

Church of the Little Flower

April 6th, 2025

5th Sunday of Lent



"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
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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

1264 Arch Terrace
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
 First Saturday: 9:00am

Offered by Eucharistic Prayer Companions JMJ

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	April 7	6:45-6:55	Confessions
		7:00am	Mass
Tuesday	April 8	–Parish Office Closed	
		6:45-6:55	Perpetual Help Devotions
		7:00am	Mass
Wednesday	April 9		
		7:00am	Mass
Thursday	April 10	6:45-6:55	Confessions
		7:00am	Mass
Friday	April 11	6:45-6:55	Confessions
		7:00am	Mass
		8:00am-5:00pm	Adoration
Saturday	April 12	4pm-4:45pm	Confessions
		4:30pm	Rosary in Little Flower Chapel
		5:00pm	Mass
Sunday	April 13		
		8:00am	Mass
		10:00am-10:15am	Confessions
		10:30am	Mass

Ministers of Service April 12 & 13 2025

MINISTERS OF SERVICE

04/12 5:00pm ~ K. Thomason T. Sullivan M. Hussmann
 04/13 8:00am ~ A. Scherman A. Eppert Mat. Verry
 04/13 10:30am ~ M. Dietz W. Dietz D. Dietz

LECTORS

04/12 5:00pm ~ L. Bub M. Hazelwood
 04/13 8:00am ~ M. Gibbs K. Sargent
 04/13 10:30am ~ R. Provaznik C. Flottmann

THE GUILD of MOTHER ERNESTINE

(Sacristan Helpers)

04/12 5:00pm ~ A. Lewis & P. Williams **(Team B)**
 04/13 8:00am ~ R. Jacknewitz
 04/13 10:30am ~ C. Flottmann

Checkmate! Jesus' Chess Match of Mercy

Most people I assume love or hate to play a game of chess. Those who love it are enamored by the strategy and skill it takes to place their opponent in the trap of being “checkmated.” Others, particularly if you don’t like playing chess, balk at how long the game takes to play and the delay one’s opponent might take to move a pawn or a bishop on the board. If you’re one of those individuals who love and appreciate the game of chess, you will either love to utter the word, or dread hearing the word, “checkmate!” Once this word is said, it is obvious one’s king is caught in the trap. Whimsically, it reminds me of Admiral Ackbar in *Star Wars’ Return of the Jedi* when he announces the Empire’s counter-offensive, “It’s a trap!” Nobody wants to be caught in a trap—certainly not in *Star Wars* nor in a chess game.

This weekend the Church commemorates the 5th Sunday in Lent. Traditionally this Sunday is called Passiontide because we’re entering into the final lap of our Lenten journey before Holy Week. It is a significant time to consciously reflect and meditate on Our Lord’s approaching journey toward His paschal mystery. It is customary for statues and sacred art to be veiled during this weekend through Triduum. By being temporarily deprived of the beautiful works of art and statuary in many churches, the faithful are encouraged to soberly meditate on the Scriptures accompanying us on our spiritual walk with Jesus to His Cross. What better Gospel passage to meditate on this week than what the Church provides us for this Sunday. Here, in John 8:1-11, the Pharisees and scribes bring to Jesus a question, imploring Him to answer a very daunting conundrum: “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of adultery. Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?” Interestingly, the Pharisees and scribes tell Jesus this woman was caught in the act of adultery. However, why is she being placed on trial before Jesus and not the man as well? Mosaic law would hold both lethally accountable for the act of adultery. It is possible that the woman supposedly caught in adultery was a hired actor in order to fictitiously set Jesus up for a trap. But what is the trap? How are the Pharisees and scribes trying to entrap Jesus with an answer to their question placed before him? It would be good to set up the context for why they are asking the question to Jesus and the scene where this is taking place.

It appears that Jesus could only answer “yes” or “no” to executing the woman due to her supposed grievous sin. If Jesus answered “yes” to executing the woman because the Mosaic law prescribed such a punishment, the Pharisees and scribes could go directly to the Roman officials and claim that Jesus is guilty of an act of sedition because only the Roman empire had the right to enforce the death penalty. This would surely lead to Jesus being executed by the Roman authorities. After all, this scene took place in the Temple precinct and the Roman empire built a towering fortress adjacent to the Temple, in which they were hawk-eyeing everyone around the area. It would have been easy to arrest Jesus on the spot! However, if Jesus would have answered “no” to executing the woman, the Pharisees and scribes would have gone to pious Jews and had reason to discredit Him as cherry-picking what He likes, or finds more advantageous, about the Mosaic law. This would cause Jesus’ reputation for piety and obedience to be defamed. Consequently, it seems that Jesus is set up for a trap. Checkmate! It appears that Jesus has no way out. But Our Lord has outwitted these foxes!

