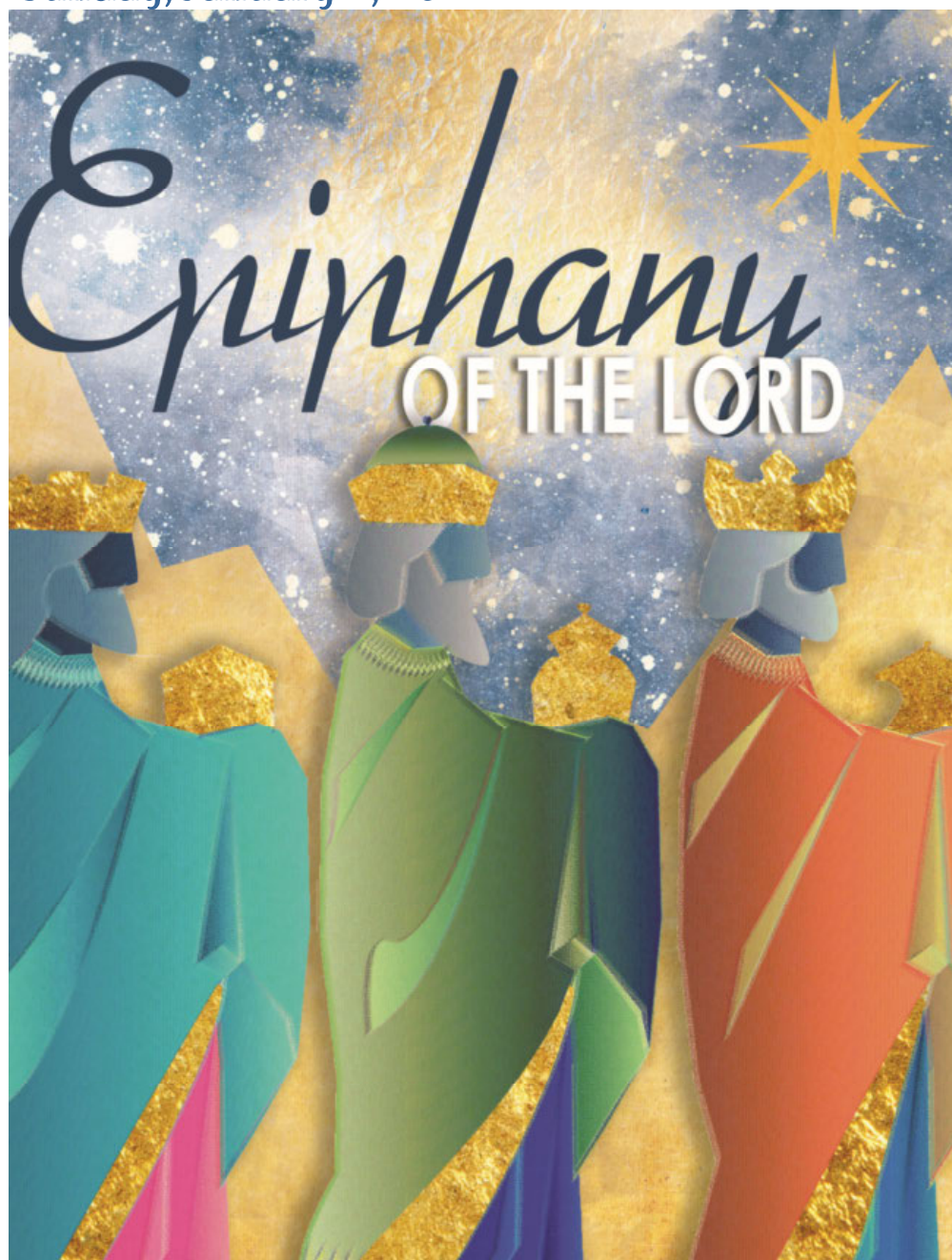


# St. Isidore

## The Farmer Catholic Parish

19812 E. 1000th Ave., Dieterich, IL 62424

Sunday, January 2, 2022



### Regular Mass Schedule

*Times may differ on holy days; refer to ministry schedule/Mass Intentions*

St. Aloysius Church (Bishop Creek)  
19812 E. 1000th Ave.  
Dieterich, IL 62424

Tuesday .....8:00 am  
Wednesday.....6:00 pm  
Friday.....8:00 am  
Saturday .....6:00 pm  
Sunday .....8:00 am

