Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church

6596 Smiley Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63139

Staff

Pastor
The Rev. Michael Rennier
michaelrennier@gmail.com

Music Director
Elizabeth Wildman

Plant Manager
John Ellison
johnellison11@aol.com

Parish Secretary
Trish Nerviani

Mass & Sacraments

Sunday Masses: 8:00 am, 10:30 am & 6:30 pm
(A traditional Latin Mass is celebrated on the 1st Sunday of each month at 6:30 pm.)

Weekday Masses
Monday through Friday: 8:00 am

Tuesday Evening Mass: 6:30 pm

Saturday Masses 8:00 am and 4:00 pm

Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursdays 7:15-8 pm (with reception for young adults after - hosted by Spirit and Truth St. Louis)

Sacrament of Penance:
Saturday, 7:30-7:50 am
Sundays, 10-10:20 am & 6-6:20 pm
Tuesdays, 6-6:20 pm OR by appointment

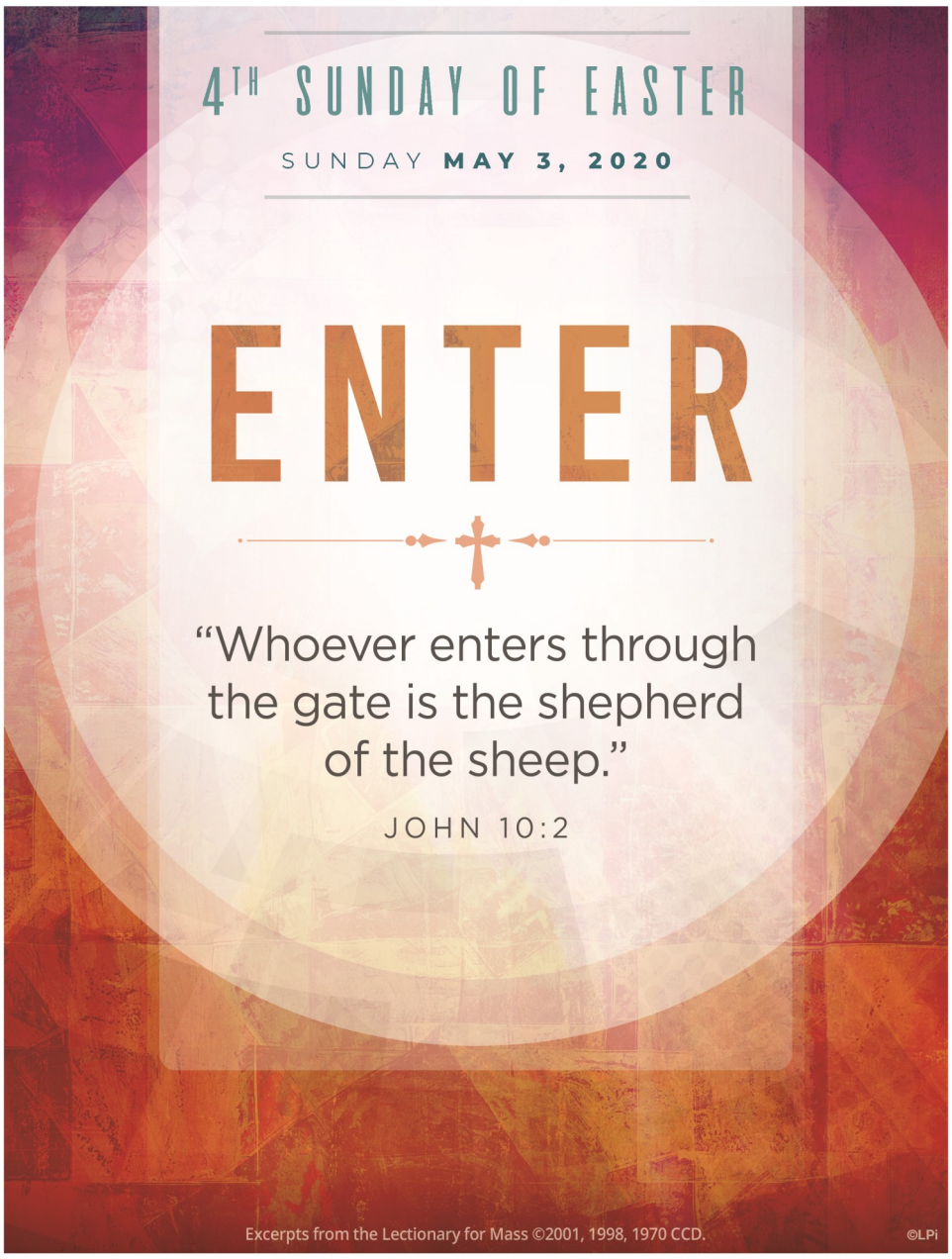
Baptisms: Contact the parish office to Register.

