



November 30, 2025 • 1st Sunday of Advent

YOU ALSO
MUST BE
PREPARED.

— MATTHEW 24:44 —

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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To be a welcoming Eucharistic community by providing resources for spiritual growth and faith development, and encouraging service and discipleship to spread the good news of God's Kingdom.

St. Patrick Church

991 S. Waukegan Road Lake Forest, IL 60045

Phone: 847-234-1401

Fax: 847-234-1433

www.stpatrick-lakeforest.org

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Patrick Kizza, Administrator

Email: pkizza@stpatrick-lakeforest.org

Rev. Laurence J. Dunn, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Dempsey, Pastor Emeritus

Email: rdempsey@stpatrick-lakeforest.org

Weekend Presiders

Rev. Lawrence Hennessey

Rev. Thomas Franzman

Rev. Jerry Gunderson

Deacon Couples

Ray and Joyce Loman

Frank and Patricia De Frank

Email: fjdefrank@sbcglobal.net

Parish Staff

Jennifer Boldry, Operations Director

Email: jbaldry@stpatrick-lakeforest.org

Maristella Lee, Director of Music

Email: mlee@stpatrick-lakeforest.org

Joanne Manarik, Administrative Assistant

Email: jmanarik@stpatrick-lakeforest.org

Faith Formation for Youth and Children

847-234-2179

Dianne Marshall, Director of Faith Formation for Youth and Children

Email: dmarrshall@stpatrick-lakeforest.org

Yasmin Alba, Administrative Assistant, Religious Education

Email: yalba@stpatrick-lakeforest.org

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:45 am in the Main Church

Daily Masses:

Monday through Friday 8:00 am in the Little Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday: 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm in the Main Church
or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Sundays: 1:00 pm

Arrangements must be made in advance of the date.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements must be made at least six to eight months prior to wedding.

Sacrament of the Sick

Contact Fr. Patrick Kizza at 847-234-1401

Holy Communion for the Homebound

Please call the Ministry Office at 847-234-1401

Children's Religious Education and Formation

Mondays and Tuesdays, 4:30pm - 5:45pm

Contact Religious Education Office at 847-234-2179

Sacraments, Visiting of the Sick, & New Parishioner Registration

Contact the Ministry Office at 847-234-1401

Sacrament of Confirmation

Contact Dianne Marshall at 847-234-1401

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Contact the Ministry Office at 847-234-1401

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth

312-534-5254 www.archchicago.org

Bulletin Deadlines

All articles must be submitted by noon of the deadline date. Please contact the parish Ministry Office.

Bulletin Date

December 14

December 21

December 28

Due Date

December 1

December 5

December 12



A Letter from Fr. Patrick Kizza

November 30, 2025

The Advent Season: A Journey of Hope and Preparation

The Advent season is a cherished time in the Christian calendar, inviting believers into a period of quiet expectation and joyful preparation. Occurring in the four weeks leading up to Christmas, Advent serves as both a spiritual journey and a heartfelt reminder of the true meaning behind the celebration of Christ's birth. It is a season marked not by haste, but by thoughtful reflection, hope, and renewal.

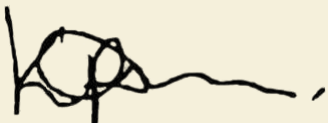
At its core, Advent is about waiting—waiting with purpose, with hope, and with faith. This waiting is symbolized by the Advent wreath, whose four candles represent hope, peace, joy, and love. Each week, the lighting of a new candle reminds us that in a world often clouded by uncertainty, the promise of Christ brings light that grows steadily brighter. The progression of these candles teaches us that even small acts of faith can illuminate the darkest moments of our lives.

Advent also calls us to prepare our hearts. Just as families prepare their homes with decorations, music, and traditions, Christians are invited to prepare their inner lives—seeking forgiveness, embracing gratitude, and renewing their relationship with God. It is a time to slow down, to pause amid the noise of the world, and to focus on the spiritual meaning of the season. Many find comfort in prayer, Scripture reading, and acts of kindness that reflect the love Christ came to share.

