

Dear Parishioners,

Pope Benedict has designated this Wednesday, February 11, as World Day For the Sick. It is a day to remember, and to pray for and with those who are ill or infirmed in our world. Jesus is often found in the Gospels healing the sick in body or mind who came before him. It was not a sign of his power but an act of love and compassion.

Pope Benedict states:

Sickness inevitably brings with it a moment of crisis and sober confrontation with one's own personal situation. Advances in the health sciences often provide the means necessary to meet this challenge, at least with regard to its physical aspects. Human life, however, has intrinsic limitations, and sooner or later it ends in death. This is an experience to which each human being is called, and one for which he or she must be prepared. Despite the advances of science, a cure cannot be found for every illness, and thus, in hospitals, hospices and homes throughout the world we encounter the sufferings of our many brothers and sisters who are incurably and often terminally ill. In addition, many millions of people in our world still experience unsanitary living conditions and lack access to much-needed medical resources, often of the most basic kind, with the result that the number of human beings considered "incurable" is greatly increased.

Here I would like to encourage the efforts of those who work daily to ensure that the incurably and terminally ill, together with their families, receive adequate and loving care. The Church, following the example of the Good Samaritan, has always shown particular concern for the infirm. Through her individual members and institutions, she continues to stand alongside the suffering and to attend the dying, striving to preserve their dignity at these significant moments of human existence. Many such individuals – health care professionals, pastoral agents and volunteers – and institutions throughout the world are tirelessly serving the sick, in hospitals and in palliative care units, on city streets, in housing projects and parishes.

Our Church is blessed with two healing sacraments that of Reconciliation and of Anointing of the Sick. Both are grace encounters with our God and signs of his abundant love and compassion. We as members of this Catholic faith are called to imitate Christ in word and deed. Thus we are called to have a special care of the ill and infirmed both in mind and spirit. Visiting the sick is a work of mercy and closely aligns us with Christ. If you know of anyone who is sick or in poor health please let us know at the rectory and we will be glad to visit them. I also encourage all of you to also visit the sick when ever possible it is always a great source of comfort.

This Lenten Season, at all of our Masses on the Fourth Sunday of Lent March 21 & 22, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will take place. This celebration of the sacrament will be a sign of our Church's and our God's care for all the sick.

Lastly I would ask all of us to pray in a special way today for all the sick of our world and especially for those in our parish.

Blessings!
Msgr. John Shamleffer

Monday, Feb. 9

6:30 am
Poor Souls
8:00 am
Jolly Nouss
12:00 pm
Fr. Fagin

Tuesday, Feb. 10
Scholastica, virgin

6:30 am
Fr. Raymond McCarthy
8:00 am
Mary Elizabeth Moloney
12:00 pm
Dustin Hadley Griffin

Wednesday, Feb. 11

6:30 am
Rick Slais Int.
8:00 am
Eugene Kilgen, Jr.
12:00 pm
Lucita Sia

Thursday, Feb. 12

6:30 am
Timothy Byrne
8:00 am
Joanie Byrne Raaf
12:00 pm
Ann Ryan

Friday, Feb. 13

6:30 am
Virginia Schroeder
8:00 am
Robert Sicking
12:00 pm
Marsha Sanner Koeller

Saturday, Feb. 14

8:00 am
Raymond (Skip) Oakes
5:00 pm
Dr. Francis Burns

Sunday, Feb. 15

7:30 am
George Schroeder
9:00 am
People of the Parish
11:00 am
Pedro & Eden Roble

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

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

Vincenttia 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.

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.

Bridge Players

Our February bridge game will be Thursday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church basement. We look forward to seeing you.

White House Retreat

The retreat begins March 5 with dinner at 6:00 p.m. and ends March 8th after lunch at 2:00 p.m. For those interested, call Greg Browne at 726-6933.

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

Wedding Banns

There is a promise of marriage
in Christ between

**Courtney Harashe &
Andrew Gregory (III)**

Please pray for them as they
begin their life together.

Valentine's Day Weekend at St. Joseph

All parishioners and guests are invited to a special Valentines reception immediately after all masses the weekend of February 14 and 15. Please join us for light refreshments and to meet your fellow parishioners. Even if you can only stay for a few minutes before you head out for your Valentines date with your sweetie or Sunday brunch, please drop by to say hello. We look forward to seeing you Valentines weekend!

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!

Our Week Ahead at St. Joseph

Monday, February 9

1:00 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, Church

Tuesday, February 10

12:30 pm Senior's Luncheon, Parish Hall
2:00 pm Bible Study, MR
7:00 pm RCIA, Madonna Rm

Wednesday, February 11

7:30 pm Bible Study, MR

Thursday, February 12

6:30 pm Bridge Group, PHC

Friday, February 13

6:00 pm Rehearsal, Church
7:00 pm Cursillo, Parish Hall

Saturday, February 14

2:00 pm Wedding, Church
6:00 pm Cocktail Party, Parish Hall

Sunday, February 15

No PSR or CLW - President's Day
9:30 am Bible Study, MR
6:30 pm Habitat Mtg. MR

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 8, 2009

The Year of St. Paul

READ: 1 Timothy 1:1-18

Meditation theme: The grace, Lord, to love true growth and to hate the change that corrupts the true faith.

