



Holy Family Catholic Church

2606 Washington Ave., Granite City, IL 62040

618-877-7158 • www.holyfamilygc.org

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Sunday, January 9, 2022

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Stephen A. Thompson, Pastor
fr.sthompson@holyfamilygc.org
Emergency of health or death after
office hours: 618-709-7116

Deacon Neil Suermann,
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Bertha Koerper,
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Keith Unfried, Parish Secretary
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Joe Hartsoe, Parish Maintenance

MINISTRY STAFF

Deacon Neil Suermann: Director RCIA
Teresa Alexander: Pastoral Minister
Nancy Diak: PSR Coordinator
Gary Kasprovich: Sacristan
Woody & Rita Halbrook: Youth Ministers
Joyce Taff: Safe Environment Coordinator

HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL & LEARNING CENTER

Marge Pennell,
Principal & Executive Director
School ~ 618-877-5500
Learning Center ~ 618-877-0001

CALVARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY

618-656-5464

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Call the office to register for
Baptism Preparation Class & schedule
your child's Baptism

Penance: Saturday 3:15-3:45 PM or
Anytime by Appointment

Marriage: Call the office to make
arrangements at least nine months
before the desired date

**For Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting
and Investigation call:
Diocese of Springfield in Illinois
217-698-8500**



THE BAPTISM *of the Lord*

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

Weekend Masses: Saturday ~ 4:00 PM Sunday ~ 8:30 AM

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday ~ St. Mary & St. Mark Intention at Holy Family ~ 8:00 AM
Wednesday & Thursday ~ 8:00 AM

Dear family and friends of Holy Family and St. Mary and St. Mark Parishes,

We celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. The Psalmist says, “The Lord will bless his people with peace.” There is no doubt that we want to experience peace in our lifetimes. Peace connotes the idea that we will have tranquility and strength of well-being, but the reality is that when we are just towards one another and preserve justice for all, then true peace will enter into our lives. The people of Israel could not experience peace until they became aware that God visited His people through the Messiah predicted to come, the Prince of Peace. When Jesus came into the world, the world was full of darkness. This darkness came from sin and death entering into the world, and thus chaos ensued. What was needed was justice, but not just any justice, God’s justice. The world needed a redeemer who could save people from their sinfulness and ultimate death to their souls. We have heard the phrase shouted by protesters in more recent demonstrations, “No justice, no peace.” While the sentiment is well taken, it has not led to true justice and true peace. The difference between the justice desired by human beings and the justice desired by God is that human beings make justice conditional upon their own preconceived notions of what justice is while God makes justice an absolute condition of doing what is right for all creation. This is why when human beings settle their differences between one another with rational and reasonable solutions, true peace can be achieved. We must recognize first that in order to obtain peace we need to battle our worldly desires to have things the way we want them to be rather than the way they ought to be.

In our first reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, we hear, “Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street.” When we hear that all nations will gather around the Lord, the word nations is pseudonymous with all people. For the people of Israel, the thought was that because they were the Chosen People of God, their relationship with Him was exclusive, but that was not the case. God’s plan for salvation was to save all people, including the Gentiles. The Messiah was the chosen servant of God. To hear the word servant, for a lot of people today, carries with it different understandings of the word. It can be looked at as a negative word pertaining to slavery, as in the slavery experienced in the history of our nation. To be a servant of God is totally different. It means that we are indebted to Him for the ways that He comes to our rescue from the wages of sin and death. It also means that we are chosen to carry out His will for all creation and the world. To be chosen by God and to be found pleasing to Him means that we carry out His will without reservation and without grumbling because of what we are called to do. When the Messiah came into the world, he would not come with a grandiose presence, but with humility and a quiet disposition. He would go through great suffering and persecution for the sake of the people he came to save. This ties in perfectly with what Jesus came into the world to do.

