

Fourth Sunday of Easter

MASS INTENTIONS

Thurs., Apr. 29th, 8 a.m.: Jeff "Chopper" DuFrenne, by Ed & May Stelhorn; Vera Birke, by Linda Rickenberg
Fri., Apr. 30th, 8 a.m.: Poor Forgotten Souls in Purgatory, by Carol & family; Clem Wittenauer, by Herb Schaefer & Glenda Zonders
Sat., May 1st, 4 p.m.: Living members of St. Anne's CCW; Bernie Imming, by family
Sun., May 2nd, 10 a.m.: Pat Mavers, by Mavers family; For the Parish

PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

Arline Wittenauer, M. Schreder, Nursing Home Residents, Homebound Parishioners
Names remains for 4 weeks. Call the rectory.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Start each day with a smile.
It just might be more satisfying than a big breakfast.



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The parish support group for mothers-to-be was very popular. There were lots of good tips about preparing for the blessed event, especially about staying healthy during pregnancy. One night the instructor was explaining how beneficial walking was for pregnant women. She told the men that they should encourage walking as an exercise. "You could even go with her," the instructor said. One of the men raised his hand and said, "Would it be OK if she carries a golf bag while we walk?"

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by St. Joseph's intercession your Church may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation, whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PPE ITEM COLLECTION

Knights of Columbus, Fort Kaskaskia Assembly #1287 is collecting PPE items (hand sanitizer, wipes, disposable masks and gloves, etc.) for needy U.S. Veterans in our area for Covid-19 relief. A collection box will be in the rear of Church. All collections will end on April 25th.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Nevois Construction

CCW SPRING BANQUET

CCW Ladies are invited to join us for our annual Spring Banquet on June 1st at St. John's School Cafeteria starting at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be catered by SLAM Catering. Cost per individual is \$10.00, payable to hold your reservation. Reservations need to be in by Sat., May 15th by calling either Carol Schaefer (618-504-9101) or Donna Scheffert (618-282-3200). Please make checks payable to St. Anne's CCW: you may drop this off at the rectory, or in the collection basket. Money can also be mailed to St. Anne's CCW, 515 Locust Street, Red Bud, IL 62278. We hope to see you there!

CSMA

"With confidence in the Lord, I am turning to you today asking for your support of this year's Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. My hope is that your generous response will help our ministries grow and the compassion of Jesus will be experienced more profoundly in our communities." -Bishop Michael McGovern Please consider making your gift today!

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

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, recalling Jesus' promise to protect us from harm, to rescue us when we stray, and to guide us home at the end of the day. Ultimately Jesus laid down his life for us, as he told his disciples that he would do. In the readings today, two metaphors describe Jesus. Peter, drawing upon the words of the psalmist, calls Jesus the cornerstone. He is the foundation of our Christian faith, the one who conquered death and brought salvation to the world. In the Gospel, Jesus identifies himself as the Good Shepherd. He leads and cares for his sheep, even sheep outside the fold, eventually laying down his life for them, and for us. This week, let us reflect on how Jesus is our cornerstone and our shepherd.

This Sunday is also World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray that men and women listen for the Lord's call and respond generously and courageously. Jesus gives us the model of service in his identification as the Good Shepherd, leading, guiding, and protecting his flock. Let us pray for many good shepherds who will care for the flock of the one true Shepherd.

Please read the letter from the Bishop inserted in the bulletin concerning vocations. He has also included a Prayer for Vocations that you can use as a part of your daily prayer.

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

POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO OUR HEARTS

(Our Hope Is Safe and Sound) The Risen Lord is the hope that never fails, that never disappoints (cf. Romans 5:5). Hope does not let us down—the hope of the Lord! How often in our life do hopes vanish; how often do the expectations we have in our hearts come to nothing! Our hope as Christians is strong, safe, and sound on this earth where God has called us to walk, and it is open to eternity because it is founded on God who is always faithful. We must not forget: God is always faithful to us. Being raised with Christ through Baptism, with the gift of faith, an inheritance that is incorruptible, prompts us to seek God's things more often, to think of him more often and to pray to him more.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal! Over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States, including in our own Belleville Diocese. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

GIBAULT NEWS

Prayer Garden Project: Purchase an engraved brick that will be placed in the cross-shaped patio <https://www.fundraisingbrick.com/online-orders/gibaultchs/>

Enrolling the Class of 2025! For more information, contact Kelly Day at 939-3883 or kday@gibaulthawks.com.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD & PARISH

Sunday.....	\$2,849.00
Loose.....	\$184.10
Total (Goal: \$5,866.00).....	\$3,033.10
Home Missions Appeal.....	\$25.00
Capital Campaign.....	\$275.00
Adopt-a-Parish.....	\$25.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$17.00
Good Friday.....	\$17.00
Easter.....	\$42.00
School Endowment.....	\$5.00
School Support.....	\$65.00

"UNITED FOR LIFE, UNITED IN TRUTH"

"United for Life, United in Truth" will take place on May 1. (Rain date May 15), 12-1 pm. Those in the community who support Life are to meet at the Red Bud Dieterich Bank Gazebo at noon, receive a sign and stand or sit quietly/peacefully on the sidewalks near the Red Bud 4-way stop. Participants will be asked to maintain 6 foot distance and wear masks. All participants will be advised to stay on the sidewalk and not enter the streets during the time they are participating. This event is open to all. There is no fee to participate. Please come and show support for ALL Life!

MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is fast approaching, and we at the Messenger hope to do a story related to this holiday. If anyone in has a story to tell about someone they knew or a relative who died during a war, please let us know. Send any information to us at editor@bellevillemessenger.org. We also print the names of service members who were killed in action (WWII onward) in The Messenger. We have a list from years past, but if we 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, we would like to include a list of service people who are presently serving in harm's way, asking for prayers for their safe return home. If your parishioners or loved ones served in Iraq or Afghanistan or Syria and have returned home, we would be happy to list their names among those who receive our prayerful support. **Please submit the information to The Messenger by May 3.** Thank you for your support of The Messenger.



HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

- Sun.: 10 a.m. Mass; First Communion for: Dax Liefer, Claire McClellan, Kourtney Schindler, Sutton Eckart
- Mon.: Re-Open Committee Mtg. cancelled
- Wed.: 10:30 a.m. Mass at the Care Center; PSR Classes 6:45 p.m.
- Thurs.: 8 a.m. Mass
- Fri.: 8 a.m. Mass followed by Rosary and Adoration till 9:30 a.m.
- Sat.: Blessing of the Bicycles at 10 a.m. north parking lot of School

MASS ATTENDANCE

Sat., Apr. 17th: 114 people. Sun., Apr. 18th: 119 people. We have room - join us!

PSR CLASS REGISTRATION FOR THE FALL

Registration forms were handed out to all present PSR students to begin the registration for the Fall Season of Religion Classes. Copies also can be found on the bulletin table in the front entrance of Church. If your son/daughter will be in first grade this fall, you need to pick up a registration form NOW. Help us get ready for the fall sessions. Thanks so much for all your patience and understanding as we made it through the pandemic year. If you have questions, call Amy Deterding at 618-410-1630 or Fr. Dennis at 282-3222.

DRIVE-THRU CHICKEN DINNER

St. Patrick's, Ruma, Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner, May 16th, 11 a.m. on. All dinners include 1/2 fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, coleslaw, roll with strawberry jam. (No special orders or substitutes.) Drive-thru is one-way only; enter at 2 Pioneer Ln. (Adorers of the Blood of Christ entrance) and exit at 1 Pioneer Ln.

MOTHER'S DAY QUILT RAFFLE

St. Anne's CCW Mother's Day Quilt Raffle tickets can be dropped in the collection basket, taken to the rectory, or mailed to St. Anne's CCW, 515 Locust St., Red Bud. Thank you to those who have already sold tickets. Your support is so appreciated! If you need **extra tickets**, they can be found in the breezeway and in the vestibule at church. 1st Prize is a beautiful hand stitched queen size quilt, 2nd prize is an adorable hand stitched baby quilt, and 3rd and 4th prizes are \$50 each.

BLESSING OF BICYCLES

Join the Knights of Columbus as we gather as families on May 1 at 10 a.m. at SJB Social center for a Blessing of Bicycles. The pandemic has pushed many families outdoors together. Bring your bicycles, scooters, and skateboards as we ask for God's blessing on our outdoor equipment and a safe riding season. Then enjoy a nice distanced ride with your family.

LIFE NETWORK BABY BOTTLES

We had a few more bottles come in - our total donated is now \$1,600.15!

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE!

SJB School Rummage Sale: Thurs., May 27th, 3-8 p.m., all items priced; Fri., May 28th, 3-8 p.m., \$4/bag; Sat., May 29th, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., \$3/bag. Masks and social distancing required. Everything sold as is; no smoking/food/drinks/pets in gym. Item drop off: Sat.-Sun., May 22nd-23rd, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and Mon.-Wed. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. (We will not accept computers, TVs, stuffed animals, or non-working items.)

"I WANT ONE OF THOSE!"

SJB school is hosting a new raffle! We hope you will take a chance on the "I Want One of Those!" Raffle. You could win 1 of our 10 amazing prizes. There's something for everyone: a Nintendo Switch, a Roomba, an RTIC cooler, gift cards, & more! Tickets are available by calling the school office at 282-3215.



VOCATION CORNER

Today we acknowledge the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. We implore our Blessed Mother to intercede for us, asking the Lord to grant us more men and women who answer the call to a religious vocation. To quote **Pope Francis**, "Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now."