

St. Richard Parish

11223 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, MO 63146

(314) 432-6224

www.strichardstl.org

April 3, 2022

Fifth Sunday
of Lent

I am the
resurrection
and the
life

OUR MISSION

*Know Him more clearly,
Love Him more dearly, and
Follow Him more nearly, day by day.*

Parish Contact Information

The office is open Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
You can contact the parish staff at
314-432-6224 or info@strichardstl.org.

Parish Staff

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Pastor | Rev. Gene Robertson Ext. 1015 grobertson@strichardstl.org |
| Deacon | John Bischof 569-3855 jbischof@strichardstl.org |
| Admin. Assistant | Kathy Reznikov Ext. 1003 info@strichardstl.org |
| Business Manager | Mary Steingrubby Ext. 1002 msteingrubby@strichardstl.org |
| Music Director | Jim Randazzo jrandazzo@strichardstl.org |
| St. Richard Choir | Jim Randazzo |
| Emmaus Choir | Ruth Ferris 991-6854 |

If someone is in danger of death and needs the sacrament,
please call: 314-432-6224 Ext. 1016

Mass Schedule

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| Weekdays | 8:15 a.m. |
| Saturday | 5 p.m. |
| Sunday | 9 a.m. 11 a.m. |

Sacrament of Reconciliation

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Saturday | 3:45-4:30 p.m. Or by appointment |
|----------|-------------------------------------|

BAPTISM

Registered parishioners please contact the Parish Office to schedule a Baptism and necessary preparations. For your first child, a Baptism Preparation Class must be completed. Baptisms are typically held after the Sunday 11 a.m. Mass.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning marriage should contact the Parish Office **at least six months** in advance for proper procedures.

INTERESTED IN BEING A CATHOLIC?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA, program prepares all who wish to join the Catholic Church. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit by the Pastor, Deacon or an Extraordinary Minister of Communion.

Lector Schedule

| | |
|---|---|
| Saturday, April 2 5 p.m. Carolyn Siemer | Saturday, April 9 5 p.m. Gerald Chmielewski |
| Sunday, April 3 9 a.m. Seth McVicar 11 a.m. Pam McCaskill | Sunday, April 10 9 a.m. Kaye Hartweger 11 a.m. John Tucker |
| Saturday, April 16 <i>See Easter Vigil Schedule in Holy Week notice—pg. 6</i> Sunday, April 17 - Easter 9 a.m. Michelle Taylor 11 a.m. Lisa Sword | Saturday, April 23 5 p.m. Doris Smith Sunday, April 24 9 a.m. Dave Peters 11 a.m. Paul Wienke |

THANK YOU, ST. RICHARD!

Once again I am indebted to the generous parishioners of St. Richard. With just a couple of notices in the bulletin and one announcement in Church, you have come through and supplied 6,607 diapers and 5,225 wipes in support of the *7th Annual Diaconate Diaper Drive*. We fell short of what we received last year, but the distribution this year was toward the larger sizes which obviously cost more, plus inflation I'm sure made them more expensive. I'm going to guess that the contributors spent as much or more money this year than last. For this, your love for children and the less fortunate, I thank you.

Once again, the donations were evenly divided and distributed to two charitable institutions. The first you are familiar with, it is the St. Augustine Center in Wellston; the second is Good Shepherd Children and Family Services in Pagedale. They house single mothers and their children who would otherwise be out on the street. They, also, assist them with completing their education and helping them find jobs, enabling them to make it on their own.

Through these seven years, the archdiocese has collected more than 1,500,000 diapers to distribute to those so very much in need. A "big" thank you once again for helping us attain that mark to help those whom Jesus would have helped if He were physically with us walking our earth today.

Deacon John Bischof

IF YOU VOLUNTEER AT ST. RICHARD, YOU ARE **REQUIRED** TO REGISTER ON THE ARCHDIOCESE'S NEW SAFE ENVIRONMENT COMPLIANCE SITE.

