:

OSP ONLINE MEDITATION CHAPEL

Have you ever wanted to participate in a small faith community, but schedule and fighting traffic kept you from doing so? Have you found it difficult to stay faithful to a meditation practice or regular prayer? If so, you might find OSP’s new online meditation chapel a helpful resource. You can learn all about it at www.contemplativecommunity.org.

Chapels are hosted by trained leaders Mondays – Thursdays and Saturdays each week. You can participate when you are able. We connect together in our online chapel through the video conferencing platform, Zoom. In order to participate in any of the online chapels, you will need to register. Once you have registered, an email will be sent to you with the URL and all the info you will need for participating in any of the chapels throughout the week. The chapel experience is one hour long and takes place in two parts. You are welcome to stay for part or all of the experience. The first half of our time is spent together in silent prayer/meditation. To see, hear and join with others throughout our community can be a profoundly connecting, expansive and intimate experience. The second half of the chapel time is reserved for reflecting on scripture and simple faith sharing.

For many of us, this time in community binds us together in love. In order to foster a respectful and supportive community, we need to be especially sensitive to each other. We observe these guidelines for effective sharing. Know you are always welcome and can come and go as you are able.
As we fondly say a grateful “farewell” to the World’s Largest Block Party, we are excited to keep the popular Pot O’ Gold raffle that had been held in conjunction with the Block Party. We hope you will continue to support this important fundraiser for Old St. Pat’s.

The Pot O’ Gold raffle will offer a $25,000 GRAND PRIZE! We’re selling 1,000 tickets over the course of two months, for $100 each. Be among the first to have the chance to be a POT O’ GOLD EARLY BIRD DRAWING WINNER! Purchase your tickets now for chances to win prizes every week:

- Weekly Winner Drawings – one lucky person will win $250 each week! Weekly winner will be drawn every Thursday from February 27 through April 2, 2020 (except Thursday 3/5).

- Luck of the Irish Drawings:
  - Sunday, March 8: 2 charter boat tickets to witness dyeing of the Chicago River and 2 grandstand seats to watch the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Both events will be held on Saturday, 3/14.
  - Saturday, March 14: 2 roundtrip airline tickets to Ireland on Aer Lingus Airlines. Drawing will be held at our new celebration, Shamrock’n The Block.

(Bonus: winning tickets from the Pot O’ Gold EARLY BIRD DRAWINGS will be placed back in the general pool!)

Purchase tickets today at bit.ly/potofgoldosp

The Pot O’ Gold Grand Prize drawing will take place in April of 2020 at Old St. Pat’s. Stay tuned for more details! Winner need not be present for drawings. For more info, feel free to contact Honor Lorenzini at honorl@oldstpats.org.
This is Part 7 of a 10 part series of stories examining the complex socio-economic issue of poverty and unemployment in Chicago's North Lawndale community. The aim of the series is to foster prayerful contemplation about this critical social justice issue and then rally the Old St. Patrick's community to help eliminate barriers to employment for North Lawndale neighbors.

PART SEVEN: COUNTERACTING THE EFFECTS OF MASS INCARCERATION AND JOBLESSNESS IN NORTH LAWNDALE
By: Vincent Guider and Patricia Sullivan

Old St. Patrick's is contributing to the removal of barriers to employment for neighbors in the North Lawndale community. Through the North Lawndale Works Campaign Old St. Patrick's members and friends help ease the crippling effects of racism, incarceration and other social ills that bring about unemployment and poverty. This campaign is one way we answer Jesus' command that we love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Challenges to Job Seekers
Love demands that we understand and justly respond to an out-of-control prison system, often called Mass Incarceration. This system historically subjects black and brown citizens, and most especially poor ones, to heightened social scrutiny, more arrests by law enforcement, and harsher convictions with longer prison terms than those imposed on people in other racial groups. Mass incarceration also transfers wealth out of already marginalized communities thus severely destabilizing family and community life. By contrast, white citizens are more inclined to receive leniency from law enforcement officials, quality legal representation, shorter terms of incarceration and social support and employment opportunities after their stints with the legal system. Tragically, the justice system is quite simply unjust in many cases for people who live in predominantly black and brown areas of the city. North Lawndale is one of those areas.

Ryan Hollon, an urban planner living and working in Chicago, tells of a time the Chicago West Side's 60624 zip code where North Lawndale is located “accounted for 12% of the Illinois prison population.” The June 2019 Community Data Snapshot of the US Census reported that in 2017 a little over 93% of North Lawndale's residents were black, nearly half were under 34 years old and 87% of them were formerly incarcerated (returning citizens). The challenges today's North Lawndale residents face were neither their intent nor the result of their incapability, immortality or failure as citizens. They, for the most part, inherited a community decimated by decades long racism, neglect and disinvestment by businesses and government. Today, they want and deserve better.

