



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out,
he found him and said, "Do you believe in the
Son of Man?" - Jn 9:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MARCH 19, 2023

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

5901 KERTH ROAD, ST. LOUIS MO 63128

PARISH STAFF

CLERGY

Fr. Chuck Barthel, Pastor cbarthel@marymother.org
Deacon Randy Howe rhowe@marymother.org
Deacon Robert Smerek bsmerek@marymother.org
Deacon Richard Coffman

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ann Garavaglia agaravaglia@marymother.org
Mary Brutcher mbrutcher@marymother.org
Amanda Nielsen anielsen@marymother.org

BULLETIN ARTICLES bulletin@marymother.org

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY

Nate Jackson njackson@marymother.org

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Cheryl Degenhart cdegenhart@marymother.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Clare Ernst cernst@marymother.org

MAINTENANCE

Greg Klobe gklobe@marymother.org

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

Michele Venable parishnurse@marymother.org

CHILD SAFETY COORDINATOR

Amanda Nielsen anielsen@marymother.org

PARISH ADDRESS AND OFFICE HOURS

5901 Kerth Road, St. Louis, 63128-3705
(314) 894-1373 fax: (314) 894-3801

Monday thru Thursday: 9:00 am — 5:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am. — 4:00 pm Saturday: **Closed**

Website: www.marymother.org

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/MMOCSTL

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HELP LINE

314-289-6101 #2228 or svdp@marymother.org

Scrap metal pickup call 314-374-4680

FAITH DIRECT - ONLINE GIVING

1-866-507-8757. Our parish code is MO56.

MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. Mass in Church
Saturday 4:30 p.m. (Anticipatory)
Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. or by appointment

MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Rosary Daily after 8:30 a.m. Mass
Sunday 6:30 p.m. in Caton Chapel

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 2022-2023

LEADERSHIP TEAM

CHAIRPERSON Steve Maurer
pcchair@marymother.org

VICE-CHAIRPERSON Lisa Roseland
pcveep@marymother.org

SECRETARY Andria Benmuvhar
pcsec@marymother.org

ADVISOR Dave Baranowski
pcadvisor@marymother.org

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONS

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE Claude Leezy
adfin@marymother.org

CHRISTIAN FORMATION Kim Blackford
formation@marymother.org

CHRISTIAN SERVICE Mark Fuller
service@marymother.org

MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP Jeanne Rothermel
discipleship@marymother.org

HEALTH MINISTRY Matt Clancy
health@marymother.org

LITURGY Sandy Hacker
liturgy@marymother.org

SOCIAL Lois Scully
social@marymother.org

YOUTH Vitoria Ramos
youth@marymother.org

REQUEST PRAYER outreach@marymother.org

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Infant baptisms are celebrated throughout the year except during the season of Lent. Parents are to be registered members of the parish and are encouraged to call the rectory for an initial appointment during the pregnancy.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Any adult seeking to become a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church is invited to call the rectory.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements for the Sacrament of Marriage are to be made by the prospective bride and groom with the priest or deacon at least nine months before the wedding.

ANOIDING OF SICK

Communal celebrations of the Anointing of the Sick are offered seasonally. Contact the parish office to request the sacrament for yourself or a family member .

A Letter from Deacon Randy

Today we celebrate Laetare Sunday. The term Laetare comes from the first word of the Entrance Antiphon for today's Eucharistic Celebration: Rejoice. The Entrance Antiphon for today is "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning." Do you feel like rejoicing? Are those who are mourning really feel like being joyful? This week marks the middle of our Lenten Season, so we are nearer to Easter than we are to Ash Wednesday. Perhaps it is a good time to consider where we are on this continuum. Are we closer to God than we were on Ash Wednesday? Are we closer to our brothers and sisters than we were a few short weeks ago? If we aren't, there is still time. That is one of the beautiful things about our God. God never forgets or abandons us. As we hear in the Gospels, Jesus always tends to seek out the lost, the isolated, the hurting, the mourning and He invites all of us back into that special relationship of love with the God who loves us first. I think one of the most special parts of today's Gospel is when the blind man is thrown out of the temple. Jesus not only heals the blind man, but he does not leave him to fend for himself. Jesus comes back to meet the man and invite him into a relationship with himself just as Jesus does for each of us. The blind man has a personal encounter with Jesus. The blind man enters into a relationship with Jesus and the blind man invites others to meet Jesus. My friends, this is the definition of the evangelization process. Jesus is the one who cures us of our spiritual blindness, and he invites us into the most important relationship that we can possibly have; a relationship with God! Once we have entered into this relationship, are we willing to invite others to meet and to love and be loved by the God who first loved us? Are we willing to be the bold witness and the radiant light that God

is asking us to be?

