St. Augustine

2486 West 14th Street | Cleveland, Ohio 44113 Office (216) 781-5530 Www.StAugustineCleveland.org



February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent



After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Mk 1:14-15

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Saturday Vigil: 4:15 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am and 11:00 am All Masses are Interpreted for the Deaf

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday: 5:30 pm Check Bulletin for Civic Holidays

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE

Monday – Saturday: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

SACRAMENTS

Call the parish office to prepare for sacraments such as baptisms, weddings, first communion and confirmation.

Prayers and Offertory

If you or a family member are sick, please call the Parish Office or email ministry@StAugustineCleveland.org to add the name to this list. Names will be listed in the bulletin for 6 weeks. Please let us know if this time period needs to be extended. We want to know how you are doing and want to offer you the support of our prayers.

Dorothy Barr Patti Cook JoAnn Fisher Mike Furey Susan Grieken Ella McGowan Nora Orozco **Bridget Patton** Debbi Kasper Fr. Joe McNulty Andrea Slosar Richard Slosar Sharon Rivera Sheila Rock Mary Smith Mary Solderitsch Nora Thomas Norma Turner Millie Vargas Syl Vargas

And for all those who are ill, home-bound, elderly, in nursing care, living with a chronic illness, or living on the margins, we pray.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 17

4:15 pm † Pat Field

Sunday, February 18

8:30 am † David and Shirley Wolfe

11:00 am † Claire Cocklin

Monday, February 19

5:30 PM † Ken Aufmuth

Tuesday, February 20

5:30 pm † Margaret Schmidt

Wednesday, February 21

5:30 pm † John Leshinsky

Thursday, February 22

5:30 pm † Coletta Klein

Friday, February 23

5:30 pm † Larry Moran

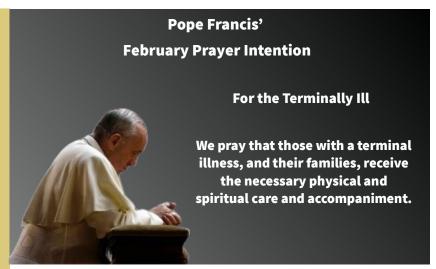
Saturday, February 24

4:15 pm † Bob Thaxton

Sunday, February 25

8:30 am † Richard Bogacki 11:00 am † Helen Hauser

† Deceased



"Jesus knows we are sinners; he knows we make many mistakes, but he does not give up on joining his life to ours. He knows that we need the Eucharist, because the Eucharist is not the reward of saints, but the bread of sinners. This is why exhorts us:

"Do not be afraid! Take and eat."

Pope Francis

Offertory— February 10th and 11th

Regular Collection \$1,404.00 E-Giving \$200.00 Other Collections \$7.00 **Total Collection** \$1,611.00

Counter Team B is scheduled for Monday

Donate online

We are deeply grateful for your generosity in your weekly contribution to St. Augustine Parish. Your kindness and support enable us to provide for the needs of our parish and community.

Please consider our Parish's E-giving option through PayPal. It is easy and secure. Visit our parish website, www.StAugsutineCleveland.org and click donate.

Thank you for your financial support.

Welcome!

We are "A Samaritan Church with a Missionary Heart"



Welcome to St. Augustine!

No matter what your present status is in the Catholic Church, no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, disability, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, or spirituality, or marital situation. No matter your own self-image or holiness or virtue. You are invited, accepted, and respected here at St. Augustine Parish.

Loving God,

For all who feel on the margins, But who are at the center of your heart, We ask you to open our hearts.

Help us to become a church and a nation where:

All lives have dignity,
All people are love,
And all are welcome!
Amen

Our Clergy

Administrator/Chaplain to the Blind Community

Rev. William O'Donnell, C.PP.S | WilliamODonnell49@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar/Chaplain to the Deaf Community