The Archdiocese of St. Louis has developed a new system for safe environment compliance called **Prevent and Protect STL**. Please register at:
www.preventandprotectstl.org (passcode: **stlprotect**)

Contact Mary (msteingrubby@strichardstl.org) with any questions. Thank you.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday April 3

All Paper Surveys Due Back to Church

9 a.m. - Mass

11 a.m. - Mass

Monday, April 4

Last Day to Take Online Survey

8:15 a.m. - Mass

9 a.m. - Faith Share/Sacred Heart Room

7 p.m. - Rosary/Church

Tuesday, April 5

8:15 a.m. - Mass/ followed by

Our Mother of Perpetual Help devotions

7 p.m. - Liturgy Committee/Sacred Heart Room

7 p.m. - Lectio Divina/St. Joseph Room

Wednesday, April 6

8:15 a.m. Mass

2 p.m. - Discussion Group/Marian Room

7 p.m. - Emmaus/Church

Thursday, April 7

8:15 a.m. - Mass

6:30 p.m. - Lenten Penance Service/Church

7 p.m. - St. Richard Choir/Marian Room

Friday, April 8 - Abstain

8:15 a.m. - Mass

4:30-7 p.m. - Fish Fry/O'Brien Hall

7 p.m. - Stations of the Cross/Church

Saturday, April 9

5 p.m. - Mass

BULLETIN DEADLINES

All items must be submitted no later than 2 p.m. on Tuesday (*unless otherwise noted*) for publication the following weekend.

April 17 bulletin

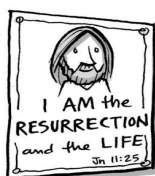
Deadline 4/6

April 24 bulletin

Deadline 4/19

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



NO MATTER IF IT SEEMS FAR-FETCHED, IF GOD PROMISES, IT'S TRUE



"Then you will know that I, the Lord, have spoken and done it," declares the Lord. Ez 37:14

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Scripture from the New American Standard Bible® (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. www.Lockman.org

ST. RICHARD ACTIVITIES & ORGANIZATIONS

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Liturgy Committee | Doris Smith | 872-7823 |
| Finance Committee | Rich Lewis | 567-6860 |
| Athletic Association | Bill Davidson | 732-3814 |
| Helping Hands | Kathy Peters | 569-0678 |
| Art & Environment | Kathy Engelbrecht | 808-0307 |
| Ladies' Club | Carolyn Sousa | 489-2358 |
| Leisure Club | Sharon Cusick | 482-3317 |
| Men's Club | Eric Vehige | 640-0786 |
| Prayer Chain | Mimi Minner | 650-7893 |
| SVDP Helpline | 289-6101 | #2292 |



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Welcome into the Church

Kali Franzen,

daughter of

Ryan & Kristina Franzen,
who was baptized last weekend.

May God bless your faith journey!



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of Zachary Davisson IV who died on March 29. Zachary was the father of Mary Martin, father-in-law of Craig Martin and grandfather of Jake and Grant of this parish. He was the father of Zach Davisson V and father-in-law of Debbie Davisson, both former teachers at St. Richard School.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



Easter Flowers

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

EASTER FLOWERS REMINDER

If you would like to contribute to the Easter Flowers, please turn in your envelope before Easter. If you give your offering through Faith Direct, you may simply drop a note in the collection basket or mail letting us know you have made a contribution. Clearly print the name of the person you would like to acknowledge (*In Memory of or In Honor of*), so it is written correctly on the recognition list. Thank you for supporting the decoration of our worship space.

Weekly Offering

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Offertory for 3/27/2022

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| General Offering | \$ 3,133.00 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | 65.00 |
| St. Vincent de Paul | 45.00 |
| Other Collections | 240.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 3,483.00 |
| Online Giving (average est.) | \$ 4,200.00 |

Do It TODAY!

The last day to fill out the Disciple Maker Index Survey online is this Monday (April 4). Many members of St. Richard still need to participate. We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. If you are age 15 or older, you are eligible to take the survey.

