

BEHOLD, I AM SENDING  
MY MESSENGER AHEAD OF  
YOU; HE WILL PREPARE  
YOUR WAY. MARK 1:2

## *St. Louis Catholic Church*



**Sunday, December 10, 2017**

### **Mass Schedule:**

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Monday-Friday: 6:15 am, 8:15 am & 12:00 pm

Saturday: 6:15 am, 8:15 am

### **Sacrament of Penance:**

Saturday: 3:30-4:30 pm

Sunday: 30 minutes prior to Mass

1st Friday: after 6:15 am & 12:00 pm Masses

1st Saturday: after 6:15 am & 8:15 am Masses

# Good News

## Second Sunday of Advent

Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Most of us are not good at waiting. We want things right away and would rather arrive just on time than stand around uselessly. Few things are as annoying as waiting in a doctor's office, a government office, or being stuck in traffic.

Yet waiting can also be an exciting and busy time, like a bride and groom preparing for their wedding. There is no time to waste, since the date is approaching and there is so much to do in order for everything to be prepared perfectly. Advent waiting should be more like this expectant waiting.

John the Baptist was sent to point toward Christ and invite the people to their wedding with God. The divine spouse was coming back to his beloved and sent the groom ahead to let everyone know he was coming.

Thus John preached preparation, conversion, and setting aside everything that would distract people from getting the heart ready for Jesus. Loving, active planning was as necessary for those who listened to John the Baptist as it is for us.

This means going up the mountain and into the desert. Set aside normal distractions and dedicate more time to think about Christ, preparing our hearts and minds for the big day of his arrival.

Advent isn't a nervous time of sitting around and hoping the line goes quickly. It is an active, engaged, and hopeful anticipation of one we eagerly await.

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### Parish & School Staff

Rev. Jolly Sebastian, M.C.B.S., Pastor  
Rev. William F. Burke, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Ruben Rivera, Associate Pastor  
Deacon Jeff Drzycimski  
Deacon Mike D'Addabbo

Deacon Ralph W. Donati, Deacon Emeritus  
Sr. Ancilia Indrati, C.B., Director of Religious Education  
Ronald Pierotti, Business Manager  
Jan O'Donnell, Administrative Assistant to Fr. Jolly Sebastian  
Anna Shelton, Accounts Receivable & Tuition Administrator  
Albert A. Burk, Jr., Choir Director  
Ray Mullins, Choir Director

Libba Nance, Wedding Coordinator  
Jana Soefker, Nursery Director  
Paul Walker, Director of Youth Ministry  
Hannah Hill, Associate Director of Youth Ministry  
Pat Ellis, Receptionist  
Andrew Clark, Receptionist  
Jim Clark, Evening Receptionist  
Teddi L. Niedzwiedz, School Principal  
Vickie Shaw, School Assistant Principal  
Kim Pesce, School Director of Admissions  
Michael W. Bennett, Athletic Director

### Parish Information

**Sacrament of Baptism**—Baptisms are celebrated on Saturdays and Sundays. Parents are asked to attend an instructional class prior to the baptism. Please call the parish office to schedule a baptism.

**Adults interested in the Catholic Faith**—to learn more about the Catholic Faith, please contact Deacon Jeff Drzycimski at [deaconjeff@thecatholiccafe.com](mailto:deaconjeff@thecatholiccafe.com) or 260-2888 for information about our R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program.

**Sacrament of Marriage**—Please contact one of the priests for an appointment at least 6 months in advance of the proposed wedding date. Diocesan policy requires that certain guidelines be met.

**Funerals**—please call the parish office to make funeral arrangements; our staff will be happy to assist you.

**Ministry to the Sick**—When a family member is ill, home-bound, or hospitalized, please call the parish office to request prayers and to arrange a pastoral visit. The priests and our lay Ministers to the Sick make regular visits to the sick and homebound.