Perhaps before Jesus stood up straight to answer the Pharisees’ persistent question, He was writing on the ground the sins of those seeking to trap Him. As Jesus stood up, He exclaimed, “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” It was a brilliant response to their question—knowing full well their covert trap. Jesus turned the tables on the Pharisees and scribes, reversing the fortunes of this chess match. Jesus knew the Pharisees and scribes thought of themselves as removed from sin; to admit publicly they are sinners is to identify with those who publicly were regarded as sinners. This was simply impossible to do given their pride, self-righteousness, and self-absorption. However, if they too sought to execute the woman, they would incur the same punishment from the Roman authorities as they tried to do against Jesus: it would be regarded as an act of sedition. Realizing they had been outwitted by Jesus in their dialogue with Him, they left one-by-one until Jesus and the woman were left alone. Checkmate on the Pharisees and scribes; Our Lord has won this chess match.

Yet, the Gospel this weekend isn’t simply about showing how smart Jesus exercised His wit and wisdom. In fact, the chess match with the Pharisees and scribes was to underscore His mercy, especially toward the woman in this biblical scene. All of us can relate to the woman on one level or another due to our own sinful behavior. Regardless of whether the woman committed adultery or if she was a paid actor in this attempted trap, Our Lord implores her to seek forgiveness and to be mercifully set free from the darkness and isolation of her sin. The woman’s accusers are gone; Jesus has the power, and demonstrated the power, to drive out her accusers who only wanted to inflict pain, suffering, and death. Finally alone with Jesus, the woman is set free and has a new lease on life. We too have, and can, receive the benefits of Jesus’ mercy and love. He can clear away the greatest accuser of them all—Satan and his dominion—by driving them away like chess pieces plucked from the chess board of life!

In Christ the Savior,

Fr. Rubie

"For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ..."

(Philippians 3:8)

The first commandment says that we should not put other Gods before the Lord. Sharing all of our gifts-our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works, and our treasure to support the Church helps us keep God first in everything. It helps us from putting other gods before God. It helps us from becoming a slave to our possessions. It helps us to use our gifts for the glory of God and not for the glory of ourselves.

Did You Know?

Did you know the price originally paid for the land on which our church is built was \$15,000? It is worth a lot more now!

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES!

Bulletin for April 13th is due Monday, April 6th
Bulletin for April 20th (Easter Sunday) is due Thursday, April 10th. Please get all notices for the bulletin in as early as possible.

**SATURDAY
APRIL 12
9:00AM-1:00PM**

HELP CLEAN THE CHURCH FOR THE EASTER SEASON! AS MUCH TIME AS YOU CAN GIVE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

MEET IN THE RECTORY MEETING ROOM FOR COFFEE AND DONUTS BEFORE WE GET STARTED. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BUCKETS AND RAGS TOO.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP TO KEEP LITTLE FLOWER BEAUTIFUL!

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That we keep God first in everything and not put other gods before God.

Amen



OCIA LESSON: THE EUCHARIST IS HOLY COMMUNION

Do you remember your First Holy Communion? How you prepared and longed for receiving Jesus? The Eucharist is spiritual food at the sacred meal—the Mass. Jesus commanded “Take this, all of you and eat it... Take this... and drink from it.” (Mt 26:26) By consuming his life, we become like him, and he dwells within us. Holy Communion thereby expresses two realities—intimacy with Christ and unity with the whole church. (Cor 10:17) As St. Paul taught: “Because the loaf of bread is one, we many though we are, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.”

Be assured that Jesus longs for us to receive him to be nourished in the divine life.

Source: Evangelium

You are invited to join the Catholic Church. Please call 314-645-1445 for more information or email drichter@littleflowerstl.org

Vocational Chalice



Vocational Chalice

Stop by the All Souls Chapel to see the vocational chalice. It is on display there to remind us all to pray for our priests during this critical time for our parish and our archdiocese. We should pray for our current priests as well as young men and women who are discerning vocations. If you are interested in hosting the chalice in your home, simply sign the sheet and take it home with you for a week or two. It is a great prayer ministry for Lent. If you have questions, contact Jackie Waugh at 314-704-5619 or jwaugh123@charter.net.



