

Parish Office

Hours Mon.-Fri. 8:00 am-4:00 pm
Phone (812) 934-3204
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Residence Phone (812) 933-0708

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School Secretary, Tricia Gehl x 236
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School Nurse, Lydia Gardner x 283

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V.-Chairperson,
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R.C.I.A., Darlene Hirt934-2603

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Chairperson, Brenda Ratcliffe932-1449

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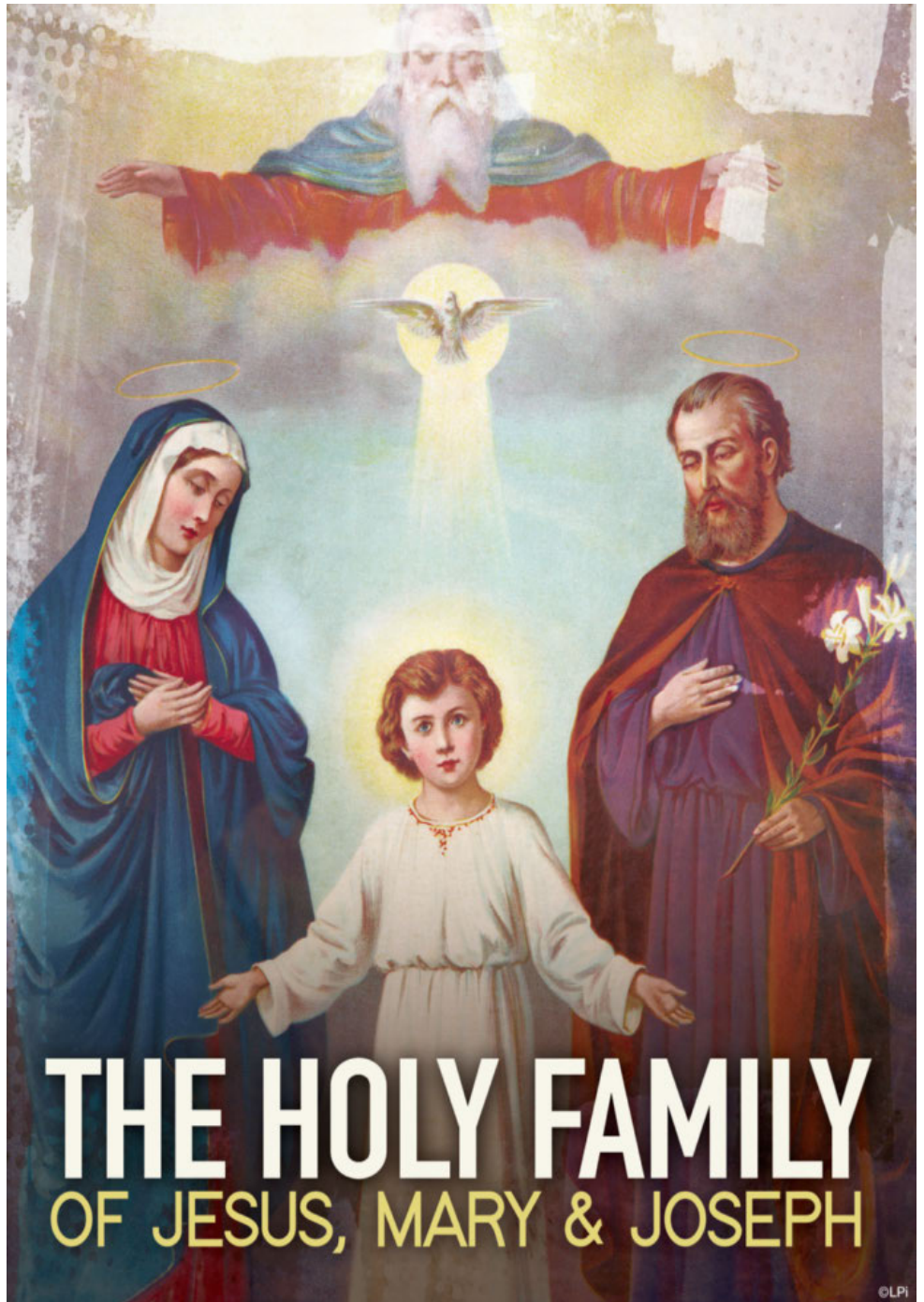
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2021 Year End Statements

Contributions to St. Louis that you want included on your 2021 End of the Year Contribution Statement must be either received in the parish office or postmarked by December 31st. Checks dated in 2021 and received or postmarked after December 31st will be included on your 2022 Statement.

