

Holy Spirit Parish Family

Give, and gifts will be given to you;
a good measure, packed together,
shaken down, and overflowing,
will be poured into your lap.

Luke 6:38



Seventh
Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 20, 2022

Alms to the Poor
n.d.
Rodolphe Bresdin
French, 1825–1885
Art Institute of Chicago

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
3130 Parkwood Lane
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
Phone: 314-739-0230
Fax: 314-739-0237
Website: www.holyspiritstl.org
E-mail: parish@holyspiritstl.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Bob Evans, Pastor.....	Ext. 103
revans@holyspiritstl.org	
Fr. Jerry Meier, In Residence.....	Ext. 112
jmeier@holyspiritstl.org	
Deacon Jim DeNatale	
deaconjim@holyspiritstl.org	
Deacon Scott Kaufman	
deaconscoth@holyspiritstl.org	
Mary Saputo, Parish Secretary	Ext. 102
msaputo@holyspiritstl.org	
Julie Spinner, Parish & PSR Secretary	Ext. 101
jspinner@holyspiritstl.org	
Jim Essner, Business Mgr.....	Ext. 104
jessner@holyspiritstl.org	
Linda Farhat, CRE/Pastoral Assoc.	Ext. 108
lfarhat@holyspiritstl.org	
Marilyn O'Neill, Director of Music.	Ext. 107
moneill@holyspiritstl.org	
Donna Eisenbath, Youth Minister	314-954-1326
deisenbath@holyspiritstl.org	

John Honey, Maintenance

Faith in Action—(Call the Parish Office)

Prayer Chain: prayerchain@holyspiritstl.org

HandS 314-739-9796

Stephen Ministry 314-739-0230 ext. 130

SCHOOL

(K-8 & PRE-SCHOOL & PREK INFORMATION)

3120 Parkwood Lane
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
Phone: 314-739-1934
Fax: 314-739-7703

Katie Koberlein, Principal
kkoberlein@holyspiritstl.org
Kate Ayres, School Secretary,
kayres@holyspiritstl.org

PARISH ANNEX

3111 Parkwood Lane,
Maryland Heights, MO 63043,
Pre-School, Pre-K 314-739-5020

MASS SCHEDULE

*MASSSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED AT 6:30 AM MON/TUES/WED;
8:00 AM THUR/FRI; AND 9:00 AM ON SUNDAYS
(YOU TUBE HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH MARYLAND HEIGHTS)*

Monday thru Wednesday.....6:30am
Thursday and Friday.....8:00am
Saturday:8:00am and 5:00pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am
Holy Days: Please consult the bulletin.

Eucharistic Chapel Hours

Weekdays: 12am to 6am and 9am to 12 midnight.

Saturdays: 12am to 7am

Chapel will close at 7am Saturday until 9am Monday.

Eucharistic Exposition

Suspended until Further Notice

SPECIAL REQUESTS

COMMUNION CALLS

Please call the Parish Office to request Communion if someone is unable to attend Church.

HOSPITAL VISITS

Please notify the Parish Office concerning hospitalization.

SACRAMENTS

CONFESSION

Saturday 4:00 to 4:45pm or by appointment

BAPTISMS & CLASSES:

Baptism Class for parents/godparents is normally held on the first Monday of the month at 7 PM in the Church. To register for the meeting and/or to arrange for a baptism, call the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning marriage contact the pastor at least six months in advance.

Registration

New parishioners may register at Parish Office or download a registration form, www.holyspiritstl.org.

New information, such as change of address, phone numbers or moving from the parish, please call Parish Office at 314-739-0230

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Please submit information for the bulletin by Noon TWO Fridays before publication. Include name, daytime phone number of person submitting information, and group name.

Items can be e-mailed to msaputo@holyspiritstl.org.