Please complete the survey online today. Go to <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/yybcty>, which is dedicated to St. Richard. You can find a link to the survey on the St. Richard website home page: strichardstl.org. **The survey is only available until April 4.**

ALL PAPER COPIES MUST BE RETURNED THIS WEEKEND to the basket in the back of church, so that they can be mailed in and tabulated. You can obtain a paper copy of the survey in the vestibule or by visiting the Parish Office. If you know of someone who may not have received a survey, please bring them a copy of the survey, have them complete it and return it to the basket this weekend. If the Church doors are locked when you return, please put the survey in the black lock box to the left of the main PLC doors.

Thank you to everyone who has already gone online or returned a completed paper Survey! We need to know your thoughts so future plans for St. Richard and our faith family can be created to fit the needs of the whole parish. Completing the survey is one visible way to show you care about St. Richard and its future. Once all the surveys are tabulated, we will receive information to discuss. I will meet with the St. Richard All Things New Team to go over the results first, before posting them in upcoming bulletins.

Thank you for participation!

Blessings,
Fr. Gene



ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH
FORWARD IN HOPE



Learn more about the
Strategic Pastoral
Planning Initiative
allthingsnew.archstl.org



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS



Lenten News Of Note

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Give yourself the gift of Reconciliation.



We will hold a
**Lenten Penance
Service**
on
**Thursday, April 7 at
6:30 p.m.**
in the Church.

Several priests will be hearing confessions that evening.

Come, the Lord is waiting for you.

PRAY FOR



THE ELECT

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Please continue to pray during Lent for **David Nganga** and **Ashley Morgan** who will be receiving Sacraments on Holy Saturday.

The third and final Scrutiny will be celebrated with David and Ashley on Saturday, April 2 at the 5 p.m. Mass.

We will be using the Cycle A Readings this week, since David and Ashley are members of the Elect completing RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults).



Stations of the Cross

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Stations of the Cross will be held this Friday at 7 p.m.

Stations will be held at 3 p.m. on Good Friday.

ALL YOU CAN
EAT SIDES



DESSERT
INCLUDED

JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT
INCLUDING GOOD FRIDAY
FOR THE BEST FISH FRY IN SAINT LOUIS

Dine-In or Carry-Out

4:30-7 p.m.

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------|
| Adult Dinner: | 2 pcs. Baked or Fried Cod | \$12 |
| | 2 pcs. Fried Catfish | \$12 |
| | Special | \$12 |
| | 6 pc. Fried Shrimp | \$12 |
| | 2 Fish Tacos | \$12 |
| | 1pc. Baked or Fried Cod | \$10 |
| | All-You-Can-Eat Sides | \$9 |

Child Dinner (12 & under): \$6
Fish Sticks OR Pizza OR Cheese Sticks

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|-----|
| Extras: | 1 pc. Fish | \$3 |
| | 3 pcs. Fried Shrimp | \$5 |
| | 5 pcs. Crab Rangoon | \$5 |
| | 5 pcs. Cheese Sticks | \$5 |
| | 4 pcs. Hush Puppies | \$2 |

Archbishop Rozanski's Suggestions for Aid to Ukraine

Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski has recommended the following organizations as recipients for financial assistance for the Ukrainian people:

The Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia: Checks may be sent directly to the Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The check should be marked "Humanitarian Aid Fund for Ukraine." The address is 810 N. Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Electronic donations may be sent through https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=4TBAFG6BBVG84

Catholic Relief Services/Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine: Send checks to 228 W. Lexington Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-3443 or through their website at <https://www.crs.org/media-center/current-issues/ukraine-conflict-facts-and-how-help>

The National Bank of Ukraine (NBU): <https://bank.gov.ua/en/news/all/natsionalnyi-bank-vidkriv-spetsrahunok-dlya-zboru-koshtiv-na-potrebi-armiyi>

What's So Good About Good Friday?

Please join us for a day of recollection on Good Friday (April 15) from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Msgr. Michael Witt will give two presentations with time for reflection and meditation. We will conclude with a light Lenten lunch. While the event ends at 1 p.m., folks are welcome to stay as late as 3 p.m., walking our beautiful grounds and/or spending some quiet time in our peaceful chapel. If you would like to attend your own parish's Good Friday services, you will have plenty of time to do so after the event ends!

