

# The Chimes

The weekly bulletin of  
**SAINT MARGARET MARY**

2324 W. Chase Ave. • Chicago, IL 60645

June 21, 2020

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

“Do not be afraid; you are worth more  
than many sparrows.” - Mt 10:31

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor**, Rev. Tirso Villaverde  
**Pastor Emeritus**, Rev. James Barrett  
**Resident**, Rev. Harold Murphy  
**Accountant**, Jim Masini  
**Religious Ed**, Cynthia Splatt  
**School Principal**, Christine Huzenis  
**Music Ministry**, Steve Burke  
Howard Schneider

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Weekend

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am

### Weekday

Private

## RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:00-3:30 pm.

An appointment can also be made  
by calling one of the priests.

## OFFICES

**Rectory** (773) 764-0615  
2324 W. Chase

Hours: Monday-Thursday  
9:00 am-12:00 pm & 1:00-5:00 pm  
Friday by appointment

### Parish Website:

[www.smmchicago.org/parish](http://www.smmchicago.org/parish)

**Parish School** (773) 271-2008  
Northside Catholic Academy

### Activity Center

7341 N. Claremont

### Holy Hands

(773) 764-0615, ext. 27

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

This will be our second weekend with two out of our three Sunday Masses with a limited congregation.

For those who have not received the e-mail communications, the schedule of Masses for June has been changed slightly to accommodate the requirements of Phase 2 of the reopening. Mass times and Private Prayer Times will be the following:

June 20/21                    4:00 p.m. and 8:30 a.m. public  
 June 27/28                    4:00 p.m. and 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. public

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:



We can only have a maximum of 80 PEOPLE. Parishioners will need to sign up for Mass EVERY WEEK using the link on the parish website [www.smmchicago.org](http://www.smmchicago.org). For those with no internet access, please call the rectory office by no later than Wednesday prior to the weekend. Without a prior reservation, there will be no guarantee that there will be room for you in the church for Mass.

Face Masks are REQUIRED of every person over the age of 2.

Entry into church will ONLY be through the center front doors along Chase Ave. Greeters will be there to welcome you and check your registration.

Center aisle of church will be for ingress only while the side aisles will be for egress only.

The collection will not be taken up in the usual manner. Donations can be deposited into the baskets provided at the entry and exit doors.

There will be no offertory procession for the time being.

Communion procedure will be different. Ushers/Greeters will be present to direct the flow. Please follow their instructions.

Communion will be given ONLY IN THE HAND for the time being. There are too many risks involved with giving Communion on the tongue. This is a mandate of the Archdiocese.

At the end of Mass, the congregation will be dismissed by sections. Please remain in your seats until your section has been given the signal to exit the church through the designated doors.

The church will be opened for Private Prayer on Wednesday nights from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and also on Friday nights from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Confessions will still be available on Saturday afternoons between 3:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. in the northwest side chapel of church.

Fr. Tirso S. Villaverde

## FROM THE DEACON'S DESK

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let me introduce myself. I am Deacon Arthur Bautista, soon to be Fr. Arthur Bautista. As you may have heard from Fr. Tirso last Sunday, I will be joining Fr. Phi Nguyen starting July 1<sup>st</sup> as your new associate pastor at this new merging parish in the West Ridge neighborhood. I know that this new transition of parishes is pretty hard and challenging to everybody, but I want to let you know that we will do our very best to minister to all of you, to the flock that the Lord entrusted to our care.

I was born and raised in the Philippines. I went to Catholic schools from elementary until high school. At a very young age, my grandmother, Apolonia, was my great supporter on this journey to the priesthood. At the age 16, I decided to enter college seminary at Immaculate Conception Major Seminary in the Philippines. After two and a half years in the seminary, my family decided to immigrate to the United States in 2011.