St. Joseph Church (Island Grove)  
16987 N. 200th St.  
Teutopolis, IL 62467

Thursday.....8:00 am  
Sunday .....10:00 am

### Eucharistic Adoration

St. Aloysius Church  
Weekly.....9:00 am Tuesday  
until 6:00 am Wednesday

St. Joseph Church  
Weekly.....6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Monday

### Parish Office

Office Phone.....217-925-5788  
Fax Number .....217-925-5879

#### Answering Machines

Church Office .....217-925-5788  
Rectorry.....217-925-5579

Submit written bulletin notices by 9:00 am on Tuesday.

Parish Email: [office@stisidore.dio.org](mailto:office@stisidore.dio.org)

Diocesan website: [www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org)

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation Number (217)321-1155

Directory: [www.servantkeeper.com/directory/stisidorethefarmer](http://www.servantkeeper.com/directory/stisidorethefarmer)

Password: StIsidore (case sensitive)

## Parish News & Notes

*From Fr. Frank*

We know very little about the magi mentioned in this Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12). They appear only in Matthew's Gospel, and only in the verses chosen for Sunday's reading.

The Gospel does tell us these magi, these non-Jews, were "from the east." But it does not tell us where in the east nor does it reveal how many magi there were. Traditionally we surmise that there must have been three since they presented three gifts to the newborn king, namely, gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

We also assume that the magi were men. The proof of that assumption may be found in the fact we sometimes refer to them as the "three wise men" or the "three kings."

Yet as some people have humorously observed, all the magi could not have been men since they did a very unmanly thing. They stopped to ask for directions. As we read in the Gospel, when they came to Jerusalem they asked, "Where is the newborn King of the Jews?"

If they were women they might have brought diapers!

But the important thing is that although they were NOT Jews, is that the Salvation of humankind is for everyone.

So, let each of us follow the star, however it presents itself, and bring us to Jesus!

Following the star had gotten them to Jerusalem in their quest to find the newborn king, but in the end they needed to stop and ask others for directions. Those directions came from the chief priests and scribes, who at the order of King Herod had consulted the writings of the prophets. They reported that those writings predicted, "And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Led by those directions and by the light of the star, the magi found the child they were seeking in Bethlehem. "They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."

Besides showing that this newborn king was revealed not only to Jews but also to Gentiles, represented by the magi, Sunday's reading also teaches us the importance of seeking direction in our spiritual life.

The fact that we know Jesus as our Savior and Lord is due to the direction we have received. We have been shown the way to Jesus by our parents and other family members, by catechists and religion teachers, by priests and religious, by Church members who have publicly witnessed to their faith by their way of life, and by the divinely inspired words recorded by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and other scriptural writers.

If we are to grow closer to the Lord we need to continue to seek direction. In fact, the Church advises those who are serious about growing in relationship with God to seek the guidance of a spiritual director to guide them on their faith journey.

Such direction also comes to us each Sunday as we gather for Mass. We are given direction as the scriptures are proclaimed, the homily is preached, and the liturgy of the Church is celebrated. It is interesting to consider that there may be more women than men in many of our churches because women have the sense to seek direction.

As the magi would tell us, none of us, man or woman, finds Jesus on our own. We all need direction!



**EPIPHANY**

### Office Staff

*Pastor:* Fr. Frank Folino, OFM

*Office secretary:* Ruth Dust

*Pastoral Council:* Matt Brummer, Lori Bierman, Joe Meinhart, Dan Kocher, Sam Bierman, Jodi Locey, Cheryl Zacha, Emily Uthell, Chris Probst

*Finance Council:* Bob Niemerg, Bryant Probst, Lee Beckman, Steve Hunzinger, Keith Kuhl, Steve Mammoser

*CCW Officers:* President: Katy Niemerg

Vice-President: Julia Thoele

Secretary: Phyllis Jansen

Treasure: Margie Probst

*Coordinator of Religious Education:* Rosina Esker

*Area Directors:* Jesse Jansen (Grove), Pam Apke and Stephanie Shadle (Bishop)

