

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.

Sacred Heart

P A R I S H

555 BAILEY ROAD • CRYSTAL CITY, MO 63019



MISSION STATEMENT

We the parish family of Sacred Heart, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit seek to bring all to a fuller understanding of God's love by teaching, praying, witnessing for Christ and service to one another. Through the sharing of our time, talents, and treasures, we shall build up the body of Christ in our local parish, deanery, archdiocese and the world.

2 Staff & Parish Info

Pastoral Staff

Pastor, Rev. Mathew

Cheruparambil

E-Mail.....frmathew@archstl.org

Deacon, Jerry Stoverink Deacon

E-Mail.....jstoverink@sbcglobal.net

Director of Rel. Ed..... Karen Weber

Phone.....636-937-5298.....E-Mail...

.....kwebersacredheartre@gmail.com

Finance Council Chair, Steve Bacon

E-Mail.....sjbacon@bcd-llc.com

Parish Leadership Chair,

Jim Sparling

E-Mail.....jimsparling@sbcglobal.net

Parish Offices

Rectory(636) 937-4662

Toll free St. Louis/fax(636) 931-5507

E-mailsh324cc@sbcglobal.net

Adoration Chapel(636) 933-0454

Parish Website: sacredheartcrystalcity-festus.weconnect.com

Parish Secretary

Office hours.....M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net

Eucharistic Celebrations

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday

7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday: Monday-Thursday 8:00 am;
(Friday 8:00 am-Communion Service)

Holy Day: Day 8:00 am, 12:00 noon &
7:00 pm

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00 pm or by appointment.

Baptism

Held on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month following the 11:00 am Mass.

Baptism is an introduction to the Catholic way of life, attendance at Sunday Mass is an obligation which is not taken lightly. Baptism preparation will be held on the 1st Monday of each month. Call Fr. Mathew for Baptism preparation and Baptisms +(636-937-4662).

Marriage

Preparation class must begin at least six months in advance of date of marriage. Make an appointment with the priest .

Communion Calls

If you are unable to come to Mass for several weeks due to illness, contact the Parish Office for a visit.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Open twenty four hours a day in the Convent Chapel. If interested contact the Parish Office (636) 937-4662.

PSR Classes

Held at school every Wednesday evening during school year from 6:40-8:00 pm.

Bulletin Deadline

Announcements must be turned in to Parish Office by Sunday evening.

Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net



Greetings from the Pastor

Thanksgiving came, and people were happy. They celebrated Thanksgiving with their usual gaiety. A few weeks later came Christmas. And the same people celebrated the Birthday of God with even more joviality and jocundity. For Thanksgiving, they bought turkey, and everything that should go with it for the whole family. The hosting family waited for their loved ones to join for the meal. When Christmas came, they bought all sorts of greetings cards, and presents for their loved ones to let them know that they loved even those they did not.

And their priest? Most people did not even care to ask him if he had a place to go! He asked someone, "Any big plans for Thanksgiving?" and the man said, "Not. Just me and my wife." The priest thought he would ask, "Would you like to join us?" But to his surprise, the man slowly walked away to celebrate Thanksgiving. The priest, who left behind his family elsewhere to serve some people he never knew until then, ate his usual quota of meal all by himself, just like any other day. And when he swallowed down his throat the morsel, he wondered about the caring of people he cared so much and served!

"Well, Christmas will be different," he said to himself, "Someone will certainly invite me to celebrate with them." He was mistaken. Some people gave him a card, which said, "We appreciate your service." But he wasn't sure how they appreciated him. After four Masses on Christmas Eve, he curled up in his bed and wondered again about the caring of his people for their priest! As he dozed into snooze, while the world celebrated Christmas all over the world with the same joviality and jocundity, he thought, 'God and soldiers are both thought of at the time of war. When the war is over, God is forgotten and the poor soldier is slighted.' When people need a priest for Last Rites, Anointing of the Sick, Confessions, Mass... they need him right then and there. Once what they got what they needed? Ah, well, the world swirls that way.

Cold wind brewed in the woods, behind his dilapidated rectory. And he snored as if to beat the roaring of the wind. Childhood memories of his family eating dinner with his parish priest flashed in his dream, episode by episode. The thought of becoming a priest sprouted sometime then. He could see his parents apportioning something of every special meal they prepared at home also for their priest. He licked his lips in sleep and snored like a wild boar. And the wind raped the woods far way.

