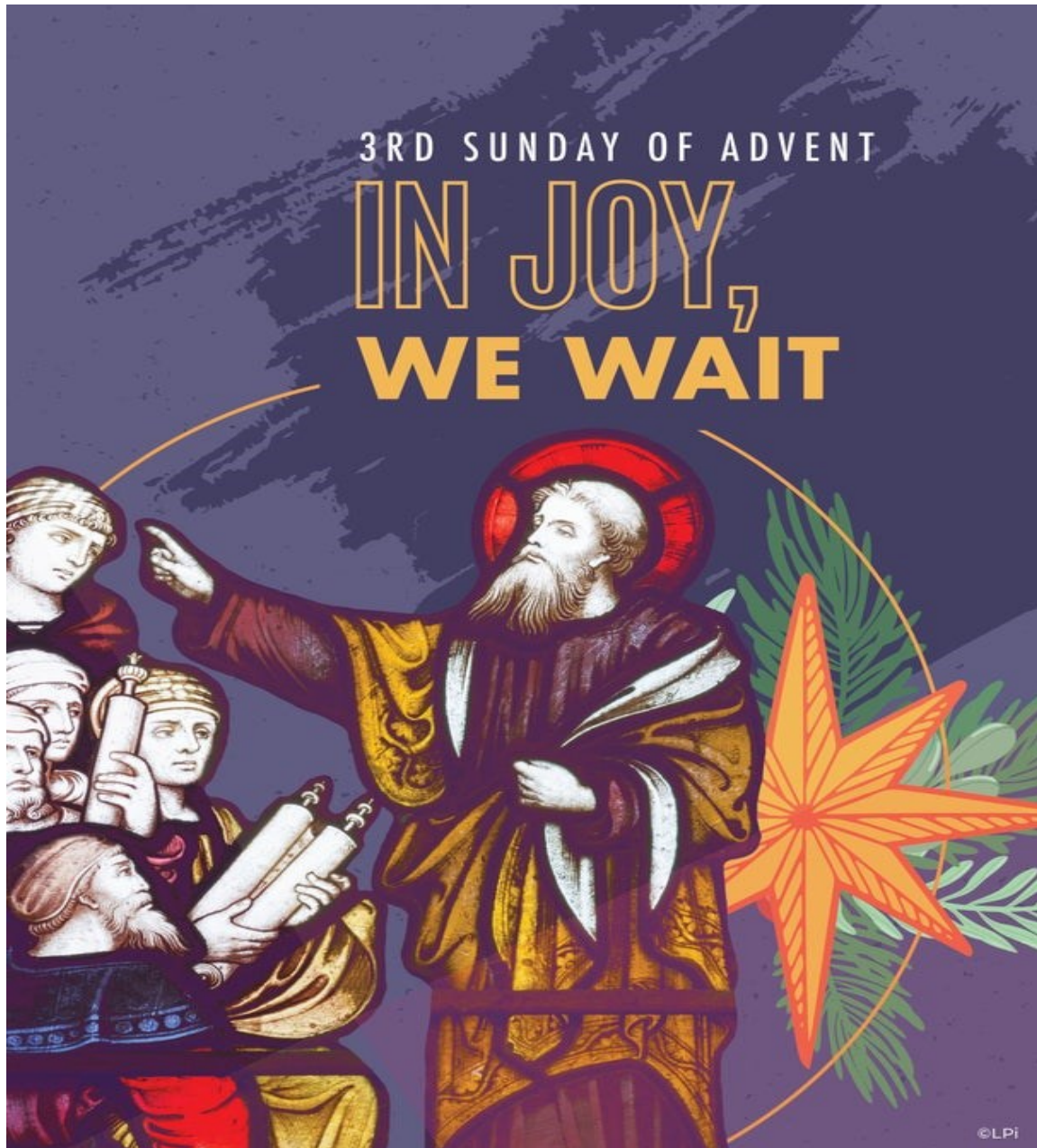


SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023



“A MAN NAMED JOHN WAS SENT FROM GOD. HE CAME FOR TESTIMONY, TO TESTIFY TO THE LIGHT, SO THAT ALL MIGHT BELIEVE THROUGH HIM.”

