



**Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church "The Old Cathedral"**  
**717 State Street Alton, Illinois 62002**  
**Parish Web Site: [ssppalton.com](http://ssppalton.com)**

**Facebook: The Old Cathedral of Ss. Peter & Paul**

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm  
Office Phone: 618-465-4221  
Bulletin Submission deadline: Monday at Noon

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Staff:  
Fr. Jeff Holtman O.F.S., Pastor  
E-mail: [jholtman@dio.org](mailto:jholtman@dio.org)

Deacon John Bretz  
E-mail: [jbretz@dio.org](mailto:jbretz@dio.org)

Mrs. Chrissy Lewis, Business Manager  
Safe Environment Coordinator  
E-mail: [clewis@ssppalton.com](mailto:clewis@ssppalton.com)

Theresa Stegvilas, Parish Secretary  
E-mail: [theresassppalton@gmail.com](mailto:theresassppalton@gmail.com)

Mark Weiss, Maintenance

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Parish Pastoral Council: Fr. Jeff Holtman, Deacon John Bretz,  
Dale Henderson, Patti Kruegel, Dave Roller,  
Carol Roller, Sue Schwegel

Finance Council: Fr. Jeff Holtman, Deacon John Bretz,  
Mike Fitzgerald, Tom Fleming, Brant Goble,  
Judy Pautler, Tucker Waters

St. Patrick Cemetery Board: Fr. Jeff Holtman, Paul Cordes,  
Allen Davenport, Mary Dixon, Marie Go-Forth Allen  
Cemetery Sexton - Dan Gebben

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#### Mass Schedule

Weekend - Saturday, 4:00 pm Sunday, 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Weekday - See page 2 of bulletin

Holy Day Masses - as Announced

Confessions - Saturday, 3:15-3:45pm and by appointment

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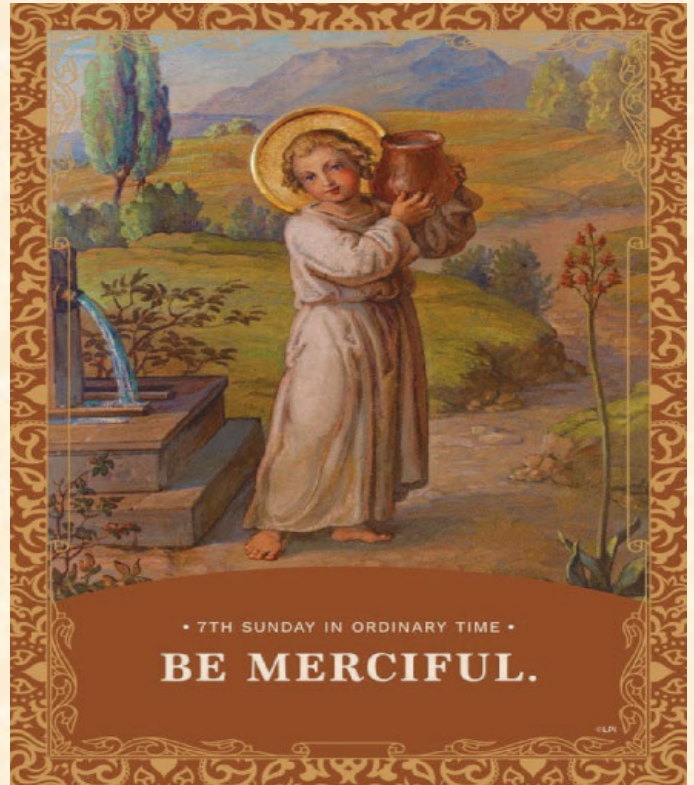
#### Devotions

Mother of Perpetual Help, Tuesday after Mass

Divine Mercy Chaplet, Wednesday after Mass

Rosary, Thursday 5pm

First Friday devotions & adoration after Mass until Noon



**February 23, 2025**

Parish Registration - Welcome new members! You may register in person or by calling Theresa at the parish office. Forms are also at all church entrances

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OCIA - Order of Christian Initiation of Adults  
If you are interested in becoming Catholic or wish to participate in ongoing formation as an adult please contact Deacon John at the parish office

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Baptisms - Contact Fr. Jeff to schedule

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Marriage - Contact Fr. Jeff to schedule an appointment. The date of your wedding will be finalized at the first meeting. There is at least a 6 month preparation time.

