



Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France

THE OLD CATHEDRAL

FIRST CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



FOUNDED IN 1770

PRESENT CHURCH DEDICATED IN 1834

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 14, 2025

PASTORAL STAFF

Archbishop of St. Louis
The Most Reverend
Mitchell T. Rozanski

Rector
Father Nicholas W. Smith
Director, Office of Sacred Worship

In Residence
Father Joseph Jiang

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses
5:30 PM (Sunday Vigil)
8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM,
and 5:00 PM

Daily Masses
Monday through Friday
7:00 AM and 12:10 PM
Saturday - 7:00 AM

Live Stream Mass
7:00 AM Weekdays & 10:30 AM Sunday
Access live streams at oldcathedralstl.org

Devotions
Perpetual Help Devotions:
Tuesdays - 12:00 PM

SACRAMENTS

Confessions
Monday through Friday
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Saturday 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM

Marriage
Please arrange at least six months in
advance of the desired date.
To reserve a date, or for more
information, please contact
Tracy Marklein at 314-308-0091
tracymarklein@archstl.org

Baptisms
Sundays, following the 12:00 PM Mass
Please call 314-231-3250 to arrange

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 14

8:00 AM Louis F. Bonacorsi

10:30 AM Leona Curtis
(Live Streamed)

12:00 PM The Croxton Family

5:00 PM Parish Family

Monday, December 15

7:00 AM Ted Meyer

12:10 PM John Hake

Tuesday, December 16

7:00 AM William Smith

12:10 PM Susan Marie Diehl

Wednesday, December 17

7:00 AM Ted Meyer

12:10 PM Alvin & Anna Duker
& Family

Thursday, December 18

7:00 AM Ted Meyer

12:10 PM Luke Wiersma

Friday, December 19

7:00 AM Ted Meyer

12:10 PM Michael Amantea

Saturday, December 20

7:00 AM Dr. Fenton & Marian
Petersen & Family

5:30 PM Jim Blum

Sunday, December 21

8:00 AM Parish Family

10:30 AM Tim Croxton
(Live Streamed)

12:00 PM The Cribbin Family

5:00 PM Mary Byrne

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THE OLD CATHEDRAL

209 WALNUT STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102
314-231-3250

Email: oldcathedral@att.net

Website: oldcathedralstl.org



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2025

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 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 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

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Monday: Advent Weekday

Tuesday: Advent Weekday

Wednesday: Advent Weekday

Thursday: Advent Weekday

Friday: Advent Weekday

Saturday: Advent Weekday

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve: 5:00 PM & 10:00 PM

4:00 PM: *A Festival of Carols*

Christmas Day: 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM & NOON

OLD CATHEDRAL WEEKLY GIVING

The Old Cathedral has long been recognized as one of the most historic and beautiful churches of its time.

Our parish is proud of its more than 240 year history as a vibrant Roman Catholic Parish. Your presence, prayer, and generous kindness continue to make it so.

Your weekly donations can be made by mail or in person, or online at:

oldcathedralstl.org/give

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Weekly Collection Thru 12/7/2025

Online Donations	\$ 975.00
Collection	\$ 5,061.00
Total	\$ 6,036.00



OLD CATHEDRAL FIRST SUNDAY TOURS

We are pleased to offer Old Cathedral tours on the first Sunday of the month following the noon Mass.

Tour: January 5

For group tours of 10 or more email oldcathedral@att.net

Please call for questions:
314-231-3250

MUSEUM HOURS
oldcathedralstl.org



Scan
To
Make
Your
Gift



FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Old Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors:

In today's first reading, Isaiah's beautiful poem proclaims that the dry earth of the desert will *bloom with abundant flowers*, and *the glory of Lebanon will be given*. Throughout his writing, Isaiah references Lebanon as an iconic place of fertility and beauty. Contrary to the barren hills surrounding Jerusalem, Lebanon was known for its rich cedar forests. Isaiah employs this image to foreshadow what the Christian Scriptures call the "new heaven and earth," or the restoration of creation, including humanity, to God's original intent. This is a fitting image for Advent, as we prepare for heaven to literally come to earth, the wedding of what "will be" with what currently "is."