Burdens on Returning Citizens
Black, Hispanic and female returning citizens looking for work face paralyzing “prison penalties” that can hamper them for a lifetime if people of compassion do not intervene. Even though these women and men already paid their just debts to society for mistakes made long ago, they are subject to being blocked from second chances to redeem themselves, rebuild their lives and provide for their families. Labeled as “ex-cons” and written off as unemployable, these job seekers struggle to overcome: negative stigmas; discrimination; stress and feelings of hopelessness; a dearth of honest, dignified work in or near their communities; inadequate housing, transportation, childcare or spending money so they can get to work; temptations to act out of desperation to try and make ends meet; and the lingering threat of eventual reincarceration or death. These barriers to employment, all byproducts of Mass Incarceration, are only eased when
people of means and compassion provide job seekers with resources and opportunities they need to secure entry level employment that pay livable wages and enables them to enjoy the dignity and stability that good jobs can provide.

Residual Effects on Families
Family members of returning citizens also suffer the effects of Mass Incarceration. Those with presently incarcerated or newly returning relatives endure psychological and financial pains and social stigmas because their loved ones are away and suffering. Children separated from their elders suffer most. In the absence of parents and grandparents, children are often placed with other relatives or end up in foster homes further destabilizing family structures. A federally commissioned estimate calculated $4.7 trillion in lost long-term economic potential in the nation by young people who are disconnected from their elders, schools and chances to work jobs. The consequential hidden costs to families were measured as well and these included: separations and divorces; other interrupted family relationships; lower educational attainment; decreased economic output; visitation expenses; increased instances of criminality; higher risks to children’s safety, homelessness; lower property values; evictions and poorer health outcomes including premature death and infant mortality.

Given these stark realities, our kinship with the North Lawndale community and the vitality of the Old St. Patrick’s Community, the North Lawndale Works Team invites all members and friends of the congregation to contribute to the mission of removing barriers to employment for our North Lawndale neighbors. Please join us for the official launch of North Lawndale Works after the masses on Sunday, February 23.


Pat Sullivan is a North Lawndale Works Intern from the Catholic Theological Union, involved in Old St. Patrick’s North Lawndale Kinship Initiative. Pat is working towards completing her Master’s in Pastoral Studies. Vincent Guider is on staff at Old St. Patrick’s as Director of the North Lawndale Kinship Initiative which sponsors North Lawndale Works.

SEND FORTH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020
15 MINUTE RALLY FOLLOWING THE 8 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:15 PM & 5 PM MASSES
HUGHES HALL (LOWER LEVEL OF THE CHURCH)

Enjoy light refreshments, view the new North Lawndale Works video, and hear personal testimony.

DONATE funds or gift cards to ease expenses of North Lawndale job seekers while they look for work.

NETWORK and ENGAGE to provide entry level jobs for returning citizens and to advocate for just laws and policies related to employment.

Also DONATE, NETWORK or ENGAGE online today at oldstpats.org/nlw

North Lawndale Works Committee: Reri Barrett, North Lawndale Employment Network, Erin Brinkman Dynek, OSP, Christyn Freeman, North Lawndale Employment Network, Kevin Gallagher, OSP, Vince Guider, OSP and Kinship Initiative Executive Director, Maureen Hellwig, OSP, Mike Hobbs, OSP, Robert Kastenholz, OSP, Barry Pollard, OSP, Kathie Stokes, OSP & Cara, Pat Sullivan, Catholic Theological Union and Intern for OSP. Contact us at vincentg@oldstpats.org
This historic program will commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. Through music, dance, and narration, we will hear the story of the only African American naval ship in the United States Navy, the USS Mason, stationed in Ireland during the war. This moving performance will bring to light the incredible relationship between the Irish and the sailors.

Special Guest Narrator:
Mark K. Shriver
Author and Social Justice Advocate

Featuring: Metropolis Symphony Orchestra, Old St. Patrick’s Concert Choir, Soloists Gavin Coyle, Catherine O’Connell and Rod Dixon, Irish Trad Band, After School Matters Choir, Trinity Irish Dancers and many more!

Created by Bill Fraher, Director of Concert Choirs, Old St. Patrick’s Church. Narration written by Mary Pat Kelly.

