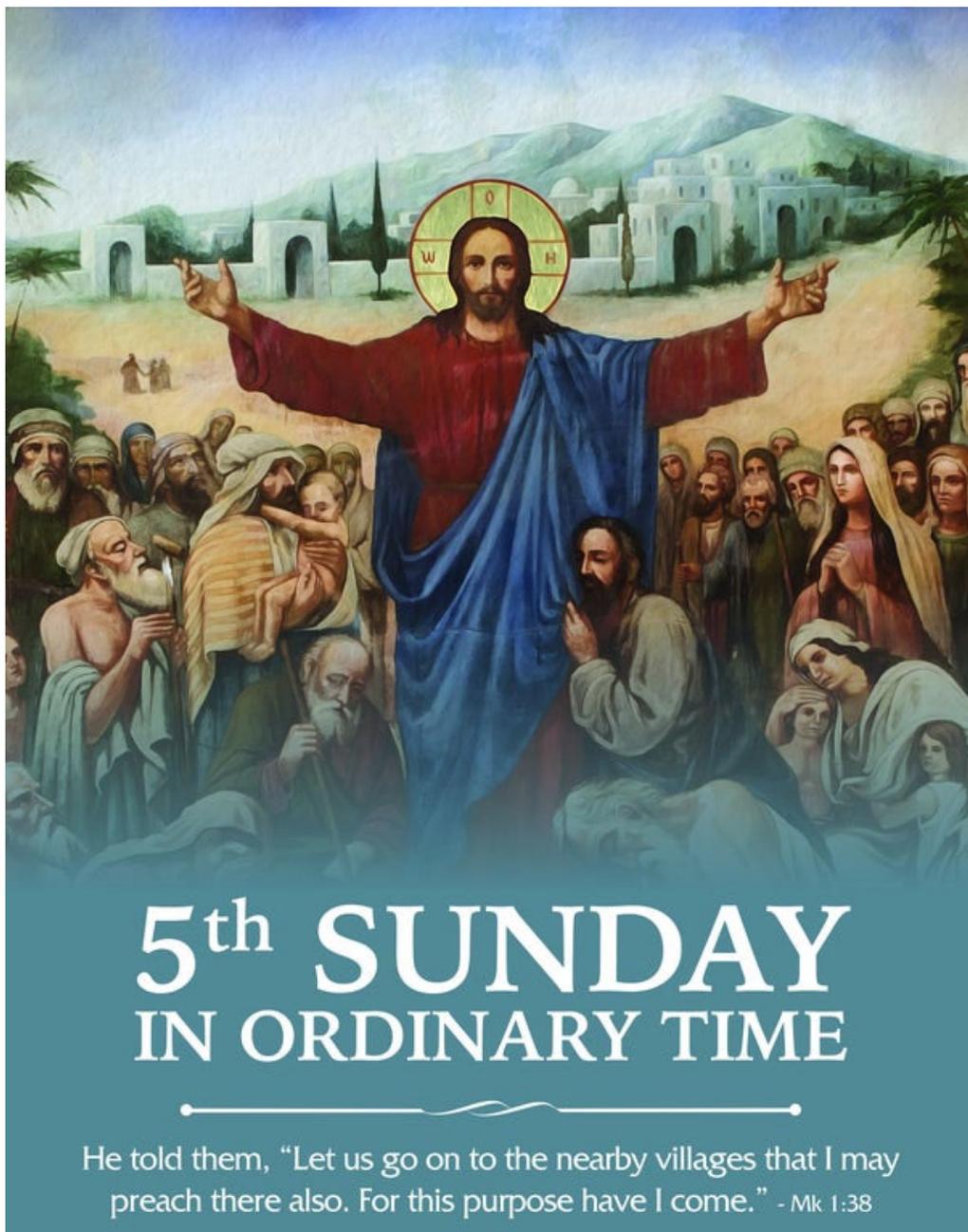


St. Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church

February 4, 2024



PARISH ADDRESS

40000 North U.S. Highway 45
Old Mill Creek, Illinois 60046-7464
phone 847.395.3474 fax 847.395.3552
email rectory@straphaelcatholic.org
www.straphaelcatholic.org