Each of us is a work in progress. Every day, we are being transformed as part of Christ's mission of restoration and redemption. Sometimes the growth we undergo feels painfully slow, as though we are barely progressing; sometimes it feels as though we are retreating backward, not growing into something beautiful but rather being overcome by thorns and thistles.

Amid such moments, we can return to the prophet Isaiah's words: *Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not!* This poem of joyful hope goes on to say: *Here is your God, he comes with vindication*. So, too, must we wait with hope, enduring our setbacks with faithfulness and patience. In the second reading, James offers further encouragement when he says: *Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand*.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' words continue the theme of the first reading when he tells John the Baptist's disciples: *Go and tell John what you hear and see*. People are healed and Good News is proclaimed to the poor, just as Isaiah predicted. Jesus assures the crowd he is *the one who is to come*. Jesus rejoices in John's mission of preparing the way for God's only Son. Jesus says there is no one greater than John and yet *the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he*.

What does this mean for us? John baptized with water and Jesus baptizes with the Holy Spirit. Jesus died for the forgiveness of our sins and gives us his body to eat. When he promises to be with us always, we are blessed to be included in his kingdom. Let us rejoice on this Gaudete Sunday in what Jesus has done for us. Let us prepare our hearts not only for his coming but for his kingdom.

Blessings on your Advent. Stay safe!

-Father Smith

SAVE-THE-DATE



**CATHOLIC MEN
FOR CHRIST
CONFERENCE**

February 7, 2026
9:00am-3:00pm
SI Commons at SLUH
4970 Oakland Ave



Old Cathedral & Museum Tour



Our Lady of Lourdes – Eighth Grade Field Trip

Columbia, Missouri

Featured, Rev. Gregory Clever, a former student of Father Smith's and a graduate of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

Save The Date

Sunday,

December 28

10:30 AM Mass

Old Cathedral

*Join us as we
celebrate the*

*closing of the
Jubilee Year*

of Hope



This Jubilee Year for the archdiocese began last December at the New Cathedral, and will conclude for the Archdiocese of St. Louis on the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, with Father Carl Scheble, Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, as president and Father Nick Smith as homilist.



Come celebrate the closing of this special year of hope as we give thanks for God's blessings and look forward in faith!



MOScholars

Missouri's Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program

Powered by the Today & Tomorrow Educational Foundation

100% TAX CREDITS

Available to Corporations, Small Businesses and Individuals!

FINAL CALL: RESERVE YOUR 2025 MISSOURI TAX CREDITS BEFORE DECEMBER ENDS.

Families are counting on MOScholars Scholarships to make Catholic education possible, and \$5 million in tax credits are available right now through the Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation. Don't let these credits go unused — reserve yours today and turn your 2025 tax liability into an opportunity for a child who needs it.

Scan here to make your reservation today!



<https://tief-stl.org/moscholars-donor/>

Questions? Contact Our Team!

Pete Cerone, Executive Director
314-792-7732 | petecerone@archstl.org

Kenrick-Glennon Seminarian Mass Speaker

Jack Nowak December 20 & 21

My name is Jack Nowak and I am in my third year of College at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. My home parish is St. Clare of Assisi in Ellisville. I went to high school at Saint Louis Priory and graduated in 2023, entering the Seminary afterwards. In high school I ran cross country, acted in theater, and was a lifeguard. I first felt the call to the Seminary in 6th grade while on the Kenrick-Glennon Days summer camp. This call was confirmed as I grew in the faith in grade school and in my youth group in high school. During my freshmen year of Seminary, I suffered through Fr. Smith's Literature class, so I am well accustomed to your parish's pain. In all seriousness, I am excited to come speak at your parish for our Advent Christmas Collection!



GO Forth

KENRICK-GLENNON SEMINARY

Christmas Day Collection



OLD CATHEDRAL

Christmas Eve

A FESTIVAL OF CAROLS

A prelude including Choral and Congregational Carols.

Wednesday, December 24 at 4pm
prior to the 5pm Christmas Eve Vigil



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION
New Hats, Socks, Gloves
& Thermal Warmwear Donations

Help support our downtown St. Louis neighbors in need who are faithfully served by the Old Cathedral Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Basket located west side of sanctuary near statue of St. Joseph

SECOND COLLECTION
To support our Old Cathedral
SVdP Conference
December 14