THE LITTLE FLOWER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

The Parish office will be closed on Tuesday, April 8th due to some interior maintenance on the rectory. Thank you for your patience.

ARCHDIOCESAN LENTEN REGULATIONS

The Church has always helped us fulfill these words of Jesus by prescribing very definite penance for all Catholics, so that we too might have Eternal life. Accordingly, the Pope and the American Bishops have outlined obligatory fast and abstinence as follows:

Ash Wednesday (Wednesday March 5th, 2025) and Good Friday (April 18th, 2025) are days of *abstinence (refraining from meat)* for all Catholics *from the age of 14 onwards*. On these two days, *fast*, as well as *abstinence*, is also obligatory for those *from the ages of 18-59*. Abstinence means refraining from meat. Fast means one full meal a day, with two smaller meals and nothing between meals (liquids are permitted). No Catholic will lightly excuse himself or herself from this obligation.

All Fridays in Lent are days of *abstinence* from meat. Here again Catholics will not hold themselves lightly excused, but if there is a serious health problem, this obligation would not apply.

First Saturday Devotions

April 5th, May 3rd, June 7th, July 5th, August 2nd
and continuing...

Mass at 9:00am
followed by Rosary, Devotions
and a Family Program



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."

Little Flower Church
1264 Arch Terrace
St. Louis MO 63117

For more information go to:
www.centreformercy.org/epc or contact
epc.jesusmaryandjoseph@gmail.com

Please Join Us in Supporting BIRTHRIGHT

By Attending the St. Clement of Rome & St. Gerard Majella's Annual
GAME & CARD PARTY LUNCHEON

Raffle Items – Attendance Prizes – Pot of Gold

Come play any game you like or just come for **LUNCH**

Tuesday April 8th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

St. Clement's Parish Center, 1508 Bopp Road, Des Peres, 63131

The cost per person is **\$35.00**. **Please Make your Reservation by April 1st**

Send your name, those playing with you & your check made out to "Birthright Counseling STL" to:
Birthright Counseling STL, 2525 South Brentwood Blvd. #102, 63144 Attention: Card Party

OR Click on the following website to register & pay with a credit card:

https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/BirthrightCounselingStLouis_1/springcardparty.html

*** **If you have dietary restrictions, please inform us in advance!**

Questions? Call or Text Jane @ 314-570-6880

HOLY MASS

Is the Lord calling you to come to Mass an extra day of the week? Mass is prayed in the Little Flower chapel every week-day at 7:00am.



Polyhymnia

Choral Summer Camp

Beginner to Advanced Singers, Ages 10-17

Sacred Music, Vocal Technique, Choir Performance and More



JULY 7-11 9AM -1PM

\$40 per singer, discounts for additional siblings



Little Flower Church

1264 Arch Terrace, Richmond Heights, MO 63117

Visit the [EVENTBRITE](#) website for more details.

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.



ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

BUILD MY CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Help provide scholarships to students attending Catholic Schools!

100% tax credits are 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.



Do you want to know a great way to make this Lent even better? Listen to Catholic Radio! Shut off the noise and listen to solid Catholic teaching, prayers, and call-in programs. You can listen on a smart speaker, tell Alexa to play **Covenant Network Catholic Radio**, on our App, **Covenant Network**, online at **Our-CatholicRadio.org**, or on your local Catholic radio station, **AM 1460 / 96.7 FM**. Make this a Lent to remember. Pray the **Visual Rosary** with sacred images for each prayer and the **Stations of the Cross**.

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?

"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	April 7 Betty Smith
Tuesday 7:00am	April 8 Kevin Buckley
Wednesday 7:00am	April 9 Judy McLaughlin
Thursday 7:00am	April 10 Rodney Flottmann
Friday 7:00am	April 11 Oliver Phillip Campeau
Saturday 5:00pm	April 12 Members of the Shultz Family
Sunday 8:00am	April 13 Katie Matula
10:30am	Barbara Zaegel

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**

Readings for the week of April 6, 2025

Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/ Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11 **Scrutiny:** Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42 **Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49

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

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*