We, the people of St. Clare Catholic Parish, in the Diocese of Belleville, are called by God in baptism to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Centered in the Eucharist, and strengthened by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we strive to live the Gospel and further the reign of God. We do this by creating a vibrant faith community, by actively promoting justice and evangelization, and by using our gifts in the service of God’s people, to give God glory and reverence all of Creation.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Nursery service during the 10:30 Mass.

BAPTISM—Preparation classes for parents are offered every other month for infant baptism. Call the Parish Office to sign up. Adults wishing to be baptized should also call the Office.

RECONCILIATION—Saturdays 3:30 until 4:30 p.m. or by appointment. Community celebrations are also offered every Advent and Lent.

MATRIMONY—Contact Pastor a year prior.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK—Communal celebrations twice a year, or by appointment.
From Our Pastor...

One of the things that Bishop Braxton is very good at is writing solid, challenging reflections on relevant issues. Two weeks ago he published a thought-provoking paper called “The Racial Divide in the United States: A Reflection for the World Day of Peace 2015.” In it he gives a brief but thorough overview of the race issues in the United States in the context of the recent race-related shootings and riots in our local area and in our country.

I want to encourage you to go to our parish website or the diocesan website (diobelle.org) and read his reflection. It is about twenty pages long with interesting reflections on words we use without really thinking about their interpretations such as ‘minority’ and ‘race.’

I realize that most of us get our ‘education’ from headline news without really looking deeper into issues that can be upsetting or divisive. I encourage you to take the time to read this publication since it is so relevant to our times. Our staff is looking at some future dates to use the paper for small group discussions.

Our own parish is blessed with a variety of ‘races’ and ethnicities and yet we are mostly white/anglo-saxon. We celebrate our diversity as part of God’s creative design for the human race and we honor our mix of ethnicities at our annual parish Pentecost picnic, this year on May 24th.

Please God, bless our country and world with PEACE!

Fr. Jim Deiters

Recent Deaths:
Rosemary Sturm, Aunt of Judy Lemansky/Sister in law of Lee Strayhorn
Jean Lanter, Mother of Jeff (Marcie) Lanter
Ann Langhauser, Mother of Joyce Boyne & Janice Eiler
May they rest in the peace of Christ. We continue to pray for all who have died and all who are mourning the death of a loved one.

Women’s Renewal Weekend
February 14/15

This is a weekend that provides a unique opportunity for the women of our parish to grow closer to God and develop a deeper sense of faith, along with forming lasting friendships.
For more information or questions, please contact Arlene Cruz-Peel at islandgirlz2@yahoo.com or Tanja Ramsby at tramsby7089@gmail.com or 589-3723

MONDAY MOMS!

Faith Based Study & Prayer
Activities, Support Group, Play Time
St. Clare Church Nursery
2nd and 4th Mondays each Month
9:30—11 a.m.
For more information, call Stephanie at 573-424-6733
Please pray for the sick, their loved ones and caregivers; may they never lose sight of the love of God...
Jennifer R. Barajas, Wray Barr, Alex Brown, Joe Burroughs, Shirley Carroll, George Covington, Lori Dalton, June Dean, Dennis & Delores Dumstorff, Rita Ferreri, Mildred Gerardi, Mike and Linda Gilkerson, Hannah Grubofski, Patricia Gundlach, Rita Haukapp, Margaret Heinke, Jessica Holmes, Boston Johnson, Rosemarie Jones, Pauline Keller, Dan Kimutis, Dawn Papproth Kuhn, Thelma LaSalvia, Virginia Leninsky, Abellina Leon, Vincent Lepes, Mary Lugge, John Molnar, Mary Molnar, Nona Morgan, Helen Murphy, Margaret Nettles, Katie Paulochk, Thomas Peters, Doris Prosser, Lynn Robke Crutcher, Madeleine Sanford, Michael Schmitz, Craig Seipp, Dick Seipp, Diane Gettis-Simmons, Betty & Jean Stogner, Michelle Strube, Pat Thompson, Betty Tomasovich, Jake Van Hook, Steve Wells, Virginia Woods, Norman Wright
Please pray for all our military families, especially those who will be apart this New Year.
Collecting Shoes
For Water Project
Jan 17-18

We will accept donations of gently used or new shoes on Jan 17/18 in conjunction with the Luke 18 retreat for a project that the St. Nicholas Confirmation Class is hosting. The shoes will be given to Shoeman Water Projects, which sends them to Haiti, Kenya and South America, providing jobs for roadside vendors and footwear to those in need. Shoeman uses the money raised for water projects to provide clean drinking water to millions of people. Please place shoe donations in the baskets outside the church restrooms.
There’s a Whole New World Out There!

This exciting Adult Formation Class will be held on Mondays, January 19—February 9 From 7—8:30 p.m. Come explore our universe with us!

Registration is requested by January 12
scmcw2001@yahoo.com

First Communion Parent Night
Knowing and Loving the Eucharist
Tuesday, January 20
6:30—8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Free babysitting: RSVP at 632-3562 or janeadotson@yahoo.com

This is geared toward 1st Communion parents, But anyone is welcome!!