The registration fee is \$30/person. You can register or learn more at <https://marianistretreat.com/events/good-Friday-2022/>, or by contacting the program director (paul@marianistretreat.com or 314-608-5447). **The registration deadline is the end of the day THIS Friday (April 8).**



Marianist Retreat & Conference Center
4000 Hwy 109
Eureka, MO 63025



Roman Catholic Foundation
EASTERN MISSOURI

Understand the Church's teachings on end-of-life issues, so you can clearly communicate to your family about these difficult decisions.

This free seminar is for everyone: singles, parents of young families, those caring for aging parents, and those facing illness or death. Lunch will be provided and there will be no solicitation.

To register, go online or call:
rcfstl.org/conversation-2022
314.918.2892

THE CONVERSATION:

A Catholic Perspective on End-of-Life Issues

PRESENTED BY THE ROMAN CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

FREE SEMINAR | SATURDAYS 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

APRIL 2 Sacred Heart Church
100 Thompson Drive • Troy, MO

APRIL 30 St. Vincent de Paul Church
1000 Rosati Court • Perryville, MO

MAY 14 Annunciation Church
12 West Glendale Road • Webster Groves, MO

MAY 21 St. Clare of Assisi Church
15642 Clayton Road • Ellisville, MO

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Principles of Catholic Bioethics
- Charitable Legacy Planning
- Advance Directives & Estate Planning
- Funeral & Cemetery Planning

Know Him More Clearly

DAILY MASS READINGS

Sunday, April 3

Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11;
Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

Monday, April 4

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6;
Jn 8:1-11 (since Year A readings were used on Sunday)

Tuesday, April 5

Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday, April 6

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday, April 7

Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

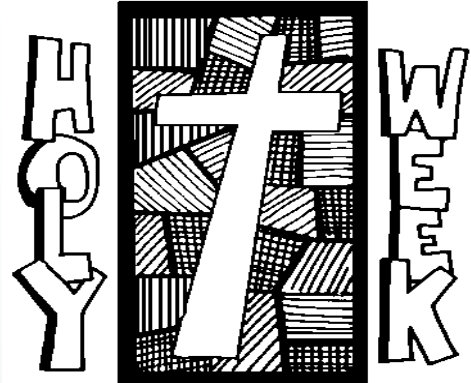
Friday, April 8

Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday, April 9

Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10-12abcd, 13; Jn 11:45-56

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



Palm Sunday Weekend (April 9-10)

5 p.m. - Mass
9 a.m. - Mass
11 a.m. - Mass

Holy Thursday (April 14)

No 8:15 a.m. Mass
7 p.m. - Mass of the Lord's Supper
Lector - Doris Smith

Good Friday (April 15)

Fast & Abstain
No 8:15 a.m. Mass
3 p.m. - Stations of the Cross - Church
2:30-4 p.m. - Confessions
7 p.m. - Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Lector - Dave Peters

Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil (April 16)

No Confessions
No 5 p.m. Mass
8 p.m. - Easter Vigil Mass
Lectors - Tom Kutz
Carolyn Siemer
Pam McCaskill
Sherri Deighton

Easter Sunday (April 17)

9 a.m. - Mass
Lector - Michelle Taylor
11 a.m. - Mass
Lector - Lisa Sword



St. Richard Men's Club 17th Annual Music Trivia

Saturday, April 30, 2022 in O'Brien Hall
Doors open at 6:45 p.m. / Play Begins at 7:30p.m.