—JOHN 1:6–7

+  
**CHRIST'S**  
+ + + + +  
**CATHOLIC WITNESS**  
**IN LEMAY**  
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**St. Mark Parish Office**  
4200 Ripa Avenue  
Lemay, Missouri 63125-2316  
314-743-8600  
[www.stmarkstl.com](http://www.stmarkstl.com)

**Office Hours**  
**Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM**  
**For a Sacramental Emergency: 314-917-8699**

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**PASTORAL STAFF**

**CLERGY**

**Our Priests**

**Rev. Robert Burkemper, Pastor**  
[rburkemper@stmarkstl.com](mailto:rburkemper@stmarkstl.com) | 314-743-8609  
**Rev. Allen Boedeker, Associate Pastor**  
[aboedeker@stmarkstl.com](mailto:aboedeker@stmarkstl.com) | 314-602-7540  
**Rev. Richard Schilli, Senior Associate Pastor**  
[rschilli@stmarkstl.com](mailto:rschilli@stmarkstl.com) | 314-743-8622  
**Rev. Ted Vitali, C.P., Part-time Assoc. Pastor**  
[vitalit@slu.edu](mailto:vitalit@slu.edu) | 314-495-7764

**Our Deacons**

**Jesse Gatmaitan, Ronald Holmes**  
**Kurt Loeffler & Richard Rosenkoetter**

**LAY STAFF**

**Jessi Livengood, Pastoral Assistant**  
[jlivengood@stmarkstl.com](mailto:jlivengood@stmarkstl.com) | 314-743-8605  
**Christina Sanders, Pastoral Assistant**  
[csanders@stmarkstl.com](mailto:csanders@stmarkstl.com) | 314-743-8602  
**Alice Wilcox, Parish Bookkeeper**  
[alicewilcox@archstl.org](mailto:alicewilcox@archstl.org) | 314-743-8603  
**Joyce Williams & Julie Dwyer,**  
**Co-Directors of the Parish School of Religion**  
[psr@stmarkstl.com](mailto:psr@stmarkstl.com) | 314-743-8604

**December 17, 2023**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

**A VISION OF OUR SHARED MISSION**

The Catholic Community in Lemay,  
called to Unity as a Family Faith  
within the Archdiocese of Saint Louis,  
is sent by Christ to proclaim and embody  
His Good News inviting All People,  
to a Communion of Charity  
as Members of His Beloved Family.

**THE SACRAMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**HOLY MASS**

is celebrated in St. Mark Church  
4220 Ripa Avenue, 63125  
**Monday thru Friday at 6:30 AM, 8:00 AM & Noon**  
**& Saturday Morning at 8:00 AM**

+ + +

**The Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday**  
**At 4:00 PM at the St. Bernadette Site**  
88 Sherman Road, 63125

**& 5:00 PM in St. Mark Church**

+ + +

**On Sunday Morning**  
**At 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 AM in St. Mark Church,**  
**8:00 AM at the St. Matthias Site**  
790 Buckley Road, 63125

**10:00AM at the St. Martin of Tours Site**  
610 West Ripa Avenue, 63125

**& 12 Noon at the St. Andrew Site**  
309 Hoffmeister Avenue, 63125

+ + +

**On Holy Days of Obligation**  
**6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, 12 Noon & 6:30 PM**  
**in St. Mark Church**

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**CONFESSIONS**

See the following page  
for Advent's Scheduled Confessions.

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**BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS**

may all be scheduled with one of the priests  
by contacting the Parish Office, 314-743-8600.

