

**THE
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
OF THE
BLESSED
VIRGIN
MARY**

December 8, 2021

**Masses at
7:00 a.m. 7:45 a.m.
and 5:30 p.m.**



**THE
YEAR
OF
ST. JOSEPH**

**concludes
December 8, 2021**

Church of the Annunziata

9305 Clayton Road - St. Louis, MO 63124 - (314) 993-4422 - Fax (314) 994-7877 - www.annunziata.org

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday (Vigil Mass) 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.
Monday - Saturday 7:00 a.m.

**All Masses are streamed at
www.Annunziata.org**

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.

Holy Communion for Homebound Parishioners

Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Baptism

By appointment, usually on Sunday at 12:15 p.m.
Please call the Rectory for more information.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Please call the Rectory for information.

Parish Staff

Msgr. John Leykam
(314) 993-4422, ext. 211
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Deacon Tom Gottlieb
gottlieb@annunziata.org

Dodie Nelke, Business Manager
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Linda Chartrand, Part-Time Secretary
(314) 993-4422, ext 202
Linda@annunziata.org

Laura Gyawali, PSR Principal
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laura@annunziata.org

Pamela Morse, Part-Time Bookkeeper
(Tuesday mornings)
pam@annunziata.org

Rick Manley, Director of Music & Liturgy
music@annunziata.org

Matt Gremminger, Part-Time Facilities Mgr
(314) 993-4422, ext 220
matt@annunziata.org

St. Vincent de Paul Hotline
(314) 993-8133 ext. 225

OUR WARM WELCOME TO ALL!

We welcome all who come and worship with us. If you wish to join our parish faith family, or have a change in your contact information, kindly complete this form. You can return it to the Rectory, place it in the collection, or give it to a Priest or Deacon.

Name _____

Cell/Phone Number _____

Address/Zip _____

Email _____

☐ Please make the above changes to my parish record.

☐ I would like our Church Family to pray for:

☐ I wish to find out more about the Catholic faith.

☐ I would like to speak with a Priest/Deacon

FROM OUR PASTOR...



A NEW OUTLOOK ON CONFESSION

Congratulations to our Second Grade Girls and Boys in our Parish School of Religion as they receive the Sacrament of Joy for the first time on this Tuesday evening! You may ask, "what is the pastor talking about?" I want to assure you that it is not the Sacrament of Confession, scarcely frequented these days, that is changing. Pope Francis proposes a completely different outlook on Confession, different from the experience of so many Catholics and different from a certain historical legacy.

First of all, Pope Francis indicates that within the Sacrament lies "the remedy" for the moments in life when we are down. Pope Francis asks all of us, "What do you think about when you go to confession? I am almost certain of the answer: sins. But are sins really the focus of confession? Does God want you to approach God by thinking about you, your sins, OR ABOUT GOD?"

Pope Francis proposes something that can provoke a Copernican revolution in the life of each one of us: "I am no longer at the center of the Sacrament of Penance, humiliated with my list of sins—perhaps always the same ones—to be told with difficulty to the priest. **AT THE CENTER** is the meeting with God who welcomes, embraces, forgives, and raises us up. Go to confession as a child of God who comes to receive God the Father's unconditional love! Pope Francis emphasizes, "Hear this well: God always forgives! Do you understand? God always forgives!" We are not going to a judge to settle accounts, but to Jesus who loves me and heals me!"

This new outlook on the Sacrament of Confession proposed by Pope Francis asks us not to remain prisoners of shame for our sins, shame which is a good thing, but to overcome it, because "God is never ashamed of you. God loves you right there, where you are ashamed of yourself. God loves you always!"

To those who still cannot forgive themselves, believing that not even God can do it "because I will always fall into the same sins," Pope Francis says, "When does God take offense? When you go to ask God for forgiveness? No! Never! God suffers when you think God can't forgive us, because it is like telling God, 'You are weak in love!' Instead, God rejoices in forgiving us, every time. When God raises us up, God believes in us as God did the first time. God does not get discouraged. We are the ones who get discouraged, God does not. God does not see sinners to label, but children to Love.

CONSIDER THIS: the Sacrament of Confession—from shame to celebration, from humiliation to joy. This does not come from Pope Francis, but from the **GOSPEL!**

Annunziata Giving Tree

Again this year, we are asking that you contribute gift cards and monetary gifts for those in need. Giving Tree contributions may be dropped in the collection boxes, mailed or delivered to the Parish Office. If you are contributing by check, simply note "Giving Tree" on the memo line of the check.

*Share your Joy with
those less fortunate!*

*Provide
much needed help
for families through
Midtown
Community Services*



*Support the efforts of Annunziata's
St. Vincent de Paul Society---
To bring Christmas gifts to those
who would have nothing under
their Christmas tree.*

*Help the
St. Patrick Center
Bring hope
to people in need!*

*Make Christmas brighter
for the children at the
Annunziata Learning Center!*



THE LITTLE WAY OF ADVENT



Just as with Lent, we see lots of purple during Advent: the wreath candles, priests' chasubles, and other church decor. As Catholics, we know that purple signifies penance, a reminder that a cleansing of the soul is in order to prepare for the coming of Christ. Of course, the most powerful preparation is the reunion of friendship with God through the Sacrament of His Mercy.

We can also prepare our souls by uniting our day to day duties, activities, and let's face it, irritations, with the love of Christ's suffering on the cross. Inviting Jesus to be with us as we do our daily tasks will cause us to live life with great love. This was the Little Way of St. Therese of Lisieux, who let God be her motivation for every action in life, both work and play.