*Youth Ministry:* Andy & Maria Zumbahlen, Gary & Brenda Kroeger, Bruce & Peggy Probst, Alan & Teresa Waldhoff

*Music Ministry:* Valerie Rosa (Grove)

*Funeral Ministry:* Phyllis Jansen, Ron & Irene Donsbach (Bishop/Dieterich), Bernice Probst, Cris Bierman (Grove)

### Sacramental Celebrations

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday, after the 8:00 am Mass (B)

Thursday, after 8:00 am Mass (G)

Saturday, 4:45 pm (B)

Sunday, after 10:00 am Mass (G)

Sacrament of Matrimony

Arrangements must be made a minimum of 6 months in advance with the Pastor. Couples are required to attend a Pre-Cana session and a Natural Family Planning (NFP) class. FOCUS is required and will be done with Fr. Frank for those doing marriage preparation with him.

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are held during Mass and are not scheduled during Advent and Lent. Call the parish office to schedule a baptism.

Parents seeking Baptism for their child must be a registered parishioner for at least six months prior to the Baptism. Non-parishioners would need a letter from their pastor giving permission to have the Baptism at St. Isidore Parish.

A one time attendance to a Baptism Prep. Class is required before baptism. Godparents (not members of St. Isidore Parish) are required to have a letter from their pastor stating they are a *Catholic in Good Standing*. A copy of the child's birth certificate, sponsor names and sponsor forms are to be submitted to the office before a baptism. This is so all records can be kept as accurate as possible.

Sponsors

Please contact the parish office if you have been asked to be a sponsor and are needing a letter stating that you are an active Catholic. You will need to have been a member of St. Isidore Parish for 6 months to receive this letter.

### BULLETIN DEADLINES

Articles for bulletins must be submitted by 9:00 am on the Tuesday before the weekend unless noted otherwise.



## Parish Calendar

January 2 - 9

### Church Hours

St. Aloysius church is open daily—7 am to 8 pm

### Eucharistic Adoration

Mondays at St. Joseph 6 pm to 8 pm

Tuesdays at St. Aloysius  
from 9 am Tuesday to 6 am Wednesday

### Weekday and Weekend Masses

Refer to front cover of bulletin & to Ministry Schedule (p. 6)

**Sunday, Jan. 2** - The Epiphany of the Lord  
NO Sunday School

**Tuesday, Jan. 3** - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

**Wednesday, Jan. 5** - PSR resumes 6:45 to 8:00 PM

**Sunday, Jan. 9** - The Baptism of the Lord  
Sunday School resumes

## St. Isidore Offerings

### Sunday, December 19, 2021

Regular Envelopes (91)	\$ 6,597.00
Loose Change	\$ 347.00
Total	\$ 6,944.00
Building Fund	\$ 520.00
Religious Retirement Fund	\$ 65.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 25.00
Children's Home	\$ 25.00

KY Tornado Victims \$ 2,974.60

Results from December 25 & 26 will be in the Jan. 9 bulletin.

### Thank you for your generous support!

#### How to Continue Giving

- mail your check to the parish office or drop it off at the parish office
- **Donate online**—use the online giving link. Go to:  
[dio.org](http://dio.org) scroll down and click on the online giving link  
OR <http://parishgiving.dio.org/stisidoredieterich>  
follow the steps to give (3% transaction fee applies.)
- **NEW!** Arrange for auto-pay on a weekly, bimonthly, or monthly basis. *No fee* charged for this option. Contact the office if you are interested!

## TAX TIME is coming!! Do you need a report?

The New Year means that tax time is close. Do you need a report of your 2020 contributions? You can print it out at any time from your online parish record.

The website is:

[www.servantkeeper.com/member-portal/stisidorethefarmer](http://www.servantkeeper.com/member-portal/stisidorethefarmer).

After you login in to your online record, click on "GIVING HISTORY" on the black bar at the top of the page, then click on the DETAIL link. You can then set up the report and print it out for your taxes.

You say you never received get an email to log in? Then contact the office (217-925-5788) to update your file and you too, can use the online system to track your contributions and print reports!

