

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 29, 2024 — January 4, 2025

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

- **Maidyarem Gahambar**, a Zoroastrian mid-winter festival in honor of the animal kingdom, **Dec. 31**, and continues through **Jan. 4**.
- **January 1, 2025: Mary, Mother of God** - Catholic Christian, Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics; Feast Day of **St. Basil** - Orthodox Christian; St. Basil the Great was an early Church Father who defended the orthodox faith against the Arian heresy. He was born in 329 AD in Caesarea Mazaca, Cappadocia and died on January 1, 379 in Caesarea.
- **Gantan-sai (Oshugatsu)**, **Jan. 1**, is the Shinto New Year festival observed with prayers for inner renewal. Tradition is to visit shrines and pray for good health and prosperity.
- **Mahayana New Year** - Buddhist, **Jan. 2-4**
- Source: **The 2025 InterFaith Calendar**, Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago

Chapel Staff Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Birthday blessings to **Mike Brennan** Wednesday, Jan. 1.

ORD Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

- 12/28/24 4:00 p.m.** • All Unborn Babies req. by Alwyn Joshy
6:00 p.m. • Briganti Family req. by Scott DeBoer
- 12/29/24 9:00 a.m.** † Poor Souls in Purgatory req. by Scott DeBoer
11:00 a.m. • Regina Gatta req. by Ida Zaniolo
- 12/30/24 11:30 a.m.** † Brian J. Allen req. by Katherine L. Allen
12/31/24 11:30 a.m. • Intentions of Holy Ghost Parish
Vigil **4:00 p.m.** † Marguerite Bloch req. by Family
Solemnity of Mary, Mater Dei
- 01/01/25 11:30 a.m.** † Aldo Cecchin req. by Ida Zaniolo
- 01/02/25 11:30 a.m.** • Intentions of Holy Ghost Parish
- 01/03/25 11:30 a.m.** † Francis Heger req. by Marcine & John Forrette, Jr.

MDW Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

- 12/29/24 9:00 a.m.** • Mickel Family req. by Scott DeBoer
11:00 a.m. • Tibor Jahrmann req. by Emma Wenzel
- 01/01/25 9:00 a.m.** † David Halpin req. by Natalie
11:00 a.m. † John, Sarah, Mary & Tom Ayers

• 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

www.airportchapels.org



Happy New Year 2025 to All!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE is observed on New Year's Day, this **Wednesday, January 1, 2025**. Pray for peace in your family, your community, and in our world.

Schedule of Catholic Masses for 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

Schedule of Holiday Protestant Worship:

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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph — December 29, 2025

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. — 1 John 3:2a

HOME IS WHERE THE FAMILY IS

The idea, dream, and reality of family is so strong and durable that we use it to describe all that is best about human gatherings. We speak of the family of nations, of our church and parish families.

The greatest compliment we can pay a friend or gracious host is to say that we feel at home with them, we feel part of the family.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always "get it right," but they always tried to. These three "amateurs" were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father's work—but he also returned home with his parents.



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) or *Sirach* 3:2-6, 12-14. **Psalm** — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) or *Psalm* 128. **Second Reading** — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2, 21-24) or *Colossians* 3:12-21 [12-17]. **Gospel** — The boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They found him in the temple, in the midst of the teachers (Luke 2:41-52).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Friday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today's feast is new as feasts go, and it sets us this year in a very modern crisis. Amid conflicting schedules and commitments, a young man, testing the limits, has strayed from his parents and gone off to the big city. Mary and Joseph search frantically, only to find the child Jesus in the temple, conversing with the elders and scholars of the law, who are amazed at his wisdom. In the time of Jesus, the temple was the religious center of Jewish ritual. Outside of Jerusalem, people gathered in the synagogues, centers of learning, for daily prayer and study. Still, everyone longed to journey to the temple to participate in the offerings, and to fulfill certain obligations of the law that could only be done there. On this feast, we catch a glimpse of the family of Jesus: parents dealing with the normal stresses of raising a child, and yet completely grounded in the ways of faith and tradition. There has always been an appreciation in Christianity for the value of pilgrimage—the journey to holy places that is a symbol of our life's journey to God, and a sense of connection to important events in our family history. During the Christmas season, many of us undertake pilgrimages to the family homestead for festival meals, to the parishes where we were formed in the faith, or perhaps even to a beautiful manger scene or festival of lights. There are few better days than this in our calendar for spending time with the family, especially on a short pilgrimage to a favorite place. Just make sure that no one gets left behind! —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Our Chapels offer a variety of Bibles (paperback, keepsake/gift hardcover, New Testaments) Rosaries, Holy Cards, medals and other religious articles. Please visit the O'Hare Chapel Office if you would like to use a non-English language Holy Bible, the Holy Qur'an or the complete Art Scroll Siddur.