Rev. Ben Jimenez, SJ | Bjimenez@StAugustineClevleland.org
Permanent Deacon

Chris DePenti| CdePenti@DioceseofCleveland.org

Our Staff

Pastoral Associate of Administration

Bob Duda | BDuda@StAugustineCleveland.org

Finance Manager

Aldo Fierro | AFierro@StAugustineCleveland.org

Director of Music and Liturgy

Bill Shaffer | BShaffer@StAugustineCleveland.org

Director of Religious Education and Rainbow Camp

Jessica Neuhart | JNeuhart@StAugustineCleveland.orgl

Coordinator of Deaf Access

Robin McMarlin | RMcMarlin@StAugustineCleveland.org

Pastoral Associate of Outreach

Anthony Camino | ACamino@StAugustineCleveland.org

Office Manager

Doris Everetts | DEveretts@StAugustineCleveland.org

Office Support

Kim Ambro | KAmbro@StAugustineCleveland.org Debbie Sollars

Support Ministries

Blind Ministry

Ministry@StAugustineCleveland.org

Deaf Ministry

Ministry@StAugustineCleveland.org

Mental Health Ministry

Ministry@StAugustineCleveland.org

Outreach Ministry

Outreach@StAugustineCleveland.org

Stay Connected

Email: Info@StAugustineCleveland.org

Facebook: @StAugustineRomanCatholicChurchCleveland

YouTube: @staugustinechurch9835

Scripture Readings for the Week

Sunday | First Sunday of Lent

Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Monday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday | St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday | Tje Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6; Mt 16:13-19

Friday | St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday

Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday | Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

2024 Lenten Obligations

The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday

The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

Fasting means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal.

The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.

Abstinence means to abstain from eating meat. The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.

Love Without Measure...

Three of our gospels tell us that at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, he spent forty days in the wilderness. Matthew, Mark and Luke all tell us that during that time in the wilderness he was tempted by the devil. Although three gospels report the event, there are interesting differences in the way that they present the story. Matthew and Mark both tell us that angels ministered to Jesus in the desert. But they disagreed about when the angels come. In Matthew's account, Jesus goes into the desert, fasts for forty days, is hungry, Satan comes, they debate with one another. Jesus tells Satan to leave, and then the angels come and minister to him. But in Mark's account, we are simply told that Jesus was in the desert with the devil and angels ministered to him. In Matthew's account, the angels come after Satan leaves. In Mark's account the angels are with Jesus all during the temptation.

So which account is right? I would suggest that both are, but in different ways. Each of these gospels captures a specific aspect of our relationship to Christ. Angels are God's presence and comfort us. These two gospels tell us that God is certainly present to us after the temptation ends, but they also assure us that God is with us even as the testing unfolds.

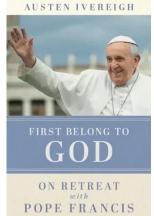
Whenever we experience some difficulty in our life, whenever there is a trial that we have to face, it makes perfect sense for us to look forward to that day when the trial is over. When the forty days are done, we can celebrate our survival and give glory to God. These are the angels to which Matthew points, the angels that come to us after a successful trial has been completed.

When these angels arrive, we are able to claim God's love and presence with us in gratitude. Mark points to different angels. His angels are with us in the very midst of trial. Mark's gospel tells us that God does not wait to come to until Satan leaves, but is with us as we face the difficulties of life. Now, of course, Mark's angels are more difficult to recognize. It is easy to recognize God's presence with us once the trial is over, once the pain has subsided. But, it takes real faith for us to see the angels who are with us even as we suffer, even as we struggle.

When we have to face a difficult task, studying for a school exam, interviewing for a job, going through medical tests, anticipating surgery, or working on some big project that we feel will overwhelm us, it makes perfect sense to look forward to that time when the job is successfully completed and we kick back and resume life as usual. When we reach that point, it is natural and rather easy to thank God for being with us. But it is also important to remember that God is with us no matter what we face or how we struggle or in the times we fail. God is with us even as we face those difficult and disappointing times; we can count on God's grace filled presence that can be transformative in our lives if we are open to it. It is crucial for us to remember that God is also with us in the midst of the turmoil and doubt, giving us the patience and wisdom to keep moving forward for as long as it takes.

No one likes to face the devil. It makes sense that we look forward to that day we can leave the desert, when our trial will be over. But today's gospel tells us that God does not wait to come to us until the devil leaves. From the minute we enter into the desert trials of our lives, God sends angels to walk the sands with us.

Fr. Bill



Pope Francis's concern for migrants an refugees, his focus on ecology, his calls to go out share the good news, even his support for the controversial possibility of informally blessing LGBTQ couples flow from his conviction that people need to know they belong to God, to one another and to creation.

"All the life-threatening crisis that beset us around the world from the ecological crisis to the wars, the injustices against the poor and vulnerable, have their roots in the rejection of our belonging to God and to each other."

An excerpt from Pope Francis' forward to Austen Ivereigh's latest book, First Belonging to God: On retreat with Pope Francis A book released on February 13

Around the Parish & Events

How Can I Become More Involved

Did you know that the Mass is actually a double communion with Christ? Through the Eucharist, of course, as well as through the Word proclaimed. And you can help.

By proclaiming the scripture readings at Mass, our Lectors make it possible for us all to have a personal encounter with God.

If you are feeling called to minister as a lector or Eucharistic Minister, please call Robin at (216) 781-5530 or email, RmcMarlin@StAugustineClevleand.org.

