



# 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 23, 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,  
deaconsuermann@gmail.com

Bertha Koerper,  
Office of Stewardship & Administration  
bkoerper@holyfamilygc.org

Keith Unfried, Parish Secretary  
kunfried@holyfamilygc.org

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**



**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY** *in ordinary time*

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor." - Lk 4:18a*

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 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Psalmist says, “Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life.” How do we see God? In other words, when you picture God in your mind, what does He look like? Perhaps you see paintings depicting God as an old man with long grey hair and a long grey beard. What do these images of God depict? They depict a person of power, wisdom, and majesty. God is not human but a Divine Spirit. His very essence is being itself. This is why we cannot use the circular argument of God as a created being. If the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were a created being, then He would be a god among other gods. It would mean that another creative being made Him, but the question is who made the being who made the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? You see, it is a circular argument that has no end. To say that God’s words have Spirit and life means that He has the power to give life to all things. Even created things that have no life perse, like rocks and mountains, still show the fingerprints of God’s creative hands. I think of the connection between our minds and bodies. When there is a disconnect between our minds and bodies, our bodies cannot move because our joints, muscles, and ligaments cannot move the bones that put us into motion without being connected to the mind. The mind is a product of our very being. It is connected to our souls. The Church teaches us that our spirit and body are interconnected, but when we die, our spirit is disconnected from our body and it is the body that dies. To have the Spirit of God means that He willed us into existence. This is why His words have power.

In our first reading from the Book of the Prophet Nehemiah, we hear about the priest Ezra who brought the law of God before the assembly gathered at the Water Gate of the Temple. What was the occasion? We do not know the context from this passage of what the occasion was, but what we do know is that Ezra was renewing for the people gathered the significance of the law and the importance for them to follow what God had given them. We can surmise that because this event took place at the opening to the Temple area, it was the place where sacrifices were made to the Lord. What Ezra is reminding the people of are the good things God had done for them. Having the Prophet Nehemiah with him gave him strength that what he was giving to the people would strengthen them to stay close to the Lord and not abandon Him. It was the words of God that caused them to act with supplication and thanksgiving, but it also caused them to worship and praise God. Nehemiah tells the people not to be sad and not to weep, but “Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared; for today is holy to our LORD.” It is often the case in our lives that when we have been spared of some tragic event or something good, we have not expected, comes into our lives that we shout with joy and thanksgiving to the Lord. What happens when everything is going well in our lives, or we are not in fear of some calamity that could come our way, or there is seemingly peace in our lives? We seem to turn away from God or barely mention His name. What the Prophet Nehemiah and the priest Ezra are instructing the people to do is to give constant praise, worship, and thanks to God in every situation, place, and time.

In the Gospel of Luke, we hear that the Evangelist wrote his account of the events in Jesus’ life in order to give a more accurate account of what Jesus said and did among His disciples. He is writing to Theophilus, who was perhaps a recent convert to the Way of Jesus. The name Theophilus translates to son of God, which means that this man was baptized into the life of Jesus. He needed further instruction to keep him on the path of discipleship in Jesus and to become a steward of the gifts he received through the Holy Spirit. What Luke begins with is the event of Jesus coming back to Nazareth, His hometown, and standing before the people gathered in the synagogue reading from the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah. What Isaiah declares about the Messiah to come is that he was anointed to bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, and to let the oppressed go free. When Jesus finishes reading the scroll, rolling it up and giving it to the attendant, and sitting down, the people looked intently at Him. Jesus says to them, “Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” They are reminded once again that the words of God have power and effect in their lives. What Jesus reveals to them is that His authority comes from above because He is the author of life. His words have effect on everyone He speaks to because He is the Word of God. Whether a person believes in Jesus or not, it cannot be denied that everyone hears the Word of God and either chooses to receive it and put it into action or reject it and do nothing.

In our second reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, Paul compares the reliance of unity among believers in Christ to the body and its many parts. As my mother experienced her stroke and the challenges ahead to recovering the use of her speech and mobility, my sister and I are learning day by day just how important the human brain is to directing all the signals within the human body to cause us to experience the senses of taste, touch, smell, hearing, and sight.