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Matthew Kowalski, *Pastor*
Dr. Gregory K. Webster, *Deacon*
Bob Ochsner, *Deacon*
Attorney John Haderlein, *Deacon*
Dr. Mark Mrowiec, *Operations Director*
Ms. Annette Wynn, *Coordinator of Religious Ed.*
Mr. Alex Fries, *Music Director*

Dear St. Raphael Parishioners,



Miracles of Healing: One of the greatest mysteries of our faith is the occurrence of miraculous healings. They happen so rarely that a skeptic can easily ignore the fact that they do happen. But when a news story appears that somebody has been healed with no easy explanation, the crowds gather today, just as they did in Galilee during the life of Jesus. If Jesus had been a wise teacher but not a miracle-worker, his disciples would have been restricted to the more educated classes. Miracles are God's way of teaching the Gospel without words, in a way that anyone can understand.

Do you hope for a miracle in your life? Miracles are not as important to God's plan as you might think. First, they are so rare that most of us will never witness one. And even in the days of Jesus' public ministry, they could be misunderstood. We see the villages where Jesus worked miracles wanting Him to stay with them permanently. Much in the way we are told not to feed wildlife in nature preserves, we can misunderstand God's grace as something it is not. God does not send miracles to solve our everyday problems or to make our life easier.

Even sincere Christians may have the incorrect idea that the bible is full of miracles. This mistaken notion is harmful because it can encourage skeptical people to doubt the truth of scripture. Actually, there were only *three, brief* miracle-filled periods described in the bible: the life of Moses, the life of Elijah, and the public years of Jesus. All other parts of the bible timeline feature only very few, uncommon miracles. The kingdom of Israel saw no miracles during most of their ancient history. Even the apostles just performed a few miracles, and only in the early days of their ministry after Pentecost. Why is this? Only God knows completely, but it may have to do with how the Holy Spirit works among us.

As the number of believers grows, it becomes easier to witness the gospel in *ordinary ways*; the sacraments, charity, integrity, and a modest sense of hope. Like the medicines we take only when needed, miracles are extraordinary things for extraordinary situations.

Annual Catholic Appeal: The 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal will launch next weekend, February 3rd and 4th. The Cardinal's address will be played on the weekend of February 10 and 11th. This effort does so much to help our parish, our community and ministries that are vital to the archdiocese. Please consider making a gift to support the Annual Catholic Appeal this year. This year's theme is "Together at the Table". We have surpassed our goal for the last two years, and anything donated above the goal is returned to St. Raphael for our use.

St. Blaise Blessing: This Saturday is the feast day of Bishop and Martyr St. Blaise. The blessing of throats will be available after all Sunday Masses.

God bless,
Fr. Matthew

**St. Raphael The Archangel
Mass Schedule and Times**

Weekday: 8:30 am (Monday-Saturday am)

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am

St. Raphael the Archangel Office Hours

The Church Office is open Monday - Thursday from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm and closed on Fridays.

Confession

Saturday afternoons from 3-3:40 pm.

Baptism: Registered parishioners should contact the parish office at 847-395-3474.

Marriage Preparation: Registered and supporting members should call the office. A date should not be set until consulting the pastor.

**St. Raphael the Archangel
Religious Education Calendar**

Wednesday Classes

February 7, 21 & 28

No class Feb 14—Ash Wednesday

Classes at Milburn School, 6:30-7:30 pm

Saturday, February 3, First Reconciliation for 2nd Grade at St. Raphael Church, 10:00 am

Saturday, March 2, Confirmation Retreat
8th grade students preparing for Confirmation
St. Raphael Church, 9:30 am

For more information about our Religious Education Program, please contact:

Annette Wynn, Coordinator, at
Religiouseducation@straphaelcatholic.org



Please return last year's Palms

Please return last year's palms to be burned and turned into the ashes that will mark our foreheads with the Cross. A basket will be in the narthex for the Palms this weekend February 4 and 5.

