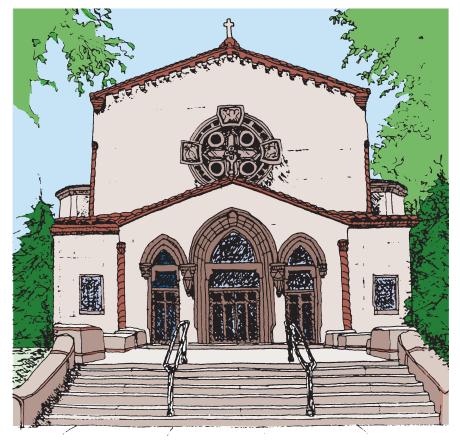
# Faith Community



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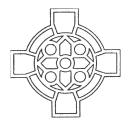
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2018 Guide Book & Directory

## St. Giles Parish

Welcoming + Worshiping + Walking the Way 1025 Columbian Ave., Oak Park, IL 60302 708-383-3430



#### Dear Parishioners:

A parish directory serves several purposes. First of all, it is a handy reference for parishioners to contact other parishioners who share membership and a commitment to St. Giles Parish community. Secondly, it gives a description and an overview of the parish's leadership and ministerial structure.

This year's directory once again features our Parish Leadership Design, which highlights the seven areas of parish life and ministry. The design has come from the needs expressed by parishioners and staff. It has as its purpose and goal the facilitation of better communication, collaboration, accountability and overall awareness of the ministries and organizations that sustain the life of our parish.

I am grateful to have this directory and hope you will also find it useful as a member of St. Giles. I am also grateful to the staff and parishioners who continue to accept the role of leadership within our community. As we work together to create a dynamic and spirit-filled parish life, let us pray with and for each other.

A special word of thanks to all who make this directory possible, especially the business sponsors and the office staff.

In peace and prayer,

Rev. Carl Morello

#### Please note:

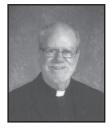
This directory is for the private use of our parishioners. It is not to be lent, sold or given to any person, company or agency for any purpose whatsoever. Everyone's cooperation is asked for and expected out of respect for the persons listed. Thank you.



Father Carl Morello Pastor



Father Edward P. Salmon Resident



Father Thomas E. Unz Resident



Mr. John (Lois) Henricks Deacon



Mr. Loretto (Carlotta) Madonia, Jr. Mr. William (Abbie) Pouncy Deacon



Deacon



Mr. Gerald (Madonna) Zych Deacon



Ms. Deirdre Buckingham Director of Pastoral Ministries



Ms. Linda Czekalski Business Manager



Ms. Emily Davis Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director



Ms. Alex Ryan Liturgy Coordinator



Ms. Susan Kaszynski Music/Liturgy Director



Ms. Marrey Picciotti Parish Life and Formation Director



Ms. Kathy Lofgren Interim Principal St. Giles School

## Parish Pastoral Staff

Parish Office (Parish Center) 1025 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60302
Phone
FAX
EMAILstgiles@stgilesparish.org
Parish website <b>www.stgilesparish.org</b>
Pastor
In Residence
In Residence
DeaconLoretto (Carlotta) Madonia
Deacon
DeaconGerald (Madonna) Zych
Parish Business Manager Ms. Linda Czekalski 708-383-3430, #419
Youth and Young Adult Ministries Director
Ms. Emily Davis 708-383-3430, #421
Music/Liturgy Director Ms. Susan Kaszynski 708-383-3430, #423
Parish SecretaryMs. Rachel Faulman 708-383-3430, #401
Accounts Administrator . Ms. Sharon Bresnahan 708-383-3430, #420
Parish Life and Formation Director
Liturgy Coordinator
Director of Pastoral Ministries
Ms. Deirdre Buckingham 708-383-3430, #404
<b>Religious Education Office -</b> 1025 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60302
Phone
EMAILreled@stgilesparish.org
Religious Education Admn. Asst.
Traditional Religious Education Coordinator
School Office - 1034 N. Linden Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60302
Phone
FAX
EMAILoffice@stgilesschool.org
School websitewww.stgilesschool.org
Interim PrincipalMs. Kathy Lofgren#504
Asst. Principal
Development OfficeMs. Kelly Richard#517
Maintenance Department - 1034 N. Linden Avenue
Phone
Dennis White, Larry Wardzala
Family Mass Community
Liturgy Administrator
Liturgy Director

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4pm - 12am Saturday 11am - 12am Sunday

4pm - 10pm

11am - 10pm Charity Bingo at 7pm!

