



# SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH

DIOCESE OF PEORIA ~ PRINCETON, ILLINOIS

**SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2024**

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. - Jn 2:13b-15a

## PASTOR NOTE

**Moral Analysis of In Vitro Fertilization:** A recent Alabama Supreme Court decision regarding in vitro fertilization has sparked a national discussion. I have drawn up an article that explains the Church's teaching on IVF. This article was sent through Flocknote earlier this week. You may contact the Parish Office to obtain an electronic copy. Paper copies are available at the doors of the church. I encourage you to read this article and learn why IVF is gravely immoral. I hope that this article will help inform you as this issue is part of our national discussion. Please contact me if you have any questions or need further clarity.

**Haiti Collection:** For many years, our parish has collected funds for assistance to a parish in Haiti. Your donations have greatly assisted this needy parish. Our last transfer of funds was in late 2022. As I discussed a few months ago, the political situation in Haiti prohibits a safe and secure method for transferring the funds to the parish in Haiti. Our office has attempted to remedy this situation without success. Therefore, it is with a heavy heart that I have decided to end our parish's assistance to the parish in Haiti.

I kindly ask that you no longer use the blue Haiti envelop in the collection. Future envelope packets will not include an envelope for Haiti. I encourage you to direct your previously earmarked donations for Haiti to other ministries such as our parish, the Magi Baby Chest, the Diocese of Peoria Missionary program, or other Catholic organizations.

Since the last distribution in 2022, significant funds have accumulated which are earmarked for Haiti. You may request that the parish reimburse you for your Haiti donations offered after January 1, 2023. Please contact our office for this reimbursement. I kindly ask that you request this return by March 31, 2024. After March 31st, I will redistribute the remaining funds to other charitable organizations. I am considering organizations that generally match the intention of assisting a needy parish. I welcome any suggestions.

**Catholic Forum:** Part of our Lenten journey is to go deeper into our understanding of the faith. This understanding often comes through questions being answered. Each month you have opportunity to attend the Catholic Forum, first Sundays, 6:30pm at Harkrader Hall. During this time, questions are posed by the attendees and I do my best to answer them. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the faith in the areas that you directly need. Come for the whole hour, or just come for your question and be on your way. Come and check it out.

**Lenten Fish Fry:** Come and join us for Stations of the Cross and then our parish Fish Fry, Friday, March 15th. There are lots of ways for you to volunteer, please sign up on the table near Harkrader Hall. Once again, this Fish Fry will help defray the educational assessments that we provide to Catholic Schools. I hope you come out and enjoy some delicious fish and help support Catholic education.

**Lenten Parish Retreat:** Please join us for our parish's Lenten Retreat on Sunday, March 24th, 1pm to 6pm.

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

Mental Prayer of Beginners: General Notions

We have said that there are two kinds of prayer: vocal prayer, expressed by word or by gesture, and mental prayer which takes place wholly within the soul. Mental prayer is defined as a silent elevation and application of our entire mind and heart to God in order to offer Him our homages and to promote His glory by our advancement in virtue.

It comprises of five elements: 1) the religious duties rendered to God or to the Lord Jesus Christ or to the Saints; 2) considerations bearing upon God and our personal relations with Him, in order to deepen and strengthen our convictions; 3) examination of conscience, in order to determine how we stand in relation to the subject of meditation; 4) prayer of petition by which we ask of God the graces necessary for exercising ourselves more perfectly in this or that particular virtue; 5) resolutions to do better in the future. These various acts need not follow in the order just described, nor must they all, of necessity, have a place in every meditation. Moreover, mental prayer must be prolonged over a notable period of time to deserve the name of meditation and to be distinguished from mere quick prayers.

As souls advance in perfection and acquire convictions which are easily renewed, they gradually devote less time to considerations and examinations, and give more to affections and petitions. These in turn become more and more simple, and at times mental prayer consists in a simple and loving gaze upon God. — This we shall explain later.

