

SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Diocese of Peoria ~ Princeton, Illinois



THE HOLY FAMILY

“For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.”

- Lk 2:30-31

PASTOR NOTE



Happy New Year!!! Or, for us Catholics, Happy Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. This feast is always celebrated on January 1st. I think it is wonderful how the Church invokes Mary at the start of the New Year, especially under her title as Mother of God. We need to invoke our Blessed Mother as we start the holy work of a new year. Just like a mother nurtures her child near birth, may Mary nurture us at the birth of a new year. Usually, this solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation. However, this year it is not, because it falls on a Monday. Mass will be at 9am on New Year's Day.

Solemnity of Epiphany: Next Sunday, January 7th, the Church celebrates the Feast of Epiphany. This remembers the event of the three kings visiting baby Jesus and offering adoration and praise. This event has special meaning in our parish since we started the Magi Baby Chest.

For many centuries there has been a wonderful tradition associated with the Feast of the Epiphany. This tradition is a house blessing. The Magi visited the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We are called to be like the Magi who acknowledged that Holy Family was in the house. In our homes we are to be like the Magi acknowledging that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are in our homes making them holy. Also, we want to become holy like the Holy Family. Also, the Magi provided hospitality to the Holy Family. We ask the Magi to help us offer hospitality and kindness to the members of our family.

I encourage you and your family to join in this age-old tradition of blessing your home on or near the celebration of Epiphany. The ritual is not very long, and children will really love it. Near the doors of the church you will find a bag that contains what is needed for the house blessing: chalk and the prayer sheet. The ritual will explain how to do the house blessing. The chalk is used to traditionally mark the top of the door of your house. It is marked 20+C+M+B+24. The numbers are the year, 2024. The letters are the initials of the three Magi: Casper, Malchior and Balthasar. The letters also match the initials of the house blessing in Latin: "Christus Mansionem Benedicat." This translates as "May Christ bless this house." When a house is blessed, God showers blessings upon the family and guests. I encourage you take a minute and offer this house blessing.



Remember these adjustments to our parish calendar:

Thursday Night Men's Study Group will be cancelled Jan. 4th.

The Saturday Men's Holy Hour is canceled Jan. 6th.

First Saturday Devotions is cancelled on Jan. 6th. You are encouraged to do the devotions at home. Remember, attending any Mass on Saturday (including the Saturday night Vigil Mass) fulfills the devotions.

The Spiritual Life: Excerpt from *The Spiritual Life* by Adolphe Tanquerey, Desclee and Co., Belgium, 1951.

The Prayers of Beginners:

We have already explained the nature and the efficacy of prayer. After beginners have been reminded of these notions, they must: be instructed as to the necessity and the conditions of prayer; they must be gradually introduced to the practice of such spiritual exercises as befit them; they must be taught mental prayer.

Article I: Prayer in General: 1) Necessity of Prayer; 2) Conditions of Prayer.

Article II: Principal Spiritual Exercises

Article III: Mental Prayer: 1) General Notions; 2) Advantages and Necessity; 3) The Mental Prayer of Beginners; 4) The principal methods

Article I: Necessity and Conditions of Prayer.

Necessity of Prayer: What we have said regarding the twofold end of prayer, worship and petition, shows us clearly its necessity. It is evident that as creatures and as Christians we are bound to glorify God through adoration, thanksgiving and love; that as sinners we must offer Him reparation. Here it is question of prayer chiefly as petition, and of its absolute necessity as a means of salvation and perfection.

The necessity of prayer is based on the necessity of actual grace. It is a truth of faith that without such grace we are utterly incapable of obtaining salvation and, still more of attaining perfection. Of ourselves, no matter how we use our freedom, we can do nothing positive that would preserve for any length of time, much less until death: "Without me you can do nothing...Not that we are sufficient to think anything of ourselves, as of ourselves...For it is God who worketh in you, bot to will and to accomplish."