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## St. Giles Parish Mission Statement

As the sacramental Community of St. Giles, we are inspired by Jesus Christ to live his teachings as grateful disciples. We do this through worship, education, spiritual formation and service. Fall 2005

Schedule of Services

Weekend Masses

(through May 27, 2018)

Weekend Masses (as of June 2, 2018)

**Family Mass Community** 

Weekday Masses

**Holy Days** 

**Infant Baptisms** 

Parent Baptismal **Preparation Sessions** 

Marriages

Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls

Adult Preparation for Sacraments

**Eucharistic Adoration** 

New Parishioners

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Rosary for Peace in Honor of Our Blessed Mother Every Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

> Welcome to our parish! We are happy to have you join us. Please come to the Parish

Office to register.

Saturday 8:00 a.m., Vigil 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 7:45 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m., Vigil 4:30 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. in the Gym. (Summer months in McDonough Hall)

6:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

As scheduled

(Check weekly issue of The Arrow or the Parish website: www.stgilesparish.org) 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, 1:00 p.m.

(through May, 2018)

1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, 12:00 p.m.

(as of June, 2018)

1st Tuesday and 3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. Please notify the Parish Office of your chosen date of

attendance.

Registered Parishioners, please call the Parish Office and speak with a priest or deacon at

least 6 months before the wedding date. Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 8:30-9:00 a.m. or by appointment

Please call the Parish Office to make

arrangements.

Please contact Deirdre Buckingham at the Parish Office for information.

Every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Every Monday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.

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## Parish Pastoral Council

The purpose of the Parish Pastoral Council is to exercise shared responsibility for the pastoral life of the parish under the leadership of the pastor.

The PPC is made up of parish volunteers who are chosen through a discernment process and agree to serve for a three-year term beginning in September of each year. The Council prayerfully engages the people and the pastor in common reflection about the parish's mission and ministry. It plans and evaluates in light of the Gospel and church teaching. The following are the current members:

Chair: Mr. Jim Gates;

Associate Chairs: Ms. Margaret Murphy and Ms. Alex Ryan

Secretary: Mr. John Hachem (Deanery)

Ms. Mary Ann Bloom Ms. Maudette Carr (Deanery) Mr. Frank Lipo Ms. Chris Malagoli Mr. Bill Ryan Ms. Maria Samatas

#### The four basic responsibilities of the Council are:

- To research the needs, the ideas and the hopes of the faith community;
- To encourage and support existing ministries;
- To evaluate the quality of life of the parish faith community;
- To plan for the parish's future by recommending policies, procedures, and programs that will implement its values and fulfill the Church's mission.

At present the Council meets monthly on the 1st Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.





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#### Contact Kevin or Diana

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## Parish Mission Statement Prayer

Lord of life and joy,

As the sacramental community of St. Giles, we delight in awe and wonder in Your boundless love, sensing Your divine presence everywhere, in everyone.

We offer in thanksgiving, the simple gifts of welcome, hospitality and respect to friend and stranger alike.

Called by Jesus Christ to live His teachings, we pray that we may be a visible sign of your presence in the world in all that we do: worship, education, spiritual formation and service.

Send forth Your Spirit to strengthen and renew us, O Lord. fill us with Your infinite love, and make us into generous and joy-filled stewards of Your many blessings.

We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, who is God forever and ever. Amen.

## St. Giles Parish Leadership

Following is the listing of all the ministries and organizations in their respective areas.

**ADULT FAITH LIFE:** Encompasses the clubs and organizations of the parish that give adults opportunities for church service and fellowship that in turn support and develop the faith of adults, married or single, in such areas as religious study, spirituality and service.

Baptism Preparation Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Communion & Liberation Seniors

Council of Catholic Women Small Groups, Enrichment, etc.