I would like to share with you a short passage from Henri Nouwen entitled "Returning to Trust." "In my own life I well know how hard it is for me to trust that I am loved, and to trust that the intimacy I most crave is there for me. I most often live as if I have to earn love, do something noteworthy, and then perhaps I might get something in return.

This attitude touches the whole question for what is called in the spiritual life the "first love." Do I really believe that I am loved first, independent of what I do or what I accomplish? This is an important question because as long as I think that what I most need I have to earn, deserve and collect by hard work, I will never get what I most need and desire, which is a love that cannot be earned, but that is freely given.

Thus, my return is my willingness to renounce such thoughts and to choose to live more and more from my true identity as a cherished child of God."

You and I are truly the cherished children of God. We are loved and never left alone. Like the blind man, Jesus is willing to heal us and then walk with us through the joys and hurts of this life.

Rejoice and Be Joyful,

Deacon Randy



Welcome to Mary, Mother of the Church

If you are visiting us, we pray that through our worship, you may see us as a radiant light in the world and a bold witness to those whose lives we touch, inspiring them to love one another as God loves us.

If you are new to the area and would like more information about Mary, Mother of the Church, please contact us by coming into the parish office Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. or Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

You can also call us at 314-894-1373 or email: agaravaglia@marymother.org We hope you find a home here among friends who pray together, work together and play together.

Bulletin Deadline

The bulletin company deadlines for the Easter season are as follows:

Bulletin Date	Submission Date
▪ April 2, Palm Sunday	▪ March 26, by NOON
▪ April 9, Easter Sunday	▪ March 27, by NOON

All articles are do by 12:00 NOON on the above dates because of the short time available to create bulletins.

I will be out of the office as of March 29th until April 10th.

Contemplative Corner #309

At the MMOC Contemplative Core Team's recent workshop on The Welcoming Prayer, Deacon Bob Smerek summarized a practice to welcome all of life as an opportunity to love as the Divine loves and be one with the Trinity:

Sit quietly and think of three issues/things that are Hot Button issues for you. Pick one of these three issues and reflect on the times most recently that someone or something pushed this Hot Button: How did you react? How did you feel? Were you afraid of something happening? Were you looking for affirmation, respect, love? Were you trying to control something about the situation?

If possible, gaze upon a sacred object and ask yourself, what is God telling me now? Pray the Welcoming Prayer below and sit silently in the presence of the Trinity.

Repeat these steps with other Hot Button issues as they arise.

Prayer of Welcoming

Welcome – Welcome – Welcome

I welcome all the feelings, emotions, thoughts, sensations, and commentaries I now have.

I let go of all these feelings, emotions, thoughts, sensations, and commentaries out of love for you, my Lord.

I let go of my desire to be Safe & Secure, Affirmed & Loved, and In Control.

I do this because I trust in you, O Lord,
For all things good in my life. Amen.



Mercy Minute

TRUST = Total Reliance Upon Saving Truth, which is Jesus Christ..

St. Faustina

Lenten Service Schedule

- **Evening of Prayer & Song**
(Stations of the Cross) - Friday, March 24 @ 7:00
- **Lenten Reconciliation Service** Tuesday, March 28 @ 7:00
- **Stations of the Cross** Friday, March 31 @ 3:00
- **Palm Sunday** Saturday, April 1 @ 4:30
Sunday, April 2 @ 9:00 and 11:00
- **Lectio for Holy Week** Tuesday, April 4 @ 7:00
- **Holy Thursday** April 6, Morning Prayer @ 8:30am
Evening Mass @ 7:00pm
Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel 9:00 - 10:00 pm
- **Good Friday** April 7 Morning Prayer @ 8:30am
Stations of the Cross 3:00pm
Reading of the Passion @ 7:00pm
- **Holy Saturday** April 8 Morning Prayer 8:30am
Vigil Mass at 8:00pm
- **Easter Sunday** April 9 Mass @ 9:00am & 11:00am



A Thank you from People to People:

Provides direct aid to the people in Haiti, 80% of whom live in poverty.

