

Dear Parishioners,

Our first reading, in this week's daily liturgy, has come from *The Letter to The Hebrews*, which speaks about our Sanctity as God's sons and daughters. I would just like to share a few thoughts about each of our calls to holiness.

After confessing "the holy catholic Church," the Apostles' Creed adds "the communion of saints." In a certain sense this article is a further explanation of the preceding: "What is the Church if not the assembly of the saints?" The communion of saints is the Church.

Since all the faithful form one body, the good of each is communicated to the others... We must therefore believe that there exists a communion of goods in the Church. But the most important member is Christ, since he is the head.... Therefore, the riches of Christ are communicated to all the members, through the sacraments." "As this Church is governed by one and the same Spirit, all the goods she has received necessarily become a common fund." The term "communion of saints" therefore has two closely linked meanings: communion "in holy things (*sancta*)" and "among holy persons (*sancti*)."

Sancta sanctis! (Gods holy gifts for Gods holy people) is proclaimed by the celebrant in most Eastern liturgies during the elevation of the holy Gifts before the distribution of communion. The faithful (*sancti*) are fed by Christs holy body and blood (*sancta*) to grow in the communion of the Holy Spirit (*koinonia*) and to communicate it to the world.

The saints are presented to believers as role models whose lives are worthy to be imitated. Heb 6:12

... so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who, through faith and patience, are inheriting the promises.

Heb 12:1

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us

1 Cor 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Phil 3:17

Join with others in being imitators of me, brothers, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us.

Council of Vatican II, *On the Church*, No. 50,

For when we look at the lives of those who have faithfully followed Christ, we are inspired with a new reason for seeking the city, which is to come (Heb 13:14; 11:10). At the same time we are shown a most safe path by which ... we will be able to arrive at perfect union with Christ, that is holiness. In the lives of those who shared in our humanity and yet were transformed into especially successful images of Christ (2 Cor 3:18), God vividly manifests to men and women his presence and his face. He speaks to us in them, and gives us a sign of his kingdom, to which we are powerfully drawn, surrounded as we are by so many witnesses (Heb 12:1), and having such an argument for the truth of the gospel.

Saints and likewise we are never the ones to be adored, only God is the focus of our adoration, but saints and many men and women in our lives are a great choir of witness, that guides us in our journey of faith to our God. Let us prayerfully reflect on our own call to holiness as we journey in faith.

God Bless!
Msgr. John Shamleffer

Monday, Feb. 2
The Presentation of the Lord
6:30 am
Mary Moloney
8:00 am
Virginia Schroeder
12:00 pm
Robert N. Street

Tuesday, Feb. 3
6:30 am
Fr. Raymond McCarthy
8:00 am
Maloney Family
12:00 pm
Houlihan-King Fam.

Wednesday, Feb. 4
6:30 am
Richard E. Goyer, Jr.
8:00 am
Charles N. Shalhoob
12:00 pm
Vera C. Welch

Thursday, Feb. 5
Agatha, virgin, martyr
6:30 am
Poor Souls
8:00 am
Dustin Hadley Griffin
12:00 pm
Thomas Joseph Pullen

Friday, Feb. 6
Paul Miki, martyr & his companions, martyrs
6:30 am
Leahy-Wuennenberg Fam.
8:00 am
Eugene Kilgen, Jr.
12:00 pm
Marsha Sanner Koeller

Saturday, Feb. 7
8:00 am
Respect for All Life
5:00 pm
Susan Powers Meier

Sunday, Feb. 8
7:30 am
People of the Parish
9:00 am
Floro-Leonardo Fam.
11:00 am
Jeff & Molly Domark

We Pray For Our Loved Ones

May God provide health and comfort to:

Maryanne Dolan
Fr. Gerry Kleba
Mary Lee Rovira
John Gillis
Robert Coplan
Mildred Fraser
Elvessie Edwards
Peggy Reade
Barbara Lindsay
Joan Wilson
Bob Wilson
Sean O'Connor
Josh Eckhoff
Maria Guehlstorf
Michael Phelps
Lynn Burch
Joseph Niedbalski
Naomi Carmody
Beth Wilcox
Richard Vance
Paula Mulhearn
LaVerne Safron
Susie Taff
Sr. Eleanor
Lois Laffey
Peggy Holmes
Vincentia Majka
Barbara Beauzethier

Welcome to St. Joseph - Clayton, Missouri

St. Joe's Seniors Center

Come help us celebrate St. Valentine's Day! We shall meet on Tuesday Feb. 10th, in the church hall, at the new time of 12:45 pm. Bring a friend and a gift to share while "Robbing Your Neighbor". RSVP to 726-1221.

Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA)

We had a very good response to the campaign to join Catholics across the country in sending a message to Congress: Please oppose the "Freedom of Choice Act" (FOCA) and retain laws against government funding and promotion of abortion, as well as laws for the protection of women such as informed consent and waiting periods. If you were unable to sign your postcard last weekend **it is not too late**. They are in church or come by the rectory. This is a most important issue.

Please plan to participate in this important event. **Our voices MUST be heard!**

Please continue to pray for the following men and women as they carry out their duties in the service of our country:

Christopher Johnson, grandson of Naomi Carmody, stationed outside Baghdad

James O'Connell, son-in-law of Deacon Al and Mickey Williams is stationed in Iraq.

Readings for the Week Feb. 1, 2009

Sun: Dt 18:15-20 Ps 95:1-2,6-9
1 Cor 7:32-35 Mk 1:21-28
Mon: Mal 3:1-4 Ps 24:7-10
Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40
Tues: Heb 12:1-4 Ps 22:26-28,30-32
Mk 5:21-43
Wed: Heb 12:4-7,11-15 Ps 103:1-2,13-14,17-18a Mk 6:1-6
Thur: Heb 12:18-19,21-24 Ps 48:2-4,9-11 Mk 6:7-13
Fri: Heb 13:1-8 Ps 27:1,3,5,8-9
Mk 6:14-29
Sat: Heb 13:15-17,20-21 Ps 23:1-6
Mk 6:30-34
Sun: Jb 7:1-4,6-7 Ps 147:1-6 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23 Mk 1:29-39

Wedding Banns

There is a promise of marriage in Christ between

Courtney Harashe & Andrew Gregory (II)

Please pray for them as they begin their life together.



Our St. Vincent de Paul meeting is this Wednesday, Feb. 4th, 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

Rest in Peace

Let us, as a parish family, pray for all of our deceased parishioners, relatives, benefactors and friends. We remember all of our loved ones who have gone before us and pray that they are celebrating with our Lord in heaven.

St. Joseph Trivia Night

March 7, 2009

St. Joseph Church
in the Church Hall

Doors open 6:30 p.m., questions 7 p.m.
\$12.50 per person, tables of 8
Prizes for top three tables!
Call 727-9059 to sign up!

Lost and Found

We have many items which were left in Church. Please call the Rectory at 726-1221 during business hours to check on an item you are missing.

**St. Joseph Knights
Of Columbus
Fish Dinner
Ash Wednesday
February 25**



The St. Joseph Knights of Columbus will be running the Ash Wednesday Fish Dinner. In addition to the regular baked fish they will offer fried fish and shrimp and lots of choices of side dishes. Great desserts too! Mark February 25th in your calendar and come support the Knights in this effort.

NOTE: If you would like to help by baking cakes please call Steve Topping at 225-9453.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 1, 2009



Parish Mission:

Living Lent: Preaching, Prayer and Action

5 days, March 1- March 5, 7-8:15 p.m.

Redemptorists Fr. David Polek and Fr. Matthew Bonk
will lead the mission.

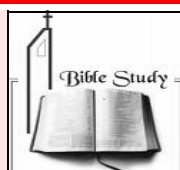
You are welcome to attend all or any sessions possible.

Help is always appreciated.

Call our D.R.E., at 314-727-9059 to volunteer.

The themes, symbols, topics and goals of the preaching and reflections and renewal are different each evening:

Sunday, March 1, 7:00 p.m. – The symbol this night is the Bible, representing God's communications to all people. The topic is Salvation: God's dream for our happiness... and our response. The goal is to deepen our acceptance of God's tremendous love for us.



"A Quick Journey through the Bible"

The Bible is not just ANY story – it is YOUR story. Discover how to read it. Discover God's plan for your life as you discover his amazing story in *A Quick Journey through the Bible*.

In this study, you will discover the "big picture" of the biblical story as it is presented in specific books of the Bible. Join us and learn the major people, places, events and themes of the Bible. Perhaps for the first time in your life, you will understand the overview of the Bible story. This will make your Bible reading and even the Sunday Mass readings come alive like never before.

A Quick Journey through the Bible will be offered at St. Joseph Parish on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. (Feb. 8 - Mar. 29) and Tuesday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. (Feb. 10 - Mar. 31) in the Madonna Room. Another session will be offered on Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. (Feb. 12 - Apr. 2) at the home of Dr. Carr Worland, 630 Westwood Drive, Apt. 1S. Contact Terri Venneman (727-9059) for more information or to sign up for a study session.

