

St. Liborius
Catholic Parish

71 W. 35th Street • Steger, IL 60475
708-754-1363 • www.stliborius.org

St. Boniface
Catholic Church

5304 W. Main Street • Monee, IL 60449
708-534-9682 • www.stbonifacemonee.org



Lord teach us how to
PRAY

Sunday, July 27, 2025 • Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time#

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 26

4:30 PM • St. Liborius

Phil, George & Harriet Grunhardt
Joseph & Eileen Napoli
(75th Wedding Anniversary)

Sunday, July 27

8:30 AM • St. Boniface

† Raymond Hays, Req. by Chris Hays
Wedding anniversary of Jesse & Lauren Newbanks
Req. by Bogs-Haser Family

10:30 AM • St. Liborius

Greg Strasser
Manuela Guillermo

Monday, July 28

8:00 AM • St. Liborius

8:30 AM • St. Boniface

Communion Service

Tuesday, July 29

8:30 AM • St. Boniface

† Birthday intentions of Paul Przybyla
Req. by Karen Przybyla

7:00 PM • St. Liborius

Rob Melbert

Wednesday, July 30

8:00 AM • St. Liborius

Thomas Niemeyer

Thursday, July 31

8:00 AM • St. Liborius

8:30 AM • St. Boniface

Communion Service

Friday, August 1

8:00 AM • St. Liborius

Bob Jones
Florence Hoecker

8:30 AM • St. Boniface

Harold Kaufman Req. by Therese Short

Saturday, August 2

8:00 AM • St. Liborius

4:30 PM • St. Liborius

Carl & Rosemarie Carlsson

Sunday, August 3

8:30 AM • St. Boniface

Loretta Mills Req. by Joe Mills
Prayer of Thanksgiving & Praise to the Holy Spirit
Req. by a parishioner

10:30 AM • St. Liborius

James Wagner
Ron McKeska
Joseph & Marie Skummer
Joe Smith

Scripture Readings

For the Week of July 27, 2025

Sunday

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 18:20-32; Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8; Col 2:12-14;
Lk 11:1-13

Monday

Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday Memorial of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus

Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13;
Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday

Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9; Mt 13:44-46

Thursday

Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11; Mt 13:47-53

Friday Memorial of Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab;
Mt 13:54-58

Saturday

Lv 25: 1, 8-17; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Mt 14:1-12

Sunday

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21

Your Parish Team

Pastor

Fr. Thomas Milota
fathermilota@outlook.com

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Frank Pusateri
fatherfrank@stliborius.org

Deacons

Frank Ciscato
Mark Otten
David Prete

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Kathy Short
office@stliborius.org
office@stboniface.comcastbiz.net

Coordinator of Faith Formation:

Katie Canty
faithformation@stliborius.org
708-754-3460

Maintenance

Allen Guziejka

Ministry of Care

Erwin Bogs (ebogs@comcast.net)

St. Liborius Catholic Parish

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday 8:30 AM—3:30 PM

Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:30 PM
Sunday 10:30 AM

Weekdays

Monday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday 8:00 AM
Tuesday 7:00 PM
Saturday 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM
Friday 7:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 8:30 AM—9:30 AM

St. Boniface Catholic Church

Office Hours

Tuesday 8:30 AM—3:30 PM

Mass Schedule

Sunday 8:30 AM
Tuesday 8:30 AM

Communion Services

Monday 8:30 AM
Thursday 8:30 AM
Friday 8:30 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday 9:00 AM
Sunday 8:00 AM

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday 9:00 AM—10:00 AM



From Our Pastor

Dear Parishioners of Saint Liborius Parish, and Saint Boniface Church,

Cardinal Living in Our Parish in August

Peter Ebere Cardinal Okpaleke will be staying at the Saint Boniface rectory with his secretary, Fr. Lawrence, from July 31st to August 23rd and offering Mass at various parishes raising money for a home for the youth and the elderly of his diocese in Nigeria. He will be offering Sunday Masses at Saint Liborius on August 17th at 10:30 am and Saint Boniface at 8:30 am.