TICKETS NOW ON SALE!
All performance-only tickets are sold through the Symphony Center's Box Office, 312.294.3000 or www.cso.org

SPONSORSHIP & RECEPTION PACKAGES
For Siamsa Sponsorship and Reception Packages, please visit bit.ly/siamsa-sponsorship or call 312.798.2343. We'd love to have you join us in the beautiful Grainger Ballroom after the show for an elaborate display of delicious desserts including a Flambeed Fruit station and ice cream bar with warm sauces, Truffle Bar, and other amazing delicatables as well as Irish Coffee and drinks! Meet the performers and mingle with other Old St. Pat’s members and friends.

BETTER TOGETHER TRAVEL CLUB | Organized by Encore
Spotlight on Santa Fe | October 18-23, 2020

Look forward to Fall with this exciting week in Santa Fe! 6 Days • 8 meals: 4 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners | Per Person Rates*: Double $1,899 | Single $2,499 Rates shown above are land only and do not include airfare. Included in price: Hotel Transfers. For more information contact Judy Marshman, World Class Travel Ltd. at (630) 515-1551 or email info@worldclasstravel91.com

Collette Experiences:
• Hop aboard an open-air tram for a tour of Santa Fe's most historic and culturally-significant sites.
• Tour the Loretto Chapel and marvel at its iconic winding staircase.
• Visit the moving El Santuario de Chimayo, the most important Catholic pilgrimage site in the United States.

Must-See Inclusions:
• Visit the Bandelier National Monument and discover gorgeous canyons and mesas.
• Enjoy a walking tour of Santa Fe Plaza, the central gathering place for Santita Fe for close to 400 years.
• Amble through the Allen House Sculpture Garden.

Culinary Inclusions:
• Try your hand at making a tamale at the Santa Fe School of Cooking.
• Delight in an authentic New Mexican lunch in Chimayo.

Highlights: Walking Tour of Santa Fe Plaza, Open-Air Tram Tour, Loretto Chapel, Santa Fe School of Cooking, Turquoise Trail, Allan House Sculpture Garden, Bandelier National Monument, El Santuario de Chimayo, Choice on Tour
COOKED: SURVIVAL BY ZIP CODE
A FREE ONE EARTH FILM FESTIVAL EVENT
Sunday, March 8 | 2:30 pm | 625 W. Adams


Chicago suffered the worst heat disaster in U.S history in 1995, when 739 residents – mostly elderly and black – died over the course of one week. As “Cooked” links the heat wave’s devastation back to the underlying manmade disaster of structural racism, it delves deeply into one of our nation’s biggest growth industries: Disaster Preparedness. Peabody Award-winning filmmaker Judith Helfand uses her signature serious-yet-quirky-style as interlocutor and narrator to forge inextricable connections between the cataclysmic natural disasters we’re willing to see and prepare for, and the slow-motion disasters we’re not.

View the trailer at vimeo.com/336151320.

Doors open 30 minutes before start time. Arrive early to avoid lines and get best seats. ADA compliant accessible venue. Teens and young adults encouraged to attend. “PG-13” May contain heavy themes, graphic images or language. Refreshments available.

Visit bit.ly/cookedscreeningosp for free registration.

JANUARY BAPTISMS

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

~ Matthew 28: 19-20

Eleanor Grace Phillips
Andrew and Allison Phillips

Mariclaire James Knapik
Christopher and Margaret Knapik

Damian Joseph Brunnert
Daniel and Julie Brunnert

Emerson Leigh Horr
Michael Horr and Alison Hankes

Stella Elizabeth Colbert
William and Jennifer Colbert

Leela Devi Nath
Neal and Stacey Nath

Francisca Catalina McGee
James McGee and Ana Lucia Gonzalez Kane

Riley Paige Vargas
Jerome and Rachel Vargas

Olivet Jean Stephani
James and Nicole Stephani

Evelyn Aimee O’Brien
Patrick and Bridget O’Brien

Samuel Patrick Meiners
David and Sarah Meiners

Brayden Thomas Getz
Jason and Kathryn Getz

Elijah James Roman
Christopher and Martha Roman

Willow Grace Arellano
Ramon Arellano Jr. and Brandi Powers

Elizabeth Grace Zweidinger
Christopher Zweidinger and Sarah McNamara

Logan Craig Bixler
Jordan and Megan Bixler

Cillian Robert Conlon
William and Katherine Conlon

John Maxwell Upton
John and Ami Upton

Campbell Lynn Evans
Brett and Kelly Evans

Pax Lincoln Waliszewski
Konrad and Stephanie Waliszewski

Charles Harding O’Neal
Michael and Rebecca O’Neal
IN LOVE AND GRATITUDE

I'm sharing the Love this Valentine's Day that the Community of Old St. Pat's has been blessed with this past holiday season. These are the real quotes from the real folks we helped this holiday season. Being the season of love, I wanted you to hear first-hand from our newest fan club members.