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Anointing of the Sick - Those who are seriously ill or are having surgery/procedure should contact Fr. Jeff for this healing sacrament.

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Helping Hands (for food/financial assistance)  
618-462-6902

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Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation 217-321-1155

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.  
Amen.

Pray for the repose of the soul of Joanne Hamberg  
who passed away on February 10.

### ST. PATRICK CELEBRATION DINNER

PRESENTED BY THE LADIES ANCIENT ORDER  
OF HIBERNIANS  
JANE MAHONEY SCOTT DIVISION

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2025  
ST. MARY'S SUDDER HALL, 536 EAST 3RD ST.

TRADITIONAL IRISH DINNER  
(CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE, HAM)

TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC PROVIDED BY CELTICA

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 P.M.  
DINNER 6:30-7:00. MUSIC 7:30-10:00

\$30.00 PER PERSON. CHECKS PAYABLE TO L.A.O.H.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR FOR TICKETS,  
CALL MARTHA LEWIS, 618-402-0194 or  
EMAIL [murphy31550@aol.com](mailto:murphy31550@aol.com)

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED



Travel with Fr. Christopher Uhl,  
Pastor of St Mary's Church,  
Alton, IL  
on our JUBILEE 2025:  
Rome, Assisi, Turin & Milan.  
Where: Rome, Assisi, Turin, Milan  
Trip Dates: May 21-30, 2025  
Cost: \$4,999.00 Airfare and ALL-  
Included.

To register, please contact (855) 842-8001  
or (508) 340-9370.



Need a rosary or prayer book?  
Last minute Baptism  
or First Communion gift?

Visit our gift shop.

The Ss. Peter & Paul gift shop is open  
after the 4pm Mass on Saturdays  
& after the 8am & 10am  
Masses on Sundays.

If you are looking for an item not found  
in the shop, please fill out the Special  
Order form at the shop. We will check  
price and let you know prior to  
ordering if item is available.

Thank you for  
your patronage.

MASS INTENTIONS -  
There are dates available for 2025  
Mass stipends are \$10 each Mass.  
Please contact Theresa  
at the parish office 618-465-4221  
Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm





### February 22-23 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4pm † Bill & Helen Cowan

8am † Harry Williams

10am † Carolyn Dooley

### **No Mass on Monday February 24 Weekday**

Tuesday February 25 Weekday  
8:15am † Carolyn Dooley

Wednesday February 26 Weekday  
8:15am Living & deceased members of the Cleary & Munzert Families

Thursday February 27 Weekday  
8:15am † Willetta Lundahl

Friday February 28 Weekday  
8:15am † George Woelfel

### March 1-2 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4pm † James Johnson

8am Living & deceased members of the parish

10am Living & deceased members of the Cleary & Munzert Families



### March 8-9

#### Servers

4pm - Dave Cordes  
8am - Patrick & Parker Williams  
10am - Jack Snyders

#### Lectors

4pm - Jeanne Thompson  
8am - Katie Harris  
10am - Chris DeRuntz

#### Extraordinary Ministers

4pm - Pat Little  
Chalice Bearers - Patti Kruegel & Susan Hamilton

8am - Ellen Hampton  
Chalice Bearer - Gary Kasproovich

10am - Deacon John present  
Chalice Bearers - Neil Schulz & Gloria Gray

*Flowers on the Altar  
are for the  
Glory of God  
and the living and  
deceased members  
of the Narup  
and Woelfel families*



### February 26

Doug Mueller  
Joseph Barrett

### February 27

Carolyn Ackerman  
Nancy Magurarny

James Spain

February 29  
Michael Velloff

### A Birthday Prayer

O God, who has added another year to my life, help me to remember that life is Your gift and is to be used for You. Teach me so to number my days that I may live wisely. Help me to remember You, my Creator, all my days. Let me not forget the shortness and uncertainty of life but let me do with my might what my hands find to do. Remember with Your blessing those who have remembered me this day, especially my family and loved ones, and keep us all in Your care. In Jesus name. Amen.