The Cardinal and I came to know one another when we both lived in Rome back in 2003 and he ministered in my home parish that summer. Back then neither of us would have imagined that he would be a Cardinal voting in the conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV, but here we are.

I know you will offer him a great Saint Liborius and Saint Boniface welcome!

Persecution of Catholics in Nigeria

Nigeria is reported to be the deadliest country for Christians worldwide, with more Christians killed for their faith than in the rest of the world combined, according to research by Open Doors. Cardinal Okpaleke's Diocese is in the heart of these persecutions and it is not uncommon for him to text me asking for prayers for priests or religious who have been kidnapped or assaulted.

Perpetrators: Militant groups, including Boko Haram, ISWAP (Islamic State West Africa Province), and radicalized Fulani herders, are the primary perpetrators of violence against Christians.

Nature of attacks: Attacks are often brutal and include murders, kidnappings (often for ransom, targeting Christians), sexual violence, and the destruction of churches, homes, and livelihoods.

Forced displacement: Violence has driven millions of Christians from their homes, forcing them into displacement camps within Nigeria and refugee camps in neighboring countries.

Discrimination and oppression: Christians living in northern Nigerian states under Sharia law face discrimination and are treated as second-class citizens. Converts from Islam face rejection, pressure to renounce their faith, and even death threats.

Government inaction: Nigeria's federal government has been criticized for failing to adequately protect Christian communities and for not prosecuting perpetrators of violence. This perceived inaction fuels accusations of government complicity in efforts to displace and persecute Christians.

Forced Islamization concerns: Observers on the ground assert that attacks by some militant groups are part of a coordinated campaign to seize Christian lands and expand Islamist rule in the Middle Belt region, driving out Christian residents from their ancestral homes.

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Please Pray For...

Sr. Judith Ann
Joanne Bernar
Charles Blalock
Sue Borsilli
Larry Brewer
Lt. Briggs
Mary Brown
Raymond A. Brown
Baby Calix Calabrese
Christopher Cannek
Nick Cristelli
Jesse Cruz
The Czajka Family
Danny Demro
Gert Dileo
Patricia Doyle
Don Dornhecker
Kathy Dornhecker
Kathy Dreixler
Marguerite DuBois
Mike Einhorn
Chuck Fajman
Marianne Farrell
Carol Filar
Toni Flamini
Scott Fowler
Dayna Gary
Valdine Gary
Debbie Giampa

Rick Gilkerson
Michael O. Godinez
Sarah Grew
Barbara Gromala
Julio Guillermo
Dave Harrison
Barbara Herzic
Clarence Helmrath
Raegan Hopkins
Tyson Hopkins
Dan Howe
Michael Howe
Daniel Izzo
Tina Jackson
Joei Jimenez
Connie Jo
Beth Johnson
Mary Johnson
Nancy Kaz
Mike Kelly
Diane Klootwuk
Nancy Koepke
Terri Koepke
Patti Koopmans
Louise
Kopaczewski
Dianna Kroll
Timothy Kvasnicka
Nancy L

Tom Lane
Jim Leech
Casey Lyons
Maggie Lyons
Joane Males
Lisa Imperio Mancari
Anthony Mangan
Bethany Mangan
Amber Mangan
Ivy Mangan
Jeremy Mangan
Maykal Mangan
Carmen Mar
William Marconi
Jimmy Martin
Nick Matfia
Rose Mazur
Brenda McCann
Diane McDermitt
Sgt. David Metzner
Kristen Mila
Geraldine Mokry
Stephanie Morrison
Corrie Nasya
Jeson Naylor
Gina Newbanks
Laurie Nicola
John Nioval
Dale Norton

