



Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church

6596 Smiley Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63139

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Thomas M. Pastorius
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Deacon

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Music Director

Elizabeth Svancarek

Plant Manager

John Ellison
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Parish Secretary

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MASS & SACRAMENTS

Sunday Masses: 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 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.

5th Sunday of Lent



“Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.”

- Jn 12:24, 31-32

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Fifth Sunday of Lent March 22nd, 2015

Phone: 314-781-1199

Fax: 314-645-8760

www.epiphanystl.org

LIVING OUR FAITH

From the Desk of Fr. Pastorius

1. Faith & Family Programming: March 24, 2015 -Fourth Tuesday

6:30 PM Covenant Night. Awesome speaker lined up for this Covenant Night.

2. Dynamic Catholic Meeting Follow Up/ Parish Survey

I would like to thank everyone who attended the special meeting on February 24th in which we talked about how Epiphany can become an even better sign of God's presence in our neighborhood. Please take time to answer the Dynamic Catholic Survey and return it to Church by Sunday March 28th. If you have not filled one out please pick one up in the back of Church.

3. Planning for a Special Day...

Pope Francis has declared this year to be a special time of thanksgiving for those members of our Church who have dedicated themselves to the Lord as Consecrated Religious. Epiphany has had a long tradition of both being served by religious sisters and in producing religious vocations. We are hoping to host a special gathering on May 17th to celebrate these great blessings. I therefore ask you to do three things. The first is mark May 17th from 1-4PM on your calendars. Second send any addresses that you have of religious that you have kept in contact with to Epiphany so that we can send them a personal invitation and finally let others (like grade school classmates, former parishioners, etc) about the event. More information will be coming soon.

4. Financial Assistance for School Families.

Epiphany of Our Lord Parish offers financial assistance to families who wish to attend a Catholic School. The tuition assistance that we can offer depends upon the needs of the family and the number of families that apply. Any family wishing to receive financial assistance will need to participate in our School Covenant Program. Part of this program is a meeting with Father Pastorius and two other parishioners. Times are set aside on 3/12, 4/14, 5/14, 6/30, 7/16 & 8/11. Please call Fr. Pastorius at the rectory to set up an appointment for one of those days. 314.781.1199

6. Fish Fry

Q. What is stranger than seeing a cat fish? A. Seeing a fish bowl.

The food is way better than my fish jokes. March 27th. All Fish Fries are from 4:30-7:00PM in the gym. Go to the website and click on the picture to see our menu.

7 Saint Louis Life Teen

If you are a teen or have a teen that did not participate in our Luke 18 retreat weekend at DuBourg high school, you have no idea what you missed. Everyone who participated had fun, created new friends, and deepened their relationship with the Lord. Don't miss out any more. Attend St. Louis Life Teen on Wednesday at DuBourg at 7PM.

I am so confident in our program that I am going to put my money where my mouth is - Any Epiphany teen that attends four events between now and June 1st will be entered into a raffle. I will pull one name out of the hat and that person will receive a \$100 gift card to Amazon, iTunes, or for gas.

8. Retreat Work

I will be assisting a high school retreat in Georgia (where I do the summer camps) the week of Friday March 13 to the 20th. During that time we will have a variety of visiting priests so no Masses will be cancelled.

9. Parish Penance Service Today

Our Lenten Parish Penance Service will be 2PM

10. First Reconciliation Service Today

First Reconciliation will take place at 1PM

God bless,
Fr. Tom



THANK YOU to everyone who has continued supporting the Youth Group fundraisers at local restaurants. We are truly grateful and blessed. Our last fundraiser at Noodles (on a snowy night!) raised almost \$165 for the Youth group. These contributions are a huge help in getting us to summer camp.