A Note From Fr. Bob

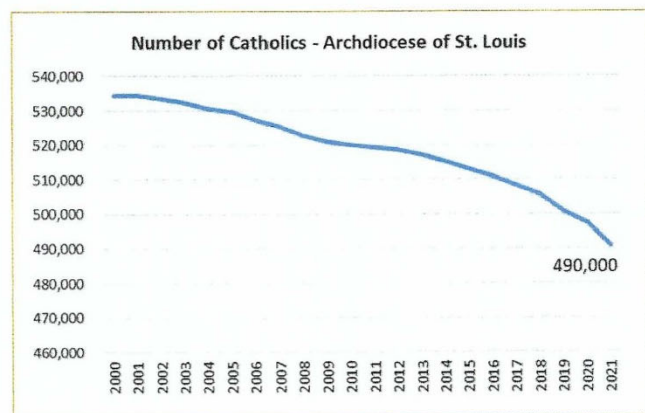
Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you!

As the Archdiocesan planning initiative, All Things New, begins to move forward and shares more information and statistics, I would like to take the next few weeks to reflect on the statistics being shared on the initiative's website. Currently, there is a section called, "Catholic Trends in St. Louis". These are trends of different data points collected over the past 80 years. As you look at these, one might initially think, "Oh, my, where are we headed?" or "What is going to happen to my parish?" Looking at this first graph of the number of Catholics in St. Louis, it would be a natural first reaction.

Number of Catholics

Since 2000, despite having more baptisms than funerals and welcoming about 1,000 people into the Church through RCIA annually, the Catholic population has been declining at the rate of approximately 2,000 Catholics per year, meaning a large number of Catholics are leaving the Church each year. The Catholic population is calculated by adding the number of Catholics registered in our parishes with the estimated number of Catholics who do not register in our parishes but live in the greater St. Louis area.



We should guard against these initial reactions and consider the focus of the All Things New initiative, our relationship with Jesus Christ and each other. Dave Baranowski, Director of Stewardship, recently reflected, "All Things New" really centers on our own personal, interior transformation of heart and not our physical, exterior transformation of parish boundaries. It's similar to when Jesus healed people's physical needs and then He told them not to tell anyone. Why? Because Jesus wanted people to love Him for who He is and not for what He can do for them. "All Things New" centers on the "why" – our relationship with God and others and less on the "what" – the structure of the Archdiocese."

There is much to ponder in these coming days and months, let's keep Jesus at the center of all we do. And let's pray for each other this week.

Peace,
Father Bob

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 20

7:30am Mike Rolfes
9:00am Bonnie Wittman
11:00am People of the Parish

Monday, February 21

6:30 am George Hendrickson

Tuesday, February 22

6:30am Evelyn Mareschal

Wednesday, February 23

6:30am Ed Cody

Thursday, February 24

8:00am Nancy Hlavek

Friday, February 25

8:00am Thomas Clark

Saturday, February 26

8:00am Mike Sampson
5:00pm Glenda Rosas

Sunday, February 27

7:30am Imogene Roth
9:00am Sophia Agasino
11:00am People of the Parish

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Stewardship for January 31– February 6, 2022

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 8,421.25
Loose Collection	\$ 470.01
Online Donations	<u>\$ 6,584.00</u>
Total	\$15,475.26
Weekly Budget	\$19,196.00
Weekly Surplus (shortfall)	\$(3,720.74)

HandS
\$520.00

Parish Improvements
\$415.00

PRO-LIFE NEWS

A Action C Changes T Things!



Missouri Right to Life "Show Me Life" Pro-Life Action Day

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

**Missouri State Capitol
1st Floor Rotunda**

We need you to ACT!

- Come to Jefferson City on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, for Pro-Life Action Day to encourage your legislators to pass pro-life legislation.
- Registration begins at 10:00 a.m.
- Lobby your legislators and join the noon rally with our special guest.

melissa ohden Life Empowers



Melissa is the survivor of a failed saline abortion. Despite the initial concerns about her future after surviving the attempt to end her life at approximately seven months gestation, she has not only survived but thrived.

