

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Nov. 24

5:00 p.m.

Helen and Claude Mitten (D)

Sunday, Nov. 25

8:00 a.m.

Ann and Bill Miller (D)

10:30 a.m.

St. Louis Parish

Tuesday, Nov. 27

6:00 p.m.

Charlie Moore (D)

Wednesday, Nov. 28

8:30 a.m.

Sylvia Jenkins (D)

Thursday, Nov. 29

6:00 p.m.

Mary Manns (D)

Friday, November 30

8:30 a.m.

Harriet BurrIDGE (D)

Saturday, Dec. 1

5:00 p.m.

Crinny and Bill Stich (L)

Sunday, December 2

8:00 a.m.

St. Louis Parish

10:30 a.m.

Betsy Woodard and Family (L)



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Parish Family,

Every king has a throne. Thrones symbolize a king's power and authority. From his throne, a king administers justice, conducts diplomatic negotiations, receives petitions, and issues his commands. The existence of a throne reminds a king's subjects that the king is not just another citizen; he is the ruler, the lord, the sovereign. He has been given the task of guiding his nation the way a ship's captain guides his ship. He has been given the task of guiding his people the way a father guides his children. The throne is the symbol of this unique royal identity.

And the type of throne that a particular king possesses reflects the type of kingship....benevolent or violent, aloof or compassionate....that he strives to live out.

Our King, Jesus Christ, the eternal King of life, history, and the entire universe, has a throne that is absolutely one-of-a-kind. No other king in all of human history has chosen such a throne.

What is this throne? We all know it. It presides over every Catholic Church and every Catholic household. It is the sign by which we are welcomed into God's family and made citizens of the everlasting Kingdom. It has been the mark of every Christian since the age of the catacombs. Christ's throne is the cross.

This throne is different from, and superior to, every other throne.

Jesus has chosen to administer his grace and redemption from the cross. And the cross is an instrument and symbol of suffering. And suffering is a universal reality; every human being who journeys through this fallen world experiences suffering. And so, this throne is so close to us, so near to us, that we actually share it; our lives, because they are marked by suffering, are always touching this throne.

Contrast that with perhaps the most famous human throne of all time: the Dragon Throne of the ancient emperors of China. What made this throne so impressive was, precisely, its location. It was located at the very center of the Forbidden City, which was completely off limits for everyone except the most illustrious and powerful subjects of the emperor. Some of those subjects were kings themselves, kings who paid tribute to the emperor. And when these vassal kings came for an audience with their emperor, they had to be escorted through a dizzying maze of gateways, bridges, doorways, and hallways in order to come to the Dragon Throne. And once they arrived, before they were allowed to speak, they had to kneel and press their forehead to the floor three

times, then kneel and do the same again, and then a third time. Only then, after this long, intimidating, and humiliating ceremonial was the vassal permitted to speak to the emperor. Everything about the Dragon Throne and its rituals was designed to emphasize the vast moral distance between the emperor and even his most distinguished subjects.

But now, today, the Dragon Throne is empty; its emperor is gone.

And our king, our emperor, who longed to be close to even the humblest, most miserable person, and so purposely enthroned himself on a sign of suffering, is still reigning. And from the cross today, instead of distancing himself from his people, our king draws ever closer to us, and he draws us ever closer to him.

Viva Christo Rey!

Peace to you and yours,

Fr. Stevens

**TIME / TALENT / TREASURE
December 1/2**

**Extraordinary Ministers
Of Holy Communion**

5:00 p.m. S. Wilson, M. Jones
8:00 a.m. J. Vargo, W. Vargo
10:30 a.m. Latin Mass

Lectors

5:00 p.m. Ro. O'Leary, Ri. O'Leary
8:00 a.m. T. Cross, V. Laurienzo
10:30 a.m. Latin Mass

Sacristans

5:00 p.m. G. Pullen - L. Pullen
8:00 a.m. T. Cross
10:30 a.m. Latin Mass

Altar Servers

5:00 p.m. (Open), (Open)
8:00 a.m. C. Lara
10:30 a.m. Latin Mass

Liturgical Assistants

5:00 p.m. R. Larson
8:00 a.m. S. Ball
10:30 a.m. Latin Mass

CHURCH FLOWERS

The Flower Ministry is an important part of creating a beautiful environment for worship. Would you like to donate money for flowers for a special weekend? Your donation could be in remembrance of a loved one or a special occasion in your life. Call the office to get details.