This letter is long overdue, but a lot has been happening to help our poor. In May we shipped three containers of supplies to Haiti from Miami. The containers were filled with food, clothes, shoes, medical supplies, and school supplies. The medical needs are so many, not only because of COVID, but medicine in general. It can be very overwhelming knowing that lives are lost because of poor nutrition, not the right testing or medication for the illness or just not being able to get to any medical care whatsoever. We are so blessed in the U. S. at what we have at our fingertips.

Thank you for your support, compassion and prayers over the years. Your gift will be used wisely as we continue to do our best to serve as many as we can. It is a joy to work with people who are grateful and remain positive when their crosses are so heavy. I wish God's abundant blessings to you and yours.
Sincerely, Dee Leahy, Director

"Sunday is "Donut Sunday"

We are hosting "Donut Sunday" this weekend **Sunday, March 19**, in the parish hall after the 9am and 11am Masses. **All** are welcome to join us for fellowship, beverages and donuts. If you are visiting please join us. We'd love to say **HELLO!**



The Words of Everlasting Life

Readings for Sunday March 19th - 26th

- Sunday:** 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1); Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
- Monday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
- Tuesday:** Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
- Wednesday:** Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
- Thursday:** Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47
- Friday:** Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Saturday:** Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
- Next Sunday:** Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7); Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



Today's the day!

We'll see you in the vestibule (Saturday) or downstairs in the hall (Sunday), where we'll make it easy for you to write to our lawmakers in support of re-authorizing the Farm Bill.

Bread for the World supports this bill because of nutrition programs for the hungry, many of whom are children, veterans, or elderly.

*Speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.
Defend the rights of the poor and needy.*

Proverbs 31: 8-9



This Week's Mass Intentions

SUNDAY March 19

9:00 AM - John Meyer †

11:00 AM - Our Parish Family

MONDAY March 20

8:30 AM - Joyce Wilper †

TUESDAY March 21

8:30 AM - Tom Serati †

WEDNESDAY March 22

8:30 AM - Joseph Hipperson †

THURSDAY March 23

8:30 AM - Jim Krull †

FRIDAY March 24

8:30 AM - Cathy Hacker-Casteel †

SATURDAY March 25

4:30 PM - Cathy Hacker-Casteel †

SUNDAY March 26

9:00 AM - Marilyn LeVan †

11:00 AM - Our Parish Family

† Denotes those who are deceased

Scheduling Mass Intentions

Due to anticipated changes in our Mass Schedule once the new Pastorate becomes official, we are not scheduling any Mass Intentions after Sept 30, 2023. Once a new Mass schedule is determined, we will reopen the Intention book for scheduling Oct 1st and forward. Thank you for your understanding.

Trust

Fourth Sunday of Lent:

Live as Children of the Light

Walk the walk, but with smaller steps:

Walk the Walk will be collecting children's new or slightly used shoes for the St. Anthony Padua Ministry. This can be your own **Lenten March Madness Campaign** and an opportunity to involve your children and or grandchildren!

- Now through March 31st.
- A blue collection barrel will be placed outside the Reilly Center. Please deposit the shoes in the barrel at your convenience.
- Questions call Dick @ 314-374-4680



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

"The Lord is King; he is robed in majesty." Ps. 93:1

The Adoration schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday 9:00AM - 8:00PM
- Wednesday 9:00AM - 6:00PM
- Thursday 4:00PM - 9:00PM

Please call Pat Dean at 314-842-1887 or email: pmdean621@yahoo.com if you have any questions or would like to sign up for one of the time slots.



THE FATIMA MINISTRY AT MARY MOTHER

This ministry, which started over 30 years ago by parishioner Gloria Williams, is indeed a blessing for ALL who participate.