Spiritual Ponderings

Spiritual Warriors

“Now the true soldiers of Christ must always be prepared to do battle for the truth, and must never, so far as lies with them, allow false convictions to creep in.” ~ Origen. Let us continue to look at what it means to be a soldier of Christ. For help with this reflection, I would like to turn the following article “10 Life Lessons from A Navy Seal. I will Always Remember #4” which was published in the *Business Insider*. *The article will be in bold and my reflection will be in regular font.*

Every day during training you were challenged with multiple physical events—long runs, long swims, obstacle courses, hours of calisthenics—something designed to test your mettle. Every event had standards—times you had to meet. If you failed to meet those standards your name was posted on a list and at the end of the day those on the list were invited to—a “circus.” A circus was two hours of additional calisthenics—designed to wear you down, to break your spirit, to force you to quit. No one wanted a circus. A circus meant that for that day you didn’t measure up. A circus meant more fatigue—and more fatigue meant that the following day would be more difficult—and more circuses were likely. But at some time during SEAL training, everyone—everyone—made the circus list. But an interesting thing happened to those who were constantly on the list. Over time those students—who did two hours of extra calisthenics—got stronger and stronger. The pain of the circuses built inner strength—built physical resiliency. Life is filled with circuses. You will fail. You will likely fail often. It will be painful. It will be discouraging. At times it will test you to your very core. **#5. But if you want to change the world, don’t be afraid of the circuses.**

One of my biggest fears in life is to embarrass myself in front of others and because of this fear; I unfortunately miss out on a lot of things as I struggle to overcome this fear. Part of my prayer each day for the Church is that more and more Christians will get over the fear of being embarrassed and join a Bible Study, become a lector, share their faith story with someone, etc.

Spiritual Exercise: Try to be adventurous in your faith life this week by doing something new.

At least twice a week, the trainees were required to run the obstacle course. The obstacle course contained 25 obstacles including a 10-foot high wall, a 30-foot cargo net, and a barbed wire crawl to name a few. But the most challenging obstacle was the slide for life. It had a three level 30 foot tower at one end and a one level tower at the other. In between was a 200-foot long rope. You had to climb the three tiered tower and once at the top, you grabbed the rope, swung underneath the rope and pulled yourself hand over hand until you got to the other end. The record for the obstacle course had stood for years when my class began training in 1977. The record seemed unbeatable, until one day, a student decided to go down the slide for life—head first. Instead of swinging his body underneath the rope and inching his way down, he bravely mounted the TOP of the rope and thrust himself forward. It was a dangerous move—seemingly foolish, and fraught with risk. Failure could mean injury and being dropped from the training. Without hesitation—the student slid down the rope—perilously fast, instead of several minutes, it only took him half that time and by the end of the course he had broken the record. **#6. If you want to change the world sometimes you have to slide down the obstacle head first.**

A person can place a grasshopper in a jar with a lid on it and after a while the grasshopper will stop trying to get out. The grasshopper will feel so defeated that you can remove the lid and the grasshopper will not jump of the jar because he had become conditioned to think that he can jump no higher.

The truth of the matter is that just because we fail at something one time or over and over again, this does not mean that we are destined to never overcome the obstacle in front of us. We can grow and develop more skills and we can grow stronger and not to mention wiser with more experiences there is the possibility that we can overcome old obstacles. Even if we do not change, the environment and conditions around us may change and thus allow us to also overcome the obstacle. Simple speaking is that because we fail one time does not mean we are destined to fail again and again. It just means that we need to approach the obstacle from a different perspective.

Spiritual Exercise: Try something that you failed at again.

During the land warfare phase of training, the students are flown out to San Clemente Island which lies off the coast of San Diego. The waters off San Clemente are a breeding ground for the great white sharks. To pass SEAL training there are a series of long swims that must be completed. One—is the night swim. Before the swim the instructors joyfully brief the trainees on all the species of sharks that inhabit the waters off San Clemente. They assure you, however, that no student has ever been eaten by a shark—at least not recently. But, you are also taught that if a shark begins to circle your position—stand your ground. Do not swim away. Do not act afraid. And if the shark, hungry for a midnight snack, darts towards you—then summons up all your strength and punch him in the snout and he will turn and swim away. There are a lot of sharks in the world. If you hope to complete the swim you will have to deal with them. **#7. So, if you want to change the world, don’t back down from the sharks.**

Archbishop Fulton Sheen said “There are not a hundred people in America who hate the Catholic Church. There are millions of people who hate what they wrongly believe to be the Catholic Church, which is, of course, quite a different thing,” Instead of getting mad at the Church for what she teaches strive honestly to learn more about the Church’s teaching.