Beyond personal reflection, Advent is a season meant to be shared. Communities come together in worship, families gather in hope, and friends extend generosity and support. The atmosphere of Advent encourages compassion, reminding us that the birth of Christ brought a message of unity and peace for all people. This spirit of togetherness strengthens bonds and inspires acts of charity that reach far beyond the holiday season.

As we journey through Advent, we are invited to look both backward and forward—remembering the humble arrival of Jesus in Bethlehem and anticipating His promised return. This dual focus gives the season its depth and meaning, grounding our celebrations in faith and renewing our sense of purpose.

In a fast-paced world, Advent offers a much-needed moment of stillness. It teaches us to hope when days are dark, to trust when life feels uncertain, and to love more deeply in every season. As the candles glow brighter each week, may our hearts also grow in expectation, ready to welcome the peace and joy that Christ brings.



Fr. Patrick

This Week

Sunday, November 30

1st Sunday of Advent

8:00am Mass - Msgr. Dempsey

10:00am Mass - Fr. Jerry
Children's Liturgy of the Word

11:45am Mass - Fr. Hennessey

Monday, December 1

4:30pm RE Advent Event - PC

Tuesday, December 2

4:30pm RE Advent Event - PC

Wednesday, December 3

8:30am Prayer Group - CR

8:30am Adoration - OC

6:15pm Benediction - OC

7:00pm Wed Night Bible Study - CR

7:00pm OCIA - YR

Thursday, December 4

Friday, December 5

2:30pm Adoration - OC

6:30pm Benediction - OC

Saturday, December 6

5:00pm Mass - Fr. Jerry

Sunday, December 7

2nd Sunday of Advent

7:00am Blood Drive - PC

8:00am Mass - Fr. Franzman

10:00am Mass - Msgr. Dempsey
Children's Liturgy of the Word

11:45am Mass - Fr. Patrick

5:00pm RE Movie Night - PC

Monday, December 8

Immaculate Conception

8:00am Mass - MC

9:00am WG Board Meeting - CR

4:30pm RE Classes - PC

6:30pm Mass - MC

6:30pm MG Meeting - PC

7:00pm PPC Meeting - CR

Scripture Questions of the Week

First Reading:

The prophet Isaiah envisioned a future with no more wars and nations united in belief and worship of Israel's God. *What does a world totally at peace look like?*

Second Reading:

Paul encouraged the Romans to live with a sense of urgency in anticipation of their own salvation. *What motivates you to live a moral life?*

Gospel:

Jesus taught his disciples that no one knows when the Son of Man will return, so you must always be prepared. *How do you plan to use the season of Advent this year to welcome Jesus into your life?*

©LPi

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/
Mt 24:37-44

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/
Mt 3:1-12

As you know, Sunday collections are vital to the health and sustainability of SPLF. We are always so thankful for the generosity of our parishioners.

The best way to do so right now is to donate through our Give Central Portal. Please scan the QR code to go directly to our SPLF Give Central Homepage.



Finances

Sunday Collection for the
Weekend of Nov. 15-16

Actual

\$11,869

Budget

\$15,118

Surplus/Deficit

(\$3,249)

Ordinary Income

Ordinary Expense

Surplus/Deficit

Fiscal Year to Date

\$470,700

\$517,638

(\$46,938)