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Althoff Catholic High School
Incoming Freshman Registration
February 4 & 5
Make your appointment today! 235-1100

Youth Group Schedule

Jan 16-18 LUKE 18 at St. Clare

Jan 23 Youth Group selling soda & popcorn at St. Clare Family Bingo Night. Set up at 5:30 pm

Jan 25 Youth Group Winter Blast at the Edge 4:30—7:30; Meet at Church to carpool

Feb 1 Youth Group 6—7:30 pm

Feb 2 Youth Commission 7:30 pm in Library

Feb 8 Youth Group hosts Confirmation Game Night Crazy 8s Dodgeball and other games (Gym)

Youth Room in Basement of Parish Office All are welcome any time. No registration needed!
RELATIONSHIPS 101:

Today, in our first Sunday of Ordinary Time, we hear of Samuel being called by God. Then in our Gospel reading, Jesus calls His first disciples to come and follow Him. Both readings speak of God wanting to be in a relationship with us, the people He created. Since the beginning of time, relationships have had difficulties to overcome. Adam and Eve broke their relationship with God through original sin, and today we all have struggles in relationships, whether it is within marriage, dating, family, work, friends, or even with people of a different culture, race or status in life. Good relationships take effort, and Matthew Kelly guides us in “The 7 Levels of Intimacy” to help us share more deeply and change the way we approach our relationships forever, including our relationship with God.

True intimacy means sharing who we really are with another person. We have to move beyond the clichés in conversation and get beneath the surface which involves taking a risk because in doing this, our weaknesses and imperfections will be made known. Matthew teaches practical ways to strengthen our relationships through seven levels: Cliches; Facts; Opinions; Hopes & Dreams; Feelings; Fears, Faults & Failures; and Legitimate Needs.

Stop at our Lighthouse Kiosk in the Gathering Space to find some wonderful Catholic CDs and Books for friends and family.

Messaenger Renewal Weekend
February 7/8, 2015

Stay “connected” through a subscription to The Messenger Diocesan Newspaper! Payments can be made through parish envelopes or on-line at www.bellevillemessenger.org.

SUBSCRIPTION COST:
Print $25
Electronic $25
Both $30

9 Days for Life

Join thousands of Catholics across the country coming together in prayer. 9 Days for Life is a focused period of prayer, penance and pilgrimage set aside to mark the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal throughout the United States.

Find information at 9 days for life.com.
Your prayers matter, your sacrifices make a difference.

9 Days for Life

PRAY WITH THE BISHOPS TO END ABORTION
4 WAYS TO JOIN

9daysforlife.com

Sunday, January 11
Tithe..............................$14,463.00
New Church..................$17,800.00

“One man gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.” Proverbs 11:24
ALTAR ANGELS January 24: Connie Garrett, Cathy Sweeney, Carol Williamson

ALTAR SODALITY MEETING Monday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, All women of the parish are welcome to join us!

ST. CLARE SCHOOL NEWS The Annual Open House will be held on Sunday, January 25 from 1:30—3:00. Registration will be available for Kindergarten—8th grade. Children entering Kindergarten must be 5 years old before September 1, 2015. Please bring a copy of your child’s certified birth certificate and baptismal certificate to the registration. There will be a $50 registration fee per family.

Why should you send your child to a Catholic School?
So they can experience:
• Catholic tradition and academic excellence in a community grounded in faith
• Moral development and discipline based on Gospel values
• Exceptional faculty motivated to help students reach their highest potential
• Parental involvement, which is encouraged and welcomed
• Individual attention in a caring community that fosters life long friendships
• A curriculum designed to help students grow in spirituality through daily prayer and religious instruction
• Interaction with priests who celebrate weekly Mass and make regular classroom visits
• Learning about the connection between faith and service to those in need through a variety of community programs
• Feeling the love of Jesus in a place where He can be remembered

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
SUNDAY, JANUARY 25—SATURDAY, JANUARY 31
Students, families and visitors are invited to attend the Annual Spaghetti Dinner in the school cafeteria
Saturday, January 31 from 4—7:30 p.m.
Tickets will be sold at the door $8 for adult meal and $4 for kids 10 and under.
All are welcome to attend!

8th Annual St. Louis Conference
Saturday, February 7
Register Soon!

Newly Designed Website
Registration & Information:
Catholicmenforchrist.org

Look for: St. Clare, O’Fallon IL (Toward bottom of parish dropdown)

SPEAKERS:
George Weigel, Tim Staples, Terry Barber and Msgr. James J. Ramacciotti

Our parish captain is John Durnford (501)425-4506 or jpdford@charter.net

The ecological crisis reveals the URGENT MORAL NEED FOR A NEW SOLIDARITY, especially in relations between the developing nations and those that are highly industrialized.
States must increasingly share responsibility, in complimentary ways, for the promotion of a natural and social environment that is both peaceful and healthy. "The newly industrialized States cannot, for example, be asked to apply restrictive environmental standards to their emerging industries unless the industrialized States first apply them within their own boundaries. At the same time, countries in the process of industrialization are not morally free to repeat the errors made in the past by others, and recklessly continue to damage the environment through industrial pollutants, radical deforestation, or unlimited exploitation of non-renewable resources. In this context, there is urgent need to find a solution to the treatment and disposal of toxic wastes. "No plan or organization, however, will be able to effect the necessary changes unless world leaders are truly convinced of the absolute need for this new solidarity, which is demanded of them by the ecological crisis and which is essential for peace. THIS NEED PRESENTS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR STRENGTHENING COOPERATIVE AND PEACEFUL RELATIONS AMONG STATES."
- John Paul II, World Day of Peace Message 1990