Catholic Schools Week

Begins Today!

Come see what Holy Spirit School has to offer...

Open House Today, Sunday, January 26th, from 10 AM to 1 PM

Tour the school and meet the teachers!

Liturgy of the Word

There will be NO Liturgy of the Word for Children Today, Sunday, January 26th, due to Catholic Schools Week. We will resume on Feb. 2nd at the 11 am Mass only due to the First Communion Enrollment Mass.

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.
**Mass Schedule**

Monday thru Wednesday..........................6:30am
Thursday and Friday.................................8:00am
Holy Days 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

**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.
Holy Days: Please consult the bulletin.

**Eucharistic Exposition**
Mondays, 1 to 7 p.m. (closing with Benediction at approximately 6:50 p.m.).

**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 Karen Rychlewski.

**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 see one of the priests after Mass. 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, Commission and group name. Items can be e-mailed to mwelsh@holyspiritstl.org.

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**What’s Happening This Week**

**Sunday, January 26**

- **Donuts & Coffee, hosted by the Girl Scouts**
  7:00am—St. Patrick’s Salad Sunday, Parish Hall
  9:00am—Catholic Schools Week Open House,
  PreSchool, PreK & Community Rms.
  —RCIA, Holy Spirit Rm.
  10:00am—Catholic Schools Week Open House,
  Full-time School
  7:00pm—Al Anon, Community Rm.

**Monday, January 27**

- 8:00am—Scholarship Registration, Parish Hall
- 1:00pm—Exposition/Benediction, Church
- 6:00pm—Quilting, Annex
- 7:00pm—First Communion Parent Mtg., Church

**Tuesday, January 28**

- 9:00am—Quilting, Annex
- 11:00am—Lunch Bunch, Off Property
- 7:30pm—Fire in the Spirit, Community Rm.

**Wednesday, January 29**

- 9:00am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.
- 6:00pm—Children’s Choir Practice, Church
- 7:00pm—Ensemble/Teen Choir Practice, Church
  —Food Addicts Anonymous, Rigali Rm.

**Thursday, January 30**

- 9:00am—Senior Exercise, Rigali Rm.
- 6:00pm—Bell Choir Practice, Church
- 7:00pm—Al Anon, Rm. 2
  —Choir Rehearsal, Church

**Sunday, February 2**

- 9:00am—First Communion Enrollment, Church
- 11:00am—Children’s Liturgy of the Word, Rm. 106
  —Boy Scout Mass, Church
- 7:00pm—Al Anon, Community Rm.

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**Offertory Collections**
Stewardship for January 6-12, 2020

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<tr>
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<td>Online Donations, 82 families</td>
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<td>Weekly Surplus (shortfall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parish Improvements</td>
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The choirs will begin working on the music for Holy Week and Easter very soon. If you are interested in participating, please do!

The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

- **Children’s Choir, Wed., 6:00 to 6:45**
  (will sing on Palm Sunday and First Communion)

- **Hand Bells, Thurs., 6:00 to 6:45**
  (beginners are welcome, but please attend practices ASAP)

- **Adult Choir, Thurs., 7:00 to 8:30**
  (open to anyone grade 8 or older)

Contact Marilyn for more information:
314-341-2622
monell@holyspiritstl.org

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2 | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 26, 2020
### MASS INTENTIONS

**Sunday, January 26**
- 7:30am: Glennon F. Audrain
- 9:00am: Aurora Eulalia
- 11:00am: For Our Parishioners

**Monday, January 27**
- 6:30am: Faithful Departed

**Tuesday, January 28**
- 6:30am: Carol Klump
- 6:30am: Marie Garvin

**Wednesday, January 29**
- 8:00am: Mike Rolfes

**Thursday, January 30**
- 8:00am: Soledad Villadiego

**Friday, January 31**
- 8:00am: Sofia Agasino
- 5:00pm: Sis Tessmer

**Saturday, February 1**
- 8:00am: Cindy Lamorette
- 5:00pm: Sis Tessmer

**Sunday, February 2**
- 7:30am: Sue Bastean
- 9:00am: For Our Parishioners
- 11:00am: For Our Parishioners

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### MINISTRY SCHEDULE — FEB. 1-2