Our Prayers

Mass Intentions

Sunday, November 30

8:00 am

10:00 am

† Alice Balakrishnan, req. Bala Balakrishnan

11:45 am

People of St. Patrick Church

Monday, December 1

8:00 am

Tuesday, December 2

8:00 am

Wednesday, December 3

8:00 am

† Bertha D'Souza, req. Menuhin D'Souza

Thursday, December 4

8:00 am

† Richard Marek, req. Tim & Bea Murphy

Friday, December 5

6:30 am

† Jim Buzard, req. Paul Lipka

8:00 am

† Frank & Franny Soya, req. Therese Ruedig

Saturday, December 6

5:00 pm

† Tom Sullivan, req. The Sullivan family

Sunday, December 7

8:00 am

† Deceased members of the Ruedig family,
req. Therese Ruedig

10:00 am

† Adolph Ranieri Sr., req. Anthony & Marie Lacko

11:45 am

People of St. Patrick Church

Those Serving Our Country

Lt. Col. Patrick Burke, Jr., US Air Force

Son of Patrick and Patty Burke

Col. Patrick J. Fahey, USMC

Son of Tom and Marilyn Fahey

Lt. Col. Michael J. Koob US Air Force

Son of Mike and Donna Koob

Captain Colt Marcyan, US Army

Son of Ana and Carl Marcyan

Major General Stephen L. Davis, US Air Force,

Son of Karen Davis

Staff Sgt. Section Chief Joseph D. Whitley, US Army,

Nephew of Cathe Keres

Ensign Owen William Platt, US Navy,

Son of Roger and Liz Platt

Cadet Reid Walsh, United States Military Academy,

Son of Allison & Brian Walsh

Lt. JG Matthew Croisant, US Navy

Son of Tom & Kim Croisant

Midshipman Joseph Remus, US Naval Academy

Son of Laura and Mark Remus

**Midshipman Hugh Wilson Ludington, US Merchant
Marine Academy**

Son of Sarah and Steven Ludington

The Lake County Veterans and Family Services Foundation is dedicated to helping Veterans and their families get the military benefits they have earned. If you need help connecting with Veterans Administration or other related resources, please contact foundation representative Bob Gorman at robertegorman@sbcglobal.net

Our Sick

Fr. Ronnie Calkins

Joseph Zittnan

Nicole Tallarico

Carolyn Welby

Florence Gatti

Jennifer Mikell

Gianfranco Isaia

Carolyn Cimarrusti Erickson

David Kozak

Patricia Tivnan

George Kouba

Crista Olufs

Darrel Folkerts

Patrick Fitzpatrick

Martin Henson

Sheila Anderson

Jeff Neumayer

Deb Boyter

Names added to the prayer requests will remain for 1 month. To add or re-add a person please email jmanarik@stpatrick-lakeforest.org or call the ministry office at 847-234-1401.

Our Deceased

Religious Education News

Faith Formation for Grades 1-9

Grades 1-7

Classes continue December 1 & 2 for our Advent celebration and PGC class. Parents must turn in opt-out forms if students will miss the second half of class.

Confirmation

Our next class is **December 14** from 4:00-5:30pm for both Year 1 and Year 2 students. Year 1 sponsors and Year 2 saints are due in January!

Staff

Dianne Marshall - dmarshall@stpatrick-lakeforest.org
Director of Formation for Youth and Children

Yasmin Alba - yalba@stpatrick-lakeforest.org
Administrative Assistant to Faith Formation

Movie Night

Our family movie night is coming! All families of the parish are invited to join us for a movie night on **December 7th** at **5:00pm**.

Bring blankets or snacks. We will provide pizza and juice.

Please RSVP at:

<https://tinyurl.com/yf5h9k54>

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O'Gara Parish Center

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Sunday, December 7, 2025
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: LakeForestStPatricks

Bring a photo ID or your blood donor card, or two other forms of ID.



Scan to schedule
an appointment.



St. Patrick and St. Mary's **Men's Spirituality Group**

Saturday December 13

7:30am - 8:30am

St. Patrick Church Community Room

Please join us Saturday December 13th from 7:30am - 8:30am for 1 hour at the St. Patrick Church Community Room as we kick-off our Men's Spirituality Group which will be held by parishioner Nick Lukic.

The goal of the group will be to meet once a month to discuss the gospel for the upcoming Sunday and how it pertains to our lives so that we may learn and grow spiritually closer to Christ. Feel free to dress casually and bring a coffee/donut as we meet in a relaxed environment to get to know each other. Contact the ministry office for further details.



Congratulations!

**Please join us in welcoming into our parish family
those newly baptized in October**

Lucy Catherine McDonagh, daughter of Patrick & Amanda
Redmond O'Hara Pearl, son of Geoff & Beth



Congratulations!