The terms meditation and mental prayer are often interchanged. When differentiated, the former is applied to that form of mental prayer wherein considerations and reasonings predominate and which, owing to this, is called discursive meditation. The latter name is chiefly applied to those forms of mental prayer wherein pious affections or acts of the will are predominant. Discursive meditation itself, however, already contains affections, and affective prayer is ordinarily preceded or accompanied by some considerations, excepting the case when the soul is seized by the light of contemplation.

The kind of prayer generally suited to beginners is discursive meditation. They need it in order to acquire convictions or to strengthen them. There are, however, some souls who from the outset give considerable place to affections. But, all must be taught that the best part of mental prayer lies in the acts of the will.

## Parish Staff

<b>Pastor</b>	Msgr. James E. Kruse, JCL jameskruse1996@gmail.com cell: 309-634-5822
<b>Deacon</b>	John Murphy dcjohnmurphy@icloud.com Cell: 815-878-4723 Hm: 646-4723
<b>Trustees</b>	Dan Legner Mary Paula Schmitt
<b>Admin Assistant</b>	Paula Lough
<b>Business Manager</b>	Renee Toomey
<b>Special Projects/ RCIA Coordinator</b>	Susanna Prushinski stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com
<b>Religious Ed Coordinator</b>	Rebekah Mead stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com
<b>Maintenance</b>	Tim Hermeyer
<b>Janitors</b>	Aggie Smith, Emily Smith
<b>Magi Baby Chest Director</b>	Jessica Murphy stl.jessicamurphy@gmail.com
<b>Magi Baby Chest Asst. Director</b>	Ashley Gray stl.ashleygray@gmail.com
<b>Music Director</b>	Matthew Ernat stl.matthewernat@gmail.com

### 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](http://www.stlouisprinceton.org)  
YouTube Channel: [youtube.com/user/stlouisprinceton](http://youtube.com/user/stlouisprinceton)  
FaceBook Page: [www.facebook.com/stlouisprinceton](http://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](http://stlouiscatholicchurch.flocknote.com)

## THE LITURGICAL CORNER

The Stations of the Cross are a devotion associated with the Lenten season. In the fourteenth century the Franciscans were given custody of the Holy Land and they became the caretakers of the churches and various sites where Jesus walked and preached. These Franciscans developed in Jerusalem the custom of walking along the road on which Jesus walked to Calvary, stopping at various points, or stations, to reflect. Originally there was no fixed number of stations, but in 1731 Pope Clement XII fixed the number at 14. One must remember that at this time most people did not read, and in fact the printing press was only developed in the 15th century. Art work, paintings and sculpture served as a way of teaching the faith. That is why every Catholic Church has the Stations of the Cross erected in them. Because it was the Franciscans who developed this devotion, they have the privilege of blessing and erecting the Stations in all Catholic Churches.

## BAPTISM PREPARATION

Please contact Rebekah Mead to schedule baptismal prep classes and the ceremony.  
[stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com](mailto:stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com) | 815-303-2330

## Mass Intentions

Monday, March 4 **St. Casimir**  
7:00am For healing for Cathy Trowbridge  
by St. Louis Parish Staff

**\*Tuesday, March 5 Lenten Weekday**  
**7:00am** +Elizabeth Dahlen by Amie Neiman

Wednesday, March 6 **Lenten Weekday**  
7:00am +Eva Mae Williamson  
by Paul & Bridgette Casteleien

Thursday, March 7 **Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs**  
5:15pm +Felicity Mead by her God Mother  
4:00-5:00 Holy Hour

Friday, March 8 **St. John of God, Religious**  
7:00am +Ken Henkel by Bill & Janet Politsch

Saturday, March 9 **Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
4:00pm +Paul Scoma by Nancy Scoma

Sunday, March 10 **Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
7:30am People of the Parish  
9:00am +Joan Smith by Everett and Dee Solon  
10:30am +Katherine Mary Schied  
by Mike & Renee Toomey

**\*Mass time for Tuesday, March 5th will be 7am and  
Confession and Holy Hour are cancelled in the afternoon.**

## LENTEN FISH FRY

FUNDRAISER FOR THE ST. BEDE  
BOYS/GIRLS TRACK TEAMS



FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2024

Ladd Moose Lodge - 1528 E. Cleveland St.

