

Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church

6596 Smiley Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63139

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Thomas M. Pastorius
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Deacon

James Tetreault
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Music Director

Elizabeth Svancarek

Plant Manager

John Ellison
johnellison11@aol.com

Parish Secretary

Trish Nerviani
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MASS & SACRAMENTS

Sunday Masses: 8:00 & 10:30 am

Weekday Masses Monday, Wednesday
Thursday, Friday & Saturdays: 8:00 am

Tuesday Morning Prayer: 8:00 am

Tuesday Mass: 5:30 pm

Saturday Masses 8:00 am and 5:00 pm

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday,
7:00-7:50 am or by appointment.

Tuesdays, 5-5:20 pm

Baptisms: Meeting first Thursday of the
month. Preregistration required.

Marriages: Contact the priest at least 9
months prior to the wedding date.

Funerals: To be arranged by contacting
the Parish Office.

Change of Address or Telephone
Number: Please call the Parish Office.

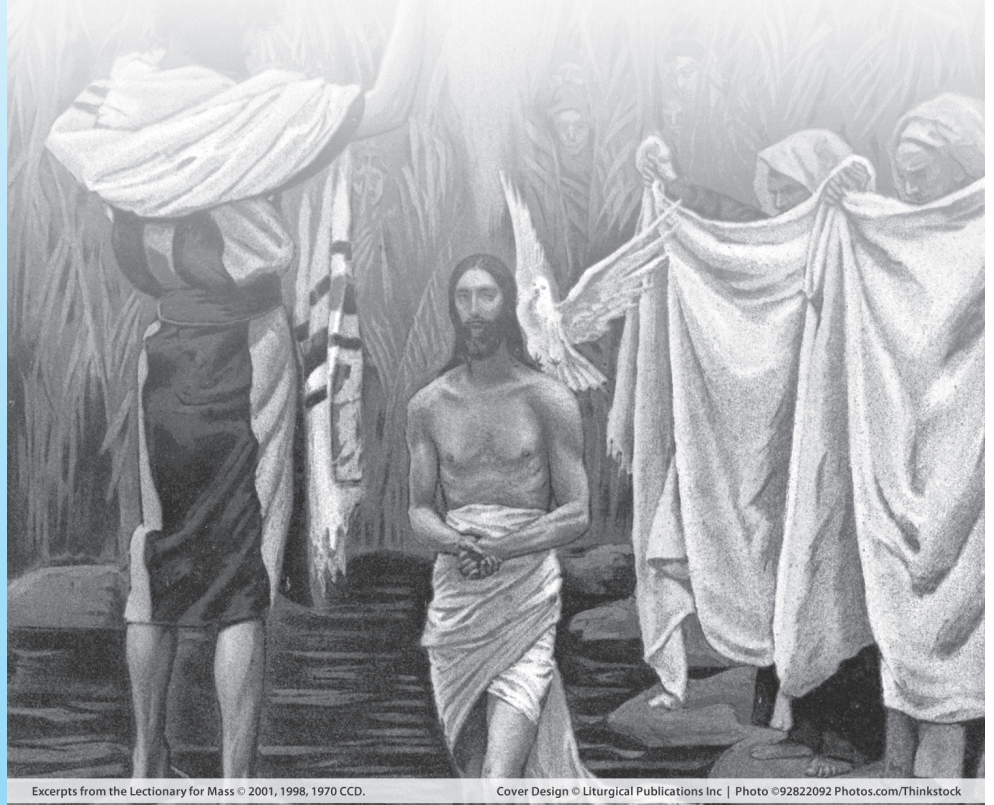
Bulletin Deadline: 4:00 pm Monday.

The Baptism of the Lord

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?"

Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."

