



# Epiphany of Our Lord Catholic Church

6596 Smiley Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63139

## STAFF

### Pastor

Rev. Thomas M. Pastorius  
fathertompastorius@gmail.com

### Deacon

James Tetreault  
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### Pastoral Associate

Deacon Michael Rennie  
michaelrennier@gmail.com

### Music Director

Elizabeth Svancarek

### Plant Manager

John Ellison  
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### Parish Secretary

Trish Nerviani  
trishnerviani@aol.com

## 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.

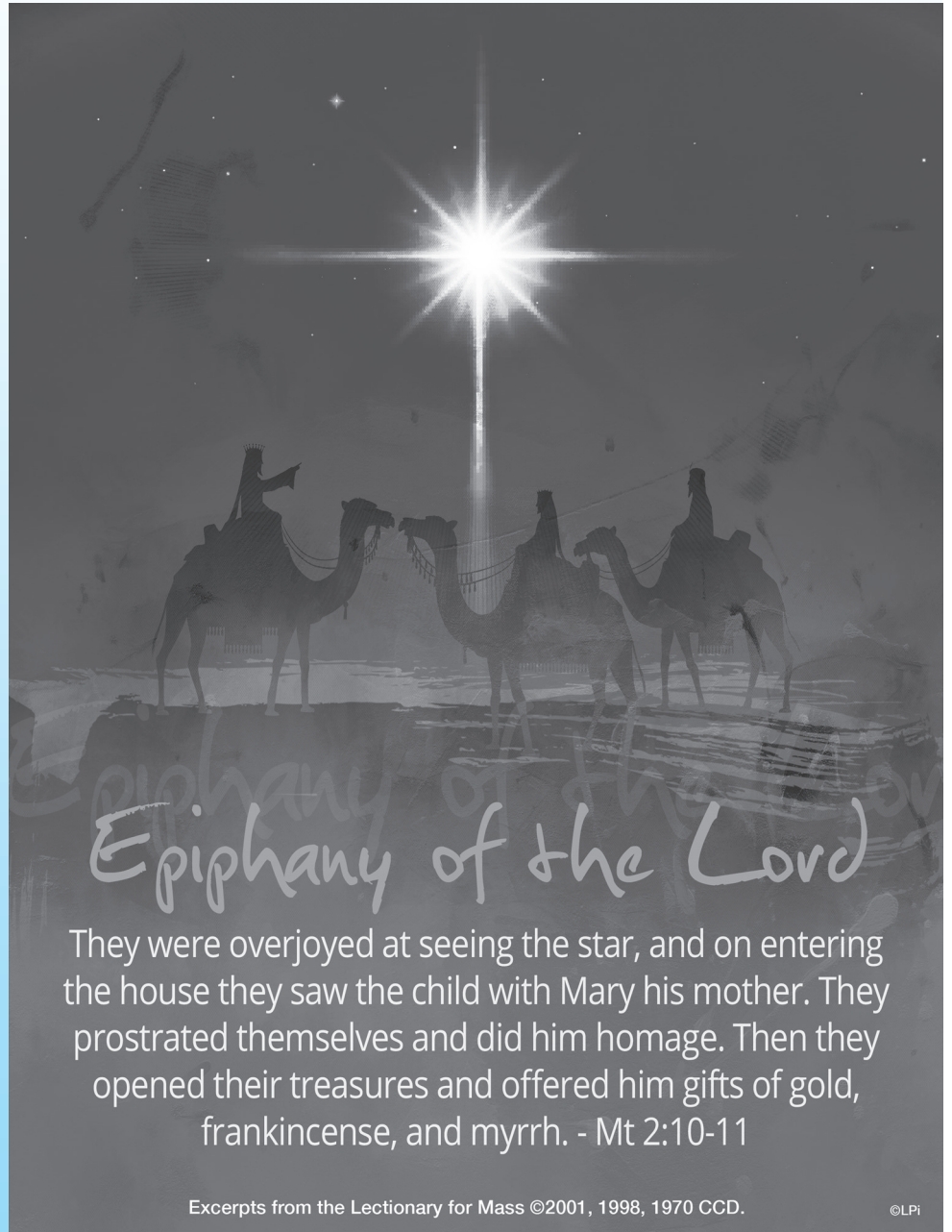
Marriages: Contact the priest at least 9  
months prior to the wedding date.

