

St Martin de Porres



615 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042.

www.stmartindeporresstl.com.

(314)895-1100. Fax (314)895-5992



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus." - Lk 1:31

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD

©ILPI

Rev. Lijo Kallarackal

Email frlijostmartin@gmail.com

Office (314)895-1100, ext 7

Priest's residence (314)895-0172

Deacons

Rev. Mr. David Pacino

(Admin/Personnel Coordinator)

(314)895-1100, ext 4

Rev. Mr. Ed Beirne (Minister of the sick and the homebound coordinator) (314)895-1100, ext 2.

Parish Music Coordinator

Al Vigland - al.vigland@gmail.com

Sacramental Coordinator

Marilyn Saunders (314)895-1100

CRE

Theresa Wright

PSR email stmartinpsr@gmail.com

Parish Office Manager

Christie Alexander (314)-895-1100 Ext. 2

Parish Office E-mail: mdpparishmo@gmail.com

Youth Minister

Emily Will (314)972-3172, James Stallings (314)895-1100,

Email smdpyouthgroup18@gmail.com

All Saints Academy (St. Ferdinand Campus) School Office (314)921-2201

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:15-4:00 pm or by appointment

Schedule of Holy Eucharist

Saturday Vigil - 4:30 pm

Sunday - 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Weekdays - Mon through Fri 8:00 am

Holy Days - 8:00 am and 7:00 pm

"Youth Music" Mass - 1st Sun. of month 10:30 am

"Children's Liturgy" Mass - every Sun. except 1st Sun. of month - 10:30am (Sept. through May)

Perpetual Help Devotions

Tuesdays following 8:00 am Mass

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

Anointing of the Sick

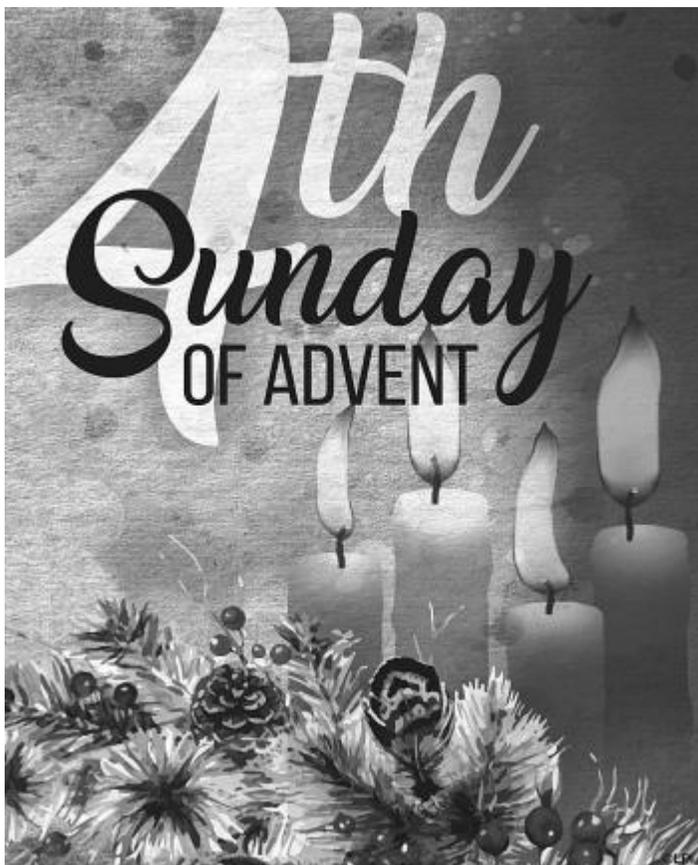
1st Friday of the month after 8:00 am Mass

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Inspired by Saint Martin de Porres and the gospel values, our parish family seeks to provide for the spiritual needs of our diverse community through vibrant liturgies and ministries, thereby creating a supportive, loving, caring and accepting environment for all.

DECEMBER 20, 2020

Sacrament of Baptism Sunday after the 10:30 am Mass or by appointment after participation in Baptism Preparation Program. Our next Baptism Preparation Class is on **February 10th at 7:00 PM** to explain the sacraments and requirements. If you've never had a child baptized at St. Martin's, you must attend a class before scheduling a baptism. Call the office to sign up: 895-1100, ext. 2.
Sacrament of Matrimony Contact the Pastor at least six months prior to wedding to begin preparations.



