

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

Week of December 24 – December 30, 2023

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

Interfaith Calendar & Events

• **Zarathusht-na-diso**, Zoroastrian observance Tuesday, Dec. 26, the death of Prophet Zarathushtra is commemorated with prayers and a visit to the fire temple. • **Kwanzaa** begins Tuesday, 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.

Source: The 2023 InterFaith Calendar, Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago

ORD Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

- 12/23/23** 4:00 p.m. † **Elsie Wiltz** req. by John & Susie Schneider
6:00 p.m. † **George R. Skretny** req. by John & Susie Schneider
† **Brian J. Allen** req. by Katherine L. Allen
- 12/24/23** 9:00 a.m. • **Rhea Family** req. by Scott DeBoer
11:00 a.m. † **Orfeo Zaniolo** req. by Family
† **Laura Jean Larabee** req. by Steve & Brenda Barkman
4:00 p.m. • **Mary Hockel** req. by The Daly Family
- 12/25/23** 9:00 a.m. † **Maryann Smith** req. by Bob Smith
11:00 a.m. † **Lee Cecchin** req. by Zaniolo & Gatta Families
• **John Schneider** req. by Family
† **Brian J. Allen** req. by Katherine L. Allen
- 12/26/23** 11:30 a.m. • **P&L McNeill Family** req. by Mr. & Mrs. Patrick McNeill
- 12/27/23** 11:30 a.m. † **Brian J. Allen** req. by Katherine L. Allen
- 12/28/23** 11:30 a.m. † **Joan Strzyz** req. Dr. James Strzyz
- 12/29/23** 11:30 a.m. • **Regina Gatta** req. by Ida Zaniolo

MDW Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

- 12/24/23** 9:00 a.m. • **DeBoer Family** req. by Scott DeBoer
11:00 a.m. † **Daniel Kernes** req. by Dana Potts
• **Special Intention—Children**
- 12/25/23** 9:00 a.m. † **John & Helen Dominici** req. by John Dominici
11:00 a.m. † **Tibor Jahrman** req. by Emma Wenzel
• **Special Intention—MDW Chapel Priests & Volunteers**

• Denotes Living/Special Intention † Denotes Deceased/Memorial

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

<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

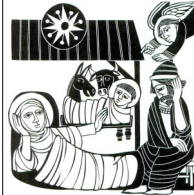
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Rev. Fr. Michael G. Zaniolo, STL, CAC – Administrator/Catholic Chaplain
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago
Mr. Qazi M. Biabani – Imam Khateeb/Muslim Chaplain
Muslim Community Center of Chicago
Rev. Dr. Hutz H. Hertzberg - Protestant Chaplain
The Moody Church of Chicago
Mrs. Susan E. Schneider, CAP – Office/Business Manager/Fund Raiser
Mr. Michael Brennan – Bulletin Editor

A Blessed Christmas to All!

On behalf of the **Interfaith Airport Chapels of Chicago** community, we wish you a very Merry Christmas, the Christian feast celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed this Monday, **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 4th 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." (HarperCollins Dictionary of Religion)



2023 Holy Day Mass & Service Schedule

CATHOLIC MASSES

Christmas Eve: Sunday, Dec. 24, 2023, 4:00 p.m. **ORD**

Christmas: Monday, Dec. 25, 2023, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. **ORD & MDW**

Solemnity of Mary, Mater Dei: Monday, Jan. 1, 2024, (NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year) 11:30 a.m. **ORD**

PROTESTANT WORSHIP

Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon, and 1:30p.m. **MDW**

New Year's Day: 10:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon, and 1:30p.m. **MDW**

Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 24, 2023

The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. —Luke 1:35

GOD'S PROMISE

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a "house," that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will fix a place for my people. I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16). **Psalm** — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89). **Second Reading** — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

Gospel — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 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] **During the 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]

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

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

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Friday: Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]



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

Wednesday, December 27, 2017

✦ **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)

Thursday, December 28, 2017

✦ **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)