Fulfilling the purpose she believes God set out for her when He saved her from the certain death of the abortion attempt, Melissa is truly a voice for the voiceless.

Bus transportation is available from several sites in the St Louis metro and surrounding areas. Bus registration deadline is March 1.

Sign up online at www.easternregionmrl.org/actionday. Or contact Missouri Right to Life-Eastern Region at 314.434.4900.

Bus #1

Pick-up locations	Departure	Return
Grasso Plaza - Affton	7:00 a.m.	6:20 p.m.
St. Paul Church - Fenton	7:20 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Union MO Commuter Lot	8:05 a.m.	5:15 p.m.

Bus #2

Pick-up locations	Departure	Return
Kohl's - Creve Coeur	7:00 a.m.	5:45 p.m.
Hobby Lobby - Cave Springs	7:30 a.m.	5:15 p.m.
Wentzville Walmart	8:00 a.m.	4:45 p.m.
Warrenton Walmart	8:20 a.m.	4:15 p.m.



P.O. Box 651
Jefferson City MO 65102



FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

We express our deep sympathy
and assurance of our prayers to the
family of

♦ **James Wilsonholme, Parishioner**

May his soul rest in the Peace of Christ.

OUR MISSION:

We, the community of Holy Spirit Parish, centered in the Eucharist, and guided by the Holy Spirit, will use our shared wisdom to be a joyful, accepting and forgiving community. We encourage all to grow in the Catholic faith by teaching and proclaiming the Gospel, serving others and praising God.

Please remember in your prayers our
Sick and Home-Bound Parishioners
and those who care for them.

Don Abramovitz	Till Fehrebacher	Bob/Tootie
Lorraine Bath	Ray/Betty Garvels	Ponder
Ronnie Bindbeutel	Jim Gerdes	Carolyn Putnam
Carol Bonner	Kathy Glaser	Jean Schepers
Becky Bonner	Sherry Holland	Gary Szevery
Sr. Mary Eliz.	Kenneth Jordan	Jan Telthorst
Cullen	Susie Meyer	Ron Unterreiner
Leon Deimeke	Glenn Mueller	Bill/JoanWeinzirl
Charles Dent	Bob/Donna Pedrotti	
Tom DuBois	Karen Piskulic	
Martha Elmore	Pat Romano	

Please remember in your prayers our
Sick Relatives and Friends:

Kendell/Tina Bedell	Jenny Lemkemann Barb McDonald	Judy Taylor & Family
Ann/Bill Boewer	Trish Merklin	Caroline Van Scoyk
Pat/Joe Dickman	Lou /Betty Merritt	Jerry Sutterer
Harold Feltmann	Colin Meyer	Chris Wells
John Garvels	John Misauraca	Paul Williams
Michael Gill	Liz Prange	Michelle Wilson
Greg/Jane Hefley	Jan Redden	Ruby Winschel
Paul Hyduchak	Alford Snowden	
Suzanne Johnson	Grace Solimando	
Kristi Kenning		

Holy Spirit Grief Ministry Support Group

Grief affects our entire being: our physical, emotional, and spiritual self. Additionally, grief can surprise us. . . we can feel like we are managing our pain and sadness pretty well and then something causes it to bubble up when we aren't expecting it. Being with other grieving people can reaffirm that one is not going crazy. While every loss is unique and there is no "one way" or "right way" to grieve, through support groups one can rest in the support of others who have experienced loss and understand. There are no expectations or pressure put upon you to talk or share. . just be there to listen and be in the presence of others who are walking a similar path.