When we moved to the States, I worked in a nursing home as dietary aide for a year and eventually worked as a nursing assistant for couple years in that same nursing home. During those years of working, the thought of priesthood was still present. In 2014, I decided to continue my seminary formation at Divine Word College Seminary in Epworth, Iowa to be a missionary priest. But, after years of praying, discernment and spiritual direction, I decided to be a diocesan priest. With the help of Fr. Francis Bitterman, former vocation director for the Archdiocese, I was accepted to Mundelein Seminary and continued my journey to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

On June 29, 2020 I will be ordained to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. Please pray for me as I prepare myself to receive this wonderful gift of priesthood. I am excited to meet you all on July 1<sup>st</sup>. God bless! Peace!

Dcn. Arthur Bautista



## Explanation of the Decree of Parish Union

*See, I am doing something new!*

*Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?*

*Isaiah 43:19*

Dear parishioners,

In this weekend's bulletin, you will see a decree signed by Cardinal Cupich. A decree is a pronouncement or document that formalizes a decision within the Church. In this case, the decree included here concerns the decision for our parishes to unite as a new parish after our grouping's Renew My Church discernment.

### **Date the new parish will be created**

The decree states that St. Henry, St. Margaret Mary, and St. Timothy will form a new parish on July 1. This date is a change from what we communicated a few weeks ago. As the Priests' Placement Board continued its work to recommend pastors for parishes, they discerned that it would be best for all parishes across the diocese if priest assignments would change July 1 instead of being delayed. Cardinal Cupich accepted this recommendation and has now decided assignments changes will take effect July 1, and therefore our new parish will formally be created on July 1.

### **Parish name**

The decree states the new parish will have an *ad interim* name. This means that the parish will be called Ss. Timothy, Henry, and Margaret Mary until we propose a new name to Cardinal Cupich for his consideration and approval. Regarding the name of the new parish, there will be a process to include everyone. We will keep you updated on the timeline of when this process to consider a parish name will begin.

### **Definitions and explanations about the churches**

When you read the decree, you will notice the decree states St. Margaret Mary Church will be the parish church of the new parish and that the churches of St. Henry, St. Margaret Mary, and St. Timothy will be churches of the new parish. A few notes on this:

One implication of St. Margaret Mary being designated the parish church means that the sacramental records of the new parish, as well as the past sacramental records of each of St. Henry, St. Margaret Mary, and St. Timothy Parishes will be maintained at the offices on the St. Margaret Mary campus. For the current time, each parish's records will remain at their current locations, and we will update everyone when the records are fully brought together at the office on the St. Margaret Mary campus.

Second, the decree states that each of the three churches of St. Henry, St. Margaret Mary, and St. Timothy will be churches of the new parish. When a new parish is formed, all of the assets of each former parish become part of the new parish. This includes the churches. As shared at the announcement in February, all regularly scheduled parish Masses will transition to St. Margaret Mary Church and Angel Guardian Church no later than Ash Wednesday 2021. Until the procedure for formally closing a church occurs, a church remains available to use for occasional worship even if regular daily or Sunday Masses are not scheduled at the church. A decree uniting parishes does not address the specific Mass schedule nor when regularly scheduled liturgies will conclude in a particular church building.

## The new parish's connection with the Croatian Mission

Third, the decree addresses Blessed Stepinac Mission in point 7. The decree states the pastoral leadership of the new parish will continue collaboration with the pastoral leadership of Blessed Aloysius Stepinac Croatian Catholic Mission. To foster mutually beneficial sharing of pastoral resources and ideas between the new parish and the mission, a yearly report will be made to the area episcopal vicar.

While not explicitly stated in the decree, the Cardinal's intent remains as shared at the announcement in February that "the new parish and the Croatian Mission will share use of and responsibility for Angel Guardian Church." Many details will need to be worked out to bring this to life. Let us remain patient and flexible with each other when we begin work on these arrangements.

As we continue to navigate the challenges of the Covid pandemic and soon formally begin as a new parish, let us hold fast to the Lord's promise that He is with us always, and trust in the fact that He is at work in a special way within our faith community and is creating something new for all of us.