Spiritual Exercise: Read more about an issue in the Church that you are having trouble about.

LITURGIES & SCHEDULES

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 22nd

7:00 am Parishioners
 9:00 am John Jankowski
 11:00 am Joseph Gorman

Monday, March 23rd

8:00 am Michael J. Spain

Tuesday, March 24th

8:00 am Morning Prayer
 5:30 pm Carmen Real Castro

Wednesday, March 25th

8:00 am Enrollees & Benefactors of
 Epiphany Memorial Fund

Thursday, March 26th

8:00 am Pauline Fischer

Friday, March 27th

8:00 am Thomas P. Sullivan

Saturday, March 28th

8:00 am Katie Bach
 5:00 pm James Gabelsberger

Sunday, March 29th

7:00 am Frank Stochla
 9:00 am Parishioners
 11:00 am Special Intention



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND & SICK OF OUR PARISH

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Jim Przada | Dominic Caputa | Kathy Kennebeck |
| Mary Hipskind | Kathy Hatfield | Rosalie Heuing |
| Gloria Murabito | Baby Ezekiel Miller | Ethan Sonderman |
| Sheryl McPherson | Edward Joganik | Michael Wesby |
| Matthew Joganik | Christine Weber | Dave Hanneken |

OUR DEARLY DEPARTED



In your kindness, please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Mohr, our parishioner. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

OUR OFFERING FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 15TH

Online Donations

General Funds \$914.00
 M&R \$25.00

Sunday Collection

Envelope..... \$4,871.00
 Loose \$684.00
Total \$5,555.00



Votive \$76.31
 Easter \$71.00
 Maintenance & Repair..... \$145.00
 Debt \$115.00\$2,228.50\$(YTD)
 Tuition Assistance..... 0.00\$ 1,140.00\$(YTD)
 Endowment Fund..... \$ \$10,804.00\$(YTD)

OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday - Saturday

- 7:30 am - Rosary, Church

Sunday, March 22

- 10:00 am - Bible Study, CMR
- 11:00 am - Liturgy with Children, RBB

Monday, March 23

- 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 UH

Tuesday, March 24

- 7:00 am - 9:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm - GSA Spring Concert, AR & Gym
- 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm - Confirmation Class—Chosen, UH
- 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Covenant Night, Church

Wednesday, March 25

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 11:30 am - Ladies Guild Regular Meeting, AR
- 5:30 pm - Fit Factor, UH
- 6:30 pm - Bells Practice, Church
- 7:30 pm --9:00pm Choir Practice, Church

Thursday, March 26th

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 7:00 pm - Youth Group, UH
- 7:30 pm - VB Planning Mtg, CMR

Friday, March 27

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 4:30-7:00 pm - Fish Fry, Gym
- 8:30 am - 11:00 pm Easter Cleaning, Church
- 3:30-6:30 pm - Dance, UH
- 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Stations of the Cross, Church

Saturday, March 28

- 8:00 am -11:30 pm - Father Daughter Dance, Gym

Sunday, March 29

- PALM SUNDAY

St. Pat's Salad We will be preparing salads for the St. Patrick's Center again on **Wednesday, March 25th** at 7:30 am in the gym kitchen. Please join us. As always cash donations are greatly appreciated!

