

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Mass Intentions

Tues., Apr. 23rd, 9 a.m.: Ralph Henry, by Linda Peppenhorst
Wed., Apr. 24th, 8 a.m.: Frank DiCarlo, by Joe & Shirley Gorman
Fri., Apr. 26th, 8 a.m.: Tom Laird, by Neda Shields
Sat., Apr. 27th, 4 p.m.: Bernie Imming, by family; Dennis & Rosie Kapp 50th Wedding Anniversary
Sun., Apr. 28th, 10 a.m.: Emily Kueker, by Jim & Diane Buch; For the Parish

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, April 27th, 4 p.m.:

Lector - L. Walters
Ushers - B. Trost, C. Schaefer
Eucharistic Ministers - G. Wiegard, J. Keith, Volunteer
Servers - Volunteers
Gift Bearers - K. Heine family

Sunday, April 28th, 10 a.m.:

Lector - P. Masterson
Ushers - J. Walker, D. Gielow
Eucharistic Ministers - S. Chambers, C. Wilson, M. Scheffert
Servers - E. Eckart, K. Juelfs
Gift Bearers - C. Crain family

Please Pray For ...

Rev. Mark Stec; Nursing Home Residents;
Homebound Parishioners
Names remain for 4 weeks. Call the rectory.

Thought For The Week

"To pray is to live in the presence of God" – Matthew Kelly

On the Lighter Side

Joe said to Sam, "I found out why they call certain items period furniture." Sam asked, "What do you mean?" Joe replied, "Hasn't your wife dragged you into an antique store and said: 'I want that, period!'"

Pope Francis Speaks to Our Hearts

(Value the Family) The family stands at the center of society's hopes and struggles. With renewed conviction, the Church continues to encourage the commitment of all, individuals and institutions, in order to support the family, which is the primary place where the human being is formed and grows and where upright values and examples are learned. The family needs stability and the recognition of its mutual bonds in order to carry out its irreplaceable task and to fulfill its mission. It needs to be appreciated, valued, and protected as it puts its energy at the service of society.



Readings

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12

Peter explained to the people that every good deed and all restoration to health are accomplished in the name of Christ Jesus the Nazorean, through whom all are saved.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

Believers are the dearly beloved children of God who do not yet know what shall come to light. When it does come to light, believers will be like God.

Gospel: John 10:11-18

Jesus is the good shepherd who knows the sheep. The Good Shepherd not only loves and protects the sheep but is willing to lay down his life for the sheep.

From the Desk of Fr. Dennis

Today we are reminded that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, committed to caring for his sheep through every danger, difficulty, and trauma. Most people reading this passage have had no experience with tending sheep, but it is important to keep in mind that his discourse is about relationship. The Jewish community would have been familiar with the images of the shepherd and the hired hand. The hired hand to whom Jesus refers is an individual (or individuals) who had no relationship with sheep he is paid to tend. The shepherd, on the other hand, is the one who knows and tends to the sheep with tender care. When Jesus says, "I am the good shepherd," he is not only identifying himself as the one with whom he and his sheep have a mutual relationship, but also saying that he and the Father have a mutual relationship. While using the familiar shepherd imagery of the Old Testament, Jesus expands the image of shepherd to include "other sheep that do not belong to this fold." Jesus will lay down his life for many, not for an elite few.

This weekend is also World Day of Prayer for Vocations! Pray for our young people that they may be open to the Lord's call for their vocation in life. Are you planting the seed for our young people to consider a Church Vocation? Read in the bulletin "Ideas for Action" what Pope Francis suggests!

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

Stewardship Thought

To be good stewards we must be good shepherds, willing to lay down our lives for those committed to our care, not mere hired hands who run off, "leaving the sheep to be snatched by the wolf."

Ideas for Action

In a papal message for World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Francis used the term “con-vocation” to explain that a vocation is not an isolated “me-and-God” experience. Instead, young people hear God’s call with a REAL CHURCH COMMUNITY. He offered four concrete ways to help youth discover their vocations, emphasizing these things should be done TOGETHER: 1) Co-teach with a catechist 2) Visit a convent or monastery 3) Assist missionaries 4) Spend time with parish priests. Note that none of these involve phones or social media. How can you organize real-life activities for youth in your parish?

St. Anne’s CCW

Our **Spring Banquet** will be on May 7th at 6:30 pm. Cost is \$12 and is due by April 30th. Money can be placed in the collection in an envelope marked “Spring Banquet”.

Return plastic eggs to church bins - thank you!

B I N G O				
1	27	33	48	75
8	19	45	56	61
3	18	44	49	69
15	26	41	53	66
2	21	37	46	65

Quilt & Cash Bingo

Newman Catholic Student Center at SIU-Carbondale is holding a Quilt & Cash Bingo on Sunday, May 5th in our Parish Center. Lunch

begins at 11 a.m. and bingo starts at 1 p.m. Win quilts, cash, gift baskets, and raffle prizes!