Ruby Norton
John Novak
Harriet Nowakowski
Gern Nykaza
Mary O' Connor
Charlie Olson
Phyllis Onak
Roy Ordonec
Doria Parmigias
Charles Paris
Charles Pars
Jim Petrungaro
Staff Sgt. Andrew
Piattoni
Denise Piscopo
Melina Pinsoy
Mia Polacek
Christopher Prete
Richard Prete
Chris Ratliff
Juanita Robinson
RW
Robert Ryley
Franciaco Salaza
Eligha Sanin
Danielle Sharpe
Inez Slomczewski
Monique Sulej
Danial Tase
Raul Trevino
Anthony Vasek
Mary Vasek

Elena Vasquez
Elyse V
Chloe Waymack
Brenden Wetzel
Pete Wetzel
Robert C. Williams
Raeann Wilson
Dr. Dennis Wolny
Fred Zagone SI
Colleen E. Zwolinski
Debbie Zwolinski
Raymond A. Zwolinski

Crete Police,
Detectives, Fire,
and Paramedic
Departments

Steger Estates Fire
and Paramedics
Departments

Steger Police,
Detectives, Fire,
and Paramedic
Departments

**Please call the
Parish Office (708-
754-1363 or 708-
748-6686) to add or
remove names from
this list.**

Sacraments

Sacrament of Baptism

All parents asking for their children to be baptized must attend a Baptismal Prep class. Classes are held on the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. @ St. Liborius in the Church, with a reminder notice in the parish bulletin.

Please register for the class by calling the St. Liborius Parish Office at 708-754-1363. Godparents are also encouraged to attend the class. Baptisms are celebrated during the Sunday Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. If a child has already been baptized here no need to attend class again.

Sacrament of Marriage

Marriage preparation must begin a minimum of six months prior to the actual wedding date. Contact the parish office -St. Liborius (708-754-1363) or St. Boniface (708-534-9682) to begin the process.

Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick is the sacrament that is received by those who are ill or suffering. By the sacred anointing and the prayer of the priest, the whole Church commends those who are sick to Christ.

Due to the Privacy Act, hospitals can no longer inform us when a parishioner is admitted to the hospital. A close relative needs to call either Parish Office-St. Liborius (708-754-1363) or St. Boniface (708-534-9682) to request an anointing.

BULLETIN DEADLINES

We appreciate your patience as we work on a new layout for the combined St. Liborius Parish / St. Boniface Church bulletin. Please note that all items for the bulletin will be due no later than end of day Friday, ten days before the publication date. Special deadlines will be communicated as we are aware of them.

**Please send all bulletin items to
connections@stliborius.org**

Liturgical Ministers

St. Liborius • July 26 & 27

Lectors

4:30 PM Elaine Rach
10:30 AM _____

Eucharistic Ministers

4:30 PM Jamie Jones, MarySue Paradiso,
Dave Rudofski, _____
10:30 AM Ted Kulma, Christian Jimenez,
Kathy Krebs, Sue Metzner

Altar Servers

4:30 PM Max & Slaney Chavez
10:30 AM Fiona Smith

St. Liborius • August 2 & 3

Lectors

4:30 PM Elaine Rach
10:30 AM Christina Boyd

Eucharistic Ministers

4:30 PM Bob Baumgartner, Jim Betourney
Maureen Burns, Jeanette Dargert
10:30 AM Patti Heiss, Barb Herzic
Christian Jimenez, Jamie Jones

Altar Servers

4:30 PM Arabella & Max Totos
10:30 AM Josh Boyd

St. Boniface • Sunday, July 27

Lector

8:30 AM Camille Dancer

Eucharistic Minister

8:30 AM John Blazeovich

Ministers of the Cup

8:30 AM Deacon Mark Otten
Colleen Domke, Donald Domke

Altar Servers

8:30 AM Sherwin Jaculbe, Athena Jaculbe

St. Boniface • Sunday, August 3

Lector

8:30 AM Danita Gerrity

Eucharistic Minister

8:30 AM Tracy Sheehan

Ministers of the Cup

8:30 AM Deacon Mark Otsen
Craig Quick, Evelyn Zambrano

Altar Servers

8:30 AM Romina Flores, Mike Hudspeth

From our Pastor

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Specific examples of attacks:

Massacre in Plateau State (December 2023): Over 200 Christians were killed and 300 wounded in a series of attacks that destroyed churches and homes and displaced 32,000 residents across 21 villages.