Blind Community

The St. Augustine VIPs (Visually Impaired Persons) will gather this Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 12 Noon in Walsh Hall for a meet and greet meeting and lunch.

The VIPs welcome those with and without visual impairments to participate in their activities.

Members of the Blind Community are invited to stay up-to-date with Blind Community and Parish events by calling (216) 635-9215.

LINKS Community for Mental Health

LINKS is a social, recreational and educational ministry of St. Augustine's for persons with Mental Health conditions.

LINKS members gather on Wednesdays and Fridays at 3 PM in Walsh Hall.



Join us for our Parish Fish Fry every Friday during Lent

February 16th - March 29th

from 4 pm to 7 pm in Walsh Hall. (4 pm to 6:30 pm on Good Friday)

Battered Fried Cod Dinner \$11
Includes: French Fries, Cole Slaw, Roll and Dessert

Baked Lemon Pepper Cod Dinner: \$11
Includes: French Fries, Cole Slaw, Roll and Dessert

Pierogi Dinner: \$8
Includes: Applesauce, Roll and Dessert

Macaroni and Cheese (side): \$3

To-Go and Dine-In Available.
Cash, Check, Credit Card Accepted

Say It In Sign

Another sign language class for beginners is being planned for the spring of 2024. For more information, please contact Robin McMarlin at (216)781-5530 ext. 29 or at RMcMarlin@StAugustineCleveland.org. To register please visit, www.StAugustineCleveland.org.

St. Augustine Signing Choir

Practice for the upcoming spring performances will continue this Thursday at 6:30 PM in Walsh Hall. This would be the perfect time for new members (with or without knowledge of sign language) to join.

For more information on joining the Signing Choir, please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530.

St. Augustine Seniors (50 and over)

The St. Augustine Seniors invite you to their Valentine Party on Thursday, February 22nd at 12 noon in Walsh Hall.

For more information on joining the Seniors please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530.

St. Augustine Buckeye Deaf Seniors

St. Augustine Buckeye Deaf Seniors will gather in the Deaf Center on Tuesday, February 20th at 10 AM. New members are always welcome.

Mary's Rosary Guild of the Deaf

Mary's Rosary Guild of the Deaf invites you to a Deaf Bible Study Group in the Cleveland Catholic Deaf Center from 10 am to 10:45 am on Sunday, February 18th, February 25th and Sunday March 3rd.

Kate Slosar, MA will lead the discussion on the Sunday Gospels read during Lent.

Cleveland Catholic Deaf Center

The Cleveland Catholic Deaf Community welcomes all to attend our Retreat Weekend 2024 in the Cleveland Catholic Deaf Center (CCDC). Monsignor Glenn Nelson will lead our retreat and begin with Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 15th at 6:30 pm in the CCDC. Our retreat continues Saturday, March 16th with check-in at 10 am in the CCDC. Monsignor Nelson will present "Come to Jesus: Real Presence in the Eucharist" and will include lunch, confessions and 4:30 Mass. Dinner will be served after Mass. Kindly RSVP by Sunday, March 10th (No walk-in). Please contact CCDC at (216) 370-7722 or 1946CCDC@gmail.com.

Please join us every Sunday after 8:30 am and 11 am masses in the Cleveland Catholic Deaf Center. Coffee, donuts and goodies are available for purchase.

Around the Parish and Reflections

St. Augustine Community Cupboard and Closet provides non-perishable food items, personal hygiene, cleaning, pet food, and clothing items to those in need. The Cupboard and Closet is open open on Saturdays from 11 AM - 3 PM.

We are currently in need of winter coats, boots and clothing for men, women, and children.

Volunteers are greatly needed while we are open and during our closed hours to help sort and stock and help shoppers on Saturdays.

For more information or to volunteer please contact the Parish Office at (216) 781-5530 or email, outreach@staugustinecleveland.org

We have also created an Amazon Wish List which can be found on our parish website.

Community Closet and Cupboard Highlights by the Numbers

- ♦ Served 858 in the month of November, 1040 in the month of December, and 923 in the month of January.
- ♦ In the month of November we helped 168 new families, 210 during the month of December and in January 177 new customers came to us in need.
- ♦ It takes at least 12-14 volunteers just to open the doors.



On the Lighter Side



Struggling to make ends meet on a first-call salary, the Minister of a church angrily confronted his wife who bought a \$250 dress: "How could you do this?!" "I was outside the store looking at the dress in the window, and then I found myself trying it on," she explained. "It was like Satan was whispering in my ear, 'You look fabulous in that dress. Buy it!'" "Well," the Minister replied, "You know how I deal with that kind of temptation. I say, 'Get behind me, Satan!'" "I did," replied his wife," but then Satan said, 'It looks fabulous from back here, too!'" So I bought it!



