



December 2, 2018
1st Sunday of Advent

FIRST SUNDAY
Advent

If any of you have driven by Little Flower Church in Springfield recently, you may have noticed a sign in front of the parish office on Stevenson which reads: "Faith Formation Begins with Sunday Mass." While this sign is meant to remind people of the importance of Sunday Mass in our lives as Catholics, I have been thinking about this phrase in a slightly different way recently. The word that catches my attention is 'begins'.

The Mass is the catalyst that launches us into the week ahead so that we are fully equipped to live the graces we have received. Living out those graces includes letting our faith guide us in the decisions we make throughout the week, how we choose to spend our time, how we choose to interact with others, etc. And referring back to the sign, it should include taking opportunities to continue our journey of faith formation beyond Sunday Mass.

Let me offer an analogy for your consideration. When I was fresh out of college, several of my co-workers and I got together to form a fantasy football league. Now, football only really happens on Sunday (with one game on Monday, and this was before Thursday night football). Guys in the league would spend all week reading the news, checking the status of their players, trying to get the best matchup. If all we did was set the roster on Saturday night and not really put much more effort into it, our teams would have been pretty terrible. But the more work we did throughout the week, the more successful we were, and the more enjoyable Sunday was because we knew about the players, we knew about our teams, and we were much more interested in what was happening throughout the league.

Now, that's not a perfect analogy, but I think you get my point. With this new season of Advent starting, we have an opportunity to recommit to our faith formation. Of course, that begins with a recommitment to making Sunday Mass attendance an absolute must. But let me remind you of some other ways of taking your faith formation more seriously this Advent. First off, the parish is also giving out a book for Advent, *Into His Likeness*, by Dr. Edward Sri. Second, you can always check out the many, free resources on FORMED.org. Go to <https://stjuderochester.formed.org> to look around.

Finally, you can receive a short daily Advent reflection from the parish, sort of like our Daily Lenten Challenges that we had in Lent. Just text the word **STJUDEADVENT** to **84576** to be included.

- Father Alford

December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, which is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses for the Holy Day are on Friday, Dec. 7th at 6:30 p.m. for the Vigil Mass, and on Saturday, Dec. 8th at 9:00 a.m. Attending the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday evening DOES NOT fulfill the obligation for the Holy Day, so please plan accordingly. It is permissible to attend two masses on one day and to receive Holy Communion at both Masses

Anointing of the Sick

If you are going to the hospital for surgery or have a serious illness, receive the Sacrament of the Sick. Please call the parish office to receive the Sacrament, administered privately or during daily Mass. Call Barb Scoggins at 217-498-9197 to have a family member placed on the prayer list.

Prayer List:



- Ray Roland**, parishioner
- Lynn F. Leach**, parishioner
- Kathy Smith**, parishioner
- Evelyn Conboy**, parishioner
- Mary Kates**, parishioner
- JoAnn Camille**, parishioner
- Betty & Ray Rowden**, parishioners
- Trish Leach**, parishioner
- JoAnn Barber**, parishioner
- Donna Meyers**, mother of Kellie Brewer
- Bill Yoggerst**, brother-in-law of Karen Yoggerst
- Julie Sinkus**, daughter of Barb Sinkus
- Tom Helling**, brother of Gary Helling
- Jim Felts**, husband of Dianne Felts
- Tim Dunbar**, nephew of Ginger Rentschler
- Al Fox**, son of John & Mary Fox
- Jerry McCormick**, brother of Tom Walker
- Terry Tinsley**, brother-in-law of John & Mary Fox
- Jean Seward**, sister of Mary Jo Duesterhaus
- Tommy Martin**, nephew of Debbie Decker
- Margie Lammert**, mother of Sarah Clare
- Steven Butts**, brother of Michelle Bullock
- Reba Cloyd**, mother of Anita Schwab
- Jennifer Harbeck**, cousin of Brad Zack
- Joanna Laabs**, wife of Deacon Al Laabs
- John Vercautern**, cousin of Laurie White
- Logan Flotkoetter**, friend of Mary Bruno
- Cherie Peterson**, niece of Peggy Parnell

In Memory:

- Larry Gillespie**, father of Robby Gillespie
- James Williams, Sr.** – father of Roger Williams

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK!!

The † symbolizes the Mass is for someone who is deceased.