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Feb 1-2</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>R &amp; S Ramsrott</td>
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<td>D Klein</td>
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<td>C Milligan</td>
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<td>K Shamel</td>
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<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Serving</td>
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<td>J Sicking</td>
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<td>M Rychlewski</td>
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### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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

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<td>Bob &amp; Donna</td>
<td>Gene Weckherlin</td>
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### Sick Relatives and Friends:

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<td>Bethany Henderson</td>
<td>David Rychlewski</td>
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<td>Grace Solimando</td>
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<td>Pearl King</td>
<td>Fynlee Schneider</td>
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<td>Irene Lee</td>
<td>Dave &amp; Paula</td>
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<td>Trish Merklin</td>
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### FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

We express our deep sympathy and assurance of our prayers to the family of Carl Lindsey, brother of Dick. May his soul rest in the Peace of Christ.

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**MINISTRY SCHEDULE — FEB. 1-2**
Congratulations to our Jan. 20 $25 Red & Blue winner; Ellen Staples. Thank you for supporting our school!

Catholic Schools Week begins TODAY! Stop by the school for our Open House after the 9 AM mass between 10 AM and 1 PM for a registration packet or just to see what’s new in the school. Scholarship applications for tuition assistance through Today and Tomorrow opens on Monday morning. All families should apply on Monday. For more information on how to apply for scholarships or for registration information, call the school office at 314-739-1934 or see the monthly News and Notes on Fast Direct.

Friday, January 31: All School Mass Prepared by Gr 6
Wish List—MakerSpace
8 oz. Solo Cups—Craft Sticks Large Tongue Depressor Size—Bags of Beans—Cotton Balls—Plastic 1 lbs empty Coffee Containers—Metal 3 lbs Coffee Container—Empty 6 oz Gatorade plastic bottles
Art
Black Sharpies—Clear Plastic Plates & Cups—#2 Pencils—Pink erasers

With God all things are possible!
Mrs. Hewitt

Pajama Night at PSR
Tuesday, January 28th
to benefit Bucks for Bears
(To raise funds to provide bears with recorders for Catherine Cares families)

Bring a financial donation to PSR and you may wear appropriate pajamas (Mom approved) or slippers to class

We will also have Community Prayer & Baptismal Blessings at 7:45 pm in Church led by Grades 1 & 2

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
STARTING JANUARY 27, 2020
Looking for a scholarship for the 2020-2021 school year?

• All elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis
• All Catholic high schools
• Any private elementary school in the City of St. Louis

Apply online at TTEF-STL.ORG for elementary and high school scholarships.

Deadline is February 28th, 2020.

With God all things are possible!
Mrs. Hewitt

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR TWO PSR PROJECTS
PSR will hold its 5th annual Family Service Event April 7. One of our projects is to make clay heart keepsakes for hospice patients’ families. We have the people-power but need help with cash donations to purchase the needed supplies for this project. Any amount will be appreciated. Please put your donation in an envelope, labeled “PSR Service Project Attn.: Sharon Kaufman” and drop it in the collection basket on Sunday, mail it to or drop it off at the Parish Office by Tues., Mar. 3. We will do the shopping.

The other project will be to collect shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, toothpaste, & deodorant. There will be bins in the Parish Hall labeled PSR Hands Donation for these items. These will be collected during the month of Feb. Our last weekend for collections will be Mar. 1. We will make personal care bags for those who visit the Hands food pantry. Thank you for your support!
**YOUTH MINISTRY**

HOLY SPIRIT YOUTH MINISTRY ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM www.facebook.com/hsyouth & HS_YOUTH_STL on Instagram

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**MARCH FOR LIFE YOUTH PILGRIMAGE**

Please pray for our young people, their chaperones and over the 2,400 young people, chaperones and leaders of Generation Life as they prepare and journey to stand up for life in Washington, D.C. at the March for Life on Jan. 24. Prayers for safe travels and grace-filled encounters are appreciated.

**CONFIRMATION**

7th Grade: Session 2: What’s Holding You Back is Sun., Feb. 9 from 6:45-9 p.m., Rigali room of the Annex. This session is mandatory for all Confirmation candidates.

8th Grade: Session 12: Holiness is Possible, Sun., Mar. 8. Mark your calendar for this important session in “Stirring it Up.”