Remember in your prayers

Dan Alley, Bob Baker, Sue Baker,
 Lauren Bane, Harrison Barry, Camellia Bealler, Lucy Beirith,
 Sharon Bethmann, Pam Betz, Charles Birke, Antoinette Blandford,
 Mary Ann Boyer, Terri (Corzine) Burke, Wanda Bogle, Rick Brown,
 Jeanette Carron, Jim Catalano, Nancy Chang, August Chilese,
 George Conrad, Margie Cravens, Carolyn Duke, Dee Eckert,
 Donald Eckert, Louis Fennewald, Jim Faasen, Austin Fink,
 Meghan Fischer, K. Floyd, Catherine Goldman, Florence Grau,
 Martha Grein, Jessica Gray, Cookie Greer, Jerry Griffith,
 Kaye & Greg Gross, Tony Hasting, Kay Henley, Sheila Hennessy,
 Tom Hennessy, Ree Herbig, Amy (Krings) Hossfeld, Laura Howarth,
 Kitty Kelly, Tom Keppler, Charles Kintz, Andrea Kirsch, Dan Kreh,
 Brian & Cheryl Kubiak, Jane Kuhlmann, Ken Labruyere, Laura Lavell,
 Donald Mabrey, Kay Marshall, Dennis Mudd, Harold Neighbors, Keith
 Newby, Grace Njorogi, Kelle Oeste, Mark Pilla, Andrew Prince, Tina
 Roach, Linda Rodewald, Kim Rush, Kym Schlitt
 Meyer, Phillip Schmidt, John Schulte, Susan Shuey, Andrew Sloan,
 Daphne Szczuka, Stacy Thompson, Dorothy Tricoli, John Verstraete,
 Larry & Phyllis Weber, Mike Wheeler.



Armed Forces

Ben Alley, Bobby Baker, Josh Bohr, Cody Bright, Johnny Frye,
 Mitchell Frye, Spencer Frye, Brandon Grau, Katelyn Grau, Daniel Halley III,
 Jeffrey Kimball, Neil Klump, Matthew Klump, Matt Leahart, Steven Lippold,
 Salvatore Lodato, Joe Maloney, Cody Knoll, Garrett Royce, Timothy Schweigert,
 Daniel Stackle, Matthew Upchurch & Robert Berry Wooldridge, Jr.



Mass Intentions and Readings for the week

Mon. Dec 21	8:00 am	Louise Nepute	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Tues. Dec 22	8:00 am	Alesia & Jean Wyms	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56
Wed. Dec 23	8:00 am	Donna Hackney	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
Thurs. Dec 24	8:00 am 4:30 pm 10:30 pm	Tony Hasting Healing James Jones Robert Fink	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79 Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14.
Fri. Dec 25	9:00 am	Tim Dunn	Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18
Sat. Dec 26	4:30 pm	Alma Schlitt	
Sun. Dec 27	8:00 am 10:30 am	Rich Gutierrez Parishioners	Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 /Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/ Lk 2:22-40



At last, we are here at the end of Advent preparation and ready to celebrate Christmas. As I wrote in my Christmas message this is a different year and totally different circumstance from what we are used to, in which we are preparing to celebrate Christmas. But how do we celebrate Christmas this year?

Christmas is a holy day that reminds us of the greatest gift ever given to humanity. Even if it wasn't Christmas, Jesus deserves a celebration. Hence every day should be Christmas for Christians.

Christmas marks the beginning of the hope of salvation that is filled with joy. The words of the old Christmas hymn that we all sing at every Christmas celebration calls us to celebrate this year too: "o come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant." We hope to feel joyful and triumphant on Christmas this year too. All who were associated with the first Christmas experienced this and were joyful.

But this year what do we feel when we hear this hymn once again? How many of us truly feel joyful and triumphant? But it's okay if you're not feeling joyful and triumphant. If we listen closely to the voice of God, we hear the new hymn that might go this way which may best describe our situation: 'O come, all ye faithful, bored and irritated'. 'O come, all ye faithful, exhausted and worried'. 'O come, all ye faithful, cynical and angry'. 'O come, all ye faithful, heartbroken and grieving'. Simply come all ye faithful no matter what you're feeling.

