



SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH

DIOCESE OF PEORIA ~ PRINCETON, ILLINOIS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden.” - Mt 5:14

PASTOR NOTE

Our parish has a wonderful women's group, the Council of Catholic Women. I am grateful for all the good work that they do for the parish. Recently, I met with the CCW to discuss with them a request from the Diocese. The Diocese determined that the Diocesan Council of Women is an organization that is independent from the Diocese and each parish. As a result, they must secure their own liability insurance. I worked with the Diocese to discuss our parish CCW organization. The Diocese agreed that our CCW organization is not part of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women organization. Instead, it is a parish organization. This means that our local CCW does not need to secure its own liability insurance.

The Diocese has asked that our local organization change its name considering that CCW is so close to DCCW. At their last meeting, our CCW decided to change its name to the St. Louis Altar and Rosary Society. This name change does not change any of their good work.

I share all of this with you so that you can understand why CCW's name has been changed to the Altar and Rosary Society or ARS. I am sure that we will all get used to its new name.

Lent is coming soon – Ash Wednesday is February 22nd. Once again during Lent we will have Small Groups reflecting on the week's Gospel. Very soon you will have the opportunity to sign up for one of these Lent Small Groups. I think this was a wonderful experience for everyone last year and last Fall. I encourage everyone to sign up for these small groups.

Also during Lent, we will hold a Parish Lenten Retreat on Sunday, February 26, 1pm to 6pm. This year it will be early in Lent so that we will be well prepared to embrace a Holy Season.

NOURISHED IN SPIRIT

Myth #8: God cannot be an object of forgiveness. We forgive mistakes, wounds and wrong doings towards us. Of course, in His divine nature, God can never do anything evil nor wrong us. Strictly speaking, God never needs to be forgiven. However, almost all of us have a profound understanding of God's control of things. We have a deep sense of His divine providence guiding things in this world. And, all of us must struggle with reconciling God's totally loving divine providence and the presence of evil in this world. In our pain and weakness, we can easily blame God for the troubles of this world. In the midst of our pain and hurt, we can easily, but mistakenly, believe that God caused the problems. As a priest I have heard people say, "If only God gave me better parents...If only God protected me...If only God struck dead that abuser...I would have no pain." Certainly, this is faulty reasoning. But nevertheless, the pain is real and God is really seen as the culprit. In the process of forgiveness and within the context of this faulty reasoning, God can be an object of forgiveness. Let go of the bad reasoning and stop holding God responsible for others' mistakes.

Myth #9: You cannot forgive the dead. Regretfully, many people die before there is reconciliation and forgiveness. This can deepen the pain and wound. Death does not destroy the bonds of relationship. It simply changes them. We can still have relationship with those who are dead. So, we can offer them forgiveness. The ways and means may be different. But, forgiveness is still possible.

Myth #10: Forgiveness is a one time grand event similar to a proclamation. This may be true for small infractions. Those can often be easily forgiven and forgotten. But, usually deeper wounds take longer to heal. Many times we say, "Why can't I just get over this." That's easier said than done. We cannot set an alarm clock at a specific time and day so that when the alarm sounds, all of our pain ends and the wound is healed. That's not how it works. Instead, the pain is often recurring either in reality or in memory. Each re-occurrence is an invitation to go deeper into forgiveness. Forgiveness is not so much a one time event, but a continual process of choosing to let go of what has wronged us. We do not forgive in a single moment; but rather, we forgive through many small progressive choices over time. Each step is real forgiveness. And, it's a step towards deeper forgiveness.

Each of these common myths distort the real meaning of forgiveness. They can stand as obstacles to offering forgiveness. Remember that I am offering my opinions and advice. You may want to take away from this list or add to it. But, dispelling the myths can help us begin to see the real meaning of forgiveness. We will tackle that in our next newsletter. God Bless.

The Eucharist bathes the tormented soul in light and love.

Then the soul appreciates these words,

***'Come all you who are sick, I will restore your health.'* -Saint Bernadette**

Parish Staff

Pastor Msgr. James E. Kruse, JCL
jameskruse1996@gmail.com
cell: 309-634-5822

Deacon John Murphy
Wk: 664-1155/Hm: 646-4723

Trustees Dan Legner
Mary Paula Schmitt

Admin Assistant Paula Lough

Business Manager Renee Toomey

**Special Projects/
RCIA Coordinator** Susanna Prushinski
stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com

Religious Ed Coordinator Rebekah Mead
stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com

Maintenance Tim Hermeyer

Janitors Aggie Smith, Emily Smith

Magi Baby Chest Jessica Murphy
stl.jessicamurphy@gmail.com

Director Matthew Ernat
stl.matthewernat@gmail.com

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

Belonging Baptism Preparation

Please contact Rebekah Mead to schedule baptismal prep classes and the ceremony.
stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com | 815-303-2330

