

The Epiphany of the Lord

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

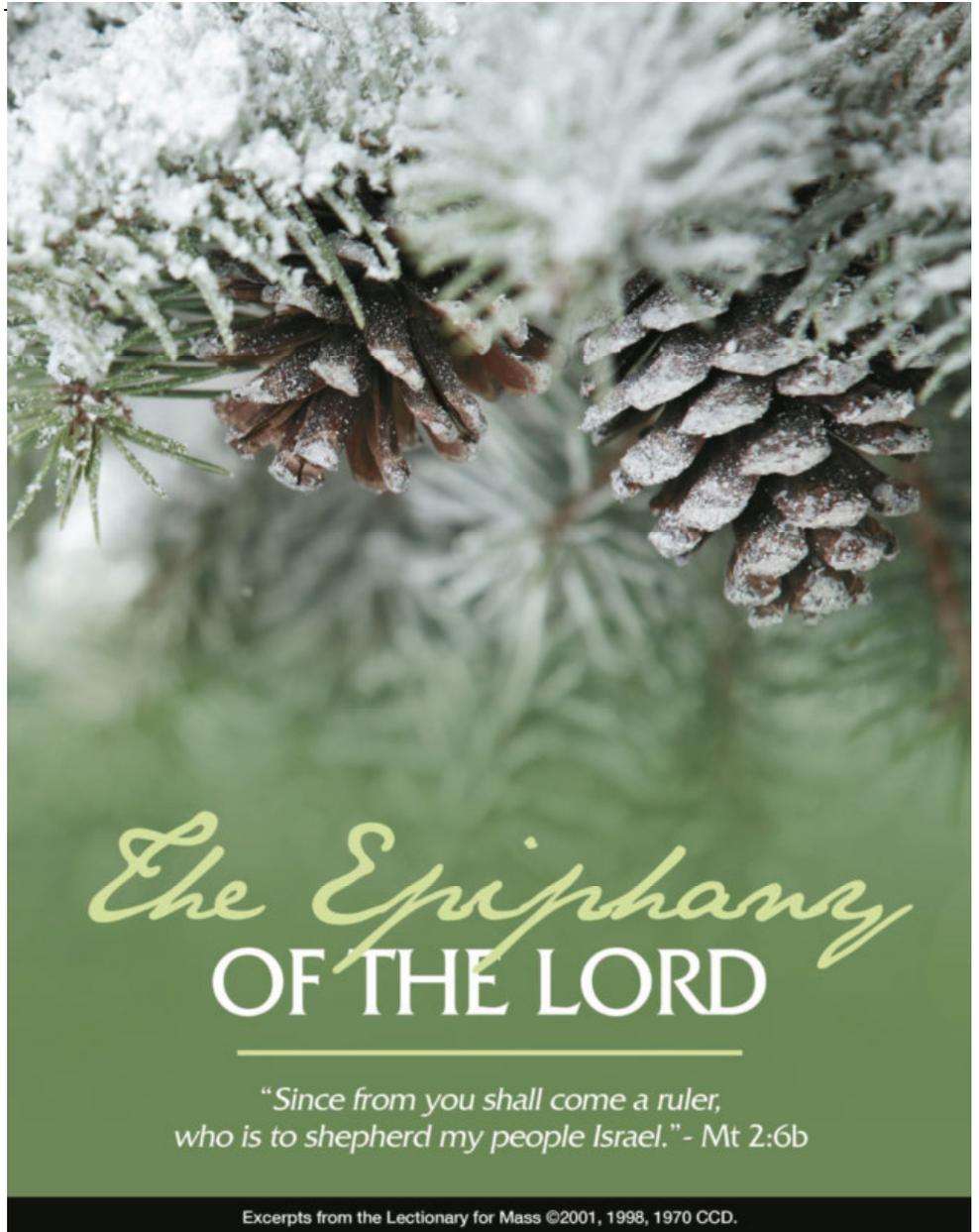
Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

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

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Finance Council Chair, Steve Bacon

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Parish Leadership Chair,

Jim Sparling

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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: sacredheart
crystalcity-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: 6:00pm (Vigil Mass, celebrated
day before Holy Day); 8:00am and 12:00
Noon (on the Holy Day)

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 sev-
eral weeks due to illness, contact the Parish
Office for a visit.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

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

PSR Classes

Held at school every Wednesday evening
during school year from 6:45-8:00 pm.