The priest, who went to bed very late on Christmas Eve, got up very early for the morning Masses. After each Mass, people hurried home through different doors of their church to catch up on what they left at the Eve without taking even a minute to say, 'Merry Christmas, Father.' Of course, the people, in whose way the poor old man stood, saying, "Merry Christmas" greeted him back with their "Happy holiday, Father" as they scuttled down the steps. And after all the Masses, as he secured the building and dragged his saggy feet back to his abode, the old man murmured to himself, "I shall never be forgotten, for no one will ever remember me."

I wrote this based on a conversation I had with a few priests as they shared with me their 'holiday experiences'. Don't get offended because you felt it was about you. It is not about you. You are good. But you might want to keep this in mind: there is no one earth that follows the life of a Catholic as does a priest, not even one's parents.

With love,

Fr. Mathew



Do you know someone in need?

The Sacred Heart Society of St. Vincent de Paul helps people in need in the Festus/Crystal City and Herculaneum/Pevely areas. If you know someone who needs assistance with utilities, rent/mortgage, etc. please let them know that the St. Vincent de Paul may be able to help or refer them to other assistance. The phone number to call is 1-877-238-3228 box #3324. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we can help many people.

February 7, 2021
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed... He told them, 'Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.'"

- Mark 1:35, 38

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus makes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we find the strength to do what He wishes us to do. Be sure to find time every day to be with God.



stewardship

The Audacity of Holiness

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

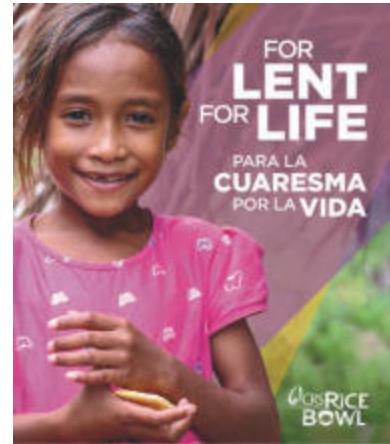
Your Gift of Treasure

Week of January 31, 2021

Envelopes Mailed.....	593
Envelope Gifts.....	\$5820.00
Number of Envelopes.....	123
Online Gifts.....	\$2425.00
Number of Online Donations.....	51
Loose.....	\$124.00

Scrip Program January 31, 2021

Number of orders.....	9
Amount of Orders.....	\$1080.00
Amount earned this week.....	\$37.25
E-Scrip Revenue.....	\$0.00
Amount earned YTD.....	\$1372.80

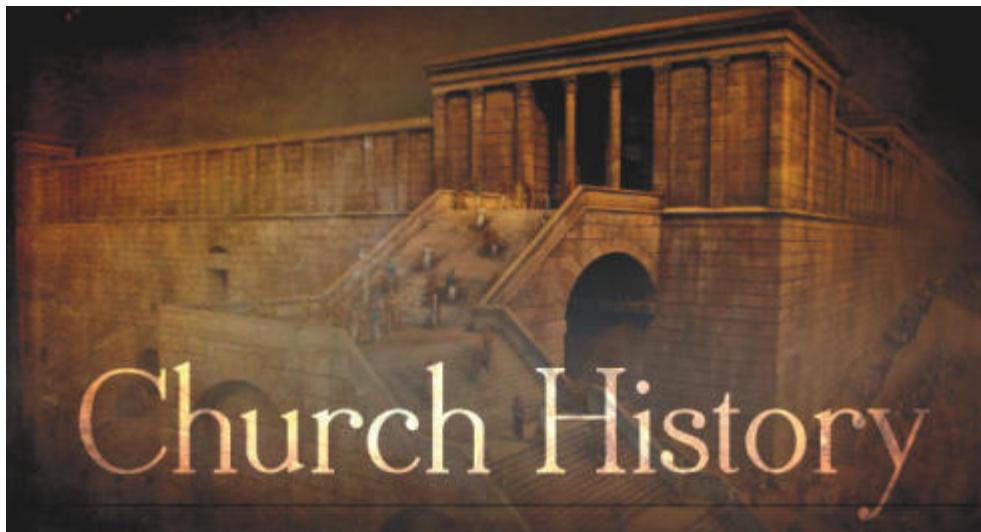


crsricebowl.org | crsplatedesazon.org

CRS Rice Bowl is Catholic Relief Services' Lenten faith-in-action program. It offers opportunities for your family to engage daily in the spiritual pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. And, it's an opportunity for us as a parish to come together as a community and reflect on what it means to live out our Gospel call to go out and encounter those most in need. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from the exits of the Church. During the 40 days of Lent, as companions on the journey, we will encounter our neighbor.