Parish Office Holiday Hours

The parish office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays on **Thursday, December 23rd through Friday, December 31st**. We will reopen on Monday, January 3rd.

The Chosen Series - Christmas Special

All are welcome to come view and discuss *The Chosen* Series here at St. Louis. We meet every Thursday in the parish office at **7:00pm**.

On **Thursday, December 30 at 7:00pm** we will view *The Chosen Christmas Special*. This is an extra video, not part of the series. All are welcome!

Mary's Mantle Consecration

The Mary's Mantle Consecration videos are being shown in the parish office after the 8:10am Mass on Monday mornings. All are welcome.

If you are doing the consecration on your own, and have not registered at the parish office, please call us so we can send you the details for the consecration.

Friday Morning Bible Study

All are welcome to come to the Friday Morning Bible Study. We will begin, "James— Pearls for Wise Living," on **January 7th at 9:00am** in the parish office.

Aid for Tornado Victims

On Friday, December 11, Owensboro, Kentucky was hit by a tornado causing casualties and mass destruction. At this time, the greatest need is for financial donations which will help purchase the necessary supplies that are needed immediately. To make a donation to the Diocese of Owensboro, KY, one of the hardest hit regions, visit <https://owensborodiocese.org/give/>

CYO Basketball

From Dec. 12th - St. Louis lost to St. Theresa 49-55. St. Louis is now 1-1 and St. Theresa is 2-0. Scoring for St. Louis: Charlie Schebler (25), Luke Wilson (8), Eric Garcia (6), Lyle Oesterling (4), Keegan Walke, Alec Bunselmeier (2), and Jake Chapman (1).

Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at St. Joseph, St. Leon:

1:00pm - All Saints 1 vs. All Saints 2

2:15pm - Holy Family vs. St. Teresa

Admission is \$3 for adults/students and \$7 for a family. All are welcome to come and watch exciting high school basketball!

E6 Catholic Men's Conference - Rediscover Your Vocation

The 7th Annual E6 Catholic Men's Conference – featuring Matthew Kelly and Gus Lloyd - is back at the East Central Performing Arts Center on **February 26, 2022!** Registrations are now being accepted. Spaces are limited. Register early as it is sure to sell out. St. Louis Parish has a block of 45 seats for this year's E 6 Catholic Men's Conference. Tickets are \$35 each. To reserve your seat, please email James Dickey at jdickey@etczone.com

St. Louis Weekly BINGO is BACK!

St. Louis Weekly Bingo will be starting **Thursday, January 6th!** Looking forward to seeing you there! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Michael Brelage at: sls.ss.bingo@gmail.com

2022 Church Calendars

Calendars for 2022 are available at the church exits. Thank you to Weigel Funeral Home for sponsoring our calendars.

Adoration Chapel

The following hours are in need of a scheduled adoror: **Sunday - 11:00am; Monday - 12:00am; Saturday - 12:00am, 7:00pm**. For more info call Christy at 812-239-9164.

Natural Family Planning

A Natural Family Planning Class will be held on **Sunday, January 2nd from 9:00am to 12:00pm** at St. Louis. There is a \$40.00 fee for books and materials. For reservations call or text Aly at 812-212-4951 or Michael at 812-212-2719.

Baptism Preparation Class

The Baptism preparation class is for parents who are having their first child baptized. The next class will be offered on **Tuesday, January 18th at 7:00pm** in the Parish Office. Please call the parish office to register 812-934-3204.

December Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

Catechists - Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

St. Louis Cash Raffle

Congratulations to the following:

- Dec. 13 - \$1,000 - Denise Bayoneto
- Dec. 15 - \$100 - Dale McCarty
- Dec. 16 - \$250 - Mary Voegele

Job Openings

Immediate Full Time Nursing positions available with the Sisters of St. Francis in Oldenburg, IN:

- Assistant Director of Nursing - Day Shift Hours, Full Time, Salaried position
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www.OldenburgFranciscans.org and click on the Employment section, or contact Connie Luers, RN DON at cluers@oldenburgosf.com or call 812-933-6402.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 26

- 6:30 am For the Parish Community
- 9:30 am Hollye Gerdowsky
- 11:00 am Louis Tebbe

Monday, December 27, St. John

- 8:10 am Living and Deceased Members of the Harry & Mathilda Ferkinhoff Family

Tuesday, December 28, The Holy Innocents

- 6:00 pm Zach Zins

Wednesday, December 29

- 8:10 am John H. Schutte

Thursday, December 30

- 8:10 am Living and Deceased Members of the Mary Crescentia Knueven Family

Friday, December 31

- 8:10 am Albert Giesting

Saturday, January 1, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- 9:00 am Intentions of Bob Walsman
- 5:30 pm Norbert Roth

Sunday, January 2, Epiphany of the Lord

- 6:30 am For the Parish Community
- 9:30 am Albert Laker
- 11:00 am Esther Kunkel



Readings for the Week

- Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
- Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
- Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
- Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Altar Servers

Monday, December 27

- 8:10 am Santiago & Alejandra Schutte

Tuesday, December 28

- 6:00 pm Luke & Anthony Meer

Wednesday, December 29

- 8:10 am Tripp Hertel & Cayden Lieland

Thursday, December 30

- 8:10 am Caroline Ramsey & Stella Maple

Friday, December 31

- 8:10 am Christian & Kathryn Mack

Saturday, January 1

- 9:00 am Felicity & Damien Brelage
- 5:30 pm Mikaela Gutzwiller & Cora Roth

Sunday, January 2

- 6:30 am Adam & Ethan Meer
- 9:30 am William & Jack Huber
- 11:00 am Houston Cook & Matthew Lambert

Rosary & Holy Hour

Sunday, January 2

- 7:00 pm Volunteers Needed

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Saturday, January 1

- 5:30 pm Deb Weigel, Betty Frey, Dave Meyer, Darlene Hirt, Carolyn Dieckmann, Mary Sitterding

Sunday, January 2

- 6:30 am Amy Tonges, Jerry Dickman, Mary Beth Freyer, Ellie Amberger, Mike Gerstbauer, Alvin Harmeyer
- 9:30 am Angie Moster, Lynn Hertel, Kevin Chaffee, Bertie Schmidt, Denise Hillenbrand, Brooke Maple
- 11:00 am Mayra Adams, Jim Fangman, Mark Masavage, Cindy Wuestefeld, Scott Lamping

Rosary & Holy Hour
Sunday, January 5th
7:00pm

Ushers

Saturday, January 1

- 5:30 pm Gary Kuntz, Scot Harmeyer, Jerry Eckstein, Bob Prickel

Sunday, January 2

- 6:30 am Todd Tekulve, **3 Volunteers**
- 9:30 am Matt Weberding, Susie Dickman, Neal & Deb Wessling
- 11:00 am Bob Mattucci, Ted Telles, Tom Brunsman, **1 Volunteer**

Lectors

Saturday, January 1

- 5:30 pm Ken Wanstrath

Sunday, January 2

- 6:30 am Tom Fritsch
- 9:30 am Hank Pictor
- 11:00 am Pat Weigel

Celebrant

Saturday, January 1

- 5:30 pm Fr. Jey

Sunday, January 2

- 6:30 am Fr. Stan
- 9:30 am Fr. Stan
- 11:00 am Fr. Jey

Saturday Morning
Prayer Service

January 1st at 8:05am
Meet in the Church

New Year's Day

Not a Holy Day of Obligation
This Year

Saturday, January 1
9:00am

RCIA—All Welcome

All are welcome to join us for any or all RCIA sessions! We meet in the parish office meeting room on Sundays.