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.



Epiphany of the Lord

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

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

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## The Epiphany of the Lord January 8, 2017

Phone: 314-781-1199 Fax: 314-645-8760  
Sacramental Emergency After Hours Line: 314-260-6261  
[www.epiphanystl.org](http://www.epiphanystl.org)

## LIVING OUR FAITH

*From the Desk of Fr. Thomas Pastorius,*

### 1. Faith & Family Programs

January 10 2017 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday): Men's and Women's Group Meeting at 6:30 PM in the Rectory.

### 2. Farewell to Fr. Michael Rennie

We have been extremely blest at Epiphany to have had Fr. Michael Rennie with us as our pastoral associate for a little over four years now. He has served the parish to the best of his ability and there is no doubt in my mind that our parish is better off because of his service. We were also blest to witness to an important part of his faith journey. As it was announced last weekend Fr. Michael will be leaving us January 17 and so next weekend will be his last weekend with us. Fr. Michael's Last Mass will be the 10:30 AM Mass on January 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be a special time to thank Fr. Michael and a reception after that Mass. I would like to invite you to please take a moment and sign the matting for two special pictures that we will present to Fr. Michael as a going away gift for him.

### 4. Special Meeting Concerning Homecoming

On Tuesday February 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be a special meeting that all parishioners are invited to attend. The meeting will be at 7 pm and take place in the rectory community meeting room. The topic of the meeting will be the future of Epiphany of Our Lord parish homecoming. I would like to invite in a special way those who have run a booth or other key area of the homecoming. In addition I would like to invite all those who are looking for an opportunity to serve our parish in a major way. The Homecoming is by far the largest fundraiser that our undertakes.

### 5. Weekly Shout Out

Someone suggested that I allow other people point out what they are grateful for, so therefore I invite you to call the rectory or e-mail me at [fathertompas-torius@gmail.com](mailto:fathertompas-torius@gmail.com) and let us know who we should give a shout out to.

### 7. Parish App

Epiphany of Our Lord now has its own parish APP. This is just another great way to stay in touch with all the great stuff going on at Epiphany.

1. Text APP to 88202 or go to [www.myparishapp.com](http://www.myparishapp.com)
2. Follow instructions and download the app.
3. Find the "Epiphany Page" you to do.
4. Explore all that the app has for

God bless,  
Fr. Tom

### Pro-life Events

**Project Rachel** is a spiritual support group for post-abortive women. Meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7 pm. For more information or location details, please call or email Project Rachel at 314-792-7565 or [stlprojectrachel@archstl.org](mailto:stlprojectrachel@archstl.org).

**Project Joseph** is a spiritual support group for post-abortive men. Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 pm. For more information contact Chuck, during office hours at 314-974-6787 or [cray-mjr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cray-mjr@sbcglobal.net).

**Young Adult Pro-Life Holy Hour**, Thursday, January 19th - 7 pm at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica Saturday, January 21st Annual Roe vs. Wade Memorial Mass 9:30 am at the Cathedral Basilica, celebrant is Archbishop Robert Carlson. *Please pray for an end to abortion of innocent, defenseless unborn babies.*

**MISSOURI LIFE CARAVAN** is organizing buses for the Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. Thursday-Saturday, Jan. 26- 28, 2017. Please join us for this huge pro-life gathering in our nation's capital. This trip does not involve overnight stays in hotels as we sleep on the buses. The cost before Dec. 23 is \$190. The cost after Dec. 23 is \$205. To register or for more info contact us at: 314-434-4900 or [mrl.eastern@yahoo.com](mailto:mrl.eastern@yahoo.com). Registration deadline is Jan. 3, 2017.

**Blessing for the New Year** We will have Epiphany chalk blessed by Father Michael available at the back of Church this weekend. Take a piece of chalk home and use this prayer as you mark the front door of your home. It's a good way to ask for God's blessing for this new year.