Marriages: Contact the priest at least 9 months prior to the wedding date.

Funerals: To be arranged by contacting the Parish Office.

Change of Address or Telephone Number: Please call the Parish Office.

Bulletin Deadline: 4:00 pm Monday.



Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020

Phone: 314-781-1199
www.epiphanystl.org

FROM THE DESK OF FR. MICHAEL

Help needed with the School Roof Project – First off, thank you to everyone who has continued to support the parish financially during this difficult time. Our offertory is lower than we would typically expect, but we're getting by.

That said, we have a large expense coming up next month. The school roof is going to be replaced and, after having taken a number of bids, *the cost will be $162,720.*

We're going to pay for it from our savings account. We think this is financially more responsible than taking on debt with a loan and having to pay interest. We have the money available, but using it will place our checking account at a lower number than we're comfortable maintaining going into the future. If you are able, I would ask you to prayerfully consider making a donation to help with the expenses. Simply write "School Roof" on the check or envelope.

Since I've been at Epiphany, money has never been an issue. Everyone has contributed generously and with no need from the priest to guilt anyone into it. I sincerely appreciate this. It has always been my belief that if the parish is spiritually healthy, money doesn't need to be discussed very often. I still feel this way, so there will not be any official capital campaign or focus on money at masses over the next few months. Think of this more as an informational announcement and a note of gratitude.

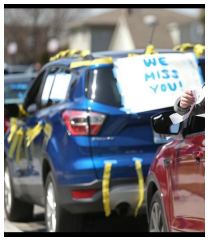
Public Masses in St. Louis are still "Private" until May 8. This date could possibly be extended. I have not yet had any updates from the Archdiocese about how the changes on May 8th allowing businesses to re-open might affect us. I will let you know as soon as I do.

The Stay-at-home order from the city makes an exception for visiting Church. You may come pray if you would like to. The rectory office, however, is closed until the stay-at-home order is lifted.

We are still hearing confessions. The schedule may be slightly different than usual, but watch our facebook page for announcements about when.

Fr. Michael

LINDENWOOD AREA SENIOR MINISTRY HELLO PARADE



Lindenwood Area Senior Ministry is hitting the streets for a Hello Parade! Let's get out and say hello from a safe social distance! On **Saturday, May 9th** at **11am** LASM director, board members, pastors and volunteers will parade through the neighborhood. We'll be sharing honks, smiles, cheerfully decorated cars and maybe even a few surprises along our way! The parade route will be: South on Tamm from the corner of Tamm & Smiley, Southwest (right) on Watson Road, West (right) on Fyler, North (right) on Ivanhoe, East (right) on Arsenal and South (right) on Tamm, disbanding at Smiley. Pray for good weather and step out on your front porch or come sit/stand safely 6 feet apart on our route to say hello. What better way to lift all of our spirits and celebrate Older Americans Month 2020-style!

EACH OF US S A MASTERPIECE OF GOD'S CREATION

Imagine yourself pausing in front of a design of great beauty. Your soul quiets and is filled with wonder and awe.

If art, created by man, can evoke such a response within us, how much more is the same wonder, reverence and respect due to each person we encounter, who was handcrafted by the very God who spoke the world into being?

Now think of an artist stepping back from a great work of art and admiring his or her creation.

When God created each of us, He did so with precision and purpose, and He looks on each of us with love that cannot be outdone in intensity or tenderness.

Moreover, the Lord invites each of us to behold ourselves and each other with the same wonder and awe.

No matter how the world might view us or others, let us treat each person as the masterpiece that he or she is.

"Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

Pope Francis' Day for Life Greeting

RESPECT LIFE
Facebook.com/peopleoflife
www.usccb.org/respectlife

GOSPEL MEDITATION
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

With whom do we converse and listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves. We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, and sometimes we even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, and wrestle with and determine our system of priorities and values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, and cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, and the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, and stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied and busy, and trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around and can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet and realize we have lost our anchor. Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, and lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, and stay focused. Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us and keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying unceasingly as the days and nights and the ebbs and flows of our of lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home.

"I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." - Jn 10:9-10

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SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Local businesses and sponsors that advertise on bulletins need you now more than ever before. Please encourage and remind others to show their support during this time.

MAY 3, 2020

Liturgies & Schedules

Mass Intentions For The Week

Sunday, May 3
8:00 am Madeline S.M. Toney
10:30 am Parishioners

Monday, May 4
8:00 am Paul Zacheis

Tuesday, May 5
8:00 am Pat Podnar

Wednesday, May 6
8:00 am Jerome Klump

Thursday, May 7
8:00 am Poor Souls in Purgatory

Friday, May 8
8:00 am Ryan & Kristen Nicollerat (***Health & Blessings***)

Saturday, May 9
8:00 am Leonard & Mary Murphy

Sunday, May 10
8:00 am Parishioners
10:30 am Ken Wisniewski

Please Pray For the Homebound & Sick Of Our Parish

Ted Portell	Dorothy Lauman	Jim Boyer "Nips"
Toni Berberich	Anita Gilliam	Sharon Huck
Joan Huelsmann	Daniel Barr	Larry Lopez
LaSheryl Hackenwerth	Nanette McPherson	Deacon James Tetreault
Ben McPherson	Todd McPherson	Sherry McPherson
Jack McPherson	All Coronavirus Patients	Ethan Sonderman

SLUH is pleased to offer MULTIPLE virtual opportunities to future Jr. Bills and their parents to experience our brotherhood, our academics, and our robust athletics and co-curricular opportunities including InsideSLUH Visits, a Campus Tour, Office Hours, and Feature Zoom Events with SLUH Subject-Matter Experts. Visit our Virtual Admissions Office at https://www.sluh.org/admissions to learn more.

St. Louis Friends of Birthright
Virtual Run for Life and Learning
Looking for a fun and safe way to support Moms in need? The Friends of Birthright Run for Life and Learning has gone Virtual! To register or donate, visit run4lifeandlearning.eventbrite.com. Complete a Run/Walk distance of your choice (6K, 1 mile, 0.25 mile) individually or with your immediate family anytime between Monday, June 1 and Sunday, June 7. Post your time and/or photo to our Facebook page, or email us, and receive a race t-shirt. Proceeds enable women who are financially stressed by an unplanned pregnancy to continue their education. Please email us at run4lifeandlearning@gmail.com for sponsorship opportunities.

Our Offering For the Week Of April 25-26, 2020

Sunday Collection

General Fund	$2,224.00
General Fund Loose	$22.00
General Fund Online	$1,402.00
Total	**$3,648.00**
Easter	$85.00
Holy Land	$3.00
Holy Land Online	$10.00
Maintenance & Repair	$20.00
M& R Online	$25.00
Priest Retirement	$40.00
Priest Retirement Online	$20.00
Votive	$16.00
Tuition Assistance	$ .....$1,501.00(YTD)

Readings for the week of May 3

Readings for the week of May 3, 2020

Sunday:	Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10
Monday:	Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/ Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday:	Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Ps 117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday:	Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/ Jn 12:44-50
Thursday:	Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20
Friday:	Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/ Jn 14:1-6
Saturday:	Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/ Jn 14:7-14
Next Sunday:	Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

First Reading:
Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)

Psalm:
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23) or Alleluia.

Second Reading:
He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Pt 2:24)

Gospel:
"I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." (Jn 10:9)

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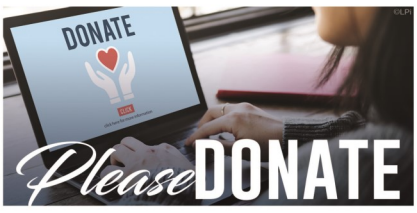
PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING
Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!



