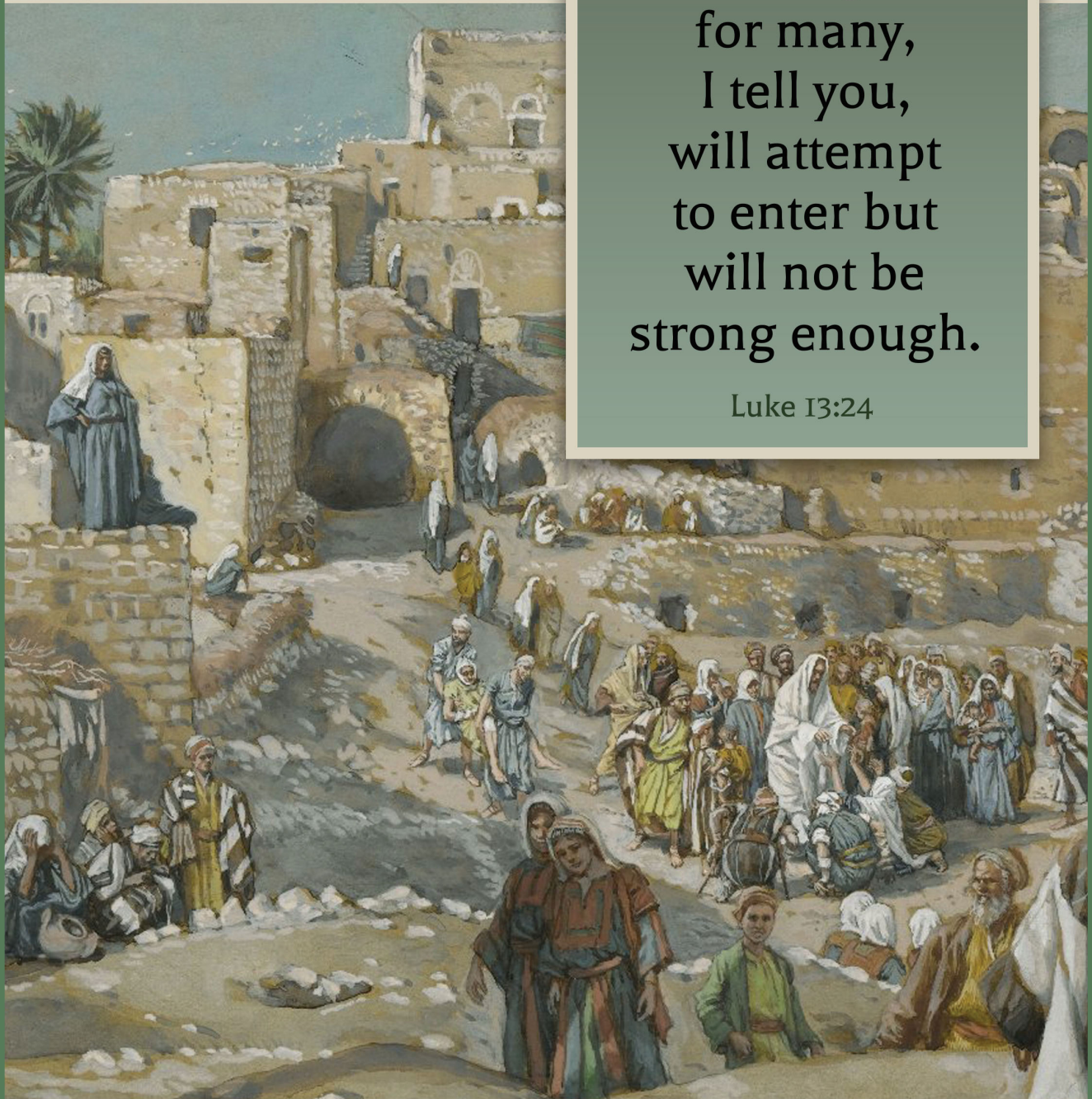


Holy Spirit Catholic Church

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Strive to enter
through the
narrow gate,
for many,
I tell you,
will attempt
to enter but
will not be
strong enough.

