# Saint Clare CATHOLIC CHURCH



"Love God, serve God, everything is in that"

#### December 26th, The Holy Family



#### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

GIO

And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. - Jn 1:14

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCO.

## PARISH INFORMATION

Fr. Eric Kunz, Pastor

Deacon TJ Wild Deacon Harvey Dubbs — Retired

#### **MASS TIMES**

Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday 8:00 AM 10:30 AM

Monday — Friday 8:00 AM

#### Confessions

Saturday 3:30 PM - 4:15 PM

#### **Eucharistic Exposition**

Thursday 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

#### **Prayer Chain Contacts**

Joyce Willis 629-2573 or Sherry Reed 629-7535

#### **WELCOME**

A warm welcome to all who have come to worship with us. If you are visiting, we are honored by your presence. If you are interested in becoming a member, please call the rectory. Our Parish serves the needs of this community in many ways. We offer preparation for Sacraments, education for children and adults, social activities, assistance to those in difficulty, comfort to the sick and those who mourn a loss.

If we can be of service, please let us know. We hope you will come again soon. For your convenience, we have blue "Let Us Know" cards in back of church.

165 E. SPRINGFIELD ROAD ● ST. CLAIR, MO 63077

#### December 26, 2021 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing

but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.



#### **Coming Back to Church**

#### Question:

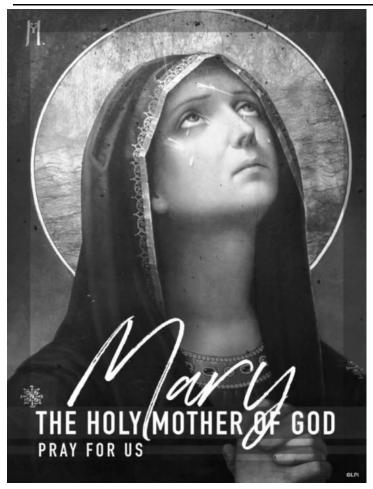
I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church?

#### Answer:

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back.

This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

#### **PARISH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**



### Dynamic Catholic, *Alive*! — Spiritual Leadership

Joseph is a model of spiritual leadership. Humility and obedience are not things that are praised in our culture today. But, remember, our goal is not possessing more things on earth, rather our goal is eternal life with God! Spiritual warfare is real. Through silence, we are able to discern God's will for us and our families. Studies show that when dad takes his faith seriously, so do his children. Men, the best thing we can do for our families is to be the men God is calling us to be, to be the spiritual leaders for our families. The best gift we can give our families is to teach them how to pray.

#### archstl.org/dynamic



#### **NEW YEARS EVE PARTY 7:00 PM – MIDNIGHT**

You are cordially invited to usher in the New Year in a different way this year. On December 31, New Year's Eve, there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Francis Borgia Church (310 West Main Street, Washington, MO) at 7:00 PM until midnight. All are invited to spend time in prayer in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. At the beginning of each hour there will be vocal prayer such as the rosary, litany or other group prayer. Silent meditation is offered the remainder of the time. There will always be someone in church adoring the Blessed Sacrament. Socializing is encouraged for the times you are not at prayer. Tables will be set up in the Jesuit Hall Choir Room with snacks and refreshments. People can come and go as they wish. A short prayer will be offered at midnight followed by repose of the Blessed Sacrament. This is a deanery event. All are welcome. Invite your friends and neighbors. If you can commit to a specific hour of prayer please contact Deacon Leon at 636-221-1531 or email at: <a href="mailto:lnoelker@charter.net">lnoelker@charter.net</a>.



Not finding [Jesus], they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. — Lk 2:45-47

St. Clair, MO



#### Jim Ellert Family George Family James "Ed" Haynes Thomas & Thelma Boyer

Charles & Margaret Schwarz
George & Dorothy Bland
Austin & Carrie Maupin
Robert & Mary Ennis
Walter & Iva Miller Family
Ervin & Virginia Lindemann

Don Willis Dutch & Dolly Hollenberg Oscar & Gary Gebken Tobias & Catherine Schomaker

Jim & Doreen Ellert
Julian & Florence Bartram
Kevin Dulworth
Olaf & Della Osburn
Lillie & Herbert Dulworth
Joseph Walsh
Teddy Brooks
Rosemary Freeman

# Christmas Altar Flowers In Honor or Memory of

Mary Brady
Blanke Family
May Scheidegger
Wayne Scheidegger
Norma Ritter
The Osterkamp Family
The Oliver Family
David R. Heck
Michael Bucher Family

George H. Horton, Jr.
Eloíse Flores
James G. Scammell, Sr.
James G. Scammell, Jr.
Anne Scammell
Anne Maríe Reinhold
Rustico Comon
Emelía Comon
Helen Gonzaga



Robert G & Antionette Alsop Bobby Joe Wideman Pat Komo Katie Komo



Ruth Kunz-Goodman,
Mr. & Mrs. Dorsey Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. George T. Kunz
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Straatmann
Bryan
Ashley
Dave
Rob