We know Mary felt joyful and triumphant after just going through labor even when no family or friends to help her successfully deliver a healthy baby boy. Joseph and the shepherds of course had mixed feelings as they entered the stable, but once they gazed on the face of the Christ child, the Baby Jesus, wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger, everything changed. Whatever reason had brought them to this moment no longer mattered, and all of their complex, self-directed emotions faded to simple awe.

Christmas is not just an event in history. Christmas is not just a holiday among other holidays. Christmas is not a church service like so many we usually attend. Christmas is not a set of familiar carols or decorations of red and green or a jolly man in a red suit with eight tiny reindeer. Christmas is not an occasion or a party or a festival. It is not a piece of history or time off work or a gathering with family. All of these things are connected to Christmas, but fundamentally, Christmas is not an event. Christmas is a choice.

Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the Magi and all who came to visit the stable made a choice to be there amidst all the inconveniences and troubles that they had to endure. As you think about your life this year, where do you feel like you didn't have a choice? It's likely that many things come to mind. You didn't have many choices in many situations of life this year due to bad circumstances brought on by the virus.

Amidst all these negative conditions we are called to celebrate the magic of Christmas this year too. Let us feel joy as we recall the miraculous birth of the baby in Bethlehem of the Virgin Mary. Let us retell the story of the incarnation of God – the God the world did not know and who came into the world in the humblest of the circumstances. Jesus was born in a barn, wrapped in a blanket, and laid in an animal trough as his bed. His humble start did not begin to reflect the story of his true nature. But those who took the risk of making the choice for Him realized JOY in their life in all circumstances.

May we all celebrate the joy of the Christmas season and give thanks for the continuing presence of the Creator. May the light of Jesus bring new life into this world and may it shine brightly forever. Let us light up Christmas with the light that shines brightly in our hearts.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND TO ALL YOUR LOVED ONES!

May the peace of God and the joy of the season illuminate your heart and lead you to the heart of God, who has chosen to become one of us as Emmanuel – God with us. God wants to know our sorrows and brokenness. He knows our hopes, dreams and prayers for our own selves and for the world. May this Christmas be unlike any other we have celebrated so far.

PARISH CALENDAR

Masses are live streamed

MONDAY - DEC 21

- * 8:00 am - Mass
- * 7:00 pm - Scripture Study KH

TUESDAY - DEC 22

- * 8:00 am - Mass.
- * 9:00 am - Scripture Study KH

WEDNESDAY - DEC 23

- * 8:00 am - Mass.
- * 6:45 pm - PSR - NO CLASS

THURSDAY, DEC 24

- * 4:30 pm - Mass
- * 10:30 pm - Mass
- * Carols at 10:00 pm

FRIDAY, DEC 25

- * 9:00 am - Mass.
- * OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY, DEC 26

- * 4:30 pm - Mass

SUNDAY, DEC 27

- * 8:00 am - Mass
- * 10.30 am - Mass



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

- * DEC 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE - 4:30 pm & 10:30 pm
- * DEC 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY - 9:00 am
- * DEC 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE - 4:30 pm
- * JAN 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY - 9:00 am
- * JAN 2 - EPIPHANY - 4:30 pm
- * JAN 3 - EPIPHANY - 8:00 am & 10:30 am



GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 20, 2020

4th Sunday of Advent

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfillment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God. If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one's soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us. We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!

If you are feeling anxious, angry, disconnected, unhappy, fearful, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there's a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you! Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary's call to be the Mother of God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Savior has come ©LPI

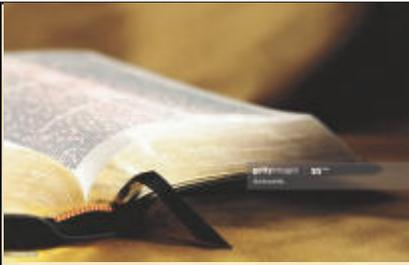


Offertory, including loose	\$6232.14
Online Giving (1st of month)	
St. Vincent De Paul	\$235.00
Beyond 50	\$425.00
Retired Religious	\$25.00
Christmas Flowers	\$425.00
Christmas Offering	\$180.00
Education Fund	\$10.00
Seminarian Fund	\$502.00
Christmas Day Seminarians	\$35.00
TOTAL	\$8069.14
Fiscal Year 7/1/20-6/30/21	
YTD Offertory Budget	\$158,762.21
YTD Offertory Actual	\$154,190.14
Surplus/Deficit	- \$4,572.07