Luke 13:24



AUGUST 21, 2022

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 Manager	Ext. 104
jessner@holyspiritstl.org	
Marilyn O'Neill, Director of Music.	Ext. 107
moneill@holyspiritstl.org	
Donna Eisenbath, PSR Director/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 Adoration
1:00pm—6:50pm followed by Benediction

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.



August 21, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Please let me start by thanking you for your thoughtful consideration and honest feedback to our various All Things New surveys, outreach and strategic planning endeavors. Your prayers and input have been most valuable to this effort.

As I write, I'm reflecting on something the Holy Father said several years ago that remains true and especially relevant to us in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Pope Francis said "we are not living an era of change, but a change of era." The All Things New pastoral planning process is going to bring historic change to the Archdiocese of St. Louis. We know that our current model is not sustainable. As we start to look at potential plans for parishes, ministries and schools to ensure a vibrant presence and future for the Archdiocese, I'd like to update you as to where we are in the process.

In this next phase, we will begin a conversation with our archdiocesan priests and parishioners to discuss draft models, which are based on demographics, sacramental data and feedback received from the Disciple Maker Index survey and other consultative bodies. This past Friday, we presented the information we gathered and preliminary proposals for parishes to our priests to gather their feedback. Then, over the next several months, we will share updated proposals in a series of listening sessions hosted at each parish to hear your thoughts about the proposed models. Please let me remind you that these parish models are preliminary and will be adjusted based on your feedback. Specific information regarding schools will be released later.

Our goal is to implement a vision for evangelization that is accessible to all and empowers every Catholic to spread the Gospel message - today and for generations to come.

This is our primary focus as Catholics, and so I urge you all to bear this in mind as we take the next steps. We are called to collaborate as the Catholic Church rather than compete as many individual churches. I encourage you to engage with us during our listening sessions with an open heart and mind, as we continue to discern where the Lord is leading us. We will continue to update you through allthingsnew.archstl.org. May God bless you, your family and your parish community.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 21

7:30am Jane Dixon
9:00am People of the Parish
11:00am Mike Sampson

Monday, August 22

6:30am Kathleen Schneider

Tuesday, August 23

6:30am Mike Rolfes

Wednesday, August 24

6:30am Charles Kraemer

Thursday, August 25

8:00am Richard Feldhaus

Friday, August 26

8:00am Monica Rielly

Saturday, August 27

8:00am George Hendrickson
5:00pm Cory Fisk

Sunday, August 28

7:30am People of Parish
9:00am Paula Davidson
11:00am Jefferson Giovannini

Consider Electronic Giving Year-Round

TO SIGN UP FOR ONLINE GIVING, GO TO

<https://holyspiritstl.org/Online-Giving>

If you need help navigating the website, please call

Mary Saputo at the Parish Office

314-739-0230

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Stewardship for Aug. 1 - Aug. 7, 2022

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 14,484.00
Loose Collection	\$ 452.00
Online Donations	\$ 7,354.00
Total	\$ 22,290.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 17,410.00
Weekly Surplus (shortfall)	\$ 4,880.00

HandS	Parish Improvements
\$485.00	\$354.00

PRO-LIFE NEWS

From the USCCB:

“The Top 10 Reasons to Oppose Assisted Suicide”

1. Assisted suicide is a deadly mix with our profit-driven health care system
2. Assisted suicide invites coercion putting vulnerable persons at risk of abuse
3. Terminal illness defined dangerously broad; predictions of life expectancy are notoriously inaccurate
4. Untreated pain is not among the top reasons cited for taking lethal drugs
5. Definition of self-administration opens door to euthanasia
6. No psychiatric evaluation or treatment is required; patients with depression qualify for assisted suicide
7. Assisted suicide threatens improved palliative care
8. Publicity about suicide and assisted suicide, especially when presented favorably, leads to more suicides.
9. Assisted suicide operates through deception and secrecy
10. Assisted suicide fosters discrimination

For the full article go to: <https://www.usccb.org/resources/top-reasons-oppose-assisted-suicide>



FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

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

♦ **PATTY STREET, WIFE OF WARREN, MOTHER OF LISA CWIKLOWSKI**

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, 314-739-0230.