Bulletin Deadline

Announcements must be turned in to
Parish Office by Sunday evening.
Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net



Greeting from the Pastor

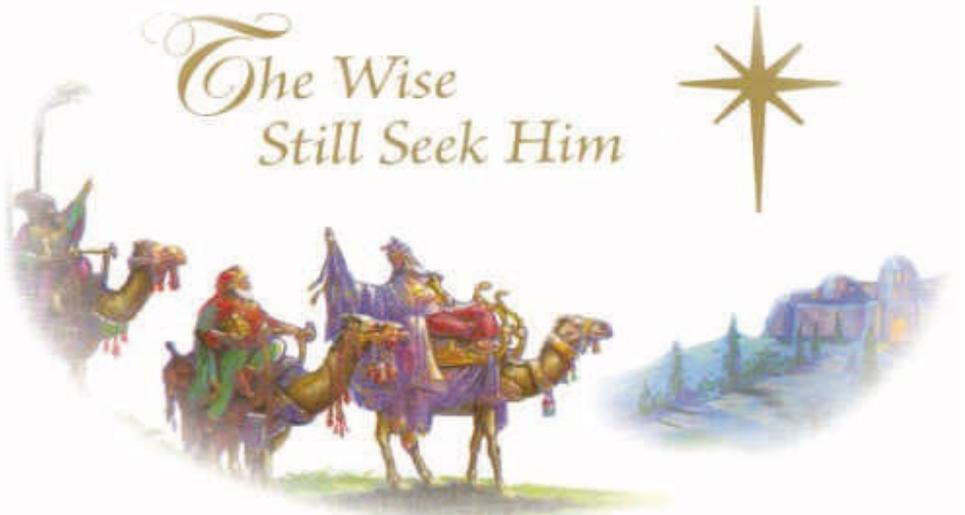
Two weeks ago, on one of the weekdays of Advent, the first reading was from the Book of the Song of Songs. The male lover, I believe, was talking to his lady lover in the following words: "Arise my beloved, my dove, my beautiful one, and come! For see, the winter is past, the rains are over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of pruning the vines has come, and the song of the dove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines, in bloom, give forth fragrance" (2:11-13). I wondered why this text was given to us to meditate during Advent when the temperature was 21 outside, which meant that winter was in full might, and we had the storm a day or two before, which meant the rains were not over. The trees were bear let alone the flowers on the earth! There was no vine at this time to be pruned; there were no fig trees giving us fruits; no birds are singing to us at this time of the year. The author of the Book of the Song of Songs was singing about spring, and I wondered why the Church gave us this reading, which talked about the coming of spring during winter!

Yet, the Church is very correct in giving us the Song of Song. For a Christian, the winter of life is over. Advent is over. We are walking humming Christmas songs. For the past few days, we had been basking in the warmth of the season of Christmas. So who is the spring of life? Jesus Christ, the beloved of God the Father is our spring of life who glows our spiritual life. He alone is the spring of life. He is the one who came to renew the world with every spiritual fruit that gives for fragrance. As you all know, this Christ and his message turned the world upside down forever. Yes, he is the spring of life. Anyone who walks in the company of the Lord will never perish in the winter of life, for he is the eternal Sun that shines down on us. If you have him in your homes, then he is the fire and the fireplace that you're your home a place of warmth. He is the music and the song; he is the vine and the wine that would gladden our spiritual life; he is the fig tree that shelters us and the fruit that feeds us. Christ is the dove from heaven that coos softly to us. Yes, we can have spring even when the winter is fierce.

