

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Tues., Feb. 7th, 10 a.m.: Frank DiCarlo, by friends
Wed., Feb. 8th, Care Center, 10:30 a.m.: Deacon Charles Littekin
Fri., Feb. 10th, 8 a.m.: Marlene Cowell, by Nancy Niehaus
Sat., Feb. 11th, 4 p.m.: Dave Koch, by family
Sun., Feb. 12th, 10 a.m.: Mary Blow, by EJ & Tammy Roscow; For the Parish

Liturgical Roles

Sat., Feb. 11th, 4 p.m.:

Lector - S. Eckart
Ushers - M. & P. Martin
Eucharistic Minister - H. Siegfried
Servers - L. & E. Eckart
Gift Bearers - K. Heine family

Sun., Feb. 12th, 10 a.m.:

Lector - P. Masterson
Ushers - T. & M. Esker
Eucharistic Minister - M. Poirier
Servers - J. Sauer, L. Ohlau
Gift Bearers - CJ Hoeninger family

Please Pray For ...

 Julie Weber, Grayson Herriman,
Nursing Home Residents, Homebound Parishioners
Names remain for 4 weeks. Call the rectory.

Thought For The Week

The world is changed by your example, not your opinion.
(Mother Teresa)

On the Lighter Side

A priest was sitting in the airport lounge, reading a newspaper, when a little boy about five ran up to him, looked him over carefully, and asked bluntly, "Say, mister, why do you wear black clothes?" In a kidding tone the padre replied, "So they won't show the dirt." The little boy moved his head up and down understandingly and then remarked, "That's just what mom says I should wear - black!"

Thank You

Thank you to our SJB family who supported us in any way during our difficult time in January. Thanks to all the amazing cooks who brought us meals - we may need to call for a recipe (or 3 or 4!) Thank you to everyone who called, helped us in any way, sent us sympathy and get-well cards, and so much more. Thank you!
~ Ken & Patsy Kertz

Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

Isaiah prophesied: Share bread with the hungry. Shelter the homeless. Clothe the naked. Do not turn away from your own. "Then your light shall break forth like the dawn."

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Paul's teaching did not come from himself but from the convincing power of the Spirit. So the faith he passed on rests "not on human wisdom but on the power of God."

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Jesus called his disciples the "salt of the earth" and "the light of the world." He cautioned them not to let the salt lose its flavor and not to put a cover on the light but to let it shine. "Your light must shine before others...and glorify your heavenly Father."

From the Desk of Fr. Dennis

 Jesus tells his disciples in today's Gospel, "You are the light of the world," exhorting them to shine that light for everyone to see. Jesus himself is the light who shone through the darkness from the very moment he was born. Now he challenges his disciples to be that light – the light of Christ – for others. We are given that same challenge. Paul in the second reading was determined to bring the light of faith to the Corinthians by displaying the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus tells his disciples to let their light shine for all to see. May God's word inspire us to be like the just one in the responsorial psalm, lighting the way for others through the darkness.

This past Friday we celebrated the feast of St. Blaise. At the end of Mass this weekend I will give the St. Blaise throat blessing. Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from ever evil.

Have a blest first week of February. Remember, don't worry so much, and know that you are loved! ~ Fr. Dennis

Stewardship Thought

The Gospel today reminds us that our lives and our deeds must serve as examples to others, pointing the way to the Father. Not for our own benefit do we labor, but so that others may see our good works and give glory to our Father in heaven.

Books Available

Would you like to learn about the life of ASC Foundress, Sister Maria de Mattias? Stop by the entrances to pick up a book all about her!





Save the Date!

Our Spring Rummage Sale is scheduled for March 31, April 1, & April 2nd!

Drop off times/dates and other info soon!

Pope Francis Speaks to Our Hearts

Sacred Scripture and the sacraments are thus inseparable. When the sacraments are introduced and illuminated by God's word, they become ever more clearly the goal of a process whereby Christ opens our minds and hearts to acknowledge his saving work. We should always keep in mind the teaching found in the Book of Revelation: the Lord is standing at the door and knocking. If anyone should hear his voice and open for him, he will come in and eat with them (cf 3:20). Christ Jesus is knocking at our door in the words of sacred Scripture. If we hear his voice and open the doors of minds and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us. (Aperuit Illi)

Cash for Classrooms

We're excited to share that our school is participating in Cash for Classrooms, part of Casey's Rewards. This opens up St. John the Baptist Catholic School to new funding opportunities to help improve learning environments for students. The best part? Donations don't come out of your own pocket. When you buy from Casey's and use their rewards program you can simply turn your points into a donation to our school. Help St. John the Baptist Catholic School make the most of this program and learn more at caseys.com/schools.

You're Invited! Help Us Celebrate Joe Hubbard's 80th Birthday!

