

# Interfaith Airport Chapels of Chicago



Chicago Midway and O'Hare International Airports

P.O. Box 66353 • Chicago, Illinois 60666-0353 • (773) 686-AMEN (2636) • [www.airportchapels.org](http://www.airportchapels.org)

Week of December 22 — December 28, 2024

## WELCOME TO THE INTERFAITH AIRPORT CHAPELS OF CHICAGO!



The O'Hare Airport Chapel and Midway Airport Chapel are each a peaceful oasis in a busy venue. A place to bow your head in prayer while lifting up your heart and spirit! Prayer books and rugs, rosaries, and worship materials are available, as are chaplains for spiritual counsel. You are welcome to attend Mass or Worship services and to come to the chapels (open 24/7) to pray or meditate. Know that you & your families are always in my prayers. May God bless your travels. — **Fr. Michael Zaniolo**

Administrator, Interfaith Airport Chapels of Chicago  
Roman Catholic Chaplain, Chicago Airports Catholic Chaplaincy

## 2024 HOLY DAY MASS & SERVICE SCHEDULE

### Schedule of Catholic Masses

Tuesday, December 24 — **Christmas Eve**: 4:00 p.m. ORD

Wednesday, December 25 — **Christmas Day**:  
9:00 & 11:00 a.m. ORD & MDW

**Solemnity of Mary, Mater Dei**

Tuesday, December 31 (Vigil) — 4:00 p.m. ORD

Wednesday, January 1 — 11:30 a.m. ORD; 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. MDW

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### Schedule of Holiday Protestant Worship:

Wednesday, December 25 — **Christmas Day**:

10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 1:30 p.m. MDW

Wednesday, January 1 — 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, 1:30 p.m. MDW

## Interfaith Calendar & Events

• **Zarathusht-na-diso**, Zoroastrian observance Wednesday, **Dec. 26**, the death of Prophet Zarathushtra is commemorated with prayers and a visit to the fire temple. • **Kwanzaa** begins Wednesday, **Dec. 26**. "Kwanzaa meaning "first fruits" honors the African heritage and culture and is celebrated by African Americans. There are seven principles which reflect the values of African culture.

• **Hanukkah**, the Jewish Festival of Lights, began at sundown Wednesday, Dec. 25, and ends Thursday, Jan. 2. It is an eight-day celebration of the Jews' victory over the Syrian-Greek oppressors in 165 B.C.E. and reestablishment of their political and religious freedom. Customs include lighting a Chanukiah (eight-branched candelabrum), with an additional "server" candle for each of the eight nights of the holiday.



• Source: The 2024 InterFaith Calendar, Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago

## ORD Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

- 12/21/24** 4:00 p.m. • Banter Family req. by Scott DeBoer  
6:00 p.m. • People Struggling with Cancer req. by Scott DeBoer
- 12/22/24** 9:00 a.m. • For the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament at ORD Chapel—Fr. Rendell Torres  
11:00 a.m. † Gregory J. Fengler req. by Mike & Margaret Brennan
- 12/23/24** 11:30 a.m. † Brian J. Allen req. by Katherine L. Allen
- 12/24/24** 11:30 a.m. • Intentions of Holy Ghost Parish  
*Christmas Eve* 4:00 p.m. † Brent Cheeks req. by Scott DeBoer
- Christmas Day*
- 12/25/24** 9:00 a.m. † Mary Ann Smith req. by Bob Smith  
11:00 a.m. † Aldo Cecchin req. by Ida Zaniolo  
† Mary June Becnel req. by Tom Koziel
- 12/26/24** 11:30 a.m. • Intentions of Holy Ghost Parish
- 12/27/24** 11:30 a.m. † Brian J. Allen req. by Katherine L. Allen

## MDW Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

- 12/22/24** 9:00 a.m. • Rita Francis req. by Ernie Kaminski  
11:00 a.m. • Cunningham Family req. by Scott DeBoer  
*Christmas Day*
- 12/25/24** 9:00 a.m. • Kate Winnell req. by Dana Potts  
11:00 a.m. • Adam Joab Alwyn req. by Alwyn Joshy  
† Cathy Winnell req. by Dana Potts  
† Loretta Kaminski req. by Ernie Kaminski