The Handbell Choir will practice this Monday at 6:30pm in the church, and we are looking for more members! If you like to have some fun and meet some

new people, this is for you! We will meet on Monday evenings through March, with our initial performance on Sunday, March 10th.

Anyone from ages 8-80 are welcome to join. No experience necessary, and no music reading ability necessary either. The choir is open to both hearing and deaf individuals.

For comments or questions, please email Bill Shaffer at bshaffer@StAugustineCleveland.org or contact him at (216) 781-5530.

The Desert

There are many biblical images that can inspire us during the season of Lent. The image I find most helpful when thinking about lent is the desert. The 40 days of Lent for us mirror Jesus 40 days in the desert. The number 40 is a very special number biblically. We have Jesus' 40 days in the desert, That is intentional by the evangelists to reflect the ancient Israelite experience of 40 years wandering in the wilderness with Moses as they experience the graces and challenges of their exodus from Egypt.

Jesus goes into the desert immediately after his baptism in Mark's gospel. It is very poignant. The text reads that Jesus is driven- in other translations the word is "compelled" – to go into the desert, where he prays and fasts and gives alms in the generosity of his prayers. Jesus so embodies these three spiritual practices that we are invited to do the same during Lent.

Jesus also experiences trials, many trials in the desert. The only biblical account of an explicit encounter with Satan is during this time. And that is very powerful. For although we believe Jesus was sinless, like us, he was tempted by the devil's empty promises. And so are we over a lifetime. Life experience and the maturity of our faith help us identify the truth more quickly and not to be fooled by promises that are too good to be true.

Fr. Bill

A Prayer in Troubled Times

Several years ago, when our country was experiencing yet another epidemic of gun violence, the United States bishops offered this prayer. During this Lenten season, may we begin each day meeting in prayer for peace:

O Lord our God, in your mercy and kindness, no thought of ours is left unnoticed, no desire or concern ignored. You have proven that blessings abound when we fall on our knees in prayer, And so we turn to you in our hour of need. Surrounded by violence and cries for justice, we hear your voice telling us what is required: 'Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6, 8).' Fill us with your mercy so that we, in turn, may be merciful to others. Strip away pride, suspicion, and racism so that we may see peace and justice in our communities. Strengthen our hearts so that they beat only to the rhythm of your holy will. Flood our path with your light as we walk humbly toward a future filled with encounter and unity.

Be with us, O Lord, in our efforts, for only by the prompting of your grace

can we progress toward virtue.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Faith and Reflections



Our Parish School of Religion for children in Pre-K thru 8th will continue this Sunday, from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM.

If you are new to St. Augustine or the areaand would like more information on our program, please contact Jessica at (216) 781-5530 or JNeuhart@StAugustineCleveland.org



Cursillistas gather for Ultreya on Saturday, March 9th at 10:00 am Cursillistas are invited to gather, pray, and share personal stories

about living a life in God's Grace on the second Saturday of every month.

Movie Night

We will have a movie night on Thursday, February 29th at 6:00 pm in Walsh Hall featuring Ruby Bridges.



Ruby Bridges is based on the true story of Ruby Bridges, one of the first black students to attend integrated schools in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1960. As a six-year-old, Bridges was one of four black first graders, selected on the basis of test scores, to attend previously all-white public schools in New Orleans. Three students were sent to McDonogh No. 19 Elementary School, and Ruby was the only black child to be sent to William Frantz Elementary School.

This film reminds us how the NAACP chose her; how four US Marshalls kept back the angry mob bent on lynching her; how a courageous white teacher pushed back against racist superiors and coworkers; and most of all, how her courageous mother, shared the deep faith that gave Ruby the strength to persist in spite of the hatred around her.

For more information contact Bob at (216) 781-5530 or bduda@staugustinecleveland.com

Forty Days - Forty Items

We have a challenge for you! Each day during Lent, remove one item from your closet that you no longer wear or need and put it into a trash bag. After the end of the forty days, donate these items to our Community Closet to be used by those in need.

The Little Black Book

Spend six minutes a day preparing for the most holy season of the year. These pocket-sized booklets contain reflections for each of the days in Lent. The Little Black Books are available for your taking at the Church entrances.

This year we have booklets for teens and adults (black) and booklets for children (purple). The book are available next to the bulletin at each entrance to the church.

Bible Study Coming Soon!