Sunday, December 26th —No Session.
Sunday, January 2nd —No Session.

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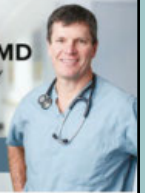
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## Why Do We Use Latin and Greek for Some Parts of the Mass During Certain Seasons of the Liturgical Year?

I guess the easiest answer to the question is that the Church actually mandates the occasional use of Latin in the ordinary rite. The very document of the Second Vatican Council that authorized the use of the vernacular in the mass, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, mandates in paragraph 36, 1, "Particular law remaining in force, the use of the Latin language is to be preserved in the Latin rites." ([http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist\\_councils/ii\\_vatican\\_council/documents/vat-ii\\_const\\_19631204\\_sacrosanctum-concilium\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19631204_sacrosanctum-concilium_en.html)) Furthermore, the Council Fathers mandated, in paragraph 54, "Nevertheless steps should be taken so that the faithful may also be able to say or to sing together in Latin those parts of the Ordinary of the Mass which pertain to them." (Ibid.)

The Council Fathers further mandated the use of Latin in the document on sacred music, *Musicam Sacram*. *Musicam Sacram* noted that *Sacrosanctum Concilium* had mandated the preservation of Latin within the liturgy and reiterated the requirement that pastors take steps to insure the use of Latin, "Pastors of souls should take care that besides the vernacular "the faithful may also be able to say or sing together in Latin those parts of the Ordinary of the Mass which pertain to them." ([http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist\\_councils/ii\\_vatican\\_council/documents/vat-ii\\_instr\\_19670305\\_musicam-sacram\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_instr_19670305_musicam-sacram_en.html))

Pope Paul VI, the Pope under whose direction the Council concluded, expressed his desire that Latin be preserved in the liturgy. To that end, he personally sent a book of Latin chant entitled *Jubilare Deo* to every bishop and major religious superior in the world. In a letter from the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments entitled *Voluntati Obsequens* which accompanied the Holy Father's book, the Congregation noted that it was Pope Paul's intent that certain parts of the mass be sung in Latin, "Our congregation has prepared a booklet entitled, '*Jubilare Deo*,' which contains a minimum selection of sacred chants. This was done in response to a desire which the Holy Father had frequently expressed, that all the faithful should know at least some Latin Gregorian chants, such as, for example, the '*Gloria*,' the '*Credo*,' the '*Sanctus*,' and the '*Agnus Dei*.'" (<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=5172>) Pope Saint John-Paul II also encouraged use of Latin in parts of the liturgy.

Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, later Pope Benedict XVI, wrote of the importance of retaining some Latin in the liturgy as a sign of the universality of the Catholic faith and worship, "If even in the great liturgical celebrations in Rome, no one can sing the Kyrie or the Sanctus any more, no one knows what Gloria means, then a cultural loss has become a loss of what we share in common. To that extent I should say that the Liturgy of the Word should always be in the mother tongue, but there ought nonetheless to be a basic stock of Latin elements that would bind us together." (*God and the World*, SF, CA: Ignatius, 2002, pp. 417-18)

In short, it is the expressed desire of both the Second Vatican Council and those post-Conciliar Popes who were most aware of the intent of the Council – as mentioned before, Paul VI was the Pope during the latter phase of the Council, additionally, Saint John-Paul was a Council Father and Benedict was an expert at the Council – that the Latin heritage be preserved in the liturgy. Both Paul VI and Benedict XVI recognized that certain parts of the mass including the Sanctus and Kyrie – which is actually in Greek, the earlier liturgical language of the Church – were particularly fitting for the occasional use of the traditional liturgical language of the Church. This so because those pieces are sung at the vast majority of Sunday masses. The people who sing "Holy, Holy, Holy" for most of the year undoubtedly are able to understand the equivalent "Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus" when it is used during such liturgical seasons as Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter.