Certainly, the process of renewal is an emotional one. For many of us, it is a time of significant change. So, let us also keep each other and our neighbors in prayer as we continue our journey forward.

*There is an appointed time for everything,  
and a time for every affair under the heavens.  
A time to give birth, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.  
A time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to tear down, and a time to build.  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-4*

To all parishioners of Ss. Margaret Mary, Timothy and Henry

Dear friends in Christ,

By now you have known that Cardinal Cupich assigned me to be the pastor of the soon to be unified West Ridge Parish. I am honored by the cardinal's confidence in me - to entrust me to shepherd God's people in the West Ridge area. At the same time, in obedience, humility and trepidation I accepted this assignment. I ask each of you for your prayer and support.

I hope that you have had a chance to read the Decree of Parish Union. The process of unification will begin on July 1, 2020. This is a huge task for all of us. It is more so at this moment while we are still in the midst of pandemic and social unrest. I do wish that we had some time to plan for a smooth transition. Facing to this great challenge, once again we all must place our trust in the Lord Jesus and fix our hearts to his promise to be with us "always until the end of the ages."

In the next few days, with support from the archdiocese, I and leadership teams of our three parishes and Blessed Aloysius Stepinac Croatian Catholic Mission will meet to coordinate parish unification activities. Our immediate task is to devise a new worship schedule. I will keep you posted with any developments.

Fr. Tirso will start his new assignment on July 1. It is not possible to gather to bid him farewell at this time. As soon as the situation allows, we will have him back so we may pay him a well-deserved tribute.

I do however have a good news. We will have Fr. Jose F. Baptista with us while he waits for his new assignment. I am grateful for his guidance, presence and support.

I am sure that the journey ahead will have many challenges, most of which cannot be fully seen today but I am also confident that God will continue to lead us. Through the intercession of the Blessed Mother and Saints Margaret Mary, Timothy, Henry, with God's grace, together we will build a common home that is marked by more faithful discipleship, a loving community, and an inspired source for witness. You are in my prayers.

In God's love,  
Fr. Phi Nguyen

## PART ONE

## DECREE

## IN THE NAME OF GOD. AMEN.

“Likewise, parishes which are too small should be united insofar as the situation demands it and circumstances permit.” St. Paul VI, Apostolic Letter *motu proprio*, *Ecclesiae Sanctae*, n. 21, (1), August 6, 1966

Changing demographics have affected the size and wealth of the Archdiocese of Chicago and the vitality of her parishes. This is particularly true in the City of Chicago itself, where the total population has decreased by nearly 20% since 1970, from 3,366,957 to an estimated 2,705,994 in 2018. The archdiocese has many vacant, old, and underused parochial buildings and fewer priests to pastor our faith communities.

According to the US Census Bureau, the Archdiocese of Chicago had an estimated total population of 5,881,250 in 2018. The 2018 *Annuario Pontificio* indicates our archdiocese had 345 parishes serving a Catholic population of 2,512,000: an average of 7,281 Catholics per parish. According to the same source, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles had a total population of 11,519,517, with 287 parishes for a Catholic population of 4,362,000: an average 15,199 Catholics per parish. For the Archdiocese of New York, the figures are 2,656,987 Catholics in 294 parishes: an average 9,037 Catholics per parish. A good number of our parishes were founded in the first half of the last century or earlier. Many were established for national, linguistic, or ethnic groups that no longer live in the archdiocese or in the neighborhoods where they once flourished.

Too many of our parishes have been unable to support themselves and have been receiving financial subsidies from the archdiocese. Between fiscal year 2012 and fiscal year 2019 these subsidies amounted to \$160,014,332.00, including \$40,039,909.00 to 115 parishes, and \$119,974,423.00 to 93 Catholic schools. This was entirely due to the generosity of the faithful of the archdiocese and other donors. We cannot continue this level of financial support for parishes and Catholic schools, especially while the number of those contributing to the support of their parishes increasingly declines. Our hope is that our parishes will become more vital, that is, active centers of Christian discipleship, evangelical mission, scholarship, and charitable outreach. To achieve this hope, the parishes must have a growing or stable membership and the ability to support themselves whenever possible.