Ash Wednesday, February 14

Mass Schedule: 8:30 am, Noon, and 7 pm

Lenten Regulations From Ash Wednesday, February 14 until the Paschal Triduum

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday of Lent at 7:00 pm

Blessing of Throats

St. Blaise is widely venerated by Christians in the East and West. According to tradition, he was the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia and was martyred by the Roman emperor Licinius (320-324 AD). A miracle attributed to St. Blaise is well-known among Catholics: while Blaise was imprisoned for his faith, a mother brought to the bishop her son who was choking. The bishop prayed over the boy and he recovered. There is a long tradition of blessing the throats of the faithful on February 3, asking St. Blaise to intercede for us and help us remain healthy. **The Blessing will be offered at the conclusion of all Masses the weekend of February 3rd and 4th.**



Lost and Found

Items which have been left from the rummage sale, picnic and cookie walk can be claimed in the Fellowship Hall under the *Lost & Found* sign.

**Please Make Your Gift to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal
Together at the Table**



Many families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes and schools who receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible. The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer the call "Together at the table." We encourage giving at all levels to support this initiative. In addition to providing for ministries

and services throughout the archdiocese, the Annual Catholic Appeal funds services in our own parish. When we financially support the work of our parish, our archdiocese and the Catholic Church throughout the world, we experience a feeling of deep gratitude, especially when we contemplate God's many gifts to us personally. By sharing our wealth through gifts to the 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal, we demonstrate our commitment to the Church and each other.

Ways to Make ACA Gifts One-time gifts, pledges, sustaining recurring gifts, as well as gifts made through stock, Donor Advised Funds and IRA distributions can be made by cash, check or credit card through the following methods:

- Reply form received in the cardinal's direct mailings
- Online at annualcatholicappeal.com
- In-pew envelopes (pre-addressed)
- Telephone — Annual Catholic Appeal — 312.534.7959
- Mail to — Annual Catholic Appeal, 835 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2030
- Charitable Gift Funds — Legal Name: The Catholic Bishop of Chicago, Federal tax ID #36-2170826

**Divorce: Dying, Death and Resurrection
A Saturday Series in Lent**

What does the Catholic Church teach about marriage & divorce? Are you feeling broken?

Is your divorce making you feel stigmatized? Are you seeking healing?

What about your children? How can you heal from your divorce?

How can you use forgiveness to move on? How can God help you find new life?

How does a Catholic annulment work?

Come join Deacon John Haderlein, Attorney at Law, for this Lenten series.

Saturdays in Lent: Feb 17 – Mar 23, 2024, 2:30 p.m.

Saint Raphael the Archangel Catholic Church

40000 N. U.S. Hwy. 45, Old Mill Creek, Illinois 60046

& by Zoom/FaceTime

To register, call: 847-395-3474 or email: rectory@straphaelcatholic.org

(This series is limited to divorcing & divorced Catholic men and women only.)



Family Faith Formation Group
Blanket Drive*

A BIG *THANK YOU* to EVERYONE Who Donated and Volunteered! We received over 50 blankets, many yards of fleece and monetary donations (which will be used to purchase more fleece to make blankets!) !!!



Your kindness and generosity are very much appreciated!

UPCOMING in FEBRUARY 2024

No Sew Blanket Making Party*

Date: Sunday, February 25, 2024

Location: Fellowship Hall at St. Raphael the Archangel

Time: 2 pm to 7pm *Come and Go as it works for you!*



We will break at 4pm for Dinner. Food will be provided. Please RSVP so we can include you in our planning! -- Email Donna at FamilyFaithFormationGroup@gmail.com.

*To benefit The Penny's Purpose (Antioch, IL)



Volunteering to make blankets is a *great opportunity* to work together as a community and to earn service hours. Your time will make a difference to those who could use a little extra comfort during trying times.

(Please note that the Family Faith Formation Group does not host child "drop off" events as the intention is to provide opportunities for families to get to know each other in our parish while growing in our faith together through service and fellowship.)

Altar and Rosary Sodality



ARS installed a new board at our January 29th meeting. We are excited to have a new team for the next two years: President-Gidget Leable; Vice President-Grace Bower; Secretary-Danielle Stauff; Treasurer-Joanne Anen. Watch for details on upcoming movie nights at the Antioch Theater in February and March. Our next business meeting will be **Monday, February 26** at 7 pm in the church Fellowship Hall, preceded by the Rosary at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. Please join us.