Go to **SignUpGenius** on <https://www.marymother.org> to see available dates and to sign up, or you can contact

- ◇ Carolyn Messler (314) 712-2042 or
- ◇ Gina Norrenberns (314) 435-9107

Please consider signing up for one of the open weeks available in April and May.

Families that will be hosting the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima are:

- 3/19 - Ruth Spray
- 3/26 - Regina Horton
- 4/2 - Flor Kite
- 4/9 - open
- 4/16 - Joan Waeckerle

If you do not drive or are otherwise unable to pick up the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima please call Carolyn or Gina, and they will arrange for you to receive her.

Mary can be picked up in the St. Joachim room.

Parish Nurse's Corner

The next Health Ministry Commission meeting is Tues, March 21st at 7pm in classroom 3/4. Join us!

Thank you to Blood Pressure Screeners, **Jane Goeke**, **Jill Castleberry** and **Carolyn Duke**- for your service to parishioners after Masses last weekend. You and **ALL** our healthcare professionals are the best!

Did you know about these library programs? My apologies that I did not see this sooner. I hope the remaining two are helpful for you.

CHOICE

HEALTHY LIVING FOR SENIORS

Enjoy a variety of health, wellness and social programs followed by a healthy lunch. **Registration must be received at least 48 hours prior to the program to receive lunch.**
Adults.

To register, visit www.agingahead.org/events or call 314-994-3300.

Fridays, 10:00 a.m.

Grant's View Branch
9700 Musick Rd., St. Louis, MO 63123

March 3	Self Care and Mindfulness
March 10	Chair Yoga
March 17	Recognizing Elder Abuse
March 24	Declutter and Downsize
March 31	Meditation for Beginners

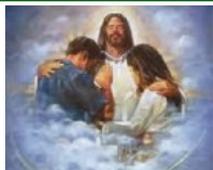
Meals offered for voluntary donation of \$5 for those over 60. Contributions are appreciated.

StairLift Available: Thank you to a St. Matthias the Apostle family for their very generous donation of a Bruno Electra-Ride LT Stairway Elevator. It's been removed from their stairway and ready to be picked up. This was bought at Mediquip on So. Lindbergh, who could be consulted for any "mechanical" questions. If I may provide any basic information, please contact me.

Michele, your Faith Community Nurse

Welcome to our New Parish Council Members

Thank you for the wonderful nominations submitted for Parish Council. After the informational Night of Discernment, 5 adults and one youth submitted their names for consideration. Since this was the same number of positions to be filled, there was no need for an election. Please congratulate and welcome our newest Parish Council members who will begin their 3 year term in June: Aimee Barrett, Wendy Franklin, Mark Inman, MaryAnn McWilliams, Cindy Yamnitz, and the Youth rep, Kayla Barrett.



Prayers for our Beloved Deceased

In your kindness, please pray for the souls of the deceased members of our parish.

Fritz Komrska
Rita Mosblech

May they and all the faithful rest in the eternal embrace of our Risen Savior.



Remembering those who have asked for our prayers

Jan Berry, Margie Brenner, Julie Carey, Deacon Dick Coffman, Barb Coibion, Helen Collins, Pat Cordes, Dick Drury, Bill Duke, George & Ruby Eifert, Craig Franks, Sue Gaynor, Mari Gilb, Ginny Gregali, Ann Hagensieker, Marie Harthill, Carolyn Hebenstreit, **Carl Hendrickson**, CeCe Herr, Julie Hogan, Pat Honig, Jim Hudson, Ann Huesling, Mike Jarvis, Larry & Pat Jones, Joy Kleucker, Rose Klier, Ken Kremer, **Barb Krull**, Bonnie Lebbing, Judy Lesmeister, Bob Lieb, Jerry Marshall, Maureen McCourt, Jean McEnery, Nancy McGrath, **Anna Nguyen**, Joe Reker, Kathleen Riggio, George Schmitz, **Mary Simitjis**, Marie Winschel, Amy Carroll Wolfe, Claudine Wucher, Dave Ziegler

