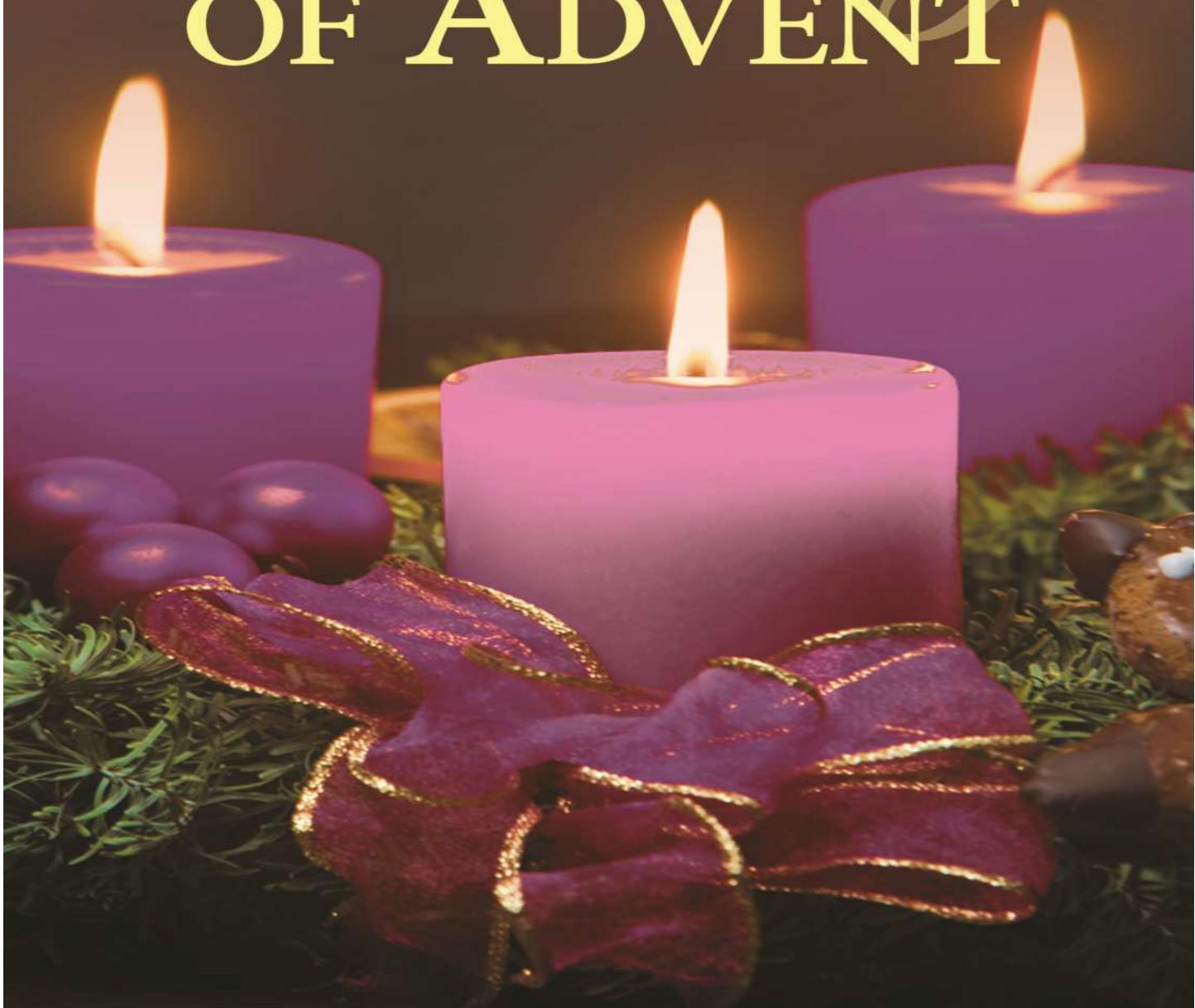


Mary, Mother of the Church

5901 Kerth Road, St. Louis MO 63128 - 314.894.1373

December 14, 2025

**3rd Sunday
OF ADVENT**



PARISH STAFF

CLERGY

Fr. Steve Robeson, Pastor srobeson@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

**BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
MONDAY AT NOON FOR THE FOLLOWING
SUNDAY'S BULLETIN**

DIRECTOR OF LITURGY

Nate Jackson njackson@marymother.org

PSR COORDINATOR

Andy Dapron adapron@marymother.org

YOUTH MINISTRY

Kaitlyn Kennedy kkennedy@marymother.org

MAINTENANCE

Greg Klobe gklobe@marymother.org

PARISH NURSE

Michele Venable parishnurse@marymother.org

CHILD SAFETY COORDINATOR

Amanda Nielsen arielsen@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

ONLINE GIVING

1-800-348-2886 Option 2

REQUEST PRAYER outreach@marymother.org

Mary, Mother of the Church Cares

St. Vincent de Paul Society MMOC Help Line

email: svdp@marymother.org 314-289-6101 X2228
Scrap Metal Pickup 314-374-4680

Support for your Family

WalkingWithFamiliesSTL.com 314-792-7555

Pregnant? We are here for you.