Saturday, December 1st

8:30 a Confessions
 9:00 a Mass (Int: Jean Rosa†)
 9:30 a Eucharistic Adoration
 3:45 p Confessions
 4:00 p Rosary/Benediction
 4:30 p Mass (Int: Nickie Maynerich†)

Sunday, December 2nd

7:00 a Confessions
 8:00 a Mass (Int: Catholic War Veterans†)
 9:30 a Wyndcrest: Nelson
 9:45 a Confessions
 10:00 a Rosary
 10:00 a Choir Rehearsal
 10:30 a Mass (Int: for the Parish)

Monday, December 3rd

9:00 a Counting Team #1
 5:00 p Confessions
 5:30 p Mass (Int: Leonard Howard†)
 7:00 p Pastoral Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 4th

7:00 a Morning Prayer
 7:30 a Mass (Int: Limper/Engeling Families)
 8:00 a Scriptural Rosary
 6:45 p Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, December 5th

7:00 a Morning Prayer
 7:30 a Mass (Int: Kathy Blasko†)
 8:00 a Scriptural Rosary
 6:30 p PSR
 7:00 p Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 6th

7:00 a Mass (Int: All Souls†)
 8:00 a Scriptural Rosary
 6:00 p Men's Prayer Group

Friday, December 7th

7:00 a Mass (Int: Leach Family members†)
 8:00 a Scriptural Rosary
 6:30 p Immaculate Conception Vigil
 Mass (Int: Bob & Wilma Cookey†)

Saturday, December 8th

9:00 a Immaculate Conception Mass
 (Int: All Souls†)
 3:35 p Confessions
 4:30 p Mass(Int:Frank & Celia Tomashavich†)

Sunday, December 9th

7:00 a Confessions
 8:00 a Mass (Int: Joyce Hogan†)
 9:30 a Wyndcrest: Roth
 9:45 a Confessions
 10:00 a Rosary
 10:00 a Choir Rehearsal
 10:30 a Mass (Int: for the Parish)

Parish Sacrificial Giving Fiscal Year 7/1/18-6/30/19

	Last Week	Year-to-date
Collection (96)	\$ 4,950.00	\$113,282.50
Electronic Funds (15)	\$ 1,790.00	\$ 23,000.30
Bldg. Dev. Fund (4)	\$ 45.00	\$ 4,425.00
EFT – Dev. Fund (4)	\$ 225.00	\$ 3,115.00
Poor Fund	\$ 76.00	\$ 1,045.39
Children's Stewardship (0)	\$ 0.00	\$ 5.00
Calvary Cemetery (2)	\$ 20.00	\$ 643.00
Justice & Hope (5)	\$ 60.00	\$ 592.00
Christmas Flowers (38)	\$ 627.00	\$ 899.00
Childrens Home (1)	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Christmas Offering (1)	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Retired Religious (1)	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
Immac. Conception (1)	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Solemnity of Mary (1)	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Number of collection envelopes used:	137	
Number of electronic contributions:	32	

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

Saturday, December 8th – 4:30 p.m.

Euch. Min.: Fr. Alford, Biesiada, Egizio, Tomashavich
Lectors: Blumhorst, Day
Servers: Myers, Sommer, Trello
Hospitality: H & M Bruno, D & J Kratz

Sunday, December 9th – 8:00 a.m.

Euch. Min.: Fr. Alford, R & L Eifert, Deacon Ray
Lectors: Dowding, Helling
Servers: Delgado, Lauwerens, McClintock
Hospitality: D & M Anderson, McWard, Parnell

Sunday, December 9th – 10:30 a.m.

Euch. Min.: Fr. Alford, Crusen, Livengood, Deacon Tom
Lectors: J & J Kohlrus
Servers: A & A Livengood, Martyn
Minister of Care: Roth
Hospitality: Fjelstul Family
CLOW: Martyn Family

Volunteer for this week – Dec. 3-Dec. 9

Church Duster: Laurie McWard

Dec. Recycling Volunteer: Jeannette Waters

Dec. Food Volunteer: David Waters Family

Coffee & Donuts – Sun., Dec. 9th:

Don & Roberta Vanover

SCRIPTURE READINGS DEC. 2nd – DEC. 9th

Sunday:	JER 33:14-16	1 THES 3:12-4:2
		LK 21:25-28, 34-36
Monday:	IS 2:1-5	MT 8:5-11
Tuesday:	IS 1-10	LK 10:21-24
Wednesday:	IS 25:6-10A	MT 15:29-37
Thursday:	IS 26:1-6	MT 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	IS 29:17-24	MT 9:27-31
Saturday:	GN 3:9-15, 20	EPH 1:3-6, 11-12
		LK 1:26-38
Sunday:	BAR 5:1-9	PHIL 1:4-6, 8-11
		LK 3:1-6

Upcoming Parish Meetings/Events

- Dec. 3 – 7:00 p.m. Pastoral Council meeting
- Dec. 4, 18 – 6:45 p.m. – Women’s Bible Study
- Dec. 5, 12, 19 – 6:30 p.m. PSR
- Dec. 5, 12, 19 – 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- Dec. 6, 20 – 7:00 p.m. Men’s Prayer Group
- Dec. 9, 16 – Noon – RCIA
- Dec. 11 – 10:00 a.m. – Women’s Bible Study
- Dec. 11 – 6:30 p.m. Pre-Jordan Session
- Dec. 12 – 12:30 p.m. Ladies Tea/Bunco
- Dec. 13 – 6:30 p.m. Combines Penance Service
At Little Flower Church, Springfield
- Dec. 15 – Noon – Sew-n-Sews
- Dec. 18 – 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus meeting

The Parish Office will be closed Dec. 24 – Jan. 1.



