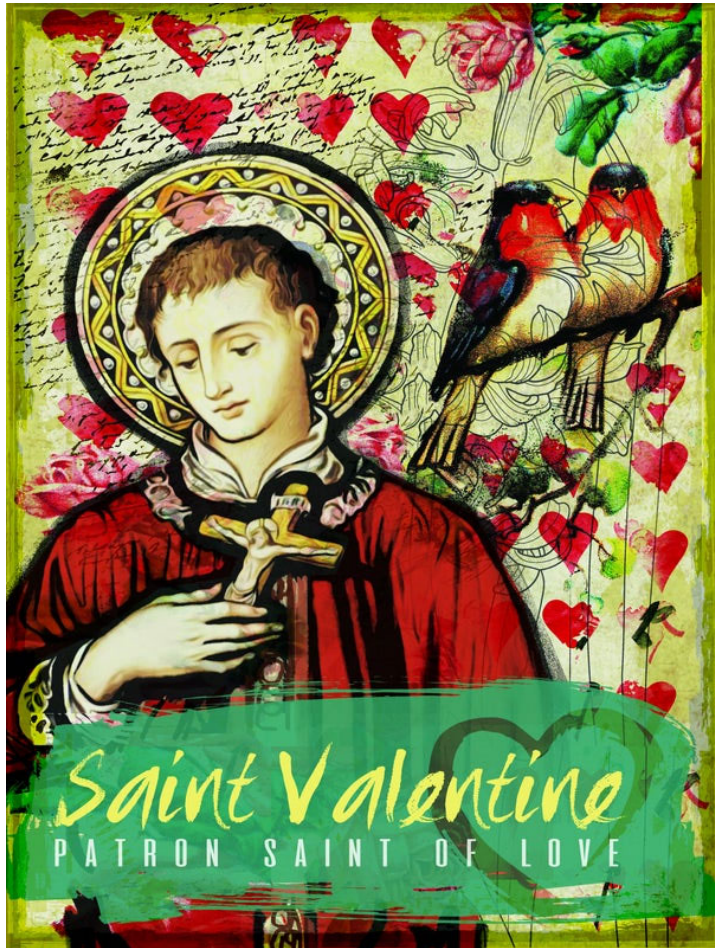


Church of the Little Flower

February 9th, 2025

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



"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

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Richmond Heights, MO 63117
phone: 314-645-1445
fax: 314-645-3258
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

Calendar of Events

MASS & SACRAMENTS

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday: 5:00pm
 Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday - Friday: 7:00am
 Holyday 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

Monday	February 10	6:45-6:55 Confessions
		7:00am Mass
Tuesday	February 11	6:45-6:55 Perpetual Help Devotions
		7:00am Mass
Wednesday	February 12	7:00am Mass
Thursday	February 13	6:45-6:55 Confessions
		7:00am Mass
Friday	February 14	6:45-6:55 Confessions
		7:00am Mass
		8:00am-5:00pm Adoration
Saturday	February 15	4pm-4:45pm Confessions
		4:30pm Rosary in Little Flower Chapel
		5:00pm Mass
Sunday	February 16	8:00am Mass
		10:00am-10:15am Confessions
		10:30am Mass

Ministers of Service Feb 15 & 16 2024

MINISTERS OF SERVICE

02/15 5:00pm ~ Malachi, Mattias & Anders Verry
 02/16 8:00am ~ Liesl & Phillip Armbrrecht M. Hasmann
 02/16 10:30am ~ B. Acosta A. Eppert L. Zylka

LECTORS

02/15 5:00pm ~ P. Keenoy C. Verry
 02/16 8:00am ~ B. Miller S. McDonald
 02/16 10:30am ~ B. & E. Carmody

THE GUILD of MOTHER ERNESTINE

(Sacristan Helpers)

02/15 5:00pm ~ Kitty Toombs **(Team C)**
 02/16 8:00am ~ Sarah Condit
 02/16 10:30am ~ J. Osterman

Our Little Flower Parish—100 Years and More!