Mass Intentions

Monday, February 6 **St. Paul Miki and Companions,**

Martyrs

7:00 am +Garrett C. Miller by Barbara Bass

Tuesday, February 7 **Weekday**

5:15pm +Bert & Mildred Whitmore

by Jim Whitmore

4-5:00 Holy Hour

Wednesday, February 8 **St. Jerome Emiliani;**

St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

7:00am +Todd Hermeyer by Mike & Doris Smith

Thursday, February 9 **Weekday**

5:15pm +Kristina Giehl by Alan & Lynne Weber

4-5:00 Holy Hour

Friday, February 10 **St. Scholastica, Virgin**

7:00 am +Mike Milligan

by Paul & Bridgette Castelein

Saturday, February 11 **Healing Mass—Feast of Our Lady of**

Lourdes, World Day of the Sick;

Vigil of Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am People of the Parish who are Sick

4:00 pm +Judy Williams

by Leo and Susanna Prushinski

Sunday, February 12 **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am +Lilliana Mave Sutton

by Jim and Connie Sutton

9:00 am +Dioscoro C. Soco by Amie Neiman

10:30am People of the Parish

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

I recently decided to learn to cook. As I sit at the feet of various YouTube cooking masters, I notice how much of cooking is adding ingredients that don't provide any more nourishment, like herbs and other seasonings. But man! They make all the difference because they make the meal delightful to eat and share.

Jesus calls his disciples "salt of the world." No one eats just salt. So, Christians are not meant to replace or do away with the world. They are meant to be agents of preservation and glorification. Notice how often these days the Church seeks to preserve what is threatened: the goodness of marital and family love, the desires of young people for greatness, the value of honest work, healthy economics, and altruistic political engagement, the dignity of the poor and vulnerable. Over and over, we say to a world who wants to throw things out, "It's worth saving! We'll preserve it! We'll show you it's wonderful." If we can't engage the world like that, Jesus says we are the ones who get thrown out, because salt alone is worthless.

Jesus only asks us to do for others what he does for us. He is the "salt" of everything in our lives. Is there something in your life starting to rot a bit? Something tasting bland and boring? Let Jesus salt it and see if you like it better. — Father John Muir ©LPi



Liturgical/Volunteer Roles

4:00 pm: Saturday, February 11th

Altar Servers: Cameron & Sam Lawrence
EMHC: Dave Boylan, Mandy Robinson
Lectors: Julie Hassler
Sacristan: Julie Hassler
Ushers: Dan & Cynthia Tracy, Colleen Sissel

7:30 am: Sunday, February 12th

Altar Servers: Brady Peach
EMHC: Mary Beth Crowe, Rita Tracey
Lectors: Gene Menard
Sacristan: Joann Bowman
Ushers: Tom Ballard, Tom Tracey, Bill Uher

9:00 am: Sunday, February 12th

Altar Servers: Angelo & Patsy Bystry
EMHC: Linda Carter, Mandy Robinson
Camera Operator: Marty Makransky
Lectors: Herb Rhees
Sacristan: Chris Romagnoli
Ushers: Dan Legner, Quint Quiram, Jim Whiteaker

10:30 am: Sunday, February 12th

Altar Servers: Elizabeth Keutzer, Luke Smith
EMHC: Paula Lough, Tim Smith
Lectors: Patty Daluga
Sacristan: Tim Smith
Ushers: Bart & Anthony Maciczak, Michael Ellis

EMHC Homebound: Linda Carter 9/S
Mandy Robinson 9/N

EMHC for Nursing Homes: Pat Galassi-Carlson - Hawthorne; David Lawrence -Aperion; Nancy Scoma - 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	4:30—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.

STEWARDSHIP

Church Monetary Support Through January 29, 2023

Amount Budgeted	\$ 6,500.00
Amount Received	\$ 4,926.00
Amount Over (Under)	(\$ 1,574.00)

Fiscal Period July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Amount needed to date:	\$201,500.00
Amount Received to date:	\$208,535.00
Over/(Under) budget to date:	\$ 7,035.00

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

CONGRATULATIONS

to the following couples celebrating their 50th

Plus Wedding Anniversary in February

Thomas & Peggy Carr married on 2/2/72

Jim & Linda Carter married on 2/21/70

Alan & Gwen Hoenig married on 2/24/68

Readings for the week of February 5th

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a,5,6,10 and 12,24 and 35c/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday: Gn 1:20—24a/Ps 8:4,5,6-7,8,9/Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday: Gn 2:4b,9,15-17/Ps 104:1-2a,27-28,29bc/30/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2,3,4,5/Mk 7:24-30
Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2,5,6,7/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2,3,4abc,5,6,12-13/Mk 8:1-10
Next Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2,4,5,17-18,33-34(1b)/1 Cor 26:10/Mt 5:17-37