WalkingWithMomsSTL.com 314-792-7555
AbortionPillReversal.com 1-877-558-0333

Abortion Healing Ministry

archstl.org/hope-healing 314-406-0815

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL 2025-2026

LEADERSHIP TEAM

CHAIRPERSON	MARIAN McCORD
pcchair@marymother.org	
VICE-CHAIRPERSON	MARK BENMUHAR
pcveep@marymother.org	
SECRETARY	LINDA TELTHORST
pcsec@marymother.org	
ADVISOR	WENDY FRANKLIN
pcadvisor@marymother.org	

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONS

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE	MARK INMAN
adfin@marymother.org	
CHRISTIAN FORMATION	CINDY YAMNITZ
formation@marymother.org	
CHRISTIAN SERVICE	SUE KRIEGER
service@marymother.org	
MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP	MARYANN McWILLIAMS
discipleship@marymother.org	
HEALTH MINISTRY	AIMEE BARRETT
health@marymother.org	
LITURGY	ANN MADDEN
liturgy@marymother.org	
SOCIAL	RICH BLACKFORD
social@marymother.org	
YOUTH	UNFILLED POSITION
youth@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.

ANOINTING 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.

MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday	8:30 a.m. Mass in Church
Thursday	6:15 a.m. in Caton Chapel
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

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS

Tuesday Following 8:30 a.m. Mass in Church

MARIAN DEVOTIONS

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

PASTOR'S LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF MARY MOTHER

I am writing this on my birthday--a few weeks ahead of the December 14th bulletin, because of holiday printing schedules. At my birthday, the theme of renewal is on my mind as I send you this message for this "Rose Sunday." The Church named this third Sunday of Advent for the rosy color we wear on the altar, a lighter color that hints at the coming brightness of Christmas. Every year, Advent turns the corner on this weekend, as we are closer to the renewing light of Christmas than when we began this sacred season. I am having a little renewal as this weekend is my 41st anniversary.

Our parish gets to celebrate three additional delightful renewals this weekend. We are baptizing little Aurora Fox at 9:00 a.m. Mass. As part of this beautiful Sacrament, the whole assembly gets to renew our Baptismal promises on behalf of Aurora who is too small to say them.

Second, at 11:00 a.m., it's Family Mass. Normally we have that at 9:00 a.m. Mass, but it is different this month, because of the fun third

renewal happening after 11am Mass- the "Happy Birthday Jesus" party in the hall.

I had a fun and renewing birthday myself, but I suggest the happiest renewal is when we honor Jesus' birth and wait upon his coming this Advent with fitting prayer and song and giving charity and supporting justice for the poor. Two different wonderful groups of people at Mary Mother actually sang Happy Birthday to me on my special day, but even that won't compare to the wonderful group of young children who are sharing with us at 11:00 a.m. Mass their very special song in honor of the coming birth of Jesus. If you happen to hear these children do their sweet performance, go up after Mass and tell them how wonderful they were.

For the rest of the community, if you see a young person at the Mass you go to, tell them how glad you are to see them. Look for ways to spread renewal to people's hearts this Advent time!

Much love,
Fr. Steve

Inclement Weather Policy

When Mehlville School district cancels classes due to weather conditions only, it is our policy to close our campus as well! If Mehlville cancels evening events only, then our evening events will also be cancelled. This impacts things such as Eucharistic Adoration, meetings, exercise programs, prayer groups and sports. PSR families will be communicated to directly. Masses will be held as usual, but always use common sense when venturing out in icy weather. *Your safety comes first!*
To see our policy for inclement weather please go to our website www.marymother.org and on the home page go to our parish. Scroll down to more resources for more details. Your safety comes first so, if there is any question in your mind about coming or not please stay home.



WELCOME TO MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Welcome to Mary, Mother of the Church. We are happy that you are joining us today. 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 would like more information, or if you would like to **register with 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 email: agaravaglia@marymother.org or call us at 314-894-1373.

We hope you find a home here among friends who pray together, work together and play together.

To make it easier for our new members to get acquainted with us, please wear your nametags.



December Bulletin Deadline

Bulletin Date	Date Due
January 4	December 18
<i>Say a prayer that I don't go crazy!</i>	



Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24th
4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25th
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
this is a Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 31, New Year's Eve
4:30 p.m.