Holy Spirit Grief Ministry is offering grief support through a 9 week program that began Friday Feb. 11, 2022. *It is not too late to join.* Meetings are at **2:30 pm every Friday** in the Holy Spirit Resource Center St. Lawrence room. This program is designed to provide a faith-based, confidential setting for anyone suffering grief; including the loss of a loved one through death, divorce or termination of employment. For more information, call Linda Farhat at the Parish Office—314-739-0230, ext. 108.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Jesus' clothing had miraculous healing powers. The woman who suffered from hemorrhage for 12 years, was healed when she simply touched Jesus' garment (Matthew 5:28). People begged to touch the fringe of Jesus' cloak and were cured of illness when they did. (Matthew 14:36)

Our prayer shawls are crafted with prayers for the person who will receive it. They provide comfort and warmth to the recipient, but they are also a reminder of the love with which they were made and the love God has for us.

We have Prayer Shawls available for women, men and children in all shapes and colors and we can definitely find an item that will work for anyone. They were all hand made by parishioners and are available upon request at no cost - see my contact information below.

Our evening meeting will be **Wednesday February 23 at 7pm** in the Resource Center upstairs meeting room. You are welcome to come and craft with us or just stop by to chat.

If you have any questions, or want a shawl, don't hesitate to call or text Mary Dale-Bannister at 314-497-5048. Email: dalebannister@sbcglobal.net.



*Just a reminder! The last two weekends to return your 'Baby Bottles' for the campaign initiated by our Knights of Columbus are **FEBRUARY 20th and FEBRUARY 27th.***

If your donation is in check form, please make payable to

HOLY SPIRIT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.

Thank you so much for your generosity!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sunday, February 20

Camp Cards for Sale after all Masses;
Gathering Area

7:00pm—Al Anon, by Zoom

Monday, February 21

3:30pm—Contemplative Prayer, Resource Ctr

6:00pm—Quilting, Annex

Tuesday, February 22

9:00am—Quilting, Annex

Wednesday, February 23

6:30am-9am—St. Patrick Ctr. Casseroles

9:00am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm

7:00pm—Contemporary Music Rehearsal

Thursday, February 24

9:00am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.

6:00pm—Bells Rehearsal

7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 25

2:30pm—Grief Support, Resource Ctr.

Saturday, February 26

4:00pm—Confessions

Girl Scout Cookie Pick-up, Rigali Rm.

Sunday, February 27

8:00-10am—St. Patrick Ctr. Salad collection

7:00pm—Al Anon, by Zoom

ST. PATRICK CENTER CASSEROLES—FEB. 23

We will be collecting casseroles for St. Patrick Center this **Wed., Feb. 23** in the white bin at the curb outside the entrance to church, from 6:30 until 9:00 AM. (In case of inclement weather, the bin will be in the small vestibule of the Parish Hall)

Pans and lids will also be available
for you to pick up.

As always, thank you to our current volunteers for your generosity. If you are not currently making a casserole, but would like to join us, please call or email Mary Beth Schulte, 314-229-8067 or SpecRelEdu@aol.com.

ST. PATRICK CENTER SALAD—FEB. 27

Holy Spirit volunteers provide salads and/or components to help feed the homeless of St. Patrick Center, the 4th Sunday of each month.

**Salad and/or components will be collected
between 8 & 10 am, next Sun., Feb. 27.**

The container will be in the Gathering Area.

For more information contact
Ellen Staples, 314-422-2381.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church will be participating in a parish-wide survey! Please Read

Holy Spirit Catholic Church will be participating in a parish survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute! We need your help!

Please help us by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online. The survey can be accessed through an online link from **March 2, 2022 through April 4, 2022** and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. We will share the link with you a bit closer to the launch of the survey.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to **Fr. Bob Evans** and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

If you prefer a paper copy, you may pick up a paper copy of the survey after daily and Sunday Masses, they will be located **in the Gathering Area and the West Transept Entrance**. Printable version of the survey is also available at: <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/ydcbyx>. To submit the completed paper survey, please drop off **in the box in the Gathering Area**. To make special arrangements for getting a paper copy, please contact Mary Saputo, Parish Administrative Assistant at 314-739-0230 ext. 102.

