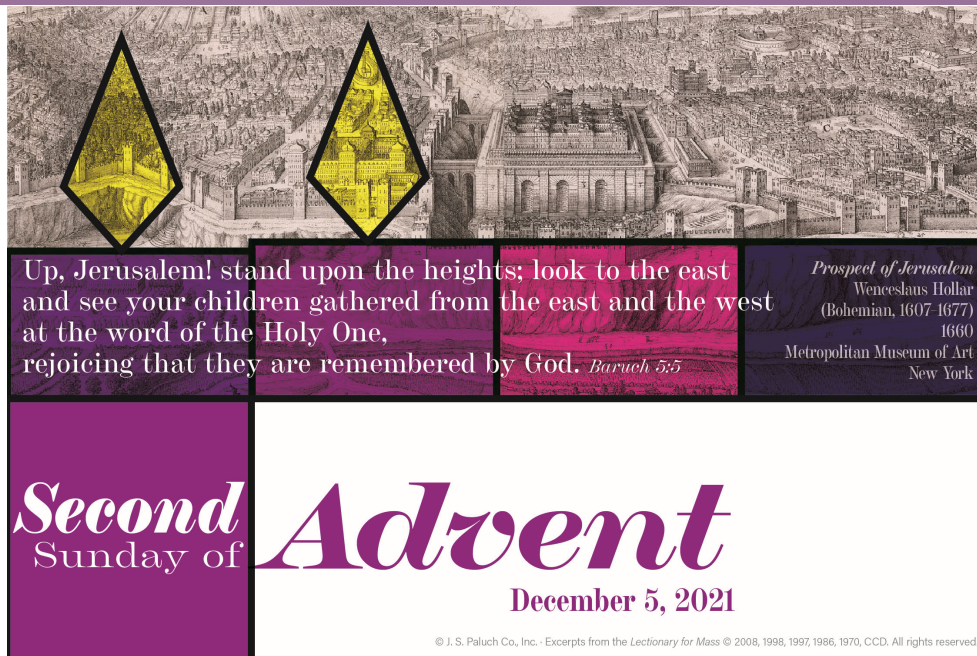


Holy Spirit Parish Family

December 5, 2021 — 2nd Sunday of Advent



Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east
and see your children gathered from the east and the west
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that they are remembered by God. *Baruch 5:5*

Prospect of Jerusalem
Wenceslaus Hollar
(Bohemian, 1607-1677)
1660
Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York

Second
Sunday of **Advent**
December 5, 2021

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.

DECEMBER BULLETIN DEADLINES

Sunday, Dec. 19th—due Friday, Dec. 10th
Sunday, Dec. 26th—due Thursday, Dec. 16th

PARISH OFFICE

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

PARISH OFFICE SUMMER 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
deaconsconfig@holyspiritstl.org

Donna Eisenbath, Youth Minister
.....314-954-1326
deisenbath@holyspiritstl.org
Jim Essner, Business Mgr.....Ext. 104
jessner@holyspiritstl.org
Linda Farhat, CRE/Pastoral Assoc.
.....Ext. 108
lfarhat@holyspiritstl.org
Katie Koberlein, Principal.....739-1934
kkoberlein@holyspiritstl.org
Marilyn O'Neill, Director of Music.
.....Ext. 107
moneill@holyspiritstl.org
John Honey, Maintenance
Julie Spinner, Parish & PSR Secretary
.....Ext. 101
jspinner@holyspiritstl.org
Mary Saputo, Parish Secretary Ext. 102
msaputo@holyspiritstl.org

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
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

Monday thru Wednesday.....6:30am

Thursday and Friday.....8:00am

Holy Days/Holidays—Consult bulletin

Saturday:8:00am and 5:00pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, and 11:00am

CONFESSIONS

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

EUCCHARISTIC CHAPEL HOURS

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

Saturdays: 12am to 7am

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

Holy Days: Please consult the bulletin.

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION

Suspended until Further Notice

BAPTISMS

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.

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.

REGISTRATION

New parishioners may register at Parish Office or download a registration form, www.holyspiritstl.org. New information e.g. address, phone numbers or moving from the parish, please call Parish Office.