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**Bulletin Notices**

All articles for the Bulletin must be submitted  
by 8 AM and emailed to [csanders@stmarkstl.com](mailto:csanders@stmarkstl.com)  
no later than 10 days prior to desired publication date.  
(Additional time is required for Holidays).

## THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Advent's portrayal of John the Baptist has always been a puzzlement to me, since he is always shown in a secondary role, by constantly pointing toward the "*One Who Is To Come*" — Jesus!

His humility needs to be ingrained into the hearts of all mature disciples this Advent.

Humility, the grace to always seek out God's Truth, helps us learn our true place in His eternal plan.

John teaches us so much in that regard:

- Even before his mother gives him birth, he responds to the presence of Jesus within the Virgin's womb at her visitation to Elizabeth — *how sensitive we are to Christ's proximity to us in our daily interactions and routines?*
- John went out into the silence of the desert to become more aware of the universal need for conversion of life — *do we regularly separate ourselves from life's distractions to listen for God's voice?*
- John directed others to Jesus as the "*Lamb of God who takes away the world's sins*" — *do we proclaim the faith we hold within us about the mercy to be found in Jesus to many others who need Him?*
- In the end, John sacrificed his life for the truth of God — *what are we willing to sacrifice ourselves for the sake of Christ, His Truth, His Church?*

Each Advent with John, the Church calls us to prayer, reconciliation, witness, & sacrifice — *do you and I have the humility to listen?*

Fr. Bob Burkemper

## EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVENT RECONCILIATION

### Penance Service

*Wednesday, December 20*

7:00 PM until all are heard at St. Martin

*This night there will be three confessors available.*

### Weekday Confessions

*This Thursday, December 21*

6:00 PM until all are heard at St. Mark

### Weekend Confessions

An hour prior to Vigil or Sunday Masses until the three quarter hour at each site.

*For example for Mass at 4:00 PM*

*Confessions would be heard from 3:00-3:45PM.*

## HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULES

### Christmas Eve

**Sunday, December 24**

*Vigil Masses for the Holy Day of Obligation*

**4:00 PM at St. Martin of Tours**

**5:00 PM & 10:00 PM at St. Mark**

### Christmas Day

**Monday, December 25**

*A Holy Day of Obligation*

**8:00 AM at St. Bernadette**

**9:00 AM at both St. Mark & St. Andrew**

**10:00 AM at St. Matthias**

**11:00 AM at St. Mark**

### Mary, The Mother of God

**Monday, January 1**

*Is Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.*

**9:00 AM at St. Mark**

*With fewer sites for Christmas Eve Masses attendance may be higher than in previous years so it may be advisable*

*to plan for an early arrival to the Church to assure parking & seating availability or to consider attending a Christmas Day Mass.*

*Each Site will be opened one hour prior to Mass.*

For Live Streaming of All Masses  
at St. Mark Church

Go to <https://www.stmarkstl.com/live-stream>





Masses are celebrated at St. Mark Church  
unless otherwise noted.

### Monday, December 18

6:30 Harold & Terese Mall<sup>+</sup>  
8:00 Mark Larson  
Noon Dorothy Fegiel<sup>+</sup>

### Tuesday, December 19

6:30 Puricelli & Bauer Family  
8:00 Mary McAndrew<sup>+</sup>  
Noon Joan Sanzortera<sup>+</sup>

### Wednesday, December 20

6:30 Mike & Joyce Schranz  
8:00 Ida Peral Edwards<sup>+</sup>  
Noon Dorothy Fegiel<sup>+</sup>

### Thursday, December 21 (St. Peter Canisius)

6:30 Mary McAndrew<sup>+</sup>  
8:00 Kevin Dooley<sup>+</sup>  
Noon Dorothy Fegiel<sup>+</sup>

### Friday, December 22

6:30 Peggy VonDerHaar  
8:00 Sean Verbeck<sup>+</sup>  
Noon Virginia M. Barbeau - for healing