Worship & Spiritual Life Schedule Mass Times for February 10 -11, 2024

Mass Times	4:00 pm Saturday	9:00 am Sunday	11:00 am Sunday
Clergy	Fr. Matthew Kowalski Dcn John Haderlein	Fr. James Merold Dcn. Greg Webster	Fr. Matthew Kowalski
Lector	Katy Teichert	John Boldt	Greg Robak
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Donna Pavelski	Gidget Leable	Melissa Tebben
Altar Servers	3 Open	L. Laredo B. Pumala 1 Open	E. Herrera G. Muzones M. Muzones
Ushers	Paul Pavelski 3 Open	Bob Forster Tom Hagerty Fritz Meyers 1 Open	Rich Josten Mark Mrowiec Joel Wendt 1 Open
Fellowship	Karen Hopkins	Wanda Hagerty	Open

Events for the Week of February 4, 2024

Sunday Feb 4	Monday Feb 5	Tuesday Feb 6	Wednesday Feb 7	Thursday Feb 8	Friday Feb 9	Saturday Feb 10	Sunday Feb 11
9 am Mass Feast of St. Blaise Blessing of Throats After Masses 10am Choir practice 10 am Rosary 11 am Mass Noon Choir practice Last year's Palm return Narthex	8:30 am Mass	8:30 am Mass 7 pm Bible Study	8:30 am Mass 9:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Religious Ed Milburn School	8:30 am Mass 6:30 pm KoC Mtg 6:30 pm OCIA	8:30 am Mass	8:30 am Mass 3-3:40 pm Confession 4 pm Mass	9 am Mass 10am Choir practice 10 am Rosary 11 am Mass Noon Choir practice

Please submit any articles, events or activities that you would like included in the bulletin, no later than 12 noon on Wednesday, ten days prior to publication. [Early Publisher deadlines require earlier submissions.](#) All articles are subject to approval.

Sunday Morning Rosary at St. Raphael the Archangel

Join in praying the Rosary on Sunday mornings immediately after the 9:00 am Mass, (approximately at 10:05 am) as we ask for God's mercy through the intercession of His Blessed Mother. The Rosary is one of the treasures of our faith through which we ask for the mercy and help of God.

Mass Intentions

Week of February 4, 2024

Requested by:

Saturday, February 3, 2024	8:30 am	The Siron Family	Evelyn Ong
	4:00 pm	† Mildred Wiesnet	Garry & Gail Ryan
Sunday, February 4, 2024	9:00 am	The People of St. Raphael	Chuck & Kitty Boutell
	11:00 am	† Ken Clark	
Monday, Feb 5, 2024	8:30 am	† Laralou Santi	Lorraine Santi
Tuesday, Feb 6, 2024	8:30 am	† Alan Fraser	The Anen Family
Wednesday, Feb 7, 2024	8:30 am	† Isabelle Kowalski	Kimberly Allen
Thursday, Feb 8, 2024	8:30 am	† James & Paulnetta Kaufman	Linda Browning
Friday, Feb 9, 2024	8:30 am	The Shirley & Josh Sanchez Family	Regina Penny
Saturday, Feb 10, 2024	8:30 am	The Siron Family	Evelyn Ong
	4:00 pm	† Laura Booth	Garry & Gail Ryan
Sunday, Feb 11, 2024	9:00 am	The People of St. Raphael	The Robak Family
	11:00 am	† Jacek Grzyborski	

Please pray for those in our parish and community who are sick:

Dcn. Bob Ochsner
Clarence Frounfelker
Wayne Francke
Bill Hutchings

Tom Tomasello, Jr.
Belen Kling
Fr. Art Mattox
Frank Wihtelich

Richard Biel
Mary Lou Biel
Residents of Rolling Hills

In Loving Memory of our recently deceased parishioner

Susie Masella (wife of Larry Masella)
May God's perpetual light shine upon her.

St. Raphael the Archangel Serving in the Armed Forces

The names of active duty military personnel from the St. Raphael community are listed below. We keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they protect our country and freedom. Please notify the parish office if you would like to add someone to the list or if your service person is no longer active in the military.