Religious Education

R.C.I.A.

Erin Williams is a kitchen manager. She is getting married in June to William Dreiling a legal assistant. She is coming to the church at this time to start her marriage on a firm foundation. She attended Missouri State University (Southwest Missouri State University).

CLW

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) is always in need of leaders. The Liturgy of the Word is presented in age appropriate language for the children. The commitment is one to three, 11 a.m. masses per school year. Call our D.R.E., Terri Venneman for details 314-727-9059. There will be a Protecting God's Children Workshop on February 8 at 9:30 a.m. to make your service easier.

Confirmation

We wish to thank all those who made our 8th grade retreat possible: our priests, the Reap Team, our parents and sponsors, our catechist Shannon Phelps, our D.R.E. and staff.

We pray for our Confirmation class who will be Confirmed at the Cathedral on Sunday, May 3. Our **First Eucharist parent meeting** will be held in the parish hall at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, February 9.

PSR

President's Day Break: No PSR classes February 15 and 16.

Sunday Worship

Feb. 7-8, 2008

5:00 pm

Altar Servers
Madeline McMahon
Meredith McMahon

Reader/Lector
Mary Molloy

Extraordinary Ministers
Victor Schulte
Michael Marks
+Ramon Floro

7:30 am

Altar Servers
Adult Volunteer

Reader/Lector
Frank Hackmann

Extraordinary Ministers
Jane Byrne
Florence Beckwar
+David Ahner

9:00 am

Altar Servers
Brian Gaffigan

Reader/Lector
Mary Lee Rovira

Extraordinary Ministers
Marcella Leonardo
Mary Carver
+Ruth Tredway

11:00 am

Altar Servers
Sean Gallagher
Connor Gallagher

Reader/Lector
Pat Devereux
Roger Drone

Extraordinary Ministers
Carolyn Dickmann
Joe Dickmann
Betty Tucker
Thom Schweteye

+ Only when no deacon is present

February 2009

<p>1 Blessing of Throats 9:30 am PSR, School 10:30 am CLW, PHC</p>	<p>2 Blessing of Throats 1 pm Prayer Group, MR 4:30 pm Children's Choir, Music Room 5:15 pm PSR, School 7:30 pm Adult Choir, CH</p>	<p>3 7:00 pm RCIA, MR</p>	<p>4 6:00 pm Knights & Dames of Malta, Rosary, Church 7:00 pm Baptism Class, MR 7:30 pm St VdP, PHC</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 7 pm Cursillo, MR</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 9:30 am PSR, School Protecting God's Children, PH 9:30 am Bible Study, MR 10:30 am CLW, PHC</p>	<p>9 1 pm Prayer Group, MR 4:30 pm Children's Choir, Music Room 5:15 pm PSR, School 5:30 pm Required Parent Mtg. 1st Eucharist 7:30 pm Adult Choir, CH</p>	<p>10 12:30 pm St. Joseph Seniors Luncheon, PH 2:00 pm Bible Study, MR 7:00 pm RCIA, MR</p>	<p>11 7:30 pm Bible Study, MR</p>	<p>12 6:30 pm Bridge Group, PHC</p>	<p>13 6 pm Rehearsal, Church 7 pm Cursillo, MR</p>	<p>14 Valentine's Day 2:00 pm Wedding, Church</p>
<p>15 9:30 am Bible Study, MR No Classes - President's Day Holiday Break 6:30 pm Habitat Mtg., MR</p>	<p>16 No Classes - President's Day Holiday Break 1 pm Prayer Group, MR 7:30 pm Adult Choir, CH</p>	<p>17 2:00 pm Bible Study, MR 7:00 pm RCIA, MR</p>	<p>18 7:30 pm Bible Study, MR</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 7 pm Cursillo, MR</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 9:30 am PSR, School 9:30 am Bible Study, MR 10:30 am CLW, PHC</p>	<p>23 1 pm Prayer Group, MR 4:30 pm Children's Choir, Music Room 5:15 pm PSR, School 7:30 pm Adult Choir, CH</p>	<p>24 2:00 pm Bible Study, MR</p>	<p>25 Ash Wednesday Masses at 6:30, 8:00, 12:00, 12:10, 5:00 5-7 pm Fish Bake, PH 7:30 pm Bible Study, MR</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 7 pm Cursillo, MR</p>	<p>28 Fr. Polek will speak at 5 pm Mass about Mission</p>