Daughter/Daughter-in-law of Lydia Chamberlain,

Jim & Grace Dawson, Kathy Davidson, Deacon Randy & Mary Anne Howe, John Ivanko, Mike Jarvis, Marilyn Keutzer, Bonnie & George Lebbing, Paul Leicht, Marylee & Mike McColl, Joe & Evelyn Reker, Mike & Chris Schmitz, Ruth Spray, Laureen & Joe Wilder, John Winkle, Jule & Antonia Zach

Son/Son-in-law of Jerry & Judy Lesmeister, Evelyn & Joe Reker

Mother /Mother-in-law of Mark Argent, Tammy Bayes, Pam Biehl, Maria Clancy, Angela Hapgood, Steve Krieger, Diane Wilcox

Father/Father-in-law/Grandfather of Mary Chamberlain, Laura Getsey, Krystn & Emilee Smerecki

Sister /Sister-in-law of Anita Anton, Lydia Chamberlain, Nancy Forsythe, Jane Lewis, Karen Morris, Joe Rinke, Gloria Wind, Fran Winker

Brother /Brother-in-law of Judy Belford, Trisha & Tom Brockhaus, Joe Follmer, Karen Morris, Carol Owens, Val Pike, Paul Schulte, Ruth Spray, Dennis Rees

Granddaughter/Grandson of Linda & Chuck Arns, Claude & Nancy Leezy, Marie & Paul Leicht, Karen Morris, Mark & Nancy Muehl, Mary Simitjis, Ruth Spray, Jean & Bob Taylor, John Winkle

Niece/Nephew/Grand-nephew of Carol Brophy, Barb Foley, Jane Goeke, Helen Jarvis, Dave Klein, Loretta Lampen, David & Kathleen Mendias, the Shivelys, Len & Maureen Valentine, the Willmerings

Cousin of Marisue Balek, Lydia Chamberlain

Friends of the Antons, Mike & Marisue Balek, Joan Crawford, Marcia Dohack, the Foleys, Jane Goeke, Chris Hack, Rosie Harthill, Helen & Mike Jarvis, Jane Lewis, Joe & Linda Licata, Karen Morris, **Mark & Nancy Muehl**, Norma Nisbet, Margaret Poirrier, the Shivelys, Sharon Torregrossa, David & Julie Welch, Trish Willmering



SHARING SUCCESS

Most people in Turkana, Kenya raise livestock, and a few are farmers. But the hot and dry climate makes this work difficult—and climate change is making it even harder. CRS has worked in Kenya since 1965 and is one of the oldest humanitarian relief and development organizations in the country.

CRS' current programming portfolio features projects in social services for children and families, agriculture and livelihoods, health, water and sanitation and peacebuilding. In fiscal year 2020, CRS touched a total of 5,383,224 lives directly and indirectly.

Rebecca and Lotiang participated in a Catholic Relief Services program that installed a water well and taught them new farming techniques. They can support their family with their crops and are teaching others in their community what they learned. How can you use your skills and knowledge to help others? Visit csrricebowl.org to view their story and learn more.

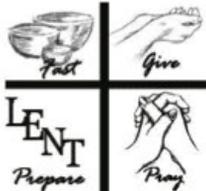
Please Note: Rice Bowl donations will be collected the weekends of April 15-16 and April 22-23. Please convert all donations to currency (no coins please), or a check made payable to Mary Mother of the Church, with "CRS Rice Bowl" in memo line, and deposit in collection or turn in to the office.



5 year Milestone Anniversaries

March 2023 Milestone Anniversaries

Years	Name	Wedding Date
25	Timothy & Marianne Bradford	03/20/1998
50	Kenneth & Mary Blake	03/31/1973



Lenten Regulations

All Fridays of Lent are days of **abstinence** (refraining from meat) for all Catholics **from age 14 onwards**. On Good Friday (**April 7, 2023**), **fast**,

as well as **abstinence**, is also obligatory for those **from the ages of 18-59**. Abstinence means refraining from meat. Fast means one full meal a day, with two smaller meals and nothing between meals (liquids are permitted). No Catholic will lightly excuse himself or herself from this obligation.

We should strive to make all days of Lent a time of prayer and penance.