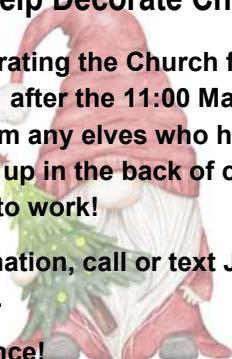
Thursday, January 1, New Year's Day
9:00 a.m.

Help Decorate Church

We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 21 after the 11:00 Mass and would love to have help from any elves who have an hour or so to spare. Show up in the back of church at noon and we will put you to work!

For more information, call or text Jeanne Rothermel at 314-724-6736.

Thanks in advance!



THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday, December 15

9:05 am	AA Group - Rm 1,2
11:30 am	Metal Collection Christmas Lunch - Parish Hall
12:30 pm	Pickleball - Gym
6:15 pm	PSR
6:15 pm	PSR - Alpha for Adults - Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Pickleball - Gym
7:00 pm	Men's Prayer Group - Chapel

Tuesday, December 16

9:00 am	Adoration - Chapel
9:00 am	Quilting
9:00 am	Walk the gym
9:00 am	Sandwich Shoppe - Parish Hall Kitchen
10:30 am	Contemplative Mtg. - Rm 1,2
3:00 pm	SVdP Mtg. - Rm 1,2
5:30 pm	CYC Basketball practice - Gym
7:00 pm	Advent Reconciliation Service - Church

Wednesday, December 17

9:00 am	Adoration - Chapel
9:30 am	Tai Chi - Gym
12:30 pm	Pickleball - Gym
1:30 pm	AA Group - Rm 3,4
6:30 pm	Basic Catechism Course - Rm 3,4
7:00 pm	Tradition Choir Practice - Church
8:30 pm	Men's Basketball - Gym

Thursday, December 18

7:30 am	Men's Prayer Group - Annex
9:00 am	Women's Prayer Group - Rm 3,4
9:00 am	Walk the Gym
3:00 pm	Adoration - Chapel
6:00 pm	Health Ministry Caroling - meet on church parking lot
6:30 pm	Pickleball - Gym
7:00 pm	Contemporary Choir Practice - Church

Friday, December 19

9:00 am	Love Thy Neighbor - Rm 3,4
---------	----------------------------

Saturday, December 20

3:30 pm	Confessions - Church
---------	----------------------

Sunday, December 21

10:00 am	Donut Sunday - Parish Hall <i>after both Masses</i>
12:00 pm	Decorate Church - Church
2:00 pm	Christmas Movie - Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Contemporary Choir Practice - Church
6:30 pm	Rosary - Chapel
7:00 pm	Youth Christmas Party - Gym



The Words of Everlasting Life

Readings for December 14 - December 21

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4); Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 & 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 & 23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Thursday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Saturday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b); Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24



NOVEMBER CENSUS UPDATES

Welcome to our new parishioners:

Aaron & Cathy Mueller
Tim & Erin Wilson, Ana, Nate & Katie

To make it easier for our new members to get acquainted with us, please wear your nametags.

Farwell to:

Ernest & Kathleen Tapp

Dearly departed:

Rose Klier
Jan Jacquin
Darlene Licare

Advent Communal Reconciliation Service

There will be an Advent Communal Reconciliation Service at Mary Mother on:

- December 16th
- 7:00 p.m.
- in church



This Week's Mass Intentions

SUNDAY December 14

9:00 AM - Jane Kirchhoff †
11:00 AM - Our Parish Family

MONDAY December 15

8:30 AM - Michael Foley †

TUESDAY December 16

8:30 AM - Wandy Oliver †

WEDNESDAY December 17

8:30 AM - Dave Robert †

THURSDAY December 18

6:15AM - Jim Lober †
8:30 AM - Joy Kleucker †

FRIDAY December 19

8:30 - Neil Schulte †

SATURDAY December 20

4:30 PM - Steve Wayant †

SUNDAY December 21

9:00 AM - Our Parish Family
11:00 AM - Jim Lober †

† Denotes those who are deceased

Friday Friends

Please join the Friday Friends (widows) for our luncheon which will be held on **Friday, Dec. 19**. We will be going to **Robertos in Concord Plaza**, and will be meeting there at **11:30 am**.

Please RSVP to Nancy at 314-894-8522 to let us know if you are planning on attending so we have enough space.

Don't forget to bring a \$10.00 wrapped gift for a game. No food or candy. Hope to see you there.

*The way to find joy in adversity, is to encounter God.
Pray, "Jesus, help us find You in the midst of this storm."*

Have a blessed holiday season.



PSR COORDINATOR

Life & dignity of the human person

The foundational principle of Catholic social teaching is that human life is sacred. We are called to respect and protect life from conception to natural death.

With our family: We try to use “person-first” language. For example, when the kids offer to pray for “poor people” ... I gently rephrase their petition: “Let’s pray for people who are poor.”