**Nursery**—a nursery is provided in the Clunan Center each weekend at 9:00 am and 10:30 am Masses on Sundays.

### Parish Mission Statement

*We the people of St. Louis Parish, in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church, nurtured by the Eucharist, strive to be the body of Christ to all God's people. We are committed to a culture of life through worship, prayer, life-long evangelization and development of youth, and we desire to live out the Gospel mandate to love God and our neighbors as ourselves.*



# Events This Week

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Blood Pressure Screenings</b> in the Parish Social Ministry Office from 8:30-12 pm <b>Parish Religious Education Class</b> at 9 am in the school <b>Coffee &amp; Donuts</b> in Clunan Center Hall following morning Masses <b>Junior High Youth Group</b> at 4:30 pm in JPPI <b>Senior High Youth Group</b> at 7 pm in JPPI <b>Charismatic Group</b> in Meeting Room at 7:30 pm
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Queen of Peace</b> at 6 pm in the Church
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>WOW--Women of the Word</b> in Meeting Room <b>St. Leo's Lunch</b> at 11:30 in Clunan Center <b>Baptism Class</b> at 6:30 pm in the Meeting Room <b>Scouts</b> in Scout Room at 6 pm <b>RCIA</b> in Clunan Center at 7 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Louis Catholic School Drama Presentation</b> at 6:30 pm in the Gym <b>Serra Club Holy Hour</b> at 7 pm in the Church
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Praise &amp; Worship Group</b> in Choir Room at 11 am
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Blood Pressure Screenings</b> in the Parish Social Ministry Office following 4:30 pm Mass

**OFFERTORY REPORT**  
 Week of December 3, 2017  
 Collection—\$39,710

## Mass Intentions

<b>Sat</b>	6:15	Special Intention for Mary Catherine McNally
	8:15	+Perry Norman
	4:30	+Betty Hayes
<b>Sun</b>	7:30	+Perry Norman
	9:00	+Danny Styers
	10:30	+H. John Fox, Sr. & +Boone Pendergrast
	12:00	+Sid Kraker
	6:00	Parish
<b>Mon</b>	6:15	+Dan Thompson
	8:15	+June Rodgers & Poor Souls in Purgatory
	12:00	+Joseph & +Marion Gatti
<b>Tue</b>	6:15	+Perry Norman
	8:15	Special Intention for Mickey Metz & Reed & Riley Costello
	12:00	+Chuck Gaia
<b>Wed</b>	6:15	Special Intention for Lauren Nelson & Members of FOSS
	8:15	Special Intention for Dede Riley
	12:00	+Teeny Podesta
<b>Thur</b>	6:15	+Mary Catherine Gorman
	8:15	+Perry Norman
	12:00	+Ed Crenshaw & +Katherine Wallace
<b>Fri</b>	6:15	+Kay Kraus
	8:15	+Joe Aiken
	12:00	+Charlie Gaia

Prayers are requested for the sick: Jackie Stark+Kathy O'Connell+Deborah Saunders+Stella Grace Cook+Linda Liddell+Louise Fahrenkopf+Jim Causby+Tom Cooper+John B. Trouy+Ruby Peeler+Don Crone+Allyson Reese+Dorothy Recl+Teasie Wunderlich

## FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

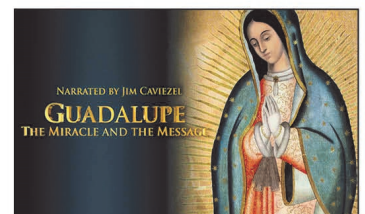
### Guadalupe

The Miracle and the Message

Explore the Marian Event that Transformed the World

Over the course of four days in 1531, the Virgin Mary appeared to an indigenous convert named Juan Diego and ignited an extraordinary transformation of the Americas. This gripping film explores the beautiful mystery and ongoing relevance of Our Lady's apparition at Guadalupe.

Watch on [formed.org](http://formed.org)



Also available in Spanish!

St. Louis Parish  
 Access Code:  
**PTQN96**

## *Christmas Mass Schedule*

### **Sunday, December 24th**

Sunday Mass: 7:30 am, 9 am, 10:30 am, 12 pm  
Christmas Eve Masses: 4:30 pm (Church & gym),  
6:30 pm & Midnight Mass

### **Monday, December 25th**

Christmas Day Masses: 9 am, 10:30 am & 12 pm  
(No 6pm Mass Christmas night)

### **Advent Confession Schedule**

Wednesday, December 6th—12:30-1:30 pm  
Thursday, December 7th—5-6 pm  
Wednesday, December 13th—12:30-1:30 pm  
Friday, December 15th—5-6 pm  
Wednesday, December 20th—12:30-1:30 pm  
Thursday, December 21st—5-6 pm  
Saturday, December 23rd—3-4:30 pm (2 priests)  
Sunday, December 24th—7-7:30 am, 8:30-9 am,  
10-10:30 am, 11:30-12 pm  
*No Confessions before Christmas Masses*



## **Retirement Fund for Religious**

Please give to those  
who have given a lifetime.