• Denotes Living/Special Intention † Denotes Deceased/Memorial

## \*Merry Christmas to All\*

On behalf of the Interfaith Airport Chapels of Chicago community, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Christmas, the Christian feast celebrating the **birth of Jesus Christ**, is observed this



Wednesday, **Dec. 25**. Second in importance only to the annual celebration of Easter, Christmas commemorates the incarnation of the divine Word at the birth of Jesus Christ, and is a holy day of obligation for Catholics. "First mentioned in Rome in the middle of the fourth century, December 25 was a Christian replacement for the Roman celebration of *Sol Invictus* (Latin, the Unconquered Sun) at the winter solstice. The observance of the date spread from Rome to the East, although some churches (e.g., the Armenian) celebrate Christ's birth on January 6," according to the *HarperCollins Dictionary of Religion*.

## Fourth Sunday of Advent — December 22, 2024

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

— Luke 1:42

### MEMORIES AND DREAMS

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.



### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a). **Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10). **Gospel** — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

**Tuesday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79/

**Wednesday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

**Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25] **Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 **Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 **Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

**Thursday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

**Friday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Rev. Fr. Michael G. Zaniolo, STL, CAC — Administrator/Catholic Chaplain  
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago

Mr. Qazi M. Biabani — Imam Khateeb/Muslim Chaplain  
Muslim Community Center of Chicago

Rev. Dr. Hutz H. Hertzberg — Protestant Chaplain  
The Moody Church of Chicago

Mrs. Susan E. Schneider, CAP — Office/Business Manager/Fund Raiser  
Mr. Michael Brennan — Bulletin Editor

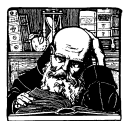


# This Week in the Life of the Church — Feast Days and Notable Events in Church History

The choice of heroes, models and leaders can have a lasting effect on our development, and the Church has always honored the example of holiness set by the saints. In these brief sketches, we commemorate our sisters and brothers in Christ who have shaped the life of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. Letters following entries refer to the bibliography below.

## Sunday, December 22, 2024

**+ We Remember: SAINTS CHAEREMON, ISCHYRION AND OTHERS (died 250).** Today's entry into *The Roman Martyrology* reads, "In Egypt, St. Chaeremon, Bishop of Nilopolis, and many others martyred. Some of them fled while the persecution of Decius was raging and, wandering in different directions, were killed by wild beasts; others perished of famine, cold and sickness; others again were murdered by barbarians and robbers, and all were crowned with a glorious martyrdom." St. Dionysius of Alexandria mentions that Ischyron was procurator for a magistrate in Alexandria. These saints knew who to deal with matters of



the world and still remain servants of God alone. (D) **+ In 1899**, the death of American evangelistic preacher **DWIGHT MOODY (1837-1899)**, founder of what is now the Moody Bible Institute, 1609 N. LaSalle Drive, Chicago. In 1856 he went to Chicago, where he engaged in mission and Sunday-school work with great enthusiasm. He first came to national prominence as a result of a successful evangelical tour of England (1872-75), traveling with Ira David Sankey, with whom he composed the *Sankey-Moody Hymn Book* (1873), says the *HarperCollins Dictionary of Religion*. "Moody anticipated many of the tenets of later Christian fundamentalism, most particularly its antipathy to 'higher criticism' of the Bible. This later concern was institutionalized in 1889 in Moody's Chicago Bible Institute, now known as the Moody Bible Institute.