LIVING OUR FAITH

Lifeteen Why does it matter? Attention all highschoolers - join us this Wednesday, March 25th from 7-9pm at Bishop DuBourg High School as we wind down on our Lenten journeys, and explore why Jesus' Passion & Death should matter for us today. Join your peers in faith and fellowship and get the most out of your Lenten journey. Questions? Contact Lauren at [314.288.8873](tel:314.288.8873) or lauren@saintlouislifeteen.org.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 22ND, 2015

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33
Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59
Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56

Fifth Sunday of Lent Gospel Jn 12:20-33

Spiritual Reflection: At His birth, the Wise Men of the East came to His cradle; now the Greeks, who were the Wise Men of the West, came to the Cross. Both the Magi of the East and the Magi of the West were to see a humiliation; in the first instance, God in the form of a Babe in Bethlehem, and in the latter, God in the form of a criminal on the Cross. As a sign leading to an understanding of His Divinity, the Magi were given the star; the Greeks, a grain of wheat. - Archbishop Fulton Sheen.

Spiritual Questions

1. What is it that draws people to the Catholic Faith?
2. How can you lay down your life for others today?
3. How does sacrifice show love?
4. How does Christ draw everything to himself?
5. How does rejecting God's will diminish our glory?

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS, NOTES & EVENTS

Ladies Guild News Our regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25th at 11:30 am in the Assumption Room. Drinks and desserts will be provided.

Entertainment will be ourselves doing what we like best. Talking, laughing, and enjoying each others company. Happy Easter to all!

Marilyn, Nancy, Sue and Gloria

Easter Cleaning Help needed to clean church for Easter. Join us on Friday, March 27th after that 8am Mass. Bring mops, buckets, and rags, no cleaning supplies needed. Refreshments served in the Assumption Room upon completion. For more info call Gloria, 647-8731 or Dolores 644-0067.



The Great Easter Egg Hunt Join us at 10 AM on Apr 4th to celebrate the impending Easter feast with a giant egg hunt at our soccer field across the street (the gym in case of bad weather). All children from toddler to the 5th grade are welcome to participate. Please bring your own basket.

We are asking for donations of candy. We would also like to offer some toy prizes if anyone would like to donate small toys, coloring books, bubbles, or the like. If you would like to help, just drop off the goods at the Epiphany Parish Rectory. Thanks for all the help!

SMILE! Epiphany is putting together another parish pictorial directory. Pictures taken Tuesday April 28th-Sat. May 2nd. Check the bulletin in future weeks for more information! If you'd like to help coordinate people's smiling faces please contact Trish at the parish office at 314.781.1199.



A monthly prayer vigil for Christians suffering persecution in Syria, Iraq and other countries of the Middle East, will be held on Wed. March 25 at Saint Raymond's Church, 931 Lebanon Drive beginning at 9:00 A.M. with the Maronite Liturgy. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed following the Mass and their will be scheduled prayers and Rosaries until 11:30 A.M. then Benediction will close the vigil. The beheading and crucifixion of children and adults because they refuse to renounce their Faith or simply because they are Christians, cries out for prayers on their behalf. On February 5, 2015 at the National Prayer Breakfast, a message from Pope Francis was read in which he said: 'I ask you to pray for me and to join me in praying for our brothers and sisters throughout the world who experience persecution and death for their faith.' The vigil is sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima and is open to the general public.

Trivia Night Get your friends together for an easy reunion and lots of FUN! Use your wits at the Annual Trivia Night benefiting Missouri Chapter, United States Association for Blind Athletes at the Epiphany gymnasium Sat., April 11, 2015. Doors open 6pm Game starts 7pm -\$20/person, 8/table. Reservations due April 8. Beer, soda provided. For more information call Tom Culliton 314-647-0093 *Mo. Chapter, Inc- United States Association for Blind Athletes provides athletic opportunities for adults and youth with visual impairments and blindness.

SACRED HEART FAMILY CAMP RETREAT: May 29th - 31st The Family Camp is conducted by the Sisters of the Society Devoted to the Sacred Heart. Location: Eagle Hurst Ranch near Steelville, on the Huzzah River. Call Sisters at (314)-792-7462