Then he allowed him. – Mt 3:13-15



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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The Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2016

Phone: 314-781-1199

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Sacramental Emergency After Hours Line: 314-260-6261

www.epiphanystl.org

LIVING OUR FAITH

From the Desk of Fr. Thomas Pastorius,

1. Witnessing Miracles

I just wanted to let you know what a blessing it was to celebrate the Christmas Season with all of you at Epiphany of our Lord Parish. The Church looked awesome which is hard to do with the way our sanctuary is designed. It is really easy to decorate too much or too little. Many people told me though that this was just right (in other words perfect). The music was amazing. Bishop Rice remarked, three times after Mass on the Epiphany, how wonderful the music was. It was great having our choir and cantors share their talents with us and the bell choir added that something extra. It was also a great blessing to see the Church with more people in it than normal. Thank you to everyone who made this Christmas season a little more magical and mystical.

2. Faith and Family Programming For Tuesday January 12

Men and Women's Session 6:30 PM.

3. Liturgical Ministers Meeting February 2, 2016

Remembering what a great honor and privilege it is to be able to be a minister at the Most Holy Mass, I invite all Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers, Choir Members, etc. to our annual Evening of Appreciation and Formation for Liturgical Ministers. Dr. Randal Rosenberg, a professor at SLU, will be our presenter.

4. Everyone Needs to Forgive Somebody Classes

I hope everyone has enjoyed the book "Everyone Needs to Forgive Someone" by Alan Hunt that we passed out at Christmas. Please mark your calendar now to attend a series of group discussions based on the book. Evening Sessions will be Tuesday Nights from 8-9PM (Tuesday February 16 to Tuesday March 22) and Morning Session will be Wednesday Mornings 9-10AM (Wednesday February 17 to Wednesday February 21). If you wish to participate please read chapter 1&2 before the first class. All classes will take place in the rectory.

5. Roses For Life Campaign

"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government." - Thomas Jefferson. Next weekend the Knights of Columbus will be at Church asking you to write your name and address on a small card that is attached to a small rose. These roses will, once again, be sent to our political leaders reminding them of their greatest obligation.

God bless, Fr. Tom

Pro-life Events January 16, 2016 Annual Roe vs. Wade Memorial Mass at the Cathedral Basilica. Mass at 9:30 am; Celebrant, Archbishop Robert Carlson
January 21, 2016 Young Adult Pro-Life Holy Hour and fellowship. 7:00 pm at the Cathedral Basilica. For more information call 792-7555. Co-sponsored by the Office of Young Adult Ministry.

Project Joseph Spiritual support for post-abortive men. Meetings held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. Contact Chuck at 314-974-6787 or email: craymjr@sbcglobal.net.

Project Rachel Spiritual support for post-abortive women. Meetings held on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7 pm. Contact Marisol at 314-792-7451 or email: mpfaff@archstl.org.

Helpers of God's Precious Infants Meetings held the third Saturday of every month at the Cathedral Basilica. 8 am Mass and Rosary Procession to the Planned Parenthood on Forest Park Ave. Please remember in your prayers pregnant women in crisis pregnancies: that they will choose **Life** for their unborn babies.

The Baptism of the Lord Lectionary:

21 Gospel [Lk 3:15-16, 21-22](#)

Scripture Reflection: The Good News of the Gospel is that we Christians do not have to do anything to be "the beloved of God." We do not have to offer a sacrifice in the right way or say a certain mantra in order to get God to like us. He loves us. The important thing is to believe in God's love for us and nurture that relationship.

Reflection Questions:

1. Why did Jesus have to be baptized?
2. What difference does it make to know that God loves you verses trying to earn God's love?
3. Compare the stories of Jesus with the stories of the Greek gods and goddesses.
4. What does a dove symbolize for the Jewish people?
5. Why does the devil attack God's saying "You are my beloved son" by saying "If you are God's son."

WEEKLY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Every Wed from 6-6:30pm we will have Adoration and Evening Prayer. Vatican II encourages parishes to have Evening Prayer on a weekly basis for its communal nature and its beauty. We will sing it, but feel free to pray in silence. Long day at work? Spend a few moments in prayer before our Lord and suddenly everything is put into perspective.

Spiritual Ponderings

Loving The Church

"There are not one hundred people in the United States who hate The Catholic Church, but there are millions who hate what they wrongly perceive the Catholic Church to be," – Fulton J. Sheen. It seems like the number of people who hate The Church keeps growing. I pray that Fulton Sheen is right and that they just have to understand what the Church is teaching fully. Here are some more ways in which we can grow more in love with the Catholic Church instead of hoping that she will change something soon. Remember this list comes from my reflection on how to love the Church and my advice I give to engage couples.

3. Avoid Defensiveness (Personal Weaknesses)

One of the things that I have to repeat to myself often is the saying from St. Augustine "The Church is a hospital for sinners and not a hotel for saints." I believe that it is almost impossible being a priest in the post scandal Church today and not feel at least a little bit persecuted by the Church's hierarchy. For example, all it used to take for me to work a youth camp in another diocese was a letter from my bishop to their bishop. Starting this year, I had to watch a one hour video online and submit to background checks from the diocese that the camp was in because the letter from my bishop was no longer good enough. At first, I was offended, but I remembered the idea that defensiveness rarely ever accomplishes anything but more conflict because when I get defensive I often aggressively criticize the person I am defending myself from. This year, I decided to turn the other cheek and I prayerfully decided to offer up this extra inconvenience and hurt feelings for a sick friend.

I think of Mother Teresa's prayer:

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway. If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway. If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway. If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway. What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway. If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway. The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway. Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway in the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

4. Understand Defensiveness (Weakness in Others)

One of the most important lessons I learned in counseling is that uncalled for aggressiveness can be a sign of weakness in the person who is being aggressive. For example, when two adults are chatting with one another, they should both feel that they are on equal grounds, but sometimes a person for one reason or another does not feel equal to the other person. In the conversation they might try to compensate by raising their voice and becoming more intimidating. The saying therefore "The loudest one in the room is the weakest" often rings true. When someone attacks me for something I said in a homily or a new policy in the parish in a way that that appears to be hateful, crude or obnoxious, I can see the truth that how they are behaving says more about them than it says about me. I am not only able to keep my calm, but also unite my sufferings with Christ who suffered so gracefully through the Passion.

Here are three more pieces of advice from Cardinal Thuan.

1. Do not be surprised when people seek to destroy the Church. They seek to kill Christ again, but since they cannot do so, they seek to destroy the Church which is the Body of Christ.
2. You say that you would never turn against the Church, but you do not hesitate to oppose the representatives of the Church. If this is how you think, you are playing games!
3. Before you criticize the Church as being removed from social reality, read the documents and encyclicals of the popes. You will be surprised to discover that they have dealt with every problem with deep insight. You will see just how radical and advanced were their policies of renewal, drawn from the Scriptures, the grace of God, and tradition. As Pope Pius XII once said, if we put into practice even a little of the popes' teachings the Church and the world would be transformed.

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST We welcome into our parish family our newly baptized:

*Rowan Therese Patterson
William August Futhey*

Congratulations to the proud parents and families of our newest members! May the blessing of the Lord be always upon them!



Help Wanted St. Alban Roe is looking for a full time Janitor for the School/Parish Life Center. Duties include but not limited to: general cleaning of classrooms, restrooms and halls. Assist with set-up and clean up of lunches, meetings, events, etc. Open and close building when needed. Hours: Monday -Friday, 7:30 am -4:00 pm. For more information or to apply please contact Sally at stschopp@stalbanroe.org or 636.458.2977

LITURGIES & SCHEDULES

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 10 The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 am Parishioners
10:30 am Leo & Ann Bereswill

Monday, January 11

8:00 am Mary Heumann

Tuesday, January 12

8:00 am Morning Prayer
5:30 pm Lorraine Becker

Wednesday, January 13

8:00 am John Groebl

Thursday, January 14

8:00 am John Clark

Friday, January 15

8:00 am Joseph LeGrand

Saturday, January 16

8:00 am Mary Heumann
5:00 pm John Jankowski

Sunday, January 17

8:00 am Parishioners
10:30 am Dora Newman



OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday - Saturday January 11-16

- 7:30 am - Rosary, Church

Sunday, January 10

- 9:00 am - Bible Study, AR
- 9:15 am - Little Lambs, RBF
- 9:15 am RCIA, CMR
- 10:30 am - Liturgy with Children, RBB
- 11:30 am - Liturgy Committee Meeting, CMR

Monday, January 11

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 5:30 pm - Fit Factor, UH
- 7:00 pm - Boy Scouts, Upper Hall

Tuesday, January 12

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym

Wednesday, January 13

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 5:30 pm - Fit Factor, UH
- 6:30 pm - Bells Practice, Church
- 7:30 pm - Choir Practice, Church

Thursday, January 14

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 7:00 pm - Prayer Warriors for Evangelization, CMR
- 7:30 pm - Prayer Group, Church
- 7:30 pm - Epiphany Men's Club, AR

Friday, January 15

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 3:30-6:30 pm - Dance, UH

Saturday, January 16

Sunday, January 17

- 9:00 am - Bible Study, AR
- 9:15 am - Little Lambs, RBF
- 9:15 am RCIA, CMR
- 10:30 am - Liturgy with Children, RBB
- 12:30 pm - Scout Pinewood Derby, Reg. begins, Gym

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! In today's Gospel, we heard about John the Baptist and the Baptism of Christ. Baptism takes away original sin, all personal sins and all punishment due to sin (Compendium, 263). The Church teaches that a baptized person belongs forever to Christ. After His Resurrection, Christ commanded His Apostles: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 28:19). Do you know the date of your Baptism? archstl.org/dynamic

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND & SICK OF OUR PARISH

Ethan Strauss	Ethan Sonderman	Mary Hipskind
Vicky Tacchi	Chris Perron	Dominic Caputa
Daniel Barr	Christine Weber	

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2016

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 or Acts 10:34-38/
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-8/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/
Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-3, 7-10/1 Cor 12:4-11/
Jn 2:1-11

Stewardship Baptism of the Lord "John answered them all, 'I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...' " (Luke 3:16)

The Catholic Catechism states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus - the gift of ourselves. Once we surrender ourselves to God, we will know in our hearts what God calls us to do.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS, NOTES & EVENTS

Epiphany Men's Club
Annual Memorial 9-Pin No Tap
 January 23, 2016. Check in starts at 6 pm;
 9-Pin at 7 pm. Cost is \$25 per bowler.



Mark Your Calendar to
Attend our first Fish Fry of the
Year...Friday, January 29th.
 Dinners will be served in the gym
 from 4:30-7:00 pm. Carry outs are available.



Attention all Highschoolers Join us this Wednesday, January 13th as we look into John 10:10 and the abundant LIFE that Jesus has for all of us. We meet from 7-9pm at Bishop DuBourg High School (please use the Clifton Avenue entrance). Food, friends, and fun. Questions? Contact Lauren at 314.288.8874

or www.saintlouislifeteen.org

Donations Needed - We are taking a group of 40+ teens for the March for Life Pilgrimage at the end of the month. We are in need of monetary donations as well as some practical items - visit www.saintlouislifeteen.org/generation-life-donations for more information.

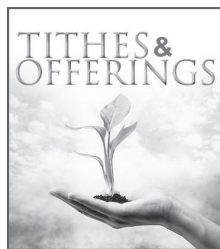
LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION! The Sisters of The Most Precious Blood invite you to an evening of Glitz and Glamour at their 23rd Annual Dinner Auction **Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 5:30 pm. Old Hickory Golf Club#1** Dye club drive, St. Peters, Missouri. Dress the part and walk the red carpet. Have your picture taken by the paparazzi. For more information visit www.cpps-ofallon.org or call 636-240-6010.