The Society of St. Vincent cordially invites everyone to a Valentine's celebration in honor of Joe Hubbard's 80th birthday! Join us on Saturday, February 11, 2023, Holy Trinity Parish, Fairview Heights; doors open at 5:30 p.m. Proceeds from this "Heart for the Poor" FUNd-raiser will benefit the work of St. Vincent de Paul in serving those in need in our Belleville Diocese.

Tickets are \$35 per person. Reservations or donations can be made by calling 618-394-0126 or visiting the St. Vincent de Paul website – <https://svdpsouthil.org> – select the "News/Events" tab and "Joe Hubbard Celebration". Please RSVP by Tuesday, February 7. Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

Sunday Collection/Money Counter

We are in need of one volunteer to be a Sunday Collection/Money Counter. Counting teams rotate on a 5 week schedule; we do not schedule teams on major holidays. For more information, please call or email Rhonda at the rectory.

Thank you to Henry Haas for his 20+ years of volunteering! We appreciate you!

Life Network Baby Bottles

It's time for the Life Network Baby Bottle Spare Change Drive! Stop by the church entrances, pick up an empty baby bottle, fill it with spare change, and return to us no later than Sunday, February 12th! All donations benefit Life Network of Southern Illinois.

First Communion Parent Meeting

Next Sunday, February 12th after the 10 am Mass there will be a meeting for the parents and 2nd grade students who will be receiving their First Communion. The meeting will be in Church. We expect you to be there with your son/daughter.

CCW News

The February 7th meeting of the CCW will begin at 6:30, and is the annual "Taste & Trade" night. Bring your favorite dish, (main dish, side dish, dessert, or snacks) and one copy of the recipe with your name on it. Please only write the recipe on one side of each page, (no double-sided pages), the recipes will then be made into a booklet and distributed at the March meeting.

Parish Council Recommendations

The weekend of February 11/12 you will be given the opportunity to recommend parishioners for the upcoming Council Selection. To recommend a person, they must be a registered member of the parish, 18 years of age, and NOT a paid employee of the parish or school. You will be given a sheet that weekend when you come to church upon which you can make your recommendations. Place them in the baskets at the doors or drop them in the collection.

Marriage on Tap

Marriage on Tap, March 7, 6 pm, C.J. Muggs, Clayton, MO. Guest speakers: Karen & John Hermes, from Waterloo. Presentation: "The Seasons of Our Marriage." Dinner is \$54 per couple/\$27 per person, and advanced registration is required. For more information, check Marriage on Tap STL on Facebook or email us at marriageontapstl@gmail.com.

Faith Flash!

Faith Tip for the week: Invest in your IRA.

When saving for retirement, the common investment is in an IRA or an Individual Retirement Account. We trust the IRA will continue to grow and provide means of support during our retirement years. What about after your retirement years? Have you invested in what it takes to spend an eternity in heaven? We never know when the Lord will come for us. Will we be ready? This Lent, perhaps we should start investing in a new IRA called the "I'm Ready Account". Here are some investment ideas for this "IRA":

- 1) Love – The more love you put in your "IRA", the bigger your returns. "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27
- 2) Giving – seems odd, but the more you give, the bigger your "IRA" will grow. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver". 2 Corinthians 9:7
- 3) Patience – All investments take time. "Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary". Galatians 6:9
- 4) Prayer – We all need investment advice. "Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words." [Romans 8:26]
- 5) Faith – We need faith to help us to continue to grow our "IRA". "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

These are just a few exceptions. This is one account we don't want to neglect!

FORMED: Check out FORMED on the church's website under Faith Formation. Something for everyone! Easy to sign up, easy to enjoy!

Youth Group (High School): The next Youth Group meeting is February 15th at 6:30pm at the school's cafeteria.

Retreats (Also check the Retreat section of the Faith Formation page of the church's website!):

Luke 18 Retreat – February 17, 18, 19th, 2023. This retreat will be held in Mascoutah at Holy Childhood. Our 7th and 8th graders are invited to be on the retreat. This is a great opportunity for 7th and 8th graders to be mentored by their high school peers. It gives them a chance to hear firsthand how faith can remain a priority in their busy high school years.

This is a fun and faith filled weekend. Information and applications have been sent to our 7th and 8th grade parents at the school and PSR. Please contact me if you are interested in going on the retreat and need more information.

High School Retreats: Quest (Freshman and Sophomores) and TEC (Junior and Seniors) retreat dates:

Quest 147 – March 11-12, St. Dominic's, Breeze

ACT Retreat – This women's retreat is being held at Saints Peter and Paul in Waterloo from February 16-19.

Contact Robin Hentis (robinhentis@gmail.com) for more information.

Dave Hollinshead, Director of Faith Formation 618-282-3222 ext. 4

Support Our Advertisers

Leesman Funeral Homes

Gibault News

Spring Open House: Sun., March 5, 1 p.m.–3 p.m. Past, present, and future Hawks are invited! More info soon!