### February 12

Stacey Springman

### February 13

Janice Dunphy  
Enrico Monje

### February 14

Laurie McDonald?  
Mary Anne

### February 15

Kilmurray  
February 17

Dr. John Wuellner

### February 18

Meggan Schoen

### February 19

Eileen Huels

### February 20

Ronald Holmes  
Louis Lafikes

### February 21

Dr. Kathie Wuellner

### February 22

Judy Gore

### February 24

Brad Hampton  
Rita Wyatt

Joan Harrawood

### February 25

Virginia Grove  
Cecil Macias

Weekly Financial Report	
Collection	February 8-9
Envelope Collection	\$ 5,493.00
Loose Contribution	\$ 765.00
Online	\$ 226.43
Parish Tithing	\$ 80.00
Building Fund	\$ 125.00
Gift Shop	\$ 54.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 6,743.43</b>
Budgeted Income	\$ 7,500.00
Overage/Shortage	<b>- \$ 756.57</b>

Stewardship Reflection - February 23, 2025  
7th Sunday of Ordinary Time

“But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend without expecting anything back...” – LUKE 6:35  
Easier said than done, right? But, if we are to imitate Christ, most of us need to practice mercy and compassion more frequently. Start with the little daily annoyances that we experience, the unkind word or hateful glance we receive. Instead of plotting revenge on that person, try saying a quick prayer for that person. Praying for our enemies doesn’t change them, it changes us. Mercy and compassion will keep us on the path to holiness.

Readings for the week of February 23, 2025

Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38  
Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29  
Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37  
Wednesday: Sir 4:11-19/Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175/Mk 9:38-40  
Thursday: Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mk 9:41-50  
Friday: Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35/Mk 10:1-12  
Saturday: Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18/Mk 10:13-16  
Next Sunday: Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a)/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

#### MUSIC - February 23 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Processional: #709 Love Divine All Love’s Excelling  
Readings and Responsorial Psalm: 948  
Offertory: #632 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light  
Communion: #717 Christians Let Us Love One Another  
Recessional: #740 Sent Forth By God’s Blessings

Of 239 Envelope Holders 101 contributed to the February 8-9 Collection

Mass Attendance February 8-9  
4pm – 142      8am - 68      10am - 78  
Total - 288

**Collection amounts from February 15-16 will be in the next bulletin**

#### GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

February 23, 2025  
7th Sunday of Ordinary Time  
Luke 6:27-38

One of my favorite new singers/songwriters is Noah Kahan. I’m a little biased because, like me, he is originally from Vermont. In a fine song entitled “Stick Season,” he sings of his hope to “cancel out the darkness I inherited from dad.” This lyric articulates his painful recognition of a dark spiritual “inheritance” from his father, and his hope to be free of it. We all inherit some degree of evil from our earthly forebears. It’s easy to feel doomed to repeat their darknesses.

But we’re not so doomed, thank God. This week’s Gospel proclaims this. Whatever good or bad we received from our parents, we have a more definitive and perfect inheritance in God. Jesus commands us, “Be merciful just as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:36). We have a perfect Father in heaven and are destined to inherit and reflect that perfect and merciful love. We have an inheritance of light, not darkness, and thus a whole new possibility of magnanimous love. Like any inheritance, this is a free gift to us.

What are we destined to repeat? Not the darkness of our earthly parents. We are destined to be a reflection of God’s life. Jesus liberates us from the inevitability of repeating whatever evils and imperfections are in our familial or cultural upbringings. It’s time to claim that perfect inheritance.— Father John Muir

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Ash Wednesday March 5  
Mass times are  
12 Noon and 6pm



**Knights of Columbus Fish Fry.** Adults \$14, children \$7, under 12 free. Whitefish, whole catfish, buffalo, baked fish, or shrimp. Included are fries, onion rings, cole slaw, green beans bread and drink. Dessert available for additional charge. Held 4-7 PM the first six weeks of Lent at the McNicholas Club 1713 Stamper Ln, Godfrey. **THERE IS NO FISH FRY ON GOOD FRIDAY THIS YEAR.**