Kidnappings in Kaduna State (February 2025): More than 200 Christians were held hostage, starved, and tortured in a hidden terrorist camp near an army base. Eight hostages were released after a ransom payment, recounting their ordeal.

Attacks on priests and church leaders: Churches and their leaders are frequent targets of Fulani militias. Several Catholic priests have been abducted, and some have been killed.

Let us keep the Cardinal and all the people of Nigeria in our prayers.

In Christ,
Fr. Thomas Milota



Our Stewardship

For the Weekend of July 19/20, 2025

St. Liborius

Sunday Offertory.....\$6216.00
Children's Stewardship.....\$43.80
Votives.....\$28.50
Comfort.....\$265.00
Building Fund.....\$5.00
Scholarship Fund.....\$42.00

St. Mary\$465.00

St. Boniface

St. Boniface collection will be posted in next weekend's bulletin.

Dear Faith Family,

All are welcome to the St. Liborius Parish Religious Education Program, known as PREP. Along with your faith filled home, we are here to collaborate with you to raise our children in our Catholic faith in concurrence with the PREP program. We offer eight years of faith formation, which all children are expected to attend. All registration materials are found on our website <https://www.stliborius.org/> And may be emailed directly to me. Or you may pick up or drop off material in person at the Office of Faith Formation at 3440 Halsted Boulevard (the building just north of our Church).

The PREP program covers all age groups, starting with Gospel Story Time (for our youngest) at Sunday's 10:30am Mass, first through eighth grades, and all teens and adults that may need to "catch up" with missed sacraments. We are here to share the journey with you, no matter where you are at individually! First through eighth grades will meet on Sundays, 9am to 10:15am so that we can make it to celebrate 10:30 Mass together. Teens and adults will need to speak with me, and we will journey together through the OCIA formally known as RCIA program to help you achieve your sacraments.

Sacrament Information

Reconciliation, & First Holy Communion is a two-year program. These sacraments are for students in the second grade and older who have attended two continuous years of religious education. There are additional required parent meetings and retreats that must be attended to receive these sacraments.

Confirmation is a consecutive two-year program, beginning no earlier than the seventh grade. All are expected to complete this two-year process regardless of when they begin. There are mandatory retreats, meetings, practices, and service hours that must be completed, before receiving this sacrament.

Sacraments for older teens or adults please contact the Religious Education Office. We also are here for you if you need baptism, marriage preparation, retreats for adults, and youth groups. No matter where you or your children are in your faith formation, we are happy to help you grow closer to our Lord, and in your knowledge and practice of our faith. Please call or register today to make faith a priority in your life!

All forms are at the entrance of the church.

Director of Faith Formation faithformation@stliborius.org
Parish Office 708 754-1363
RE Center 708 754-3460
Fax 708 754-3471

Mailing address: 71 West 35th Street
Physical address: 3440 Halsted Blvd.
Steger, IL 60475

We are affiliated with Mother Teresa Academy
24201 S. Kings Rd., Crete.
Phone: 708-672-3093
www.mtcacademy.org

Mrs. Annie Murray, Principal
amurray@mtcademy.org

Mrs. Erin Narcisi, Assistant Principal
anarcisi@mtcademy.org

4th Annual SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

sponsored by **Community Outreach**

Here we are again ... gathering the tribe needed to 'raise the children,' the students of Mother Teresa Catholic Academy who return to school on August 18th. Supplies needed are listed below. The bin collecting school supplies for the students will be in the narthex of St Liborius Church starting this weekend and until the end of Mass on Sunday, August 10th. If you could purchase just ONE of the items below to add to the bin, it would let our students know that we are with them, cheering them on to another successful school year. We understand the huge sacrifice parents are making to give their child a Catholic education. We are supporting them also. Thanks in advance. You always work wonders!