Pope John Paul II issued his apostolic letter, *Divini Amoris Scientia* (“*The Science of Divine Love*”), on October 19, 1997 proclaiming St. Thérèse of Lisieux a Doctor of the Church. In this letter Pope John Paul II wrote about the Little Flower, “During her life Thérèse discovered ‘new lights, hidden and mysterious meanings’ and received from the divine Teacher that ‘science of love’ which she then expressed with particular originality in her writings. This science is the luminous expression of her knowledge of the mystery of the kingdom and of her personal experience of grace. It can be considered a special charism of Gospel wisdom which Thérèse, like other saints and teachers of faith, attained in prayer.” Thérèse gained such powerful insight and experience of God’s love for her and for humanity in large part due to the charism the Little Flower received through deep, personal prayer. St. Thérèse’s burgeoning prayer life and deepening relationship with God enabled the Little Flower to blossom into an apostle of love—putting into words for posterity the experience of divine love open to all.

St. Thérèse’s example of discipleship and the missionary apostleship she exuded in love, is the hallmark of Little Flower Parish’s identity throughout generations of parishioners who have blessed this parish and the neighborhood. Looking at our parish website in the section “About Us,” a line stands out about our identity, “She [Thérèse] received [the title of Little Flower] by referring to herself as being only one little flower among many in God’s garden, an indication of her humility and of her awareness of the diversity in human beings. The family of Little Flower parish takes this command very seriously as we attempt to bring Christ to the world and to each other in the spirit of love and humility.” I believe this is our parish identity that transcends generations and is always relevant to the changes our parish undergoes in the course of its 100 years. Like all living things, especially in the process of maturation or transformation, there is a season of growing pains. Thérèse herself would have understood, in comparing herself to a little flower, as going through a pruning process; no doubt she did during her final battle with tuberculosis. Our parish is no different in the fact we too are going through a pruning process where we feel smaller than we did in years past. This is undoubtedly due to the school’s closer and lower Mass attendance in the last five to ten years. However, if we are truly going to model ourselves after the Little Flower, we need to be willing to be pruned as Thérèse herself did.

With this being said I want to move forward creating new growth for our parish. In the next week I will be publishing the parish’s Stewardship Report with the summary of the parish financials for 2024, along with the “status of souls” report that tracks parish registration and sacraments celebrated in 2024. Also, parishioners will be receiving the latest information on parish endowments and non-endowments, together with Jumbo CDs, we currently have on file. I want to disclose full financial transparency with the wider parish on the state of our financial health. This will provide the context for what we can do with our current earnings and what may need to be further supplemented with additional contributions. I have directed the finance council to work with me on getting these financial figures disclosed to the wider parish. I do apologize for taking so long to publish it, but I want to make sure this is done correctly.

One of the things that are on people’s minds is the results of the parish survey completed in mid December. The survey results are being compiled into a reader-friendly summary by an independent resource. I was informed that the survey compilation should be done and sent to me by this week or next week. Once I have the compiled data, I will share it with a group of parishioners I select to advise me on the data for the survey. The survey results this advisory group sees will be the same ones distributed to the parish. I will share with you some of the results of the survey: the development of an early childhood center, bringing back the Latin Mass, a children’s choir and/or children’s Liturgy of the Word, parish community service projects, and catechetical opportunities for adults to grow in their faith. These are a list of a few things that stand out, but I think it’s best to see the results of the survey before we rush to conclusions.

I do want to share with you the scope and direction I see the parish needs at this time. This will put into context the possibility of starting an ECC among other ways to utilize the old school building. First, I am currently reviewing the administrative operations of the parish. Changes may be happening in the coming months that will help to provide the proper administrative support Little Flower parish needs in order to establish efficient communication and to provide proper leadership in the day-to-day operations of the parish. This is especially true for any current or future contractors we will need if we’re to move forward. While I don’t have anything concrete to share with you at this time, this review is essential because I cannot entire-

entirely provide the leadership and communications necessary for the parish's day-to-day operations because I am pastoring two parishes.