Respect Life Young Adults Men's Society

**CAMPUS LIFE & OPERATIONS:** Encompasses committees and groups that oversee the various means of communication to the parish community and oversee the stewardship of the parish resources and the care of the facilities and environment.

Bulletin Editor Gardeners
Calendar Maintenance
Cleaning Staff Collection Counters

Facilities Committee Office Staff

Finance Committee Website Committee

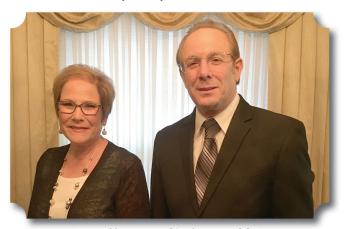
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Lifelong Family Parishioners Serving The People of St. Giles and The Community. **FAMILY FAITH LIFE:** Encompasses the ministries that assist families in St. Giles Parish with living out their call as disciples of Jesus Christ through worship, education, spiritual formation and service opportunities.

School PTC

Band Aides School Board of Specified Jurisdiction

Pre-School Religious Ed. Program (PREP)

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Family Religious Education (homeschool)

Sacramental Preparation for Children

Traditional Religious Education 1-8 SPRED

**PASTORAL CARE:** Encompasses ministries that help meet the emotional and spiritual needs of those who are new to the parish, those having special needs, the homebound and those who are experiencing loss.

Anointing of the Sick Ministry of Consolation

Counseling Services Prayer Circle

Helping Hands Prayer Shawl Ministry

Ministry of Care Welcoming

PEACE, JUSTICE & OUTREACH: Guided by our Catholic Social

Teachings, these ministries focus on justice issues that confront our parish, our local communities, our state, our nation and our world. Our ministries reach out to the poor, the refugee, the immigrant and the disenfranchised.

Bagged Lunch Program for the Homeless

Exodus Refugee Ministry
Food Pantry Delivery
Lenten Soup Suppers
PADS Volunteers

San Jose Obrero Soup Kitchen
Sharing Parish Outreach
Social Justice Ministry
Thanksgiving Dinner

**WORSHIP:** Encompasses ministries that support and deepen the prayer and liturgical life of the parish through ministry formation, training, liturgy preparation, catechesis, art, and music.

Liturgy

Art & Environment Mass Adapted for Children

Children's Liturgy of the Word
Eucharistic Adoration
Teen Mass

Seasonal Planning
Stations of the Cross
Wedding Coordinator

Music

Adult Choir Eighth Grade Choir

Cantors/Instrumentalists Handbells

Children's Choir High School Ensemble

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers (Adult & Children) Lectors
Eucharistic Ministers Sacristans
Greeters Ushers



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John Bassi - Parishioner

(708) 848-6661 (773) 637-4441 **YOUTH MINISTRY:** Encompasses opportunities for high school and junior high students to explore and share their faith, discover and use their gifts, serve those in need, and build community with one another and the larger parish.

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## St. Giles Parish - A Mini-History

Good and loving God, Source of every grace and blessing, We bring You thanks this day for many gifts You have given us.

We seek to be good stewards, Lord!
Bless us as we gather here
To share Your gifts.

Send us Your Spirit
And be present among usIn the mouths of all who speak,
In the ears of all who listen,
At the heart of all we say and do. Amen.

It is difficult today to imagine that in the early 20th century, north Oak Park was largely farmland. There were no streets north of Division Street. The area between Narragansett and Oak Park Avenues along North Avenue was the setting for the Galewood Golf Course. This was an area, however, destined for growth and development.

More and more Catholic families began establishing homes in this area. Cardinal Mundelein recognized this population movement. To anticipate the needs of Catholics who were to come in ever increasing numbers, he ordered the establishment of a new parish. Farm property known as Kelly's farm was purchased. A new parish had come into being - St. Giles.

Rev. Lawrence W. Frawley was appointed pastor of St. Giles on June 17, 1927.