Using the blessed chalk mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step) as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 17 while saying: *The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and fifteen years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.*

Then offer the following prayer: *Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen*

**Martin Luther King** The Social Justice in Action Committee will celebrate the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Monday, January 16, 2017 at 6-9:00 pm. Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service Celebration Room, 4116 McClay Road, St. Charles MO. All are invited to attend this celebration. Come early to see and hear an overview of Dr. King's dedication of service to mankind. There will be a medley of musical selections by guest artists. Stroll through our gallery to see those persons who walked and worked with Dr. King. Refreshments will be served. RSVP at 636-441-1302 ext. 350. Leave your message. You may also email [ffazio@jacares.org](mailto:ffazio@jacares.org).

**Knights of Columbus** Maplewood De-Soto council 903 will be having our Roses for Life Campaign on Jan 21st & 22 at all masses, please stop by after mass and fill out a rose and keep the rose as a reminder to help prey and protect the unborn. Donations can be made, but are not required. All donations will be donated to Epiphany's Pro Life committee.

**SSM Hospice**, a Catholic, not-for-profit service delivering medical, emotional, and spiritual care to terminally ill people, is seeking volunteers to visit patients in their homes or nursing homes. Compassionate, committed individuals are needed to provide support to patients and families. Comprehensive training is provided. Contact Maureen Fox at 314-989-2813 or [Maureen.Fox@ssmhealth.com](mailto:Maureen.Fox@ssmhealth.com) for details.

## Spiritual Ponderings

As I continuing sharing my thoughts with you I pray and hope that they will help you develop a deeper faith life.

### 5. Anti-Authority

I have mentioned a few times already my love for baseball, and I know this love for baseball started off as a kid playing Wiffle ball with some of the other children in the neighborhood. If you would go to my mother's house today, you could probably find four patches of dirt in the front yard where the grass was not given a chance to grow because that was where we placed our bases. Sadly most of these games ended not after nine innings but rather after a fight where one player thought the runner was safe and another player thought the runner was out or where the pitcher thought he had thrown strike three and the batter thought the pitch was a ball.

Playing baseball in my parents' front yard and later playing baseball for a CYC team taught me the importance of having umpires and referees. Many people today leave the Church because they do not see the value of structure or rules. They think in some way these rules limit our freedom but the truth of the matter is, it is the rules and the people that enforce them fairly that allow us to interact with one another in a loving and free way.

The Church has always taught individuals that they have a duty to follow their conscience but more importantly the Church has taught that we have an obligation to inform our consciousness. While we can determine whether an act is morally good or evil, we cannot make an act morally good or evil. In addition evil acts or often at least momentarily pleasurable and thus at least slightly addictive and therefore we cannot say whether something is morally good or evil by how it feels. While a parent may enjoy physically abusing a child because it allows the parent to release his or bent up frustration, we know that it is not morally good for a parent to physically abuse their child because a child is a person who has certain rights. Morality therefore cannot be left up to what people feel otherwise there would be no way to hold rapists and murders accountable.

Many people today leave the Church because they choose to see the Church's teaching as being restrictive instead of loving. They are like children who become frustrated with the parents because their parents will let them touch the fire or put a fork in an electric socket.

### 6. Karma

I am amazed at the number of Catholics that I encounter that believe in karma. Many of them would deny it but at least subconsciously their actions and expectations seem to show that deep down they do believe in karma. The idea behind karma is simple. Good things are supposed to happen to good people and bad things are supposed to happen to bad people. In other words the more good things you do the more good things God will give to you and the more bad things you do the more bad things that will happen to you.

While I think life would be much easier if this was true we know deep down that it is not true and that sometimes bad things happen to good people and good things seem to happen to bad people. This mostly manifests itself when we believe that God is punishing us for something despite having done everything right. For example, I might get a speeding ticket on the way home from helping the homeless and feel that God should have somehow prevented the officer from seeing the fact that I was speeding because I had been doing nothing but good today. On a more serious level we may assume that God is displeased with us because we have been diagnosed with Cancer and we ask ourselves what did I do to deserve this illness? The truth of the matter is that bad things do happen to good people and no one ever does anything to deserve an illness. Our world because of sin is in chaos. God does not leave the world in Chaos though but enters into it in Jesus Christ and suffers right alongside. God's ultimate answer to suffering in the world is not karma but rather the Resurrection.

## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 64 Gospel JN 1:29-34

**Spiritual Reflection:** John the Baptist's favorite title for Jesus is "the Lamb of God". Clearly it also became one of John the Evangelist's favorite titles, since he used it twenty-nine times in the Book of Revelation. It brings together three images that would have been familiar to the Jews of that time, and by being applied to Christ, it indicates that in him those images find their full meaning. 1. The Lamb that was slaughtered for their sins. 2. The Paschal lamb whose blood was used to mark the door posts of their house to save them from the angel of death. 3. The prophets talked about the messiah as being the lamb silently lead to slaughter.

### Spiritual Questions

1. What do you think of when you hear the "Lamb of God?"
2. What is your favorite title of Jesus and why?
3. What does it mean that Jesus takes away our sins?
4. What does it mean that God saves us through the Blood of the lamb?
5. What does it mean that God offered Himself up for you?

**Marriage Encounter** Are you and your spouse looking for a way to avoid the winter blahs and just find a weekend away for the two of you? You can find that and more closeness in your marriage on a Marriage Encounter weekend being presented on February 3-5 or April 21-23. To find out more and to apply, call 314.649.7317 or look at [www.stl-wwme.org](http://www.stl-wwme.org)

**Adoption Raffle** Support families choosing to make the loving, and often expensive, choice to grow their family through adoption AND get a chance to enjoy a 2017 Cardinals game from the Mercy Suite! Raffle winner receives 10 tickets in Suite 33 (along the 1st base line) at Busch Stadium for a 2017 Cardinals' Home Game, \$150 of food/drinks and one parking pass for a mutually agreed upon date. Made available through the generous donation of Mercy. All proceeds benefit the Archbishop Robert J. Carlson Adoption Fund.

Great Holiday Gift! Raffle Tickets can be delivered in a festive gift envelope perfect for the person who has everything! Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. To purchase raffle tickets online: <http://archstl.org/raffleforadoption> or call the Office of Natural Family Planning at 314.997.7576. Raffle closes March 8, 2017 with drawing on March 15, 2017. Winner will be notified by phone or e-mail.

# LITURGIES & SCHEDULES

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, January 8**  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**  
 8:00 am Don & Sean Welby  
 10:30 am Parishioners

**Monday, January 9**  
 8:00 am Patricia Mayor

**Tuesday, January 10**  
 8:00 am Morning Prayer  
 5:30 pm Leo & Ann Bereswill

**Wednesday, January 11**  
 8:00 am Joseph Gorla

**Thursday, January 12**  
 8:00 am Dean W. Firman

**Friday, January 13**  
 8:00 am Gloria Murabito

**Saturday, January 14**  
 8:00 am *Special Intentions*  
 5:00 pm Jimmy Saxon

**Sunday, January 15**  
 8:00 am The Keiser Family (*Special Intentions*)  
 10:30 am Parishioners



## OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

**Monday - Saturday January 9-14**

- 7:30 am - Rosary, Church

**Sunday, January 8**

- 9:00 am - Bible Study, AR
- 9:15 am - Little Lambs, RBF
- 10:30 am - Liturgy with Children, RBB
- 11:30 am - Liturgy Committee Meeting, CMR
- 4-6:00 pm - Parish Potluck Dinner, Gym
- 7:00 pm RCIA, CMR

**Monday, January 9**

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

**Tuesday, January 10**

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 6:30 pm - Men's and Women's Bible Study, CMR

**Wednesday, January 11**

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

**Thursday, January 12**

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

**Friday, January 13**

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Msgr. Sullivan Field
- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm - GSA, Gym
- 5-10:00 pm - EFF Wiffleball Tournament, Gym
- 3:30-6:30 pm - Dance, UH

**Saturday, January 14**

- EFF Wiffleball Tournament, Gym

**Sunday, January 15**

- 9:00 am - Bible Study, AR
- 9:15 am - Little Lambs, RBF
- 10:30 am - Liturgy with Children, RBB
- Immediately Following 10:30 am Mass - **Farewell Reception for Fr. Michael Rennie, Gym Building**
- 11:30 am - Liturgy Committee Meeting, CMR
- 7:00 pm RCIA, CMR