Join with us on a Lenten journey through Church history! **Father Scott Jones** will share with us the story of the saints and sinners who have formed our Church for two thousand years. The series will be made up of six sessions. Father Scott Jones is a priest with the Archdiocese of Saint Louis. He holds doctorates in history and ministry and has taught Church history at seminaries in Missouri and Wisconsin. He is currently pastor at Saints Teresa and Bridget Church in North Saint Louis. The sessions will begin February 22 at 5:30 – 7:00pm in the Church. Seating will be limited due to COVID restrictions still in place. Please call the Parish Office at 636-937-4662 for reservations.

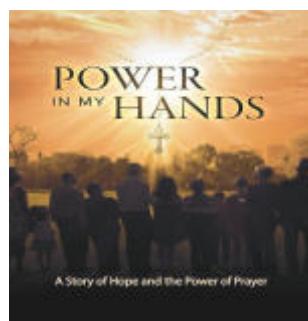


Join us for Stations of the Cross During Lent

On Wednesday evenings during Lent at 6:45pm we will pray the Stations of the Cross in church. PSR will be joining us each night for this prayer. Please note that they will be on Wednesday instead of Friday and at 6:45pm instead of 7:00pm. The first one will be on Wednesday, February 24th. Please take a little time on these days to pray with the parish community this Lenten devotion.



Power in My Hands
Power in My Hands is a DVD, which is a Story of Hope and the Power of Prayer. It is a winner of the 2019 Gabriel Award with an all-star cast uncovering the beauty, timelessness and power of the prayer of the rosary. The film will help viewers understand and grasp the power to transform individuals, families, communities, America - a society in spiritual crisis and instill a response for the need and the power of prayer. It represents the faces of America and proposes the simple and yet profound power of the rosary for all people of all ages to usher in an era of peace, harmony and most of all hope. The preceding is the description from the DVD. It is was created by The Rosary Evangelization Apostolate. It has a cast which includes Archbishop Jerome Listecki, Bishop Oliver Dashe Doeme, Jeff Cavins, Phillip Rivers, Nancy Salerno and many more. If interested you can obtain the DVD at the Rosary Evangelization Apostolate [rosary.org](http://rosaryevangelization.org) A powerful story to share with family and friends.



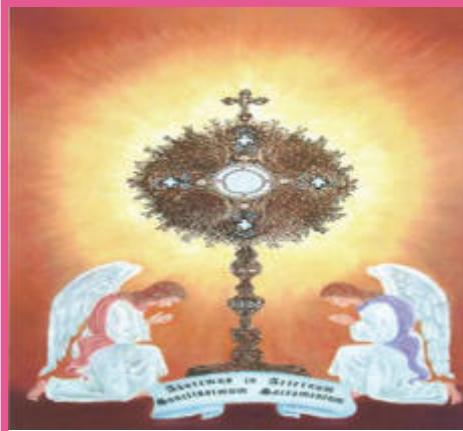
Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – Perseverance

One can sense from the readings today that a real need exists for the preaching of the Gospel. Jesus is so resolved to preach the Gospel to as many people as possible even though he certainly must have felt fatigue and the desire for more time in solitude as he prayed in the early hours of the morning. These readings teach us the blessing we have to proclaim the Gospel to others in word and deed. Seize the opportunities you have to speak of Jesus Christ to others! The time is always ripe to share the Good News. God can work through our simple “yes” to chances we have each day to bring Jesus Christ to the lives of others.

archstl.org/dynamic

Read the Bible in a Year

Ascension Press is providing at no charge an opportunity to read the Bible in a year. This program is called The Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz. It follows a reading Plan inspired by The Great Adventure Bible Timeline, an approach to understanding salvation history developed by renowned Catholic Bible teacher Jeff Cavins. To obtain the reading plan and link to the podcasts, go to ascensionpress.com, select The Bible in a Year, it will ask for first, last name and email address - this will allow you to obtain the reading plan and the podcasts. If you do not or cannot do podcasts/apps, on the sign up page is a link to Follow Along Without an App which will lead to All Bible in a Year Episodes. It is titled The Bible in a Year but you can follow along at the pace you want. All episodes will remain available “in perpetuity”. On each episode Fr. Mike Schmitz proclaims/reads 2-3 Scripture passages and then discusses them. Each episode is approximately 30 minutes long. They are using the Revised Standard Version (RSV) Bible so if you have a different catholic bible such as the New American Bible what he reads may be a little different than yours but the message is the same. Don’t be discouraged by the various bibles - use what you have or you can purchase an RSV Bible. Several parishioners are already doing this program and excited about it. It is a great way to get started reading and understanding the Word of God.