Thank you for helping with this important project!

DON'T FORGET TO RSVP BY THIS TUESDAY FEB. 22ND

**for the
ASHMAKE Burning of the Palms and
INTERNATIONAL Potluck Dinner
March 1st!**

**Call the Parish Office at
314-739-0230 and let us know how many
people and what your
special Homeland's Dish will be, if any!**



GLUTEN FREE HOSTS AVAILABLE

Gluten allergy? Would you like a gluten-free host? Please contact the Parish Office, 739-0230.

SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to our Feb. 14 Red & Blue raffle winner of \$25 ~ Dan Nordmann
Thank you for supporting our school!

Holy Spirit School Spelling Bee Champion, Samantha Shine (Grade 8) is off to Lindenwood College March 5 to represent our school in the next round ~ GOOD LUCK! Samantha!!

Mon., Feb. 21: NO SCHOOL—President's Day
Thurs., Feb. 24: 8:00 AM Kindergarten thru Grade 4 Mass led by Grade 2
Fri., Feb. 25: 8:00 AM Grades 5 thru 8 Mass led by Grade 7
9:15 AM Grades 5 thru 8—Field trip to Rockin Jump
Mon., Feb., 28: Vocation Panel Speakers Fr. Detwiler and Sr. Carol Jean Dust will speak to our students about Vocations at the following times:
12:30-1:30 PM— Kindergarten thru Grade 4
1:30-2:20 PM— Grades 5 thru 8

YOUTH MINISTRY

FIND HOLY SPIRIT YOUTH MINISTRY

ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM www.facebook.com/hsyouth AND as [hs_youth_stl](#) (HS Youth STL) on Instagram

CONFIRMATION

7TH GRADE FAMILIES – Session 1: Life is Choices is this month.

HIGH SCHOOL: WE NEED YOU!

Join our retreat team and earn service hours while planning and helping to lead our spring retreat.

Join us for Eat. Pray. Discuss: be a part of our team as we plan for the spring retreat April 9-10 for the 7th and 8th grade (April 8-10 for the team). It's a great way to serve, deepen friendships, and grow in your faith. Be sure to join us sometime in February if you want to be on the team.

Meeting times for retreat team:

We will meet every **Monday evening from 7:30-9:00**. We'll have social time from 7-7:30 and then work on the retreat. Meetings will be held in the Resource Center in the Holy Spirit Room which is in the basement. Come to the basement door or ring the doorbell in front. 4th Sundays if we need to catch up for people who can't make week nights.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MADNESS!

We hope to return to MSM once a month soon. Watch here for details. We will need PGC adults to stay and chaperone. Contact Donna Eisenbath if you are able to help us make this possible.

Help Wanted:

As we begin preparing for our retreat in the spring, we need PGC adults who are willing to chaperone (all you have to do is be there. Bring a book. Take walks. Enjoy some quiet time.). Our retreat is April 9-10, and the team will go down a day before. Please contact Donna Eisenbath if you are willing to help us make the retreat a success.

Conversation Starters for Parents and Teens ~ Today how did you . . .

- . . .create beauty?
- . . .show kindness?
- . . .care for yourself?
- . . .grow in understanding?

PSR NEWS

Tues., Feb. 22: 5th grade Family, Faith & Fun Night
Tues., Mar. 1: No PSR class. Come to Ashmake and International Dinner!
Tues., Mar. 8: 6th grade Family, Faith & Fun Night

Inclement Weather Bulletin:

If PSR is cancelled because of snow etc., we will post it on the Holy Spirit website. (You must be registered on the website) We will also send out a blast from PSR Enroll Broadcast and watch for our postings on the school closing lists on KMOV (Ch. 4) & Fox2/News22



Room at the Inn

Shelter with a purpose, Clients with a future

In Gratitude for Holy Spirit's Support!