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 8, 2017

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34  
 Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110/Mk 2:18-22  
 Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111/Mk 2:23-28  
 Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110/Mk 3:1-6  
 Thursday: Heb 7:25--8:6/Ps 40/Mk 3:7-12  
 Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85/Mk 3:13-19  
 Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47/Mk 3:20-21  
 Next Sunday: Is 8:23--9:3/Ps 27/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/  
 Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND & SICK OF OUR PARISH

As we start the new year, our hopes for all those who have previously been on our prayer list is that they are on their way to recovery. If, however, you or a loved one is still in need of prayers, please call the parish office to have your name placed on the prayer list. God bless!

### OUR OFFERING FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 24-25

#### Sunday Collection

General Fund .....	\$4,701.00
General Fund Loose .....	\$517.98
General Fund Online .....	\$1,199.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$6,417.98</b>
Christmas .....	\$1,615.00
Christmas Flower Online..	\$50.00
First Offering .....	\$20.00
Immaculate Conception...	\$20.00
Kenrick Seminary .....	655.00
Maintenance & Repair....	\$40.00
Military .....	\$50.00
SVDP .....	\$140.00
Votive .....	\$59.00
Debt .....	\$95.00(YTD)
Tuition Assistance .....	\$747.00(YTD)
Endowment Fund.....	\$215.00(YTD)

#### WE GIVE *because* GOD GAVE FIRST

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*  
 John 3:16

### OUR OFFERING FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 31-JAN 1

#### Sunday Collection

General Fund .....	\$3,554.00
General Fund Loose .....	\$585.00
General Fund Online .....	\$307.00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$4,234.00</b>
First Offering .....	\$385.00
Maintenance & Repair...	\$325.00
St. Louis Review .....	\$160.00
Solemnity .....	\$236.00
Debt .....	\$95.00(YTD)
Tuition Assistance .....	\$747.00(YTD)
Endowment Fund.....	\$215.00(YTD)

# PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS, NOTES & EVENTS

**LifeTeen** ATTENTION ALL HIGHSCHOOLERS! Join us this Wednesday, January 11th from 7-9pm at Bishop DuBourg High School as we kick off our next series on vocations and the call to holiness! Please see [www.saintlouislifeteen.org](http://www.saintlouislifeteen.org)

**LUKE 18 SLEEP HOUSES NEEDED!** We are in need of generous families to serve as sleep houses for the 100+ teens we will have on Luke 18. Please see [www.saintlouislifeteen.org/sleep-houses](http://www.saintlouislifeteen.org/sleep-houses) for more information!

**Stewardship** "Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11 The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow all year long. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be the most generous with that one thing that means the most to us.

## Trivia Night for Nottingham CAJT

February 18, 2017 - Doors open at 6:30 PM at Epiphany of our Lord parish gym. For more information email: [nott.cajt@gmail.com](mailto:nott.cajt@gmail.com) or call 314-481-4095 to reserve a table.

**Kasey Paige 2017 Calendar** collection- your extra 2017 calendars are wanted for persons in nursing homes, Kasey Paige, and those starting over from scratch. Please leave your calendars in the box marked Kasey Paige Donations through February. Thanks for sharing your time and energy!

**Volleyball** The Catholic Singles Alumni Club is looking for single or married players 18-45 to join their Sunday rec volleyball league starting in January. Interested? Contact Don at 314-667-9466 or go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/csac-volleyball-don-yorker-12388292239>

**"TWENTY AND THIRTY SOMETHINGS"** ... Looking to volunteer? The Society of St. Vincent De Paul has numerous opportunities for young adults, including:  
Home visitation to the needy via 140 parish chapters, to provide material assistance and a listening ear  
- Four young adult chapters offering those same services  
- Six thrift stores  
- Eighty food pantries  
- Clerical work

To find out more, please contact Bryan Kirchoff at [bryankirchoff@att.net](mailto:bryankirchoff@att.net) or (314) 640-4366."