**MIDDLE SCHOOL MADNESS**

All 6th-8th grade students are invited to attend a night just for you! We’ll pray & play from 7-9 in the Annex. Bring a friend & join the fun. Our next MSM will be on Fri., Jan. 31.

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH FRESHMEN, SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS & SENIORS – ALL ARE WELCOME:**

**THURSDAY EVENINGS:*** Want to be a part of our retreat team? Plan to start coming to Thursday meetings in January. We will begin planning for our spring retreat starting with our Thursday meetings in January at the Resource Center from 7-9. **Team meetings** Begin February 13 and go until April 16. If you want to be part of the team, contact Donna E for a team application and plan to be at all the team meetings. You should not miss more than two meetings in order to honor your other team members and the teaming process.

**ADULTS WE NEED YOU!**

Looking for PGC adults for our fall, winter and spring events. We need your help to make all these things possible. Young adults, parents & empty nesters are all welcome. Our young people benefit from your life, your faith & YOU! They truly appreciate your help.

**SPRING** will be here before we know it. We can always use overnight chaperones, drivers, & chaperones for our weekly & monthly meetings, & C2B (Called to Be) spring retreat.

**CONFIRMATION:** A new Confirmation cohort has begun. If you are interested in sharing your gifts as a catechist, or helping with meetings, contact Donna E.

**FOOD! WE CAN ALWAYS** use snack and/or soda donations for high school meetings (every week), Middle School Madness (once a month). and/or meal and snack donations for the March for Life Pilgrimage and/or spring retreat. Contact Donna E if you are interested in helping.

**PRO-LIFE GENERATION LIFE PILGRIMAGE:** We have several high school & 8th grade teens attending the March for Life. Donations for meals, Metro Cards for getting around D.C. or to help us buy tee shirts are appreciated. We are doing fundraising to help with the cost. If you would like to donate to help families afford the trip, it would be much appreciated. We are grateful to have such a generous community.

Interested? Want to help our teens encounter Jesus through participation in our parish community?

Contact Donna, 954-1326 or deisembath@holyspiritstl.org

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**NEW—PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN—FOR EVERYONE!**

The Archdiocese of St. Louis has developed a new system for safe environment compliance called Prevent and Protect STL. Everyone ministering to minors and vulnerable adults (clergy, employees and volunteers) in the Archdiocese are REQUIRED and ASKED to register in the new system as soon as possible. This includes those new to service and those who are currently in service. For those who have already attended a Protecting God’s Children workshop, your previous training date will transfer to this new system. In addition to attending a live Protecting God’s Children workshop, all clergy, volunteers, and employees will register for an updated background screening, view two new online training modules on abuse reporting and the Code of Ethical Conduct, and agree to the updated Code of Ethical Conduct.

Please go to www.preventandprotectstl.org to register, use the passcode stlprotect. If you haven’t attended a live training session, Holy Spirit Parish will host a live training session Thursday, March 5, in the Parish Hall. We’ll begin at 6 PM. Please plan to arrive between 5:30 and 5:45 to complete the paperwork. Contact Mary Welsh, Child Safety Coordinator, at the Parish Office (739-0230) with any questions or for further assistance.

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 26, 2020 | 5
Holy Spirit
Sat., Feb. 8th 2020
6:00-8:30 pm in the school gym

Please save the date and join us for a pasta dinner sponsored by Holy Spirit’s 5th grade class. All proceeds to benefit fundraising efforts for next year’s camp.

$10 per Adult / $7 for children 11 years to 3 years (2 and under are free)

Dinner includes choice of pasta entrees, as well as salad, bread, drinks, and dessert!

Come for food, fun, and fellowship!

PLEASE REMIT ORDER FORM ALONG WITH PAYMENT & RETURN TO SCHOOL OFFICE or PARISH OFFICE MARKED PASTA DINNER NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 5TH 2020.

HOLY SPIRIT PASTA DINNER
SAT., FEB. 8, 2020—6:00-8:00pm, held in the school gym.

Cash or check payment accepted: checks payable to Holy Spirit Catholic School

Family Name

Phone number

Number of Adult dinners ($10/each)

Number of Child dinners ($7/each)

Total order enclosed

The Holy Spirit 5th grade class thanks you in advance for all your support!