Lord, what an example of the good and faithful servant was Paul during the last four years of his life! How easy it would have been for anyone else to sit and rest. To sit back and drink in the praise for all that he has done was not Paul. Paul bore the marks of battle: the welts from many beatings, the scars from the stonings. He had done his work! Paul was the great Apostle, the veteran of too many battles to ever rest. We learn from 1 Timothy that there was a battle to preserve the purity of the faith he had labored to spread. "I asked you to stay on at Ephesus that you might charge some not to teach novel doctrines and not to study fable... While he had the breath of life, Paul would fight the novel doctrines and fables which diluted the true faith.

Dear Master, more than it ever was in Paul's time, novelty is in the air today. The new and bizarre is considered by some as the equivalent of growth. The traditional is considered by this "way out" group as useless, not because it is wrong but simply because it is old, and the new is related "the thing to do" not because it is good but simply because it is new.

Lord, help me to be balanced! To see the good in both. To embrace the good that is in the traditional as well as all that is good in the new. Don't let me be either a stubborn "stuck-in-the-mud" or a dreamy "way outer." Let me welcome the changes which really spell progress and not rush after change for change sake. Lord, when I'm tempted to criticize the older people who have worked and toiled for the faith, make me stop and give myself a test. When I bear their battle scars, when I worked just some of their years and have gone through just a few of their experience -- only then let me talk against their ideas. Only then and not before!



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.

Help is always appreciated.

Call our D.R.E., at 314-727-9059 for details or to offer help.

A PARISH MISSION is a time for focusing on our spiritual life, a time for us to reflect on Jesus' involvement in our lives. Have you thought lately about how much Jesus loves you? Do you think about the many ways that Jesus is intimately involved in your life? It is often easier to give to or speak to someone else than it is to be on the receiving end, hearing about someone's love for us. This mission is an opportunity to be reminded of just how much Jesus does love us and how intimately he is involved in each of our lives. Give yourself the gift of this special time for Jesus.

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

- Monday, March 2, 7:00 p.m. – The symbol this night is the Crucifix, representing Jesus' way of life through death. The topic is Jesus as Savior: Who is Jesus for us? The goal is to renew personal faith in Jesus as Savior.

R.C.I.A.

Religious Education

We would like to introduce Joshua Ferguson. He is married to Tricia Zimmerman Ferguson. He works in the coffee industry, Kaldi Coffee, with Tricia and Tyler Zimmerman. Tricia and he and the Education Commission are organizing the Parish Mission.

Photos of our 2008-2009 R.C.I.A. candidates are in the back of church. We have been discussing topics of the Catholic faith during pre-catechumenate. We will be attending the Rite of Election at the Cathedral after Ash Wednesday.

PSR

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

Adult Education

Our bible study *A Quick Journey through the Bible* begins this week.

Sunday Worship

Feb. 14-15, 2009

5:00 pm

Altar Servers
Sean Gallagher
Connor Gallagher

Reader/Lector
Bebe Kennedy

Extraordinary Ministers
Vic Schulte
Ramon Floro
+Mary Molloy

7:30 am

Altar Servers
Adult Volunteer

Reader/Lector
Jane Byrne

Extraordinary Ministers
David Ahner
Frank Hackmann
+Betty Torno

9:00 am

Altar Servers
Dan Hoff

Reader/Lector
John Gillis

Extraordinary Ministers
Ruth Tredway
Susan Hackmann
+Terry Carmack

11:00 am

Altar Servers
Lauren Hill
Danielle Hill

Reader/Lector
Mary Molloy
Katharine Shapleigh

Extraordinary Ministers
Anthony D'Agostino
Roger Drone
Betty Tucker
+Carolyn Dickmann

+ Only when no deacon is present



**St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus
Shrimp,
Baked or Fried Fish Dinner**

St. Joseph's-Clayton
106 N. Meramec Avenue
Call 726-1221 or Fax form to 721-5110

Ash Wednesday, February 25, 2009
Serving dinners from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Catch a healthy, fun evening with the parish community.
Visit with old friends, meet new ones and share a delicious dinner.

Reservations preferred. Walk-ins welcome.
Carry-outs available.

Adults \$8.50 Children \$5.00 (12 years or younger)

Name _____

Tel. No _____

Please specify: Shrimp _____ Eat-in
Baked _____ Carry-out
Fried _____

No. of adults _____ No. of children _____

Total enclosed _____

*****Pick up carry-out orders in the church basement.*****

Please detach and return with payment to the Rectory Office,
106 N. Meramec, 63105, drop in the collection basket, or pay at the door.

Walk-ins Welcome!