Our bodies are amazing things, and the complexity by which all of our organs, muscles, tendons, cartilage, joints, and bones work in tandem with the circulatory system, pulmonary system, and neurological system. God has certainly created us with an amazing plan in mind. He has created us to put into action our bodies, with all the complexities of what occurs within our bodies to sustain life, outwardly towards unity with others who have been created as we were in the image and likeness of God. When Paul uses the human body as an example for the unity necessary in our faith, he proposes that all the elements and systems that make up the human body are interdependent on the other, and in our faith and connection with the Church we are to be one as the persons of the Holy Trinity in God are one. What causes disunity in the Church and among its members? It is the introduction of evil into something good. If we think about it, God created us in goodness, so it would seem that we would be incapable of committing evil acts, but we do when we sin. Sin is the product of pride in most cases, and it causes us to mar the image of God within us. The same can be said when the life of Christ resides in us. If we have received Christ but allow sin to overtake us, then we cannot do the good that we desire to do.

In all things, let us put on the armor of Christ to keep us united to one another and the Church

*Fr. Steve*

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

## St. Anne's Sodality

### February Meeting Cancelled

Ladies due to the numbers high with covid, the committee has decided, for everyone's protection, to cancel February's meeting. I will keep you updated for our next meeting in March

Stay Safe

Thank you

## This Week

### Saturday, January 22, 2022

**4:00 PM** For all Parishioners Especially  
† Gary Range  
(Gayann Family)

### Sunday, January 23, 2022

**8:30 AM LIVESTREAMED**

**8:30 AM** For all the unborn Children  
(The Unfried Family)

### Monday, January 24, 2022

No Mass

### Tuesday, January 25, 2022

**8:00 AM** † Geraldine Mendez  
(Mary Jo Von Nida)

### Wednesday, January 26, 2022

**8:00 AM** Jim Shambro  
(Shirley Bushong)

### Thursday, January 27, 2022

**8:00 AM** † Elsie Flack  
(Harold & Rosie Schmidt)

### Friday, January 28, 2022

**@School—Staff & Students ONLY**

**8:00 AM** † Charles & Johanna Plese  
(Joseph & Lucia Chaback)

### Saturday, January 29, 2022

**4:00 PM** For all Parishioners Especially  
† Michael Allen Reagan Sr  
(Betty, Donna, & Kathleen Haug)

### Sunday, January 30, 2022

**8:30 AM LIVESTREAMED**

**8:30 AM** John Mink  
(Bob & Eileen)

# Calendar of Events

## Sunday, January 23:

9:45 AM PSR

12:30 PM Bingo—Columbus Hall

## Monday, January 24:

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

## Tuesday, January 25:

8:30 AM Quilters (QR)

7:00 PM Bingo - Columbus Hall

## Wednesday, January 26:

8:30 AM Adoration (CH)

3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet

6:15 PM Cub Scouts

7:00 PM MPH Devotions

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

## Thursday, January 27:

11:00 AM Simply Sober (MR #1)

7:00 PM RCIA

## Friday, January 28:

6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous (MR #1)