First Holy Communion Parent Meeting
Monday January 27th - 7 P.M. in Church

This parent session is essential for at least one parent/guardian of all children in 2nd grade and older students preparing to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time this spring. This is an integral component of your child’s preparation for the sacrament. If you have any questions, contact Karen Rychlewski 739-0230, krychlewski@holyspiritstl.org

Camp Cards

Cub Scout Pack 954 will be selling Camp Cards for $5 each in February & March after weekend Masses. 50% of sales stay here in our Pack to help scouts go to camp this summer. Your support covered more than half of camp fees to day camps and overnight camps in 2019! Thank you!

There are snap off coupons attached to the discount card for one time use like a free Schnucks ice cream again this year. The discount card is good throughout 2020 to be used multiple times! Cash and checks to Holy Spirit Pack 954 will be accepted. Contact Dave Klaus at Cubmaster954@gmail.com or 314.486.6309 if you want to buy camp cards and will not be at Holy Spirit Masses. Thank you for your support.

Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life is a 10-part series that is anchored in the life of Christ as presented in the Gospels. This study explores the entirety of Jesus’ life—who he is, the nature of his saving mission, & what this means for us as Catholics today.

The study is divided into 5-week sessions: Winter 2020, Fall 2020. The cost of materials is $18 for the entire 10-part series.

Join us for one of two sessions this Winter: Monday evenings, beginning Feb. 24, 7-8:30 pm, School Room #110, or Fri. mornings, Feb. 28, 10-11:30 am in the Parish Hall. To register, complete the form below & either mail or drop it off at the parish office by Feb. 14. Questions, contact Karen Rychlewski, 739-0230, Ext. 108 or krychlewski@holyspiritstl.org.

Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Name _________________________________________
Address________________________________________
Phone_______________  Email ____________________

Indicate Session

Monday Evening _____  Friday Morning_____

Checks payable to Holy Spirit Parish ($18). Please mail or drop off this registration at Holy Spirit’s parish office, 3130 Parkwood Ln., Maryland Heights, MO 63043.
WE ARE CALLED TO HOLINESS!

February 20-23, 2020
Holy Spirit Women’s ACTS Retreat
At Pallotine Renewal Center

Holy Spirit Parish will be accepting registrations for the 2020 ACTS weekend retreat for women. This parish-based retreat offers the opportunity to renew your spirituality and prayer life, to strengthen your faith and its application in your daily life, and to build lasting friendships among members of the parish community. It is presented by Catholic Laywomen of the parish.

The retreat begins Thursday evening, February 20th, with a 6:00 p.m. check-in at the Holy Spirit Annex, 3111 Parkwood Lane, Maryland Heights, Mo. 63043 and ends Sunday, February 23rd with the 11:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Spirit Church. Round trip transportation to and from the retreat center will be provided for all retreatants.

Cost for each retreatant is $250.00. A registration fee of $50.00 must be submitted with this form in order to reserve your place. The remaining $200.00 is due at the Thursday evening check-in.

PLEASE NOTE: Financial difficulties should not prevent anyone from attending the retreat. If you are unable to pay all or part of the fee or need further information regarding the retreat, please contact:

Jean Martin  
(314) 210-7743

Debbie Dufaux  
(314) 398-5448

Sue Hercules  
(314) 780-6866

Roughly 7 days prior to the retreat, you will receive a letter describing what to bring with you on the retreat. Please call any of the above names if you have questions or need additional information. Return the registration form and deposit to the address below and make check payable to Holy Spirit Parish by February 14, 2020.

Please detach and return with registration fee to the parish office at 3130 Parkwood Lane, Maryland Heights, Mo. 63043

Name: ____________________________  Emergency Contact Information
Name: ____________________________

Address: __________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ______
Zip: __________

Email: ____________________________
Home Phone: ______________________
Cell Phone: _______________________  2nd Emergency Contact

I would like my name tag to read: ____________________________

If you have any specific dietary needs, please specify: ____________________________

If you have any specific physical needs, please specify: (No stairs, elevator, or allergic conditions such as scents, mold, or has respiratory condition, etc.)

I am a member of ____________________________ Parish
Lunch Bunch is this Tuesday!

Older adult parishioners will gather at 11:00 am this Tuesday at Sport’s Café, 3579 Pennridge Dr., Bridgeton, MO 63044 for light-hearted conversation while enjoying lunch together.

No reservations are required so bring a friend or come alone because it’s just for fun!