St. Jude Ladies Bunco/Tea Christmas Potluck

The St. Jude Ladies bunco/Tea Group will have its annual Christmas Potluck on **Wednesday, December 12 at**

12:30 p.m. All are welcome to bring a dish to share and join the fun.



The St. Jude Sew-n-sews will have their Christmas potluck on **Saturday, December 15th at 12:00.** Please join us for fun, food and fellowship.

Kathy Smith will be visiting St. Jude December 9th. Come to the Parish Center after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and say hello.

What do I see as the needs of this parish? How can I help this parish grow in faith and love of Jesus Christ?

Please reflect on that question. What do you think is needed here? What have you never seen here but wish the parish offered? What used to be but faded away and you’d like to see it return? I want to help each parishioner grow in faith and love. I want this parish to thrive as a community of believers.

Parents are the first formators of children so if we want our children to be disciples we must first be witnesses of discipleship. The community of witnesses influence how children view the Catholic faith, not only the parents. When your child comes home with homework from school and needs help, do you want to be able to help them? How much more should we want to help them answer questions of the faith. Do you feel confident in your own knowledge so that you can provide the answers to the questions your kids are asking? What is your understanding of the Catholic Church’s teachings?

I’m here to help. Please visit me in my office weekdays from 10-3 or email me at tgwardys@stjude.dio.org with any ideas, comments, or questions.



Our Second Collection next weekend is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests served for years for little to no

pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your support helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

→PSR NEWS←

During December, the PSR classes will be collecting Chili to benefit the Food Pantry. Thank you in advance for your continued support.



CHRISTMAS FRIENDS

Kellie Brewer and I would like to extend a HUGE "Thank You" to all who have helped in any way in years past with the Christmas Friends Program. This program has been a success due to the dedicated volunteers who step forward to help. The gifts that you purchase for your adopted individual can be dropped off in the Parish Center after the Masses or during office hours. If you are interested in helping with the sorting and delivery process, please contact Deacon Tom at twalker@stjude.dio.org with your name, phone number and email address. **Remember you must be in compliance with the Protecting God's Children Program to volunteer with the Christmas Friends Program.**

The schedule for the Christmas Program is:

Dec. 1 & 2 – Gift drop-off week #1
Dec. 8 & 9 – Gift drop-off week #2
Dec 14 – 7:30 a.m. – Volunteers meet at St. Jude Parish Center to pack trailer and vehicles.
8:00 a.m. – St. Patrick's School gift delivery
9:30 – Aperion Care Center gift delivery

- Deacon Tom Walker

Adult Formation at the Cathedral

The Infancy Narratives in the Gospels of Matthew & Luke

While many people are getting caught up in the secular frenzy of Christmas, take a break from the holiday hustle and join Father Friedel in focusing with the Church on preparing to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child.

Want to give your spouse a gift that says you truly love them and want to make the most of your marriage? Give your spouse a gift certificate for a Marriage Encounter weekend as a Christmas present! **You will BOTH appreciate this special gift to one another.** If that sounds good to you, just pick up the phone to find out more about a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on Jan. 19-20, 2019 at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Lawrenceville, IL (no hotel provided); or Feb. 8-10, 2019 at the Courtyard Marriott in St. Peters, MO. If you would like to apply or get more information, go to <https://stl-wwme.org/schedule.php> or call 1-314-649-7317.



For Sale in Springfield, IL – Beautiful acoustic upright piano, recently tuned, matching bench. Made in the USA, MirrApiano by Chicago Piano Company. \$400.00 or best offer. Delivery possible, please call (217) 836-3336 if interested.

St. Aloysius' Mini-Mega-Raffle is in full swing!

Raffle Tickets are \$20, with a grand prize of \$5,000.00 on Thursday, December 20. Raffle Tickets are available at the parish and school office for sale. For more information call the parish office at 217-544-4554 or the school at 217-544-4553. Thank you for supporting St. Al's School, Springfield, IL.

Christ the King Parish, Springfield, is pleased to announce an exciting new ministry that will bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage.

Surviving Divorce features twelve video presentations that cover topics such as shock and grief, anger and forgiveness, money issues, dealing with children and a former spouse, and annulment and remarriage. This program is for the newly separated and divorced, and those still struggling with issues many years later. It also includes personal testimonies of Catholic men and women who have experienced the breakdown of their families. They courageously share their stories with heart, humor, and wisdom. The cost of the program is \$15.00, which includes all program materials. Find comfort and counsel consistent with Catholic Church teachings.

The program begins on Thursday, January 24, 2019 at 7 PM, at Christ The King Parish Library. Please call the Parish Office, at 217-546-3527 to register. For additional information, contact John Marruffo, (217) 494-3366.

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