## Youth Ministry—Coffee & Donuts—Sunday, January 23

The Youth Ministry will serve coffee and donuts following the Sunday morning Masses at Bishop and Grove. Proceeds will go to the Family Life Center and FOCUS ministries (FOCUS ministers to college students).

The Youth Ministry is reminded to help with this event.

## Eucharistic Adoration

St. Aloysius Church

9:00 am Tuesday to 6:00 am Wednesday

St. Joseph Church

Monday from 6—8 pm



### Right to Life Breakfast - Sun., Jan. 16, 2022

The Effingham Area Right to Life Breakfast will be held at the Teutopolis Banquet (KC) Hall from 7AM to 12:30PM with inside dining. Sausage, eggs, sweet breads, and drinks will be served. A quilt raffle and 50/50 raffle will be held. For donations of breads and to volunteer, please text Susan Vogt at 217-663-2084.

### March for Life in Springfield - Fri., Jan. 21, 2022

The ADULT and YOUTH registration and information paper is in the entrance of church. Mass with Bishop Paprocki at Cathedral at 10AM, March to the Capitol and back. Leaving Effingham Events Center (KC hall) on charter bus at 7:30am and returning 4:00pm. More important details in the registration paper. Deadline **Jan 10**.

Questions? Contact Diann Ruholl (217-663-2056)



Did you save your receipts from your Rural King purchases made from **December 9 through December 24**? If so, don't forget to submit them on their website ([www.ruralking.com/churchweek](http://www.ruralking.com/churchweek)) **before January 7, 2022**. Be sure to register them to St. Isidore Parish. 10% of each valid receipt will be donated to our parish.

If you shop at Rural King, be sure to tell their associates "THANK YOU" for the generosity of this offer!



## Adopt-a-Christmas Poinsettia Program

The poinsettias used in the Christmas decorations at Bishop will be placed in the annex as of the weekend of January 15/16.

Please feel free to take one home.



## Monthly Church Cleaning

Attention Parishioners of St. Aloysius! In order to make things a bit simpler, Bishop church is now going to follow Grove and keep monthly cleaners the same every year with the exception of any specific necessary changes.



The list from last year will be the "Master" list for now and can be found in the back of the church. If you need to adjust your month from last year - or sign up because you weren't able to last year - please make the change and we will type a clean list moving forward.

Thanks again for all you do for the Parish community!

## PSR & Youth Ministry Notes & News

### IMPORTANT PSR NOTES AND EVENTS

#### PSR Office Closed

The office will be closed for vacation January 3 through 7.

Teacher Positions – Catechists are still needed for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the school year. Positions available include the following...

1st grade - 3 teachers      2nd grade – 1 teacher

#### PSR Classes Resume

Wednesday evening classes resume on January 5, 2022.

Sunday School classes resume on January 9, 2022

#### Change of Classroom Location

During the Christmas break we will move our Dieterich classrooms back to the Bishop location. This change at Bishop will affect 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grades. Please refer to recent emails for details.

#### Bishop Grade 2 - Reconciliation Meeting for Parents

Please mark your calendars with the following information.

**Parent Meeting** – Mon., Jan. 10 @ 6:30 pm @ St. Aloysius Parish Hall

**Reconciliation** – Mon., Jan. 24 @ 6:30 pm @ St. Aloysius Church. A reception will follow in the St. Aloysius Parish Hall.

#### Upcoming Youth Ministry Events

Sun., Jan. 23 – Coffee & Donuts @ Bishop & Grove

Sat., Jan. 29 – Pizza & Line Dancing

#### Diocese of Springfield Illinois March for Life 2022

Effingham Area Right-to-Life is sponsoring a chartered bus from Effingham to attend the Mass & March for Life in Springfield IL on Friday, January 21, 2022. 7<sup>th</sup> grade thru college age students and adults are welcome to attend. Cost for the trip is one bag of size 5 or 6 diapers plus \$30 payable to Diann Ruholl. The bus will load at the Effingham Event Center (formerly the KC Hall) at 7:30 am and return the same day at approximately 4 pm. Be sure to eat breakfast before boarding the bus. Bring a sack lunch for the ride home. Registration forms will be available in the vestibule of both St. Aloysius and St. Joseph churches. Completed forms are due to Diann by January 10.