SPIRITED SENIORS FEBRUARY EVENT
LEMP MANSION SUNDAY BRUNCH, SUN. FEB. 9

An all-inclusive meal including fried chicken, baked ham, roast beef, & numerous sides with coffee, tea or soda, tax & tip for $29.15 per person. Does not include alcohol. Contact the Rhomberg’s, 314-344-0471, to make your reservation.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Come Holy Spirit, show us what is true. As we are bombarded with messages, we need to seek the truth. We need to sift out bias, exaggerations, the hate and blatant lies. Be patient to hear what the Spirit wishes us to hear and act on, to move us to generous love and sacrifice. Come Holy Spirit we need you to show us what is true.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry has specially selected & trained men & women to listen with care to all they serve, & to keep all that is shared with them in strict confidentiality. Whether your struggle with emotions is what you consider small, or even if it is larger, Stephen Ministry awaits your call for help. 739-0230, ext.130, leave a confidential message. Compassionate & caring listening for you!

DYNAMIC CATHOLIC, ALIVE!
METANOIA

Jesus invites us to an experience of μετάνοια, a Greek word that refers to repentance or a conversion of heart and mind. This process of μετάνοια can occur every day of our lives as we week to more closely adhere to the Lord of our lives by praying for grace to cooperate with the Holy Spirit. The Kingdom of God is present among us in the sacramental life of the Church, especially in the Holy Eucharist, and when we engage in acts of charity and the works of mercy. We can encounter Jesus Christ in our brothers and sisters in need. First, we must enter more deeply into prayer and encounter the Lord anew. Once our prayer matures, we can experience greater renewal and conversion. www.archstl.org/live-the-faith.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

“He said to them, ‘Come after me, and I will make your fishers of men.’ At once they left their nets and followed him.” Let us answer God’s call to make our marriages the best they can by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. The next weekends are Feb. 7-9, & April 24-26, the Courtyard Marriot, St. Peters. https://stl-wwme.org/schedule.php or call or text 314.649.7317.
SAVE THE DATE! — ONE NIGHT ONLY!
One of our favorite nights of the Year!
THURS., JAN 30 • 7 PM Mercy Conference & Retreat Center 2039 N Geyer Road, 63131
A LITURGICAL COMPOSERS CONCERT
Come enjoy an evening of music & song. Sing with the composers who wrote some of your favorite songs for Liturgy Songs include: These Alone Are Enough (Dan Schutte) I Have Loved You (Michael Joncas) Servant Song (Donna McGargill, OSM) Like a Shepherd (Bob Dufford, SJ) Lift Up Your Hearts (Roc O’Connor) You Are Mine (David Haas) Shepherd Me, O God (Marty Haugen)
Come to the Water (John Foley, SJ) Center of My Life (Paul Inwood) Tickets: preferred seating $50 (Includes after-concert reception with composers) general admission $25 Tickets must be purchased in advance. For more information, please go to www.mercycenterstl.org.

ST. JOHN VIANNEY THEATRE PRODUCTION
Calling all elementary & preschool age kids! Vianney High School is inviting you to be our guest on February 4 for YOU’RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN. The whole gang is here: bossy Lucy is hopelessly in love with piano prodigy Schroeder who doesn’t give her the time of day, Patty is still mocking blanket-toting Linus and encouraging Snoopy to chase rabbits, Snoopy is on his doghouse fighting the Red Baron, and “blockhead,” himself, Charlie Brown, is in rare form. If ever there was a musical that is as perfect for kids as it is for adults this is it. We look forward to seeing you Feb. 4, 9-10 am. To make reservations for this complimentary performance, please email Monica Sabatino, msabatino@vianney.com by Fri., Jan. 31. Please include the number attending. For questions call 314-965-4853 x 134.

POKER TOURNAMENT
Feb 15, hosted by The Knights of Columbus! Tourney will be held at Assumption (Mattese). Cost is $25 with gift cards for the winners. Interested? Contact Steve at valksr@yahoo.com or https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kofc-poker-tournament-tickets-82227381311

CELEBRATING WORLD MARRIAGE DAY!
FEBRUARY 9
"Father, as we prepare for World Marriage Day, we thank you for your tremendous gift of the Sacrament of Marriage. Help us to witness to its glory by a life of growing intimacy. Teach us the beauty of forgiveness so we may become more and more One in Heart, Mind and Body. Strengthen our relationship and help us become living signs of your love. Make us grow more in love with the church so we may renew the Body of Christ. Make us a sign of unity in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Brother. Amen"
~Fr. Bill Dilgen, S.M.M.

