

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

6 O O

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

PASTOR NOTE

Happy New Year!!! I pray that you and your family will be greatly blessed as we start a new year. At the start of a new year, many people make resolutions to improve their lives. I hope that you include a spiritual resolution — especially to become a person of greater prayer. Prayer is the food for our souls. Through prayer we grow in friendship with God and live holiness of life.

During Advent, I offered the parish A Collection of Catholic Prayers. I hope that you have picked one up. Even more, I hope that you are using it. It is designed to provide a daily routine of prayer for busy people like you. Prayers in the morning and at evening are a long tradition in the Church. Make at least some prayer a part of your daily morning and evening habits. Life truly changes for the better when we give time to God at the beginning and end of the day. I hope that you make a resolution to embrace a daily habit of prayer.

During our Advent Parish Retreat I offered a brief talk on the Liturgy of the Hours. This is an age old prayer in the Church. After the celebration of Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours is the premiere prayer of the Church. The Liturgy of the Hours is a cycle of prayers that includes seven separate prayers that are offered throughout the day. Each of these seven times of prayer include psalms, readings, intercessions, and other prayers. Priests and religious take a vow to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. The Church encourages lay people to also pray the Liturgy of the Hours, adopted to their busy lives. Through these prayers the person's day is sanctified and they join together with people throughout the world offering glory and praise to God. I encourage you to learn more about this prayer and incorporate it in your life.

The Liturgy of the Hours requires some training in the various prayers and rituals. As promised at our Advent Parish Retreat, I will offer instruction for praying the Liturgy of the Hours. This instruction will focus on Morning and Evening Prayer. I will provide two identical instruction sessions on Tuesday, January 11th, 6:15pm, Harkrader Hall; and, Sunday, January 16th, 1pm, Harkrader Hall. Please join either one of the sessions, which will last about an hour. Having a Liturgy of the Hours book will be helpful for the meeting, but not necessary.

NOURISHED IN SPIRIT BY MSGR. KRUSE

We continue our Litany of the Nativity. I hope that it can inspire you to enjoy a similar experience and even come with your own.

O sacred manger. I praise you. God once used you as food for animals. But, now He uses you to hold the Food for the world – the Body of Christ. At His birth Christ was planning the Most Holy Eucharist. "Unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood, you have no life in you."

O holy straw pillowing our Savior. I praise you. Do not be rough on His tender skin. Soon enough He'll be scratched and bruised for our salvation. For now, just be a comfort as He's sleeping.

O Singing Angels. You heralded our Lord's birth. Fill my heart with a hymn of praise singing Glory to God and peace to all. Keep the joy of His birth always in my heart.

O Shepherds. I praise you as you behold our King. What an honor to be the first to greet our King. I see here a symbol of the apostles who will be the first to be called and empowered to shepherd. In them our popes, bishops and priests greet our King. In them I greet our Savior. In these shepherds, who heard the Angels and saw the Infant, all o us are present. They are the first members of the whole Church gathered to worship and adore Jesus.

God the Father and God the Spirit. To you be equal praise with God the Son-made man. I praise you, Father, for sending us Your Son. I praise you, Son, for humbling yourself this day. I praise you, Spirit, for empowering the miracle of His birth. O most Holy Trinity, on this most sacred night, be praised for rescuing us from our sinful plight, raise us to your heavenly height. Amen.

Friends: May you continue to carry the joys of Christmas within your family. Everything changed when God the Son became man and was born among us. May our Lord Jesus become more alive in our hearts so that may become truly holy in this life and be reborn into the eternal life of heaven. I pray that you and your family will continue to be blessed during this Holy Season. We will continue our Nourished in Spirit next week and begin some new topics. – Msgr. Kruse

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Keep in touch with us via email or text Text SLP To 84576 or Connect with us online at stlouiscatholicchurch.flocknote.com

Readings for the week of January 2, 2022

Sunday: ls 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 |n 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 In 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

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:

The weekend of December 18/19 the Knights of Columbus collected 227 nonperishable food items and \$1,104 in monetary donations for the Bureau County Food Pantry. Nearly all of the food items were in the high need category. The Pantry staff, as always, was impressed with the quantity and quality of what was donated. St. Louis parishioners have now contributed 23,304 nonperishable food items and \$122,536 in monetary donations since we started in August of 2012. Those in our community who are food insecure say **THANK YOU.** The Knights hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and that all have a very blessed New Year.

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 3 The Most Holy Name of Jesus

7:00 am + Joan Panzica by Jan Martin

Tues, January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious 5:15 pm

+ Mary Sondgeroth by Mike & Doris Smith

4-5:00 pm Holy Hour

Wed, January 5 St. John Neumann, Bishop

7:00 am + Robert Levitt

by former Staff of St. Louis School

Thursday, January 6 André Bessette, Religious

5:15 pm +Ray DeMay by Dan & Cynthia Tracy

4-5:00 pm Holy Hour

Friday, January 7 St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

First Friday

7:00 am +Jean Kelly by Family

Sat, January 8 Vigil of The Baptism of the Lord

4:00 pm +Herb Zurliene by LaVern and Linda Cook

Sunday, January 9 *The Baptism of the Lord*

7:30 am People of the Parish 9:00 am + JoAnn Legner

by Linda Carter & Bernetta Wood

10:30 am +Richard Milliron

by Donna Milliron Family

Knights of Columbus Meeting

Our next meeting will be **this Monday**, **January 3rd**. All prospective Knights, men of the parish (18 and older), are welcome to join us for fellowship and dinner, served at 6:30pm in Harkrader Hall. Our business meeting will commence at 7.

Belonging Baptism Preparation



Please contact Rebekah Mead to schedule baptismal prep classes and the ceremony. stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com 815-303-2330



Please remember to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life especially from St. Louis Parish!

St. Therese, Patroness of Vocations, pray for us!

Liturgical/Volunteer Roles

4:00 pm: Saturday, January 8th

Altar Servers Cameron & Sam Lawrence

Lectors Katie Lawrence Sacristan Mary Beth Crowe

Ushers (Ushers needed—please contact parish

office to volunteer)

7:30 am: Sunday, January 9th

Altar Servers Brady Peach Lectors Luke Atilano Sacristan Lori Atilano

Ushers Gary Blessman, Dennis Thompson

9:00 am: Sunday, January 9th

Altar Server Jessica Carlone, Sydney Scully Camera Operators Marty Makransky Lectors Steve Harmon Sacristan Chris Romagnoli

Ushers Dan Legner, Quint Quiram, Jim Whiteaker,

10:30 am: Sunday, January 9th

Altar Server Emily Jaeger, Jackson Mason Lectors Jeff Peacock

Sacristan Linda Carter

Ushers Ken Lough, Pat Mason (Additional Ushers needed—please contact parish office to volunteer)

EMHC for Homebound: Mandy Robinson, Mary Beth Crowe, Rita Tracey, Colleen Harmon, Gene Menard

SEMINARIAN SPOTLIGHT



Ryan Mann

Born 2-9-99. Class of 2025 Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary 750 Terrace Heights, Winona, MN 55987

Background: He grew up in Ottawa and entered the seminary out of high school. He has participated in national archery

competitions. TEC and Emmaus Days helped him discern his vocation. He says, "I became resolutely determined to discern my vocation and to follow God's will for my life."

Ushers Needed! Being an Usher is a vital part of our parish community. Please consider joining this important Ministry as we are always in need of Ushers especially at the 4pm Saturday Vigil and 10:30 Sunday masses. If you are interested in becoming an Usher at the Mass you regularly attend please call the parish office 815-879-0181 or email stlparishoffice@gmail.com

ST. LOUIS SCHEDULE

MASS SCHEDULE

MON,WED, FRI 7:00 AM TUE, THR 5:15 PM SAT 4:00 PM

SUN 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 AM

(SUN 9:00AM Live-streamed on YouTube & FaceBook)

OUTDOOR DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(AT ANDERSON ST ENTRANCE) SAT 5:00—5:15 PM SUN 10:00—10:15 AM

RECONCILIATION

TUE, THR 4:30—4:50 PM SAT 3-3:45 PM

Or, by appointment. Call or email Msgr. Kruse to make an appointment. In order to maintain privacy, he will be in the confessional a few moments before the arranged time. 309-634-5822| jameskruse1996@gmail.com

HOLY HOUR

TUE, THR 4:00 PM

PRIVATE PRAYER: The Chapel is open for Private Prayer— if you need the access code please contact the parish office.

STEWARDSHIP

Church Monetary Support Through December 19, 2021

Amount Budgeted \$ 6,500.00 Amount Received \$ 7,406.00

Amount Over (Under) \$ 906.00

Fiscal Period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

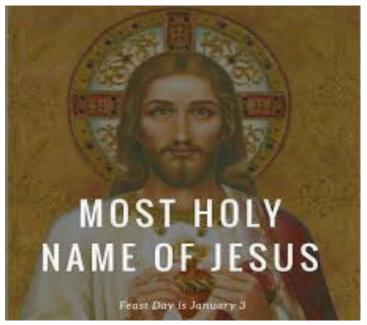
Amount needed to date: \$162,500.00 Amount Received to date: \$158,409.00

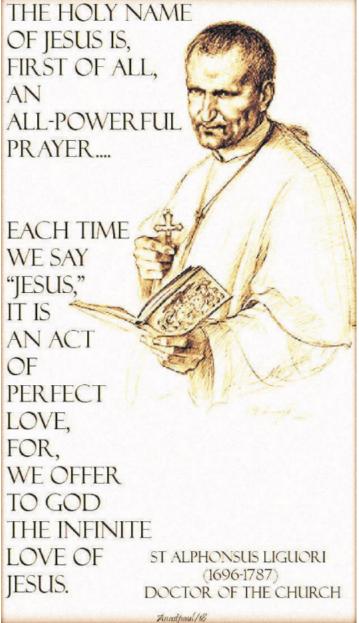
Over/(Under) budget to date: (\$ 4,091.00)

Church Monetary Support Through December 26, 2021

Due to the holiday early submission deadline for the bulletin, totals for December 26th were not available at the time of printing. They will be provided in next weekend's bulletin.

2022 Calendars! Please pick one up from the information tables located at the entrances of the Church. Please contact the parish office if you need one mailed to you. The calendars are compliments of Fiocchi-Jensen Funeral Home. A special thank you to parishioners Rich and Kathleen Fiocchi!









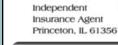
Schedule Changes for January Events:

The New Year's Eve party replaced the Wine & Cheese party and there will not be a Catholic Forum Q&A in January.



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