## Monday, December 23, 2024

**+ We Remember: ST. JOHN OF KANTY (or Cantius) (1395-1473).** John Cantius was named after his birthplace, the city of Kanty in Poland. His home was near Oswiecim, known to readers of today as **Auschwitz**, site of a Nazi concentration camp during World War II. John graduated from the University of Cracow and was appointed to the chair of theology. For some time, he took charge of a parish, but returned to biblical teaching, which he carried on until his death. He was canonized in 1767. (B,D)

## Tuesday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024

**+ We Remember: Saints THARSILLA and EMILIANA (c. 550)** were aunts of **Pope Gregory the Great**. Tharsilla, the eldest, her sisters Emiliana and Gordiana lived in the home of Gordian - father of Gregory the Great. The sisters Tharsilla and Emiliana lived an ascetic life of prayer but later married. St. Gregory tells us that Tharsilla was visited one night by a vision of her great-grandfather, **Pope Felix III**, who showed a place prepared for her in heaven and said, "Come; I will receive you into the habitation of light." She died on the vigil of Christmas. Emiliana also received a heavenly call from her sister and died several days later. (D)

## Wednesday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2024

**+ We Remember:** Today we commemorate the birth of **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST (Lk. 2:1-20)**. This event was originally commemorated in the East on the feast of Epiphany or Theophany. The Christmas feast itself originated in the West; by 354 it was certainly kept on Dec. 25. This date may have been set for the observance to offset pagan ceremonies held at about the same time to commemorate the birth of the sun at the winter solstice. There are texts for three Christmas Masses: at midnight, dawn, and during the day. "Over the centuries, many customs, not all of them universally observed, became attached to the day. The erection of the Christmas crib (creche) began with St. Francis of Assisi, who made the first one...in 1223. Use of Christmas greenery (trees, wreaths, etc.) was an adaptation of pre-Christian customs that began in Germanic countries but spread to England in the 19th century through the influence of Queen Victoria's husband, who was German. Santa Claus (St. Nicholas), Father Christmas, and Father Frost are all adaptations of European folk customs celebrated in the winter season. Christmas carols began as a wider custom of singing popular religious songs (as opposed to liturgical hymns) on seasonal feasts but, over the years, increasingly became identified with this season. (A)

## Thursday, December 26, 2024

**+ We Remember:** An account of the death of **ST. STEPHEN, first Christian martyr**, is found in the Acts of the Apostles (7:55-60). A deacon in the early church, Stephen had been assigned by the apostles to distribute food to the poor. He worked great signs and wonders among the people. His wisdom confounded those who sought to argue with him, and ultimately false charges were brought against him, and he was stoned to death. One of the witnesses to his death was Saul - the future Apostle Paul. (D,S)

## Friday, December 27, 2024

**+ We Remember: ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST (died c. 100)**, "the disciple whom Jesus loved," had been a disciple of St. John the Baptist, but then he followed Christ, together with Andrew, the brother of Peter. John

was usually invited, along with Peter and James, to share in some of the more significant events in the life of Christ. He preached the gospel in Samaria with Peter, and according to legend he preached also at Antioch and later at Ephesus, where his tomb is venerated. He visited Rome but was exiled to the island of Patmos, where he wrote the Book of Revelation. Previously he had written his gospel and three letters. He died at Patmos towards the end of the 1st century. (D,S)

## Saturday, December 28, 2024

**+ We Remember: FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS:** The biblical basis for this feast is found in Matthew 2:13-18. It commemorates the infant boys slain by Herod's soldiers while seeking to kill the Infant Jesus. This feast has been observed since the 5th century. (D,S)

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the Christkind in Austria and Belgium, El Niño Jesús in Columbia, and Le Petit Jesus in France, where he shares his duties with Père Noël. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but Ježíšek, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**Be at peace with your own soul;** then heaven and earth will be at peace with you. Enter eagerly into the treasure house that is within you, and so you will see the things that are in heaven; for there is but one single entry to them both. The ladder that leads to the kingdom is hidden within your soul. Flee from sin, dive into yourself, and in your soul you will discover the stairs by which to ascend. —St. Isaac the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh late in the 7th century

**On Christmas Day, 1946**, the comedian **W.C. Fields** died. During his last days, a visitor to his hospital room found Fields reading a Bible. The amazed visitor asked Fields what he was doing.