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.

SCHOOL NEWS

Wed., Aug. 24: 10:30 AM—Palmer Music presentation for students; School Gym
Mon., Aug. 29: Bookmobile visiting Holy Spirit School
Wed., Aug. 31: 6:00 PM Home & School Meeting; then "Meet the Teacher" **PARENTS ONLY**

YOUTH MINISTRY

FIND HOLY SPIRIT YOUTH MINISTRY

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

HIGH SCHOOL TEENS:

EAT. PRAY. DISCUSS. **gatherings** are Thursday nights in the Resource Center from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. WE NEED YOU to help us plan and vision for youth ministry at Holy Spirit! The more people we have the more fun it will be. We have games, snacks, and will pray together. Join us and bring a friend. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to commit to every Thursday. Just come when you can and stay as long as you like. We are always happy to have you.

CONFIRMATION

- **8TH GRADE FAMILIES** – Session 6: Relationships along with a service project should be done over the summer with your sponsor before our next session at the end of September.
- Look for a sign-up sheet for your fall sessions in your email. Please return them by **September 2**.
- ***If you have NOT turned in your Sacramental Record Form due last April, please do so to Donna Eisenbath.***

WE NEED YOU!

PRAYER PARTNERS – The most important thing you can do for us is pray. Watch here for opportunities to pray for specific needs for youth ministry and our young people.

AUGUST: Please ask God to guide our team as we work to invite young people participate in ministry. Inspire us in new ways. Encourage us. Open our minds and hearts to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MADNESS CHAPERONES – We will need PCG adults to help chaperone one Friday a month (7 dates) from 7-9 p.m. October to April. Please contact Donna Eisenbath if you are able to help one month. Volunteer for one or more months to help make this fun opportunity possible for our 7th and 8th grade.

BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER (adapted from a prayer by Tom Dermody of the Peoria, IL diocesan news)

Blessed are you, Lord God, Creator of body and mind and heart;

you have sent the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge to guide your people in all their ways.

At the beginning of this new school year, we implore your mercy.

Bless and protect our students, teachers, staffs, their families.

Give wisdom to the decision makers, be they in our schools or in our homes. Expand the horizons of our minds, and deepen our commitment to seek the truth of your ways.

Enliven our faith to reach out to those in need, particularly those isolated and lonely. In this new beginning and time of change, help us to trust in the love of your Son Jesus, our Divine Teacher, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.

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

Don Abramovitz	Kathy Glaser	Bob/Tootie
Julia Andert	Norma Gross	Ponder
Lorraine Bath	Sherry Holland	Carolyn Putnam
Ronnie Bindbeutel	Kenneth Jordan	John Rath
Carol Bonner	Sue Knoesel	Jean Schepers
Becky Bonner	Ken Kramer	Pete Schwaninger
Jim Brockmeyer	Michael Lemp	Lois Smith
Karen Clarke	Charles Medvick	Jan Telthorst
Leon Deimeke	Susie Meyer	Rudi/Brenda
Tom DuBois	Glenn Mueller	Torricelli
Debbie Dufaux	Jacob Painter	Bill/JoanWeinzirl
Till Fehrbacher	Bob/Donna Pedrotti	Tom/Jeanne
Ray/Betty Garvels	Karen Piskulic	Zemblidge
Jim Gerdes	Pat Romano	

Please remember in your prayers our
Sick Relatives and Friends:

Kathryn Arnold	Carol Heffner	Mike Prinzi
Bailey Family	Greg/Jane Hefley	Jan Redden
Kendell/Tina	Paul Hyduchak	Alford Snowden
Bedell	Suzanne Johnson	Grace Solimando
Ann/Bill Boewer	Jenny Lemkemann	Caroline Van Scoyk
Teagan Bracken	Barb McDonald	Bob Stroder
Brenda Joyce	Alton Mercer	Jerry Sutterer
Crouch	Trish Merklin	Joyce Watts
Byron Difani	Lou /Betty Merritt	Chris Wells
Steve Essner	Colin Meyer	Paul Williams
Harold Feltmann	John Misauraca	Michelle Wilson
Kathy First	Bill Nobles	Ruby Winschel
John Garvels	Melinda Oeth	
Michael Gill	Liz Prange	

ST. PATRICK CENTER CASSEROLES
WED. AUG. 24

**Casserole Collection will be from
6:30am—9am on this date**

in the white bin at the curb outside
the entrance to church.

(In case of inclement weather, in the Parish Hall)
Pans/lids will also be available for you to pick up.
For more information, contact Mary Beth Schulte,
314-229-8067 or SpecRelEdu@aol.com.

ST. PATRICK CENTER SALAD
SUN. AUG. 28

Holy Spirit volunteers provide salads and/or
components to help feed the homeless.

**Salad and/or components will be collected
between 8 & 10 am on this date.**

The container will be in the Gathering Area.
For more information contact
Ellen Staples, 314-422-2381.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry

We have Pocket Prayer shawls (also called mini prayer shawls) and Prayer Wristbands in the gathering area in a basket on the desk near the door. The pocket prayer shawls and wristbands are great to have with you in a pocket or purse as a reminder of God's love. The wristbands are especially nice for people who are in the hospital or those having medical procedures. With the doctor's permission they can often be worn during procedures. Full sized Prayer Shawls are available for women, men and children. All of the items were hand made by parishioners. Full sized shawls and lapghans are available upon request at no cost - see my contact information below.

Please Note:

Our August meeting has been cancelled

If you have any questions, or want a shawl, don't hesitate to call or text Mary at 314-497-5048. You can also email at dalebannister@sbcglobal.net.
call or text Mary at 314-497
(or email: dalebannister@sbcglobal.net)

PSR NEWS

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION-REGISTRATION FOR 2022-2023—CLASSES ARE TUESDAY EVENINGS, 6:45-8PM

If you have not registered your child(ren) for Parish School of Religion for the 2022-2023 school year, you must do so ASAP. We want each child to feel welcome, and that means we need to be prepared for them. We are putting together supplies, books, and class rosters on now.

Registration and credit card payments are all online at www.holyspirit.psrenroll.com. If you do not have computer access and need assistance, contact Donna Eisenbath 314-954-1326 or deisenbath@holyspiritstl.org; or Julie Spinner 314-739-0230 or jspinner@holyspiritstl.org

PSR classes are for students in grades 1-8 who attend public schools. Sessions focus on the message of Jesus, experienced within a community of faith with opportunities to pray, worship and do service for others.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION-IMPORTANT DATES

*SUN., AUG. 27&28 - Ted Drewes fundraiser after all Masses

*TUES., AUG. 30 – 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. Come at 6:45 and enjoy the ice cream truck from 7-7:30

*TUES., SEP. 6 – 6:45 to 8:00 p.m. – First night of PSR

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sunday, August 21

◇ **ADVANCE TICKET SALES FOR CARNIVAL!**

◇ **7:30-Noon—LAST Car Wash, Front Lot**

7:00pm—Al-Anon, Rigali Rm & Zoom

Monday, August 22

1:00-7:00pm—Eucharistic Adoration,
closing with Benediction at 6:50pm

6:00pm—Quilting, Annex

Tuesday, August 23

9:00am—Quilting, Annex

12:00—Lunch Bunch, Sports Cafe

Wednesday, August 24

6:30am-9am—St. Pat's Ctr. Casserole, P. Hall

9:00am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.

