

Church of the Little Flower

January 26th, 2025

3rd 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
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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
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Parish Bookkeeper

Ms. Christine Bodus
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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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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	January 27	6:45-6:55	Confessions
		7:00am	Mass
Tuesday	January 28	6:45-6:55	Perpetual Help Devotions
		7:00am	Mass
Wednesday	January 29		Mass
		7:00am	
Thursday	January 30	6:45-6:55	Confessions
		7:00am	Mass
Friday	January 31	6:45-6:55	Confessions
		7:00am	Mass
		8:00am-5:00pm	Adoration
Saturday	February 1	4pm-4:45pm	Confessions
		4:30pm	Rosary in Little Flower Chapel
		5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	February 2		Mass
		8:00am	
		10:00am-10:15am	Confessions
		10:30am	Mass

Ministers of Service Feb 01 & 02 2024

MINISTERS OF SERVICE

02/01 5:00pm ~ K. Thomason T. Sullivan M. Husmann
 02/02 8:00am ~ Austin & Annelise Reinagel W. Saykes
 02/02 10:30am ~ Clark, George & Rosemary Woods

LECTORS

02/01 5:00pm ~ L. Waugh J. Waugh
 02/02 8:00am ~ M. Gibbs K. Sargent
 02/02 10:30am ~ M. Seal M. Chauvin

THE GUILD of MOTHER ERNESTINE

(Sacristan Helpers)

02/01 5:00pm ~ P. Keenoy **(Team A)**
 02/02 8:00am ~ K. Sargent
 02/02 10:30am ~ K. & S. Toombs

Liturgy is the Work of Christian Unity and Hope

This past Monday our country celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Dr. King was not only a civil rights leader, but he was an important voice for unity among all peoples, whether it be race, religion, or creed. Although MLK was honored on Monday, many of us were conscientious of it being Inauguration Day this year. I assume some of you were watching the Inauguration Day festivities leading up to President Trump's oath of office. I certainly was one of the thousands, if not millions, of people tuning in to the festivities. It was not because of any political reasons I watched the Inauguration festivities; my attraction to watching it was mostly for symbolic and historical reasons. I am a lover of American history and to see the "living" history of the "American experiment" of republican democracy take place with all its pomp and pageantry in the peaceful transfer of power is truly awe inspiring.

Interestingly, I found that while watching the Inauguration take place in the Capitol Rotunda it gave me an interesting perspective that I had not seen in previous Inaugurations. With the space being more intimate and the people being more up close and personable—yes, even to the TV viewer—there seemed to be a united country represented in the people gathered in the Rotunda. The festivities and ceremony surrounding this event, in the heart of American democracy, appeared to transcend political ideology, parties, and petty politics. For just one hour the public work and bipartisan efforts undertaken to showcase the beauty of the United States democratic system took precedence over egos and agendas. It is nothing short of secularized "liturgy" with allusions to God and our relationship and freedom endowed by our creator and also, in one prayer invocation, our redeemer.

This minute reflection on the Inauguration Day ceremony ties in nicely with how liturgy elevates us into unity with God and each other. Not only this but the liturgy also increases our hope for perfect unity with the Lord and the Church, which will be fully realized at Jesus' Second Coming. The first reading for our Sunday Masses this weekend is taken from Nehemiah 8. The historical context of this passage happens to be during the period after the Jewish exiles from Babylon are allowed to return to Judah. The Jews rebuilt the Temple and began to rebuild their lives in their old country, but it's a mere shadow from the glory they once experienced before the Babylonian captivity. The rebuilt Temple is a shack of a place compared to the beauty of Solomon's Temple; they are constantly reminded of the tragedy of what they lost. Understandably, the former exiles are hopeless and despondent. Yet, Ezra and Nehemiah encourage the people to return to worship God, principally in something akin to the "liturgy" of the law. By receiving God's law and the good news of the Lord's covenant fidelity proclaimed to them, the Jewish people, here in this passage, are to find joy in God and the blessings he has in store for them. In a sort of proto-Liturgy of the Word, Nehemiah is stating that the Jewish people are not to forget their problems or sadness, but to offer them to God in sacrifice and receive His covenant fidelity in return. This is what is meant by the "Lord must be your strength" toward the end of the passage.

This is why active participation and repeatedly going to Mass each week is incredibly important. Life is filled with constant struggles, distractions, discouragement, and petty grievances which often drive us away from God, from others—including the people who matter to us the most, and ourselves. Yet, despite the hot mess we might find ourselves embroiled in, or the destabilizing complacency of laziness or spiritual acedia that envelop our attitudes, the greatest medicine for our physical, moral, and spiritual health is the work of the Church's liturgical life. Showing up to Mass each Sunday is a start, but it takes active participation to truly feel the effects of the liturgy and how it leads each of us into greater unity among each other and, as a Church, to God. What is active participation? Prayer, praying with your whole heart! Actively listen to the Scriptures proclaimed at Holy Mass. If you don't understand what is being said, then the best solution is to prepare yourself with the readings before going to Mass. There are a number of reflections for the Sunday Scripture readings for Mass. Offer your entire life and what is currently going on in your life spiritually at the altar when the priest raises the bread and wine to be transformed into Jesus Himself. What you prayed for and offered in sacrifice is now God Himself and he is giving Himself to you! That reality there is more intimate than the greatest of romances!

It takes wisdom and common sense to know that everything that is meaningful in life takes work: marriage, family, building and sustaining a career, a household, and, yes, sporting activities. Why not put work into active participation in Holy Mass, in the Liturgy of the Hours, in your prayer? If each of us did this our liturgies would inevitably lead us to greater unity and we'd be brimming with Christian hope. This is something greater than what can be gleaned from Inauguration Day or a 4th of July barbeque.

