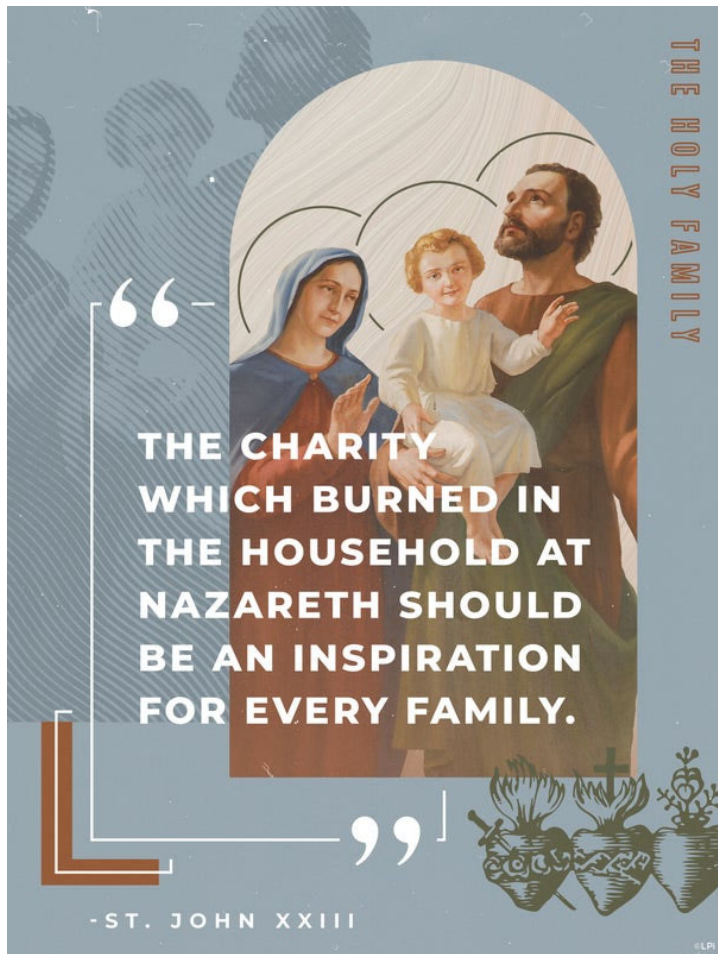


Church of the Little Flower

December 29th, 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph



"We Remember"

"We Celebrate"

"We Believe"

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Eucharistic Community of the Little Flower is to deepen the relationship of its members with God and with each other; to witness to and, therefore, to reveal Jesus Christ and His Good News to the local and wider communities; and to serve as a model of Catholic Christian community valuing the diversity of backgrounds and sharing the gifts of its varied members.

PASTORAL STAFF

Parochial Administrator

Fr. Christopher Rubie
314-645-1445 Ext. 12
frubie@littleflowerstl.org

Senior Associate Pastor

Rev. Lawrence Herzog
314-645-1445 Ext. 15
lherzog@littleflowerstl.org

Senior Associate Pastor

Msgr. William McCumber
314-961-8400 Ext. 114
wmccumber@archstl.org

Parish Office Administrator

Ms. Debra Richter
314-645-1445 Ext. 10
drichter@littleflowerstl.org

Parish Bookkeeper

Ms. Christine Bodus
314-645-1445 Ext. 11
cbodus@littleflowerstl.org

Director of Music & Liturgy

Mr. Chuck Chauvin
314-645-1445 Ext. 16
cfchauvin@littleflowerstl.org

Maintenance

Mr. David Solomon

CONTACT US

St. Vincent de Paul 314-289-6101 ext.2236

Parish Office

1264 Arch Terrace
Richmond Heights, MO 63117
phone: 314-645-1445
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littleflower@little-flower-parish.org

Parish Email

littleflower@little-flower-parish.org

RCIA Email

drichter@littleflowerstl.org

Office Hours

Monday - Friday,
6:45am - 2:45pm

Website

www.littleflowerstl.org

MASS & SACRAMENTS

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday - Friday: 7:00am

Holiday Masses: Please check the bulletin for Mass schedule

Legal Holidays: 9:00am

MORNING PRAYER of the LITURGY of the HOURS:

Monday through Friday: 7:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 4:00-4:45pm or 6:45am-6:55am Monday thru Friday

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS:

Tuesday: 6:45am (before 7:00am Mass)

ROSARY:

Saturday: 4:30am

ADORATION: Friday: 8:00am-5:00pm

BAPTISMS:

Baptisms are a cause for celebration and may be celebrated with the entire parish at one of the weekend Masses. Parents are asked to complete the preparation sessions prior to scheduling the date for the baptism. Please call the parish office to arrange the sessions. A baptism class will be offered monthly on the second Sunday after the 10:30 Mass.

MARRIAGES:

Arrangements must be made six months in advance.

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Friday at 10:00am

Calendar of Events

Monday	December 30
6:45-6:55	Confessions
7:00am	Mass
Tuesday	December 31 (New Year's Eve)
6:45-6:55	Perpetual Help Devotions
7:00am	Mass
Wednesday	January 1 (Solemnity of Mary)
9:00am	Mass
Thursday	January 2
6:45-6:55	Confessions
7:00am	Mass
Friday	January 3
6:45-6:55	Confessions
7:00am	Mass
8:00am-5:00pm	Adoration
Saturday	January 4
4pm-4:45pm	Confessions
4:30pm	Rosary in Little Flower Chapel
5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	January 5
8:00am	Mass
10:00am-10:15am	Confessions
10:30am	Mass

Ministers of Service Jan. 4 & 5 2024

MINISTERS OF SERVICE

01/04 5:00pm ~ K. Thomason Mal. & Mat. Verry
01/05 8:00am ~ Austin & Annelise & Henry Reinagel
01/05 10:30am ~ A. Scherman D. Siegel J. Schibig

LECTORS

01/04 5:00pm ~ Larry Waugh Jackie Waugh
01/05 8:00am ~ M. Boyce D. Bello
01/05 10:30am ~ M. Seal M. Chauvin

THE GUILD of MOTHER ERNESTINE

(Sacristan Helpers)

01/04 5:00pm ~ B. Campeau (Team C)
01/05 8:00am ~ S. Condit
01/05 10:30am ~ J. Osterman

Lessons from the Holy Family

A couple of years ago when I was assigned to my former parish at St. Gerard Majella, I used to visit the atrium classroom for kids enrolled in the parish school. The atrium is an interactive learning environment for children to learn kinesthetically the importance of the Catholic faith through engaging their intellectual and motor skills. These are the building blocks for the pedagogy of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, which I highly endorse for educating children in the faith. During these visits, the children would usually trace or color religious pictures during their quiet, individual working periods. During these times I would join them in these working periods to create my own artwork mimicking what they were doing, but going a bit further. What I ended up creating was artwork I made freehand on my electronic tablet—images of the “three hearts”—the “Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the Chaste Heart of St. Joseph. The children found these works of heart very intriguing and asked questions about why Jesus’ heart had thorns or why Mary’s heart had a sword through it? The visuals were a lesson in itself that led me to explain the meaning and significance of each member of the Holy Family and why their hearts reflected these symbols. In a straightforward way, the kids intuitively understood why these symbols represented the hearts of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Somehow, the artwork helped make the Holy Family more relatable to them.