### Saturday, December 23

8:00 Daniel Kertz<sup>+</sup>  
4:00<sup>PM</sup> Joe Pericich<sup>+</sup> @ St. Bernadette  
5:00<sup>PM</sup> Lorenzo<sup>+</sup> & Letetia<sup>+</sup> Gianfrancesco

### Sunday, December 24 (Fourth Sunday in Advent)

7:00 Ginny Weber<sup>+</sup>  
8:00 People of the Parish @ St. Matthias  
9:00 Vincent Manning<sup>+</sup>  
10:00 Mary Montemer @ St. Martin  
11:00 William Cunningham @ St. Andrew

### MASS INTENTION BOOK IS OPEN

To have a Mass Intention published, please  
stop by the Parish Office or call 314.743.8600  
- the usual stipend is \$10.

### MASS MINISTERS

Please step forward as assigned / needed.



### TODAY'S READINGS DECEMBER 17

**First Reading:** Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

I rejoice heartily in the Lord.

**Second Reading:** Thessalonians 5:16-24

May you entirely, spirit, soul and body,  
be preserved blameless for the coming of our  
Lord Jesus Christ.

**Gospel:** John 1:6-8, 19-28

There is one among you  
whom you do not recognize.

### READINGS FOR DECEMBER 18-24

Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a;  
Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;  
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



... the recently departed, especially:

**Michael Oberbeck**

*May he and All the Faithful Departed  
Through the Mercy of God rest in peace.*

... all the sick, especially:

**Judith Slovacek, Susan Scheman**

**Larry Jenneman, Kathy Sayers**

**Jan Sorth, Rosetta Saputo,**

**Gerry Puricelli, & Judith Hof**

*May they experience God's healing power,  
and return to our faith community soon.*

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

### Monday, December 18

- *PSR Classes*, 6:30 PM in St. Mark School
- *St. Vincent de Paul*, 7 PM at St. Andrew

### Tuesday, December 19

- *Mother of Perpetual Help Devotional* after 8 AM Mass
- *Prayer Shawl Ministry*, 9 AM off campus
- *BSA Troop 647*  
6:30 PM in St. Mark's Cafeteria

### Wednesday, December 20

- *Bible Study*, 9 AM in St. Mark Rm. 101
- *50+ Club*  
11:30 AM, St. Andrew's Campus
- *Penance Service with Confessions*  
7 PM in St. Martin church site

### Thursday, December 21

- *Eucharistic Adoration* after 8 AM Mass until 6:45 PM Benediction in Parish Church
- *Mass Choir Practice*  
6:30 PM in St. Mark's Rm. 101
- *Concessions*, 7 PM, in Parish Church
- *Legion of Mary*  
7:15 PM St. Mark's Rm 112

### Friday, December 22

- **NO BINGO**
- *Alcoholic Anonymous (AA) Meeting*  
7:30 PM at St. Andrew site

### Sunday, December 24

- **NO BINGO**

## PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26; & Friday & Monday December 29 & January 1

## BULLETIN SUBMISSION DATES

Sunday Bulletin Date	Bulletin Submission Date All announcements are due by 8 AM to csanders@stmarkstl.com
<i>December 31</i>	<i>This Tuesday, December 19</i>
January 7	Next Tuesday, December 26
January 14	Thursday, January 4
January 21	Tuesday, January 9

## THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

The Knights of Columbus DeSmet Council 742 Ladies Auxiliary gives thanks to all who bought cookies at our "Pop Up Christmas Cookie Sale" over the first weekend of Advent.

Thank you to the volunteers for baking, plating, and selling the cookies.

It was a sold out success.

The St. Vincent de Paul councils in our area appreciate the contributions!



## TWO NIGHTS FOR BINGO

at Bandwagon Hall  
Lemay Ferry at Reavis Barracks

### FRIDAYS

**Doors open 3:30 PM**  
**Sales begin 4:30 PM**  
**Bingo begins 6:15 PM**

For information or  
volunteer on **Fridays**,  
call Laura @  
314.229.7200.