In Christ the Savior,

Fr. Rubie

Did you know?

Did you know that St. Therese got the title Little Flower by referring to herself as being one little flower in God's garden. The people who named our church considered it an honor to be one of the first churches in the world to be named for her. She was canonized in May of 1925 the year our parish was founded.

An Organ Concert is scheduled February 2, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. in St. Joseph Chapel located at 204 North Main Street, O'Fallon, MO. Tim Clark, Organist at First Congregational UCC and Holy Infant RCC Church, is the guest organist. The concert sponsored by the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood is free for the public. Freewill offerings will be accepted. The Chapel will be open for tours at 1:30 p.m. before the concert.

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.



"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot Portions to those who had nothing prepared..."

(Nehemiah 8:10)

Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. He wants us to be happy! However God expects us to be grateful for all that He has given us and to generously share our blessings with those who are in need. Now here's the hard part-to share all we have without expecting anything in return.



OCIA LESSON: THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE—A SUPERNATURAL VOCATION

Marriage is that sacrament by which a baptized man and woman are bound together by vows to an *exclusive life-long commitment* to one another and to accepting and raising children. In this sacrament God gives grace for the fulfillment of these duties.

Echoing St John Paul II, Bishop Robert Barron teaches that "authentic married love is caught up into divine love in such a way that the family functions as ...the image of the divine love at work in the world." And from St Paul, marriage is a "symbol of Christ's love for his church."

The essential love of husband and wife passes "beyond eros (sensual desire) to self-giving love."

Why marry in church? "A couple should come before God and his people only when they are convinced that their marriage is not finally about them; that it is, in fact about God and about serving God's purposes." They see that they have been brought together by the divine love to be a radiant sign of that love to the world.

Sources: Evangelium; Bishop Barron—Vatican II Collection

Interested in becoming Catholic? Please contact the rectory 314-645-1445 or drichter@littleflowerstl.org

Adorers Needed

Did you know that Little Flower has weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays? It's true. We have Adoration on Fridays from 8a-5pm. You are welcome to come join us in spending time with Jesus. We could really use additional Adorers from 9-10am, 12-1pm, and 3-4pm. If you're interested in committing to coming at one of these times or being available to sub as needed, contact Jackie Waugh at 314-704-5619 or Jane McCabe at 314-605-6098.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

*That we balance our lives by enjoying the gifts we have been given and generously sharing with those in need, without expecting anything in return.
Amen*



THE LITTLE FLOWER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY



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

Bishop DuBourg Athletic Association: Annual "Mouse Races!" Mark your calendar!

February 1, 2025. Doors open at 6:30pm. Races begin at 7:00pm.

Tickets are \$25 each, or \$175 for a table of 8 and include drinks (must be 21 to attend).

There will be silent auction baskets, raffles and more.

Beverages are included! Sign up today at <https://www.bishopdubourg.org/events>.



LITTLE FLOWER NEWSLETTER

If you would like an announcement or event included in the Little Flower newsletter, please send the information or graphic to littleflowernewsletter@gmail.com.

If you would like to receive the Little Flower newsletter with updates and announcements, please send your contact information to littleflowernewsletter@gmail.com!

THE PARISH THAT PRAYS

TOGETHER,

STAYS TOGETHER!

Little Flower Parish invites you to join us for:

The Rosary Crusade for America and the Church will be prayed every Saturday at 4:30 in the Little Flower Chapel. Whether you attend the 5:00 Mass or just join for the rosary, everyone is invited.

Little Flower on YouTube

Did you know the Little Flower parish is on YouTube? We livestream all of our Masses, Sacred Devotions and Morning Prayer. Please subscribe to our YouTube channel, *Little Flower Parish – Richmond Heights*. Be sure and **LIKE** our videos, and share this information with your family and friends.



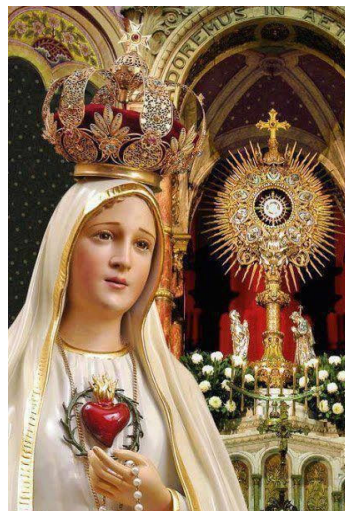
Come Join Us* for

**First Saturday Devotions -
Including Families**

now

at Little Flower Church
1264 Arch Terrace Drive 63117

Mass 9:00 A.M.
followed by Rosary and Devotions
and a Family Program



Mark your 2025 Calendars

February 1st - March 1st - April 5th - May 3rd - June 7th , and continuing....

Our Lady of Fatima spoke to Lucia

"I promise to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite 5 decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for 15 minutes while meditating on the 15 Mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."

We express our prayerful gratitude to Our Lady of Fatima and St. Therese in her 100th year of sanctification as well as to Fr. Christopher Rubie, Pastor, Fr. Lawrence Herzog Senior Associate Pastor, Msgr. William McCumber, and the people of Little Flower Parish for this generous gift of hospitality celebrating the parish's 100th year.

*Eucharistic Prayer Companions of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

"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	January 27 Maureen Stuart
Tuesday 7:00am	January 28 F. Roy Daigle
Wednesday 7:00am	January 29 Maggie Welby
Thursday 7:00am	January 30 Mary Janet Kinsella
Friday 7:00am	January 31 Kenneth McHaynes
Saturday 5:00pm	February 1 Christopher Bub
Sunday 8:00am	February 2 Mary Kitta
10:30am	Angela Zylka

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 January 26, 2025

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 (see Jn 6:63c)/1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

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*