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sunday, December 5

6:00 pm—Advent by Candlelight, Church

7:00 pm—Al Anon, by Zoom

Monday, December 6

6:00 pm—Quilting, Annex

Tuesday, December 7

9:00 am—Quilting, Annex

Wednesday, December 8

6:30 am & 8:00 am—Mass for Feast Day

9:00 am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.

7:00 pm—Mass for Feast Day

Thursday, December 9

9:00 am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.

6:00 pm—Bells Rehearsal

7:00 pm—Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 10

2:30 pm—Grief Support Group, Resource Ctr.

Saturday, December 11

Poinsettia Sale after 5pm Mass

HOLY SPIRIT ACTS

Help kick off 2022 and the 20th anniversary celebration of ACTS here at Holy Spirit Parish with our next women's retreat:

*"Returning in the Power
of the Holy Spirit"*

January 6-9, 2022

Anne Kinealy, Director

314-330-7752 or anne.kinealy@gmail.com

Donations – of all sorts! – from the community are welcome and appreciated as we begin preparations for the return reception on January 9th.

Questions? Want to help?

Please contact Alli Kleitz, Core Team Communications, at 314-344-9034 (home), 314-239-3015 (cell), or kleitzfamily@gmail.com.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

November 15-21, 2021

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 9,197.00
Loose Collection	\$ 354.00
Online Donations	\$ 7228.33
Total	\$16,779.33
Weekly Budget	\$20,190.38
Weekly Surplus (shortfall)	\$(3,411.05)

HandS	Parish Improvements
\$1,400.00	\$460.00



FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

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

♦ Frances Eleanor Denton, Parishioner

May her soul rest in the Peace of Christ.

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS AVAILABLE

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

A Note From Fr. Bob

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you!

It sure is nice to be back with all of you celebrating Mass and being available to all again. I am truly grateful for all your prayers and words of encouragement both prior to and following my recent back surgery. I am grateful for all those who have enrolled me with the many different religious groups for their prayerful support. I really do feel the effects of all the prayers. I am grateful for all those who brought meals and treats to the rectory during my recuperation. They really hit the spot! Did I tell you that my favorite cookie is chocolate chip?

If you have seen me walking around and celebrating Mass, you have probably noticed that I am walking much better. The surgery was a success and has taken away all my pain. Praise God! As good as it is, I think I am the only one who thought I would be at 100% immediately following surgery. As I have been told, and as I am finding out, it is going to take quite a while before I completely regain all my strength. If you see me slowing down, it's okay. My progress is going to be measured in weeks and months rather than days. Eventually, I'll get there. Thanks again for your prayers and support. I am truly blessed.

Congratulations and prayers for our children who participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Penance this past Monday evening. It is joy to watch all the children experience the love and forgiveness of the Lord for the first time in the Sacrament. My hope is that their joy will inspire us all to turn to the Lord frequently in the Sacrament. Thank you to their parents, teachers, and catechists for assisting them in their preparation.

As today is the Second Sunday of Advent I encourage all to pick up one of the guides for Advent and the Christmas Season that may be found in the Gathering Area or by the door at the West Transept. Monday evenings during Advent we will offer Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm followed by an extended period for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confessions will also be offered at the regular time on Saturdays beginning at 4:00 pm. On Saturday, December 18th, confessions will be available from 9:00 am until 4:30 pm. You may also contact either Father Jerry or me to set up an appointment if these times do not work for you.

If you are already making your Christmas Mass plans, please remember that Christmas Day falls on a Saturday this year. **Christmas Masses will be celebrated Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, and 10:00 pm. Christmas Day they will be at 7:30 am and 9:00 am. Please note that there will not be a Saturday evening vigil Mass on December 25th.** Please check the guide for the season for more information.

Blessings to all and let's pray for each other this week.