Parish Staff

Pastor	Msgr. James E. Kruse, JCL jameskruse1996@gmail.com cell: 309-634-5822
Deacon	John Murphy dcjohnmurphy@icloud.com Cell: 815-878-4723 Hm: 646-4723
Trustees	Dan Legner Mary Paula Schmitt Paula Lough Renee Toomey Susanna Prushinski stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com
Admin Assistant	Rebekah Mead stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com
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Maintenance	Matthew Ernat stl.matthewernat@gmail.com
Janitors	
Magi Baby Chest	
Director	
Magi Baby Chest	
Asst. Director	
Music Director	

Parish Office

616 S Gosse Blvd., Princeton, IL 61356
Office hours: Monday—Friday 8am-1pm
Phone: (815) 879-0181
E-mail: stlparishoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.stlouisprinceton.org
YouTube Channel: youtube.com/user/stlouisprinceton
FaceBook Page: www.facebook.com/stlouisprinceton

Keep in touch with us via email or text
Text SLP To 84576 or
Connect with us online at
stlouiscatholicchurch.flocknote.com

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 1 **Mary, The Holy Mother of God**
***9:00am** +Mary Josephine Miller by Barbara Bass

Tuesday, January 2 **Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen,**
Bishops and Doctors of the Church

5:15pm +Karen O'Neill by Mandy Robinson
4-5:00pm Holy Hour

Wednesday, January 3 **The Most Holy Name of Jesus**
7:00am +Dioscoro C. Soco by Amie Neiman

Thursday, January 4 **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**
***8:00am** +Forgotten Souls in Purgatory
by Dr. & Mrs. Ascano

Friday, January 5 **St. John Neumann, Bishop**
***8:00am** +Leo & Margaret Henkel
by Bill & Janet Politsch

Saturday, January 6 **Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord**
4:00pm +John Austin by Jim Whitmore

Sunday, January 7 **The Epiphany of the Lord**
7:30am +Andrew J. Wagner by Mary Archer
9:00am +Dave Doty by Gene & Nancy Johnson
10:30am People of the Parish

***Schedule changes for the week:** Mass on Monday, January 1st will be at 9am; Mass on Thursday, January 4th and Friday, January 5th will be at 8am. Adoration & Confession are cancelled on Thursday, January 4th.

Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Mary McCauley

and for consolation for her family

*Eternal Rest grant unto her O Lord, and
let perpetual light shine upon her soul.
May her soul, and the souls of all of the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace.
Amen*



Please remember to pray for Vocations
to the Priesthood and Religious Life
especially from St. Louis Parish!

St. Therese, Patroness of Vocations, pray for us!

2024 Calendars



If you haven't already
done so, please pick one
up from the information
tables located at the en-
trances of the Church.
Please contact the parish
office if you need one
mailed to you. The calendars
are compliments of
Fiochi-Jensen Funeral
Home. A special thank you

to parishioners Rich and Kathleen Fiochi!

Readings for the week of December 31

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or
Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 /Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34
Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42
Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 3:23, 31
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3, 5-6/Mt 2:1-2

Liturgical/Volunteer Roles

4:00 pm: Saturday, January 6th

Altar Servers: Cameron Lawrence, Anaisabela Ramirez-Tz
EMHC: Lynn Delaney, Mandy Robinson
Lectors: Sophia Oester
Sacristan: Mandy Robinson
Ushers: Dan & Cynthia Tracy

7:30 am: Sunday, January 7th

Altar Servers: *Servers needed, please check in at Sacristy*
EMHC: Mary Beth Crowe, Rita Tracey
Lectors: Mary Paula Schmitt
Sacristan: Lori Atilano
Ushers: Gary Blessman, Dennis Thompson,
Tom Murphy

9:00 am: Sunday, January 7th

Altar Servers: Angelo & Patsy Bystry
EMHC: Patty Daluga, Gene Menard
Camera Operator: Marty Makransky
Lectors: Diane Carlone
Sacristan: Chris Romagnoli
Ushers: Tom Giehl, Dave & Judy Moore

10:30 am: Sunday, January 7th

Altar Servers: Brennan Roden, Dominic Vasquez
EMHC: Mandy Robinson, Tim Smith
Lectors: David Roden
Sacristan: Tim Smith
Ushers: Ken Lough, Pat Mason

EMHC Homebound: Patty Daluga 9/N
Gene Menard 9/S

EMHC for Nursing Homes: Mary Beth Crowe—
Hawthorne; Colleen Harmon—Aperion; Tom Jagers—
Greenfield; Rita Tracey—Liberty

ST. LOUIS PARISH SCHEDULE

MASS SCHEDULE

MON, WED, FRI	7:00 AM
TUE, THR	5:15 PM
SAT	4:00 PM
SUN	7:30, *9:00, 10:30 AM

First Saturday Devotion 7:00 AM

*SUN 9:00AM Live-streamed on YouTube & FaceBook
(when a volunteer camera operator is available)

RECONCILIATION

TUE, THR	4:00—4:50 PM
SAT	3-3:45 PM

Or, by appointment. Call or email Msgr. Kruse to make an appointment. In order to maintain privacy, he will be in the confessional a few moments before the arranged time. 309-634-5822 | jameskruse1996@gmail.com

HOLY HOUR

TUE, THR	4:00 PM
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PRIVATE PRAYER: The Chapel is open for Private Prayer— Contact the Parish Office for access code.