Second, the most important building project we have to undertake is fixing leaks on the roof of the church, along with patching any plaster that has fallen in the church and rectory. I am currently getting bids for these repairs, but it is the most important of our building repairs or projects we are currently undertaking. The finance council is aware of this and we are working to resolve this problem. Also, there may need to be updates to our IT system due to most things being outdated—particularly switching away from physical servers to a cloud-based storage system. I switched Little Flower over to Argus Technologies to handle our IT needs. They should be correcting the internet issues on campus and making it more efficient. In addition, there will be a couple of cameras installed in the church for security reasons; I do not have a timeline for this right now, but I will be meeting with Mastor as a possible servicer for our cameras.

Third, we will need to upgrade the facilities in the old school building. The most essential upgrade is the installation of an elevator and creating preschool age bathrooms on the second floor. Without these two additional upgrades to the building I will not approve of an early childhood center. I want to have an early childhood center, but for this to happen and for me to approve of it, we will need to make all the necessary upgrades to the school building for an ECC to be viable. Having an elevator will allow nearly 80% of the building to be used for parish space, which will include meeting rooms and a secondary parish hall depending on how the 3rd floor is configured. I am in discussion with the finance council about these needed upgrades and it may result in forming an *ad hoc committee on facilities*.

Fourth, but certainly not least, is the need to celebrate Little Flower's 100 year anniversary. I am aware of a group of parishioners working on small projects to celebrate the parish's anniversary. One of those projects is to invite Cardinal Timothy Dolan to celebrate Mass at Little Flower at the 5 PM Mass on Labor Day weekend. There are a couple of other initiatives graciously begun by parishioners. I want to thank them for their efforts. I encourage parishioners to come up with ideas for celebrating our 100 year anniversary. Please, share those ideas with me and I'll see what I can do to support your efforts. Many of you have been here much longer than I have in my short time. How do you want to celebrate our parish? Let's be creative and put it into action while the days are getting longer and the weather is getting warmer.

The opportunities for growth and improvement are here for our parish. I believe it! Although things seem to move slowly or appear to be at a standstill, growth is ahead because we're alive and desire so many good things. Yes, we might have to move slowly on things and not rush into endeavors that might be a bit overwhelming. Augustus Saint-Gaudens, an American sculptor in the 19th century, spoke about his art, but could have spoken well for us too: "Conceive an idea. Then stick to it. Those who hang on are the only ones who amount to anything. You can do anything you please. It's the way it's done that makes the difference. A good thing is no better for being done quickly." This is what we will do and we will do it well!

May our patroness, St. Thérèse, pray for our parish and the future opportunities that lie ahead!

In Christ the Savior,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Rubie". The signature is written in black ink and includes a small flourish at the end.



THE LITTLE FLOWER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

*“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying
“Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?” ‘Here I am,’ I
said, send me!”*

(Isaiah 6:8)

Every day, in little ways and in big ways, God asks, “Whom shall I send?” Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry, to give a friendly smile to a stranger or to say a word of encouragement to a friend, God constantly provides opportunities to help someone in need. God is always talking to us; we just need to pay more attention. When you hear God Calling have the courage to walk thru the door and say “Here I am, Lord.”

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That we may eagerly respond, “Here I am, Lord,” whenever we hear God call upon us to be His hands, feet, and voice here on earth.

Amen

Next Sunday, February 16th

Is DONUT SUNDAY!



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—THE SINGLE VOCATION

Every human being is called to a particular kind of service. Marriage is the vocation of most people, although some are called to remain single. Mistakenly, the single life may seem secondary to vowed lives of Marriage or Holy Orders. But, in reality, single men and women enhance the fabric of every parish as leaders of prayer, service or charity.

Although some single members opt to participate quietly, their faithful presence at Mass is vital to the well-being of the parish too.

Ultimately the essential call to single life is Baptism. Christ is the model who “has invited certain persons in this way of life.” (CCC 1618)

Among many, possible parish roles of service include greeters, ushers, choir members, lectors, ministers of communion, OCIA team, St. Vincent de Paul, sacristan helpers, special events' volunteers.

Interested in being Catholic? Please contact Debbie at the Rectory 314-645-1445 or email drichter@littleflowerstl.org

Vocational Chalice



Do you know someone who is discerning the priesthood or religious life? Do you want to spend some time this week praying for our priests? Do you want to pray for guidance in discerning what God is calling you to do for His church? The vocational chalice is waiting for you! Please sign up to take it home for a week or two and pray with it. It is a privilege to host it. You will be blessed for taking part in this important ministry.