The first church was the basement of the Reedy family home, 1005 N. Kenilworth Avenue. There Mass was celebrated and meetings were held to make plans for the erection of a portable building which would house the already growing congregation. Within a month a portable building was purchased from Sears Roebuck. The first parish building was up, and on August 7th, Mass was celebrated for the first time in the little frame building on Greenfield Street, between Linden and Columbian Avenues. Nearly three hundred adults were present.

Fr. Frawley and his parishioners went to work at once to build a permanent building. This was to be the first of a compact parish group of buildings. The most urgent need was felt to be a school, for no parochial work is more important than the molding, spiritual and mental, of the children.



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#### St. Giles Parish Guide Book & Directory

The architectural style was Northern Italian. Clean, strong lines made the building beautiful, and ornamentation was centered around and above the entrances. Soft-hued Mankato stone was used for the exterior.

The first floor of the new building (today's Rt. Rev. Msgr. Lawrence W. Frawley Building) was used for a church with a seating capacity of 600. On the second floor, there were six classrooms, which accommodated 340 pupils. Fifteen months after he named the parish, Cardinal Mundelein returned to St. Giles to dedicate the new building. It was the Feast of Christ the King, October 28, 1928.

The school was put under the direction of the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, Wisconsin. There were four sisters on the faculty, Sister Catherine Cecilia being the first superior. Seventy-five pupils were enrolled for the first term, the first graduating class was nine strong.

Initially the sisters commuted from Rosary College by cab. This inconvenient situation prompted the procuring of the second structure in the parish group. Rather than construct a new building at the time, a large residence that would house the sisters was purchased.

In 1933 the school had grown so much that more classrooms had to be opened, which meant more sisters would be needed. Fr. Frawley organized a drive to build a new, far bigger convent for the sisters. The style desired was Italian, and the stone was Mankato. Soon afterwards the sisters moved into their permanent home at 1025 Columbian.

As the parish grew, assistants were sent to help Fr. Frawley in his ministrations to the people. With the pastor, they lived in a temporary rectory, and it was time to build a permanent home for them close to the other parish buildings. The present rectory was built and completed in 1942.

In 1938 plans were made to build a new church to replace the one situated in the school building. Cardinal Mundelein laid the cornerstone of our present church edifice in July of 1938. At that time only four walls and a temporary ceiling were put up. In 1946 there was a problem posed to the parishioners - whether to repair the temporary roof or to build a permanent roof.

It was decided to build the windows and permanent roof, and to finish the interior of the church in a fitting manner. Marbles from Italy, France and Africa were chosen for the sanctuary and the shrines and altars. Molds inspired by the best work of Renaissance artists were designed and cast for the ceiling. The second World War had interrupted production of many of the things called for by the plan, and it wasn't until June 1948 that work actually began. The church was finished in two years. On May 14, 1950, Cardinal Stritch came to dedicate our church.

Again in 1952 the pressing need for more classrooms faced Fr. Frawley. The decision he made was to build a combination school-gymnasium. On November 18, 1952 construction was begun. In September 1954, Cardinal Stritch again came to dedicate another building at St. Giles, now known as the Rev. Joseph E. Corrigan Building on Linden Avenue.

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In the spring of 1959, construction was begun on yet another addition to our parish, what is now the Rt. Rev. Msgr. James D. Gleeson Building on the corner of Greenfield and Columbian. This school building was ready for occupancy in the fall of 1960.

After a long illness, Msgr. Frawley died July 31, 1964, and was succeeded by Rt. Rev. Msgr. James D. Gleeson. It was during Msgr. Gleeson's pastorate that the liturgical changes decreed by the Second Vatican Council were implemented. The main altar with its marble mosaic was relocated in a prominent forward position along with other modifications that opened up the sanctuary space. Msgr. was pastor until his retirement in 1972. He was our pastor emeritus until his death on November 24, 1992.

In August 1972, Rev. Thomas B. McDonough was appointed by Cardinal Cody to St. Giles as our third pastor. To accommodate the ever-increasing need for more space for meetings and the various spiritual and social events held at the parish, a second floor was added onto the Gleeson Building. Construction began in the summer of 1981 and on January 7, 1983, Archbishop Joseph Bernardin came to St. Giles to dedicate the new Guild Hall.