Shouldn’t the Holy Family—Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—be relatable to us as Catholics, as Christians? The entire mystery and celebration of our Lord’s birth and the wonderment and awe of Christmas is centered around a family. Even in secular celebrations of Christmas, being together with family is lauded as highly valued. While many of us experience the Christmas holiday with family and friends that go beyond Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, this Sunday in the Octave of Christmas should give us pause to reflect on what we can learn from the Holy Family and how family life is one of the most important conduits of God’s love and grace, despite difficulties in many family relationships. Like many families, the Holy Family’s lives were not easy; the pages of Matthew’s and Luke’s gospel clearly indicate this to be true. Certainly, Mary and Joseph came from a lowly town of Nazareth, which was not thought highly of by the Jewish elite. Even during Joseph and Mary’s betrothal (which means they were married but not living together yet), Mary is found pregnant and could you imagine the disbelief from St. Joseph? Yet, through the inspiration of an angelic dream, he believes with complete certainty Mary is with child through the extraordinary power of God. If that’s not enough, this lowly couple needed to arduously travel to Joseph’s ancestral home in Bethlehem to enroll in Caesar Augustus’ census—obviously for taxing purposes made on the Jewish people by the Roman Empire. The trip would have been a traveling nightmare for anyone, especially for Mary late in her pregnancy. Then in Bethlehem, there was no place for them to stay. A simple cave had to be used in which the King of Kings was born in a feeding trough for animals. Yet, in the raw simplicity of this night, the wonderment of shepherds appeared from the fields because they received a message from some angelic hosts.

Eventually, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph would find proper lodging in Bethlehem and be surprisingly visited by three kings from the East. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh would be the gifts they would bring to the infant Jesus. Gifts, undoubtedly, that say Jesus is a priestly-king who will suffer death. Imagine what kind of message this would have on Mary and Joseph? Yet, shortly after the magi’s visit the Holy Family has to flee Herod’s wrath for Egypt. Only to return sometime later to their quiet home in Nazareth.

Just in these experiences of the Holy Family there is a lot to unpack. One thing we can glean from the Holy Family is that they experienced tremendous grace, beauty, and awe at the power of God amidst human suffering. Although Mary and Joseph—yes, even the infant Jesus—experienced human suffering, although they were profoundly holy. Yet, it’s these sufferable experiences that bring out the strength and determination of the Holy Family, which shows their trust in God’s divine providence and love. Perhaps we too should look at our individual and family experiences, no matter how challenging or beautiful they may be, as opportunities to trust in God’s love and exercise the wonderment of how He is bringing good into our lives.

In Christ the Savior,

Fr. Rubie



“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.”

(1John 3:1)

During this season of giving, let us remember a beautiful gift that we have received—being children of God! As God’s children, it’s in our DNA that we share and express our love for others as well. Tell your spouse, children, other family members and friends that you love them, everyday! Also, pray for those people that are different than you, those that you may not like or those that go out of their way to annoy you. Your prayers may be the start of a new friendship.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That as grateful children of God, we remember to tell family and friends that we love them everyday and to Pray for those people that may annoy us.

Amen

Mass Schedule for the Immaculate Conception & Christmas Eve/
Night/Day Masses”

Christmas Eve—St. MM 4:30pm, Little Flower 5:00pm
St. M.M. Midnight Mass

Christmas Day—Little Flower 10:00am
St. MM—7:30am & 9:30am

Solemnity of Mary-Wednesday, Jan. 1st—Little Flower 9:00am
St. MM 5:30pm—Midnight Mass 12:00pm—9:00am Mass

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that if we want to be great we must serve others?

DECEMBER EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES!

For Jan. 5th bulletin deadline is Dec. 27th

Please get your notices in as soon as possible. Thank you!



Did you know that we have Benediction at the end of Friday Adoration?

Most Fridays we are now having Benediction at 5 pm. Please join us to receive a special blessing from our Eucharistic Lord. Even if you are there early in the day for Adoration, you can come back. And if you can only come at the end of the day for a few minutes with Jesus, you are welcome. Isn't receiving God's grace worth a moment of your time?



OCIA LESSON—HOW IMPORTANT IS REGULAR CONFESSION?

Confession is important because it is the normal way we can be forgiven after Baptism. In the matter of grave sin, it is the means of restoring supernatural grace—God's Life—in us. As a minimum for personal Christian life and growth, the Church obliges its members to receive confession at least once a year.

Regular confession is important because it helps us deal with our sins quickly and develop a mature conscience. Regular examination of conscience allows us to know ourselves honestly and modify habitual failures. Confession also gives us actual grace to resist temptation.

Although you may not be convinced that regular confession is ideal, please consider a model of saintliness—St. John Paul II—who did, and received the sacrament of confession every week.