"I just wanted to thank you for your continued support to Room at the Inn. Your parishioners serve in our office, as overnight innkeepers, give donations and provide food for our clients.

Thank you for the many prayers you offer up, too, as we all work together to serve the homeless."

*Sincerely, Cindy Warren, Volunteer Coordinator,
Room at the Inn*

**Can you make ROOM for God
by helping the Room at the Inn Ministry?**

As you are probably aware, Holy Spirit supports Room at the Inn by providing meals on the FIRST weekend of each month, which entails a Saturday evening meal as well as Sunday morning breakfast. Volunteers are needed to help with the meals or to contribute financially.

(When a 5th Wednesday of the month occurs, we will also provide that evening's meal and Thursday breakfast). Room at the Inn also needs our financial support (they just increased the amount needed for sponsor groups to donate from \$150 to \$200 for a weekend each month) to defray the ever rising costs of food and paying wages to those employees that stay on site with the clients. Donations can be made either a monthly basis or a one time gift. Donations by check should be made to Room at the Inn and mailed to: **Room at the Inn**

**3415 Bridgeland Drive
Bridgeton, MO 63044**

or you may make a donation online <https://roomstl.org/waystogive>

To volunteer with meal help or if you have any questions, please contact: Peggy Owen at 314-738-0562 (pemaquid_ptloma@yahoo.com) or Clare Duffy at 314-291-2144 (ceduffy@att.net)



Lunch Bunch!

TUES. FEBRUARY 22, our **older adult** parishioners are invited to gather at **11 am** for light-hearted conversation while enjoying lunch together.

**SPORTS CAFÉ, 3579 Pennridge Dr., Bridgeton, MO 63044
(Next to Bob Evans and Olive Garden)**

****Note that lunchtime is 11 am and the restaurant opens at 11 am****

Directions: West on St. Charles Rock Rd. Pass under Hwy 270 and then make a left at the stoplight onto Pennridge Dr. Make another immediate left to stay on Pennridge Dr. Sports Café will be on the right.

Please RSVP to the Parish Office 314-739-0230 by NOON MONDAY, FEB. 21

Invite a friend or come alone because it's *just for fun!*



February 27 ~ St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows

Born in Assisi, March 1, 1838, Francis Possenti was educated by the Jesuits, and was accepted by the Passionists at age 20. As a novitiate, he took the name Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, but after only 4 years of religious life, he succumbed to tuberculosis and died in 1862 at age 24.

Canonized in 1920 by Pope Benedict XV, he is the patron saint of young people and novices in religious orders.

Saint Gabriel Possenti wrote: "Love Mary! She is loveable, faithful, constant. She will never let herself be outdone in love, but will ever remain supreme. If you are in danger, she will hasten to free you. If you are troubled, she will console you. If you are sick, she will bring you relief. If you are in need, she will help you. She does not look to see what kind of person you have been. She simply comes to a heart that wants to love her. She comes quickly and opens her merciful heart to you, embraces you and consoles and serves you. She will even be at hand to accompany you on the trip to eternity."

St. Gabriel, Pray for Us.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter is excited to announce the following schedule for IN-PERSON weekend Experiences for the spring of 2022. We will have in place all the needed precautions to provide a safe environment for participants. For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

March 18-20, 2022 - Villa Maria Catholic Life Center in Springfield, IL
April 1-3, 2022 - Courtyard Marriott Hotel in St. Peters, MO

Holy Spirit Ladies Club says stay tuned for some exciting news coming in next weekend's bulletin!



Did I get your attention? I thought so!!

Spiritual Lending Library

Beginning the weekend of **March 5th and 6th**, we will have a Spiritual Lending Library for all to share! The bookshelves will be located in the Gathering area just to the right of the glass doors that lead to the Courtyard.

If you see a book that interests you, please take it and enjoy! Just return it when you are finished for others to enjoy as well!

If you have any questions, please call Cheri Deckard at 314-753-4528 or email at cherideckard@sbcglobal.net.