Cost: \$200 per table (max 10 players per table)
Cost includes beer, soda, pretzels & popcorn

To reserve a table please send a check payable to St.
Richards Men's Club for \$200 (we will accept tables
with less than 10 , the cost will be \$20 per person) along
with your name, phone & email address to:

Colleen Davidson
10945 Pem Rd
St. Louis, MO 63146

Upon receipt of payment, an email will be sent confirming the reservation



Love Him More Dearly

Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer

The Fifth Week of Lent



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

In the Fifth Sunday of Lent, John's gospel brings us the story of the woman accused of adultery. Religious leaders bring a woman to Jesus challenging Him: "Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women." Jesus responded only, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

The crowd quietly dispersed. Jesus seeing there is no one left to accuse the woman says gently, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

For Masses using Cycle A readings for the RCIA, John's Gospel will offer the story of the raising of Lazarus. (For more information, see [Praying the Gospels of Weeks 3, 4 and 5](https://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/gospels-3-4-5.html) - <https://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/gospels-3-4-5.html>.)

The first readings this week prepare for the gospels. We begin with the long, but well worth reading, story of Susanna, which ends in "blessing God who saves those who hope in him." The bronze serpent on a pole reminds us of Jesus' saving cross. Three young men refuse to commit idolatry and show us how God protects "the servants who trusted in Him." God entered a covenant with Abraham. In the midst of his persecution, Jeremiah praises God, "For he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!" God promises to unite the people in an everlasting covenant.

Our gospels are again from John, the Fourth Gospel. Jesus continues to challenge the Pharisees, who plot His arrest. Jesus challenges those who do not believe in Him: "I know where I came from and where I am going." Reminding us of the bronze serpent and His death, Jesus says, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will realize that I AM." To the children of Abraham and to us Jesus declares, "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." "Whoever keeps my word will never see death. ... Amen, amen, I say to you, before Abraham came to be, I AM." They heard what they thought was blasphemy and tried to stone Him. Jesus simply told the truth, because, "the Father is in me and I am in the Father." After the raising of Lazarus, the plans were set to destroy Jesus. The high priest says the prophetic words, "it is better for you that one man should die instead of the people, so that the whole nation may not perish."

On Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion we make our way into Holy Week. We read the gospel about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, Paul's invitation to us to imitate Jesus who emptied himself, and the whole Passion, this year from Luke's Gospel.

Daily Prayer This Week

This is the last full week of Lent. We can feel the conflict and struggle developing in the readings. As we read about the drama that surrounded Jesus' last days on earth and reflect upon its meaning, we experience how the drama that is going in our own hearts is more intense the closer we get to the end of Lent. The Spirit of the Lord is really trying to help us be more open and more free, to receive the graces our Lord wants to offer us.

There is another spirit that is fighting just as hard to distract us, discourage us, and prevent us from being open and attentive to God's gifts. The closer we get to the mystery of our Lord's passion, death and resurrection for us, the more we can experience struggle. If I experience myself somewhat "at war" with myself, then these are very important days to keep deliberately asking our Lord to help me.

It is also a great time to begin to prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. We can reject the unloving choices we've made, all that is unjust, dishonest, disrespectful and violent. We want to refuse to be mastered by empty promises. Declaring our desire for freedom is a great preparation to receive this great gift. If we are celebrating the Scrutinies with the RCIA candidates and catechumens, this is a wonderful time to pray for them as well, for their protection from the evil one in the last days of their journey.

If we have developed the habit of naming a desire the first thing each morning, and carrying on a conversation with our Lord in the brief background moments of the day, we are already comfortable with letting the Word or the Season interact with the concrete events of the week. This way of finding intimacy with our Lord, through our daily interaction - even in a very busy life - is so appropriate for the Fifth Week of Lent. We can discover areas that are still resistant to God's grace. We can ask for help to practice new ways of being free, or new ways of loving. We can find ways to make financial sacrifices to give to the poor this week.

Each night this week, we can give thanks. The closer we get to celebrating Holy Week and the events that brought us our salvation, each of us can express our gratitude, realizing this was all for me.

*Taken from 'Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer' on the
Creighton University's Online Ministries website:
<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>
Used with permission.*

Mask Update

While the St. Louis County mask mandate has been lifted and wearing a mask is optional, we would like to remind everyone that our parish family has vulnerable members and as Christians we are called to care for our neighbors. We request that if you are not vaccinated or are sick, you wear a mask (over your nose and mouth) while inside any St. Richard building. Masks are available in each building for anyone who forgets one.