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## LENTEN FISH FRY

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

200 North Lange - Maryville

**DINNER WILL BE SERVED FROM 4:00-7:00 IN THE PARISH CENTER FRIDAYS DURING LENT, EXCEPT GOOD FRIDAY**

\$12 - Two piece cod fish plate

\$8 -One piece cod fish plate

Both served with cole slaw, hush puppies, bread, drink and your choice of fries or onion rings

St. Anne's Altar Society will sell desserts for \$2. Proceeds will benefit MPH for Life and ABL Pregnancy Center



## Holy Father's Prayer Intentions For February

**For vocations to the priesthood and religious life**

**Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.**

## Lenten Retreat "Walking with Jesus through Holy Week"

The Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women invites all women to this annual Lenten Retreat at Villa Maria in Springfield, March 25th – 26th with Deacon Jeff Beals of our diocese, as retreat master. Retreat begins with lunch at noon on Tuesday March 25th and concludes at 3:30 pm on Wed. March 26th. We encourage you to begin the retreat with the March for Life Mass at Sangamon Auditorium at UIS at 10:00 am on Tuesday the 25th with required registration for this Mass found at [dio.org](http://dio.org).

All are welcome!

Registration form with cost is available in the parish office. Registration deadline: March 15th.

Contact: Mary Ann Sullivan: [gma.sullivan80@gmail.com](mailto:gma.sullivan80@gmail.com)



## ENCOUNTER GOD IN THE STILLNESS

**St. Paul Parish, 1411 Main St., Highland**

**Sat/Sun, Mar. 1 & 2,**

**after all Masses, 4:00pm Saturday,**  
**7:00am, 8:30am & 10:30am Sunday**

Visit various tables in Trinity Hall after Mass and discover some of the many ways you can talk to God and, more importantly, hear Him!

Parish disciples will be available at "stations" including **Spiritual Journaling, Music, Art, Rosary, Scripture, & Pray Without Ceasing**, to offer helpful resources and guidance.

There will be an exciting way for you to enter your name in a raffle drawing for a beautiful basket filled with wonderful prayer resources & gifts.



50th class reunion for the class of 1975 St. Teresa Academy and Assumption Catholic High School, East St. Louis, Illinois.

The AHS-STA Class of 1975 is celebrating our 50th Reunion on Sept. 6, 2025 We are inviting all classmates who started with or graduated from our class. Even if you were only with us for a year or two... We are looking for you! Join us as we reconnect, reminisce & celebrate our shared

journey. e-mail your contact info to: ahs.sta.classof75@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page: AHS Class of '75

### Marriage on Tap STL

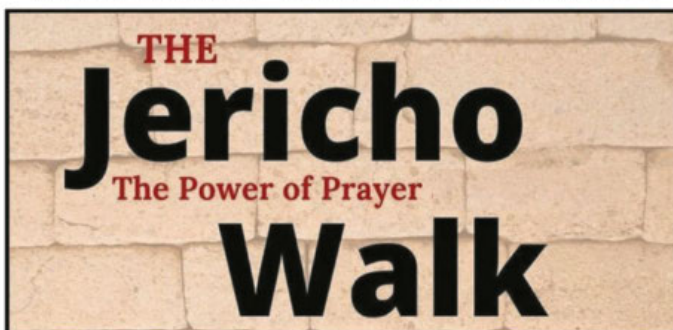
Join us on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 6:00 pm for an evening of dinner and marriage enrichment at Syberg's on Dorsett in Maryland Heights, Missouri. Our guest speakers will be Lauren & Bill Fogarty, and their presentation is entitled, "Hold On . . . God's Unconditional Love and the Power of Prayer." The evening is sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Dinner is \$66 per couple/\$33 per person. Cash bar will be available. Advanced registration is required and must be postmarked by March 3, 2025. For more information, check out Marriage on Tap STL on Facebook or email us at marriageontapstl@gmail.com



**Sunday, March 9, 2025**

**2:00 - 3:00 pm**

Hope Clinic for Women ~ 1602 21st Street Granite City, IL 62040



Join us for a prayer walk around the Hope Abortion Facility.  
All are welcome - there will be options for marchers & non marchers.

