

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 5

5:00 p.m.
Shook Family (L)

Sunday, January 6

8:00 a.m.
St. Louis Parish

10:30 a.m.
Betsy Woodard and Family (L)

Tuesday, January 8

6:00 p.m.
Peggy Egan (L)

Wednesday, January 9

8:30 a.m.
Don Van Bui (D)
Madalena Huong Thi
Nguyen (D)

Thursday, January 10

6:00 p.m.
Dorothy and Mark
Berwager (D)

Friday, January 11

8:30 a.m.
Steven Berwager (L)

Saturday, January 12

5:00 p.m.
Donald Larson (D)

Sunday, January 13

8:00 a.m.
St. Louis Parish
10:30 a.m.
Edward Veccia (D)
Richard Sullivan (D)

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.



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Parish Family,
In today's liturgy the Three Magi come from afar, bearing gifts, because they see the signs in the stars that a great king has just been born, great enough to warrant leaving their countries behind to see him and pay him homage. The very fact of their arrival is the sign of something that is an even greater sign.

Today's First Reading speaks of how Jerusalem will be radiant when the Lord shines upon it, so much so that Jerusalem itself will attract others to the Lord by its light. Christ is like the filament of an incandescent bulb: without him, there'd be no light at all. A filament needs a bulb. Israel is the glass bulb. When Our Lord assumed human nature he chose a place, time, and a people in which to become flesh, and that people, prepared by the Father, is Israel. Together they became a great source of light. Like a light bulb, that illumination is not just for Israel alone. All nations would be drawn to that light until they reflected it too. Isaiah said it would attract attention and gifts, a foreshadowing of the coming of the Three Magi.

In today's Second Reading Paul recalls that all nations, not just Israel, would be able to benefit from the promises Our Lord has made through the Gospel. Israel thought for a long time that salvation was reserved to them alone and that the Messiah would only come to save and lead them. In the Acts of the Apostles and Paul's letters we see the fledgling Church struggling with understanding that the Gospel was not just for the Jews but for everyone. Paul received the revelation, along with the apostles, that their mission was to the Gentiles, not just the Jews. In Christ, the divisions between Jews and Gentiles would end. All of humanity was called to his light. The Three Magi in today's Gospel were the first signs of that fact.

Today's Gospel teaches us that the light of

Christ extends farther than we could ever imagine. The Three Magi represent all the peoples of the earth seeing that light in the distance...the distance of their situation, of their cultural differences...and heading toward it. A distant light, a star, became a beacon that led them to Jerusalem. The prophecy regarding Bethlehem led them closer to their goal, and then the star itself ushered them to the baby Jesus. The Three Magi needed help understanding the prophecies to keep going forward because astrology was not enough. If Our Lord assumed human nature in a specific place and culture that presented a gap to be overcome. Thanks to this episode we know that Christ's light reaches to all the nations and leads us above and beyond our own cultures. All the nations of the earth can benefit from His light.

Peace to you and yours,

Fr. Stevens

**TIME / TALENT / TREASURE
January 12/13**

**Extraordinary Ministers
Of Holy Communion**

5:00 p.m. B. Mueller, E. Hawkins
8:00 a.m. J. Piotrowski, L. Ogbodo
10:30 a.m. M. Macko, V. Wall

Lectors

5:00 p.m. G. Pullen, J. Pullen
8:00 a.m. T. Sobon, T. Cross
10:30 a.m. C. Reynolds, A. Madera

Sacristans

5:00 p.m. Pullens
8:00 a.m. T. Cross
10:30 a.m. A. Gornia

Altar Servers

5:00 p.m. (Open), (Open)
8:00 a.m. C. Lara, Open
10:30 a.m. S. Berrien, I. Brown

Liturgical Assistants

5:00 p.m. J. Mueller
8:00 a.m. S. Ball
10:30 a.m. P. Johnston

For Sunday, December 30

Offertory this week: \$4,460.00
Target: \$4,137.22
Collected vs Target for month: \$4,407.48
Collected vs Target since July: \$20,279.03
Projected Offertory for year: \$291,063.32
Annual Budget: \$250,000.00

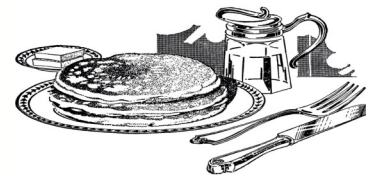
Building Fund this week: \$331.00
Collected this month: \$2,788.00
Target for the month: \$2,713.00
Collected since July 1: \$15,731.00
Collected vs Target since July 1: -\$547.00

Improvements Collections: \$129.00
Total collected to date: \$3,091.00

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 \$3,515.50. Monthly Movie Nights support this campaign. Car wash gift card sales support our efforts! Aluminum can sales also add to this account!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



January 13
St. Louis Parish Hall
8:45 – 10:15 a.m.
Pancakes/Bradley Sausage/
Orange Juice
Cost: \$5.00 (\$3.00 Children)

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING RAFFLE

Congratulations go out to the three winners of the Knights of Columbus shopping raffle. 1st place \$250, Maria Rhoads; 2nd place, \$150, Rose Patterson; 3rd place, \$100, Kay Boures. A big thanks to all St. Louis parishioners who purchased a ticket. Your support directly helps the many different programs here at St. Louis.

CONGRATULATIONS

*Volunteer of the Month for January is **Phillip Kempf**. We appreciate all you do for St. Louis, Phillip!

**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.

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

**JOHN PAUL II
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

The school is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. You **CAN** afford a Catholic education for your child. We have several scholarship and financial assistance opportunities! Schedule a tour to come see our beautiful campus, or a shadow day for your student to spend a day with us. For information or to schedule a visit you can simply call 201-5744. **Save the date!** SJPII Open House is Feb. 2nd from 1:00-3:00 p.m. St. John Paul II Catholic High School wishes you and your family a blessed 2019. Happy New Year!

TRINITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Open House will be on Sunday, January 27 at 1:30 p.m. Visit Trinity Catholic School! We are the only Catholic school serving PK3-8th grade students in Tallahassee. Come to learn more about our exceptional academics and extracurricular offering. Visit our Christ-centered classrooms and meet our dedicated teachers.

2019 JUBILEE MARRIAGE MASS



This Mass will be celebrated by Bishop William A. Wack, C.S.C. on February 17th at Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More at 11:45 a.m. to recognize couples celebrating anniversaries during 2019 as follows: 1st, 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 50th, and any anniversary beyond the 50th. You can register by phone at 850-435-3553, or online at ptdiocese.org/events. Please make sure to register at least one week in advance.

Sponsored by the Office for Marriage and Family Life

MARRIAGE STRUGGLING?

If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; if you have grown cold and distant; even if you are divorced or separated, or are thinking about it, no matter how bad it may be... Retrouvaille can help, as it has helped tens of thousands of others. Our next program in Tampa Bay begins January 25-27. For more information, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org, or call (813) 816-0711. *Not counseling or group therapy.* All contacts and names held in strictest confidence.