End of Year Contribution Statements BY REQUEST ONLY, 2022 contribution statements are now available. If you desire a statement to prepare your personal income tax return, please call or email the parish office, and one will be provided to you. Please indicate if you would like the statement mailed to your residence, or provided electronically via email. Note: contributions made to the Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA) will receive a separate statement directly from the Catholic Diocese of Peoria, in compliance with IRS requirements for charitable giving. The faithful sharing of your "treasure" is sincerely appreciated!

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE: Last weekend the Knights of Columbus collected 173 nonperishable food items and \$1,441 in monetary donations for the Bureau County Food Pantry. The Pantry staff was very pleased with the breakfast cereal, mac & cheese, peanut butter and boxed potatoes, all high need items. St. Louis parishioners have now contributed 25,835 nonperishable food items and \$141,801 in monetary donations since the Knights started collecting for the Food Pantry in August of 2012. Thanks to all for your great support. The food insecure in our area appreciate all you have done to support them.

Invitation to Become an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

During Mass, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) are an important ministry in the parish. I am grateful to the many volunteers who assist during Mass and bring Holy Communion to the homebound. We need more volunteers to help at Mass and visit our homebound.

I invite you to consider volunteering as an EMHC. This is a tremendous service to the parish and can help you grow closer to our Eucharistic Lord. Considering that this volunteering is directly related to the Eucharist, there are some requirements to volunteer. The Diocese summarizes these requirements as: being at least aged 18 and a "Catholic of excellent character and obvious spiritual devotion and who live their faith in harmony with the Gospel and the laws of the Church." EMHC's must attend a training session; serve at least two Masses a month; bring Communion to the homebound at least one time a month; and, receive a mandate from the Bishop.

There will be a training session **this Sunday, February 5th at 1pm in the church.** During this session I will explain the requirements in more detail as well as explain the manner of distributing Holy Communion. This session may be about 90 minutes. Anyone interested in becoming an EMHC is invited to attend.

I ask that all current volunteers also attend this training session. At this meeting I will discuss some aspects of distributing Communion and visiting the homebound. Also, at this meeting I will lead a prayer and re-commissioning for our volunteers. I hope that you can attend.

Please contact me if you have any questions.
Thank you. Msgr. Kruse

Enrichment of Faith 101 Class: Additional Session: Starting Wed. Feb. 22 2:00-3:15pm until May 17th. This class will help us to discover or rediscover the what and why of our Catholic belief in order to deepen and enliven our faith in Jesus Christ and all that He has revealed to us through His Church. The class is structured to introduce us to the use of scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church and even give a taste of some of the Church Fathers and saints and to be able to linger and move forward at a pace set by the participants.

This class will be lead by Susanna Prushinski. Please sign-up for the class by contacting Susanna or call the parish office. If a better day/time works, please notify Susanna— additional sessions can be added!

815-915-6960 | stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com

Thank you very much to the St. Louis Altar and Rosary Society for your donation to the St. Louis youth fund! Your generosity will help provide for fun events for the children and families of our parish. "You are being enriched in every way for all generosity, which through us produces thanksgiving to God." - 2 Corinthians 9:11

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes Saturday, February 11th



Join Us for a
Special Healing Mass
on Saturday,
February 11th at 9am

Special prayers for the
sick will be offered and
the sacrament of the
anointing of the sick.

*Our Lady of Lourdes,
Pray for Us!*

EMMAUS KNIGHTS

CALLING ALL 7TH-12TH GRADE MEN



THIS SUNDAY
February 5TH 4:30-6:30pm

2327 W. HEADING AVE.
PEORIA, IL

PRAYER, PIZZA, PING PONG

VISIT WWW.COMEANDFOLLOWME.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

USE THIS CODE &



SCAN TO REGISTER

Young men get together in Peoria on one Sunday afternoon per month so that we can share in some fun, food, and our faith - just like we do at Emmaus Days! So I want to invite you to Emmaus Knights from 4:30 to 6:30 PM at an amazing house that the bishop has designated for the formation of men, which has been officially named, "The Emmaus House!"

Young men from seventh grade to seniors in high school are all welcome for this FREE event.

Although your moms or siblings might be able to give you a ride, I would encourage you to ask your fathers to bring you so that they can join in some fraternity with other men from around the diocese!

-Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck, Vocation Director