For more information about online giving or to sign up today call Trish or John at the parish office or simply log onto the website at

https://epiphanystl.weshareonline.org/

RECOGNIZING THE VOICE OF JESUS

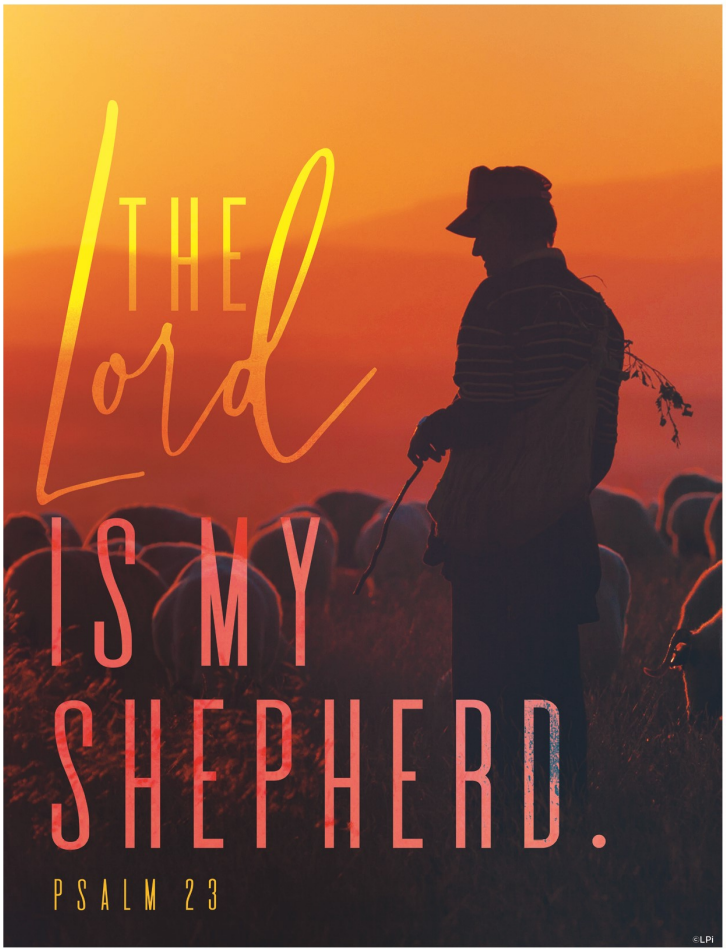
When my wireless provider introduced HD Voice, the voice I heard on my phone was unbelievably clear, and it felt at times like both the caller and I were in the same room. The best aspect of this feature is that it didn't cost the customer any additional fees, and it didn't require any changes to the phone. I could say it was free, but I suspect I was already paying for it in my monthly bill anyway. At least it felt free.

The clearer the voice calling you, the easier it is to recognize who it is on the other end of the line. In John's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the gatekeeper who opens the gate and calls for his sheep. They respond because they know his voice. Others try to lure the sheep when the gatekeeper is not there, but the sheep find their voices unclear or unfamiliar.

Jesus is our gatekeeper. But unlike receiving something for free from a wireless company, to be able to hear his voice we need to pay attention and practice listening. By developing a stewardship way of life that is mindful and prayerful, we become attuned to his voice and are able to discern when the call is from our Lord and when it is from an imposter. It is great to talk about all the things we can do and all the gifts we can share, but if we are not listening for his call to hear where our offerings are needed, we can end up like a lost sheep searching for the gatekeeper.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

I HAVE A FRIEND WHO SAYS SHE DOESN'T NEED TO ATTEND MASS BECAUSE SHE PRAYS TO GOD EVERY DAY. WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS JUSTIFICATION?

If the only reason for going to church were to talk to God, your friend might be right. Prayer is not something limited to a physical place or even a holy place. If the sole purpose of the Church were prayer, it would be a narrow purpose indeed. The Church is a community of believers, formed by "one Lord, one faith, one Baptism." It is an outward sign of our faith in God instituted by Christ, and the purpose of the Church is to give us grace, that is, a share in God's life.

Coming to Mass is not really for God's sake, but for ours. If we believe that Jesus is truly present in the holy Eucharist, then we will want to be in his presence. We will want to be fed by him. Our daily prayer and good works are strengthened by our authentic encounter with our Lord. For Catholics, it is at Mass that we celebrate the source and summit of our faith. If this is true, why would we ever stay away?