**Adoration of the Lord
Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel is
OPEN and volunteers are needed.**

"One need not say much to pray well, we know that Jesus is there in the tabernacle; let us open our hearts to Him, let us rejoice in His Sacred Presence. That is the best prayer."

We have **SEVERAL OPENINGS** please call at **Terri Wolk at 314-620-7527** for more information.

Openings for the following hours are needed to be filled ASAP. This is a great way to give your time and talent to your Parish and The Lord!

Tuesday	10:00am
Wednesday:	10:00am
Thursday:	11:00am
	12:00pm
	3:00pm
	11:00pm
Friday:	7:00pm
Saturday:	9:00am
	8:00pm &
	9:00pm



Bloomsdale Knights of Columbus

Fish Fry (Feb. 19 & 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2)

During Lent, the Knights of Columbus in Bloomsdale will hold a Drive-thru only fish fry every Friday. They will serve meals from 4pm - 7pm each Friday.

Menu includes: Catfish, Cod, Shrimp, Stewed Tomatoes, Noodles, and Slaw.

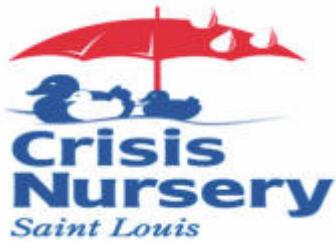


ST. VINCENT DEPAUL'S ST. VALENTINE'S DAY RAFFLE

Our quilt raffle continues until Sunday February 14th with the drawing after the 11am mass. Thank you to all those who have purchased tickets. Please share tickets with your family and friends. The quilt will be on display in the east entrance, thank you to the quilters for their assistance with this. Since it is a St. Valentine's Day Raffle we invite everyone buying a ticket to write the name of a loved one, living or deceased, on the back of their ticket. We will put that name on a Valentine tag which will be displayed in the church. If you can't or don't want to participate in the raffle but would like to put the name of a loved one on the tree please put the name on the back of a raffle ticket and put it in the collection basket. Thank you again for your support.

At times, we are tempted to complain. When tempted to question God and His perfect love and perfect plan, know that this temptation is nothing more than that...a temptation. In the midst of that temptation to doubt and question God's love, renew your trust and abandon your self-pity. In this act, you will find strength.

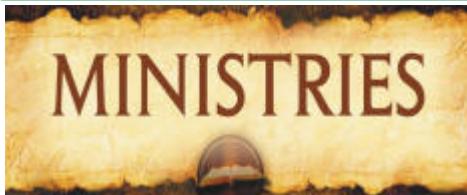
Lord, I am sorry for the times I complain, get angry and doubt Your perfect love. I am sorry for any feelings of self-pity I have allowed myself to fall into. Help me, today, to let go of these feelings and to turn these temptations into moments of deeper trust and surrender. Jesus, I trust in You.



Our Family Empowerment Program offers services for families of children birth-age 12. The program is FREE and voluntary for families of Jefferson County. We will offer in home support for your family during a crisis, ongoing parent education and support, community referrals and resources, and assistance with items needed to care for family (basic needs—as available). For more information on our services please visit us at:

Saint Louis Crisis Nursery
Jefferson County Outreach Center
Jessica Harris
1400 Highway 61 South
Festus, MO 63028
(located inside Mercy Jefferson Hospital)
314-374-1700 Please call for an appointment.
Saint Louis Crisis Nursery 24 Hour Helpline: 314-768-3201

Ministry Schedules



Liturgical Ministers Weekend of February 13th & 14th

Altar Servers

5:00pm	Carolyne Argana
7:30am	Shayne Hoffmeister
9:00am	Zander Street
11:00am	Percy Pfohl

Eucharistic Ministers

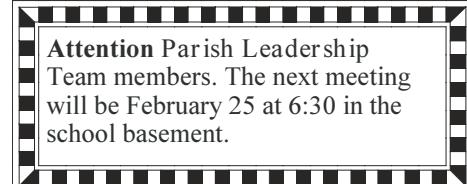
5:00pm	Sue Boyer
7:30am	Deacon Jerry
9:00am	Vickie Eisenbeis
11:00am	Sharon Pierce

