

Mass Intentions

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)

Tuesday, January 15

6:00 p.m.
(Communion Service Only)

Wednesday, January 16

8:30 a.m.
(Communion Service Only)

Thursday, January 17

6:00 p.m.
Martha Mims (D)

Friday, January 18

8:30 a.m.
Karen Esbensen (L)

Saturday, January 19

5:00 p.m.
Margaret and Edward
O'Brien (D)

Sunday, January 20

8:00 a.m.
George Babb (D)
10:30 a.m.
St. Louis Parish



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Parish Family,
St. Luke tells us that at the time of Jesus' baptism, which marked the beginning of his public ministry, the people were "filled with expectation." There were two reasons for this. First, rumor had it that according to the prophecies of Daniel, the time was ripe for the arrival of the promised Messiah, the King anointed by God to restore the independence and greatness of the long-suffering people of Israel. Scholars at the time didn't agree about the actual characteristics and identifying marks of that Messiah, but a sense that the time had come was widespread. Second, no true prophet had arisen in Israel in over two centuries. And so, when John the Baptist came onto the scene, they knew something big was afoot. Many hoped that he himself was the Messiah. The prophecy of Daniel and the preaching of John the Baptist then, were clear, dramatic signs sent by God to indicate the coming of Jesus. Even so, Christ found a welcome in only a few hearts; the majority gave him up to be crucified. Why? Could it be that the people of Israel were expecting one kind of Lord, and God wanted to give them another? We often fall into the same trap; we know clearly the things we want but God sends us others, and we resent it. But if Jesus is truly the Lord, and if the greatest prophet of all time was not even worthy to "loosen the thongs of his sandals" (a job reserved to slaves at the time), why do we expect him to do things our way? Why do we expect him to adjust to our schedule? Isn't it possible that he knows better? God often acts in unexpected ways, so it's up to us to adjust our expectations, or else we may miss his grace altogether.

Music Ministry/Director

In October, PJ Wilford, informed me of his decision to resign as Music Director of St. Louis. I met with both the Parish Council and Finance Council to consult with them and it was decided to go forward with filling the position. Three candidates were interviewed; to that end, I am grateful that John Martin has accepted the position. I am grateful for the work that PJ Wilford, has accomplished here at St. Louis, and I wish him well. I am grateful for those who volunteered and substituted during this time of transition and encourage you to continue to lend your voice, for the praise of the Lord!

Peace to you and yours,
Fr. Stevens

**TIME / TALENT / TREASURE
January 19/20**

**Extraordinary Ministers
Of Holy Communion**

5:00 p.m. J. Croft, T. Gorham
8:00 a.m. T. Cross, T. Sobon
10:30 a.m. R. Spanarelli, F. Spanarelli

Lectors

5:00 p.m. Ri. O'Leary, Ro. O'Leary
8:00 a.m. V. Laurienzo, S. Ball
10:30 a.m. Youth Mass

Sacristans

5:00 p.m. M. Reeves
8:00 a.m. T. Sobon
10:30 a.m. B. Smith

Altar Servers

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

Liturgical Assistants

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

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, January 6

Offertory this week: \$7,444.00
Target: \$5,627.22
Collected vs Target for month: \$1,817.00
Collected vs Target since July: \$20,096.03
Projected Offertory for year: \$292,792.26
Annual Budget: \$250,000.00

Building Fund this week: \$887.00
Collected this month: \$887.00
Target for the month: \$2,713.00
Collected since July 1: \$16,618.00
Collected vs Target since July 1: -\$2,373.00

Improvements Collections: \$14.00
Total collected to date: \$3,105.00

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 \$3,529.50. Monthly Movie Nights support this campaign. Car wash gift card sales support our efforts! Aluminum can sales also add to this account!

**2018 CATHOLIC
SHARING APPEAL**

Thank you to all who responded to the 2018 CSA! We exceeded our goal and fulfilled our pledged amount.
Goal: \$27,869.50
Funds Received: \$41,761.00
Rebate: \$13,566.50
All funds received over our goal are returned to the parish savings account.

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.

RCIA: INQUIRY SESSIONS

Beginning January 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. Father Stevens will offer Inquiry Sessions for those interested in being



received into the Catholic Faith. These sessions are for those who have not been baptized previously or for those who, having been baptized, seek to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. We will meet in the Conference Room of the Parish Office. To register please e-mail: stevenss@clergy.ptdiocese.org.

ALL HANDS ON DECK



St. Louis Parish is in need of help for an upcoming work/service day. Many hands make like the load! January 19th from 8:00 a.m.-12:00, Lunch will be provided. All are welcome and needed; please bring yard tools, and gloves.

Thank you Fr. Stevens

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 2019-20 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.

2019 JUBILEE MARRIAGE MASS

This Mass will be celebrated by Bishop William A. Wack, C.S.C. on February 17th at the 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, 45th, 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

**January 22 - Day of Prayer
for Legal Protection of
Unborn Children**

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal designates Jan. 22nd as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the **"Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children"**: "January 22nd shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion."