



# SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH

DIOCESE OF PEORIA - PRINCETON, ILLINOIS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...  
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free.  
- Lk 4:18*

## PASTOR NOTE

**Adult Funeral Servers.** One of the most important works of charity within the parish is providing a dignified funeral for our loved ones. Most funerals occur on weekday mornings. It is almost impossible for our young altar servers to help at funeral Masses. For the last few funerals I have not had any servers. As a result, a few minor liturgical functions have not been provided. I would like to remedy this and provide for a more dignified funeral.

I have decided to establish a team of Adult Funeral Servers. I invite adults to make a commitment to receive training, be available to serve funerals, and help provide a more dignified funeral Mass. This may be ideal for retired adults or adults who could offer about two hours of service on the day of a funeral. Adult Funeral Servers are open to both men and women, of any age. The requirements are somewhat simple: be able to perform the duties that are well known for serving Mass. These include carrying things, holding the Missal book, tolerating incense, and being comfortable in front of people. The adult servers would simply wear dignified lay clothes and not any special liturgical robes.

Each funeral will require three adult servers. Hopefully, the entire team of Adult Funeral Servers will be about 12 or 15 volunteers. This will allow a rotation of volunteers that will not become too burdensome.

There will be an Adult Funeral Server training session on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 10am, in the Church. This session will last about one hour. Those interested may simply come to the training session. If one is interested to serve but cannot attend the training session, other arrangements can be made for training. At the end of the training session, I will ask the volunteers to make a commitment for serving funeral Masses.

I hope that some adults will consider offering their time and talent to serve at funerals. It is truly a corporal work of mercy and adds to the dignity of funerals. Thank you for considering to become a member of the team of Adult Funeral Servers. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Msgr. Kruse

## *NOURISHED IN SPIRIT BY MSGR. KRUSE*

I draw your attention to another kind of God's gift: actual grace. Actual grace is a free gift from God that opens our mind and strengthens our will to do good and to avoid evil. Actual grace is a temporary gift from God which helps us in a particular situation to know and choose what is good for us or avoid what is bad for us.

See what love God has for us. He chooses to give us sanctifying grace which changes our soul opening it for union with God. He intends this gift to be always present and active in our life. But, God is well aware of the presence of evil and its constant temptation. He knows our weakness and limitation. So, He also gives us actual grace: specific gifts to help us in specific moments. Through actual grace we are inspired to do what is good and right. See His love: sanctifying grace opens our heart to be in right relationship with God, and actual grace helps perfect our relationship.

God dispenses actual grace as He chooses and when He chooses. The story of the conversion of St. Paul is a wonderful example of actual grace. Remember the story. Saul was going to Damascus to arrest and persecute the early Christians. Jesus miraculously revealed His risen glory to Saul and asked, "Why are you persecuting me?" This is an extraordinary example of actual grace. Jesus chose to show Saul His divine glory. Saul questioned Jesus, "Who are you?" Jesus gave a further gift of grace by clearly identifying Himself, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." Notice how Saul immediately accepted the gift and became one of the greatest friends of Jesus.

This story of Paul's conversion not only shows us actual grace in motion; but also, it shows us how our human powers are present and active. Actual grace engages all of our human powers: our senses, our mind, our will, etc. Through actual grace, God engages our human freedom. God never forces us. His gifts inspire and enlighten. Once the gift is given, we can either co-operate or reject His gift. Saul co-operated. But, remember King Herod. The Magi told him about the Messiah. This was an actual grace. Herod refused to believe, and in fact, tried to kill baby Jesus. God freely gives actual grace as He freely chooses, when He freely chooses and in the manner He freely chooses; but, we can freely accept or freely reject. We can freely dispose ourselves to receive God's actual grace. As Jesus established His kingdom through His Church, He also set up all kinds of ways to receive actual grace. He has guaranteed that actual grace is present in the life and activity of His Church.