STEWARSHIP

Church Monetary Support Through December 17, 2023

Amount Budgeted	\$	6,750.00
Amount Received	\$	<u>8,103.00</u>
Amount Over (Under)	\$	1,353.00

Fiscal Period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Amount needed to date:	\$	168,750.00
Amount Received to date:	\$	<u>170,920.00</u>
Over/(Under) budget to date:	\$	2,170.00

Due to the early submission deadline for the bulletin the totals for December 24th were not available at the time of printing. They will be provided in the January 7th bulletin.

THE LITURGICAL CORNER

Because the Mass is the “source and summit” of the Church’s life and activity, the more we understand it, the more we understand our own life and activity as members of the Church. There are so many questions concerning the various parts of the Mass, the sacred vestments and sacred vessels used during Mass, the various objects in the sanctuary, etc. For the next several months, this column will address many of those questions, which hopefully will give us all a better appreciation of the Mass, which is the most perfect prayer which can be offered to God.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 1328 - 1332, (abbreviated CCC) reminds us that the sacrament of the Eucharist is such an inexhaustible mystery that it goes by many names. Three of these names which are most familiar to us tell us something special about the Mass.

Holy Eucharist. The word Eucharist comes from the Greek, meaning “to give thanks.” This reminds us of the Jewish practice of blessing God for three of His special works: creation, redemption and sanctification. Every time we go to Mass, each of these three realities are celebrated: our new creation in Christ, who redeemed us by His death and resurrection, and has made us a holy (sanctified) people.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We are reminded in this title that the Mass is truly a sacrifice. Jesus does not suffer and die all over again; that would be impossible. He did that once for all. So in what sense can we say that the Mass is a “holy sacrifice?” Because the Mass makes present to us now, through the appearance of bread and wine, the one sacrifice of Christ. It is truly the Body and Blood of Him who suffered, died and rose which we receive in every Mass.

Holy Mass. The word “Mass” comes from the Latin word “missa,” which means “to be sent.” Every Mass has a dismissal, because we are sent forth into the world to live what we have just celebrated. We who have received Christ are to bring him into every aspect of our lives.



MAGI BABY CHEST



The three wise Magi made a long journey to adore and present gifts to our savior baby Jesus. Magi, please pray for us today that we can show that same devotion to our Lord. Merry Christmas from the Magi Baby Chest!



A BIG thank you to the Evangelical Covenant Church, First United Methodist, and St. Patrick's in Sheffield for doing their Christmas giving for us this year.

High Need Items for January: baby laundry soap, dish soap, kid's toothbrushes, kid's toothpaste, toddler socks, diaper cream, bottles, infant medicine (tylenol and ibuprofen), baby wash, toddler winter hats/gloves, Enfamil (yellow can) formula, diapers (sizes 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7), unscented wipes, winter clothes sizes (NB to 4T), and boys/girls gently used clothes (sizes 12mo-4T).

Our next opening will be Saturday, January 6th 9am-noon.

Mom's Night Out will be Friday Jan 5th from 6-8PM.

Happy
NEW YEAR!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



May God's peace be upon you and remain with you throughout the year.

The Glimmer of Comfort Grief Support Group for women who have lost a child (children) because of an illness, suicide, accident, addiction or miscarriage will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 521 S. First St. Princeton from 1 - 3 pm. All ages are welcome and will enjoy conversations with other women who understand the grief of losing a child. Questions? Call Jeanie Gelsomino at (815) 866-6571

Parish Schedule Changes

- The Parish Office will be closed thru Tuesday, January 2nd and re-open again on Wednesday, January 3rd.
- Thursday Night Men's Study Group will be cancelled Jan. 4th.
- There will be no parish New Year's Eve party.
- First Saturday Devotions is cancelled on Jan. 6th. You are encouraged to do the devotions at home. Remember, attending any Mass on Saturday (including the Saturday night Vigil Mass) fulfills the devotions