**Joshua 6:1-27**



info@40daysgc.com ~ 40daysgc.com ~ 636-206-6220

follow us on facebook

Question:

Is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

Answer:

Despite the often packed churches, you may be surprised to hear that the answer is no! Holy days of obligation commemorate a particular event (such as the birth of Christ at Christmas) or celebrate particular people (such as Mary's Immaculate Conception or the feast of All Saints). Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting, and abstinence to begin the season of Lent. In a sense, it focuses on a concept rather than something particular and concrete.

Of course, repentance ought to be reflected in particular, concrete ways! That's one of the reasons that attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a very good idea. It marks the beginning of a solemn season of penance. Despite all its comparisons to the desert, Lent can be very fruitful for our spiritual growth! Beginning this season with the celebration of Mass and the reception of ashes is a sign of our commitment to God and to spiritual growth.

©LPi





## REMEMBER *in your prayers*

Jennifer Martin  
Lisa Brinkman  
Beth Ann Alvi  
Wes Schultz  
Shane Fin  
Barb Hinson  
Gary Osborne  
Julie Gray  
Regina Shaw  
Trent Ward  
Matthew Paulda  
Regan Taylor  
Ryan Lopez  
Rita Parker  
Beverly Fischer  
Robert Curry  
Tony Marin  
Brienne Bagwill  
Leo McCleod  
Tracy Mahan  
John Brinkman  
Tony Martin  
Ken Pettiti  
Ashley Taylor  
Amanda Wohler  
Brad Johnson  
Richard Siemer  
Rita Wyatt  
Bill Maher  
Dennis Kilmurray  
Megan Paulda  
Bob Nelson  
Mike Delehanty  
Barbara Kallan  
Linda Allen

Special Intention for G.B.  
Margaret Schwegel  
Jeanette Sagez  
Patrice & Alyssa Eason  
Special Intention for P.M.  
Richard Wille  
Laura Cleary-Scherff  
Tom & Julie Noel  
Sara Storton  
Michael Warren  
Col. (Ret.) Bob Seitz  
Jim Lynch  
Don & Judy Gore  
Raideen Phipps  
Richard & Denise Shrum  
Patricia Horn  
Gary Heining  
MaryJo and Joel Buesteton  
Henry Grabbe  
Gary North  
Gary Phelps  
Joy Stanton  
Mike Boland  
Bill Francis  
Lynn Wolnack  
Jim Hernandez  
Celia Sinclair  
Joseph Tyler  
Benjamin Tyler  
Matt Williams  
Mike Purcell

Special Intention for S.T.  
Stan Bosoluke  
Sylvia Manns  
Chris Taul  
Pat Williams  
Ann Hornsey  
Rich & Ann Phillips  
Debbie Tatman  
Jane Heath  
Jamie Botterbush  
Kelly Wilfong  
Sara Cleary  
Marilyn Smith  
Jennifer Moonier  
Barbara Butler  
Dennis Horn

Please call the office if a name is to be removed from the list. If you know of any parishioner that is in a Nursing Home or Home-bound, please let the parish office know. Also, let us know which Nursing Home they are in. Thank You.

### Prayer for Pope Francis

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look favorably on your servant Francis, whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd; Grant, we pray, that by word and example he may be of service to those over whom he presides so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy or other church personnel (even if it is in the past) please call the Diocese's Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation number at (217) 321-1155. Individuals may also contact Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1-(800)-25-ABUSE**



# REVIVAL NIGHT

## WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

## JESUS, bringing Jesus to you.

A group of local, Catholic young adults have planned this series of evenings to help our Catholic high school students revive or ignite their relationships with Jesus, present in the Holy Eucharist.

Revival Nights are a powerful evening of praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, testimony, Reconciliation, and prayer team ministry. Come witness for yourself and join the revival.

**Sunday, March 2 | 6:30-8:30pm**  
**Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church**  
**200 N Lange Ave, Maryville, IL**

For questions or more information, contact Molly Korte @  
mcowgill591@gmail.com

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