Stephen Ministry

Stressed? Feeling Down? Need Encouragement?

Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the little things in life.

If you're feeling down, lonely, stressed, or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it will really make a difference in your life!

To find out more, call the Stephen Ministry confidential Hotline today: **(314) 739-0230** ext.130.

Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

The Catholic Women for Christ Conference will be held at the Si Commons at St. Louis University High School on **Saturday March 12th**, giving us a capacity to welcome over 1000 ladies to the conference.



Speakers include Julianne Stanz, noted international speaker and Director of Evangelization and Discipleship for the Diocese of Green Bay, as well as Chika Anyanwu, Director of Missionary Experience for Vagabond Missions and Fr. Paul Hoelsing, Dean of Men at Kenrick-Glennon seminary for what is sure to be an inspiring and challenging day.

You can register online at www.catholicwomenforchrist.org (online registration is hosted by RegFox) or by contacting **Dcn. Brian Selsor** in the conference office at **314-792-7182**.

RECIPROCITY

If God loved us as much as we love God, where would we all be?

—Anonymous

7th Sunday of Ordinary Time

1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,
12-13,22-23
Ps 103:1-4,8,10,12-13
1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Luke 6:27-38

Monday February 21
James 3:13-18
Ps 19:8-10,15
Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday February 22
Chair of St. Peter
1 Peter 5:1-4
Ps 23:1-3a,4,5,6
Matthew 16:13-19

Wednesday February 23
St. Polycarp
James 4:1-17
Ps 49:2-3,6-11
Mark 9:38-40

Thursday February 24
James 5:1-8
Ps 49:14-20
Mark 9:41-50

Friday February 25
James 5:9-12
Ps 103:1-4,8-12
Mark 10:1-12

Saturday February 26
James 5:13-20
Ps 141:1-3,8
Mark 10:13-16

We can use this Sunday's Gospel passage as a checklist to survey our holiness. Jesus is outlining, in very clear terms, true Christian living. He describes how to love — faithfully and unconditionally, which sometimes means sacrificially as well.

It's not an easy love, that's for sure. But it's God's love. This is how he loves us! And to remain in his love, we love others the same way he loves them. When we don't, we separate ourselves from God's love. That's why Confession is called the Sacrament of Reconciliation; it reunites us to God and to all those we've separated ourselves from through sin.

Love even your enemies, Jesus says. An "enemy" is anyone who opposes us in any way — opposes our will, our desires, our needs, etc.

Holy living separates us from the world and unites us to God. Christianity is counter-cultural and counter-intuitive.

It goes against our nature — our fallen nature, that is. Our sinful nature. In our baptisms, we received God's nature. That means we have the ability to love as God loves. However, we need to rely on God's help (the Holy Spirit) to resist the pull back into sin and be holy instead.

"If you do good to those who do good to you, so what? Even sinners do that much." To remain in God's love, we do good to everyone, whether they deserve it or not.



If by the Spirit's help we genuinely love everyone, we become much more fully aware of the love that Jesus has for us — in good measure and overflowing. It is, after all, his love that we give when we love others while they oppose us.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. On Jesus' checklist for Christian living, which ones are you already doing fairly well?
2. Which ones are hardest for you?
3. What will you do this week to live in God's love more fully?
4. Choose one of the items on Jesus' checklist. How does it bring you closer to God?

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EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME— (FEBRUARY 27, 2022)

Sir 27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16;
1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45



**PRE-K THRU 12TH GRADE
SCHOOL FUNDRAISING
OPPORTUNITY**

RAISE FUNDS FOR A GREAT 2021 - 2022 SCHOOL YEAR!

Reference the Fundraising Code On-Line OR show this voucher at Fazoli's when you order and 20% of your purchase benefit:

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Group Name:

12341 St. Charles Rock Rd.

Locations:

Bridgeton, MO 63074

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