	<b><u>Parish Staff</u></b>
<b>Pastor</b>	Msgr. James E. Kruse, JCL jameskruse1996@gmail.com cell: 309-634-5822
<b>Deacon</b>	John Murphy Wk: 664-1155/Hm: 646-4723
<b>Trustees</b>	Dan Legner Mary Paula Schmitt
<b>Admin Assistant Business Manager</b>	Paula Lough Renee Toomey
<b>Special Projects/ RCIA Coordinator</b>	Susanna Prushinski stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com
<b>Religious Ed Coordinator</b>	Rebekah Mead stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com
<b>Maintenance Janitor</b>	Tim Hermeyer Emily Smith
	<b><u>Parish Office</u></b>
	616 S Gosse Blvd., Princeton, IL 61356 <b>Office hours: Monday—Friday 8am-1pm</b> <b>Phone: (815) 879-0181</b> <b>E-mail: stlparishoffice@gmail.com</b> Website: www.stlouispriinceton.org YouTube Channel: youtube.com/user/stlouispriinceton FaceBook Page: www.facebook.com/stlouispriinceton
	<b>Keep in touch with us via email or text</b> <b>Text SLP To 84576 or</b> <b>Connect with us online at</b> <b>stlouiscatholicchurch.flocknote.com</b>

	<b><u>Mass Intentions</u></b>
Monday, January 24	<b><u>St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</u></b> 7:00 am + Barb LaVelle by Linda Mahnesmith
Tuesday, January 25	<b><u>The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle</u></b> 5:15 pm + Russell Gibe by Joan Shea 4-5:00 pm Holy Hour
Wednesday, January 26	<b><u>Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops</u></b> 7:00 am + Mike Bickett by Rex Piper
Thursday, January 27	<b><u>St. Angela Merici, Virgi</u></b> 5:15 pm + Christine Jordan Kalil by Alan and Lynne Weber 4-5:00 pm Holy Hour
Friday, January 28	<b><u>St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church</u></b> 7:00 am + Sister Rose Therese Sevigny by Mary Paula Schmitt
Sat, January 29	<b><u>Vigil of the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</u></b> 4:00 pm + Dennis Hult by former St. Louis School Staff
Sunday, January 30	<b><u>4th Sunday in Ordinary Time</u></b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:00 am + Martin McMahon by Lorraine McMahon 10:30 am + Jeanna Bourquin by Doug & Pat Wiggim

### Readings for the week of January 23, 2022

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21  
Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30  
Tuesday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117: 1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18  
Wed: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or /Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20  
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25  
Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34  
Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41  
Next Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Lk 4:21-30

### Marriage Mass & Date Night

Saturday, February 12, 2022 – Marriage Mass & Date Night. Join Bishop Louis Tylka for the Marriage Mass at 4pm at St. Mary's Cathedral. After the Mass there will be a date night and special dinner at the Spalding Center. There will also be live music by the Water Street Stompers from 6pm to 8pm. Wear your dancing shoes! Any questions contact Julie Enzenberger at [Jenzenberger@cdop.org](mailto:Jenzenberger@cdop.org) or to sign up: <https://cdop.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/DateNight2022>

## SEMINARIAN SPOTLIGHT



### Luke Olson

Born 2-20-01. Class of 2027  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary  
750 Terrace Heights, Winona, MN  
55987

Background: He grew up in Rock Island. He was homeschooled and involved in the Boy Scouts. While serving as an altar boy, he began discerning a vocation. He says, "I slowly started to fall in love with the Mass, the priesthood, and most importantly, the Eucharist."



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 29th

Altar Servers Cameron & Sam Lawrence

Lectors Gene Menard

Sacristan Mary Beth Crowe

Ushers Dan & Cynthia Tracy

**(Ushers needed—please contact parish office to volunteer)**

### 7:30 am: Sunday, January 30th

Altar Servers Brady Peach

Lectors Rita Pacunas

Sacristan Joann Bowman

Ushers Gary Blessman

### 9:00 am: Sunday, January 30th

Altar Server Patsy Bystry, Elizabeth Keutzer

Camera Operators Marty Makransky

Lectors Herb Rhees

Sacristan Chris Romagnoli

Ushers Dan Legner, Quint Quiram, Jim Whiteaker

### 10:30 am: Sunday, January 30th

Altar Server Jackson Mason, Luke Smith

Lectors Jeff Peacock

Sacristan Tim Smith

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

EMHC for Homebound: Chris Williams, Pat Galassi-Carlson, Mandy Robinson, Colleen Harmon, Gene Menard, Mary Beth Crowe



Welcome to the newest members of our Catholic Christian family!

**Jordan and Jaxson Meusel,**

sons of Johnathon Meusel and Merri Meriah Cruz, were baptized on January 16th.