Missionary Discipleship – Spiritual Sight

There are simply times in life where we are in the dark and do not see as the Lord sees. Lent is a time of going into the desert, a time that can be dry and desolate in our spiritual lives. In the midst of this darkness, however, the Lord can work wonders and purify our relationship with Him and family members and friends. Just as the blind man could not see but obeyed the Lord, we too must continue to heed the voice of the Lord so that we may truly see with the eyes of faith. As the Pharisees shows us, it is often when we think we know it all or see everything already that the opposite is true. Jesus came that we may see. We pray that Jesus might open the eyes of our hearts and minds to see Him.

Pro-Life Dinner

Vitae Foundation is hosting its Annual St. Louis Pro-life Dinner:

- Tuesday, April 11, 2023
- Hilton St. Louis Frontenac
1335 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
- The keynote speaker is Kevin Sorbo, an actor, director, and producer who is best known for his series, *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys*, which became the most watched TV show in the world!
- Dinner event begins at 7 PM
- Registration is \$100 per person (\$50 tax deductible).
- Reservations may be made online at vitaefoundation.org or call 573-634-4316

For questions, or to become a sponsor, please contact Nick Johnson by calling 314-660-8872 or emailing him at nick.johnson@vitaefoundation.org.

Gabriel's Retreat Ministries

Looking for love & support in the timing of your pregnancy? Feeling alone or overwhelmed? Consider spending time on retreat with other women with similar uncertainty at the upcoming retreat on:

- March 24th - 26th
- LaSalle Retreat Center
- No cost
- Open to all women 18 or older
- Register or for more information go to www.gabrielsretreat.org

Golden Gala: A Celebration of Life

Join the Respect Life Apostolate for its **Golden Gala: A Celebration of Life** at the Westport Sheraton Chalet Hotel St. Louis on Saturday, March 25 starting at 5:30 p.m. The event is a special time of prayer, fellowship, and celebration of the Apostolate's 50th anniversary year championing the sanctity of human life in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

During the Golden Gala, attendees will be inspired by *Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski* (Archdiocese of St. Louis), *Sr. Mariae Agnus Dei* (Sisters of Life), and *Archbishop Joseph Naumann* (via video, Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS). They will also enjoy a first-class dinner, cocktail and fellowship hour, dessert bar, and music and dancing by Trilogly.

Complete registration, sponsorship, and program details are available online at <https://prolifestl.regfox.com/golden-gala-a-celebration-of-life> or by contacting prolife@archstl.org or 314.792.7555.

Prayer Outside Planned Parenthood

Would you like to join others in silent prayer outside Planned Parenthood? You might get to see the power of your prayer combined with the efforts of a sidewalk counselor to convince a pregnant mom to walk with her to the mobile van (parked in the lot next to Planned Parenthood in Fairview Heights, Illinois) that offers free ultrasounds and support. We will leave Mary Mother at 10 am on March 29 and return around noon. Contact Leslie at 314-369-5474 if you'd like to join us.

STUDENT FORMATION

March 19

ST. JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY – March 19

Everything we know about the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus comes from Scripture. We know he was a carpenter, for the Nazarenes ask about Jesus, "Is this not the carpenter's son?" (Matthew 13:55). He wasn't rich for when he took Jesus to the Temple to be circumcised he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb (Luke 2:24).

Joseph came from King David's royal lineage. Luke and Matthew both mark his descent from David, the greatest king of Israel (Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 3:23-38). Indeed the angel who first tells Joseph about Jesus greets him as "son of David," a royal title used also for Jesus.

We know Joseph was a compassionate, caring man. When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been betrothed, he was going to divorce her quietly. However, when an angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him to take Mary as his wife, he did as the angel told him. (Matthew 1:19-25).

When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby. He waited in Egypt without question until the angel told him it was safe to go back (Matthew 2:13-23).

We know Joseph loved Jesus. Upon his return from Egypt, he settled his family in the obscure town of Nazareth out of fear for his life. When Jesus stayed in the Temple we are told Joseph (along with Mary) searched with great anxiety for three days for him (Luke 2:48). We also know that Joseph treated Jesus as his own son for the people of Nazareth say of Jesus, "Is this not the son of Joseph?" (Luke 4:22)

Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry. (Taken from *Catholic Online/Saints and Angels*)

PSR NEWS

PSR is on Spring Break this week. PSR classes resume March 27/29/30.