Thanks for continuing to help keep everyone healthy and safe!



O Prince of Peace, humbly we ask your protection for all the men and women in service of our country.

CAPT David Butz
Fort Bliss, TX
Grandson-in-law of
Fran Waelterman

SGT Thomas M. Euson
Camp LeJeune, NC
Great Nephew of
Neil & Paulette Byrne

1LT Anna Ferris RN,
Fort Bliss, TX
Granddaughter of
Fran Waelterman

CAPT John Andrew Floro
Scott AFB, IL
Nephew of Marcella &
Deacon Del Leonardo

L CPL John M. Geringer
Camp Pendleton
Grandson of Ceil Geringer

LT COL Christopher Higgins
Goodfellow AFB
Nephew of Robert & Paula
Brose

CW3 Erick Knarzer
Afghanistan
Nephew of Jean O'Keefe

SGT Matthew Mansfield
Joint Base, Andrews, MD
Son of John & Jane Mansfield

SGT Joe Meadows
Fort Bragg, NC
SGT Sam Meadows
Fort Bragg, NC
Sons of Doug & Karen
Meadows

2LT Brittany Menzenwerth
Reserve Center,
Grand Prairie, TX
Daughter of Laura
Menzenwerth

MJR Michael Mulligan, Jr.
Ft. Irwin, CA
Nephew of Kathy Soucy

CAPT Matthew Primm
AFB Kuwait
Grandson-in-law of
Marie Everhardt

SSgt Eric Reuther
Ft. Gordon, GA
Son of Deacon
Ron & Cathy Reuther

LT COL Mark Scherrer
Travis AFB, CA
Son of Marilyn Scherrer

TSgt Kendall Washington
Hurlburt Field, FL
Son-in-Law of
Laura Menzenwerth

1LT Emily Weismiller
Ft. Bragg, NC
Daughter of Roger &
Michele Weismiller

SSgt Tyler White
Eglin AFB, FL
Nephew of Mark &
Lynn Pfothner

SRA Randi White
Eglin AFB, FL
Niece of Mark &
Lynn Pfothner

Please remember in your prayers:

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Anna Angert | Cathryn Kinamore | Thomas Reuther |
| Jane Concannon | John Klein | Bernard Ruthmeyer |
| Pat Corkery | John McCormick | Denise Sahrman |
| Patricia Daher | Dorothy Meyer | Jerry Saxe |
| Joe Deluca | Cheli Ohms Mosby | Gloria Smythe |
| Al & Betty Eise | Jennifer Mosier | Eileen Thomson |
| Patricia Filko | Patrick Nickens | Mike Underiner |
| Marie Graves | Jean O'Keefe | Phyllis Walsh |
| Jerry Huelsman | Betty Penn | Linda Zappe |
| Toni Jodlowski | Jonathon Penne | |
| Patricia Kelley | Florence Rahubka | |

To add or remove yourself from this listing,
please contact the **Parish Office** at **432-6224**.

If you would like to add or remove a name from the
Prayer Chain, please contact **Mimi Minner** at **650-7893**.

Mass Intentions

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Sat., April 2 | 5 p.m. | Ruth Wilke+ |
| Sun., April 3 | 9 a.m. | People of St. Richard |
| | 11 a.m. | Florence King+ |
| Mon., April 4 | 8:15 a.m. | Joseph F. & Kathryn H. Darpel+ |
| Tues., April 5 | 8:15 a.m. | Andrew Altmiller+ |
| Wed., April 6 | 8:15 a.m. | Sue LaFever+ |
| Thurs., April 7 | 8:15 a.m. | Purgatorial Society |
| Fri., April 8 | 8:15 a.m. | Lucy Smith+ |

+ Indicates an individual is deceased

ZECHARIAH MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST is about sharing the story of an encounter with Christ one man at a time. It involves breakfast, fellowship, a great talk, and prayer. In person seating is at the Fleur de Lis Room, Cardinal Rigali Center, by reservation only to gary.whitlock@att.net, telephone 636-215-0973, or the online form at stlrenewal.org/zpb. \$15 payment may be made at the door. Free live online access will be offered to all who reserve. See archstl.org/renewal for information. Our speaker for **April 9, 2022 9:00am** is **Steve Rupp**, President of Missouri Right to Life and a manager at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Breakfast is still back! We will observe modest physical spacing and other appropriate precautions based on public health conditions at the time.



