



SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Diocese of Peoria ~ Princeton, Illinois
Sunday, January 28, 2024

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" - Mk 1:23-25

PASTOR NOTE

I have expressed many times that I desire for our parish to be truly a family. Families regularly gather and enjoy time together. So, I hope that our parish will come together regularly. I want to highlight some of the opportunities for our parish to come together. I don't highlight every parish program but only a few of them. As you know our bulletin always includes announcements of our parish events.

Every Wednesday from 1pm to 3pm our parish hosts a Euchre Card Party. It is a wonderful opportunity to make new friends. Everyone is welcome, parishioners or non-parishioners. Often, we share treats and always have a good time together. We welcome new players or experts. We throw in a dollar each to provide a high and low score prize. You might win enough for a good cup of coffee! Come each week or whenever you are able.

Each Thursday at 6pm, our parish holds the Men's Study Group. We have started a new series discussing the meaning of holiness. All men of the parish are invited to come to these meetings. It is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith. Please join us each week or whenever you are able.

Each Friday at 8am, our parish hosts the Women's Study Group, where they reflect on the Scriptures. They meet in the parish library, often with treats. All the women of the parish are encouraged to attend and grow in the faith.

Each Saturday at 7am, our parish hosts the weekly Holy Hour for Men. All of the men of our parish are invited to attend. We enjoy Eucharistic adoration, hear a brief reflection on the Gospel and a chance for confessions. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in the faith.

Each fourth Sunday of the month at 6pm our parish hosts a Pro Life Holy Hour where we pray for the end to abortion and pray for advancement of the dignity of life. This is a wonderful opportunity to join together in prayer for such a truly worthy cause.

Lent is coming soon – Ash Wednesday is February 14th. 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. If you have not attended a small group in the past, you are encouraged to give it a chance. It would be a wonderful opportunity to grow in the faith. Each group meets for about an hour and there is no homework.

Our parish will host the annual Lenten Retreat on Sunday, March 24th from 1pm to 6pm. Please mark your calendars. More details later.

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

Conditions on the Part of the Subject:

The most essential conditions to ensure the efficacy of our prayers are: humility, confidence, and attention, or at least the earnest to be attentive.

The need for humility flows from the very nature of prayer. Since grace is a free gift of God to which we have no right whatever, we are as St. Augustine says, but beggars in relation to God, and we must implore of His mercy what we cannot demand as a right. It was thus that Abraham prayed, considering himself but dust and ashes in presence of Divine Majesty: "I will speak to my Lord, whereas I am dust and ashes." Thus, did Daniel pray when he asked for the deliverance of the Jewish people, relying not on his merits and virtues, but on God's overflowing mercies: "It is not for our justifications that we present our prayers before thy face, but for the multitude of thy tender mercies." Thus, prayed the publican, who was also head: "O God, be merciful to me a sinner," whilst the proud Pharisee saw his prayer rejected. Jesus Himself gives us the reason: "Every one that exalts himself shall be humbled; and he that humbles himself shall be exalted." His Disciples understood this well. St. James insists that "God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble." This is mere justice: the proud man attributes to himself the efficacy of his prayer, whilst the humble man attributes it to God. Now, can we expect that God will hear us to the detriment of His own glory, in order to flatter our vain complacency? The humble soul, on the contrary, sincerely acknowledges that all it has is from God, and hence God in hearkening to his prayers procures His own glory as well as the welfare of him who prays.

Humility in turn begets confidence, a confidence based, not upon our merits but upon the goodness of God and upon the merits of Jesus Christ.

Faith teaches us that God is merciful and that because He is merciful, He turns to us with greater love the more we acknowledge our miseries, for misery appeals to mercy. To call upon Him with confidence is in reality to honor Him, to proclaim Him as the source of all gifts, and as desiring nothing so much as to bestow them upon us. In the Scriptures He affirms again and again that He hearkens to those who hope in Him: "Because he hoped in me, I will deliver him. . . He shall cry to me and I will hear him."

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
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
Director	stl.jessicamurphy@gmail.com
Magi Baby Chest	Ashley Gray
Asst. Director	stl.ashleygray@gmail.com
Music Director	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
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



Welcome to the newest member of our
Catholic Christian family!