Just months before his retirement, but following a long illness, Fr. McDonough died on April 16, 1989. In honor of Fr. McDonough's 45 years of religious service, the Women's Guild of the Tabernacle (later renamed St. Giles Council of Catholic Women) honored Fr. McDonough's memory by changing the Guild Hall name to McDonough Hall. It is in this hall that we gather as a parish family for meetings, educational and spiritual evenings, and many wonderful social events; a place where we have shared moments of laughter and times of quiet reflection.

In June 1989, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin appointed Rev. Joseph Edward Corrigan from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Chicago to be pastor of St. Giles.

On August 27, 1989 Fr. Corrigan was installed by Bishop Thad Jakubowski as our fourth pastor. Under his pastorate St. Giles began a three-year program, *To Restore the Gift*. The buildings and spaces of St. Giles Parish are a gift that our predecessors gave to us through their hard work and sacrifice. But time and use had taken their toll on our parish facilities. Over \$750,000 was pledged and used for restoration work to our beautiful buildings.

Fr. Corrigan died suddenly on February 20, 1994 - a few months before he would have celebrated his 60th birthday. In his memory, the new St. Giles Church sign, donated by the St. Giles Guild of the Tabernacle (Council of Catholic Women) and designed by the Parish's Facilities Committee, was dedicated on October 2, 1994.

#### St. Giles Parish Guide Book & Directory

On September 1, 1994, the Feast of St. Giles, Joseph Cardinal Bernardin appointed Rev. Thomas M. Dore as the fifth pastor of St. Giles. Ordained on May 1, 1961, Fr. Dore was installed as pastor November 20, 1994 by Bishop Thad Jakubowski.

Fr. Dore completed the three-year To Restore the Gift campaign begun by Fr. Corrigan and instituted the Call to Excellence annual capital fund appeal to continue the repair and upgrading of parish facilities. In the fall of 1995, in order to establish parish life on the foundation of faith and not merely on need, Fr. Dore invited and encouraged the parishioners to live the Stewardship Way of Life as members of the Household of God.

This essentially means that, by acknowledging God's total love, each person is called to share gratefully and generously the God-given gifts of Time, Talent and Treasure with the parish and wider community.

As the new millennium and the parish 75th anniversary approached, the Parish Pastoral Council initiated a long-range strategic planning process to establish a clear focus for the parish's future. The first phase of the process was a needs assessment program called *SOLAR* (Summer of Listening and Reflection). In the summer of 2000, nearly 400 parishioners gathered to share their hopes and dreams for the parish regarding ministries, programs, staff, facilities and finance. The data gathered along with input from the staff and parish leaders was presented to the parish in May 2001.

Phase Two of the strategic planning process focused on the practical vision for the future of St. Giles Parish, the underlying challenges that might make it difficult to achieve that vision and the strategic directions needed to help make that vision a reality.

Phase Three, the action phase, is an ongoing process wherein parishioners begin to flesh out practical and doable action plans that will move us toward making the vision a reality. The process, called *SPARC - Stewards Planning a Renewed Community -* is the catalyst for embarking the parish on a successful path toward our 100th anniversary and beyond.

One of the dreams of the parish community identified by the *SOLAR* process was the renovation of the former convent building into usable space for our ever-growing parish ministries.

That dream, a remodeling of the former convent building for parish administration offices and school classrooms, was fulfilled in September 2004 as a major component of *The Good Gift* appeal. The renovated building (now named the Rev. Thomas Dore Parish Center) houses parish offices, a parish "living room" and library, meeting space for parish ministries and the school computer lab, art room, library and Spanish room. The first floor of the Gleeson Building is available for school, religious education and parish activities.

Once the renovation was completed in 2004, the parish staff embarked on a long-range process to develop a comprehensive leadership structure to enhance the quality of our parish community's communication, collaboration and accountability. Raising the parishioners awareness of the scope of parish ministry and the service the community so generously supports was a secondary goal.

On July 1, 2009, upon the retirement of Fr. Thomas Dore, Frances Cardinal George appointed Fr. Carl Morello as the sixth pastor of St. Giles Parish. Bishop Thomas Paprocki officiated at Fr. Morello's installation on September 13, 2009. Fr. Morello was warmly welcomed by the parish, staff and Parish Council; we look forward to many years of shared ministry.