Friday, December 29, 2017

✦ **We Remember: ST. THOMAS BECKET** (1118-1170), Archbishop of Canterbury, was murdered in the cathedral on this day, **Dec. 29, in 1170**. He was canonized three years later. Thomas was born in London, studied at Paris and Auxerre, and was promoted to the office of chancellor under King Henry II. He was ordained priest and bishop in 1162 and was the first person in England to celebrate the solemnity of the Blessed Trinity. He became more ascetical after becoming archbishop, and his relationship with the king deteriorated. Becket refused to sign a document that severely limited the rights of the Church, and was abandoned by the bishops who wanted to maintain good relations with the king. He spent six years in exile in France. The pope, **Alexander II**, helped effect a reconciliation, and Becket returned to England, but the implacable hatred of his foes reached the point at which Becket was murdered by four knights at the altar of the Blessed Virgin and St. Benedict in Canterbury Cathedral. His shrine became a place of pilgrimage and he was one of the great saints of the Middle Ages. (S,D)

Saturday, December 30, 2017

✦ **We Remember: ST. ANYSIA** (c. 304), a Christian girl living in Thessalonica, received a wealthy estate left to her by deceased parents. She used much of the money taking care of the poor. She was martyred during the reign of Maximian Galerius while on her way to an assembly of the faithful, which were banned. Stopped by a guard, she professed her faith in Christ, and was stabbed with a sword. (D)

Sources include: (AS) *All Saints*, Robert Ellsberg, Crossroad, 1997. (B) *Book of Saints*, Benedictine Monks, Morehouse, 1993. (C) *Catholic Book of Days*, John Deedy, Thomas More, 1989. (D) *Day by Day with the Saints*, Patrick Moran, OSV, 1985. (F) *Famous Christians*, Tony Castle, Servant, 1988. (G) *Guide to the Saints*, Kristin E. White, Ivy Books, 1991. (L) *Butler's Lives of the Saints I-IV*, Christian Classics, 1995. (OCY) *Oxford Companion to the Year*, Blackburn, 1999. (P) *Pocket Dictionary of Saints*, John Delaney, Image, 1989. (S) *Saints of the Roman Calendar*, Enzo Lodi, Alba, 1992. (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.

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."



"Giving birth is arduous, as we see in Mary's reclining figure, resting after labor – and so is the labor to believe. Mary has completed this stage of her struggle, but Joseph still grapples with his. The theme is not only Joseph's bewildered face. The rigorous black of the cave of Christ's birth in the center of the icon represents all human disbelief, all fear, all hopelessness. In the midst of a starless night in the cave of our despair, Christ, 'the Sun of Truth,' enters history having been clothed in flesh in Mary's body. It is just as the Evangelist John said in the beginning of his Gospel: 'The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.' The Nativity icon is in sharp contrast to the sentimental imagery we are used to in western Christmas art. In the icon there is no charming Bethlehem bathed in the light of the nativity star but only a rugged mountain with a few plants. The austere mountain suggests a hard, unwelcoming world in which survival is a real battle – the world since our expulsion from Paradise. We see that the Christ child's body is wrapped 'in swaddling clothes.' In icons of Christ's burial, you will see he is wearing similar bands of cloth. We also see them around Lazarus, in the icon of his raising by Christ. In the Nativity icon, the manger looks much like a coffin. In this way, the icon links birth and death. The poet Rilke says we bear our death within us from the moment of birth. The icon of the Nativity says the same. Our life is one piece and its length of much less importance than its purity and truthfulness." (Jim Forrest, *Praying With Icons*, pp 90-91) <https://frted.wordpress.com/2014/12/27/the-icon-of-the-nativity-of-christ/>

Sunday, Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017

✦ **We Remember: Saints THARSILLA and EMILIANA** (c. 550) were aunts of Pope Gregory the Great. Tharsilla, the eldest, her sisters Emilianiana and Gordiana lived in the home of Gordian - father of Gregory the Great. The sisters Tharsilla and Emilianiana 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. Emilianiana also received a heavenly call from her sister and died several days later. (D)

Monday, Christmas Day, December 25, 2017

✦ **We Remember:** 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)

Tuesday, December 26, 2017

✦ **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)