Reid Alvy Clark,
child of Zachary and Sarah Clark,
who was baptized on January 21, 2024

BAPTISM PREPARATION

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

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Friday, February 2nd

*For our sake He was presented to the Lord
that we may learn to offer ourselves to God.*
-Thomas Aquinas

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 29 Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00am +Mary "Becky" Peterson

Tuesday, January 30 Weekday in Ordinary Time

5:15pm +Mike Milligan by Paul & Bridgette Castelein
4:00-5:00 Holy Hour

Wednesday, January 31 St. John Bosco, Priest

7:00am +Patricia Diane Patton-Bryan
by Bethany Brigham

Thursday, February 1 Weekday in Ordinary Time

5:15pm +Earl & Cecilia Hartwig by Tom & Mary Murphy
4:00-5:00 Holy Hour

Friday, February 2 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

7:00am +Henri Magnafici by Mary Beth Crowe

Saturday, February 3 First Saturday Devotion;

Vigil of 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00am +Loren Harmon by Steve & Colleen Harmon
4:00pm +Wayne Whalen by Dan & Cynthia Tracy

Sunday, February 4 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am +Joseph Morrissey by Jim & Connie Sutton
9:00am People of the Parish
10:30am +Bob & Betty Roden

Glimmer of Comfort Grief Support Group:

If you're a Mom and have lost a child because of an illness, suicide, addiction, accident or miscarriage, no matter how long ago, please plan on attending a Glimmer of Comfort Grief Support Group. The pain doesn't go away and you will be with women who understand that deep and intense grief. **We will meet on Tuesday, February 6 at 521 S. First St., Princeton from 1 - 3 pm.** The door is always open and you will be most welcome. For more information, call Jeanie Gelsomino at (815) 866-6571.

The Living Scripture Retreat: A Spiritual Journey for Healing after Abortion. This is the new name of the long-standing diocesan retreat program formerly known as Rachel's Vineyard Retreat.

The Living Scripture Retreat offers healing for those who struggle with the emotional and spiritual pain of a past abortion. This retreat is for singles or married couples; mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, or anyone impacted by an abortion experience. If you are searching for peace and inner healing from a past abortion, this retreat is for you. **Register for the February 9-11, 2024 retreat by calling 309-264-1489 or e-mailing rvrpeoria@gmail.com.** All communications are strictly confidential.

Liturgical/Volunteer Roles

4:00 pm: Saturday, February 3rd

Altar Servers: Cameron & Sam Lawrence
EMHC: Lynn Delaney, David Lawrence
Lectors: Sophia Oester
Sacristan: Mandy Robinson
Ushers: Dan & Cynthia Tracy

7:30 am: Sunday, February 4th

Altar Servers: *Servers needed, please check in at Sacristy*
EMHC: Mary Beth Crowe, Rita Tracey
Lectors: Mary Paula Schmitt
Sacristan: Lori Atilano
Ushers: Tom Tracey, Bill Uher, Tom Ballard

9:00 am: Sunday, February 4th

Altar Servers: Jessica Carlone, Luke Smith
EMHC: Cindy Behrends, Linda Carter
Camera Operator: Marty Makransky
Lectors: Steve Harmon
Sacristan: Chris Romagnoli
Ushers: Dan Legner, Quint Quiram, Jim Whiteaker

10:30 am: Sunday, February 4th

Altar Servers Jackson Mason, Brennan Roden
EMHC: Tim Smith, Tim Taylor
Lectors: David Roden
Sacristan: Tim Smith
Ushers: Bart & Anthony Maciczak, Michael Ellis

EMHC Homebound: Cindy Behrends 9/N
Linda Carter 9/S

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

THE LITURGICAL CORNER

Probably one of the first prayers we learned as a child was the sign of the Cross. We begin and end our prayers by making this sign which identifies us as Catholic Christians. Since the Mass is the highest form of prayer, it is only natural that we begin and end this prayer with the sign of the Cross as well. When we make the sign of the Cross, especially at Mass, we are affirming three things:

1. The sign of the Cross is credal. In other words, we profess our faith in God who is a Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. By simply making the sign of the Cross, we are professing our faith.
2. The sign of the Cross is baptismal. When we were baptized it was done 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.' Every time we make the sign of the Cross, it serves as a renewal of our baptismal promises. After all, the reason why we can call God "Our Father" is because through our baptism He has adopted us and made us His children. We have the privilege and duty of worshipping God at the Eucharist precisely because we have been baptized.
3. The sign of the Cross is exorcistic. When we make the sign of the Cross, we are recalling that it was the death of Christ on the Cross, which we celebrate in the Eucharist, which freed us from the bondage of sin and the power of evil. So in making the sign of the Cross, we are affirming that in our struggle with evil, there is a power in our lives, the power of the Cross of Christ, which helps us to live virtuous, Christian lives, even in the midst of evil.