Fr. Lijo at your service

This pandemic has been difficult for us all, especially those of you not able to come or don't feel comfortable coming to church. Father Lijo would like to bring a little church to you. He would be glad to come to your home to hear confessions and /or bring the Eucharist to you some time between now and Christmas. Please call the office at 895-1100 ext. 2 to set a time for him to come.



FIRST READING

“When your time comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will establish his kingdom firm”
(2 Sm 12)



PSALM

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.
(Ps 89)



SECOND READING

According to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God.
(Rom 16:25b-26a)



GOSPEL

“Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High.”
(Lk 1:31-32a)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass 2001,1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP -
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY
MOMENTS**

The Journey

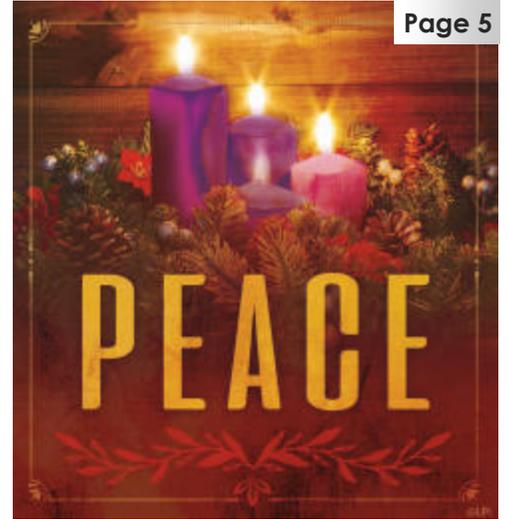
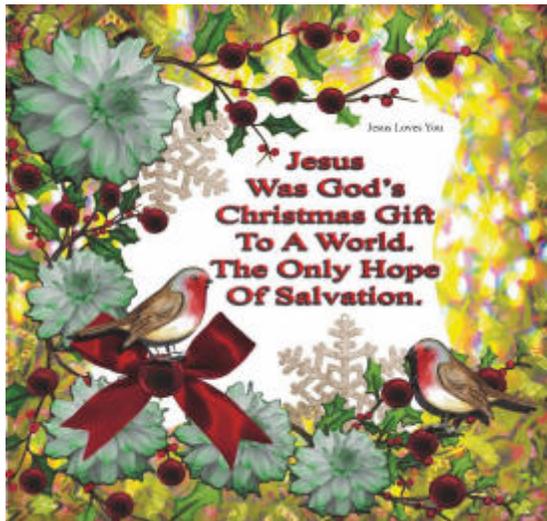
Advent comes along every year and will continue to do so until Jesus returns. As this season draws to a close, we can each ask ourselves, “Am I now any better a disciple of Jesus Christ and more of a steward of all my gifts than before the Advent season started? I have been on this earth for 40+ years. I have had 40+ Advents to draw closer to God and to work on taking more seriously my baptismal call. Some have gone better than others, but I would like to think my spiritual life progressed at least a small amount during each of them.

Stewardship is about a way of living and it is about more than simply being generous when a situation calls for it. Living in this way takes practice and commitment. If this Advent didn't go as you had hoped, remember is not really an end. It is just another step along your journey.

This Christmas, while you are giving and receiving gifts and hopefully spending time with those you love, may you take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over 2000 years ago and continues to call us to this day: Jesus. Let us be grateful beyond measure for this gift above all gifts, let us continue on our journey, and let our lives give testimony to the one who leads us.

