



MARY, MOTHER OF MARTYRS PARISH
ST. MARY & ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dear Parishioner,

As I mentioned during the masses last winter, Liturgy, Evangelization, Community, Discipleship, and Mission are the five areas every parish must attend to become active disciples of the Lord. Of the 1,055 responses from the last survey, 29 % indicated that Liturgy is the area we should prioritize, followed by 21 % which indicated Community is the second area. We are grateful for your participation as we continue developing the parish goals for the parish based on the suggestions you presented.

On Sunday, June 2, the Feast of Corpus Christi (Solemnity of the Body and Blood of our Lord), we invite you to join us at 9:30 a.m. English Mass at St. Mary. After the Mass, we will walk in a Eucharistic procession from St. Mary's Church to St. Stephen Church via Center Street to Oakton St., then continue on Chestnut St. to Prospect Ave.

1. At the end of the procession, a solemn blessing of the Blessed Sacrament will be at St. Stephen Church. There will be a stop for brief adoration and blessing at the corner of Algonquin Rd and Center St.
2. Buses will be available to transport people between the two churches from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm
 - For those who cannot walk to join the procession after the Mass, which may last one hour. You can take a ride on one of the available buses.
 - Please note: There will not be an 8 a.m. Mass at St. Mary neither 10 a.m. Mass at St. Stephen. And the 10 am Mass at St. Mary is moved to 9:30 am. All the other regular Sunday Masses in both Churches will be celebrated as scheduled.

We plan to have our **3rd Parish picnic on Sunday, July 28**, at St. Stephen's patio adjacent to the parking lot from 11:45 am to 4:30 pm. As successfully done last year, you can donate salads, appetizers, desserts, sodas, frozen burgers, or a monetary donation. Folkloric dances, music, games, and raffles will be part of the day. Come and join us in this opportunity to strengthen our parish fellowship.

Last but not least, I want to inform you that after six years of serving the parish, Sister Revelina Santiago returned to the Philippines. She wants to spend time with her family, as her mom passed away. The parish has been very blessed to have Sr. Revelina with us. She has led many ministries and accompanied many parishioners, encouraging them to grow in their faith. Sr. Revelina's vocation as a religious sister of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, exemplifies dedication to the Lord and his people; her many gifts and talents have contributed to the parish's growth. We will always be grateful for her time with us, and certainly, she will be most welcome when she is allowed to visit us in the future. To continue the presence of religious sisters with us, the General Superior of the sisters of Jesus the Good Shepherd is consulting and discerning with the community of sisters in the Philippines to ask another sister to be with us, hopefully before next fall.

May the Lord bless you always.

Fr. David Arcila, pastor