Peace,
Father Bob

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 5

7:30am People of the Parish
9:00am Gaudencio Agasino
11:00am Gerry Dye

Monday, December 6

6:30 am Irene Biggins

Tuesday, December 7

6:30am Carol Braun

Wednesday, December 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

6:30am Charles Kindleberger
8:00am John Jenkins
7:00pm Wm. D. Crow

Thursday, December 9

8:00am Shirley Casey

Friday, December 10

8:00am Ann Ochs

Saturday, December 11

8:00am Eunice Buscher
5:00pm People of the Parish

Sunday, December 12

7:30am Anthony Gamma
9:00am Jim Franke
11:00am Lynn Fehmann

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your prayers, please remember all the sick and home-bound parishioners and those who care for them.

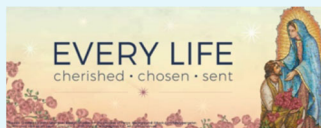
Don Abramovitz	Ray & Betty Garvels	John Rath
Janet Allan	Jim Gerdes	John Rizzello
Renee Armon	Eric Hill	Pat Romano
Kathryn Arnold	Betty Hirschmugl	Mike Sampson
Jane Audrain	Suzanne Holzum	Jean Schepers
Sonny & Donna Bolm	Bill Hughes	Anita Schiermeyer
Carol Bonner	Brenda Jaeger	Norma Schwaninger
Becky Bonner	Diane Javaux	Jimmy Smith
Nancy Brand	Kenneth Jordan	Jan Telthorst
Jim Brockmeyer	Sharon Knoppe	Rebecca Tobar
Connie Buenemann	Mike Lemp	Rudy/Brenda
Linda Buttry	Jerry McGuire	Torricelli
Maisy Grace Casey	Susie Meyer	Ron Unterreiner
Nicole Chapman	Karen Newcomb	Nanci Van Amburgh
Margaret Cima	Matt Niedringhaus	Joe & Jean Wangler
Ed Cody	Jacob Null	Angeline Weber
Matthew Cody	Jeff Painter	Gene Weckherlin
Peggy Cody	Bob/Donna Pedrotti	Bill & Joan
Leon Deimeke	Maisy Grace Pina	Weinzirl
Charles Dent	Karen Piskulic	Tom Zemblidge
Tom DuBois	Bob & Tootie	
Martha Elmore	Poder	
Till Fehrenbacher	Carolyn Putnam	

Sick Relatives and Friends:

Judy Bauman	Colleen Evans	Paul Provost
Kendell & Tina	Harold Feltmann	Dianne Rellergert
Bedell	Kim Fortier	Sr. Pat Rodemann
Jack Beine	Michael Gill	Nancy Rofkahr
Kim Boxdorfer	Chris Gooch	Sheryl Sanfilippo
Jeri Burch	Richard Hahl	Albert Schiermeyer
Chris Burns	Diane Hermann	Robert Schneider
Violete Casasus	Suzanne Johnson	Ken Schutz
Debra Cates	David Kasprzyk	Ruby Smith
Wayne Cates	Jenny Lemkemann	Alford Snowden
Nancy Chik	Leann McCarty	Grace Solimando
Diane Chorzal	Shawn McCarty	Jerry Sutterer
Tom Dalton	Trish Merklin	Judy Taylor & Family
Beau Dempewolf	Betty Merritt	Msgr. Jim Telthorst
Margaret Dickinson	Lou Merritt	Jim Wamhoff
Debbie Ditch	Mary Mudd	John Wamhoff
Jack Dowd	Melinda Oeth	Chris Wells
Fran Ebers	Shirley Pankey	Paul Williams
Kayla Emerson	Shirley Petrosky	Michelle Wilson
Chris Essner	Liz Prange	Bonnie Wittman
Sandi Essner	Mike/Cindy Prinzi	

NAMES ON THE ABOVE PRAYER LISTS WILL BE REMOVED BY JANUARY 1st IF WE DO NOT HEAR FROM YOU BEFORE THEN. PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR LOVED ONE'S NAME TO REMAIN OR BE REMOVED.