Source: Evangelium

If interested in becoming Catholic, call 314-645-1445 at the Rectory or email drichter@littleflowerstl.org

Holiday Hours for Rectory Office
The Parish Office will be closed
Monday, December 23rd.
Thru Thursday, January 2nd.

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows Way of Lights Run

The Shrine Grounds and Visitors Center
January 1, 2025, 5:00 pm.

What better way to start the year than going through this exciting course while surrounded by a display of over 1.5 million beautiful, colorful and breathtaking Christmas lights!

Join us at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows for our annual 5k Run and

1.5-mile Fun Walk as you welcome in the New Year!!

Cost: Register by December 17 to receive a WOL Run T-shirt and the early you register, the better the price! Pricing now starts at \$35.00 for the Run and \$25.00 for Walk if registered by December 17, 2024. Price increases starting December 18, 2024.

For more information, visit <https://snows.org/wolrun/> or call 618-397-6700.

100% tax credits available to individuals and Businesses. Participate in the MOScholars Program today.

For more information call the Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation at

314-792-7032, visit our website at <https://ttef-stl.org/moscholars/> or scan the QR code.





THE LITTLE FLOWER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY



Dear Little Flower Parishioners,

On behalf of Fr. Herzog and Msgr. McCumber, I want to wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and New Years holidays. I am blessed to serve Little Flower parish over these past six months and look forward to the months and, hopefully, years to come for our parish. Certainly, during this Christmas season there are opportunities to reflect on things over the course of this past year and look forward to what is ahead. Part of this look forward into 2025 is analyzing and summarizing the results of the parish survey.

Now that the parish survey is complete and no longer open for new entries, I want to update you on the next steps in the process. Beginning in January, I will be selecting a small group of parishioners to help me in going through the parish survey data. This data will be collected and summarized by the group and presented for publication to the wider parish. After publishing the summary of the survey data, I will be forming ad hoc committees to strategize concretely how to implement the survey feedback based on the recommendations I approve for the parish. The purpose of the survey is advisory, to aid me in determining the pastoral planning for Little Flower parish. I want to thank everyone who contributed to the survey my heartfelt gratitude for the time and effort you took to complete the survey.

Please know of my continuing prayers for you and your family. May you enjoy the beauty of this Christmas season and, like our patroness St. Thérèse, may each of us rejoice in the little things God does for us!

In Christ the Savior,

Fr. Rubie

ST. MARY MAGDALEN AND LITTLE FLOWER KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



TRIVIA
KNIGHT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025 AT ST. MARY MAGDALEN GYM
CORNER OF BRENTWOOD & MANCHESTER

DOORS OPEN 6:30PM AND TRIVIA STARTS 7:00PM

\$200 FOR TABLE OF 8 (\$25/PER PERSON) *PAY AT THE DOOR*

SODA/WATER PROVIDED SILENT AUCTION AND 50/50 RAFFLE



RESERVE YOUR TABLE BY USING THE CODE OR AT
[FORMS.GLE/MIRGXQNQH1CYGJKUA](https://forms.gle/MIRGXQNQH1CYGJKUA)
QUESTIONS? DAN.FITZGERALD@STMMCHURCH.COM

*Eucharistic Prayer
Companions*

FIRST SATURDAYS



Flowing with the Holy Spirit at the 10th Eucharistic Revival Congress, we are led to invigorate and honor Our Lady's Fatima request for the Rosary and Prayers of Reparation and Conversion on First Saturdays.

You are invited to gather with the Eucharistic Prayer Companions of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (EPC) at various Churches throughout the St. Louis Archdiocese on First Saturdays for Holy Mass followed by these prayers: The Rosary and Reparation prayers the Chaplets of the Holy FACE and of Divine Mercy, followed by 15 Minutes of Silent Meditation on the Mysteries of the Rosary.

Prayer copies will be available at the Church.

Our next gathering:

January 4th Little Flower Church 1264 Arch Terrace, Richmond Heights, 63117.
8am Mass followed by First Saturday Prayers.

Please invite others and share this invitation with your family and friends.

For updated information on future gatherings, please visit our website:
www.CentreForMercy.org/epc.