## **RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS SECOND COLLECTION**

The Second Collection on **Saturday, December 9th** and **Sunday, December 10th** will be for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Help religious communities. "Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry," writes a religious sister. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders!

## **CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF MEMPHIS**

### **PRESENTS: "SCREENAGERS"**

*A Video Presentation & Discussion*

How do boys and girls differ in their application uses?

- Are violent video games desensitizing?
- How does time on cell phones affect social development?
- What about brain research findings?
- What device guidelines should schools consider?
- What device guidelines should you consider at home?

**Tuesday, January 9th** at 7 pm in the Clunan Center. RSVP 609-4262 (text or call). Limited Seating for Adults, Young Adults, Teenagers.

## **MINISTRY TO THE SICK**

If you or a loved one is hospitalized or homebound and would like a visit from a priest or Minister of the Sick, contact the church office at 255-1950. Lay ministers are available to visit and bring Communion and prayer to individual homes, hospitals or nursing home facilities.

## **GUIDE TO CHRISTMAS MASSES 2017**

The 4th Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve and Christmas falls on a Monday. So, how do I fulfill my obligation to attend Mass?



### **GO TO MASS TWICE**

To fulfill both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Mass obligations, you must go to two different Masses.



### **PICK ONE MASS FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Attend Mass on Saturday evening or on Sunday at any time.



### **PICK ONE MASS FOR CHRISTMAS**

Attend Mass on Sunday evening or on Monday at any time.





# Christmas Sing-Along

## FLEUR DE LIS

Fleur de Lis meets next on **Thursday, December 21st** in the Clunan Center. The St Louis Choir will be joining us for dinner and a Christmas sing-a-long. We begin at 6 pm with social time and hors d'oeuvres. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. Leonard's will be catering a traditional ham dinner for us. All paid members eat free, as do our guests in the choir. We gathered some canned goods for Thanksgiving last month. Let's do it again for Christmas. So please bring some non perishable food items for our St Vincent de Paul.



## SAVE THE DATE ADVENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

St. Louis has nearly 200 homebound and/or active older parishioners. Each Christmas we deliver a flower to them from the church. Fr. Jolly is asking for families to volunteer to deliver just one—yes, just one flower to these families.

## PROVIDING HELP... BRINGING HOPE CAMPAIGN

Please support the work of Catholic Charities of West Tennessee during this season of Advent and their annual Providing Help....Bringing Hope campaign. Their Fig Tree program assists over 25,000 of our neighbors. Please donate at [ccwn.org](http://ccwn.org) or by returning the envelope found in the brochure mailed to your home.



## CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

St. Louis Church and School will again sponsor a Giving Tree for Christmas. Tags stating items needed will be in baskets in the Narthex and in the hallway outside the church office. Please take a tag and return the unwrapped gift to the church office, with the tag attached, by **Sunday, December 10th**. All gifts will be distributed by Catholic Charities.



## Holy Hour Come spend time in the presence of Jesus.

## PERPETUAL ADORATION

Calling all Catholics to love and adore our Lord: Adorers are needed for the Bread of Life Adoration Chapel. The following days and times have special need for you: Sunday 3-4pm; Saturday 3am-4am; Saturday 9pm-10pm (second Saturday of month). If you would like to become an Adorer we would also be glad to have you other days and times. Please contact Joan Thomas at [thomas.joan6@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.joan6@gmail.com) or 481-1274.



## CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

At Christmas Masses, lovely poinsettias decorate the altars. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special, please use the envelope in your packet. Your donation will be recognized in the bulletin Christmas weekend. Deadline for donations is **Monday, December 18th**.

## BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Banns of Marriage are announced for the third time for **Mille Burke and Alex Beard** and for the first time for **Maggie Pohlman and Colin Green**.



#### What is a prayer chain?

God hears and answers all prayers. A parish prayer chain is a group of parishioners who, on request, will pray for any of our brothers or sisters who are in need. The need could be illness, grieving due to the loss of loved ones, unemployment, addiction, etc.

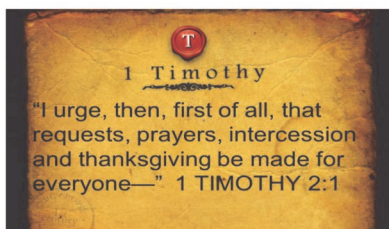
**What is requested of prayer chain volunteers?** To pray for the requests of St. Louis Church parishioners. Volunteers need to regularly monitor their personal email accounts for timely prayer requests. This information passed along must be kept private and absolutely confidential. Requests will be sent once a week in a group email unless the prayer request is for a timely or urgent matter.