PRO-LIFE NEWS



Join the 32nd Annual National Night of Prayer for Life

Uniting the Feast of the Immaculate Conception with the Feast of St. Juan Diego- 9 PM Dec. 8th (Wednesday) to 1 AM Dec. 9th (Thursday)

It was on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception in 1531, (then celebrated on December 9th), that Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas and the Unborn, first appeared to St. Juan Diego. The National Night of Prayer for Life bridges these feasts. All nations of the world are invited to participate, as we ask Our Blessed Mother to protect Life and the Family; to renew the Church, establish Peace, and inspire Courage in the soul of our nation.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/425096695799607>

for a listing of St. Louis area events.

<https://www.archstl.org/national-night-of-prayer-for-life-held-dec-89-5971>
for more information



Scrip Gift Cards:

Scrip gift cards are available on Fridays 7:30-8am (school days) and Sundays 8am-11am (non-holiday weekends). **On Fridays,, we will be in the Scrip Room off the Gathering Area (not outside).**

These cards are wonderful stocking stuffers! For a limited time, come by the Scrip Table to buy \$5 and \$10 gift cards. Perfect for that little gift to show you care. Thank you for supporting Holy Spirit Catholic School

SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to our Nov. 29 Red & Blue winner of \$25; Sofia Morris

Thank you for supporting our school!

- Sun., Dec. 5:** Tickets on sale for Magical Morning with Santa & Baskets Raffle
- Mon., Dec. 6:** 7 pm—First Reconciliation Gr. 2
- Tues., Dec. 7:** 9:30 am—Student Reconciliation
4 pm— *Papa John's Pizza Fundraiser*
- Wed., Dec. 8:** 8 am—All School Feast of the Immaculate Conception led by Gr. 7
- Fri., Dec. 10:** Noon Dismissal—Faculty Meeting
Spirit Zone will be available
Spirit Day! Wear Holy Spirit shirts
- Sat., Dec. 11:** Gr. 5 Poinsettia Sales after 5pm Mass
- Sun., Dec. 12:** Gr. 5 Poinsettia Sales after all Masses

Feast Day Tip - St. Nicholas

You know Santa Claus is based on St. Nicholas Day, but do you celebrate his feast on **December 6?** Even today in many Catholic homes, children will leave out their shoes or bowls for St. Nicholas to fill with fruit, nuts, candy, and small gifts.

And what about letters to Santa? Originally, letters weren't sent to Santa but to Jesus. They were left in the shoes for St. Nicholas to take back to Heaven.

Even if St. Nick isn't stopping by your house, you can still celebrate the feast of the patron of children on the eve of his feast. Enjoy a large meal like turkey, duck, or goose, mulled wine, and Dutch spice cookies, or speculaas, the traditional St. Nick's Day cookie, to celebrate in the traditional way!

Visit feastday.co for more help celebrating the feasts and seasons.

PSR NEWS

Tues., Dec. 14—2nd Grade Family, Faith & Fun Night

Tues., Dec. 21—No Class.

Tues., Dec. 28—No Class

Volunteer Opportunities: *Donations for Catechist Inservice Dinner; Please Contact Linda Farhat to help*

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

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR 2021

Each day, add an item to a box and say a prayer for those in need. Thank God for all your blessings!

When you have completed this, donate your box to HandS in the Resource Center or in the HandS bins in the Gathering Area. Thank you so much!

**You can begin on the first day of Advent
(Nov. 28—Dec. 23 or Dec.1—24)**

Day 1 box of cereal
Day 2 body lotion or deodorant
Day 3 canned chicken
Day 4 cookies or snack bars
Day 5 box of pudding
Day 6 canned pineapple, pears, or oranges
Day 7 canned green beans or corn
Day 8 canned tuna
Day 9 dessert mix
Day 10 jar of applesauce (no glass please)
Day 11 shampoo
Day 12 conditioner
Day 13 canned beans
Day 14 box of crackers
Day 15 toothpaste
Day 16 mouthwash
Day 17 toothbrushes
Day 18 canned chili beans
Day 19 can of chicken or tomato soup
Day 20 canned stew or another canned meat
Day 21 can of beef or vegetarian soup
Day 22 paper towels or toilet paper
Day 23 canned potatoes or peas
Day 24 a special treat - your choice

PRAYER OF THE WEEK ~ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.