	THIS	WEEK I	N OUR PARISH
	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Mon	12/27	8:00 am	No Mass
Tues	12/28	8:00 am	Mass
Wed	12/29	8:00 am	Mass
Thurs	12/30	8:00 am 8:30 - 3:00	Mass Adoration
Fri	12/31	8:00 am	Mass
Sat	1/01	3:30 - 4:15 4:30 pm	Confessions Mass
Sun	1/02	8:00 am 10:30 am	Mass Mass

#### Readings For The Week

**Monday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn

20:1a, 2-8

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt

2:13-18

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6

[11a]/Lk 2:22-35

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk

2:36-40

**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-

18

**Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-

7/Lk 2:16-21



#### December 25th — January 2nd

#### WEEKEND, DECEMBER 25TH & 26TH

SAT. 9:00 AM † DOLLY HOLLENBERG

SUN. 8:00 AM † JOE MORGAN

10:30 AM † PEOPLE OF PARISH

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 27TH

8:00 AM † NO MASS

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28TH

8:00 AM † REV. MSGR. JEROME J. BUCHHEIT

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29TH

8:00 AM † BOB ADDISON

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30TH

8:00 AM † PAULA KEN PACE

#### FRIDAY, DEEMBER 31st

8:00 AM † LEGION OF MARY

#### WEEKEND, JANUARY 1st & 2ND

SAT. 4:30 PM † DON WILLIS

SUN. 8:00 AM † ART BROCKELMEYER 10:30 AM † PEOPLE OF PARISH

#### LITURGICAL MINISTERS - JANUARY 1ST & 2ND

DATE	SERVERS	GIFT BEARERS	LECTORS	EUCHARISTIC
1/01 4:30 pm	Mike Boyer	_	Jackie Daugherty	
1/02 8:00 am	Messenger Brothers Cole Horton Wyatt Horton	_	Juanita Perkins	
1/02 10:30 am	Messenger Brothers Wild Children	_	Michele Geatley	

1/02 Collection Counters: — Betty Hinson, Joyce Willis, Nicole Hinson, Michelle Geatley

St. Clair, MO



#### WE PRAY FOR OUR LOVED ONES

May God Provide Health and Comfort to:

#### December

John Vogelgesang, Gale Cordia, Wendy Peters, Rachael Putnam, Lloyd DeGuire, Kay Blanke, Loretta Gravagna, Larry Perkins, Leslie George, Pat Cordia, Larry Hanks, Rodney Bryan, Patti Smith, Pauline Ware Scheer, John Evans and Dalton Via.

#### **November**

Charlotte Hagedorn, Coach Perry, Bernard Unnerstall, Jerome Ritter, Tony DeMoor, Mary Suntrup, Hugo Vaden, Carol Krassinger, Andrea Moore, Loraine Shaw, Jennifer Harter, Joann Haynes, and Gordon Monk

#### October

Lucille Just, Katherine Haynes (Joann Haynes greatgranddaughter) John Wilinski, Paul Freeman, Leona Collins, Jennifer Schafer, James Charboneau, Sandi Stahl, Kim Overschmidt Schroeder, Josh Garrett, Terry Shadrick, Sgt. Ian Ives, Mark Hoffmeister, Lori Mayer, and Sandy Stecher.



#### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS

Please remember in your prayers the following military personnel:

Captain Gionna Casatelli — Us Army,
SGT Ian Ives — US Army,
SGT Drew Alsop — US Army, Erin Arent — US Navy,
Jeff Arent — U.S. Marines, SGT Jamie Bucher — USAF,
Jason Burton — US Navy,
Scott Daugherty, Coty DeClue — USAF,
SGT Cameron Earley — US Army,
SGT Tyler Earley — US Army,
Clay Fisher — US Marines,
James Taylor Gragg — USAF, SPC Tyler Grogan — US Army,
Matthew Martin — US Navy, Logan Moore — USAF,
Monty Perkins, And Andrew Snodgrass — US Navy.
MSgt Jeffrey Haynes—USAF

"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." (LUKE 1:44)

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading at Mass, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Or, do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.

#### STEWARDSHIP

#### Week of December 12th

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 3,300.00
Loose Collection	103.00
Total Money For Operating Capital	\$ 3,403.00
Restricted Funds	
Christmas Flowers	120.00

Total \$ 220.00

Monthly Offertory Total To Date: \$ 8,112.23

December Collection Goal: \$ 14,500.00

90.00

10.00

Thanks be to God for the generosity of our Parishioners!

#### INFORMATION FOR DEC. 19TH COLLECTION NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF SUBMISSION FOR PRINTING

#### Everyday Stewardship

#### All in the Family

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father?

Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Phone:

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BURGERKING	4%	\$10			BEST BIN	4%	\$25		
CHEESECAKE FACTORY	365	\$23			DICK'S SPORTING GOOD	8%	\$23		
CRACKER BARREL	368	\$25			JC PENNEYS	5%	\$23		
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PIZZA HUT	368	\$10			WICHAEL'S	5%	\$25		
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η <b>ξ</b>	Automobive				T.J. MAXX/washwarz conferents	795	\$25		
EXXON/MOBIL	1.50%	\$250			TARGET	2.50%	\$23		
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