**How will prayer requests be submitted?** Through the church website or church office.

**What is the time commitment?** Prayer chain members should be able to set aside time to pray daily for the prayer chain requests. Members pray individually for each prayer request. Other than the informational kickoff breakfast, there are no meetings to attend, which makes this a wonderful opportunity for those who otherwise would be unable to participate in a ministry.

**How do I volunteer to be a part of this prayer team?** Simply email [prayerchain@stlouismemphis.org](mailto:prayerchain@stlouismemphis.org) and provide your name and email address. You will then be contacted as to the date of the brief kick-off breakfast meeting in January.

It is a great blessing for those praying to have a daily time of communion with God. There is a transformative power for those who pray and for the people for whom we pray. It means so much to so many. Please consider joining this powerful ministry.



## SUNDAY HOMILIES

Sunday Homilies of Fr. Jolly and Fr. Ruben are available on the church website at [stlouischurchmphs.org](http://stlouischurchmphs.org). If you are not able to download them from the website and would like to receive them via email, send an email Jan O'Donnell at [jan.odonnell@stlouis.cdom.org](mailto:jan.odonnell@stlouis.cdom.org) or call the church office at 255-1950. If you would prefer a paper copy, stop in the church office and the front desk staff will print out a copy for you.

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Fr. Jolly has purchased pendants for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to wear during their assigned Masses. If you are assigned to be a minister, please arrive 15 minutes prior to Mass and retrieve your pendant from the Priest Sacristy. Sacristans will check 10 minutes prior to Mass to be sure that the proper number of pendants have been taken.

### LE BONHEUR MINISTRY

There are so many wonderful organizations that do a major part of their fund raising at Christmas. In the U. S. we are blessed and during the holidays we are all generous. That generosity is one of the greatest things about our country, our state, our county, our city, and our parish. January will start our 7th year of bringing meals and pantry items to the families on the fifth floor at Le Bonheur hospital. Please check the sign up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0948afae2c7-parish>. And remember that we also have ministers to the sick who take communion to the catholic patients and families. Let Cathy Freres know at 685-1934 if you'd like to help.



### ROOM IN THE INN

The next St. Louis Room in the Inn will be held on **Wednesday, December 20th**.

**Revised signup link:**

**[tinyurl.com/slcruti17-18new](http://tinyurl.com/slcruti17-18new)**

For information, call Pam Scarbrough at 896-8278 or Ann Drennan at 674-2117.





## Advent Day of Reflection

### *Catholic Holiday Survival Guide*

The holidays are coming...complete with hustling, bustling, shopping, baking, decorating, inviting and partying! If you're like most folks, these times are especially frantic. What's a Catholic to do? Can we keep the season sacred and still have fun?

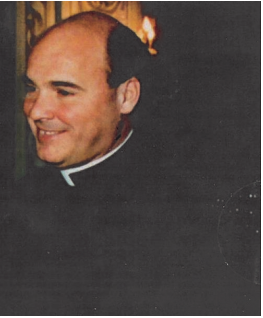
Come join us at St. Louis Church for a special one-day Advent Reflection that will help put perspective to all the frantic activities—and bring Jesus back as the central focal point. The Day of Reflection will be held on **Saturday, December 16th** from 10 am-3:15 pm in the Parish Dining Hall. Lunch will be provided.

#### Schedule:

10-11 am	Talk #1
11-11:15 am	Break
11:15 am-12:15 pm	Talk #2
12:15-1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15-2:15 pm	Talk #3
2:15-3:15 pm	Exposition of the Eucharist and Confessions

FATHER  
JOSEPH L.  
TAGG, III

HOMILIES  
THAT  
INSPIRE



The Tagg Family has released the second of Father Joseph Tagg's greatest homilies from his 23 years in the Diocese with Homilies That Inspire Volume II. These timeless messages take place in late 1997 and early 1998 and seamlessly fit right into today's current events. Father Tagg blended storytelling and historical data with his one-of-a-kind sense of humor to create inspiring messages that challenge us to draw closer to God. Topics covered are Overcoming Adversity and Despair, Mercy, Worthiness in an Unworthy World, Choosing Love or Fear, and the history of the Prayer of St. Francis. All proceeds from Fr. Tagg's homilies go to people in immediate need of assistance in our community. Visit [FatherJoeTagg.com](http://FatherJoeTagg.com) for more information.