So, let us continue to celebrate Christmas. Let the child Jesus grow strong each day in your life. As we will read later on that Jesus grew up in favor of God and men, let us grow with him in grace and in favor of God. And may this year 2022 be a year of many graces blessings.

With love,

Fr. Mathew



Patriotic Rosary

You are invited to gather with members of Sacred Heart to pray the Rosary with patriotic songs sung and prayers/quotes from our founding fathers. The prayers last about 45 minutes. Please join us on Thursday, January 6th at 6:30pm in the church.



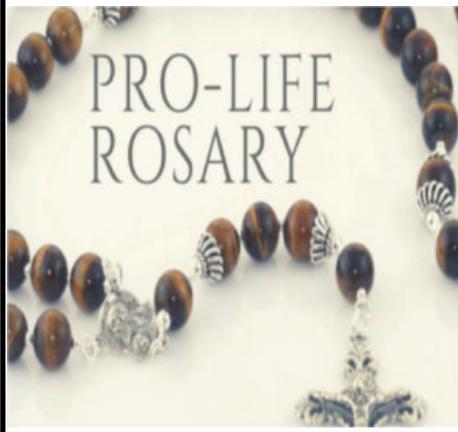
Contribution 2021 Statements

Your 2021 contribution statements will be mailed to you in January. We like for you to have them for two reasons: first, to show you how much you have contributed to support the parish, and secondly, to use for tax purposes.

Thank you for your support of the Mission and Ministries of Sacred Heart during this last year. May God continue to bless you.

Rosary Services

Please come 35 minutes early to weekend Mass to pray the rosary for Pro-Life and our country. If you would like to lead the rosary call the Parish Office.



Online Giving— Convenient and Easy

When you can't make it to Sacred Heart because of the weather or because you are out of town for the weekend, you can still give your offertory donation online. If you haven't signed up for Online Giving, now would be a great time. You don't have to remember to take your envelope each week or bring 2 envelopes if you miss a week. Online Giving is easy to use and you can make changes whenever you wish. Go to the parish website—
www.sacredheartcrystalcity-festus.weconnect.com and click on the online giving tab then click on the OSV Online Giving link and then create new account. You decide when and how much to give to Sunday offertory, special collections and holy days. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at 636-937-4662.

Do you know someone who misses Mass because of illness?

If you are sick, in the hospital, homebound or in a nursing facility, Sacred Heart Eucharistic ministers are available to bring you Holy Communion. Call the Parish Office to schedule a time for them to visit.

Dropped Host

Question: What happens to a consecrated host if it accidentally falls to the ground?

Answer: This a very practical question because, as we all know, accidents happen, even during the most careful celebration of the liturgy. The short answer to this question is that nothing happens to the consecrated host. The Real Presence of Jesus remains in the consecrated host or any consecrated wine that might accidentally be spilled.

Another question we might ask is: *How should the ministers respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled?* If this happens, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. If it is a case of the Precious Blood being spilled, the minister would use the purificator (and additional purificators if needed) to clean the spill and then the area should be reverently washed as soon as the Mass is over and the water poured into the sacrarium (a special sink that is located in church sacristies for reverently disposing of holy water, the water used to clean sacred vessels, etc.).

Your Gift of Treasure

Week of December 19, 2021

Envelopes Mailed.....	580
Envelope Gifts.....	\$4,769.00
Number of Envelopes.....	89
Online Gifts.....	\$2,693.00
Number of Online Donations.....	54
Loose.....	\$93.00

Scrip Program December 19, 2021

Number of orders.....	17
Amount of Orders.....	\$ 2,065.00
Amount earned this week.....	\$61.93
E-Scrip Revenue.....	\$0
Amount earned YTD.....	\$1,136.34

12.26.21 Gift of Treasure will be in the next bulletin due to early submission.



THERE WILL BE NO NO FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS ON SATURDAY THE 1ST OF JANUARY.

HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE IN FEBRUARY.

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



All are welcome to attend **Naming & Commendation**, a prayer service developed by the Archdiocese of St. Louis to meet the needs of families whose child died before birth for any reason (including miscarriage, accident, abortion or still birth). Parents and families of any religious background are invited to attend, whether the loss was recent or long ago.