Thus, the limited use of Latin and Greek during certain liturgical seasons is in compliance with the expressed wishes of both the Second Vatican Council and the post-Conciliar Popes who have spoken to the issue. It is a way both to connect with the long tradition of the Church and to emphasize that our parish is part of the Catholic, or universal, Church.

I hope that this answers the question. Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information on this.

## Gifts of Financial Participation

### Sunday, October 31, 2021

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| In Church Collections.....   | \$ 10,673.21 |
| Other Collections .....      | \$ 5,750.00  |
| Electronic Collections ..... | \$ 1,737.00  |
| Total Actual Income .....    | \$ 18,160.21 |
| Budget .....                 | \$ 18,942.00 |
| Over/Under Budget .....      | (\$ 781.79)  |

### Sunday, November 7, 2021

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| In Church Collections.....   | \$ 10,492.20 |
| Electronic Collections ..... | \$ 9,737.00  |
| Total Actual Income .....    | \$ 20,229.20 |
| Budget .....                 | \$ 18,942.00 |
| Over/Under Budget .....      | \$ 1,287.20  |

### Sunday, November 14, 2021

|                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| In Church Collections.....   | \$ 9,323.21   |
| Other Collections .....      | \$ 6,095.94   |
| Electronic Collections ..... | \$ 1,737.00   |
| Total Actual Income .....    | \$ 17,156.15  |
| Budget .....                 | \$ 18,942.00  |
| Over/Under Budget .....      | (\$ 1,785.85) |

### Sunday, November 21, 2021

|                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| In Church Collections.....   | \$ 10,431.20  |
| Other Collections .....      | \$ 2,025.00   |
| Electronic Collections ..... | \$ 1,737.00   |
| Total Actual Income .....    | \$ 14,193.20  |
| Budget .....                 | \$ 18,942.00  |
| Over/Under Budget .....      | (\$ 4,748.80) |

### Second Collection

|                                         |             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Campaign for<br>Human Development ..... | \$ 2,037.00 |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|

### Sunday, November 28, 2021

|                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| In Church Collections.....   | \$ 9,923.70   |
| Other Collections .....      | \$ 2,970.00   |
| Electronic Collections ..... | \$ 1,737.00   |
| Total Actual Income .....    | \$ 14,630.70  |
| Budget .....                 | \$ 18,942.00  |
| Over/Under Budget .....      | (\$ 4,311.30) |

### Sunday, December 5, 2021

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| In Church Collections.....   | \$ 10,754.20 |
| Other Collections .....      | \$ 6,005.94  |
| Electronic Collections ..... | \$ 9,737.00  |
| Total Actual Income .....    | \$ 26,497.14 |
| Budget .....                 | \$ 18,942.00 |
| Over/Under Budget .....      | \$ 7,555.14  |

### Year to Date

|                                                      |                |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| In Church Collections and<br>Other Collections ..... | \$ 394,173.27  |
| Budget .....                                         | \$ 435,666.00  |
| Over/Under Budget .....                              | (\$ 41,492.73) |



## ST. STEPHEN

FEAST DAY  
DECEMBER 26

### Saint of the Week

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

### ALL IN THE FAMILY

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother

in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### I HAVE BEEN AWAY FROM THE CHURCH FOR A FEW YEARS AND REALLY WANT TO GET ACTIVE AGAIN, NOT SO MUCH FOR ME, BUT FOR MY CHILDREN. IS THIS A BAD REASON TO COME BACK TO CHURCH?

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer.

But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is

we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.





# Kids Corner

READ THE  
GOSPEL &  
COLOR



Imagine Jesus goes to your church today. After church, Mary and Joseph find him on the altar telling stories from the Old Testament to the priests and the Sunday School teachers. Mary and Joseph would be amazed. They would want Jesus to come home. Jesus would love his parents so much that he would go home with them. He will stay with them until he grows older, wiser, and stronger.

## PRAYER

Lord, teach me your Bible stories so that I can teach them to others.

## MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will always let my parents know where I am, so they won't worry.