Calling All Young Artists – Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) has an annual Christmas Art Contest competition for students from K-8<sup>th</sup> grade. General information and entry form can be found at: [MCA Artwork Contest Entry Form \(missio.org\)](https://www.mcaartworkcontest.org). Deadline for artwork is Jan 31, 2022. (This is different than the Catholic Times Christmas Art Contest.)

#### CD of A 2022 Education Contest

Catholic Daughters of America are offering the National Educational Contest for students in Grade 4-12 and adults. There are two themes to choose from this year: "With God All Things Are Possible" or "Where is God in My Life When I am Struggling?". Entries for grades 4 – 12 may be in the form of essay, poetry, computer art, music and/or photography. Entries for the adult division include poetry, art and/or photography. Guidelines and entry forms may be found on the weekly PSR email or in vestibule of either St. Aloysius or St. Joseph churches. Entries should be in the PSR office by Wednesday, January 12.

(PSR Notes continued on page 5)

## Looking for Something To Do?

We have just the thing!

No experience necessary - All tools and items provided  
All ages welcome - Coffee and donuts! (What could be better??)

Rosary making from 9-11am on Tuesday, Jan 11 at the home of Luke and Julia Thoele  
10447 N 1775th Rd  
Effingham, IL 62401

9-10:15 Rosary making                      10:15 Pray the Rosary

There are hopes of making this a monthly event. Rosaries will be shared locally and nationally.

Call or text Julia at 815-429-0158 or email at [juliathoele@gmail.com](mailto:juliathoele@gmail.com) with any questions.

Bring a friend!

## Eucharistic Miracles of the World Poster Exhibit - Blessed Carlo Acutis

At every Mass, a miracle occurs. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, ordinary bread and wine become the Sacred Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ! The priest says the words of consecration in the Eucharistic prayer "This is My Body... This is My Blood." Do we really believe this change happens? Do we trust Jesus enough to believe in His words?



To help our unbelief, Our Lord has allowed Eucharistic miracles to take place throughout the world. When doubts creep in, we can look to these miracles and remember that God wants to help us in those times of unbelief.

Many books and other resources have been written about these miraculous events. One such resource was developed recently by Blessed Carlo Acutis, a young boy from Milan who died at the age of 15 in 2005. When Blessed Carlo Acutis was alive, he showed great interest in helping others renew their faith. In his zeal to promote the teachings of the Eucharist, a poster exhibit of documented Eucharistic miracles was created.

This poster exhibit will be on display for several weeks at the St. Aloysius Parish Hall beginning in *mid-January thru the first week of February*. Hours to view this poster display will be available in the upcoming weeks. Volunteers may be needed to sit with the poster exhibit on weekends. Please consider how you might participate or volunteer with this effort.





(PSR Notes continued)

**FORMED**

**The Novena of Surrender to Jesus** – If your New Year's resolutions include a deeper relationship with God, maybe this Novena of Surrender is for you. Check it out at this link. <https://watch.formed.org/the-novena-of-surrender-to-jesus>

**Truth to Inspire Series: Our Lady and the Miraculous Medal and St. Catherine Laboure** - In 1830, the Blessed Mother appeared to Sr. Catherine Laboure asking her to have a medal struck with the Blessed Mother's image and the words "O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to thee.". Today that medal is widely known as the Miraculous Medal. This audio drama gives a short 30-minute lesson on how this came to be. St. Catherine Laboure, pray for us. Her feast day is December 31. <https://watch.formed.org/videos/our-lady-of-the-miraculous-medal-and-st-catherine-laboure>

If you have not yet signed into our parish subscription of FORMED, please follow these directions. Go to [www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org). Click "Sign Up". Choose "I belong to a parish." Go to parish name and type "62424". Select "St Isidore Parish". Click "Next". Enter your name and email address. Click "Sign Up". There will be an authentication email to verify. Once these steps are complete, you and your family can browse through the many Catholic movie or audio options. Enjoy!