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us....

"A Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament is worth more than a thousand years of human glory."
 ~ St. Padre Pio



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is held in the Little Flower Chapel from 8:00am to 5:00pm every Friday. All are encouraged to come and spend whatever time you are able to in the Divine Presence of God.

*For more information and/or if you are able to commit to your own weekly hour of adoration, please contact:
 Jackie Waugh (314-704-5619) or Jane McCabe (314-605-6098)*

Mass Intentions

Monday 7:00am	December 30 Celebrant's Choice
Tuesday 5:00pm	December 31 New Year's Eve Margie Meatte
Wednesday 9:00am	January 1 The Solemnity of Mary The People of Little Flower & St. Mary Magdalen
Thursday 7:00am	January 2 Celebrants Choice
Friday 7:00am	January 3 James Feser
Saturday 5:00pm	January 4 People of St. Mary Magdalen & Little Flower
Sunday 8:00am	January 5 Katie Matula
10:30am	Jean Leonhardt

Interested in answering Jesus' call to serve others? Join The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

The society of St. Vincent de Paul provides clothes, shelter, food, medicine and more -and pays for utilities for people in need throughout the St. Louis region. Our personal, one-on-one approach gives people the help they need for today and helps them to see a better tomorrow. We are a Catholic lay organization, leading men and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering service to the needy and suffering. **Join Us.** See Christ in the face of the poor and to bring the love of God to those who are in material or spiritual need. You'll grow spiritually and make friends. **How to join us? Call the rectory at 314-645-1445**

*In your charity,
 please Pray for*

All the souls of the faithful departed, May they rest in peace...

The sick and shut-ins of our parish, especially:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Maria Adderley | Beverly Haffner | John McShane |
| Andrew Blum | Mary Ellen Havard | G. Tracy Mehan |
| John Boland | Louise Haynes | Mary Falk Mehan |
| Maxine Borowiak | Adrianna Hubb | Peg Mango |
| Jaxson Boyer | ChrisLewisHutchcroft | Helen Mango |
| Frankie Boyer | Stan James | Stephanie Mortenson |
| Steve Bradshaw | Rebecca Jenson | David Nathe |
| Joanne Buchholz | Barb Jones | Sr. Jo Ann |
| Ellen Carmody | Chad Keeven | O'Connell, BVM |
| Kathleen Carter | Donald Kenney | Lachlan Oddy |
| Rachelle Chaney | Mary Kinsley | Kristin Rafferty |
| Nicholas Coleman- | Kevin Koeller | Christi Rice Blum |
| Katie Crouch Willett | Joanne Kraus | Sue Rice |
| Clare Crouch | Ken Kuhlman | Marguerite Scheidegger |
| Margie Curran | Jack Lally | James Smith |
| Helena Czosnyka | Julie Lally | Tony Snider |
| Chandelor Davis | Marianne Lally | Hollie Soto |
| James Davis | Jim LaMartina | Matthew Stuart |
| James E. Davis | Patty LaRochelle | Gary Underwood |
| Nathan Glore Davis | Mary Laws | Miriam Varas |
| Patrick Dolan | Everleigh Lauber | Margaret Verzino |
| Bill Edwards | Sherry Lopez | Charles Volk |
| Kathryn Fischer | Greg & Shelley | Billy Wells |
| Bill Flottmann | Lowrey | Joseph Wheeler |
| Peter Freundl | Elizabeth Lyons | |
| Ron Garnier | Emma Lyons | |
| Joyce Griffen | Bob McShane | |

Readings for the week of December 29, 2024

Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 (see a)/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

PLEASE PRAY for our PARISHIONERS and/or LOVED ONES SERVING in the United States Military



- Allen Conrey
 Mollie Conrey
 Rebecca Conrey
 Blaise Coultier
 Alex Garofalo
 Derek Hirtz
 Brian Kloppenburg
 Justin Kloppenburg
 Alexander LaRochelle*

- Maurice Muro
 Ashton Piper
 Christopher Wamhoff
 Jonathon Habbe
 Dashawn Arrendondo
 Ean Eicher*