What defines each of us is that we are a human person, created in the image and likeness of God.

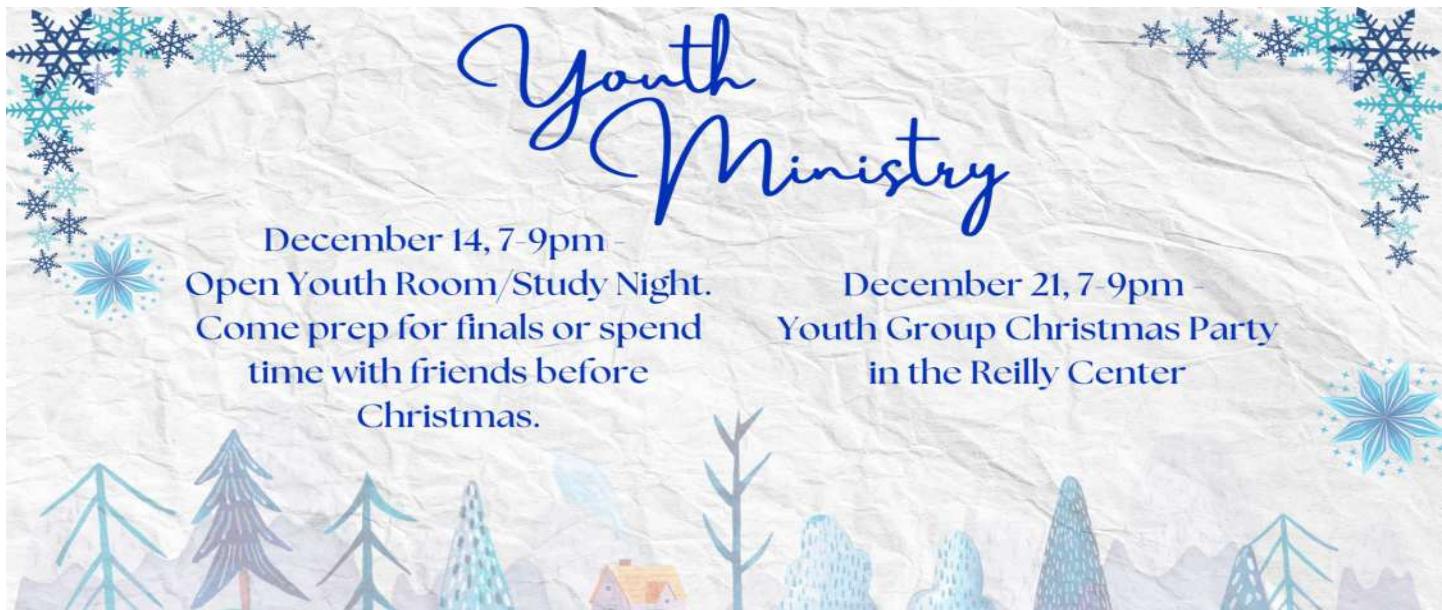
Call to family, community, and participation

Catholic social teaching reminds us that humans are not just sacred, but social. All people have the right to participate in society for the common good.

With our family: We try to talk to our kids in ways that are participatory. For example, when a child protests that a decision is unfair, I’ll say, “Talk to me about it. If you think you should be able to do x, let’s see if we can work toward a compromise.”

I try to explain that hearing their perspective doesn’t mean we’ll change our mind as parents on a given decision... But, when possible, we aim to talk to our kids in ways that invite them to be full members of our family.

12/15 Last PSR Class of 2025 @6:15 pm – 7:30 pm. See you in 2026!



“DONUT SUNDAY”

Next Sunday, December 21st, is Donut “Sunday” after the 9am and 11am Masses. Come celebrate in fellowship with the MMOC community and enjoy donuts along with beverages. **All are welcome.**

Remember: Your freewill offering for each item helps us provide the donuts & drinks for this community event.



ADVENT CENTERING PRAYER GATHERING

There will be an Advent Centering Prayer on:

- * **Tuesday, December 16**
- * **10:30 to 11:30am**
- * **In classrooms 1 & 2 at MMOC**

Margaret Poirrier will facilitate this session.

For more info e-mail contemplative@marymother.org
or call Carolyn Hebenstreit 314.578.0062.

Bridge Bread

Bridge Bread will be available this weekend,
December 13 & 14.

Thank you so much for your overwhelming support.



Advent Calendar/Jesse Tree

The season of Advent is a time when we wait to contemplate the "Word became flesh". Please take an Advent calendar; one per family please.

We will share ornament symbols of the Jesse tree and share their meaning via Flocknote. We'll also have a Jesse tree in the Vestibule for an additional visual, spiritual experience.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

St. Louis Review

January is the month to renew your St. Louis Review subscription. Once again, the cost is \$35 for the year. Envelopes can be found in your January envelope packet, or you can pay online using our online giving portal. Contact Ann in the office at 314-894-1373 if you have questions.