Pro Life Square Dance Be a square and support Pro Life. Gather your friends to have a good time dancing and laughing. Beer, soda, and snack mix provided. Feel free to bring your own drinks and snacks to enjoy with your friends. (You do not need to know how to square dance!) Come and swing your partner at the OLS Square Dance!!! **Saturday, February 6 Our Lady of Sorrows Parish "Faenger Hall" - 5030 Rhodes Avenue, St. Louis, 63109.** Doors will open at 7 pm; dancing from 7:30-10:30. Cost: \$15.00/person Reservations are not required. Questions??? Contact Randy @ 314-651-8745 or John/Mary @ 314-832-0302. It will be the best time you have had being square!!! *Proceeds benefit local Pro-Life organizations.*

OUR OFFERING FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 2-3, 2016

Sunday Collection

General Fund	\$4,477.00	
General Fund Loose	\$372.25	
General Fund Online	\$200.00	
Total	\$5,049.25	
First Offering	\$421.00	
Immaculate Conception ..	\$10.00	
Kenrick Seminary	\$25.00	
Maintenance & Repair ...	\$270.00	
St. Louis Review	\$150.00	
SVDP	\$11.00	
SVDP Online	\$20.00	
Solemnity.....	\$375.00	
Votive.....	\$67.60	
Debt.....	\$87.00	\$973.00(YTD)
Tuition Assistance	\$53.00	\$462.00(YTD)
Endowment Fund	\$	\$(YTD)



Stephen Minister Training Lindenwood Area Senior Ministry will be training its third class of Stephen Ministers beginning this February. Stephen Ministers work alongside the LASM Director and the pastors of our partner churches to care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to seniors who are going through a difficult time, such as grief, hospitalization, loneliness, chronic illness, or isolation. One of LASM's Stephen Ministers had this to say about the program, "Becoming a Stephen Minister has helped me grow in God's word. Sharing and helping has brought the word to life for me. God is the curer for both the care receiver and caregiver." If you have gifts for caring, encouragement, and listening; please consider becoming a part of this important ministry. To learn more and to receive a Stephen Minister application [contact Katie at 647-4591](mailto:katie@lasmdirector@gmail.com) or lasmdirector@gmail.com.

Join us at Sanguis Christi Spirituality Center, 3522 Utah Street, St. Louis, MO on **Wednesday, January 13, 2016 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm** and pray *Visio Divina*. While *Lectio Divina* is a method of praying with scripture, *Visio Divina* (Latin for "divine seeing") is a method for praying with images or other media. While the Orthodox tradition has long practiced praying with images through icons, the western Church is less comfortable with this type of prayer. *Visio Divina* invites us to *see* at a more contemplative pace. Join us as we explore this form of prayer and be surprised by a God who is never limited or tied to any image but speaks through them. Facilitators are Sr. Carol Orf and Sr. Ginny Jaskiewicz. For more information or to register, call Sr. Carol Orf at 314-560-1028.

Soccer There will be an indoor soccer program for boys and girls of the parish ages 5-14. The program will be conducted at the Soccerdome in Webster Groves and will begin in early February. For more information, please call Mary at 314-393-1164 (cell).

Our Lady's Inn Trivia Night Saturday, January 16, 2016 Trivia night (Super Hero theme) to benefit Our Lady's Inn, being held at Chaminade College Prep School Atrium, 425 South Lindbergh, STL, MO 63131. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., trivia starts at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person /\$200 per table of 8. Price includes 2 free drinks per person! Light snacks will be provided. Mulligans, raffle items and silent auction. For more information or to register visit: www.ourladysinn.org or call Amy Rager @ 314-736-1544. All proceeds from the event will benefit Our Lady's Inn, an emergency shelter for homeless pregnant women and their children.