**Meals on Wheels Schedule**

**Jan. 18 - 21:** Immaculate Conception, Dieterich  
Please call Michelle Kuhl if you can help (618-686-2092)  
**Jan. 31 - Feb. 4:** St. Joseph, Island Grove  
**Feb. 7 - 11:** St. Aloysius, Bishop

**Natural Family Planning (NFP)**

Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022 / 9:30—11:00 am via WebEx  
Saturday, Feb 26, 2022 / 2:00 - 3:30 pm at St. Francis church  
To register, please contact Kate Pruemmer at 217-821-1840 or [kpruemmer@gmail.com](mailto:kpruemmer@gmail.com).

**Baptism Class**

Thursday, Jan. 6—St. Francis in Clare Hall (217-961-6404)  
Thursday, Feb. 3—St. Rose (217-924-4553)  
Thursday, Mar. 3—St. Francis in Clare Hall (217-961-6404)  
Tuesday, April 5—St. Isidore (217-821-9178)

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Save the Date!

February 13, 2022 - 2:30 PM

Join Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski at the Cathedral Basilica of St.

Louis, MO to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony on World Marriage Day!



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is excited to announce that an **IN-PERSON** Experience will be held locally in Springfield, IL at the Villa Maria Catholic Life Center the weekend of March 18-20, 2022!



Early registration is suggested due to limited space. We will have in place all the needed precautions to provide a safe environment for participants.

For more information or to apply, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org), or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

**What's Happening...**

**UPCOMING Events**

**Every Friday: SonRise Meeting—St. Anthony Parish Center**  
Coffee is on at 6AM, prayer begins at 6:30AM  
Meetings held every Friday. Register online at [TMIY.org](http://TMIY.org) or call St. Anthony Parish Office at 217-347-7129.

**Tues., January 11: CCW Ladies' Christmas Party - Dieterich**  
Held at Immaculate Conception Hall - Festivities begin at 6:30 PM  
Sign up sheets in back of both churches.

**Sun., January 16: Right to Life Breakfast - Teutopolis**  
Held at the Teutopolis Banquet (KC) Hall from 7AM to 12:30PM with inside dining. A quilt raffle and 50/50 raffle will be held. For donations of breads and to volunteer, please text Susan Vogt at 217-663-2084.

**Fri., January 21: Pro-Life March - Springfield**  
Leaving Effingham Events Center (KC hall) on charter bus at 7:30am and returning 4:00pm. Registration papers in both churches.  
Sign up deadline: **January 10.**

**Sun., January 23: Coffee & Donuts - Bishop & Grove**  
Served by the Youth Group after 8AM & 10AM Mass. Free will donation - all proceeds go to defray costs for March for Life.

**Sat., February 19: Trivia Night - St. Thomas, Newton**  
Cost: \$160 per team of 8 adults (age 21 and over)  
Space is limited so sign up early! **Sign up deadline: Feb. 5**  
Forms can be found at the back of both churches.  
For more info, contact St. Thomas School - 618-783-3517

**Thou Shall Not Lie**

A priest was walking down the street when he came upon a group of about a dozen boys, all of them between 10 and 12 years of age.

The group had surrounded a dog. Concerned lest the boys were hurting the dog, he went over and asked, "What are you doing with that dog?"

One of the boys replied, "This dog is just an old neighborhood stray. We all want him, but only one of us can take him home. So we've decided that whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to keep the dog."

Of course, the priest was taken aback. "You boys shouldn't be having a contest telling lies!" he exclaimed.

He then launched into a 10 minute sermon against lying, beginning, "Don't you boys know it's a sin to lie," and ending with, "Why, when I was your age, I never told a lie."

There was dead silence for about a minute. Just as the priest was beginning to think he'd gotten through to them, the smallest boy gave a deep sigh and said, "All right, give him the dog."