Annual Christmas Movie Afternoon

Mary Mother Social Commission is hosting our second annual Christmas movie afternoon on Sunday, Dec. 21st from 2-5. What is the movie you might be asking? Well the answer is up to you! Sign up on SignUpGenius and vote for the movie you want to see. Your choices are:

- 1) The Polar Express
- 2) It's a Wonderful Life
- 3) A Muppets Christmas Carol

We will have cookies, hot chocolate, candy and of course Candy Canes. NO ADMISSION but please sign up and make your movie choice. Voting closes tomorrow December 15. A Flocknote will be sent out with the title of the winning film.

Questions e-mail Rich Blackford at
social@marymother.org



A NEW FAITH FORMATION & EVANGELIZATION OPPORTUNITY! ALPHA IS HERE!

Would you like to deepen your relationship with Jesus? Would you like to be able to invite others, no matter where they are on their faith journey, to do the same? If you answered yes to either of these questions, we invite you to try Alpha!

Alpha is "a meal and a movie" with conversation around life's most important questions. It occurs in a relaxed, fun, and inviting environment with no pressure to come back the next week.

We are partnering with St. Simon to offer both day and evening sessions.

If you are interested in helping or need help registering, please reach out to Becky McDonnell at: 314-236-1421. If you would rather help with a monetary donation, please make checks to Mary Mother of the Church with Alpha on memo line. Thank you!

COME HOLY SPIRIT!

Mary Mother campus will have a session: January - March, **Mondays from 11:30am-1:30pm starting Jan. 19.**

To register scan QR code:



St. Simon campus will have a session January - March, **Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30pm starting Jan. 21.** To register for Wednesday scan QR code:



Help provide scholarships to students attending Catholic Schools!

100% tax credits are available to individuals and Businesses. Participate in the MOScholars Program today.

For more information call the Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation at 314-792-7032, visit our website at <https://ttef-stl.org/moscholars/> or scan the QR code.



STEWARDSHIP
GRATEFUL AND GENEROUS

November 30, 2025

Sunday Stewardship	\$ 5,003.00
Gifts-Stock, RMDs, Charitable Giving	\$ 0.00
Online Stewardship	<u>\$ 7,935.20</u>
Total Sunday Stewardship	\$12,938.20
November 2025 Weekly Budget	<u>\$16,435.00</u>
Over <Under> Budget	<\$ 3,496.80>

Major Project Fund	\$ 546.00
Online Stewardship	<u>\$ 428.00</u>
Total Major Project Fund	\$ 974.00
November 2025 Weekly Budget	<u>\$ 1,200.00</u>
Over <Under> Budget	<\$ 226.00>
YTD Over <Under> Budget	\$ 2,087.00

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!

JAMES MARTIN, SJ
Author of *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*



How the
CATHOLIC CHURCH
and the **LGBT COMMUNITY**
Can Enter into a Relationship of

The Love thy Neighbor committee is sponsoring a book study on Building a Bridge by Fr. James Martin beginning on January 11, 2025. It is a seven week study from 1pm to 3pm in rooms 3,4 at Mary Mother. If you are interested in joining us or have further questions please contact lovethyneighbor@marymother.org or call Mary Ann Lause at 314-882-4566.



Mary, Mother of the Church pray for our parish and for the whole world.

Has abortion impacted your life?

Find *hope & healing*.



Call or text
314.778.0628
or email

hopehealing@archstl.org

The Abortion Healing Ministry
of the Archdiocese of St. Louis
serves women, men and
families with programs,
resources and support for both
individuals and couples.

Ladies' Abortion Healing Spiritual Support Group has two locations. The Catholic Renewal Center from 6-7pm on the 4th Wednesday of each month and **St Monica Parish** from 9-10:30am on the 2nd Saturday of the month beginning in January. Walk-ins welcome.

Project Rachel Women's Day of Reflection will be hosted on Saturday, February 21st from 9am-5pm at Saints Philip & James Church in Sainte Genevieve. Registration now open.

Men's Project Joseph Ministry Spiritual Support Group will be held at Saint Monica Parish from 9-10:30am on the 2nd Saturday of each month beginning in January. Walk-ins welcome.

Open Office Hours at the Catholic Renewal Center at 6120 Pebble Hill Drive in the St Joseph Suite for the winter months are Tuesdays from 10am-2pm and Wednesdays from 9am-noon. Come in for resources, prayer and conversation with our ministry team.

Visit our website at www.archstl.org/hope-healing to register for programs or to learn more.



Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Joe Albright, Janet Barks,
Kiegan Bersing, Ray Boehm, Carol Brophy,
Dorothy Bunevac, Lydia Chamberlain, Sandy Cooseman,
Gerald Cordes, MaryAnn Daust-Buehler, Kathy Davidson,
Grace Dawson, Craig Franks, Mary Jane Franks,
Jane Goeke, Diane Graham, Ken Gresnick, Marie Harthill,
Joe Heizer, Saralou Henrickson, Peggy Huber,
Mark Inman, Pat Keller, Barbara Killius, Steve Krieger,
Loretta & Jim Lampen, Leslie Lewis, Jerry Marshall,
Fran Mazanec, Mary Ann McWilliams, Floyd Melliere,
Irene Meyer, Rich Meyer, **Pat Mueller**, Mike Ottoline,
Val Pike, Joe Reker, Kathleen Riggio, Paul Schulte,
John and Maureen Schumacker, Robert Schuster,
Mary K Spencer, Jean Taylor, Charles Turner,
Jeanne Voyles, Helen Weckermeyer, Jack Weis,
Char Wersching, Dennis & Marie Winschel, Jim Yamnitz,
Dave Ziegler

Daughter/Daughter-in-law the Chamberlains,
the Coffmans, Sue Dace, Kathleen Kidwell, Jeanne Krull,
the McColls, the Newbolds, the Rekers, the Siesners,
the Swehlas, the Zachs

Son/Son-in-Law of Leona Boucher, Betty Courisky, Mary
Sue Ondr, the Rekers, Mary Simitjis

Mother/Mother-in-Law of John Barrett, Pam Biehl,
Ted Dolter, Laura Getsey, Nancy Muehl, Dennis Rees,
Mark Stevison, Diane Wilcox

Father/Father-in-Law/Grandfather of Laura Getsey,
Mark Scheipeter

Sister/Sister-in-Law of the Coffmans, Gary Franklin,
Elizabeth Hudson, Libby Long, Mark Muehl, Joan Serati,
Joyce Skiljan

Brother/Brother-in-Law of the Franklins, Barb Gavin,
Sherry Heumann, Carla Merlotti, Carol Musielak,
Mary Scalzo

Granddaughter/Grandson/Great-grandchild of
Sue Dace, Mary Lee Davis, the Killius', the Lampens,
the Leezys, the Leichts, the McColls, the Rekers,
Mary Simitjis, Ruth Spray, Mary Stewart, the Thieles,
Dave Ziegler

Niece/Nephew/Great-niece/Great-nephew of
the Baleks, Leona Bochantic, Libby Long,
the Slamas, the Schmitzes, Gloria Wind, Dave Ziegler

Aunt of Mark Muehl

Cousin/cousin's spouse of Ken Klages, Fran Mazanes &
Jeanette Sloan, Alice Weis

Friends of Lydia Chamberlain, the Brockhauses,
the Coffmans, Joan Crawford, Mary Jane Franks,
the Franklins, Jane Goeke, Chris Hack, the Harthills,
the Kopps, the McWilliamses, the Wackermeyers,
the Webers

Names in bold print are new to the list.

Please let us know if any names can come off this list.



Prayers for our Beloved Deceased

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

Marilyn Komrska

Dan Mertens, brother of Joan Mertens

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



Pray for Those Serving in the Armed Forces

SPC US Army Kyle Bean

Great-Nephew of Rich & Barbara Hantak

1Lt US Army Joseph Chellis

Grandson of John & Trudy Chellis

SR. Ryan Clancy - Son of Matt & Maria Clancy

Staff Sgt. Carl Degenhart

Son of Greg & Cheryl Degenhart

Capt. Ed Hubbel - Friend of the Rogers Family

Pvt. 1st Class Eric Kremer

Grandson of Ken & Sue Kremer

Capt. Cole McAnany & Lt. Micah McAnany

great-nephew of Mark McAnany

Avt. Brittany Leicht - Daughter of Paul & Marie Leicht

SGT. Aaron Marshall - Grandson of Jerry Marshall

Pvt. 1st Class Joshua Rockwell

Grandsons of Jim & Sharon Rockwell

Lt. Col. Jim Rund - Cousin of Emily Schenk

Ens. Daniel Stefans - Grandson of Gus & Janice Berry

Staff Sergeant Donavan Tracy

Grandson of Marcia Dohack

HN Justin Venable

Son of Bob & Michele Venable

Maj. Michael Villeneuve

Son-in-law of Don & Gerianne Kopac



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The Catholic Church commemorated the feast of Our Lady Of Guadalupe on December 12. This feast day and devotion to the Blessed Mother carries special significance for many immigrants in the United States. The USCCB committees on migration, pro-life activities, pastoral care of migrants, refugees, travelers, and racism issued a reflection on this feast, stating, "With one clear voice, we reaffirm our unwavering and unqualified recognition of the fact that each and every human life is sacred, that all persons are imbued by God with an inviolable dignity, which no earthly power can deny." They go on to stress that, at this time when some of our brothers and sisters are experiencing fear and anxiety, we must remember the words of Our Lady to Saint Juan Diego nearly 500 years ago, assuring him that we are all under her shadow and protection. Recent days have seen mass communications targeting people of color as well as disparaging comments about immigrant communities. U.S. bishops assert that the sinful ideologies of racism and xenophobia are antithetical to the core teachings of our Christian faith. No person formed by and committed to the Gospel of Life can harbor such views in good conscience.