When we make ourselves small and humble, we let go of trying to control our lives and become a blank canvas for God to work through us. Here on earth, our busy days fly by with similarity and overloaded schedules: getting the children dressed, fed, and ready for school, going to work, driving to activities, getting dinner on the table, paying bills, dealing with house issues, managing relationships, and a thousand things in between. Some pretty big challenges can arise in the midst of it all. Meeting our daily tasks with the love of the Father in our hearts transforms ordinary life into something supernatural, and while our day to day may not change, the load will lighten, and the purpose of our journey will become abundantly clear. We will find joy and peace in this practice during our Advent journey and bring the light of the Holy Spirit to our families at Christmastime and beyond.

Please pray for our 2nd Graders as they receive the Sacrament of God's Mercy for the first time on Tuesday, December 7th. Congratulations, 2nd graders!

Christmas break is Sunday, December 26th and Sunday, January 2nd.
Classes resume on Sunday, January, 9th.
Have a blessed Christmas holiday.



Laura Gyawali
PSR Principal

The Parish Office will be closed
Wednesday, December 8th
in honor of the
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary.





THE TRANSFORMING POWER of CONFESSION

Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession, explores the grace and healing offered in Confession and shows how this sacrament of mercy reveals the depth and bounty of God's love. By looking at God's revelation of his mercy in Scripture and making a step-by-step examination of the Rite itself, Forgiven communicates God's invitation to each one of us to come experience his indescribable love in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **GO TO ANNUNZIATA.ORG to join FORMED for free and view this enlightening presentation!**



***Please pray
for all who have served or are
serving in the U.S. Military,
First Responders, Health Care Workers
and everyone impacted by the coronavirus.***

Cadet William Boldt, USMA, West Point
Captain Winston Boldt, U.S. Army
Lt. Col. Michael Butler, Chaplain U.S. Army
Lt. Col. Eric Carlson, U.S. Army
Major Courtney Collins, U.S. Army
LCDR Michael Collins, U.S. Navy
Captain Molly Collins, U.S. Army
2nd LT Norman Benedict (Buddy) Conley IV, U.S.
Army
Major Patrick M. Cronin, U.S. Army
William Donovan, U.S. Airforce
Martin Drakes, U.S. Marine Corps
John R. Driscoll, U.S. Navy
Soosan Good, U.S. Army
Lt. Charles Horn, M.D., U.S. Navy

Clare Lane, U.S. Airforce
1Lt. Robert Mandel, U.S. Army
Col. John M. Oberkirsch, U.S. Army
James Peterson, *retired* U.S. Marine Corps
GSgt. Ryan Rittenhouse, U.S. Marine Corps
Master Sgt. Patricia Roddy, U.S. Marine Corps
Maj. Rommel L. Romero, U.S. Air Force
Chelsea Schaffer, U.S. Army
Frankie Schaffer, U.S. Army
Sgt. Eric Secrease, U.S. Army
SSgt. Anthony J. Smith, U.S. Army
PFC. Nicholas Spangler, U.S. Army
Captain August B. Valentine, U.S. Marine Corps
Sgt. Michael White, U.S. Army Rangers
Cpl. Robert Wigginton, U.S. Marine Corps

Please let us know if there has been a change of rank or active military service, so we can keep this prayer list up-to-date. Please call the rectory to add the name of a loved one who is serving in the military.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18



Pray the Rosary!

Please join us

**Monday through Saturday
 as we pray the Rosary together
 after the 7:00 a.m. Mass.**

From Death to New Life



| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Vita Viviano D'Artega | December 5, 2002 |
| John Shields | December 5, 2016 |
| Zale R. Stratmeyer | December 5, 1981 |
| Charles Cella | December 6, 2017 |
| Mary Ann Cowhey | December 6, 2002 |
| Benjamin W. Lowell | December 7, 2009 |
| Carlos Reese | December 7, 1998 |
| James H. Meredith | December 8, 1988 |
| Mary Frances Horgan | December 8, 2020 |
| Gale Ester Dean | December 9, 2011 |
| William Peter dePenaloza | December 9, 1991 |
| Frances Ryan Hardy | December 9, 1990 |
| Florence Moore | December 9, 1987 |
| Daniel Frances Sheehan, Jr. | December 9, 2008 |
| Cecile J. Schaefer | December 10, 1981 |
| Letitia A. Cassin | December 11, 1988 |
| Helen Grace Catanzaro | December 11, 2013 |
| Sheila O. Griesedieck | December 11, 1999 |

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 4

7:00 a.m. Betty Flynn
 5:00 p.m. Richard & Rita Beckmann

Sunday, December 5

7:00 a.m. Sue Naunheim
 9:00 a.m. People of the Parish
 11:00 a.m. Celebrant's Intention

Monday, December 6

7:00 a.m. Tim & Elizabeth Good

Tuesday, December 7

7:00 a.m. William & Lydia Lackland

Wednesday, December 8

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

7:00 a.m. People of the Parish
 7:45 a.m. Deceased of the Parish
 5:30 p.m. People of the Parish

Thursday, December 9

7:00 a.m. Dan Sheehan

Friday, December 10

7:00 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Genovese
 & Family

Saturday, December 11

7:00 a.m. Rev. Edward Maginnis, S.J.
 5:00 p.m. Sr. Paula Marie Reiter, O.C.D.

Sunday, December 12

7:00 a.m. Celebrant's Intention
 9:00 a.m. Ed. O'Brien
 11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

ANNUNZIATA

LIVESTREAMS ALL MASSES AT

ANNUNZIATA.ORG

ONE CLICK TO CONNECT TO THE CURRENT MASS
 OR TO VIEW PAST MASSES