### SUNDAYS

**Doors open 2:30 PM**  
**Sales begin 3:30 PM**  
**Bingo begins 5:30 PM**

For information or to  
volunteer on **Sundays**,  
call Ken  
@ 314.409.3114.

## **No BINGO**

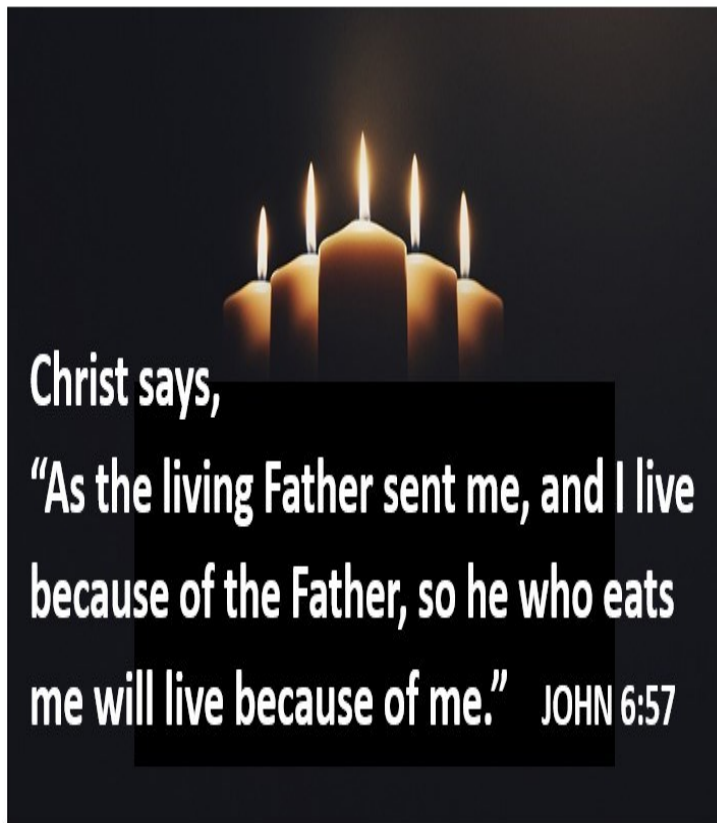
**This Friday, December 22**  
**Sundays, December 24 & 31**

*We wish our Patrons & Volunteers  
a blessed & merry Christmas!*

*We look forward to seeing you  
in the new year.*

## **Yes BINGO**

**New Year's Day, Monday, Jan. 1**  
**Doors opens at 10:30 AM.**  
**Bingo starts at 1 PM.**



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

at St. Mark Parish Church

THURSDAYS

after 8 AM Mass

until

Benediction of Blessed Sacrament

at 6:45 PM

✠ Want to Experience Revival? ✠

It Starts with a **SPARK**



[eucharisticrevival.org/get-involved](http://eucharisticrevival.org/get-involved)

**PRAY THE EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL NOVENA  
AND  
FAN THE FLAME**



## **TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER GIFT CARDS MAKE FOR WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

*Tomorrow Monday, December 18 by 10 AM is the last day to order gift cards in time for Christmas delivery.*

Don't forget to buy your TWB cards for those on your Christmas gift giving list, and for your grocery needs.

Call Alice Wilcox at 314.743.8603 to place your order.

After December 18 the TWB cards we have on hand will be for sale.

## COVENANT NETWORK CATHOLIC RADIO

... fills the airways with inspirational and educational programming that will help prepare your heart and mind to welcome the Christ Child at Christmas.

Listen to Catholic radio on KHOJ 1460 AM or at the Covenant Network App or at [OurCatholicRadio.org](http://OurCatholicRadio.org).

## **POTLUCK DINNER & GAME NIGHT Celebrate the New Year!**

**Sunday, December 31 beginning at 6 PM  
St. Mark Cafeteria**

Join other parishioners & families.