Fields replied, "Just looking for loopholes."

## Prayer of Reconciliation

Lord Christ, help us to see what it is that joins us together, not what separates us. For when we see only what it is that makes us different, we too often become aware of what is wrong with others. We see only their faults and weaknesses, interpreting their actions as flowing from malice or hatred rather than fear.

Even when confronted with evil, Lord, you forgave and sacrificed yourself rather than sought revenge.

Teach us to do the same by the power of your Spirit. — William Breault, SJ



### MDW Airport Chapel

Concourse C, Mezzanine Level  
(Inside Security Checkpoint)

**Catholic Mass: Sundays - 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

#### PROTESTANT WORSHIP:

**Sundays - 10:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon**

**WEEKDAYS—MONDAY - FRIDAY, 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m.**

[www.airportchapels.org](http://www.airportchapels.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/InterfaithAirportChapelsOfChicago>

### ORD Airport Chapel

Terminal 2, Mezzanine Level  
(Outside Security Checkpoint)

**Catholic Mass: Saturdays - 4:00 & 6:00 p.m.**

**Sundays - 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

**Weekdays - 11:30 a.m.**

#### Islamic Juma' Prayer

Friday: 1:15 p.m.

**PROTESTANT WORSHIP—See Website for Schedule**

[www.airportchapels.org](http://www.airportchapels.org)

Sources include: (A) Catholic Almanac, Felician Foy Our Sunday Visitor, 1995. (AP) A Pilgrim's Almanac, Edward Hayes, 1992. (AS) All Saints, Robert Ellsberg, Crossroad, 1997. (B) Book of Saints, Benedictine Monks, Morehouse, 1993. (CB) Cambridge Biographical Encyclopedia, 1999. (C) Catholic Book of Days, John Deedy, Thomas More, 1989. (BB) Big Book of Women Saints, Sarah Gallic, HarperSanFrancisco, 2007. (CCS) Catholicism, Chicago Style, Skerret et al, 1993. (D) Day by Day with the Saints, Patrick Moran, OSV, 1985. (E) Encyclopedia of Catholicism, Rev. R. McBrien, HC, 1995. (ES) Encyclopedia of Saints, C. Jockle, Alpine, 1995. (F) Famous Christians, Tony Castle, Servant, 1988. (G) Guide to the Saints, Kristin E. White, Ivy Books, 1991. (H) Heavenly Friends, Rosalie Marie Levy, DSP, 1984. (I) In His Likeness, Rev. Charles Yost, SCJ, STL, 1988. (JP 2) John Paul II's Book of Saints, Bunson, OSV, 1999. (L) Butler's Lives of the Saints I-IV, Christian Classics, 1995. (L2) Lives of the Saints, O. Englebert, Barnes & Noble, 1994. (LS) Lives of the Saints, R. McBrien, HC, 2001; (LP) Lives of the Popes, R. McBrien, 1997. (M) The Middle Ages, Concise Encyclopedia, H. Loyn, 1989. (OCY) Oxford Companion to the Year, Blackburn, 1999. (ODP) Oxford Dictionary of Popes, J.D. Kelly, Oxford, 1987. (ODS) Oxford Dictionary of Saints, David Farmer, 1997. (PDS) Penguin Dictionary of Saints (3rd ed.), D. Attwater/C. John, 1995. (R) Saints to Remember, Servants of Mary Immaculate, 1985. (P) Pocket Dictionary of Saints, John Delaney, Image, 1983. (S) Saints of the Roman Calendar, Enzo Lodi, Alba, 1992. (T) The Popes, Eric John, Roman Catholic Books, 1994. (V) Vatican II Weekday Missal, Daughters of St. Paul, 1975. (W) We Celebrate, We Commemorate, Patrick Walsh. This Week in the Life of the Church is compiled by Mike Brennan. Tax-deductible contributions to the Chicago Airports Catholic Chaplaincy are appreciated. E-mail: [ordchapel@gmail.com](mailto:ordchapel@gmail.com).