SAVE THE DATE – STELLAR VBS – JULY 10-14

Shine a light on Jesus' love! Launch kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Stellar rockets kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun. **REGISTRATION COMING SOON!**



FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT

First Eucharist Retreat – Saturday, April 1 from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM – At least one parent will need to attend with their child.



Do you have Children in Catholic Elementary School?

Each year, Mary Mother pays a portion of the tuition for any of our registered parish families who have children enrolled in a Catholic Elementary School. We know of about 8 children in our parish that attend Catholic School. If you have a child in Catholic Education call the office at 314- 894-1373 to let us know. We'd like to add you to the list of those we support.

March Mary Mother Youth Group



Prayer Group every Wednesday night 8 to 9 pm
in Youth Room

Sunday, March 19th Rec Night 7 to 9 pm

Sunday, March 26 Youth Night 7 to 9 pm



Pray for Those Serving in the Armed Forces

SPC US Army Ethan Bagwell -

Grandson of Jane Hackett

SPC US Army Kyle Bean -

Great-Nephew of Rich & Barbara Hantak

2Lt US Army Joseph Chellis -

Grandson of John & Trudy Chellis

Lt. Timothy Clemens - Grandson of Vivian Burlison

SR. Ryan Clancy - Son of Matt & Maria Clancy

Chris Conkel - Grandson of Joe & Betty Follmer

George Eifert II - Son of George & Ruby Eifert

George Eifert III - Grandson of George & Ruby Eifert

Tyler Allen Genasci - Grandson of Joe & Ev Reker

Capt. Ed Hubbel - Friend of the Rogers Family

Capt. Timothy J. Kinmartin Jr. -

Son of Tim & Anne Kinmartin

Pvt. 1st Class Eric Kremer -

Grandson of Ken & Sue Kremer

Clayton LaVoise - Grandson of George & Ruby Eifert

Avt. Brittany Leicht - Daughter of Paul & Marie Leicht

SGT. Aaron Marshall - Grandson of Jerry Marshall

Andrew Missey - Grandson of Joe & Betty Follmer

Pvt. 1st Class Kenneth Douglas Peters-

Grandson of Jim & Sharon Rockwell

Lt. Col. Jim Rund - Cousin of Emily Schenk

Ens. Daniel Stefans - Grandson of Gus & Janice Berry

Lt. Tucker Schmidt -

Grandson of Harry & Joan Schmidt

Pvt. 1st Class Christian Smith -

Nephew of Mark & Nancy Muehl

Capt. Marti Torres - Niece of Mark & Missy Dayton

M. Sgt. Eduardo Torres -

Nephew of Mark & Missy Dayton

Maj. Michael Villeneuve -

Son-in-law of Don & Gerianne Kopac

Lenten Reconciliation Service

There will be a Lenten Reconciliation Service at Mary Mother on:

- Tuesday, March 28
- 7:00 p.m.
- 4 Priests will be available

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation

2 Corinthians 5:18



Food For Thought

An article in TIME magazine in January 2023 addressed our nation's neglect of water infrastructure and its impact. The US government's share of capital costs on water infrastructure fell from more than 60% in 1977 to less than 10% 40 years later. The cost of failure to update this infrastructure is believed to lead to trillions lost in preventable disease, higher medical costs, lost productivity and environmental pollution. A 2021 study out of New York University School of Law revealed that extreme weather events are leading to even more infrastructure failures which, according to Professor Robert Bullard of Texas Southern University, disproportionately affect "invisible" communities of color.

Are we aware of the injustice directed to those "invisible" communities in regard to environmental pollution of all kinds? What can we do to encourage policies that ensure access to safe water and sanitation for all, including the homeless?

Information contributed by Sharon Barron.

Interested in joining the Peace and Justice Ministry?
Call or text Saralou Hendrickson at 314-440-2020.