- Beth Marek, Director of Outreach

• Beth – we did it again! Thanks so much for giving us the chance to play Santa, year after year – brings us such joy! - Nicole

• We would like to give thanks for the wonderful and surprising gift during these devastating moments for the family. We’re blessed to have people with big hearts that provide us with unconditional support. This is a wonderful blessing for our family. From the bottom of our hearts, the Hernandez Family (recent immigrants who experienced a house fire).

• Thank you Old St. Pat’s from my family to yours. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year – Minnie & her 12 grandkids

• Dear Beth & Outreach Ministers – Thank you very much for the lovely gift bag I received through Career Transitions Center where I’ve been hunting since September. Your kindness is a great help to me as I experience this Christmas, the first since the death of my father. - ML

• Dear Beth, thank you so much for all you did for us this Christmas. The donations, presents, photos, connections and joy were at an all-time high this year. Thank you for giving these kids the Christmas they deserve. Best Wishes, Dana UI

• From my family to Old St. Patrick’s Church. We are sending our deepest thanks to you for the gift. This has truly been a big help to our family in many ways. Thanks for your generosity and warm thoughts for making our holiday great! - A and kids

• Good afternoon and Merry Christmas; thank you so much for my children’s gifts. Thanks for my gifts as well and the tree and decorations too. My children absolutely love and enjoy their gifts. From my family to yours, we wish you a very Merry Christmas with lots of good memories.

• Thank you for your gifts and especially your prayers.

Nate makes 500 of the 1,200 handmade Valentines OSP distributes to the homeless for service hours.

Valentine's Day Blessings and Abundance from the S.P.O.K.E.S. kids and confirmation classes who made cookies for the seniors of Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly.

Making it a Happy Valentines Day for the residents of The Boulevard!!!
ENCORE: FOR THOSE 50 AND BETTER
Inspiring Mind & Spirit Through Learning, Service & Fun

THE ENCORE CAFE - NEXT SUNDAY!
Sunday, February 23

More an experience than a place, the Encore Café seeks to bring together good people for a great meal, stimulating conversation, and the best fellowship! Your morning at the Encore Café begins with a catered breakfast buffet followed by a thought provoking presentation by inspiring guest speakers. And there’s always time for great conversation at tables!

We are thrilled to host television and classical crossover stars, Alfreda Burke and Rodrick Dixon. The couple and their remarkable gift of song have been a part of the Old St. Patrick’s Church family, featured in ‘Siamsa na nGael’ and ‘Deck the Hall’, for over 20 years. They’re celebrating 15 years of ‘Too Hot to Handel’ at the Auditorium Theatre and are currently livestreaming to prisons and correctional facilities including Louisiana Penitentiary at Angola. Their Prague PBS Special is ‘Hallelujah, Broadway!’ and they’ve sung in major venues throughout Chicago and internationally. Please join us for what is sure to be an unforgettable morning. All are welcome!

Schedule: 10:40 am Breakfast Buffet | 11:15 am Presentation | 12:15 pm Program Ends

Location: 625 W. Adams Street.

The program fee is $15 per person and includes the breakfast buffet.

Reservations are required and can be made online at: [bit.ly/Encorecafefeb23](bit.ly/Encorecafefeb23)

HOPE HOUSE
Sunday, March 14 | Noon | Hope House

Once again, Encore members will be serving lunch to the men at Hope House in the North Lawndale neighborhood.

Hope House is a residential program, designed to help equip and encourage men, striving to re-enter society after prison or recovery from substance abuse, to be productive men. Encore will provide the luncheon and serve the men.

For further information, call Don Noe at 815-718-2768.

MASS & DINNER
Sunday, March 22 | After 5 pm Mass
Santorini’s - 800 W. Adams

If you enjoy good food and good conversation, please join Encore when we gather for dinner at Santorini’s in Greek Town immediately following the 5 pm Mass. Santorini’s is located directly across the Kennedy from Old St. Pat’s so those of us attending Mass can just walk across the bridge.

We will have our own area of the restaurant where we can order from the menu and pay individually. What a great way to usher in the Spring Season!

For more information, please contact Peggy McCarthy at mccarthypeggy1@gmail.com. Sign-ups are due by March 16 and you can register online at [bit.ly/EncoreSantorini](bit.ly/EncoreSantorini)
**OFFSITE | INSIGHT**
February 24, 2020

Off-Site | Insight is an Old St. Patrick’s Church member-led initiative that brings a taste of Old St. Pat’s programming to the western suburbs. 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!