## KOC News

**FOOD PANTRY WEEKEND:** Next weekend, January 29 & 30, the Knights of Columbus will be collecting nonperishable food items and monetary donations for the Bureau County Food Pantry. Donations tend to drop off after the first of the year. However, the need goes on, especially now with many students at home with schools doing remote learning. All the high need items are in short supply. Those are: breakfast cereal, peanut butter, mac & cheese, hamburger helper, boxed potatoes and canned pasta, especially ravioli. Thanks to all who donate so generously each month.

## ST. LOUIS PARISH 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 January 16, 2022

Amount Budgeted

\$ 6,500.00

Amount Received

\$ 6,222.00

Amount Over (Under)

(\$ 278.00)

### Fiscal Period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Amount needed to date:

\$188,500.00

Amount Received to date:

\$185,889.00

Over/(Under) budget to date:

(\$ 2,611.00)

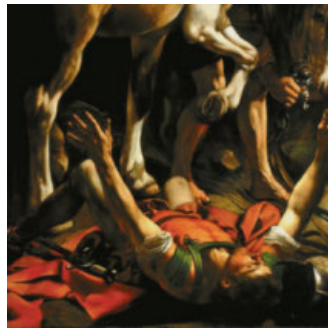
### Men's Holy Hour

Every Saturday at 7am - read the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday and spend time in silent meditation. Enter through the Chapel door.

## CCW News

Our next CCW Meeting will be a **potluck supper** on Tuesday, January 25th at 6pm. All women of the Parish are invited. After the potluck supper we will start the new year with fun and games, laughs and prizes. We're hoping the weather permits us to meet for a simple night of fellowship and fun together.

Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle  
January 25th



A prayer for conversions

O blessed apostle, St. Paul, greatest of all converts, who labored unceasingly for the conversion of other souls, inspire me with the ardor of your zeal that I may pray and work for the conversion of my brethren, redeemed in the blood of Christ but not as yet blessed with the full light of his truth.

Mindful of the loving concern of the Divine Shepherd for the salvation of the "other sheep that are not of this fold," I now beg your intercession to obtain the grace of conversion for (name of family member, friend or others).

May God, the Holy Spirit from whom alone this gift can come, hear my humble prayer and thus enable me to share with others the riches of my heritage of faith through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Human history reveals many periods where people lost a sense of God's transcendence. It may even be argued that human beings have been wandering and lost more than they have been at home and focused. Human nature being what it is, we struggle with who God really is — the God of our salvation history or the "gods" of human constructs. Relying on our own designs and pursuits, we forget that we really are meant to listen to One upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests, Jesus Christ, and not to ourselves. That same history that reveals our fickleness and infidelity also reveals God's constancy and faithfulness. God always finds us.

As people wander and fumble to find their way, God is there bringing them back to holiness and giving them the assurance of His presence. We have to allow God's Word, God's life, to touch us and change us. It can make us more flexible and attentive to the sacred in all facets of life so that every day is one that is holy. Every day is a time when fulfillment is possible for one's soul. Jesus stood before those gathered in the synagogue as the fulfillment of words of promise that were echoed long ago. God doesn't forget. He always comes for us.

Now it is time to remember to go to God. Sometimes our lives are so confused and tangled that it is difficult to see the Word and hand of God. But when we realize, deep within, the depth of friendship God offers to us it really has the power to turn sadness to joy. The promise is fulfilled. Going frequently to God's Word, allowing ourselves to be enriched and rejuvenated, and pondering the certainty of God's fidelity and promise permanently transforms us. We will be more aware of the sacred and the holy and less invested in things that pull us away. ©LPi

**Teens ENCOUNTER Christ**

Girls TEC #219 Feb. 5-7  
Boys TEC #220 Feb. 26-28

Register & See more info @ [peterstowntec.com](http://peterstowntec.com)  
TEC Retreats are held at Sts. Peter & Paul

A Holy Hour for Life

Benediction, Rosary, and other Prayers



All are welcome to gather in prayer on the fourth Sunday of each month from 6-7 pm in the Church for the intention of respect for the sacredness of all human life.

Please join us this Sunday, January 23rd

**A Holy Hour for Vocations:** Saint Valentine's Church in Peru on Monday, February 7th 6:30pm. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available, and we will close with Benediction.



All High School students are invited to Youth Group Night

This Sunday, January 23rd 6-7:30 pm

We will meet in the Youth Group Room

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