Five years ago, inspired by the experience of St. Francis of Assisi before the cross of the ruined church of San Damiano, and by the Holy Father’s dream of “a missionary option ... capable of transforming everything” (Pope Francis, Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, n. 27, November 24, 2013), I announced the inauguration of *Renew My Church (RMC)*, a multi-year, intentional process aimed at obtaining and preserving the vitality of our parishes. It has

been my intention that every parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago will join with some of its neighbors and plan together for the future. Careful planning will create a menu of possible options for future vitality. We are identifying parishes likely to be reconfigured through pastoral coordination with neighboring parishes, divisions, unions, and other significant alterations.

As the Decree is quite lengthy, it will continue on successive Sundays.



# WORSHIP CALENDAR

# FOCUS ON THE WORD

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Sunday, June 21**      **12th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 am      Mary Beth Brennan Reynolds  
 John Potucek  
 Julita Trovela  
 Marie Schmid  
 Peter Justiano Wallis  
 Caitan Xavier D'Souza

**Monday, June 22**

Deceased members of SMM

**Tuesday, June 23**

Deceased members of SMM

**Wednesday, June 24**      **Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

Deceased members of SMM

**Thursday, June 25**

Tony Barone

**Friday, June 26**

Efren Fajardo

**Saturday, June 27**      **St. Cyril of Alexandria**

Deceased members of SMM

4:00 pm      Ann Donohue

**Sunday, June 28**      **13th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 am      Violeta Alzona

Daniel Ciucci

10:30 am      Julita Trovela

Alyce & John Potucek

## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

There are many things of which we can be afraid: being rebuked, rejection, anger, being challenged, having to defend ourselves, standing alone, insecurity, failure, and even death. For some, identifying and overcoming their fears is a daunting task. Regardless of how much they may want to break the cycle of fear, they find that they remain close friends with old and dysfunctional behavioral habits and norms. Maybe what they really fear is change. There are many who gravitate to the familiar and comfortable, and find safety and security in doing so, even if they remain mired in mediocrity. Human beings have to learn that there is life beyond the “what has always been” and that happiness and depth are possible when old structures and systems have to be left behind.

Can you leave the near and dear, the comfortable and familiar, the safe and secure, and discover new opportunities? The sheer thought of doing so can bring on feelings of apprehension, intense anger, resentment, defensiveness, reluctance, resistance, and even apathy. If we have to be responsible for making the change, cowardice can creep in. If someone else is to blame for making the change, any number of possible negative reactions are possible. In the end, only one thing is required and that is God. If I can rely on and deepen my relationship with God, especially in the Eucharist along with a community of believers, then little else is of great concern. We have to figure out what is really important. It is not always what we think.

The Gospel calls us to stretch ourselves and try new things, not to remain stuck and stagnant in familiar ways. We are asked to live life more deliberately, radically, and intentionally. We are asked to leave the familiar behind and learn to live with changing, and often limiting, human structures. We cannot get too caught up in the physical, ideological, or structural systems we are used to. The Holy Spirit always leads and guides us. If we trust this, we will find ourselves doing things we never thought we could do. Always seek the path to joy and love. They keep us from falling victim to our fears and from seeking the nostalgic crutches we think we need to achieve a sense of well-being and happiness.



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

### COLLECTION REPORT

**June 14, 2020**

Sunday Envelope Budget .....	\$8,942.00
Sunday Envelope Actual .....	\$5,040.00
Loose Money .....	\$ 346.00
Total Collection .....	\$5,386.00
Variance .....	(\$3,556.00)
Weekly Budget Amount	
Envelopes Used .....	51

### REST IN PEACE

Our blessed Lord has called home **Noreen Conway** for whom we promise our prayers that she may live in joy in His presence.