- #2 pencils
- Blue, black or red pens
- Pencil holders with holes to fit in a binder
- Pencil sharpeners
- Anti-bacterial hand wipes
- Baby wipes
- Band-Aids
- 3 oz cans of Play Doh
- Quart storage bags
- Gallon storage bags



Daughter's of St. Liborius

The Daughters of St. Liborius meet the 4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm (with a few exceptions, such as that date landing on a Holiday) in the Religious education building room 101.

Women from St. Liborius as well as St. Boniface are welcome to attend. Please join us even if it's just to check us out and you are not sure about joining. We'd be happy to have you as a guest!

"O God, we come before you in this time of change and consolidation. We recognize that your Church is ever-evolving, and we humbly seek your guidance and wisdom as we navigate these new paths. For those who are experiencing loss or uncertainty, grant them peace, understanding, and the strength to accept your will. For the Church, renew our faith and unity, and inspire us to embrace the changes with hope and trust in your divine plan. We ask for strength, guidance, and a renewed sense of faith in your loving care." Amen!

We are happy to announce also an upcoming afternoon retreat with Sr. Janice Keenan on August

16th. Be sure to Save the Date, more information to follow in the coming weeks!

The Daughters are a women's auxiliary to the Knights of Columbus #14562.

The group was formed for the following objectives:

- (1) To enhance the spirituality of our membership (women's retreats etc..)
- (2) To offer socialization opportunities to our members (as in field trips)
- (3) To foster charitable activities (ex: Aid for women, Catholic Charities)
- (4) To promote the causes of our fellow Knights of Columbus #14562 (ex: desserts at fish fry, stations of the cross)
- (5) To defend the sanctity and dignity of life (support organizations)
- (6) To support and defend the Nuclear (traditional) family as stated in the CCC starting at Article 7 1601.

If you have questions regarding joining us please contact Chris Prete cell 708-420-8369 email mcp.stliborius@gmail.com or Jill Raymond Cell: 708.752.5284- email: jillmraymond@hotmail.com

God Answers Our Call for Help

Several months ago, our pastor asked my husband and I to mentor couples who are preparing for marriage. As I read through his email, I chuckled to myself, thinking what a coincidence it was. My parents had mentored engaged couples for years. In fact, as a permanent deacon, that was my dad's main ministry. Since his marriage to my mom was far from perfect, it gave me hope that maybe my husband and I could be of some help to the couples we are assigned to. In fact, perhaps we could be of *more* help due to our struggles, giving witness to our fidelity to each other despite the ups and downs of life.

Even as we met with our first engaged couple for the first time, my husband was just a couple weeks away from his second major back surgery. Although it would eventually relieve him of some pain, it would also *cause* him pain. His three-month recovery process would have him using a walker, then a cane, all the while wearing a restrictive back brace. He would need help using the restroom and showering, getting out of bed and getting dressed. All the while, I, his partner "in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health" was called to care for him, encourage him and support him.

Jesus never promised it would be easy. He knew the reality of life on Earth. He lived through the hardship. And He promised to help us carry our burdens.

Perhaps one of the heaviest burdens we bear is our sins. We make resolutions, and then break them. We try to be better and then fail. We try harder and then fail again. Perhaps the reason this burden becomes so heavy is because we try to carry it on our own. We forget about the power of prayer and the grace poured out in the sacrament of Confession. God wants to make "our yoke easy and our burden light" but sometimes we fail to call out to Him for help.

We see God's loving mercy so clearly in today's readings. In the first reading, God promises to withhold destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah if He were to find only 10 just people therein. In the second reading, Paul reminds us, "even when you were dead in transgressions...he brought you to life along with him" through the forgiveness of sins. In the Gospel, Jesus assures us, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

Time and time again in the Scriptures, God tells us how much he wants to be there for us. Even though the actual weight of our burdens may not change, the fact that He is there by our side, makes them so much lighter. So, whether we be living the ups and downs of married life or struggling through an illness or battling with a recurring sin, may we truly believe what we proclaim in today's Psalm Response: "Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me."

By Tami Urcia