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 January 21, 2024

Amount Budgeted	\$	6,750.00
Amount Received	\$	<u>6,331.00</u>
Amount Over (Under)	(\$	419.00)

Fiscal Period July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Amount needed to date:	\$	202,500.00
Amount Received to date:	\$	<u>207,660.00</u>
Over/(Under) budget to date:	\$	5,160.00

End of Year Contribution Statements

BY REQUEST ONLY, 2023 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!

Readings for the week of January 28th

Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9(8)/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28
Monday: 2Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 32:3, 45; 6:7/Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday: 2Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3, 4, 5, 6/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: 2Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6
Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13
Friday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 22:2-40 or 22:32
Saturday: 1 Kgs 34:13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3, 4, 5, 6(see 3a)/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39



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



Our next *Mom's Night Out* is Friday Feb. 2nd 6-8PM! Meet in the St. Louis library for drinks, appetizers, and comradery! Free childcare is provided. ALL moms from St. Louis parish are welcome to attend! The Magi Baby Chest will be open for shopping. A \$5.00 cash door donation is suggested. We carry items

for newborns up to 4 years old. If you're in need of formula, bottles, clothing, bathing items, etc. - we more than likely have it! Or, if you'd like to meet fellow mothers, please come! We'd love to have you. ♥ Rsvp to Jessica Murphy or Ashley Gray.

Our next distribution is Saturday February 3rd 9AM to 12PM.

High Need Items for February: Dish soap, baby laundry soap, unscented wipes, bottles, baby food, infant medicine, new children's books (ages 0-4), kids vitamins, baby wash, baby lotion, pacifiers, toddler socks, toddler underwear, and new winter clothing (sizes NB to 4T). *We are also in need of gently used clothing for boys & girls (sizes 12mo to 4T). If you are ready to ring in the new year with cleaning out the kids' closets, please keep the Magi Baby Chest in mind!*

Enrichment of Faith Classes Being Offered this Spring

Enrichment of Faith 103: Life in Christ: Living the Moral Life. Two classes offered on Wednesdays 1:00 - 2:15 PM and 6:00-7:15 PM. We will meet each week from Feb. 21st to May 1st. There are two weeks we will not meet due to personal travel: March 13th and 20th. This class will allow us to delve into the rich teachings that have been given to us through Divine Revelation and entrusted to the Church. We will look at our vocation to Beatitude, freedom, conscience, morality of human acts, virtue and vice, and delve into the Ten Commandments. This class is open to all even if you have not attended the Creed and/or Liturgy and Sacraments class. This class is led by Susanna Prushinski. Please sign-up for class by contacting Susanna at 815-915-6960 or stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com or contact the Parish Office.

Enrichment of Faith 102: Liturgy and Sacraments. Two classes offered: Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:45 PM and on Thursdays 1:00 - 2:15 PM. We will meet each week from Feb. 21st/22nd - May 1st/2nd. There are two weeks we will not meet due to personal travel: March 13th/14th and 20th/21st. This class will help us to discover or re-discover the power of the Liturgy and Sacraments, the what and why of Church teachings regarding Liturgy/Sacraments and what the Church Fathers have to say about Liturgy/Sacraments. This class is open to all even if you did not attend the Enrichment of Class 101 on the Creed. This class is led by Susanna Prushinski. Please sign-up for class by contacting Susanna at 815-915-6960 or stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com or contact the Parish Office.



A Holy Hour for Life

Benediction, Rosary, and other Prayers
Sunday, January 28th 6-7pm

All are welcome to gather in prayer in the Church for the intention of respect for the sacredness of all human life.



Youth Group Night

Sunday, January 28th 6-7:30 pm

We will meet for a short bible study, followed by games and prayer time.



FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION

Mass, Adoration and Rosary
Saturday, February 3rd 7am

In reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the salvation of souls and peace in the world

WINE AND CHEESE PARTY HARKRADER HALL

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 3RD 6:30PM**

Appetizers, wine, beer and
soda will be provided.

(must be 21 or older to attend)

CATHOLIC Forum - Q&A

Please join us for the next Catholic Forum on **Sunday, February 4th 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.

Eucharistic Adoration will be held at St. Louis Parish **ALL HOURS** during the weekend of **February 9-11, beginning at 7p.m. on Friday and ending at 7a.m. on Sunday.** This extended period of adoration will coincide with **The Living Scripture Retreat** for healing after abortion that will be taking place during the same hours, at a separate location.

Please consider spending an hour with our Lord in prayer asking for God's healing graces for the men and women attending this retreat. Sign-up sheets are available in the foyer of Harkrader Hall; please sign up early so that we can fill all the hours! You may also sign up electronically on our website: www.stlouisprinceton.org For more information call the parish office, or Colleen Harmon at 815-303-1184.