Time: 4:30-8:00 pm  
Carry-out or Dine-in

TICKETS ARE \$13.00 EACH

Meal includes: Fish, Fries or Baked Potato, Cole Slaw,  
Bottled Water (carry-out only),  
and desserts will be available.

Dine-in beverages available for purchase.

50/50 DRAWING  
6 FOR \$5  
12 FOR \$10  
ARMS-LENGTH FOR \$20

## Liturgical/Volunteer Roles

### 4:00 pm: Saturday, March 9th

Altar Servers: Cameron & Sam Lawrence  
 EMHC: Mandy Robinson, Tim Smith  
 Lectors: Julie Hassler  
 Sacristan: Julie Hassler  
 Ushers: Dan & Cynthia Tracy

### 7:30 am: Sunday, March 10th

Altar Servers: *Servers needed, please check in at Sacristy*  
 EMHC: Tom Jagers, Rita Tracey  
 Lectors: Margaret Martinkus  
 Sacristan: Joann Bowman  
 Ushers: Gary Blessman, Tom Murphy, Dennis Thompson

### 9:00 am: Sunday, March 10th

Altar Servers: Dominic Vasquez, Sylvie Viger  
 EMHC: David Lawrence, Tim Taylor  
 Camera Operator: Marty Makransky  
 Lectors: Steve Bouslog  
 Sacristan: TBD  
 Ushers: Tom Giehl, Dave & Judy Moore

### 10:30 am: Sunday, March 10th

Altar Servers: Jackson Mason, Brennan Roden  
 EMHC: Linda Carter, Mandy Robinson  
 Lectors: Jeff Peacock  
 Sacristan: Linda Carter  
 Ushers: Ken Lough, Pat Mason

**EMHC Homebound:** David Lawrence 9/N  
 Tim Taylor 9/S

**EMHC for Nursing Homes:** Mary Beth Crowe—  
 Hawthorne; Lynn Delaney—Aperion; Nancy Scoma—  
 Greenfield; Rita Tracey—Liberty

## Knights of Columbus

The monthly Knights of Columbus meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 4th with dinner at 6:30, meeting to begin at 7:00. Current members please join us in Harkrader Hall for food and fellowship. If you are a Catholic man age 18 or older and are interested in joining the Knights, or just want more information, feel free to join us for dinner this Monday or contact Bob Schabow at 815-303-8701.

**FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:** Last weekend the Knights of Columbus collected 230 nonperishable food items and \$1,533 in monetary donations for the Bureau County Food Pantry. The Knights donated to the Pantry the \$500 we received from the Supreme Council as a match to what the parish has contributed. There were many high need items donated and the Pantry was very appreciative. The number of families needing help continues to grow dramatically every month. St. Louis parishioners have now contributed 28,354 nonperishable food items and \$162,444 in monetary donations since we started collecting for the Food Pantry in August of 2012. The food insecure in our area are most appreciative. God bless you all for your continuing generosity!

## 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
----------	---------

**PRIVATE PRAYER:** The Chapel is open for Private Prayer— Contact the Parish Office for access code.

## STEWARSHIP

### Church Monetary Support Through February 25, 2024

Amount Budgeted	\$ 6,750.00
Amount Received	\$ 5,714.00
Amount Over (Under)	(\$ 1,036.00)

Fiscal Period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Amount needed to date:	\$ 236,250.00
Amount Received to date:	\$ 239,330.00
Over/(Under) budget to date:	\$ 3,080.00

### Readings for the week of March 3rd

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25  
 Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30  
 Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 18:21-35  
 Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19  
 Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23  
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11, 14, 17/Mk 12:28-34  
 Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14  
 Next Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-6/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

The Glimmer of Comfort Grief Support Group will meet on Tuesday, March 5. All women of any age who have lost a child (children) are welcome to attend. We meet at 521 S. First St. from 1 - 3 pm. If your child died from an illness, accident, overdose, miscarriage, suicide, please come and join other women who understand your pain. The door is always open and you are always welcome. Questions? Call Jeanie Gelsomino at (815) 866-6571.

