

Catholic Deaf Ministry of St Louis

Greetings!

Welcome to our new priest named Fr Dan Kavanagh, who is hard of hearing and he uses sign language for the Catholic Deaf Community. Also, he is director of Catholic Deaf Ministry (CDM). Our first signed Mass was on July 21st at St Richard's Catholic Church in Creve Couer. Another exciting news is that CDM has reopened, it was inactive since approx. 2013. Our new CDM coordinator is Al Alvord. We are looking forward to working with Deaf Catholic people and changes in our church and future.

We will send out newsletters once a month, This covers Catholic Beliefs and stories of Jesus, as well as, news and events including CDS news and events. Signed Mass is every Sunday at 11 AM and we will have a social with refreshments right after Mass starting in September. You are welcome to join our Mass, please come and support Fr Dan.

If you have an interest to serve for Our Lord as an usher, readers, Eucharistic Minister as well as, the sacraments of baptism, Confirmation, Matrimony or becoming Catholic, etc, please contact Al,

Both CDM coordinator and Fr Dan will cover the city of St Louis, St Louis County, St Charles County and other counties. If you have any questions or need more information please contact CDM coordinator.

Also, let us know if you wish to become a member of St Richard's.



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CONFESSION

What is Confession?

Confession is called the “Sacrament of Penance”. A confession is the one of the seven sacraments.

Why do we confess our sins to a priest?

First, look at several verses below:

Matthew 10:1 Jesus summoned His 12 disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

Luke 9:1..... He called the 12 disciples together and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases.

Now, let me explain below:

Jesus was the first one who has authority to forgive all people’s sins. Jesus gave the power to his disciples so they can have authority to forgive people. All the disciples gave the power to other Roman Catholic priests who were ordained, they (priests) get much power to God’s healing forgiveness.

All Roman Catholic priests have the authority to forgive you. When you enter a confession and see the priest, Jesus is behind him while you confess your sins. Then your sins are thrown away.

Imagine that confession is a bath, a place to clean your sins. When you get dirty from work, or garden or painting....your body is dirty. You take a bath to clean your body. Your body is pure clean. The same as you get sins and sins stuck in your soul. Then you go to confession and the priest cleans your soul then your sins are gone. If you never go to confession then your sins are stuck in your soul and won’t removed till the confession. Confession is a bath or shower!

However, there are two differences between mortal and venial sins. Mortal sin is very serious sin and you need to go to confession as soon as possible. Mortal sin separates our relationship with God meaning that it is indanger grave. (Hell). You must not receive communion until you go to confession.

Venial sin is less serious and still hurts our relationship with God. You can confess direct to God however, it is better to go to a confession when you have a chance. Anyway, you may receive communion.

See an attachment – a list of mortal and venial sins.

A good time for us to go to confession is during Advent as we prepare for Christmas, and during Lent as we prepare for Easter. If you have mortal sins, then go to confession ASAP because your soul is in danger.

I am sending you a list of sins and you can bring this with you to confession.