Holy Spirit Ladies Club
Invites you to join us for a
Special Holiday Gathering!

**Dec. 14 at 11:15am in the
Parish Hall. Lunch is Provided!**

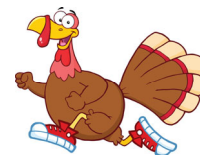
This year we will have a Holiday
Presentation by our special Guest Speaker (wink wink!)
If you LOVE Old Hollywood movies, Don't Miss It!
ALL Ladies of the Parish are WELCOME—Bring a friend!
Call Karen to reserve your spot: 314-291-1971

ThanksGIVING Day Walk/Run benefiting HandS

Thanks to all those who came out for the
Thanksgiving Day Walk/Run to benefit
our HandS Organization.

Congratulations on another
successful year!

See you next year!



SAVE THE DATE Advent Lessons & Carols

**Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France
(Old Cathedral)**

Sunday, December 12, 2021, 3:00 pm
Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski, Presiding

Music provided by the combined choirs of
the Basilica of St. Louis, King of France (Old Cathedral)
and the Shrine of St. Joseph

Free and open to the Public

WAY OF LIGHTS

OPEN NOW THROUGH DEC., 31

Wintertime sparkles at the **Shrine of Our Lady of the
Snows** as the Annual Way of Lights
Christmas display illuminates the grounds. Since 1970,
the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate have invit-
ed one and all to make the Way of Lights a part of their
family tradition. This breathtaking display focuses on
the birth of Christ, the one true light of the world.
For detailed information please visit: snows.org

Holy Spirit Parish
Advent by Candlelight
TONIGHT! Sunday, December 5, 2021
6:30pm in the Holy Spirit Church
Doors open at 6:00 pm

Contact information for this event:

Lisa Ahern – lisaahernathome@gmail.com – (314) 605-4346-cell phone

Ann Allman – anncallman@gmail.com – (314) 724-2124-cell phone

What can you expect from Advent by Candlelight 2021?

Because of the ongoing pandemic, we will gather in church for an evening of music, songs, speaker, and great inspiration. Join us for a glimpse into the humble life of *St. Joseph*.

We will conduct seating as we do with Sunday Masses. No reservations. Come as you are. Masks are required for the whole evening. Cookies and drinks will be served after the event in the Parish Hall. There is always *Room at the Inn* for you.

Who is invited?

This is a ladies-only night out. We have *Room at the Inn* for you.

This event is for the ladies of our parish and/or their relatives/friends.

Let us wait together in this Advent season.

Live-Streaming will be available.

If you're unable to attend in person but would still like to share in this inspirational evening, you can watch it live on You Tube. Look for the link on the Holy Spirit website. Will you tune in as we honor *St. Joseph* on this Advent evening?



Donations to Charity

Our charity this year is: *Room at the Inn*.

All donations will stay in the Maryland Heights/Bridgeton area.

Room at the Inn volunteers prepare/serve an evening meal and host overnight guests and families for those that are homeless and in desperate need.

Room at the Inn charity is asking for the following donations:

~Pre-made juices, lemonade, and tea in plastic bottles...NO GLASS please.

~Gift cards to purchase ingredients for the evening meal: Schnucks, Aldi, Dierbergs, any grocery store in this area.



"I cannot say whether things will get better if we change; what I can say is that they must change if they are to get better."

Georg Lichtenberg (1700's German philosopher and physicist)

A BUSY MOTHER

*Only after the Last Judgment will Mary get any rest;
from now until then, she is much too busy with her children.*

—St. John Vianney

YOUTH MINISTRY

FIND HOLY SPIRIT YOUTH MINISTRY

ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM www.facebook.com/hsyouth

AND as [hs_youth_stl](#) (HS Youth STL) on Instagram

OUR SAINTS ARE SHOWING

Watch for our **Saint Display** beginning December 5 on Facebook and Instagram, and in person the Parish Hall in January. Enjoy learning about different Saints, and why our young people chose them as their Saint names.

GOT COLLEGE STUDENTS?