Practicing Lent In and With and Through the Universal Christ with Bridget Sperduto

Who is the Universal Christ? Once we recognize this One, how are we invited into the season of Lent and into the Paschal Mystery? In our evening together we will begin to break open the immense mystery of the Christ that includes, yet surpasses, the person of Jesus and reflect on the implications of inviting the Universal Christ into our lives.

Bridget Sperduto, M.Ed., is Director of The Well Spirituality Center in La Grange Park, IL. The Well is a center for our sacred unity with God, Earth and one another. She is committed to cultivating and participating in the Christic field of inclusive, outpoured and communing love. Weaving storytelling, scripture, theological, and scientific concepts, Bridget invites adults and children into the profound presence and mystery of God around and within. Bridget is an associate of the Congregation of St. Joseph, a spiritual director, educator and retreat facilitator.

Format:
6:30 p.m. Refreshments and Welcome
7:00 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.

**Location:** Carmelite Spirituality Center, 8419 Bailey Road Darien, IL 60561 | 630-969-4141

Free parking is available.

Offsite | Insight Coordinators:
- Joan Noe, noe.joan6@gmail.com
- Mary Kay Slowikowski, 630-985-7570
marykayslowikowski@gmail.com

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**OLD ST PAT’S FAMILY DANCE**

**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING IN HOLLYWOOD!**

We’re taking the daddy daughter dance up a notch and making it open to all (dads/daughters, moms/sons, grandparents...or bring the whole family...you decide!)

**Come walk the red carpet and feel free to dress up as your favorite movie star!**

**Fri. Feb 28, 2020 ★ 6:30-8:30 PM ★ 625 W. Adams**

**Register at bit.ly/ospfamilydancedance2020**

Enjoy dancing, pizza, crafts, movie treats and more!

$20/PERSON
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CIVIC CELEBRATION BRUNCH
Saturday, March 14 | 8 am - 12 pm | 625 W. Adams

SET UP, SERVE, AND BREAK DOWN!
If you’d like to join in the celebration of St. Patrick’s Day at Old St. Pat’s on Saturday, March 14, please reach out today. We’re a fun group of folks who will set up the brunch, serve the meal, and help break down the venue. We’re looking for 15-20 volunteers and of course, we will feed you a lovely Irish breakfast!

Contact: Linda Vasquez, (Phone: 312-798-2370; Email: lindav@oldstpats.org)

GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY AND OUTREACH
Help Stamp Out Hunger in Chicago
We have been partnering with the Greater Chicago Food Depository here at OSP for over 25 years. By volunteering at GCFD, our Outreach Partners (Su Casa, The Boulevard, and House of Mary and Joseph Shelter) receive food credits for their programs. These food credits help feed the residents while providing nutritional food items too.

Upcoming Outreach Dates:
Saturday, March 14
8:30 am - 11:15 am
(Every second Saturday)
Contact:
Mary Beth Riley
mbriley07@yahoo.com or 630-655-9447

Tuesday, March 10
9 am - 12 pm
(Every Second Tuesday)
Contact:
Jim Holbrook
jamesjholbrookjr@yahoo.com or 773-237-2625

The Catholic Vote and the 2020 Election
Saturday, February 29, 2020 | 6:30 pm
The James and Catherine Denny Center at Catholic Theological Union
5416 South Cornell Avenue | Chicago

Sponsored by The Weal, Commonweal magazine’s reading group for under-40 professionals, The Bernardin Center at CTU is pleased to welcome John Gehring and a panel of local respondents before we invite you to join the conversation.

Panelists are
Adrienne Alexander
Director of Intergovernmental Relations for AFSCME Council 31
Michael Bayer
Director of Evangelization and Adult Formation at St. Clement Catholic Church
Raúl Zegarra
PhD candidate in the Divinity School at the University of Chicago

This is a free event. RSVP at ctu.edu/events or bernardincenter@ctu.edu
live music, hors d’oeuvres, and beer and wine (must be 21)
OSP Next is the community for Young Adults at Old St. Pat’s! There’s no “signing up” - if you’re here, you’re part of the community!

Simply join us anytime for one of the events or opportunities listed. Email OSPnext@oldstpats.org with any questions.

Want to stay up to date with OSPNext events? We’ve made it even easier for you! Go to goo.gl/elWLGA to access the OSPNext calendar and/or add it to your own personal calendar.