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!*

## Magi Baby Chest



Lent is here! Chelsea Sanchez aka "Chelsea Gives Back" on Facebook is hosting an online Facebook fundraising event for the Magi Baby Chest called "40 Days of Giving" for Lent. We are so grateful to her. We've already received so many items, it's amazing! Please join her group "40 Days of Giving for the Magi Baby Chest" on Facebook and share it with your friends. We'd like to

get the word out into the Princeton community in order to reach those beyond our parish. Thank you Chelsea for supporting local families! It means so much.

Our next distribution is Saturday April 6th, 9AM to 12PM!

If you're interested in volunteering, we'd love to have you! There are many jobs including bundling diapers, sorting baby items, stocking shelves, hanging clothes, and working on our distribution days. Please reach out to Jessica Murphy or Ashley Gray for more information!

## Altar & Rosary Society

The Altar & Rosary will have a Culver's FUNdraiser Night on **Monday, March 11th from 5- 8 pm**. Bring your appetite and your friends! Let's fill the restaurant and the drive thru with our wonderful St. Louis parishioners to raise money to help The Altar & Rosary Society continue to help support our Church and local charities.



**Schedule Change:** Our next Altar & Rosary Society meeting will be **Tuesday, March 12th**. It will be a potluck so bring your favorite dish to share! Our guest speaker will be Denise Ihrig from the Bureau County Senior Center.

The **Easter Memorial Flower Forms** are located on the Church information tables. Donations will be used to help decorate the Church for Easter. **Deadline is March 24th**.

**Illinois Valley Cursillo:** Please join the Illinois Valley Cursillo Community for an evening of Mass, food and fellowship at our March Ultreya. Saturday, March 9, 2024 at Peterstown. The evening will begin at 6 PM in the gym with a potluck and program. MC and Speaker will be Deacon Dan O'Connor. Rector and Rector for the June weekends will be announced. Mass will follow in the church at 7:30 PM. Guests are welcome at all Ultreyas.

**IV Cursillo 2024 June weekends at Peterstown.** Men- June 6-9 and Women- June 20-23. For more information please contact Deacon Ray Fischer 815 993-5418, fischerrc@comcast.com.

## Parish Schedule Changes

**The Mass time for Tuesday, March 5th will be 7am and Adoration and Confession are cancelled in the afternoon.**

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**FEBRUARY 16TH — MARCH 22ND**  
**FRIDAYS 5PM**



"We adore you O Christ and we praise you, Because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world."



**GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH**  
**AT NOON**

## CATHOLIC Forum - Q&A



Please join us for the next Catholic Forum this **Sunday, March 3rd at 6:30pm** at Harkrader Hall. Everyone is invited to meet for a Question/Answer session about any faith topic. Individuals ask their questions and Msgr. Kruse attempts to provide an answer.

*All you can eat*

**PANCAKE & SAUSAGE**

*Breakfast*



**Sunday, March 10th 7:30am to 12:30pm**

**DINE IN OR CARRY OUT**

**ST. PATRICK'S PARISH HALL IN SHEFFIELD**  
**(NEXT TO CHURCH)**

**\$10 FOR ADULTS, \$5 FOR KIDS 6-12, UNDER 6 EAT FOR FREE**  
**SPONSORED BY THE SHEFFIELD KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



**\$15 per person**  
**Kids 5 and under eat for free!**

Dinner Includes:  
Baked or Fried Fish  
French Fries/Baked Potatoe  
Coleslaw; Mac & Cheese;  
Bread; Dessert & Drink

The perfect Lenten Friday Night Out! Pray the Stations of the Cross at 5pm followed by a delicious fish dinner at the St. Louis Fish Fry!