ZECHARIAH
Witness to Catholic Men



CATHOLIC RENEWAL CENTER
"AWAKENING THE GIFTS & FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"



Steve Rupp

The Knights of Columbus
will be hosting Bingo on
Saturday, April 23 at
St. John Bosco at 7 p.m.
Doors open at 6 p.m.

BINGO

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Admission is \$20 in advance / \$25 at the door.
Admission includes a packet of bingo cards, snacks
and drinks.

Proceeds to benefit the Knights of Columbus
campaign to assist Ukraine via the Ukraine
Solidarity Fund. You can support this effort directly
by going to: KofC.org

Reservations : Troy 314.469.1132

Follow Him More Nearly

Fifth Sunday
of
LENT



April 3, 2022

© 2022
All rights reserved.
No part of this publication
may be reproduced without
written permission.

As we approach Holy Week, our readings speak of a God who, in the midst of death, brings new life to the people. In Ezekiel, we hear that God will open the graves of the people of Israel, who faced near extinction. In the Gospel of John, Jesus gives new life to Lazarus in a manner that prefigures the resurrection of Jesus. Paul tells the Romans that in Christ, God will not only give life to our bodies after death, but God offers us abundant life here and now. We observe that the external conditions for the people described in these readings did not radically change. Israel was still in exile. Lazarus would eventually face death again. But now God's presence and power are revealed. Even when our situation in life is difficult and perhaps not likely to change soon, we remember that the Spirit dwells within us.

EZEKIEL'S COUNTER-STORY

It is difficult to overstate the bleak situation faced by the people of Israel described in today's reading from Ezekiel. Babylon had invaded Jerusalem, killed many of its inhabitants, and destroyed the temple. Some of them were forced into exile in Babylon. Their captors and neighbors likely concluded that the Babylonian deity had pummeled the Hebrew deity into submission. Israel's God was as good as dead, and the people of Israel as well.

In the midst of this catastrophe, Ezekiel

announces a counter-story. The narrative of God's death is false. Israel's God is alive, and God's own breath will restore their life. They will be lifted out of the grave of their grief and despair, and be returned to their land. Ezekiel's message speaks to all of us who know of profound disorientation, of separation from loved ones, and of deep loss. God will bear our unbearable sorrow, and God's spirit will offer new life and hope.

RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Today's Gospel tells us of the raising of Lazarus. In Jesus' exchange with Lazarus' sister Martha, she refers to the general resurrection of the dead on "the last day." Jesus then shifts the perspective by identifying Himself as "the resurrection and the life." What does this mean? Jesus earlier had spoken of the hour "when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live" (John 5:25). When Jesus cries out in a loud voice—"Lazarus, come out!"—Jesus fulfills that role in the present, offering resurrection and life here and now, in a new relationship with Him.

Resurrection is offered not only on the last day, and not only at our physical death, but in the mix of our present daily lives. Sometimes we are buried in tombs of suffering or of entrapment in sin. When we encounter death in its many forms, in faith we can hear Jesus, who summons us out of death and into life.



Come and Pray

A 24-Hour Adoration in the church is held on the First Friday of each month. Adoration begins at the end of the 8:15 a.m. Mass and continues through Benediction at 8 a.m. Saturday morning.

Those who pray before the Eucharist are called adorers; there are two adorers assigned per hour.

We are in need of two adorers on Saturdays:

Midnight-1 a.m.
6-7 a.m.

Please prayerfully consider if Jesus is calling you to fill this need.

To learn more about Adoration or to participate in this beautiful practice, contact:

Celia (314/566-2308)
or
Mimi (314/650-7893)



Used with permission.