### BOULEVARD VOLUNTEER EVENT

Saturday, February 22 | 8:30 am - 1:30 pm | The Boulevard | 3456 W Franklin Blvd

Please join us for a volunteer event at the Boulevard, an organization providing post-hospitalization care for homeless individuals with complex medical conditions. We need volunteers to help prepare food for lunch, serve it, and play board games with the residents.

Meet at OSP in front of the church at 8:30 a.m. to carpool. We will be back by 1:30 p.m. If you have any questions, contact Alec at akraus5@kentlaw.iit.edu.

Please save these future dates as well: 5/16, 7/11, and 10/24.

### YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

If you have ever wanted to dive a little deeper into what’s going on in the scriptures and the context behind the words in our sacred texts, join this group of young adults for weekly sessions before the 5 p.m. Mass at Old St. Pat’s.

To sign up, follow this link: bit.ly/YAbiblestudyOSP

### JOIN OUR THURSDAY NIGHT FAITH SHARING GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS!

Whether you have been part of a faith sharing/small group before or not, this group would welcome you to join them and check out what faith-sharing communities are all about. This Thursday group meets from 7-8:30 pm each Thursday night on the third floor of the Fr. Jack Wall Mission Center, 711 W. Monroe. For more information, contact kearac@oldstpats.org.

Free parking for this faith sharing group can be found in the garage at 625 W. Adams (entrance on DesPlaines street, press button on Old St. Pat’s machine at the top of the ramp after 6 p.m. for pre-paid ticket).

### FEBRUARY BOOK CLUB

Monday, February 24 | 7 - 8:30 pm | The Book Cellar

Our February book is Miracle Creek by Angie Kim. Miracle Creek is a courtroom drama that studies the sacrifices parents are prepared to make for their children. This book describes the events surrounding a fateful explosion and fire at a hyperbaric oxygenation chamber intended to treat people with medical issues.

Newcomers are always welcome! Just read the book and show up.
The First Friday Club of Chicago

Integrity - Accept No Substitution
In every aspect of our lives, whether it's personal, work, social, spiritual or ethical, there is the proverbial "line in the sand." Sometimes we draw it, other times it is drawn for us. It can be straight and other times undefined. Either way, the goal is not to cross this line which we call Integrity.

Please join us as we welcome Lori Lightfoot to the podium on March 6th. Ms. Lightfoot will address the issue of Integrity followed by a short Q & A.

Questions?
Please contact:
Judy Murphy @ 312-466-9610 or ffcc@firstfridayclubchicago.org

*ULC Dress Code: Business Attire/collared shirt for Men & Women / No Tennis Shoes or Denim

Join Us For More Speakers at the Podium...
April 3
Rabbis Evan & Ari Moffic
Makom Solel Congregation / Founder & Director of CoHere, Congregation Sukkat Shalom

THE NEXT CHAPTER
Sunday, March 8 | 9:30 am Mass, 11 am at Manny's Deli (1141 S. Jefferson)
The Next Chapter March social is here! Please join us for a St. Patrick's Day lunch at Manny’s deli. If you would like to carpool from OSP, please contact Judy. We will meet outside church after mass. Don’t be shy, we want to meet you! Please RSVP if you will be joining us/carpooling to jmarshman@att.net.

We look forward to lively conversation and companionship. It won’t be the same without you.

We are a group of Widows and Widowers creating new friendships to live, laugh and experience life through social interaction with friends from OSP living in and around the city and suburbs.
Saint Conrad of Piacenza

(d. February 19, 1351)

Born of a noble family in northern Italy, Conrad as a young man married Euphrosyne, daughter of a nobleman.

One day while hunting he ordered attendants to set fire to some brush in order to flush out the game. The fire spread to nearby fields and to a large forest. Conrad fled. An innocent peasant was imprisoned, tortured to confess, and condemned to death. Conrad confessed his guilt, saved the man’s life, and paid for the damaged property.

Soon after this event, Conrad and his wife agreed to separate: she to a Poor Clare monastery and he to a group of hermits following the Third Order Rule. His reputation for holiness, however, spread quickly. Since his many visitors destroyed his solitude, Conrad went to a more remote spot in Sicily where he lived 36 years as a hermit, praying for himself and for the rest of the world.

Prayer and penance were his answer to the temptations that beset him. Conrad died kneeling before a crucifix. He was canonized in 1625.

Reflection

Francis of Assisi was drawn both to contemplation and to a life of preaching; periods of intense prayer nourished his preaching. Some of his early followers, however, felt called to a life of greater contemplation, and he accepted that. Though Conrad of Piacenza is not the norm in the Church, he and other contemplatives remind us of the greatness of God and of the joys of heaven.
Mass Schedule

Sunday
7 am, 8 am, 9:30 am, 11:15 am, 5 pm, and 8 pm

Monday – Friday (Daily Mass)
7 am and 12:10 pm

Church is open for Personal Prayer:
Monday – Friday: 7 am – 1 pm

Reconciliation
Fridays at 11:45 am, or upon request.