Naming & Commendation will start right **after the 8 a.m. Mass at Christ Prince of Peace Parish on Saturday, January 8** around 8:35 a.m. The rite, celebrated by Fr. Chris Dunlap, will offer parents and families an opportunity to name the child, bring peaceful closure to great loss, and unite with our merciful God.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Susan Nowak

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 2, 2022

The Epiphany of the Lord

“...They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” (MATTHEW 2:11)

What gifts do you give to the Lord? Pope St. Gregory said that these three gifts represent what we should give God every day. Gold – we should reflect Christ’s wisdom in all our relationships. Frankincense – represents our daily prayer and adoration to God. Myrrh – is a symbol of our daily sacrifices that we unite with Jesus for the sake of others.



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.



**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.”

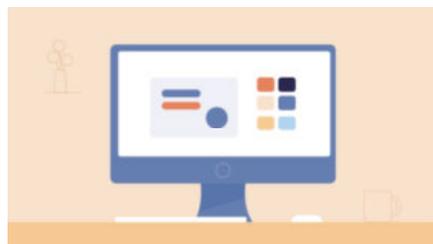
We have **SEVERAL OPENINGS**. Please call **Terri Wolk at 314-620-7527** for more information.

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!

- Monday: 5:00am**
- Tuesday: 8:00am**
- Thursday: 11:00pm**
- Friday: 12:00am**
- Saturday: 7:00pm
8:00pm
9:00pm
10:00pm**
- Sunday: 4:00am**

Email Possible Scam

It has recently been reported to the Parish Office that some parishioners received an odd email that was “supposedly” from Sacred Heart. Please note that this was SPAM. The Parish Office generally does not send out emails to the entire Parish. Never open an email or attachment unless you are certain it came from the Parish Office. Just give us a call and we will be happy to let you know and verify if it is safe to open. Thank you!



**Annual Roe v. Wade Memorial
Mass & Prayer Vigil
Saturday, January 15, 2020 - 10
a.m.
Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis &
Boland Hall**

January 22, 2022 marks 49 years since the Supreme Court decisions Roe v. Wade and Doë v. Bolton legalized abortion in our country. Since then, over 61 million unborn children have lost their lives and countless women, men, and families have been harmed by legalized abortion in the U.S.

Please join the archdiocesan Respect Life Apostolate and Generation Life St. Louis, and the Catholic and pro-life community in praying for an end to abortion, healing and forgiveness for those involved in abortion, and an increased respect for all human life.



Pick up Your Ministry Schedule

We have the schedules for Servers, Script Workers, Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers available for pick up in the east foyer of church near the Ministry Bulletin Board. It is also available on our website.



We would like to thank the Meerts Family of Meerts Tree Farm for the generosity in designing and contributing the wreaths for the doors to the church and rectory, as well as the beautiful swags for the church. They do make our church very beautiful for the birth of our Savior!

2022 Calendars Available

Please be sure to take your parish calendar home with you. They are located at the exits of the church. We would like to thank Vinyard Funeral Home for providing them for us.



9 Days for Life is an annual novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Participants can download the novena or sign up to receive the daily prayers via email or text message. www.9daysforlife.com



Ministry Schedules

MINISTRIES

January 8th and January 9th

Altar Servers

5:00pm Server Needed
 7:30am Carroll McCoy
 9:00am Kate Eisenbies
 11:00am Robert Peskar

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00pm Sue Boyer
 7:30am Julia Hagan
 9:00am Dan Nicholson
 11:00am Deacon Jerry

Lectors

5:00pm Francie Wagner
 Shirley Perry
 7:30am Clara Nielsen
 Clara Nielsen
 9:00am Fran Nicholson
 Matt Olinger
 11:00am Diane Stoverink
 Mary Lou Darnell

Scrip

5:00pm Sue Boyer
 7:30am Sue Duncan
 9:00am Carol Eisenbeis
 11:00am Mary Lou Darnell