We are excited to announce that we will be having weekly group Bible Study beginning on Wednesday April 3rd from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

This will be a ten week session focusing on the source and summit of our Catholic faith, The Eucharist, using course materials from the Augustine Institute. It is a time to come together and connect while being intentional about deepening our understanding of the richness of our tradition and growing in faith together.

You are encouraged to register and to commit to attending all sessions, as they do build on one another.

Sign language Interpreter will be present and videos have closed captions.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

To register please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530 or register online at www.StAugustineCleveland.org.



Pray the Rosary
We invite you to join us every Monday through
Friday at 6 PM (Monday through Thursday
during Lent) in Church as we pray the
rosary. If you are unable to join us in person,
we encourage you to join us on our
live-stream

Parish Calendar and Events

Parish Breakfast

Whether you are a long-time parishioner, a new member of our parish family, or just visiting, you are invited to a complimentary parish breakfast THIS Sunday, February 18th from 9:00 am until 1 pm in Walsh Hall (basement of School Building). We hope you will be able to join us for food and fellowship.



Join us on Fridays during Lent in Church following the 5:30 pm Mass. The Stations are a devotional intended to help us follow Jesus on his way to Calvary.

By accompanying him on the Way of the Cross, we see ourselves mirrored in him, gain his courageous patience, and learn to trust God who is with us no matter what we have to go through.

25th Interfaith Seder Meal

Herb Ascheman, Jr. and Cantor Emeritus Gary Paller of Congregation Shaarey Tikvah will lead us in the traditional Passover on Wednesday, March 27th at 6 pm in Walsh Hall. Herb and Gary will guide us through the Seder with historical context and song. The Seder Meal is a great opportunity for adults and children alike. We kindly ask if you plan to attend, please RSVP by calling the Parish Office at (216) 781-5530 or online at www.StAugustineCleveland.org.



February 28th- Evening of Confession

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm in Church

February 29th - Movie Night Ruby Rogers- 6:00 pm in Walsh Hall

March 18th, 19th, and 20th-Parish Mission

This Parish Mission will be a special time of grace. Presentation begins at 7:00 pm and will last approximately 1 hour

This week at St. Augustine

Monday, February 19, 2024

5:30 pm: Mass (Church) 6:00 pm: Rosary (Church)

6:30 pm: Handbell Choir Practice (Church)

7:30 pm: AA Meeting (Mylott Hall)

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 9:30 am: AA Meeting (Walsh)

10:00 am: St. Augustine Buckeye Deaf Seniors

5:30 pm: Mass (Church) 6:00 pm: Rosary (Church)

7:30 pm: AA Meeting (Mylott Hall)

Wednesday, February 21, 2024)

12:30 pm: St. Augustine Blind Community (Walsh Hall)

3:00 pm: Links (Walsh Hall) 5:30 pm: Mass (Church) 6:00 pm: Rosary (Church)

6:00 pm: AA Meeting (Mylott Hall) 6:30 pm: Signing Hands (Walsh Hall)

Thursday, February 22, 2024

12:00 pm: St. Augustine Seniors (Walsh Hall)

5:30 pm: Mass (Church) 6:00 pm Rosary (Church)

6:30 pm: Signing Choir Practice (Walsh Hall) 7:00 pm: Boy Scouts (School Building) 7:30 pm: AA Meeting (Mylott Hall)

Friday, February 23, 2024 3:00 pm: Links (Walsh Hall)

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm: Fish Fry (Walsh Hall)

5:30 pm: Mass (Church)

6:00 pm: Stations of the Cross (Church) 7:30 pm: AA Meeting (Mylott Hall)

Saturday, February 24, 2024

11:00 am – 3:00 pm: Community Cupboard and Closet

4:15 pm: Mass (Church) Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:30 am: Mass (Church)

9:30 am - 10:30 am: Parish School of Religion

11:00 am: Mass (Church)

February 17 th and 18 th			
	Saturday: 4:15 PM	Sunday: 8:30 AM	Sunday: 11 AM
Priest Deacon	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H)	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)
Lectors	Robin McMarlin	Matthew Cook	Kate Slosar Alana Ortiz
Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament	Bob Duda Lin Janson Theresa Ortiz	Maria Boyer Joe Lewandowski	Sr. Regina Fierman, CSA Karen Halupnik Frank Scialabba
	February	24 th and 25 th	
	Saturday: 4:15 PM	Sunday: 8:30 AM	Sunday: 11 AM
Priest Deacon	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti
Lectors	Steve Slywczuk	Robin McMarlin	Karen Halupnik Pat Takacs
Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament	Migdalia Santiago-White Magdaleno Rivera Michelle Rivera	Pat Abraham Rob Owens Debbie Sollars	Aaron Calton Alana Ortiz