Liturgical Ministry
If you feel called to serve as a Hospitality Minister, Eucharistic Minister or Lector for one of our Sunday liturgies, please contact Tom Micinski at tmicinski@oldstpats.org.

The Baptismal Program & Schedule
To schedule a baptism, please contact baptisms@oldstpats.org.

Nursery Service
Nursery service is available during the 9:30 am and 11:15 am 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 Tom Micinski at tmicinski@oldstpats.org.

Sign-Language Interpreter
Upon request, a sign language interpreter can be available at the 11:15 am or 5 pm 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 liturgy@oldstpats.org.

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

Livestream Services
Our 5 pm Mass is available LIVE online every Sunday. To join us, visit livestream.com/oldstpats. Questions? Contact Leanne Kelly at leannek@oldstpats.org.

Go to bit.ly/worshipaid to follow along with a worship aid PDF.

Feedback
A new opportunity for feedback is now online so you can quickly share thoughts about your experience of liturgy here at Old St. Pat’s. Go to oldstpats.org/feedback to contribute!

Wedding Schedule

If you are engaged and would like to inquire about a possible wedding date at Old St. Patrick’s, please complete the wedding inquiry form and send to weddings@oldstpats.org

For general wedding information, please refer to Sacraments/Marriage at www.oldstpats.org.

Wedding Banns

May the winds of heaven dance between you.

I. FEBRUARY 15, 2020
NO WEDDINGS

II. FEBRUARY 22, 2020
Emily Hinchman & Joseph Sweeney
Megan Marshall & Michael Scavuzzo

III. FEBRUARY 29, 2020
Charles Jacobson & Colleen O’Hara

Book of Patrick & Mass Intentions

For Book of Patrick or Mass Intentions requests, please visit www.oldstpats.org/book-of-patrick or www.oldstpats.org/mass-intentions

You can also contact Deniese Montgomery at deniesem@oldstpats.org or 312-648-1021
### Accounting
- Janette Nunez  
  312-798-2305  
  janetten@oldstpats.org

### Adult Education Ministries
- Bob Kolatorowicz  
  312-831-9379  
  bobk@oldstpats.org

### Annulment Support Ministry
- pastoralcare@oldstpats.org

### Baptisms
- Tammy Roeder  
  baptisms@oldstpats.org

### Clergy - Pastor
- Fr. Thomas J. Hurley  
  312-831-9363  
  tomh@oldstpats.org
- Skye Darke  
  Admin. Assistant to Pastor  
  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  
- Fr. Ed Shea, OFM  
- Msgr. Kenneth Velo  
- Fr. John J. Wall

### Communications
- Leanne Kelly  
  312-831-9364  
  leannek@oldstpats.org

### Community Outreach
- Beth Marek  
  312-831-9361  
  elizabethm@oldstpats.org
- Adult Literacy Program
  - Marilyn Antonik  
    773-286-3390  
    marantonik@att.net
- Blood Drive  
  - Mark Buciak  
    773-307-0033  
    mark.buciak@rcn.com
- Cara Chicago  
  312-798-3300
- Chicago Food Depository  
  - Mary Beth Riley  
    630-655-9447  
    mbriley07@yahoo.com
  - Jim Holbrook  
    773-237-2625  
    jamesjholbrookjr@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

### Interfaith House
- Beth Marek  
  312-831-9361  
  elizabethm@oldstpats.org

### Gay + (Gay Plus)
- Chairperson: Michael Politano  
  gayplus@oldstpats.org
- Staff Contact: Bob Kolatorowicz  
  bobk@oldstpats.org

### Green Team
- Kayla Jackson  
  kayla@oldstpats.org

### Grief Support Facilitators
- Judi Black, Bill Brennan  
  312-798-2358

### Hospitality
- Linda Vasquez  
  312-798-2370  
  lindav@oldstpats.org

### Jewish Catholic Ministry
- Jewish Catholic Dialogue  
  Gina Lakin  
  info@oldstpats.org  
  Eileen O’Farrell Smith  
  eileen@theinterfaithunion.org

### Men’s Group
- mensgroup@oldstpats.org

### Music
- Mark Scozzafave  
  Director of Music Ministries  
  marks@oldstpats.org  
  312-798-2382

### Pastoral Cell
- FXW (Frances Xavier Warde School)  
  - Head of School  
    Michael Kennedy  
    120 S. Desplaines  
    312-466-0700
Pastoral Care Ministry
Bernadette Gibson
312-798-2389 prayer line
bernadetteg@oldstpats.org
312-493-8737 pastoral cell