**Ministry Schedule**

*If you cannot be present for your assignment, you are responsible for getting a substitute.*

Thursday, January 6 at 8:00 am ..... St. Joseph Church  
 Lector..... Darlene Schumacher  
 Sacristan..... Darlene Mammoser  
 Saturday, January 8 at 6:00 pm..... St. Aloysius Church  
 Lector..... Karla Slifer  
 Comm..... Rita Mette, June Probst  
 Sacristan..... Diane Bierman  
 Organist..... Gina Niemerg, Megan Brummer  
 Servers ..... Austin Borries, Aliza Garner, Jackson Kinkelaar  
 Gifts ..... Matt Brummer Family  
 Ushers ..... Steve Bierman, Scott Blackwell  
 ..... Brian Bohnhoff, Dan Dust

Sunday, January 9 at 8:00 am ..... St. Aloysius Church  
 Lector..... Grade 5  
 Comm..... Diana Bierman, Cindy Niemerg  
 Sacristan..... Mark & Marge Bierman  
 Organist..... Madilyn Brummer  
 Cantor ..... Cassie Carpenter  
 Servers ..... Max Brummer, Andrew Esker, George Habing  
 Gifts ..... Grade 5  
 Greeters ..... Grade 5  
 Ushers ..... Scott Brummer, Greg Esker  
 ..... Jerry Goeckner, Keith Probst

Sunday, January 9 at 10:00 am ..... St. Joseph Church  
 Lector..... Grades 5 & 6  
 Comm..... Dan Shadle  
 Sacristan..... Dan Shadle  
 Organist & Cantor..... Pam & Dave Jansen  
 Servers ..... Alexis & Kayden Hetzer, Levi Salyers  
 Gifts ..... Grades 5 & 6  
 Ushers ..... George Cohorst, Ted Einhorn

**Men’s Committee**


St. Aloysius—January - Joe Meinhart, Pete Grimes, Dan Kocher, Stan Habing, Bill Goeckner, Brian Bohnhoff, Tim Probst, Paul Brummer, Doug Kinkelaar, Keith Probst, Bob Lueken

St Joseph—January - Mark Mammoser, Barney Probst, Neil Bierman, Paul Meinhart, Doug Mammoser, Dave Jansen

**Church Cleaning**

St. Aloysius Church—January - Sue Thoele, Cindy Drees, Karla Slifer, Lisa Bohnhoff, Shelly Beckman, Ruth Dust


St. Joseph Church—January - Emily Esker, Anita Emmerich, Lori Probst, Brenda Salyers, Cindy Einhorn




Brad Robards, Stuart Stephenson, Jessica Spiker, John & Theresa Flinn, Steve Zumbahlen, Marilyn June Hartke, Roger Thoele, Alice Swingler, Mike Bierman, Carol Gapsis, Judy McClellan, Larry Emmerich, Pauline Repking

**Please remember in your prayers these men and women serving to defend our country and our freedom.**

Matthew Kocher, Anthony Vahling, Colin Beckman, Devin Mette, Nick Bierman, Randy Brummer, Jesse Koester, Tom Bierman



*“The saints do not ask us to applaud them; they ask us to imitate them.”*  
*St. Pope John Paull II, Into the Deep, May 2014,*  
*Reprint by permission of www.stoneswillshout.com/wp*



Tuesday, January 4, 8:00 am: Ralph & Phyllis Niemerg  
 Wednesday, January 5, 6:00 pm: Michael Shadle  
 Thursday, January 6, 8:00 am: Bob Zumbahlen & Amy Tolch  
 Friday, January 7, 8:00 am: Fred & Helen Haarmann  
 Saturday, January 8, 6:00 pm: Loretta Hardiek  
 Sunday, January 9, 8:00 am: Linus Drees  
 Sunday, January 2, 10:00 am: St. Isidore Parishioners

If you want a Mass intention for someone (living or deceased), please call the church office. The stipend for the Mass is \$10.

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP**  
 - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

*The Light of the Moon*

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you’ve caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film “It’s a Wonderful Life.”

If you’re not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing “Buffalo Gals — Won’t you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?”

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn’t have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn’t it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. “Upon you the LORD shines,” writes Isaiah, “and over you appears his glory.” Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn’t chart their own course. They merely followed the star.  
 — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



Let your face shine upon us.  
 PSALM 4



EPIPHANY



# March For Life 2022

DIocese of Springfield in Illinois

**WHEN:** January 21, 2022  
**WHO:** 7th - 12th Graders, College Students, Adults  
**WHAT:** MASS MARCH TO THE CAPITOL

**WHY:** Because together we can create a world where the beauty and dignity of every human life is valued.

**REGISTER:** Coming soon  
**WHERE:** Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Springfield, IL

*Because...Life is Beautiful*

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