Together for Mental Health

Free Lunch & Learn April 23, 2024 from 11:30am-1:00pm at Red Bud Regional Hospital’s Auditorium. This free luncheon offers a social period, delicious lunch, and seminar from Maribeth Hollinshead, R.N., and Program Director of Senior Solutions. Register at 618-282-5464.

Memorial Day: Messenger

Memorial Day is fast approaching, and The Messenger hopes to do a story related to this holiday. If anyone has a story to tell about someone they knew or a relative who died in war, please let them know. Send any information to them at editor@bellevillemessenger.org.

They also print the names of military service members who were killed in action (WWII onward) in The Messenger. They have a list from years past, but if they have missed anyone, please send that person’s name, rank if it is known, and the war in which they served and died.

In addition, they would like to include a list of military service people who are presently serving in harm’s way, asking for prayers for their safe return home.

Please submit the information to The Messenger by May 1.

Baptized in Christ

Congratulations to Will & Sara Shepherd on the baptism of their daughter Gentry Joy last Saturday. Welcome to our parish family of faith!

Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal

Your contribution to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Education to impact the lives of over 11,128 students at 25 Catholic grade schools, three Catholic high schools and in PSR (Parish School of Religion) classes throughout our Belleville Diocese. If you haven’t already done so, we prayerfully ask you to consider making a gift to The 2024 Appeal today...no amount is too large or too small! Thank you.

Number of households that have pledged: 81

Amount pledged to date: \$19,615.00

Our parish goal: \$15,731.00. Thank you!

Baptism Preparation Class

All first-time parents who wish to have their child baptized at St. John’s must attend our Baptism Preparation Class. The next class will be Monday, April 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in Church. Please notify the church if you plan to attend.

Blood Pressure Screening

Blood Pressure screening on April 27 (4 p.m. Mass) and April 28th (10 a.m. Mass) here at SJB. Thank you to our volunteers, Jill Valleroy and Michelle Mehring!

Lunch & Card Party

Lunch & Card Party and Bingo, May 7th, St. Luke’s, Belleville. Doors open -10:30am; lunch served - noon; event ends - 3pm. Cost: \$10.00; no reservations required. Cards, Bingo, or any game you choose with prizes. Please bring canned items for the Community Interfaith Food Pantry.

Faith and Poverty: A Biblical Response Through Catholic Social Teaching

Interactive Program on Zoom; 10 Consecutive Thursdays; April 25-June 27, 6-8 p.m. Grounded in Catholic social teaching, this program guides participants in exploring the Gospel’s call to respond to poverty in our communities, nation and world, and equips participants with practical tools to take action in effective and sustainable ways. The program contains extensive resources from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and is encouraged for use in Catholic parishes. For more information, go to wp-content/uploads/2021/07/JustFaith-Catholic-Program-1-Program-Booklet.pdf. Register at <https://justfaith.org/faith-and-poverty-a-biblical-response-catholic-version-st-louis-spring-2024-small-group/>

Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Today, nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support of this appeal helps them meet these faith formation and sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. More info: www.usccb.org/home-missions

Red Bud Community Prayer Breakfast

Annual Red Bud Community Prayer Breakfast, Thursday, May 2nd, Red Bud Regional Hospital Auditorium. Breakfast buffet: 7 a.m.; program 7:30-8:30 a.m. Free will donations accepted; all proceeds to benefit ComWell. Featured speaker: Dr. Marc Kiehna, Randolph County Commissioner & Chairperson, Randolph Society Foundation Board. Seating is limited; please RSVP by April 26th to rbprayerbreakfast@gmail.com or text 618-973-5627.

Gibault News

Summer Camps: Registration for our summer camps is now open! Choose from art, boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' volleyball, and boy's soccer. <https://gibalthawks.com/2024-summer-camps/>

Future Hawk Baseball Tailgate: Cheer on the State Champion Hawks on May 1 at 4:30 p.m.

Liturgical Roles

The next set of schedules will cover June 1st-September 29th. Please notify Rhonda of conflicts by May 3rd.

Thank You to Our Advertisers!

Hi-Way Motor Co.

Soil & Water Stewardship Week

The Randolph County Soil & Water Conservation District encourages you to be a good steward of our natural resources during its annual Stewardship Week celebration. The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) has proclaimed April 28 through May 5 as Stewardship Week.

During this week the districts invite everyone to recognize the importance of forests as they serve an important role in the protection of our soil and water reserves. They are also serving as a vital resource in preventing erosion, purifying contaminants, and nurturing each of the healthy watersheds.

Being good stewards of our natural resources at home and in our communities is an important task for everyone.

St. Joseph BBQ

St. Joseph, Rocher, BBQ on Sunday, April 28th at Red Bud IGA beginning at 10:30 a.m. Enjoy pork steaks & brats sandwiches or plates. Plates come with choice of 2 sides: Sweet & smoky baked beans, homemade potato salad, picnic-recipe slaw.

Spring Rummage Sale

Our Spring Rummage Sale will be: Friday, April 26th (4-9 p.m.; everything priced); Saturday, April 27th (8 a.m.- 6 p.m.; \$5/bag; we have bags); Sunday, April 28th (8 a.m.- 1 p.m.; \$4/bag). Cash or local check with ID only.