JANUARY the Month of THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS



Monday, January 3
 8:00am Prayer Service

Tuesday, January 4
 8:00am Rodney Underwood

Wednesday, January 5
 8:00am Leo & Augusta Werner

Thursday, January 6
 8:00am Greg Miller

Friday, January 7
 4:00pm Sharon Butler

Saturday, January 8
 5:00pm People of the Parish

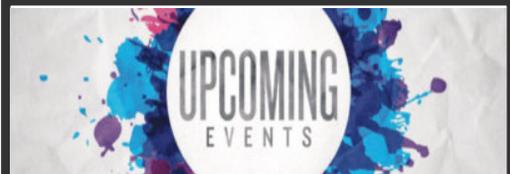
Sunday, January 9
 7:30am Susan Bailey
 9:00am Angie Zander
 11:00am Jennifer Scalzitti

Readings for the week of January 02, 2022

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
 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30
 Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/
 Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25,
 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Observances for the week of January 02, 2022

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory
 Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
 Monday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
 Tuesday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
 Wednesday: St. John Neumann, Bishop
 Thursday: St. André Bessette, Religious
 Friday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
 Saturday:
 Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord



Tuesday, January 4
 8:45am Legion of Mary RMR
 3:30pm RCIA RMR

Wednesday, January 5
 6:45pm PSR Class SC

Thursday, January 6
 8:45am Quilters ANN
 6:30pm Quilters ANN
 6:30pm Patriotic Rosary CH
 6:30pm SVDP Meeting ANN

Friday, January 7
 8:00am First Friday Devotion to The Sacred Heart of Jesus CH

Prayers for Our Sick

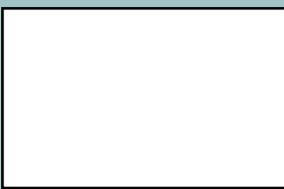


Pray For Our Sick: Your prayers are requested for the sick of the Parish. Please remember the many people who are suffering with cancer and various other illnesses in the hospitals, the Nursing Homes, as well as at home and **also remember** all those of the parish who are pregnant that they will have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

Gina Allen	Tim Fears	Jax Okenfuss	Tricamo
Amber Alford	Sergeant Robert Paul	Jeff Osia	Larry Turley
Martin Ames	Figge	Ashley & Jimmy	Wayne Turley
Agnes Baker	Steven Figge	Perrot	Sharon Varagona
Matt Bequette	Jacob Finch	Tim Perry	Merrily Varone
Mary Breitbarth	David Friesner	Susan Peterein	Leah Broyles Vogt
Lucy Brindley	Dorothy Hendrix	Miranda Pfaff	Al Walker
Roberta Cano	Traci Hendrix	Carolyn Pool	Patty & Greg Ward
Marian Charleville	Steve Jennings	Kathleen Portell	Scott Weber
Clare Coleman	Joanne Johnston	Prosser Family	Rose Weeks
Galena Coleman	Carol Kaltenbronn	Coletta Reece	Stella Weidenbenner
Francis Coleman	Donna Keathley	JoAnn Reeves	Bobby Wilde
Wendell Coleman	Carol Kestermont	Donna Riedy	Jordan Winkel
Diana DeClue	Joshua Lucas	Millie Ritcher	Chuck Yount
Karen Dettmer	Beth Mahn	Kathy Robertson	
Angie Dill	Holly Martin	Steve Roth of Iowa	
Melody Dorner	Nadine McConnell	Jeanette Smock	
Myliisa Dornself	Carol Turgeon- Miller	Joe Sonnenshein	
Chris Doscocil	Joshua Miller	Pat Spillers	
Joe Douglas	Doris Moeller	Janene Spresterbach	
Leanne Doza	Cerita Munshaw	Louise Spresterbach	
Glen Elsworth	Megan Newly	Patricia Swader	
Marilyn Emily	Ruth Nichols	Juanita Swyers	
Kristine Fears	John & James Norris	Donna & Francis	

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

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