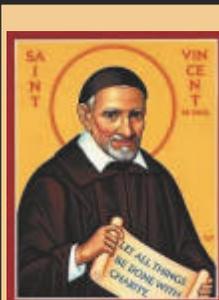
Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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*Then the angel said to her,
“Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found
favor with God.
Behold, you will conceive in your womb
and bear a son,
and you shall name
him Jesus.
He will be great and will be called Son
of the
Most High, and the
Lord God will
give him the throne of
David his father.”
-Lk 1:30-32*

Exerpts from the Lectionary for Mass 2001,1998,1970 CCD



St. Vincent de Paul is an amazing organization that helps many people in their greatest time of need. Donations are always appreciated especially right now in light of what is going on. They have seen a huge increase in requests for help with rent and utility bills, etc. from those suffering the effects of this pandemic. If you have been blessed, consider sharing your blessings with those less fortunate. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank You
for Joining
Us at Mass
**LET'S
KEEP IN
TOUCH!**

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Yes! Father Lijo call me.

Yes! Father Lijo visit me.

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PSR

December 23 - Christmas break

December 30 - Christmas break

January 3 - 10:30 am Mass



YOUTH GROUP

December 23 - 12-5pm Christmas Party

January 6 - 8 pm - Youth Group

January 9 - 12-6 pm - Cookie Baking



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COAT DRIVE

give the gift of warmth!

Please consider donating clean, gently used or new coats to someone less fortunate during our annual coat drive. Please bring to the vestibule of church on the weekends of January 3, 10 & 17, 2021.

O COME, O COME,
EMMANUEL AND RANSOM
CAPTIVE ISRAEL

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week.

Does the world realize that it is waiting? As we go about all of the busyness of our lives and entertain our distractions, there are many holes and gaps in our lives that need to be filled. We are always wanting more, but not really sure what that "more" needs to be. Fulfillment, happiness, contentment, and true satisfactions are fleeting occurrences and often come to us in illusive ways. What we think is the ultimate fix to our anxious emptiness really is only a fancy trend that we entertain. The world does not realize any more today than it did over two thousand years ago that it is waiting for a savior. We need a Savior. We need to see and embrace the God who has broken into history and become one with us. It is this union of God and man that sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals, and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. The world does not know how truly lost it is. Do you realize how lost you are and that the One you need most is here among us and within your grasp?

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Jesus
is the
Reason
for the
Season

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Does our church database have YOUR family membership record correct?

It is time for us to update our data base with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year, as well as our directory or buzz book.

- ◆ **Have you changed** your phone number? Do we have your cell phone and email address? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record?
- ◆ **If you have not** already informed the office about changes to your record, please let us know now so that the information in the directory is correct.

The office number is (314)-895-1100.

Thank you.

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Archdiocese of St. Louis

Office of the Archbishop

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Christmas 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Rejoice! The weeks of Advent waiting are over, and Christ is born!

We rejoice in our Savior's birth—remembering the great gift of faith He has given us through the mystery of His incarnation and the saving power of His death and resurrection.

If you are like me, you have a lot of uncertainty about the coming weeks and months. Because of the pandemic, there are many challenges ahead. But I am sure of one thing, Christ will be with us in the midst of our difficulties. Now is the time for Catholics to step forward, giving generously to help those in need.

Each year, the people of the archdiocese are asked to make a special gift on Christmas Day to support our seminarians at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. These men are responding to Christ's call to follow Him as they discern a vocation to the holy priesthood and have dedicated themselves to living, growing, and serving in His love as they prepare for a life of parish ministry. God-willing, these men will bring the faith given to us by Christ 2,000 years ago to future generations.

This Christmas, I ask you to pray for vocations and for all our priests and seminarians. I also ask you to be generous in your donation to the Christmas collection at your parish, which helps ensure that our seminarians receive the education and formation they need to grow closer to Christ each day. Your support is a source of inspiration for the seminarians and helps to build up the Church in St. Louis. Together, we can encourage our future priests to walk the path of holiness as they seek to configure their hearts to the Heart of Jesus Christ.

I am blessed to be celebrating my first Christmas with the people of the Archdiocese of St. Louis! I am grateful for the warm welcome I have already received. What a gift it is to be part of this community! Please be assured of my prayers for you during the season of Christmas. May the Lord of life come into your hearts and homes in a special way during this holy time of year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
 Archbishop of St. Louis

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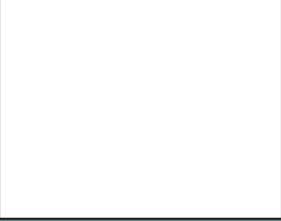
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