Enrollment News: Still enrolling for the Class of 2027!

Visit <https://bit.ly/GCHSApply>.

Mission Trip: A group of Gibault Catholic seniors is traveling to the Dominican Republic for their senior service project. You can be part of their mission trip through a donation. Donations can be made by cash or checks made payable to Gibault Catholic High School (mail to Gibault Catholic High School: 501 Columbia Ave. - Waterloo, IL 62298 or stop by during school hours) or online at <https://gchsseniorservice.square.site/>. Thank you for your support!

Happenings This Week

Sun.: Trey Fabie to speak on Gibault Senior Mission Trip to Dominican Republic

Tues.: 8 am Bible Study in Church; 10 am Mass with school students – you are welcome to join us; 6:30 pm St. Anne Ladies will have their annual "Taste & Trade"

Wed.: Mass at 10:30 am at the Care Center; 6:45 pm Bible study in Church basement; PSR Classes at 6:45 pm in school – please be on time

Thurs.: 10 am Mass at St. Patrick's- come and join us!

Fri.: 8 am Mass followed by rosary and Adoration till 9:30 am

Sat./Sun.: Parish Council Recommendations gathered

Sun.: Meeting for parents and 2nd grade First Communion students after the 10 am Mass in Church

Save the Date!

March for Life, coming up on March 21, 2023, in Springfield, IL. Mass at 10 a.m. at Sangamon Auditorium, 1 University Plaza. Rally at the Capitol Building, 401 S. 2nd Street, at 12 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 524 E. Lawrence Ave., from 12-5:30 p.m. March around the Capitol Building at 1 p.m.



Your Gifts to God & Parish

Sunday.....	\$3,137.00
Loose.....	\$413.00
Total (Goal: \$5,866.00).....	\$3,550.00
Capital Campaign.....	\$80.00
Adopt-a-Parish.....	\$55.00
School Support.....	\$130.00
Christmas.....	\$50.00
Initial Offering.....	\$30.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$30.00
School Endowment.....	\$10.00

Updating our Census

Have you completed the form that was sent to you as we need to update our census records? Return it to the parish office by dropping it in the mail, or in the collection basket. This information will help us as we are planning to have a new pictorial directory made. Pictures are scheduled to be taken in June.

World Marriage Day

On Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., Auxiliary Bishop Mark S. Rivituso will celebrate a Mass for World Marriage Day at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. A reception will follow in Boland Hall. All married couples are invited to attend and celebrate the gift of marriage. World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family – the basic unit of society. It emphasizes the faithfulness, sacrifice and joy of daily married life.



Valentine's Cards

Free delivery! No Postage necessary! The CCW will deliver Valentines to Garden Place, Red Bud Regional Care, and R&R Senior Living. There are labeled bags located in the entry-way to church. There are also extra cards if you need some. Please write the name and room number if you know it.

Please put cards in bags by Sunday, Feb. 12. They will be delivered that day.

Covenant Network

Whether you are re-vamping your New Year's resolutions, adjusting to ordinary time or preparing for Lent in your life, Covenant Network has it covered for you. Everyday events are examined through a Catholic lens. Commit to joining in prayer throughout the day: the Holy Rosary; the Angelus; the Holy Mass; the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Covenant Network Catholic Radio brings you the best in Catholic programming. Listen on WMSH 90.3 FM, or anytime on our Covenant Network app or at OurCatholicRadio.org.

Messenger Subscription Renewal Weekend is February 4-5, 2023



Please stay "connected" through a subscription to *The Messenger*

Payments can be made in The Messenger envelope, or on-line at www.bellevillemessenger.org

SUBSCRIPTION COST: Print - \$30 | Electronic - \$25 | Both - \$35
Make checks payable to The Messenger

2022 Contribution Statements

If you would like a copy of your 2022 Contribution Statement, you may:

- 1 Provide a self-addressed stamped envelope and it will be mailed to you
- 2 Request that it be emailed to you

Please note: Statements **will be prepared on FRIDAY MORNINGS ONLY**. Please plan accordingly.

Quilt & Cash Bingo

St. Augustine, Hecker, invites you to Hecker Community Center Super Bowl Sunday (Feb. 12th) for their Quilt & Cash Bingo! Fried chicken and pork sausage plates served from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Bingo begins at 1:30 p.m. with a Lightning Round prior. Attendance prizes, raffle, Pot of Gold.

National Marriage Week

National Marriage Week, Feb. 7-14. This year's theme, "Marriage...one flesh, given and received" highlights the one-flesh union of husband and wife that is willed by God. It



also indicates the personal self-gift of each spouse, one to the other. These concepts point to Christ who gives Himself under the appearance of bread and wine-as real flesh and blood.