In the Gospel of Luke, we hear that the people were filled with expectation when they encountered John the Baptist. They thought for sure that he was the one predicted by the Prophet Isaiah as the Messiah to come. John dispels this expectation when he says, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” Imagine what this brought to the minds of the people listening to John. If he was not the Messiah, then who is the one he is telling them is coming? At the baptism of Jesus, as given in the accounts of the Gospels, we hear that the clouds opened up and a voice from the heavens declared that this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased and a dove hovered above Him. This fulfilled the prediction of the Prophet Isaiah when he spoke of the coming Messiah. Imagine being present when John was asked by Jesus to baptize Him. For the people, they would have presumed that He was human just like them and that He was anointed as the one to carry out God’s will. They did not see Him as the Son of God, the second person of the Holy Trinity. His divinity was not known. This is why when people ask today why Jesus needed to be baptized, the answer is that He didn’t. In fact, John asked how he could be the one to baptize the Lord. He knew by revelation that Jesus was more than a man, but a divine being. So why was Jesus baptized? It was to prepare the waters of the Jordan to be purified so that a future Sacrament could be fulfilled, His baptism of us through water and the Spirit. Jesus never once questioned His duty to fulfill His Father’s will, but in all humility carried out His mission as given by His Father in Heaven.

The second reading from the Acts of the Apostles tells us that Peter, the head of the Church on earth and the highest ranked member of the Apostles had the responsibility for teaching the converts to the Way of Jesus. He says to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, a convert to the Way of Jesus, “In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.” This dispelled the notion that God had not just chosen the Jewish people as the beneficiaries of His grace but all people.

We as the offshoots of those who have come before us as disciples of Jesus also became beneficiaries of God's grace. And where did that begin? It began with our own baptism in the Church through a special Sacrament; a Sacrament that gives us the opportunity to enter into the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of the Lord. Many of us cannot remember the day we were baptized, but we can remember when we experienced a conversion from sin to new life. It is through our living in the grace afforded us by the Sacraments that we recognize that we have the Spirit of God living in us. When we experience the Sacraments of Jesus given to us through the Church, we have the eyes of our minds and hearts opened to do the will of our Father in Heaven. It is by our consciences made clean that we discover the good we are called to do for others, namely to bring them to the realization that they are claimed by God and are being saved from damnation by God's grace.

As we thank God today for the gift of these celebrations in the Christmas season, may we continue to build up in our hearts a spirit of gratitude. May we look to our own baptism as the beginning of a moment of grace given to us to be claimed by God and to carry our His divine will as we minister to others in need of God's grace.

Fr. Steve

Pastor of Holy Family & St. Mary & St. Mark Parishes

This Week

Saturday, January 8, 2022

4:00 PM † Gerald Suermann
(Deacon Neil & Mary Suermann)

Sunday, January 9, 2022

8:30 AM LIVESTREAMED

8:30 AM For all Parishioners
Especially † Raymond Hoffman
(Gary & Gloria Kasprovich)

Monday, January 10, 2022

No Mass

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

8:00 AM † Victor & Martha Mance
(Frances Lux)

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

8:00 AM † Tillie McGarrahan
(Annette Daniels)

Thursday, January 13, 2022

8:00 AM † John Goodrich
(Louie & Carol Bisto)

Friday, January 14, 2022

@School—Staff & Students ONLY

8:00 AM † Harold Weisehan
(Kathy Byrd)

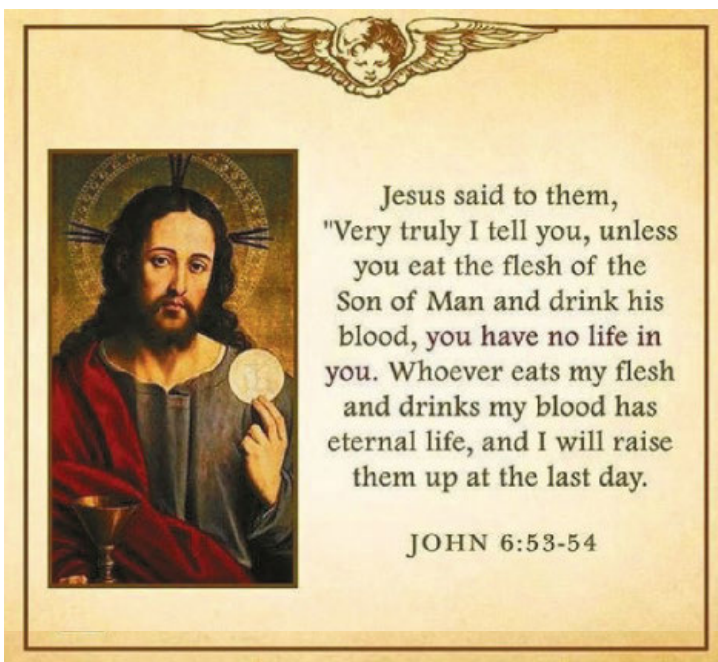
Saturday, January 15, 2022

4:00 PM † Jim Shambro
(Marie Gray & Nancy Shambro)

Sunday, January 16, 2022

8:30 AM LIVESTREAMED

8:30 AM For all Parishioners
Especially † Helen Todoroff
(Family & Friends)



Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 9:

The Baptism of the Lord

9:45 AM PSR

1:00 PM PSR Class First Reconciliation

Monday, January 10:

5:30 PM T.O.P.S.