Thanks to those who have responded! Another mailing will go out in November/December. If you have a child who has graduated high school, is away at college or staying at home and working, I'd like to send them some mail from time to time.

Email deisenbath@holyspiritstl.org with their address, and I'll add them to the list.

HIGH SCHOOL EAT.PRAY.DISCUSS.

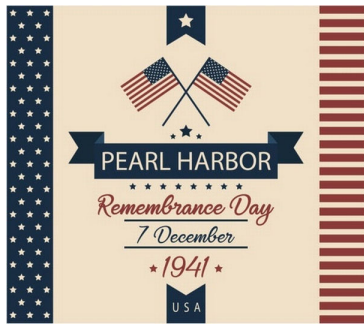
Are you in high school? Want to make new friends, deepen old friendships, and grow in faith? Join us for Eat. Pray. Discuss as we talk the issues you are facing, and find ways to see how God is active within those times. We meet in the Resource Center in the Holy Spirit Room (come to the basement door) from 7:00-9:00 p.m. every Thursday. Bring a friend. All are welcome.

ADVENT PRAYER STARTERS FOR PARENTS AND TEENS:

Cut a simple manger shape (or use a manger that you have, and cut out strips of yellow paper as hay. At the end of the day pray over where you received or gave kindness. Write it down on a strip of "hay" and place it in the manger. Continue to fill the manger with hay throughout Advent, reread them on Christmas eve and pray a prayer asking Christ to be born in you this Christmas.

We talk a lot about light and darkness in Advent. Ask, "What are some places where you see darkness in the world?" Say a prayer together for healing.

Ask "How can we be more like Jesus bringing light into the world? Where is one place you can be more kind, grateful, helpful, loving, etc. this week?" Say a prayer together asking the Holy Spirit to help you live out what you've discussed. Revisit at the end of the week to see how it went.



“A Date Which Will Live in Infamy”

Each year on Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Survivors, veterans, and visitors from all over the world come together to honor and remember the 2,403 service members and civilians who were killed during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. A further 1,178 people were injured in the attack, which permanently sank two U.S. Navy battleships (the USS *Arizona* and the USS *Utah*) and destroyed 188 aircraft.

May we never forget their bravery, their selflessness, and their sacrifice for the noble causes of liberty and peace.

Help Needed Transporting Large Items

We desperately need help transporting mattresses and bedding to the St. Francis Community Services for needy immigrants/refugees in South St. Louis. The Holy Spirit ‘Room at the Inn’ is no longer in need of these beds and sheets, and we want to share these much needed items with these lovely people. There is still a total of eleven single-bed mattresses and bedding, so appropriate trucks are required.

If you can help in any way, please call Clare Duffy: 314-291-2144

SENIOR EXERCISE

Please join us every Wed. and Thurs. at 9:00am in the Annex for stretching, flexibility, balance and strengthening exercises! Men and Women Welcome! We pray for each other and have lots of fun! To learn more, leave a message for Clare Duffy 314-291-2144

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! Baptism of Repentance

We should be grateful that we have been baptized and claimed for Christ. The Holy Spirit has come into our hearts and Christ has washed away the stain of original sin. As a result, we are able to enter into heaven and attain union with God in eternal beatitude (CCC 1213-1216).

The work is not done, though. We still suffer from concupiscence, our natural inclination to sin, and must face trials and temptations in our spiritual journey of life. Fortunately, the Holy Spirit guides us to repent and to turn away from our sins. He enables us to accept our adoption as sons and daughters of God who walk in the light of Christ.

What is holding you back from fully embracing your status as a child of God? How can you more fully repent and experience the grace of God working in your life?

archstl.org/dynamic



Our Stephen Ministers Are Ready to Care for You!

We all go through times in our life when we could benefit from a little extra care and attention.

We provide confidential, one-to-one, Christian care to people who are experiencing a difficult time. If you are hurting, call the confidential Hotline today: (314) 739-0230 ext.130.

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to bring God’s love and care into your life

Volunteers are still needed as Ministers and Servers for all *Christmas Masses*.

Please see the signup sheet in the Gathering Area

Thank you so much!