NO Prayer Shawl Meeting Tonight

Thursday, August 25

9:00am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.

6pm-7pm—Bell Choir Practice

7:15pm-8:30pm—Adult Choir Practice

7:00-8:15pm—Al Anon, by Zoom only

Saturday, August 27

4:00pm—Confessions

Sunday, August 28

◇ **ADVANCE TICKET SALES FOR CARNIVAL!**

8:00am-10am—St. Pat's Ctr. Salad, P. Hall

7:00pm—Al-Anon, Rigali Rm & Zoom

Holy Spirit ACTS

WANT TO GET AWAY?

A dedicated group of Holy Spirit parishioners are inviting you to attend the next ACTS Retreat! ACTS (Adoration/Community/Theology/Service) is a Catholic retreat that will take place this Fall at the **Pallottine Renewal Center in Florissant** on **Sept. 29—Oct. 22, 2022**

Registration is now OPEN

for this special weekend.

Just think...time to Increase your Faith with
No cleaning, No cooking, No grocery shopping,
No diapers to change No laundry, No emails
and No deadlines!

You will have a private room and enjoy the fellowship of other faith filled women! The cost of each retreatant is \$250. Scholarships are available if this cost is a hardship.

**If you are interested or have any questions,
please contact:**

Sharon Silver

314-578-5186

or sharonsilver2433@gmail.com



Lunch Bunch!

TUES., AUGUST 23 our older adult parishioners are invited to gather at 11 am
for light-hearted conversation while enjoying lunch together.

Please Call The Office to RSVP by Mon. Aug. 22: 314-739-0230

SPORTS CAFÉ, 3579 Pennridge Dr., Bridgeton, MO 63044

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

Marriage Preparation Class: ENHANCED

Engaged couples can experience a unique Marriage Preparation Class: ENHANCED event which includes the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday and Sunday Mass with recognition and special blessing. The next **Marriage Preparation Class ENHANCED** program will be held at

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in O'Fallon, MO on August 27 & 28.

This class brings couples closer to Christ through the sacraments.

For more information or to register, visit marriageprepsdl.org

WORTHY TEACHERS

All who undertake to teach must be endowed with deep love, the greatest patience, and, most of all, profound humility. The Lord will find them worthy to become fellow workers with Him in the cause of truth.

~St. Joseph Calasanz



HOLY SPIRIT CARNIVAL

SEPTEMBER 9 & 10, 2022

Many volunteers are needed to have a successful Carnival.

We need help with running the booths.

It's a great way to meet others in the parish and have fun too!

Please sign up online:

Adult Volunteers

<https://signup.com/go/rZNcCEf>

Food Court

<https://signup.com/go/FQnMZSg>

Game Booths

<https://signup.com/go/VYntYGN>

Chicken Dinner and Bingo

<https://signup.com/go/DkSvvHE>

OR complete this form and return it to the parish office:

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

I would like to be contacted to work a booth.

Friday: _____ 5-7 p.m. _____ 7-9 p.m. _____ 9-11 p.m.

Saturday: _____ 1-3 p.m. _____ 3-5 p.m. _____ 5-7 p.m.
 _____ 7-9 p.m. _____ 9-11 p.m.

If you have questions contact:

Jeff (249-6572) or Shannon (276-6934) Purvis

jeffrey.l.purvis@gmail.com shannonpurvis@hotmail.com

Thank you in advance for your time!

CARNIVAL NEWS

ADVANCE TICKET SALES

AUG. 27 & 28
SEPT. 3 & 4
IN THE PARISH HALL
AFTER ALL MASSES

Ride Tickets — 25 for \$20
(Day of: 22 for \$20 or \$1.25 each)

Game Tickets — 6 for \$5
(Day of: \$1 each)

Food & Drink Tickets — 6 for \$5

Main Raffle Tickets — 6 for \$25
OR \$5 each

**There is a Limited Number of
tickets Available for our
delicious Chicken Dinner!**
Get yours EARLY!

CHICKEN DINNER!