Tuesday, January 11:

8:30 AM Quilters (QR)

7:00 PM Bingo - Columbus Hall

Wednesday, January 12:

8:30 AM Adoration (CH)

3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet

6:00 PM Cub Scouts

7:00 PM MPH Devotions

7:00 PM Al-Anon (MR #1)

Thursday, January 13:

11:00 AM Simply Sober (MR #1)

7:00 PM RCIA

Friday, January 14:

6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous (MR #1)

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1331 *Holy Communion*, because by this sacrament we unite ourselves to Christ, who makes us sharers in his Body and Blood to form a single body.¹⁵¹ We also call it: *the holy things (ta hagia; sancta)*¹⁵² - the first meaning of the phrase "communion of saints" in the Apostles' Creed - *the bread of angels, bread from heaven, medicine of immortality,*¹⁵³ *viaticum.* . . .

Come participate in Trinity Koinonia 15
Save the date: March 18-20 at St. Elizabeth Church.
Registration details to come next week.

Outreach Items Needed! Our blue bins are waiting for your items! With the cold weather here, we have added all sizes of new HATS and GLOVES, used or new HOODIES, and HAND WARMERS to our collection. There are so many items that are needed so add whatever you have and we will find someone to use it. Thank you from GC Rock for your generosity to help us help others!

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH...GC ROCK is for YOU!

Sunday, January 9- Deadline for Headcount for the SPRINGFIELD MARCH FOR LIFE so we can register our group. NO Gathering

Sunday, January 16- Gathering at Holy Family 6:30-8pm.

Bring a friend!

Friday, January 21- Springfield March for Life (This mirrors the March in Washington DC!) Mass at the Cathedral at 10am/ March at 11am/ Out for lunch then drive home.

Sunday, January 23- Gathering at Holy Family 6:30-8pm

Sunday, January 30- NO Gathering

Sunday, February 6- Gathering at St. Elizabeth 6:30-8pm.

Prep Valentines for local nursing homes.

***MARK YOUR CALENDARS* Friday, January 21- Springfield March for Life- We are planning on attending Mass at the Cathedral in Springfield, Il followed by a peaceful March to the State Capitol, then out for lunch! Let us know by SUNDAY, JANUARY 9th if you can attend, so we can plan accordingly! Parents are welcome.**

Rocks, Please watch our FB page (GC Rock Youth Group) or GroupMe for any changes or additions. Questions, call Rita 9724022, Woody 8767551, or Dawn 7093565

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Holy Family Parish, in imitation of Jesus as servant, pledge to unite in the Catholic tradition of spreading the gospel through prayer, education, spiritual development and social activities. Together in Christ, we can do all things.

Question: What is a sacramental?

Answer: A sacramental is anything set apart or blessed by the Church to excite good thoughts and to increase devotion, and through these movements of the heart to remit venial sin.

Happy Anniversary

01/09
Merllen & Rhonda Massey
01/13
Jeremy & Joanna Stimac

Participate in Trinity Koinonia 12 for \$50 per person.

Collection for December 27-January 2

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Needed</u>
Yearly Disbursements		
Parish		\$363,425.00
Parish Portion of School		<u>\$151,395.00</u>
		\$514,820.00
Weekly Contribution	\$3,980.25	
Loose	931.00	
First Offering	260.00	
Solemnity of Mary	735.00	
Christmas	1,116.00	
Immaculate Conception	10.00	
School Support	247.00	
Give Central	<u>12,104.00</u>	
	\$19,383.25	\$9,900.38
Total Collected YTD	\$248,889.28	\$267,310.26