**Please join us in congratulating
our weddings in October**

Miguel Alvarez & Leticia Flores
Joseph Santello, Jr & Madeline Baker

St. Patrick Family

Movie Night

December 7, 5:00pm
O'Gara Center

Join us for *The Star*, a kids comedy on the nativity story.

Bring the family, some blankets, and watch on the big screen.
Pizza will be provided.

Please register using the QR code so we can purchase enough pizza.

Open to all families!



Advent Reflection

As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, Fr. Patrick will be leading Advent Reflections every Wednesday during Advent from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Each session will include time for prayer, reflection, and renewal.

There will also be Anointing of the Sick and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

All are warmly invited to come and experience the grace and peace of this holy season.





Christmas Luncheon

Thursday, December 11

Doors Open at 10:00am with Music from the Daniel Wright Orchestra.

At 11:00am, popular entertainer, Jenny Riddle, will sing and share the fascinating stories behind our most beloved Christmas songs. The history of these cherished songs will come to life through Jenny's engaging storytelling. Be ready to laugh, cry, and sing along as the history of these cherished songs comes to life during this engaging program.

A catered lunch will be served at noon.

Please RSVP by Thursday, December 4 through the link below.

Price is \$55.00 per person.

Questions: peggy.gaier@outlook.com

www.stpatrick-lakeforest.org/christmas-luncheon



Christmas Concert

Sing We Noel

Saturday, December 13

6:00pm in the Main Church

(immediately following the 5:00pm Mass)

Admission is free, but free will donations are greatly appreciated.
Light refreshments will be served afterward.



Join us as we celebrate the joy and majesty of the Christmas season through **Sing We Noel** — a beautiful musical work that brings the Nativity story to life in song. This inspiring collection features cherished carols and scripture reflections, including It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, A Child Is Born, Sing Gloria!, The Shepherd's Visit, and more. Sing We Noel captures the wonder of Christ's birth with moving music and meaningful narration.

You don't need to be a current choir member to participate! If you'd like to join us for this special Christmas concert, please contact our Music Director, Maristella Lee, mlee@stpatrick-lakeforest.org for details.

Let's lift our voices together and **Sing We Noel!**



November, 2025

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to share the Annual Financial Report for Parish Operations for the fiscal year that began July 1, 2024 and ended June 30, 2025. It tells a story of your generosity and our effort to be good stewards.

You will notice that we separate ordinary and extraordinary items. I will explain below why this is important. Our overall financial position is strong. Our balance sheet is solid and we have no debt. St. Patrick ended its fiscal year with an increase in Net Income of \$234,151, an improvement of \$79,744 from the previous fiscal year.

However, the loss from Operations totaled \$204,201 reflecting moderate progress from the previous year. What this means is that the cost of keeping our parish open and available is greater than the money received from our regular (ordinary) sources of income.

Total Receipts from Operations were \$1,182,910 reflecting an increase of \$19,204. This is primarily due to improved offertory collections for which we are grateful. The parish was able to hold the line on expenses. Total Payments of \$1,387,111 reflect a decrease of \$67,437 in this category. Despite this improvement, the parish suffered an Operating Loss as noted above.

Special Receipts less Special Payments totaled \$438,352 a decrease of \$6,897 from the prior year. Although important these special or extraordinary receipts and payments are not part of the parish's day-to-day financial operations. The increase in Special Receipts was driven by your generous donations to our Sharing Parish and to the Archdiocese's Special Collections while gains in interest income and mutual funds were realized. The \$110,599 increase in Special Payments stems from funds shared with our Sharing Parish and required Archdiocesan Collections as well as Capital Improvement expenditures relating to the refurbishment of the main church.

Cash and Investments totaled \$3,893,540, an increase over last year of \$232,731, as the parish was a beneficiary of the estates of two long-time, loyal parishioners. The parish's financial assets were used to cover its losses from ordinary Operations both this year and last. Looking ahead, the parish will likely use these assets to fund future capital improvements as well.