**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 23- Gathering at Holy Family 6:30-8pm**

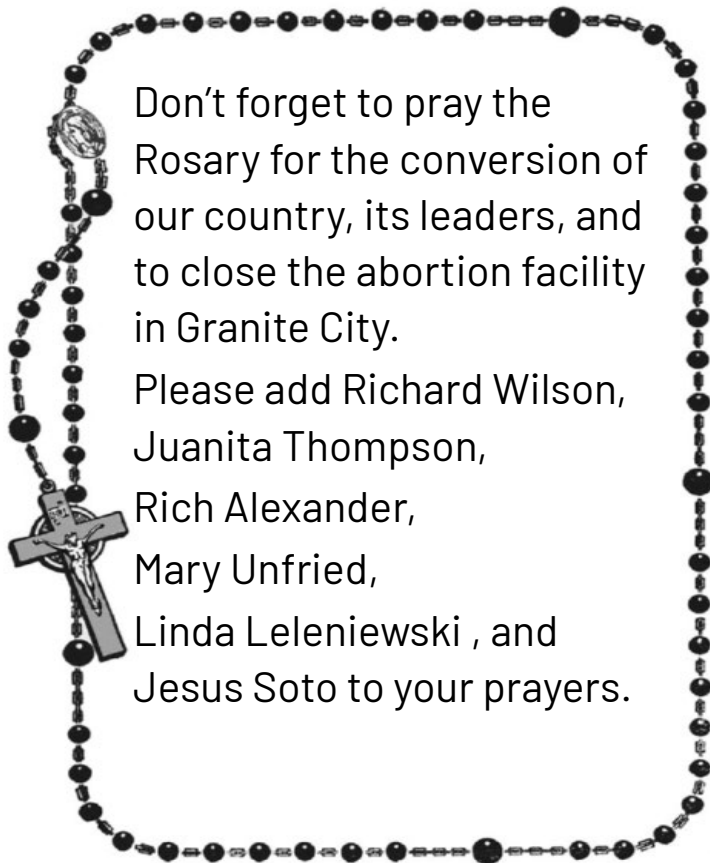
**Sunday, January 30- NO Gathering**

**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 LifeRocks, 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**



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 add Richard Wilson, Juanita Thompson, Rich Alexander, Mary Unfried, Linda Leleniewski , and Jesus Soto to your prayers.

## School Calendar

### Sun, Jan 23

Bingo Team 4

### Mon, Jan 24

Scrip Order Due

### Tue, Jan 25

Bingo Team 4

### Wed, Jan 26

Spirit Wear

### Thu, Jan 27

Non- Uniform Day

Only for Students selling 10 or More Christmas Raffle Tickets.

### Fri, Jan 28

Mass Grade 7



# Happy Anniversary

**01/26**

John & Kathy Foster  
Butch & Jeanne Stephens

## Collection for January 10-16

	<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	\$3,680.26	
Loose	283.00	
Children	2.00	
First Offering	55.00	
Solemnity of Mary	5.00	
School Support	685.00	
Give Central	<u>2,953.00</u>	
	\$7,663.26	\$9,900.38
Total Collected YTD	\$263,975.04	\$287,111.02

### AMOUNTS OWED TO THE DIOCESE

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

PARISH COMMUNITY TITHING FOR DECEMBER \$5,508.00

<u>January</u> <u>29-30</u>	Saturday, 4:00 PM	Sunday, 8:30 AM
Altar Servers	Jacquelyn Arakaki Tara Gerber Olivia Lerch	Corbin Moe Tyler Nonn Luciana Rossi
Eucharistic Ministers	Amy Allen Mary Ellen Boyer	Deacon Neil Suermann Amanda Atkins
Gift Bearers	Stephen Balsai Nancy Diak	Kenneth Atkins Michael Atkins
Greeters	Cheryl Balsai Pat Goclan	Denise Jarvis Gloria Rains
Readers	Art Austin	Cheryl Hagopian
Ushers	Thomas Alsop Jack Calve David Cruse Charles Dickerman	Valeria Brinker Eric Brinker Woody Halbrook Keith Unfried

**H**

1/23

Taylor Foster

**A**

1/24

Zach Evans

Jenna Hoffman

Melia Rosenberg

Connor Shipley

Scott Topal

**P**

**P**

**B**

**U**

1/25

Mary Firtos

**9**

1/26

Sue Glass

Barbara Schmedake

**R**

**7**

1/27

Connie Gattung

Mallory Glass

Chloey Hoffmann

Julie Terrell

**H**

**D**

1/28

Mike Hagnauer

Charles Mineman

Jude Nonn

Matt Nonn

Lucianan Rossi

**A**

**U**

1/29

Frank Ortiz

## BINGO

### UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

**Tues, Jan 25 7:00PM**

Team #4 Pat Knollman

**Sun, Jan 30 12:30PM**

Team #1 Heather Easler

**Sun, DEC 16**

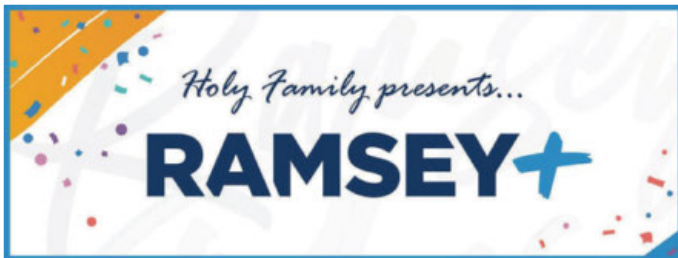
Attendance:175

Profit: \$7,076.78

**Tue, DEC 18**

Attendance:108

Profit:\$2,300.35



**Holy Family Parish is excited to announce a new resource for our parish and school families – RAMSEY+!** Our leadership team has invested in a Ramsey+ site license for our parish family. You will be hearing more about this in the coming weeks. But for now, here is a quick note about what to expect from Ramsey+.