Lectors

5:00pm	Denise Yount
7:30am	Sue Cresswell
9:00am	Cathy Johns
11:00am	Diane Stoverink
	Elizabeth Steffen
	Judith Bailey
	Carrie Loukas
	Carrie Loukas

Scrip

5:00pm	Cheryl Haylin
7:30am	Robert & Celestine
9:00am	Chierek
11:00am	Vickie Eisenbeis
	Denise Jones



Readings for the week of February 7, 2021

Sunday:	Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
Monday:	Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday:	Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday:	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday:	Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 7:24-30
Friday:	Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday:	Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/Mk 8:1-10
Next Sunday:	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45

Observances for the week of February 7, 2021

Sunday:	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin
Tuesday:	5th Tuesday in Ordinary Time
Wednesday:	St. Scholastica, Virgin
Thursday:	Our Lady of Lourdes
Friday:	5th Friday in Ordinary Time
Saturday:	BVM
Next Sunday:	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day; Valentine's Day



Mass Schedule

Monday, February 8th
8:00am Elizabeth "Betty" Gamel

Tuesday, February 9th
8:00am Jerry DeClue

Wednesday, February 10th
8:00am Dolores Becherer

Thursday, February 11th
8:00a Ervel "John" Bittick

Friday, February 12th
8:00am Communion Service

Saturday, February 13th
5:00pm Lawrence Schmidt, Sr.

Sunday, February 14th
7:30am Charles Peterein
9:00am Mary Jeanne Weber
11:00am People of the Parish



Parish Calendar

Monday, 4-6:30pm	February 8th RCIA	RMR
Tuesday, 8:45am 6:30pm	February 9th Legion of Mary Bible Study	RMR RMR
Wednesday, 1:00pm 6:45pm	February 10th Bible Study PSR/Parent Mtg First Communion	RMR SC
Thursday, 8:45am 6:00pm 6:30pm	February 11th Quilters Quilters SVDP Meeting	ANN ANN ANN
Sunday, 9:00am 12:00pm	February 14th Confirmation Candidates CH Welcome & Blessing SVDP Quilt Drawing	

News and Notes

7



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lois Gibson of our Parish.

Our Lady Catholic School is currently registering students from Preschool-8th grade. We welcome you to join our faith-filled and academically strong environment! Please call the school office at 636-931-2963 or email tkempfer@olparish.org to schedule a tour.

**Registration
is Now OPEN!**

Pray For Our Sick: Your prayers are requested for the sick of the Parish. Please remember the many people who are suffering with cancer and various other illnesses in the hospitals, the Nursing Homes, as well as at home and **also remember** all those of the parish who are pregnant that they will have a safe delivery and a healthy baby. **Prayer Requests:**

Gina Allen	Tim Fears	Joshua Lucas	Steve Roth of Iowa
Martin Ames	Steve Figge	Beth Mahn	Linda Schmitt
Agnes Baker	Wanda Figge	Holly Martin	Jeanette Smock
Norma Bequette	Wilfred Figge	Ethel Meyer	Janene Spresterbach
Kevin Blechle	Michael Foley	Carol Turgeon- Miller	Louise Spresterbach
Brendon Bova	James Alan Fortney	Joshua Miller	Alice Stubits
Carole Boxdorfer	Michael Frey	Cerita Munshaw	Patricia Swader
Mary Breitbarth	Nicholas Green	Bonnie Neimanis	Juanita Swyers
Carolyn Bridges	Joseph Grohs	John & James Norris	Merrily Varone
Lucy Brindley	Al & Joyce Guenther	Jax Okenfuss	Leah Broyles Vogt
Frances Burch	Martha Hackenwerth	Ashley & Jimmy	Jim Wadsworth
Ryan Burger	Lori Hassel	Perrot	Henry Walker
Clare Coleman	Mary Hill	Tim Perry	Patty & Greg Ward
Francis Coleman	Phyllis Hill	Ed Peterin	Michelle Waters
Jonie DeClue	Shari, Bert &	Carolyn Pool	Robert Weber
Jeff & Karen	Andrea Horn	Kathleen Portell	Stella Weidenbenner
Dettmer	Steve Jennings	Geralyn Prior	Ken Werner
Joe Douglas	Mike Johnson	Prosser Family	Jordan Winkel
Karen Eisenbeis	Carol Kaltenbronn	Donna Riedy	Chuck Yount
Glen Elsworth	Carol Kestermont	Millie Ritcher	
Phyllis Elsworth	Bill Krey	Kathy Robertson	

PLEASE NOTE: If a name has been on for a long time, it may be taken off to make room for others who are seriously ill.


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