IN THE PARISH HALL
Saturday evening ONLY,
4:30 to 7:00 PM

White Meat Meal ~ \$10

Breast & Wing
(includes 2 sides, roll/butter, drink & dessert)

Dark Meat Meal ~ \$8

Thigh & Leg
(includes 2 sides, roll/butter, drink & dessert)

DESSERTS NEEDED!



Please drop off desserts in the
Parish Hall anytime on Friday,
Sept. 9, and up until 4:00pm on
Saturday, Sept. 10.

**Please provide desserts in a
disposable container.**



BENEFITS OF WORKING AT A CARNIVAL BOOTH

- ✚ Your children will know where to find you.!
- ✚ While you're working, you're not spending money.!
- ✚ An opportunity to meet other people in the parish.!
- ✚ Give the booth chairman a break.!
- ✚ An easy way for high school students to earn their service hours.
- ✚ You'll feel good for being a part of it and knowing you had a part in making it happen.!



**The CARNIVAL
is 3 WEEKS AWAY!**
Please consider donating some cute
and cuddly stuffed animals.

Please make sure that they are
NEW or GENTLY USED
There is a drop-off box in the Gathering Area.
Thank You!



Friday ~ Sept. 9
5 to 10:00 p.m.

AND

Saturday ~ Sept. 10,
1 to 3:30 p.m.
8 to 10:00 p.m.

**Join us in the Parish Hall for
some FUN and Cool Off!**

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:18-21
(Mark 16:15) Ps 117:1,2
Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13
Luke 13:22-30

Monday August 22
Queenship of Virgin Mary
2 Thessalonians 1:1-5,11-12
Ps 96:1-2a,2b-3,4-5
Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday August 23
2 Thes 2:1-3a,14-17
Ps 96:10-13
Matthew 23:23-26

Wednesday August 24
St. Bartholomew
Revelation 21:9b-14
Ps 145:10-13,17-18
John 1:45-51

Thursday August 25
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Ps 145:2-7
Matthew 24:42-51

Friday August 26
1 Corinthians 1:17-25
Ps 33:1-2,4-5,10-11
Matthew 25:1-13

Saturday August 27
St. Monica
1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Ps 33:12-13,18-21
Matthew 25:14-30

This Sunday's scripture readings are signposts on the road to the narrow gate into heaven. Isaiah says that God knows our

works and our thoughts. To help us sanctify our works and purify our thoughts, so that we can see the fullness of the glory of God when we die, he sets a sign among us. It is Jesus. His life – how he lived and how he died – are a sign of how to enter heaven.

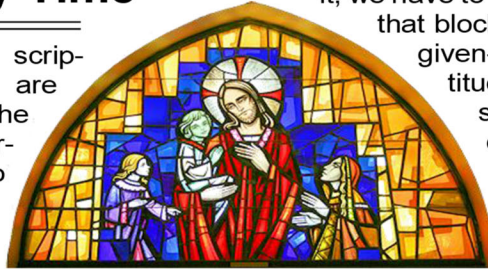
He says in the Gospel reading that many will attempt to enter salvation who are not strong enough. Strong enough for what?

Throughout the Gospel, Jesus gives us the answer to that: We must be perfect in love. That does not mean that mistakes and other imperfections will lock us out of heaven. The key that opens the gate to heaven is love, and if we throw love away, we throw that key away.

It's very unlikely, however, that we will ever completely throw love away, even though we sin. But how can we be perfect in love? Perfect love means we love fully. Always. Unconditionally. Sacrificially. Radically.

To be perfect in love, we need to have the Lord's own love. We need Jesus to dwell in us and reach others through us. On our own, we cannot love fully, but when we rely on God to give us his love for others, we have perfect love. To rely on God's love and feel confident in

it, we have to get rid of anything that blocks his love: unforgiveness, vengeful attitudes, lingering resentments and cynicism, and the apathetic ignoring of the needs of others.