November 2025

Page Two

While St. Patrick Church has financial assets, they are designated for specific uses related primarily to extraordinary maintenance and upkeep of our church buildings and rectory. Some of these uses would include tuck pointing, replacement of mechanical systems, roofing, etc. By growing financial assets, we generate funds to finance extraordinary expenses. Continued reliance on financial assets to cover operating losses is not a good strategy. It is time to reverse what has been a multi-year trend.

During the remaining months of this current fiscal year, I request that all of us focus on increasing the Sunday and Holy Day Collections. As the cost of running our parish increases, so must our revenues. The most direct way to do this is for each one of us to prayerfully consider increasing our regular Sunday offering, especially if it has been some time since you have done so. Please search your heart to see if this is something you can do.

I would like to thank each of you for your loyal, generous, and continued support of our parish and our priests through the years. I also thank the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Finance Council, the Parish Staff, and the many other groups and individuals who support the parish and its ministries in many different ways.

The members of the Parish Finance Council, Parish Staff, and I welcome any and all questions or comments you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact us through the parish office at 847-234-1401.

With My Deepest Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Kizza', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Rev. Patrick Kizza
Administrator

The Finance Council of St. Patrick Church

Rev. Patrick Kizza, Administrator; John Calk, Chair; Chuck Foster; Michael LeVert; Alicia Newman; Jennifer Boldry, Director of Operations

2024-2025 Income Statement

	12 Months Ended 6/30/25	12 Months Ended 6/30/24
<u>Donations</u>		
Sunday and Holy Day Collections	\$761,163	\$672,389
Christmas Collection	124,258	102,376
Easter Collection	68,386	72,416
Total Donations	\$953,807	\$847,181
Religious Education	35,375	42,515
All Other Receipts	193,728	274,010
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>\$1,182,910</u>	<u>\$1,163,706</u>
<u>Payments</u>		
Salaries & Benefits	\$772,010	\$815,618
Utilities	91,810	90,949
Maintenance	42,653	46,215
Archdiocesan Assessment	86,868	89,520
Priests' Retirement Fund Assessment	29,367	30,084
Tuition Subsidy to St. Mary's	49,885	42,875
Administrative Expense	123,631	144,892
All Other Payments	190,887	194,395
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>\$1,387,111</u>	<u>\$1,454,548</u>
Income/Loss from Operations	<u>(\$204,201)</u>	<u>(\$290,842)</u>
<u>Additional Information Not Included Above</u>		
Sharing Collection for Other Parishes/Entities	\$45,701	\$28,229
Archdiocesan Collections	72,445	51,315
Annual Catholic Appeal Parish Share	92,960	111,543
To Teach Who Christ Is Capital Campaign	700	450
Interest Income and Mutual Fund Gain (Loss)	212,918	191,388
Other	255,542	193,639
Total Special Receipts	<u>\$680,266</u>	<u>\$576,564</u>
Sharing Collection Given to Other Parishes/Entities	\$54,383	\$30,940
Archdiocesan Collections	87,546	35,564
Capital Improvements	97,545	39,741
Other	2,440	25,070
Total Special Payments	<u>\$241,914</u>	<u>\$131,315</u>
Increase/Decrease in Net Assets	<u>\$234,151</u>	<u>\$154,407</u>

2024-2025 Balance Sheet

	12 Months Ended <u>6/30/25</u>	12 Months Ended <u>6/30/24</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash	\$468,365	\$295,201
Operating Savings at the Archdiocese Bank	462,379	612,012
Long-Term/Restricted Savings	58,172	56,958
Endowment and Special Investment Savings	<u>2,904,624</u>	<u>2,696,638</u>
Other Current Assets	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS	<u>\$3,893,540</u>	<u>\$3,660,809</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>		
Accounts Payable and Other Liabilities	<u>\$5,661</u>	<u>\$6,521</u>
<u>Equity</u>		
Changes in Net Assets	\$234,152	\$154,409
Retained Earnings	(1,474,979)	(1,628,828)
Equity	<u>5,128,707</u>	<u>5,128,707</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>\$3,887,880</u>	<u>\$3,654,288</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$3,893,541</u>	<u>\$3,660,809</u>





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