Parish Mission "Conversion"

St. David Church invites you to their upcoming Parish Mission "Conversion"

- St. David Church
2334 Tenbrook Rd.
Arnold, MO 63010
- Sun., March 26th - Thurs., March 30th
- Preached by **Fr. Pete Schavitz, CSsR**
- Mission topics will include:
 - * God's plan of salvation & our response.
 - * Who is Jesus for us?
 - * Sin, reconciliation, and healing.
 - * Jesus as nourishment for the journey of faith.
 - * Our mission to share in the work of Jesus and the Church.

STEWARDSHIP

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March 12, 2023

Sunday Stewardship	\$ 5,241.00
Gifts-Stock, RMDs, Charitable Giving	\$ 0.00
Faith Direct	<u>\$ 7,932.50</u>
Total Sunday Stewardship	\$13,173.50
March 2023 Weekly Budget	<u>\$15,436.50</u>
Over <Under> Budget	<\$ 2,263.00>
YTD Over <Under> Budget	\$28,036.77

Major Project Fund	\$ 535.00
Faith Direct	<u>\$ 734.00</u>
Total Major Project Fund	\$ 1,269.00
March 2023 Weekly Budget	<u>\$ 1,332.80</u>
Over <Under> Budget	<\$ 63.80>
YTD Over <Under> Budget	<\$ 2,748.79>

Earthquake Relief Appeal \$ 4,988.00

Please remember Mary, Mother of the Church in your will or estate plan, and please tell us when you do, so we can THANK YOU!

Book Signings

There will be a meet the author and book signing at:

- **Catholic Gifts and Books**
13397 Olive Blvd., Chesterfield, MO 63017
- Book Title "Adventures with the Holy Spirit"
- Author - Deacon Charles Durban
- Saturday, March 25
- 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Visitors Center is hosting a presentation and Book Signing of the book:

- *Glorifying Christ: The Life of Cardinal Frances George*
- Author Michael R. Heinlein
- Friday, April 14
- 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
- Join the author, Most Reverend Bishop Michael McGovern and other invited guests as they speak about the late Cardinal Frances George, OMI.
- Cost: No Charge

For more information, call 618-394-6281.

Visit this Lenten Relic Display

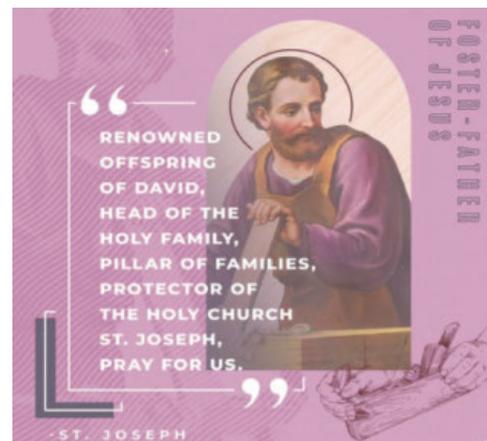
You are invited to attend a special Lenten experience at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Perryville, Missouri. Relics including: fragments from the True Cross and the Last Supper Table, Saint Paul of the Cross, and particles from Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, and Calvary.

The relics will be on display:

- **March 25 following 12:10 p.m. Mass to 4:00 p.m.**
- **March 26 following 11:00 a.m. Mass to 4:00 p.m.**
- **April 1 following 12:10 p.m. Mass to 4:00 p.m.**
- **April 2 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Join us for a presentation by Michael O' Neill, "The Miracle Hunter," on April 2 from 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. For more information call the Association of the Miraculous Medal at 1-800-264-6279 or go to www.amm.org.

*Pray to St. Joseph,
on this his feast day, for his protection.*



Lenten Fish Fry



St. Joseph Parish in Imperial is having fish fry on:

- March 24th and March 31st
- 4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
- \$16.00 adult Meals that includes 2 sides, 2 hushpuppies, 1 dessert, 1 drink
- \$6.00 Kids' Meals that includes 1 side, 2 hushpuppies, 1 dessert, 1 drink
- Sides are French fries, alfredo penne pasta, mac-n-cheese, buttered corn, brown sugar glazed carrots, Gianino's house salad
- A la Carte menu available
- Check their website for more details

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