**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Catholic Men for Christ Conference**  
Featuring Marcus Grodi, Rev. Art Cavitt, Jon Leonetti and Damon Ownes!  
**Saturday, February 18, 2017**  
For more info or registration:  
[catholicmenforchrist.org](http://catholicmenforchrist.org)

## Register Now!

\*\*New Venue\*\* Touhill Performing Arts Center (UMSL)  
Free Parking & Metro Stop Access

**Catholic Women for Christ Conference**  
Featuring Sonja Crobitt, Dr. Carol Razza, and Rev. Eugene Morris!  
**Saturday, March 25, 2017**  
For more info or registration:  
[catholicwomenforchrist.org](http://catholicwomenforchrist.org)



**Parish Potluck** Please join us for our annual parish potluck dinner - **this Sunday, January 8th from 4-6 pm.** Please bring your favorite side dish to share.

**St. Mary's** is hosting a Trivia Night for 6th-8th-grade boys and girls on Friday, February 24, 2017. Come enjoy trivia, games, and food! Doors open at 6:00 p.m. with trivia from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the St. Mary's High School Gymnasium. \$2 a person or a table of 8 for \$15. For more information or to RSVP, call 314-481-8400 x110 or e-mail [admissions@stmaryshs.com](mailto:admissions@stmaryshs.com).

## Liturgical Composers' Forum Concert

Thursday, January 26, 2017, 7:00-9:00 P.M. at Mercy Center, 2039 N. Geyer Road, Frontenac, MO 63131. Come for an inspiring evening of musical excellence featuring group and solo performances by many of the finest published liturgical composers in the world: Tom Andino, Kathleen Basi, Remi Bauer, Carol Browning, Louis Canter, Craig Colson, Rory Cooney, Jaime Cortez, Christian Cosas, Kathleen Demny, Bob Fabing, S.J., Santiago Fernandez, John B. Foley, S.J., Rob Glover, David Haas, Paul Hillebrand, Jeff Honore, Paul Inwood, Philip Jakob, Vallimar Jansen, Orin Johnson, Kevin Keil, Tom Kendzia, Breda Barry, Feargal King, Stephen Lay, Mark Mellis, Lourdes Montgomery, Laurence Rosania, Luke Rosen, Marie Jo Thum, Marcy Weckler-Barr, and Teresa Yoder. This event is a fundraiser for both Mercy Conference and Retreat Center and the Liturgical Composers Forum and will be used to host musical events at Mercy Center and to contribute to the future of quality liturgical music composition.  
Cost: **\$50 payable in advance by January 20** (includes reception with the artists). No tickets will be sold at the door. Contact: visit [www.mercycenterstl.org](http://www.mercycenterstl.org) or call 314.966.4686.

**Marriage on Tap- Saint Louis** Married couples are invited to an evening out, just call it a date night! Be with other couples who care about a good marriage growing better and want to enrich themselves.

January 17, 2017, the Pasta House Company at 8231 Delmar Blvd, University City, 63130.

6:00PM dinner, \$20 per person buffet dinner (cash bar available); 7:00PM is a dynamic talk by Fr. Robert (Rosy) Rosebrough, Pastor of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, Ferguson, MO. You will enjoy his insights on marriage as: The gift of Intimacy - Energy for the Journey; Fr. Rosy has been a team priest with Worldwide Marriage Encounter for 43 years. RSVP required: [marriageontapstl@gmail.com](mailto:marriageontapstl@gmail.com)  
Visit our Facebook page: *Marriage On Tap STL*



All are welcome to attend a beONE Resource Day on Saturday, January 28 8:30 am - 12:00 pm at the Cardinal Rigali Center (20 Archbishop May Dr., 63119). For more information visit [archstl.org/resource](http://archstl.org/resource).

Experience a practical look at the four beONE priorities with a special emphasis on how each priority leads to missionary discipleship. Find answers to these questions:

- How can I work towards unity and peace in everything I do?
- How can I grow in relationship with Christ by showing mercy, forgiveness, and compassion to others?
- How can I use my own spiritual gifts & talents as a leader?
- What does beONE look like in all aspects of my life?