Captain Nicholas A. DeSilvia, U. S. Air Force

1 LT Mary Claire Lindroth, U.S. Army

SFC Robert L. Ochsner III, U.S. Army

1 LT Sarah Ochsner, U.S. Army

Exploring Priesthood Weekend February 16, 2024

Join us for an exciting weekend at the University of St Mary of the Lake / Mundelein Seminary! This in-person free event is perfect for men who are College Juniors or older curious about the priesthood. Discover what it means to serve as a priest and explore the path to becoming one. Engage in thought-provoking discussions, attend inspiring talks, and meet fellow individuals on a similar journey. Our experienced speakers will share their personal stories and offer guidance. Don't miss this opportunity to deepen your understanding of the priesthood and discern your own calling. Register now for the Exploring Priesthood Weekend in February 2024!

CHICAGOPRIEST.COM		
Do you think you might have a vocation to the priesthood?	Rev. Timothy Monahan	
Contact the Vocation Office to help you navigate your vocation.	Vocation Director	
	847.531.0148 tmonahan@archchicago.org	

**Please Consider a Gift to the Church that Pays You Back
Take Advantage of the Highest Payout Rates in Over a Decade!**

As stewards of our faith, you can express your gratitude for God’s gifts and help ensure that God’s good work on earth continues by considering a gift to the Church that pays you back – a charitable gift annuity. When you establish a charitable gift annuity with the archdiocese, not only will you receive fixed payments for life, but you can designate our parish, school or ministry – such as the Annual Catholic Appeal – as the remainder beneficiary.

How It Works:

- Make a gift of \$10,000 or more to the Archdiocese of Chicago. Fund your gift annuity with cash or securities.
- Receive fixed payments for life – for yourself or a loved one age 60 or older. Payment rates are based upon the age of the annuitant at the time you establish the gift annuity.
- Enjoy immediate and future tax benefits, including a federal income tax deduction for a portion of your gift, if you itemize. You can schedule payments according to your financial needs, and a portion of each annuity payment will be tax-free (through life expectancy).
- The funds remaining after your lifetime will support our parish or school – as designated by you.

For more information, please visit giving.archchicago.org/cga. *To receive a free, no-obligation personalized illustration of how you could benefit from a Charitable Gift Annuity, contact Krystina M. Campbell, Planned Giving Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312.534.5404 or kcampbell@archchicago.org].*

40 Days of Life

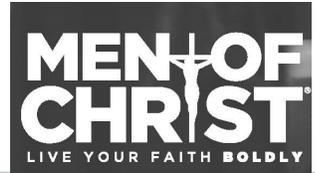


From Ash Wednesday, February 14th through Sunday, March 24th, you’re invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You’re also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside the Waukegan Planned Parenthood at 1601 N. Lewis Avenue in Waukegan, and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you’d like more information – and especially if you’d like to volunteer to help, please contact: Leslie at (847)951-1064 or hazfam6@com or the website, www.40daysforlife.com/waukegan.

Mastering What Matters

Saturday 17 February 2024

Kenosha/Racine Conference St. Joseph Catholic Academy
2401 69th Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin



START WITH CHRIST

The day begins with Mass and ends with a spiritual renewal.

BRING YOUR SONS

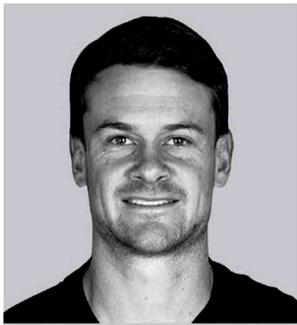
And sons, bring your Father. Build a special bond with a powerful blessing.

WIVES & DAUGHTERS

Support the men in your life and your parish throughout the morning in prayer.

COURAGEOUS PRIESTS

Our spiritual leaders will hear many confessions and heal countless souls.



Taylor Kemp

Taylor Kemp is a husband, Catholic convert, and former Major League Soccer player. He retired in 2018, and now shares the beauty of the faith through his testimony. Apart from God for many years, he experienced the challenges of converting from within a professional locker room, learning to share his faith, and evangelizing effectively. As Director of Formed for the Augustine Institute, Taylor helps those searching for, or struggling to live out, their faith.