The reading from Hebrews tells us not to disdain the discipline of the Lord. No matter what causes our hardships and trials or who's to blame, God uses them to perfect us in love. If we recognize these as opportunities to grow in love – if we seek God in them and let him stretch our ability to love – we become more like Jesus. We make the path toward heaven straight, and what is lame and disjointed in our spirituality is healed.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Who in your life is difficult to love? (Don't forget to consider the unloving behaviors you have toward yourself.)
2. How might God be using these hard-to-love people to strengthen your ability to love more perfectly?
3. People who are difficult to love are saint-makers, because they give us opportunities to identify and overcome (with God's help of course) the imperfections in our ability to love. What happens if we give God permission to change us when we wish someone else would change? How is this a key to heaven?

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TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — (AUGUST 28, 2022)

**Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-7, 10-11;
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14**



What is All Things New?

We all know that the Church of today is not the same that it was 50, 100 or 150+ years ago, and yet we are still functioning in many ways out of the same mode of evangelization. We have inherited a great treasure of Catholic institutions from previous generations, but as the Catholic population and society have shifted over the past several decades, they are no longer as effective or sustainable as they once were.

We are closer now to 2050 than to 1950. We need to ask ourselves what our parishes, ministries and institutions need to look like in order to effectively share the faith in a way that is suitable and sustainable for our children and generations to come.

All Things New is evaluating the effectiveness of the Church in St. Louis in proclaiming the Gospel and identifying opportunities for improvement and renewal within all parishes, schools and curia offices and agencies.

Why is the Archdiocese of St. Louis making these changes now?

- Our Catholic population continues to decline and age.
- Our priests are aging and as a result, their number is declining.
- Mass attendance and sacramental participation continue to decline.
- Fewer children attend Catholic Schools and Religious Education (PSR).
- Our resources are finite and need to be realigned.

On August 19, 2022, Archbishop Rozanski met with Archdiocesan priests. What was shared?

The Archbishop and Fr. Chris Martin, Vicar for Strategic Planning, shared the next phase of All Things New with archdiocesan priests, which included *proposed* parish models based on our Planning Areas.

A Planning Area is a number of parishes and schools in a geographic region which will be considered together to develop proposed structural options for the future. There are 15 planning areas in the Archdiocese.

They saw several options as to how parishes in their specific Planning Area could be structured and collaborate in the future. Each option is termed a “model.”

The models are “unfinished” because they need your insight and feedback.

What's next?

Archdiocesan priests will evaluate the Planning Areas and Models and offer feedback. Their feedback will be incorporated into the models. Then, the updated Planning Areas and Models will be shared at every parish in listening sessions. The purpose of the listening sessions is to gather your input on these proposed options that are specific to your parish so that over the next year a recommendation can be presented to Archbishop Rozanski for his discernment.

Modelled parishes are generally much larger than current parishes. On average, parishes are 2 to 2.5 x larger.

What happens after the Listening Sessions?

All parishioners across the Archdiocese will have an opportunity to provide feedback through an open-ended survey about their parish's model options after the listening sessions. This feedback will be incorporated into revised models which will be refined with input from the pastors and key parish leaders throughout the winter 2022 and into 2023. Once a final recommended grouping of parishes and schools is determined, the model will also include the following:

- Recommendations concerning buildings to be used by the merged parish
- The number of priests initially assigned
- Suggested evangelization and ministry strategies

What is the timeline for this?

While decisions will be made in spring 2023, implementation will not begin until fall 2023 and will extend through 2026. Implementation will occur in a phased approach over time to allow for orderly planning and transition at the local level, led by your pastor and supported by the Archdiocese.

What can we as local Catholics do now?

You are encouraged to attend your parish's listening sessions with open hearts and minds. Continue to attend Mass, participate in the Sacraments and pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to pour out upon the Church of St. Louis, to grant us the gift of true discernment, so we may do His will in all things.



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