Please bring a food item to share (like main dish, chips & dip, salads, & desserts) along with games to play.

This is a family-friendly alcohol-free evening.

For more information call Glenn, 314.803.6475.



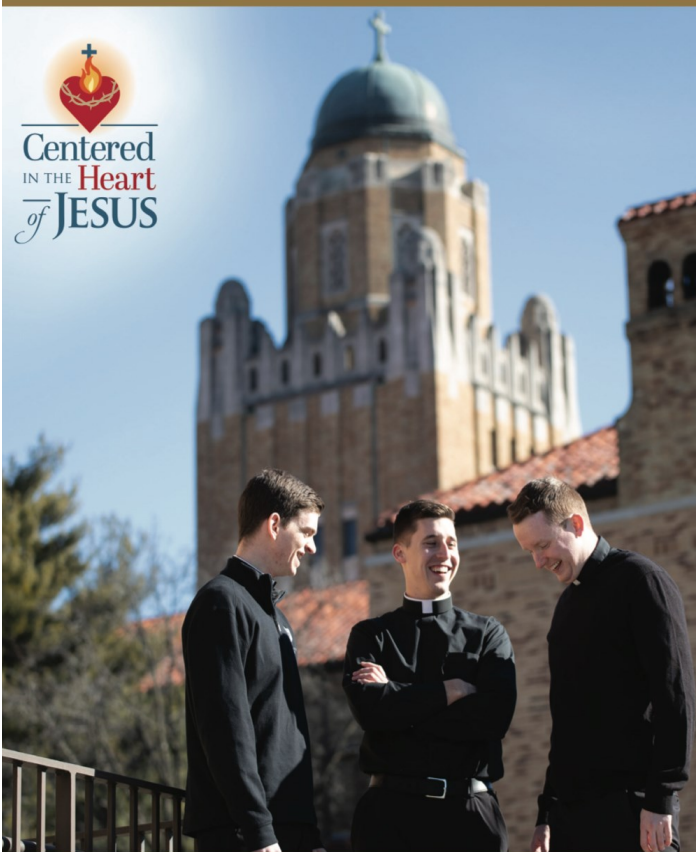
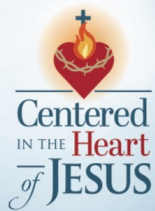




The beautiful flowers and decorations that you will find in our churches this Christmas Season are made possible through the donations of many parishioners through their use of the Christmas Flower Offering envelopes.

*Thank you for your generosity.*

KENRICK-GLENNON SEMINARY



Your support strengthens formation efforts and helps prepare these men to serve people with joy.

Make your gift today!

Donate at [kenrick.edu/HeartofJesus](http://kenrick.edu/HeartofJesus) or at Mass on Christmas Eve and Day.



God bless all military, first responders, health workers, and all those who can't be with their families on Christmas Day.

May the joy of our Savior's birth be with you,  
**WHEREVER YOU MAY BE.**



*We ask for prayers for those parishioners and family members of parishioners who are serving in the United States Military.*

Nicholas Auck - ROTC Army  
Lt. Elizabeth Bereswill, RN, BSN - Army  
Major Chad Carlton - Air Force  
E-6 Steven E. Eddy - Navy  
PFC Judah Fisher - Army National Guard  
Samuel Hentges - Air Force  
LTLG Andrew Hessi - Navy  
Sergeant Donald Keener - Army National Guard  
PFC Philip Laurenti - U.S. Army  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Jack Laury - ROTC  
Capt. William Miles - Army Engineer Corp  
A1C Guy Qualls - Air Force  
Specialist Richard Reilly - TX Arms Natl. Guard  
E-5 Joseph Wiedner - Navy  
Specialist Christopher Wolf - MO National Guard

*If there are any changes or you would like to add names to this list, please contact Christina Sanders at: 314.743.8602 or [csanders@stmarkstl.com](mailto:csanders@stmarkstl.com)*