For Sunday, November 18

Offertory this week:	\$3,691.00
Target:	\$4,197.59
Collected vs Target for month:	\$189.09
Collected vs Target since July:	\$15,991.14
Projected Offertory for year:	\$293,560.79
Annual Budget:	\$250,000.00

Building Fund this week:	\$1,046.00
Collected this month:	\$1,975.00
Target for the month:	\$2,713.00
Collected since July 1:	\$12,580.00
Collected vs Target since July 1:	\$985.00

Improvements Collections:	\$29.00
Total collected to date:	\$2,462.00

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

This ministry helps improve the look and upkeep of our parish! The goal for this year is \$11,000. To date we have collected \$2,948.50. Monthly Movie Nights support this campaign. Car wash gift card sales support our efforts! Aluminum can sales also add to this account!

CONGRATULATIONS

*Volunteer of the Month for November is **Barbara Rousseau**. We appreciate all you do for St. Louis, Barbara!

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING RAFFLE!

The Knights of Columbus, St. Louis the Crusader #12929 will be selling tickets to their annual Christmas Shopping Raffle!! Tickets go on sale after all weekend Masses starting December 8. Tickets are 1-\$5 or 5-\$20. 1st Prize \$250, 2nd prize \$150 and 3rd Prize \$100. The drawing will be after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on December 23.

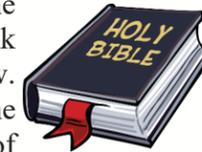
**CATHOLIC CHARITIES
FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS**

Please consider donating non-perishable food items for the Catholic Charities Food Pantry. Please place donations in the

collection box located in the parish hall.

ADULT EDUCATION: GENESIS, THE STORIES OF OUR ORIGIN

Come explore the stories you think you already know. Let's look at the first 11 chapters of



Genesis: The creation stories; Adam and Eve; Noah and the flood; and others. Deacon Joe will lead this class beginning this Wednesday, November 28th, at 7:00 p.m. Each session will last about an hour, and will run for 5 or 6 weeks. All are welcome. Bring a bible-and read Chapter 1 of Genesis before the first session.

ADVENT RETREAT:



The Sisterhood will be hosting a ladies Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 8th. The event will begin with Mass at 8:30 a.m. Fr. Stevens is our speaker and he will be speaking on "Our Lady of the New Advent". This event is free and is open to all women of the parish and their friends. To register, please e-mail Lori Hocking at, lorihocking@comcast.net or by calling 570-1237. The registration deadline is Wednesday, Dec 5th, by 5:00 p.m.

SILENT AUCTION

Our silent auction has been moved to the weekend of December 1st and 2nd to kick off the Advent Season. We ask that all baskets be brought to the Parish Hall by noon on Friday, November 30. We will have the baskets on display to be

bid on one hour before and after the Saturday Vigil Mass on December 1st and then again on Sunday, December 2nd from 7:30 a.m. until noon. The silent Auction will be closed at noon, so come join us for coffee and donuts and see who takes home the beautiful baskets and to get in your final bid! If you have any questions, please call Kathy Shook at 850-562-1856.

SISTERHOOD PROJECT

The Sisterhood of St. Louis is working on its annual community service project and we need your help. We ask all parishioners to join us in collecting full-size items to put in gift bags for residents of Casa Calderon. The bags will be made up and delivered in January to coincide with the Gifts of the Magi. Casa Calderon usually has about 100 residents there at all times. We are looking for donations (full-size items) of: toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo/conditioner (combo), deodorant, and socks. Both men and women's items are needed. You may place your items in the back of the Church in the box next to the Shelter bin. Items will be collected thru mid-December. The Sisterhood thanks you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

HOMELESS SHELTER

Many thanks to all who consistently give generously by putting food and supplies in the "gray bin" for our community's homeless members. This monthly ministry guarantees a healthy meal to over 250 adults on the 1st Saturday of each month at the Kearney Center. Keep up the good works, St Louis!

Mary Balkcom and Brenda Mueller