

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 8

5:00 p.m.
Jerry Thompson (D)

Sunday, December 9

8:00 a.m.
Elizabeth Bell (D)

10:30 a.m.
St. Louis Parish

Tuesday, Dec. 11

6:00 p.m.
Eric Mann (D)

Wednesday, Dec. 12

8:30 a.m.
Kathie Dunn (L)

Thursday, Dec. 13

6:00 p.m.
Jim Dillingham (D)

Friday, December 14

8:30 a.m.
Pat Silva (D)

Saturday, Dec. 15

5:00 p.m.
Claude Mitten, Jr. (D)

Sunday, December 16

8:00 a.m.
St. Louis Parish

10:30 a.m.
Edward Veccia (D)
Richard Sullivan (D)



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Parish Family,
As human beings, we seem to be created for teamwork. It's not always easy, but we know that there's something deeply satisfying about working together, about sharing values and ideals. It seems that God is the same way. Remember that God is a Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God doesn't act alone. He invites others to be part of his plan. He invites each one of us to be part of his plan to bring the joy of Christianity to others.

St. Paul brings this out in the second reading today. He says to the people of Philippi: "I pray always with joy in my prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now." The Gospel means the good news: it's the message that in Jesus Christ, God has become a part of our personal stories. And St. Paul is saying that each Christian has a role in sharing that message. The word that St. Paul uses in Greek is "koinonia", which means communion. So it's actually a deeper partnership than just business buddies. God has chosen to need us. We each have a role to play.

Then in the Gospel we have the figure of John the Baptist. God chose him as a herald of the good news. Again, we see someone who is a partner in the good news. God chose John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus. He is shouting to people that all flesh – every person – shall see the salvation of God. Isn't that an amazing message? And that's the message each and every Christian is called to share. We are known and loved by God. We are partners with God in

sharing that good news. We have a mission.

Peace to you and yours,
Fr. Stevens

**TIME / TALENT / TREASURE
December 15/16**

**Extraordinary Ministers
Of Holy Communion**

5:00 p.m. T. Gorham, J. Larson
8:00 a.m. W. Vargo, J. Vargo
10:30 a.m. A. Madera, K. Onokpise

Lectors

5:00 p.m. K. Radford, B. Stich
8:00 a.m. M. Campos, T. Harbour
10:30 a.m. Youth Mass

Sacristans

5:00 p.m. J. Larson
8:00 a.m. M. D'Souza
10:30 a.m. B. Smith

Altar Servers

5:00 p.m. (Open), (Open)
8:00 a.m. V. Nguyen
10:30 a.m. Youth Mass

Liturgical Assistants

5:00 p.m. R. Larson
8:00 a.m. S. Ball
10:30 a.m. G. Brown

For Sunday, December 2

Offertory this week:	\$5,221.00
Target:	\$5,470.32
Collected vs Target for month	-\$249.32
Collected vs Target since July	\$15,622.23
Projected Offertory for year:	\$288,500.10
Annual Budget:	\$250,000.00

Building Fund this week:	\$370.00
Collected this month:	\$370.00
Target for the month:	\$2,713.00
Collected since July 1:	\$13,313.00
Collected vs Target since July 1:	-\$2,965.00

Improvements Collections:	\$4.00
Total collected to date:	\$2,545.00

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.

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 \$3,031.50. Monthly Movie Nights support this campaign. Car wash gift card sales support our efforts! Aluminum can sales also add to this account!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve
Monday, December 24
5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Christmas Day
Tuesday, December 25
9:00 a.m.



NEW YEARS
Monday, December 31
5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 1
8:30 a.m.

CONGRATULATIONS

*Volunteer of the Month for December is **Brady Ostendorf**. We appreciate all you do for St. Louis, Brady!

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING RAFFLE!

The Knights of Columbus, St. Louis the Crusader Council #12929, will be selling tickets to their annual Christmas Shopping Raffle!! Tickets went on sale after all this weekend's Masses. 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.

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 is leading this class which began last Wednesday, November 28th. Each session starts at 7:00 p.m., lasts about an hour, and will run for 5 or 6 weeks. All are welcome. Bring a bible with you!



CHRISTMAS LUMINARIES

The Sisterhood is selling Christmas Luminaries which will be displayed during the Christmas Eve and Christmas Services. You can purchase a luminary in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$5 per Luminary. Please see any member of the Sisterhood or e-mail lorihocking@comcast.net for additional information

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

**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.



**PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM
HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

What must parents and teachers know to protect children from human traffickers? Good Shepherd Church invites parents and teachers to a presentation on Human Trafficking. Special presenters include Amy-Lynn Smoot (mentor and survivor of human trafficking) and Michelle Grimes (renowned human trafficking consultant). The purpose is to sensitize parents and teachers to signs that a child is being "groomed" to be trafficked. December 14, 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. at Good Shepherd Education Building, Room 308. The event is free and no registration is required.