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 29, 2024

✦ **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)

Monday, December 30, 2024

✦ **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)

New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31, 2024

✦ **We Remember: ST. SYLVESTER**: This early pope was an important figure in the period after Constantine granted toleration of Christianity through the Edict of Milan. Sylvester has representatives at the **First Ecumenical Council at Nicaea in 325**. He oversaw the building of the first St. Peter's Basilica as well as St. John Lateran. The claim that he received lands from Constantine (the "Donation") in thanksgiving for a miracle has no factual basis. He is the first saint who was not a martyr to be venerated by the Church. His relics are preserved in the Church of St. Sylvester in Rome. (D,E,S,B) ✦ In **1384**, the death of **John Wycliffe**, philosopher, theologian and reformer. Educated at Oxford, he looked to the Bible and the fathers of the church in his writings, but his teaching on the Eucharist brought a condemnation of heresy. An energetic preacher, he inspired many followers who continued his teaching (taking popular expression in the Lollards) and his project of a Bible translation was seen through by his disciples. (F)

New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025

• **Happy New Year!** ✦ **We Remember: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**; New Year's Day; World Day of Peace. "But when the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother..." (Gal. 4:4). The early Church replaced the pagan feast of the New Year, dedicated to the god Janus, with this feast honoring the Mother of God. Even before **Pope Sergius** introduced four Marian feasts in the **7th century** (the **Birth of Mary**, the **Annunciation**, the **Purification** and the **Assumption**), the octave of Christmas was celebrated in Rome in honor of the Maternity of Mary. In later centuries, the feast of the **Circumcision of Our Lord** came to be observed Jan. 1, but the General Roman Calendar promulgated by **Pope Paul VI** on **Feb. 14, 1969**, reinstated the Marian character of this commemoration on the octave day of Christmas. In his **1974** encyclical, **Marialis Cultus**, Pope Paul said that this celebration "is meant to commemorate the part played by Mary in this mystery of salvation. It is meant also to exalt the singular dignity which this mystery brings to the holy Mother...through whom we were found worthy...to receive the Author of life. It is likewise a fitting occasion for renewed adoration of the newborn Prince of Peace, for listening once more to the glad tidings of the angels, and for imploring from God, through the Queen of Peace, the supreme gift of peace. For this reason...we have instituted **World Day of Peace**, an observance that is gaining increasing support and is already bringing forth fruits of peace in the hearts of many." (D,S) ✦ In **1189**, the death of **BL. HENRY OF CLAIRVAUX**, a Cistercian abbot and cardinal who was active in both Church and state affairs. He was elected Pope but refused the honor. (W)

Thursday, January 2, 2025

✦ **We Remember: ST. BASIL (330-379), ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN (c.330-390)**. "Byzantine saints are not very well known by most Catholics. They lived in a far different age, in a strange and different civilization. The Byzantine Empire was the first Christian nation, and most of the great

events of the early Church took place there: the first Councils, the first great Doctors of the Church, the first great theological developments. Saints Basil and Gregory bear witness to the rich diversity of the Church. Their lives and their teachings are part of our Catholic heritage. St. Basil is the great father of monasticism, and St. Gregory is one of the great masters of mystical theology. They served God in their own age with the best tools they could find, and left their mark upon their century and upon their times. St. Basil stood up to the emperor, lashing at him for his inhumanity and lack of Christian principle. *No one, said the emperor, has ever spoken to me like that.* Apparently, said St. Basil, *you have never met a Catholic bishop.* This rare kind of courage, born of faith, was badly needed in those early days when the Church was in danger of being crushed by hostile forces. In Basil and Gregory, the Faith found worthy champions." -Blase Schauer, O.P. (D)

Friday, January 3, 2025

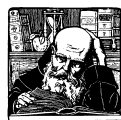
✦ **We Remember: ST. GENEVIEVE (c.422-500)**. Today's saint was born near Paris and spent her childhood tending sheep like the other shepherd children of her region, but at the age of seven, she met the saintly **Bishop Germaine (of Auxerre)**, who blessed and encouraged her. At **15**, Genevieve received the veil from the bishop of Paris. She was blessed with the power of visions and the gift of prophecy. When Paris was occupied by the Franks and afterwards threatened by the Huns, St. Genevieve encouraged the people to remain firm and steadfast, to watch the enemy, to fast and do penance, and to trust in God for their welfare. *She has always been considered the special protectress and patroness of Paris.* (D,B)

Saturday, January 4, 2025

✦ **We Remember: ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON (1774-1821)**. Today we celebrate the feast of the first American-born saint. She lived in Baltimore and was a wife, mother of five children, widow, teacher, and founder of the first American sisterhood - the **Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph**. Born in New York and raised a devout Episcopalian, Elizabeth received an excellent education, and from her early years manifested an unusual concern for the poor. A socialite who attended George Washington's inauguration, she was widowed at age 31. In **1805**, she was received into the Church, and in **1806** confirmed by **BISHOP JOHN CARROLL** of Baltimore. Besides founding the Sisters of Charity, Elizabeth is considered by some as the initiator of the American parochial school system. She was beatified in **1963** and canonized in **1975**. (D,B)

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

— from "Thoughts in Solitude" by Thomas Merton



Mass Intentions Available for 2025

CHICAGO AIRPORTS CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY PUBLISHES MASS INTENTIONS in the O'Hare and Midway Airport Chaplaincy bulletins each week. Requesting a Mass intention is a meaningful way to honor a deceased loved one, or to offer a thoughtful message of sympathy to the bereaved. Special intentions for the living may be requested for one who is ill, as well as to observe special occasions, such as anniversaries and birthdays, or simply in thanksgiving. "Mass Intention Offering" slips are available on the vestibule table; online at <http://www.cacc.us>; or call the chapel office weekdays at 773-686-2636.

The Archdiocese of Chicago suggests a donation of \$10.

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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 Deady, Thomas More, 1989. (DB) Big Book of Women Saints, Sarah Gallick, HarperSanFrancisco, 2007. (CS) 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 Figures, Rosalie Marie Levy, DSP, 1984. (I) In His Likeness, Rev. Charles Yost, SCI, STL, 1988. (JP 2) John Paul II's Book of Saints, Bunsen, 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. (P) 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.