St. Giles Parish has grown and developed at a steady pace from its founding in 1927 right through the depression years, the war years, and the post-war boom - and the results could never be duplicated today. Not only are the arts and skills of the Italian craftsmen who provided the marble work, intricate ceilings, carvings and mosaics lost to us now, but costs would be prohibitive. How did the parishioners manage in those days? Certainly they had to make sacrifices to provide these structures, but they saw the need and responded generously. On May 25, 1952 when our parish celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, Cardinal Stritch spoke these words: "From a farmland and in its shadow these beautiful buildings - this is the story... If you search for miracles, this is the one. A miracle of charity and sacrifices."

In fall 2014, in the wake of the successful capital campaign, and soon after completing his first five years at the helm of St. Giles, Fr. Carl Morello established a Parish Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) to work with the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) to look ahead to the next five years of parish operations. Tasked with an examination of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats facing St. Giles inside its campus and in the broader community, this overarching group was asked to use its collective experience of St. Giles parish life and its varied professional and personal skills to set a course for the next five years.

This strategic planning process culminated in the development of a number of focused goals for St. Giles Parish reflected in the Strategic Plan 2015-2020 or *Vision 2020*. The full plan is intended as an organic, living document to be used as a planning tool by the pastor, parish staff, key parish leaders, and active ministries. That will only be the case if the Strategic Plan is used as a road map, reviewed on an ongoing basis by the PPC, SPC, Finance Committee, the School Board and Religious Education leadership, and the leaders of various ministries.

The *Vision 2020* Plan was then developed with the intention of determining those primary initiative areas that are pivotal to the success of the St. Giles Mission and to recommend goals for implementation that should ensure the long term success of our parish in achieving that Mission.

To that end, three Foundational Goals for 2015-2020 were identified:

**A. Initiative Area 1:** To Protect and Enhance the Gifts and Resources with which we've been Blessed.

Goal 1: To Focus On Revenue Generation and Management Goal 2: To Improve Budgeting and Forecasting

**B. Initiative Area 2:** Be Relevant to all Parishioners and the Community.

#### 1. Religious Education

Goal 1: Make the Sacraments A "Deeper, Richer Experience" Connected To RE Instruction In and Out of School

Goal 2: Help Post-Confirmation Teens Feel Connected To Each Other and To the Broader Faith Community

Goal 3: Ensure the RE Programs Are Well Supported By Integrating More Adult Parishioners

Goal 4: Provide Formal and Informal Opportunities To Communicate With RE Leaders

#### 2. St. Giles School

Goal 1: Academics - Achieve and Build Upon Academic Excellence

Goal 2: Values – Ensure That Our Students Understand and Own Our Catholic Identity

Goal 3: Nurturing Community – Develop Long-Term School Commitment

Goal 4: Leadership – Develop Successful Graduates, Lifelong Learners and Citizens of A Global World

#### 3. Teens and Young Adults

Goal 1: To Engage Teens and Help Them Form an Identity That Includes St. Giles Parish

## C. Initiative Area 3: Grow the Active Participation of Parishioners.

Goal 1: Identify Our Parishioners and Their Needs

Goal 2: Identify Key Groups That Need Programming to Help Grow Active Participation

Goal 3: To Communicate With Young Adults So That They Look First To St. Giles Parish As Their Spiritual Home and Faith-Based Community.

Greater detail on the objectives of each goal and the specific implementation benchmarks can be found on the Parish website. One area addressed in August 2016 was the addition to the staff of Emily Davis as Directory of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

Our parish complex consists of our church and rectory, plus four other buildings (Dore Parish Center, Frawley, Gleeson and Corrigan) that host St. Giles School, Parish and Religious Education offices and programs, the Family Mass Community and our parish hall (McDonough Hall). See map on page 19.

In January, 2013, the St. Giles Parish community launched a \$4 million renovation and improvement initiative entitled *The Shared Cup* to address the maintenance needs of our church and campus buildings. In a relatively short period of time, more than \$3.5 million in pledge commitments were received toward the following funding priorities.