Fr. Michael Lightner

Fr. Michael Lightner is a Pastor at Saints Mary and John the Baptist in Menasha. With a promising pro-career after being recognized as a standout football lineman, he was invited to try out for the NFL's Cleveland Browns. The path of playing football changed directions when he took a pilgrimage to Medjugorje and he experienced something so profound during confession. You won't want to miss this talk!



TICKETS
\$20

- 7:30 Mass
- 8:30 Hot Breakfast
- 9:30-12:00 Presentations
- 12:45-1:30 Optional Breakouts

Conference Contact

Mike Nuzzo
mikenuzzo52@gmail.com
Alan Padlock
alanpadlock@yahoo.com

Parish Contact

Name:
Email:
Phone:



Scan the QR code or visit: koc973.org/events

Reflect Weekend for Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s)

Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose and belonging? Register today for a life-changing *Reflect* weekend retreat at the Joseph and Mary Retreat House (formerly Cardinal Stritch Retreat House) in Mundelein, Illinois on **February 23-25, 2024**. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Cost is \$285 for meals and a single room. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com; e-mail reflect.chicagoland@gmail.com or call (630) 222-8303 for details.

Preparation for Confirmation for Spanish-speaking Adults in Vicariate I:

- 1) Santa Maria del Popolo Parish, 116 N. Lake, Mundelein will offer Confirmation preparation beginning **February 6**. Please call (847) 990-6857 for information.
- 2) Most Blessed Trinity Parish, 450 Keller Ave., Waukegan: Deacon Fredy Muñoz invites inquiries at fmunoz@archchicago.org.

Learning the Monastic Tradition: 101

Monastic Mondays

At St. Benedict Abbey Retreat Center, Benet Lake, WI
On Monday, February 12th,
from 10:00am – 2:00pm



Registration closes 48hrs before the retreat
Call to reserve your spot at 262-396-4311, ext. 104
\$10.00 per person, lunch included

FORMACIÓN PASTORAL MIGRATORIA

Todos los lunes del 12 de febrero al 18 de marzo, 2024. | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Santísima Trinidad/Most Blessed Trinity, 450 Keller Avenue, Waukegan, IL 60085

La Pastoral Migratoria responde al llamado bautismal de servir y acompañar, así como luchar por la justicia y permite que los inmigrantes se formen como líderes.

Venga y aprenda sobre:

- La Enseñanza Social de la Iglesia y su aplicación en la experiencia del pueblo inmigrante
- Conectar la fe y las necesidades de la comunidad con acciones sociales en su parroquia
- Equiparse para responder a las necesidades concretas de la comunidad parroquial

Al concluir la formación, se conducirá una comisión en la parroquia, con la aprobación del parroco.

La formación será presencial en la Parroquia de Santísima Trinidad.

Para más información, favor de comunicarse con Mauro Pineda al 312.534.8103 o mpineda@archchicago.org.

Favor de registrarse en este enlace:
forms.office.com/r/JbbpSmubPf?origin=lprLink.



JOIN US

LIGHT THE NIGHT

7th-12th graders join us at
LIGHT THE NIGHT at
CARMEL CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL on
Saturday, February 17, 2024

Scan the QR Code
for more info!



ST. BEDE SCHOOL

36399 N. Wilson Rd., Ingleside, IL 60041 - 847-587-5541 - www.stbedeschool.com

NOW ENROLLING FOR THE 2024/2025 SCHOOL YEAR
PRESCHOOL ~ 8TH GRADE

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

DISCOVER THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL DIFFERENCE

St. Bede Catholic School offers an exceptional program in a caring environment where the values taught at home are lived at school. People choose Catholic Schools as an extension of their families and family values. Every denomination is accepted and welcomed to attend.



Highlights of some of the things we have to offer:

- Pre-K—8th grade curriculums
- Variety of preschool programs
- Before and after school care
- Integrated technology in all classrooms
- One-to-one computers in grades 5-8
- Hot lunch program
- Student Council, Altar Serving, Art, Choir
- Year round school events
- Variety of competitive sports



For more information

Call St. Bede Catholic School at 847-587-5541 or email mtellez@stbedeschool.com



@SchoolStBede



@SchoolStBede