MMOC TITHING

"Together we do great things"

Prison Performing Arts: Program involves incarcerated youth and adults in the performing arts to inspire intellectual curiosity and personal development, and builds skills to support successful re-entry into society.

Thank you so much for your generous gift. Your contribution makes such a difference!

All thanks to support from people like you, PPA provides multidisciplinary arts programming to four state prisons, three juvenile justice and correctional centers, a Transitional Center, Division of Probation and Parole, and Alumni Theatre Company. Participants experience a drastically lower recidivism rate, and our impact is only growing.

PPA has the profound ability to help people share their stories and write next chapters. One audience member remarked, "If everybody in prison would get an opportunity like this, prisons would be empty."

Thank you again for your support,

John Wolbers
Executive Director

NURSES CORNER

"Thank you for considering, THIS week, the following:

Blood Pressure Screening will be offered after Masses this weekend. Keep track of 'how you are doing'. This time of year, we may experience increased mental/physical stress. Be proactive in getting the rest needed, maintaining healthy food and drink intake with lower sodium, fats, and sugars. Stay active!

Christmas Caroling: Interested in joining with other parishioners for caroling on **Thursday, Dec. 18th**? The details are on sign up genius. The event is through the Health Ministry Commission. **ALL PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME!**

HMC: There will be no Health Ministry Commission meeting in December. We are encouraged to attend the **Advent Communal Reconciliation** service which will be on Tues, Dec. 16th at 7PM.

Can you spare a towel? I'm collaborating with a fellow nurse, who serves unhoused neighbors at St. Peter and Paul's meal program. She stated, "they need towels." She also stated that these should not be new. So, from your supply at home (please do not go shopping), we are grateful for a bath towel and washcloth from about 130 families. Please put them in the bookshelf bin in the foyer by the rectory office, by Tuesday, Dec. 16th. Thank you! These and your loving prayers are so needed!

SAVE THE DATE: Our first ImpactLife blood drive of 2026 is Thursday, January 15th, 2pm - 6pm. Thank you!

Michele, your Parish Nurse



EUCARISTIC ADORATION

"And when you worship Jesus in the Eucharist, you receive from him the Holy Spirit and you find peace and joy. . . Let us rediscover Eucharistic Adoration in our communities! Let us implore the grace to *hunger for God*, with an insatiable desire to receive what he has prepared for us."
Pope Francis, Homily (2018)

The Adoration schedule is as follows:

- **Tuesday 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM**
- **Wednesday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM**
- **Thursday 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

For more information call **Anne Duncan** at **314-406-4100** or email: anreilly1@outlook.com



THE FATIMA MINISTRY

This ministry is indeed a blessing for ALL who participate. Please consider signing up for one of the available weeks in **December and January** by going to SignUpGenius.

- **12/14 - Jerry Abrams**
- **12/21 - Pam Biehl**
- **12/28 - open**

If you are unable to pick up the Statue or you need more information call: Carolyn Messler (314) 712-2042 or Gina Norrenberns (314) 435-9107.

The Statue can be picked up in the St. Joachim room.

CONTEMPLATIVE CORNER

Contemplative blogger Brian Mitchell offers this reflection on the ever-present Christ:

The Christ Light animates everything inviting us to share in the ineffable divine Energy of Being, of Source, of God. Christ is that which speaks to the core of where we are headed as a human race, as a cosmos.

[Our Advent task] is affirming, unfolding and coming to know that the Christ lies, longing to be born, within each of us. Christ is in all of creation. Christ is in us. Christ is moving in us now. Remember Jesus saying: "The one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these"? And "I am the vine and you are the branches"? We are much, much bigger than we think we are....

The Second Coming is happening in every moment. So look and listen to this moment – to that still small voice within – but without clutching at it, without clinging to it. When we cling to any moment, to any outcome, we destroy our relatedness with God. Stay open and hope enters. Relax; be gentle with yourself; laugh; slow down – think slow, move slow; work rhythmically; do one thing at a time; stay away from dualistic, either/or thinking; don't block the flow – the eternal flow of increasing consciousness. And, of course, meditate. Every day we will go a little bit further. Being open to support from the communion of saints, from our ancestors and from the angelic realm also helps.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA MEMORIAL



In our Mary Mother tradition, we will be decorating our church and sanctuary with poinsettias. If you would like to honor your loved ones in a special way this Holy Season, please **fill out the bottom half of this form and return it along with your donation.**

Please make your check payable to Mary, Mother of the Church. Write "Christmas Memorial" on the memo line of the check. Place both the check and **this form** in an envelope marked "**Christmas Memorial**" and turn it into the parish office. You can put your envelope in the collection basket at Mass or you can mail it to us. If you put it in the basket, make sure it is in a marked envelope. You can also bring it into the office. If you wish, you can take home a poinsettia at the end of the Christmas Season.