Reception (711 W. Monroe)
Deniese Montgomery
denisem@oldstpats.org
312-648-1021

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)
Keara Ette
312-798-2328
kearac@oldstpats.org

Resident Theologian Presenter
Dr. Terry Nelson-Johnson
312-831-9373
terryn@oldstpats.org

Retreat Program: Beloved
Polly Mulhearn
312-798-2316
pollym@oldstpats.org

Social Justice
Kayla Jackson
312-798-2399
kaylaj@oldstpats.org

Special Events (Fundraisers)
Sheila Greifhahn
312-798-2343
sheilag@oldstpats.org

Wilderness Lorenzini
312-798-2348
honorl@oldstpats.org

Spiritual Direction
Tammy Roeder
312-798-2350
tammy.roeder@oldstpats.org

Tours of Old St. Pat’s
Jim McLaughlin
630-852-7269
jmclaughlin1017@gmail.com

Wedding Ministry
JoAnn O’Brien
weddings@oldstpats.org
joann0@oldstpats.org
312-831-9383

Wedding Volunteers
Donna Kamuda
dgkamosp1@gmail.com
Mary Jo Graf
312-360-1622
maryjog1221@sbcglobal.net

Women’s Spirituality
Mary Anne Moriarty
gmoriarty1937@comcast.net

Women’s Spirituality North
Beth Perry
beth.perry@sbcglobal.net

OSP Next (Young Adult Ministry)
Rachelle Lindo
ospnext@oldstpats.org

Youth Ministry: Foundations
Courtney Malawy
312-798-2329
courtneym@oldstpats.org

Mackenzie Doyle
Youth Ministry Associate
312-798-2391
foundations@oldstpats.org

The Mary and Bill Aronin Center for Social Concerns
703 W. Monroe
Chicago, IL 60661

Career Transitions Center
Deb Wilson
312-906-9908
host@ctccchicago.org

Coprodeli, Peru
Beth Marek
312-831-9361
elizabethm@oldstpats.org

Friends of Fabretto, Nicaragua
Tom Gleason
730-227-6556
tgleason@ameritech.net

Harmony, Hope & Healing
Marge Nkaza
312-466-0267
marge@harmonyhopeandhealing.org

Horizons for Youth
Brian Broccolo
312-627-9031
brian@horizons-for-youth.org

Global Alliance for Africa
Jonathan Shaver
312-399-2830
jonathanshaver@msn.com

director@globalallianceafrica.org

LIFT
Michelle Jimenez
773-818-5605
mjimenez@LIFT-foundation.org

Board of Advisors
Colleen Healy, Keara Ette, Michael Kennedy, Tim Keneally, Roseanne Loftus, Kevin Hanley, Mike Hobbs, Ken Hiltz, Tom Hurley, John Weinheimer, Jennifer Wyatt

Old St. Pat’s Mailing Address
Fr. Jack Wall Mission Center
711 W. Monroe, Floor 3
Chicago, IL 60661

General Email - info@oldstpats.org
Phone Number - 312-648-1021
Fax Number - 312-648-9025

For your convenience, we are providing information to make parking easily accessible for everyone who visits Old St. Pat’s. Please continue to check back on the parking availability in these lots. We will continue to have updated information for you. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

SUNDAYS
Parking structure at 625 W. Adams: Free parking available from 12 am – 12 am on Sundays. Please be sure to pull a complimentary ticket from the OSP branded parking box as you pull in to the lot. There are 400 spots available.

Parking Lots 2 & 3: Free parking is available in these lots from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm on Sundays.

Parking Lot 1: Free parking is available in these lots from 7:00 am to 1:00 pm on Sundays.

WEEKNIGHTS (AFTER 6 PM)
Our parking structure at 625 W. Adams is available from 6 pm - 11:59 pm, early arrival or extended time charged at posted rates. There are 100 free spots available.

Please be sure to pull a ticket from the OSP branded parking box as you pull in to the lot.

All outdoor surface lots are paid parking only during the week.

SATURDAYS (Wedding Parking)
Parking structure at 625 W. Adams: 200 free spaces are open for Wedding guests. Please pull a ticket from the OSP branded box. Lot gates open for OSP guests during ceremonies; please be considerate of guests arriving for later ceremonies. The entrance for the garage is on Desplaines street.

Please refer to oldstpats.org/parking for more detailed parking information.