REUNION
The Catholic Newman Center at the UMSL is having an alumni reunion Fri., Feb 21, (On St. John Newman’s birthday). Mass at 6pm in the living room of the Newman House like the old days, followed by drinks & hors d’oeuvres. Come for a casual evening with old friends. This event is free. RSVP Kay@encumscl.org by Feb 18 or call Kay, 385-3455. Hope to see you at the Newman House. 8200 Natural Bridge 63121

TRIVIA PARTY
Help end homelessness at St. Patrick Center Trivia Party on Fri., Feb. 7, St. Louis Union Station. Gather your team of eight & register your table for $500. Price includes food, beer, wine, soda & parking.
Visit stpatrickcenter.org/triviaparty

MARRIAGE CHALLENGES?
Retrouvaille (a French word meaning rediscovery) is a program to help couples heal & renew their marriages that offers tools needed to rediscover a loving marriage relationship. It has helped thousands of couples with marital problems & crises, even couples who are separated & divorced. The next program begins Feb. 7-9.
Contact: Kerry, 753.2022 or Tom, 409.4199.
To register: 800.470.2230 or visit helpourmarriage.org.

EMBRACING THE FEMININE GENIUS
March 7, 2020 — Touhill Performing Arts Center
To register visit catholicwomenforchrist.org OR Call the Touhill box office, 314-516-4949
Enjoy speakers, Reconciliation, Adoration, merchant & ministry vendors, Vigil Mass, Healing Prayer, Relics, & more! Ticket prices increase as the event gets closer.

SEEKING RIGHTEOUSNESS ~1 TIMOTHY 6:11
February 1 — Touhill Performing Arts Center
To register visit catholicmenforchrist.org OR Call the Touhill box office, 314-516-4949
Enjoy speakers, Reconciliation, Adoration, merchant & ministry vendors, daily Mass, & more! Ticket prices increase as the event gets closer.
3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Who’s troubling you? In this Sunday’s Gospel reading, we hear of the fulfillment of the prophecy given by Isaiah in the first reading: Because of Jesus Christ, the people you know who are living in darkness have seen the light that will heal them. Who is making no effort to get out of their sin-induced misery? Who is overshadowed by the demons of spiritual death and destruction? Whose stubbornness is causing you great anguish?

Through your prayers and faithful love, Jesus has been revealed to them. Even as they fight against this truth and hide from him, the great light of Christ cannot be turned off. Soon or eventually this will cause great rejoicing, not only for you, but for those who are being rescued.

Elsewhere (Luke 12:49-50) Jesus expressed his feelings about people who live in darkness: “How great is my anguish until it is accomplished!” Thus, he knows your anguish and shares it, but more deeply and fervently. He is doing more than you know, more than you can imagine, to accomplish the victory for which you’ve been praying. He is doing everything possible - as well as the impossible - to bring it to fulfillment.

Pray that Divine Providence will use the bad consequences of each person’s stubborn rebellion to draw them to himself. Pray that God will use others to bring them into his light. Pray that God will work in his own way to dissolve their spiritual rebellion. Pray that after their conversion they will spread the light of Christ powerfully. And pray that their conversion will be deep, definite and permanent.

We don’t pray to change God’s mind; he’s already working to bring the light of Christ to people who live in darkness. We pray to place those people into his arms, since they’re not doing it for themselves.

Reflect & Discuss:

† Write a list of people who are living in darkness. Will you trust in the power of Christ’s great light and the victory he obtained through his death and resurrection?

† Make a commitment to feel Christ’s anguish more keenly, use this pain to energize you into daily prayer on behalf of darkened souls.

† Think of those who are living in darkness. Get a large candle and etch their names into it. Light the candle and offer your prayers for these loved ones. If possible, do this with a prayer community for mutual support, and light this candle at all of your community meetings.

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Feast of the Presentation of the Lord— (February 2, 2020)
Mal 3:1-4 — Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 — Heb 2:14-18 — Lk 2:22-40 OR 2:22-32

10 | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 26, 2020