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Visitors Center

3-part Scripture Series: God's Justice in the Bible

Presenter: Mark Etling, PhD

**Saturdays, March 1, March 8 and March 15, 2025,
from 10:00 am to 12:00**

noon

Justice is one of the attributes of God that isn't talked about nearly enough. Yet it is fundamental to the understanding of the nature and character of the Christian and Jewish God. God is love – and one of the most important ways God's love becomes real in the world is through justice.

In this three-part series we will examine the justice of God. First, in the Old Testament, or Hebrew Scriptures. Second, through the message of Jesus and his Reign of God movement. Third, we will see how the early Christian movement began to back away from the practice of justice as it cozied up to the Roman Empire.

Cost: \$15 per session / \$45.00 for the series

Register online snows.org/marketling or call 618-394-6281.



Lolly's Place After-School Tutoring

Lolly's Place is *thrilled* to announce that we have launched a second tutoring location at Little Flower. We are very excited to be a part of your community!

Lolly's Place is a holistic, literacy focused, after-school tutoring and mentoring program for children in grades K-8. We work to close learning and academic achievement gaps for children from diverse backgrounds through customized services and one-on-one tutoring. We also infuse our program with a variety of enrichment and experiential learning activities.

To enroll your child, please visit <https://lollysplace.org/tutoring-enroll>.

Feel free to call Mary Pat Gallagher at 314-800-4260 or email her at 2mpg@lollysplace.org

A flyer for the Little Flower Parish Ladies Club. The text is centered and surrounded by a decorative border of pink and red flowers and green leaves. The text reads: "LITTLE FLOWER PARISH LADIES CLUB THURSDAY FEBRUARY 20 ROSARY @ 6:30P in church MEETING @ 7:00P in the parish hall". Below this, it says: "Featured food will be desserts! Let's indulge a bit before Lent begins. We will also have some foods from Richmond Heights restaurants to enjoy. Our speaker will be Amy Hamilton, City Manager for Richmond Heights. Back by popular request! She will let us know of local happenings and take any community questions." At the bottom, it says: "Questions can go to Judy Osterman at osterjudy@att.net or 314-853-8695."

Our parish is offering a convenient service for contributions! Online Giving is a web-based application that allows you to start, stop and change your contributions at any time. Please notice that our offering envelopes now have a check box which indicates "I've given online," which you can use to present during offertory at Mass. Online Giving is very easy to use and requires no special knowledge other than how to access the Internet. If you haven't already signed up, then go to our parish website at www.littleflowerstl.org and select Online Giving or you can register at our parish app.

Simply scan with your smart device. It will take you to the on-line portal of our Website.



"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	February 10 Jacqueline Gates
Tuesday 7:00am	February 11 Jack Kinsella
Wednesday 7:00am	February 12 Patricia Rebman
Thursday 7:00am	February 13 Ronald Aylward
Friday 7:00am	February 14 Celebrant's Choice
Saturday 5:00pm	February 15 Koudjo O Auerelien Akakpo-Lado
Sunday 8:00am 10:30am	February 16 Prospero Duarte Mac & Marita Dryden

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 |
| Margie Curran | Jack Lally | Scheidegger |
| Helena Czosnyka | Julie Lally | James Smith |
| Chandelor Davis | Marianne Lally | Tony Snider |
| James Davis | Jim LaMartina | Hollie Soto |
| James E. Davis | Patty LaRochelle | Matthew Stuart |
| Nathan Glore Davis | Mary Laws | Gary Underwood |
| Patrick Dolan | Everleigh Lauber | Miriam Varas |
| Bill Edwards | Sherry Lopez | Margaret Verzino |
| Kathryn Fischer | Greg & Shelley | Charles Volk |
| Bill Flottmann | Lowrey | Billy Wells |
| Peter Freundl | Elizabeth Lyons | Joseph Wheeler |
| Ron Garnier | Emma Lyons | |
| Joyce Griffen | Bob McShane | |

Readings for the week of February 9, 2025

Sunday: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 (1c)/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c//Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6, (40:5a)/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26

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*