STRENGTH AND COURAGE

Prayer infuses the weak with strength and the fainthearted with courage.

—Anonymous



2nd Sunday of Advent, Cycle C

Baruch 5:1-9
Ps 126:1-6
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6

Monday December 6

Isaiah 35:1-10
Ps 85:9-14
Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday December 7

St. Ambrose
Isaiah 40:1-11
Ps 96:1-3, 10-13
Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Genesis 3:9-15, 20
Ps 98:1-4
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12
Luke 1:26-38

Thursday December 9

Isaiah 41:13-20
Ps 145:1, 9-13ab
Matthew 11:11-15

Friday December 10

Isaiah 48:17-19
Ps 1:1-4, 6
Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday December 11

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11
Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19
Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

While we're shopping for gifts, decorating, and sending Christmas cards, what are we doing to make Christmas a new rebirth of Christ for our daily lives?

All the readings at Mass during Advent remind us that this season is a time intended for spiritual preparation. It's tempting to let the busyness of December distract us from the most important purpose of Advent: our personal spiritual growth.

In our responsorial Psalm today, we proclaim: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!" Do you actually feel joyful when you mouth these words?

It takes faith to experience joy in the midst of hardships. Faith grows from knowing that the Lord does great things for us because of his mercy — not because we have earned it, as we'll never be good enough. Repenting from our sins opens us to become aware of this mercy.

Therefore, Saint John the Baptizer is proclaiming to us today: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"

Now is the time to ask: What preparations do I need to make? What am I doing to straighten out the messes in my life, the areas of sin that continually distract me from a close relationship with Christ?

What penances will help "make straight" my path?

What depressing or discouraging valley of hardship needs to get filled with the joy of the Lord? If it seems hopeless, what will I do to let Jesus take charge of it? What mountain of debt or difficult obstacle needs to be made low by having faith in the Lord's digging tools?

What's twisted and warped in my thinking, like a road that winds through a jungle of confusion? I pray, Holy Spirit, that you will lead me straight to holiness! What's rough about me? What's edgy and sharp and rubs others the wrong way? Lord Jesus, smooth me like a diamond polisher.

Throughout, let us examine the ways in which we still need to see the salvation of God. Let us make a plan of action to be holier and happier at the end of the Jubilee Year than we are today!

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Which of the above questions stand out most for you?
2. What will you do with this to prepare the way of the Lord so that your faith grows?
3. Name a tradition you grew up with that prepared you for Christmas. How did this affect your spiritual growth?
4. What's your favorite way of preparing for the holy celebration of Christmas? Why?

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT — (DECEMBER 12 2021)
Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18



Life Matters

Say Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!

ENGLERT
LeafGuard®
Get it. And forget it.®

Serving St. Louis Since 1904

FINDaPARISH.com



**CATHOLIC
SUPPLY®**
OF ST. LOUIS, INC.

RELIGIOUS GIFTS & DECOR | SCHOOL UNIFORMS | BOOKS & BIBLES
STATUARY | NATIVITIES | CHURCH SUPPLIES | CANDLES
SEASONAL & SACRAMENTAL GIFTS

ST. LOUIS HILLS
6759 Chippewa Street
(at Jamieson, across from Ted Drewes)
St. Louis, MO 63109
(314) 644-0643

O'FALLON, MO
2985 Hwy K
(at Hwy N, near Dierbergs)
O'Fallon, MO 63368
(636) 379-3705

SHOP ONLINE! catholicsupply.com



Consider
Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will.

For further information,
please call the Parish Office.



Jeffrey Portman
Financial Advisor
Parishioner

11960 Westline Industrial Dr., Ste. 235
St. Louis, MO 63146

314-888-0115 jportman@wradvisors.com

Investing.
With
a plan.