Dave Ramsey courses have been available for over 25 years to assist in showing people ways to handle our money. Millions have seen life changing benefits that come from learning the truth about money and have created lasting money habits. Ramsey+ is a program which will offer benefits at all stages of our lives; there is something for everyone.

**Things to remember:**

***This is a gift from your church to you.....this will cost you nothing!***

***There is nothing to purchase.***

**Check out Ramsey+ online now at [www.RamseySolutions.com/ramseyplus!](http://www.RamseySolutions.com/ramseyplus!)**

*COMING SOON...we will have an activation code available for you to join Ramsey+ online for FREE. In addition, we will be offering **in-person Financial Peace University (FPU) Classes** in the near future.*

**ALL YOUR INFORMATION IS TOTALLY CONFIDENTIAL** – *This program is only being offered to help our parish families as we face financial challenges in today's economy. The parish will receive no information regarding your personal finances.*

**More to come on Ramsey+...**

Watch the bulletin and website for more information on how you can sign up for Ramsey+!



**SAVE THE DATE**

Join us for a trip "Around the World" at this year's Annual Holy Family School Gala Dinner & Auction. This event is guaranteed to be fun with hundreds of auction items, great food, dancing, drinks and fellowship! We hope you will join us in person on **Saturday, March 26, 2022, at St. Mary's Engelbert Hall**. Tickets will go on sale in February. Watch the bulletin for more details.

**AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED**

Last year, the annual Gala Dinner & Auction raised more than \$62,000! The *heart of our success* is the *generous donations* from our school family, parish family, and business community for our auction and raffles. We are looking for new items for our auction and raffles, such as themed baskets, attraction tickets, vacation timeshares, gift cards, bottles of wine, etc. If you wish to donate an item, please contact the **HFS Gala Donation Coordinator, Jennifer Lerch**, at 618-920-6121 or email [gala@holymfamilyhawks.net](mailto:gala@holymfamilyhawks.net).

**BECOME A SPONSOR**

Opportunities are also available for event sponsorship. Again this year, we will be offering our attendees the opportunity to bid on silent auction items using their cellular device. As a sponsor, you will have a chance to reach attendees with premium ad space on the auction website. Sponsor levels range from \$50 to \$500. If you wish to be a sponsor, please contact **Jamie Schuler, Sponsorship Coordinator**, at 618-567-7802

or [mnmwrl@aol.com](mailto:mnmwrl@aol.com).

Give yourself a treat unlike any other. Sign up for this faith filled weekend today!  
Grab a friend! You won't regret it. Limited Space available, sign up TODAY!!



# Koinonia Community in Christ

Trinity Koinonia 15 weekend - Granite City, Madison, & Venice

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church - 2300 Pontoon Road

cost per person  
for the retreat: **\$50**  
scholarships available

**March 18-20**

5 p.m. Friday evening to approx. 9:15 p.m.  
Saturday 8 a.m. to approx. 9:15 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m. to approx. 3 p.m.

## Includes:

All Meals  
Friday (Lenten) Dinner  
Saturday Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Sunday Breakfast & Lunch  
Snacks & Beverages  
Retreat Materials  
Fun & Fellowship

For adults 18 years & older,  
with priority given to St. Elizabeth, Holy Family,  
and St. Mary/St. Mark Parishioners

Say **YES** to a weekend of fun,  
fellowship, & Community in Christ

Register by March 11

Limited spots available to allow for more spacing  
More information at [stelizabethgc.org/koinonia](http://stelizabethgc.org/koinonia)

Sign up online here: OR send this form to St. Elizabeth Church, 2300 Pontoon Road:



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parish/Church: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Any dietary or special needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Call/Email Bret Ware at St. Elizabeth: 618-877-3300/secretary@stelizabethgc.org



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