Item Drop-Off: Sunday, April 21st (11 a.m.-4 p.m.); Monday-Thursday (8 a.m.-7 p.m.) We do not accept TVs, computers, monitors, printers, keyboards, used mattresses, non-working items, or heavily soiled items. Before dropping off large items, please call the school first (618-282-3215).

You Can Help!

There are several ways everyone can help with the rummage sale. You can donate items, help price and set out items, help unload vehicles as items are dropped off, help with set up and clean up, or make a monetary donation to help defray the costs of advertising and signs.

Thank you for supporting SJB!

The National Eucharistic Revival

Bishop McGovern and the Diocese of Belleville invite you to EMMAUS DAYS July 7 & 8. Come encounter Jesus, the Bread of Life, as the Diocese celebrates the Eucharistic Revival. Sunday, July 7 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows & Monday, July 8 at the Cathedral of St. Peter. Watch the Messenger for times and additional information or go to the Diocesan website: www.diobelle.org

Happenings This Week

Sun.: Kelley baby Baptism after 10 am Mass
 Mon.: 6:30 pm Baptism Prep Class in Church
 Tues.: 8:30 am Bible study in Church; 9 am Mass with students and "Muffins with Moms"; 7 pm Parish Council meeting in the library
 Wed.: 8 am Mass; PSR Session at 6:45 pm in school
 Thurs.: 6:30 pm Cemetery Committee meeting in the Rectory (come in through the breeze way)
 Sat.: 50th Wedding Anniversary of Dennis & Rosie Kapp – Fr. Dennis' sister and brother-law





Mother’s Day Quilt Raffle

Tickets for St. Anne’s Mother’s Day Quilt Raffle have been mailed! Return tickets to the parish office or drop in the collection (mark “Quilt Raffle” on the envelope). You may also stop by the main entrance May 4th and 5th to purchase your tickets!

God is Great!

God is Great! Concert by Christian recording artist, Jennie Williamson, April 28th, St. John’s Lutheran School, Red Bud. Free-will offering dinner at 5 p.m.; concert at 6:30 p.m.

Your Gifts to God & Parish

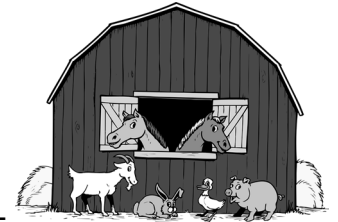
Sunday.....	\$6,986.00
Loose.....	\$503.35
Total (Goal: \$5,866.00).....	\$7,489.35
Adopt-a-Parish.....	\$80.00
Capital Campaign.....	\$160.00
Catholic Communications Campaign.....	\$5.00
Catholic Home Missions Appeal.....	\$55.00
School Endowment.....	\$25.00
School Support.....	\$790.00
Seminary Education.....	\$25.00

Rummage Sale & Bake Sale

Rummage Sale & Bake Sale: Friday, April 26th, 7 am-2 pm and Saturday, April 27th, 7-11 am, inside St. Mary’s Church Hall, Ellis Grove. 30 tables of miscellaneous items. (No clothing).

Spring Farm Blessing

All are invited to join Bishop McGovern for the Spring Farm Blessing, which will be held on Friday, April 26, at 1 pm at Braeutigam Orchards located at 2795 Turkey Hill Lane, Belleville, IL. “Farm Blessing” signs will guide you. Those attending are invited to bring harvested grain, fruit, vegetables and garden produce in sealed, marked containers along with animals and farm machinery to be blessed. You are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the local food pantry. We look forward to having you join us!



Junior Youth Group Today!

Today (Sunday), our Junior Youth Group will be meeting at 2 p.m. Please meet on the south school parking lot. We’ll have a kickball game, snacks, and a meeting.

Faith Flash!

Faith Flash!

Use those super powers!

I don’t follow the comics anymore. But I remember reading them when I was younger. Seems there was always some sort of freak accident or a serum that would cause someone to suddenly have super powers. Spiderman, the Hulk, and Captain America come to mind. Then some were born with super powers like Superman. Wouldn’t it be great to have superpowers? I am writing this Faith Flash on Tuesday. Precisely, it is the Tuesday of Confirmation here at St. John’s. On this evening, we will have the 2024 Confirmation class receiving full initiation into the Church. They have been preparing for this moment for a long time. On this evening, they will receive their superpowers... the gifts of the Holy Spirit! They will leave the church ready to conquer the world (in a Jesus sort of way of course!). This weekend is the first Mass they will attend as fully initiated confirmed Catholics. Be sure to congratulate them when you see them. Pray for them. Let them know how glad you are they are here. It was by no freak accident that the Holy Spirit gave us these gifts: Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, Counsel, Piety, Fortitude, Fear of the Lord. The Holy Spirit knew we would need them. If you are like me, some gifts I leave in the box and never use (hello rummage sale!). The gifts of the Holy Spirit are to be used every day and cherished. Let’s remember to use those super powers!

Dave Hollinshead, Director of Faith Formation