Proven Solutions for a Growing World

\$20 OFF

Tree Pruning / Removal / Fertilization
314-782-5328 | davey.com

**ROMANTIQUE
JEWELERS**

DIAMONDS - ENGAGEMENT & WEDDING RINGS
CUSTOM DESIGN - WATCHES
JEWELRY & WATCH REPAIR

3430 C McKelvey Rd. 314.291.0048

WWW.ROMANTIQUEJEWELERS.COM

For Jewelry Unique, It's Romantic

STAPLES SERVICE CO.
A to Z APPLIANCE SERVICE

Sales • Service • Installation

All Brands of Major Appliances

Air Conditioners & Furnaces • Water Heaters

314-291-4638 • 314-867-3555

*American
Standard*

Ray Staples
Cell: 314-605-3121



Bolk Tax Service CPA, LLC

Individual tax returns, plus small
business accounting and tax
solutions, for over 35 years.

Bill Bolk, Proprietor

Ph: (314) 434-1040

Email: bill@bolktx.com

13916 Olive Blvd
Chesterfield • 63017

Helpful tax tips: www.bolktx.com



Jeff Painter

Financial Advisor, Parishioner

3050 W. Clay St Suite 102, St. Charles, MO 63301

636-949-8800

jeff.painter@edwardjones.com

Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Protecting **Seniors**
Nationwide

Medical Alert System

\$29.95/Mo. billed quarterly

- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation



Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

Catholic Cruises and Tours and The Apostleship
of the Sea of the United States of America

Take your FAITH ON A JOURNEY.

Call us today at 860-399-1785 or email
eileen@CatholicCruisesandTours.com

www.CatholicCruisesandTours.com

**H & S
ACCOUNTING & TAX**

INCOME TAXES • BOOKKEEPING

11364 DORSETT ROAD

MARYLAND HEIGHTS, MO 63043

TOM MCGILLYCUDDY 739-0811



William Cantrell, Owner & Parishioner

ASE Certified Mechanics

All Makes & Models Repaired

Family Owned - 35 years

Brake Inspection
FREE
With \$25 Minimum Purchase
Offer valid until April 30, 2016
and may not be combined with other offers



12444 Olive Blvd • Creve Coeur, MO
(314) 514-1111



9222 Lackland Rd. • Overland, MO
427-2222

Funeral Directors Since 1935
Family Owned and Operated

**DANNEGGER
BROTHERS**

WATERPROOFING AND
FOUNDATION REPAIR

Family Owned and Operated

429-1656 993-1833

Jim Moll



**COLDWELL
BANKER®**
GUNDAKER

314-280-7878

jimmoll@jimmoll.com

**COLLIER'S
FUNERAL HOME**

3400 NORTH LINDBERGH

(1 1/2 Miles South of I-70)

298-1212

Family Owned and Operated

Established 1946



Residential & Commercial
Repairs • Replacements

For a free assessment call

Kevin Nix @ 314-374-2851

Don't forget to ask about
your parishioner discount!

Fully Insured • HAAG Certified Roof
Inspector • Insurance Claims Specialist

**The Medicine
Shope®**

BRYAN HERCULES, M.S., R. Ph.
2514 Woodson Road
(314) 427-1818

ONE PARISH

Download Our Free App or Visit

www.MY.ONEPARISH.com

Grow in your faith,
find a Mass, and
connect with your
Catholic Community
with OneParish!



**ANDY WURM
TIRE & WHEEL**

201 South Florissant
Ferguson
522-3040
www.andywurm.com
ASE Certified Mechanics
MICHELIN • B.F. GOODRICH • LEXANI • UNIROYAL



**Bieg
PLUMBING COMPANY**

Commercial & Residential

(314) 487-4564

so it can work for you too.

Call 855-685-5703

BULLETIN ADVERTISING WORKS

...but we got your attention!
No, we didn't make a mistake



DO YOU HAVE SALES EXPERIENCE? ARE YOU WELL
NETWORKED IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?

J.S. PALUCH COMPANY
NATIONAL PUBLISHER OF CHURCH BULLETINS

- Full Time Positions Available with Excellent Earning Potential!
- Medical Benefits, 401K, Life & AD&D Insurance Available
- Excellent Commission Compensation Program

Interested? Call Kay Leane 1.800.621.5197 x2823

or Email Resume to RECRUITING@JSPALUCH.COM

www.jspaluch.com

EARN MONEY!
DO GOOD! MAKE A
POSITIVE IMPACT!