A list will be inserted into the bulletin, at the end of this Holy Season, with the names all of those memorialized and the donors. Thank you.

-----CUT-----

PLEASE PRINT and return this form.

IN MEMORY OF:

DONOR:





**Glen E. Mueller,
D.M.D., P.C.**

Family Dentist

Glen E. Mueller, D.M.D., M.A.G.D.
Stephanie Wood, D.M.D.

13096 Tesson Ferry Road
Phone: 842-0060
Parish Family

BPM BIEG PLUMBING & MECHANICAL
Residential & Commercial
BiegPlumbing.com
(314) 487-4564



Proven Solutions for a *Growing* World
\$20 OFF
Tree Pruning / Removal / Fertilization
314-227-7545 | davey.com

DAWSON ROOFING
www.dawsonroofing.com
314.837.4671
Since 1978



Rosario "RO" Catarinicchia,
Sales Associate
Office: (314) 994-7444
Cell: (314) 303-5596
email: ro.rdc4@gmail.com
www.byrneandassociates.com



CATHOLIC SUPPLY®
OF ST. LOUIS, INC.

ST. LOUIS HILLS
(314) 644-0643
6759 Chippewa | St. Louis, MO 63109
Mon-Sat 9:00am to 5:30pm

ST. CHARLES COUNTY
(636) 379-3705
2985 Hwy K | O'Fallon, MO 63368
Mon-Sat 10:00am to 5:30pm

catholicsupply.com®

Kutis

FUNERAL HOME

2906 GRAVOIS
772-3000

10151 GRAVOIS
842-4458

5255 LEMAY FERRY
894-4500

IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!™ STARTING AT
Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

\$19.95
mo.

MD-MEDALERT.COM

CALL NOW! 800.809.3570



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider

SafeStreets

833-287-3502



SELIGA
HEATING COOLING
Sales & Service
481-7333
(314) 481-7333
Since 1927

CARSTAR
Auto Body Repair Experts
Gapsch Carstar Collision Center
314-894-2322
4709 Green Park Road, St. Louis, MO 63123
Relax, We'll Take It From Here.®

FREE AD DESIGN
with purchase
of this space
CALL
800-950-9952

**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION NEED
A NEWSLETTER?**



Engaging, ad-supported
print and digital newsletters
to reach your community.

[Visit Ipicommunities.com](http://Ipicommunities.com)



- FIELDER - ELECTRICAL SERVICES, INC.

LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

Service Upgrades • New Homes • Remodeling • Room Additions • Basements • Kitchens
Bathrooms • Code Violations • Knob & Tube Upgrades • Stand By Generator Systems

\$20 OFF ANY ELECTRICAL WORK OF \$200 OR MORE 314-966-3388



LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Michelle Crites

Mcrites@4LPi.com (800) 950-9952 x2256



State Farm

Tim Kilo

(314) 842-4442 • www.TimKilo.com

"For All Your Insurance Needs"



COME VISIT US!

PREPARATION FOR
AN EXCEPTIONAL LIFE

WWW.PRIORY.ORG



REGISTER NOW OR SCHEDULE SHADOW VISIT!
OPEN HOUSE ON OCTOBER 19

catholicmatch®
Missouri



Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!



**\$99
Installation***

*Does not include cost of material. Expires 10/31/22

**Receive a \$100 Visa gift card with
your FREE in-home estimate**

*For participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation we receive a \$100 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$100. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company products, gifts, and instant seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age, if married or involved in the purchase of LeafGuard Gutters, and are the primary household decision makers. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, persons participating in a Company in-home consultation or promotional event, persons who have previously received a \$100 gift card, persons not within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Participants will not be eligible to receive a \$100 gift card if they have previously received a \$100 gift card or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to expiration. Not valid prior to reservation. Offer not available in the states of CA, HI, FL and MI. Expires 10/31/22



LeafGuard®
is guaranteed never
to clog or will clean
it for FREE*

- Seamless, one-piece system keeps out leaves, pine needles, and debris
- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
- Durable, all-weather tested system not a flimsy attachment

ENGLERT LeafGuard®
Get it. And forget it.



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lp.com

Mary Mother of the Church, Saint Louis, MO

A 4C 01-4156