Through the generosity of one parish family, Daprato Rigali Studios began work on the plaster restoration and cleaning of the church in October 2013 as an exciting first step in the process. In addition, DRS addressed a problem encountered with the south-side upper stained glass windows and that additional expense was also covered by the same generous family. The Church lighting was enhanced with more cost effective, higher efficiency bulbs. By Easter Sunday 2014, we truly had something joyful to celebrate. The air conditioning system was tested that spring and several unforeseen problems were detected. Finally in June, the system was successfully rebuilt and back in working order.

While work was being done in the Church, a Renovation Committee was formed to tackle the improvements and renovation needs for the rest of our campus buildings. First on the agenda was choosing an architect that would recognize our needs and understand our vision for the Gleeson Building.

The selection process, which began in March 2014, ended in late May with the selection of Jaeger Nickola Kuhlman & Associates, Ltd. After numerous meetings with the Renovation Committee and school and religious education staff, they presented their drawings to the Parish in September 2014 at a Town Hall meeting. Those attending approved the plans which incorporated the new portico, designed to be more welcoming and better mirror the architecture of the Church. By April 2015, Ward Construction was hired as the general contractor and the Gleeson Building was to became a major construction zone beginning in late May through the early fall.

The redesigned and renovated Early Childhood and Formation Center on the first floor was ready to welcome our preschoolers after Labor Day and received rave reviews from teachers and parents alike. Work continued into October on the second floor and the portico. Finally, on Sunday, October 18, 2015, Fr Carl Morello and gathered parishioners processed from Church after the 11:15 a.m. Mass to bless the new entrance. An "Open Hall" followed where all could now tour the building and also see the second floor which is home to a renovated conference room, updated bathrooms, and a beautiful new McDonough Hall.

The last phase of *The Shared Cup* capital campaign was the replacement of windows in the school buildings. The Frawley Building basement windows were addressed in the summer of 2016. The Corrigan Building windows were replaced over the 2016 Christmas vacation. Pledges and gifts totaling \$3.786 million were made with cash receipts to date of \$3.783 million. Even though we did not reach our \$4 million goal, 690 parishioner households did choose to offer their support and become part of the St. Giles legacy.

In early 2018, St. Giles will launch the *Foundations of Faith* campaign as our response to the Archdiocesan-wide Capital Campaign, *To Teach Who Christ Is*. At the time of this printing, the Leadership team has been assembled, and the funding priorities for the Parish portion of the campaign are being finalized.

On June 17, 2017, St. Giles celebrated its 90th anniversary as a parish community. An outdoor Mass was celebrated at the annual block party recognizing the milestone. In October, the parish held 90 hours of Eucharistic Adoration to give praise and thanksgiving for the last 90 years and to pray for the Spirit to guide us through the next 90.

Countless men, women and children have been introduced to the faith, have celebrated the sacraments, and have found friendships and encouragement within the walls of our parish buildings and within the hearts of the people who are the "Church" of St. Giles - people who have worked and sacrificed, laughed and cried together in order to create community that gives praise and thanks to God. As we look forward to the years ahead, our lives will continue to be motivated by sacrifice and great faith.

## Our Patron Saint - St. Giles

Our parish is named after a Gallican saint who was a hermit and Abbot, and was a native of Athens. St. Giles lived in the eighth century about 500 years after St. Anthony, who was the first hermit. He fled Athens for Marseilles to avoid the honors his countrymen wished to pay him and fixed his hermitage in a desert spot near the mouth of the Rhone River. He lived off of wild roots, herbs and the milk of deer, and befriended the deer for they were being hunted down by the King's hunters. One day, he was accidentally shot in the knee by an arrow that was meant for the deer. So that he might better mortify the flesh, Giles refused to have the knee cured, and so he remained disabled for life. The King of France greatly esteemed the holy hermit and gave him land on which to build a monastery, which became a large and flourishing Abbey. St. Giles is variously depicted, but almost always with a deer. He is usually represented as an old man with an arrow in his knee. Because of his lameness, St. Giles has become the "Patron Saint of the Handicapped."

His feast day is September 1st.