AMOUNTS OWED TO THE DIOCESE

- ACSA 2014 - \$17,748.90
- HVAC - \$196,265.22
- Pension - \$66,650.00

PARISH COMMUNITY TITHING FOR SEPTEMBER \$4,028.00

H

1/9

Timothy Boyer
Matt Foster
Pat Leibold
Edy Pointer

A

P

1/10

Mike Parkinson

P

1/11

Kaitlyn Johnson
Brittany Juneau
Danielle Juneau

B

U

Chad Juneau
Zeb Moore
Jill Moutria

9

Nate Thomas

R

1/12

John Foster
Jennifer Mell
Bret Ware

7

1/13

Kathleen Amprim
Madelyn Marti
Anna Ontl
Deborah Woodson

H

D

1/14

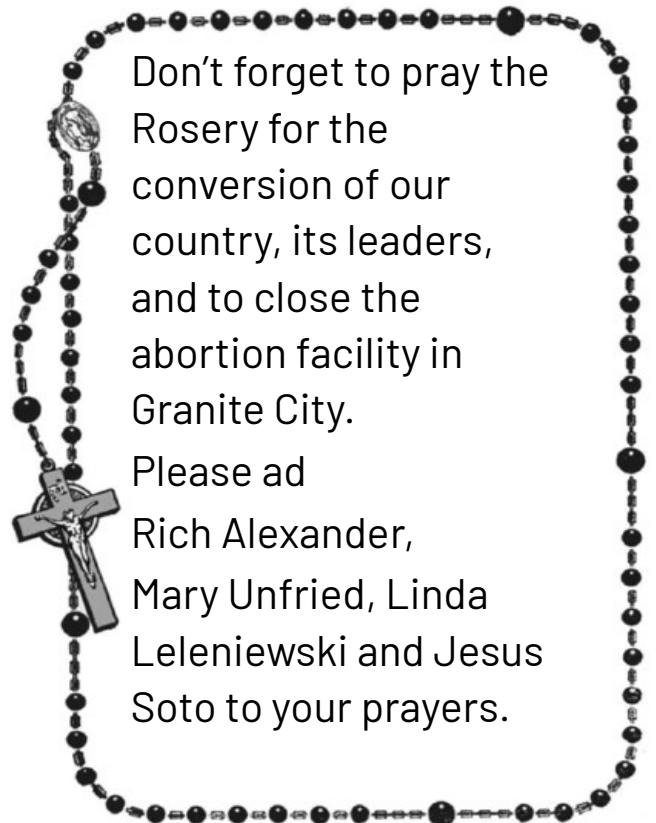
Rita Halbrook
Elaine Robertson
William Taylor
Hannah Wilson

A

U

1/15

Mark Lerch
Stella Tegel



Don't forget to pray the Rosary for the conversion of our country, its leaders, and to close the abortion facility in Granite City.

Please ad Rich Alexander, Mary Unfried, Linda Leleniewski and Jesus Soto to your prayers.



Troop 103 Eagle Scouts William Brinker, Matthew Paschedag, Dominic Mayhall, and Andrew Brinker

Holy Family Boy Scout Troop 103 Eagle Scouts

Holy Family Boy Scout Troop 103 is pleased to announce that four of its members have earned the rank of Eagle Scout, awarded in a Court of Honor Ceremony held December 18, 2021. These new Eagle Scouts are Dominic Mayhall, son of Darren and Anne Marie Mayhall, Matthew Paschedag, son of Jessica Paschedag, William Brinker and Andrew Brinker, sons of Eric and Valeria Brinker.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest honor a scout can achieve. Attaining the rank of Eagle Scout is a difficult task that requires hard work, dedication, service to the community, and leadership skills. On average, only 6% of all youth who enroll in the scouting program ever reach this lofty goal. Congratulations Dominic, Matthew, William, and Andrew!

ST. SAVA, Bishop

Patron of the Serbian Peoples

The younger son of Stephen I, who founded the Nemanjdes dynasty and the independent state of Serbia, St. Sava was born in 1175 and became a monk of Mt. Athos in 1191. In 1219 he became Bishop of the Serbs and in 1222 Archbishop.

This saintly man organized the Serbian Church properly, using monks to do pastoral and missionary work among the neglected people. By unremitting efforts he consolidated Christianity among the Serbians and established Serbian Bishops. He also took an active part in secular affairs, contributing to the integration of the Serbian kingdom under his brother Stephen II. He died in 1325.

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