



**PREACHING
SLAM!**

Meet our preachers >

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.



Martie Ryan Lukanich, a long time parishioner of St Francis Xavier, involved in various ministries, is a wife, mother of 6 sons, 5 daughters in law and 17 grandchildren. She is a graduate of St Mary's College, Notre Dame, and has a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Adler University.

She coordinated a Parents as Teachers program from 2002-2022 and is a Clinical Psychologist in private practice for over 25 years.

She is an Associate of the Congregation of St Joseph, a volunteer leader for Discerning Deacons in Chicago, a member of the Archdiocesan Women's Council, graduate of the Catholic Women's Preaching Circle. A trained listener and frequent facilitator of Conversations in the Spirit, she sees Synodality—listening together—as our hope for the future.

**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be satisfied**



Jennifer Corliss Reid, the Pastoral Associate at St. Moses the Black Parish, is a native Chicagoan who grew up and currently resides on the South Side of the city. She is also the proud mother to her son Jordan, a photographer, who graduated from Columbia College. Jennifer received her undergraduate degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C., her Master of Arts and Pastoral Studies from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, and her Certificate

as a Lay Ecclesial Minister from Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelein.

After working in the social service field for more than 20 years, she found her calling to work in ministry by pursuing and accepting a position at the Church where she grew up. Shortly thereafter, she enrolled in graduate school to gain theological knowledge, spiritual practices and learn ministerial skills and pastoral abilities. In addition to her ministry at St. Moses the Black, Jennifer also works part-time as a Theological Reflection Facilitator at the Catholic Theological Union.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.



Maggie McMahon has served as the Pastoral Associate at St Francis Xavier for the past five years. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Accountancy and Theology and a Master of Divinity from the University of Notre Dame, and completed Pastoral Associate Certification in the Archdiocese of Chicago through the Institute of Pastoral Leadership at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelein. Master of Divinity from the University of Notre Dame in 2020, and she has a

particular passion for facilitating the co-responsible leadership of lay people in the Church. As a mother of four young children, she particularly loves to reflect on the importance of living daily life with great love. By walking with the Holy Spirit in the ordinariness of our daily lives, we can "consecrate the world itself to God."

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.



Bridget O'Brien serves as the Director of Ministry at Old St. Patrick's Church in downtown Chicago. Before joining Old St. Pat's in 2024, she worked in college ministry and student affairs outside Boston. She holds a Master of Theological Studies degree from Weston Jesuit School of Theology and completed coursework toward a PhD in Systematic Theology at the University of Notre Dame. Originally from Philadelphia, Bridget enjoys cities, good stationery supplies, and playing Dungeons and Dragons with friends.

Blessed are they who are persecuted
for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you
and utter every kind of evil against you because of me.



Chrissy Alagna serves as the Youth Ministry Coordinator at St. Francis Xavier, with a heart deeply rooted in faith and service. She holds a bachelor's degree in Communication with a minor in Public Health, but it was during her academic journey that she felt a profound call to ministry. Responding to that call, she returned to school and is currently pursuing a Master of Theology at the Augustine Institute. Passionate about walking alongside young people on their spiritual journey, she is dedicated to helping them feel seen, heard, and loved—just as Jesus would. Her mission is not to be the focus, but rather a vessel through which others can encounter Christ and grow deeper in their relationship with Him.