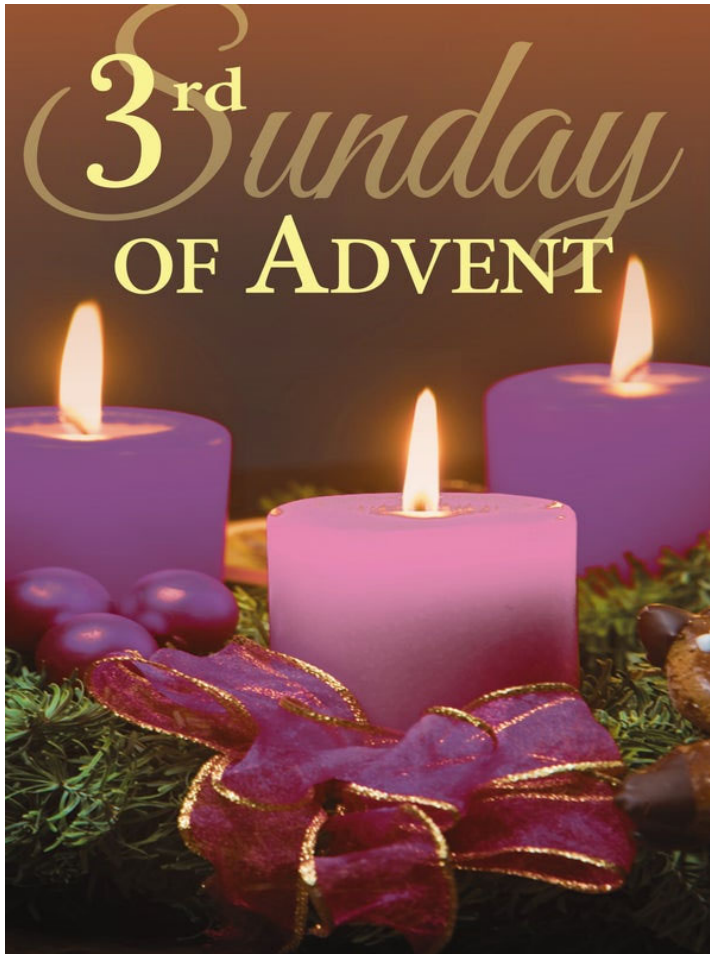


Church of the Little Flower

December 15th, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent



"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
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Senior Associate Pastor

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Senior Associate Pastor

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Parish Office Administrator

Ms. Debra Richter
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Parish Bookkeeper

Ms. Christine Bodus
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Director of Music & Liturgy

Mr. Chuck Chauvin
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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

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

Calendar of Events

Monday		December 16	
	6:45-6:55	Confessions	
	7:00am	Mass	
Tuesday		December 17	
	6:45-6:55	Perpetual Help Devotions	
	7:00am	Mass	
Wednesday		December 18	
	6:45-6:55	Confessions	
	7:00am	Mass	
Thursday		December 19	
	6:45-6:55	Confessions	
	7:00am	Mass	
Friday		December 20	
	6:45-6:55	Confessions	
	7:00am	Mass	
	8:00am-5:00pm	Adoration	
	6:30pm	Chesterson Lessons & Carols	
		In Church	
Saturday		December 21	
	4pm-4:45pm	Confessions	
	4:30pm	Rosary in Little Flower Chapel	
	5:00pm	Mass	
Sunday		December 22	
	8:00am	Mass	
	10:00am-10:15am	Confessions	
	10:30am	Mass	

Ministers of Service Dec. 21 & Dec. 22, 2024

MINISTERS OF SERVICE

12/21 5:00pm ~ P. Armbrecht L. Armbrecht L. Allman
 12/22 8:00am ~ Austin, Annelise, & Henry Reinagel
 12/22 10:30am ~ B. Acosta S. Donovan D. Spiegel
 12/24 5:00pm ~ P. McClure J. Schibig Curran
 12/25 10:30am ~ **Volunteers Requested**

LECTORS

12/21 5:00pm ~ L. Bub M. Hazelwood
 12/22 8:00am ~ T. Serena J. Osterman
 12/22 10:30am ~ R. Provaznik C. Flottmann

12/24-5:00pm & 12/25-10:30am Volunteers Needed

THE GUILD of MOTHER ERNESTINE

(Sacristan Helpers)

12/21 5:00pm ~ B. Campeau **(Team A)**
 12/22 8:00am ~ K. Sargent
 12/22 10:30am ~ K. & S. Toombs
 12/24 5:00pm ~ Volunteer requested
 12/25 10:30am ~ B. Campeau

Sing and Shout Out for Joy!

Today is “Gaudete Sunday” and it’s time to light the pink, or “rose,” candle on our Advent wreath. Also, it’s the rare time to see the priest and deacon at Mass wear the pink or rose vestments. Traditionally, the Church allows flowers to modestly adorn the altar on Gaudete Sunday. For those of you that don’t know what “Gaudete” means, it is simply the Latin word for “Joy” or “Rejoice.” Since we’re past the midway point in the Advent season, we rejoice that Christmas is coming soon. Shortly after or on Gaudete Sunday is December 17th; this is when the Church’s liturgy starts to turn to explicit prophecies in the Old Testament about our Lord, His birth, and His imminent coming to save His people. I particularly love evening prayer during the period of December 17th–December 23rd. It’s when the “O Antiphons” are said or sung before and after the Magnificat (i.e., the Canticle of Mary). Each of these O Antiphons tells a beautiful description and prophecy about the infant Jesus. It always adds joy and anticipation to the coming of Christmas season. I encourage you to participate in the Church’s evening prayer and experience for yourselves the beauty of the O Antiphons.

Since our Scripture readings for this Sunday are mostly about “shouting” and “crying out” with joy and gladness, it occurs to me what this looks like not only for myself, but for most people. When do we “shout” and “cry” for joy in our life? How does this experience relate to your faith and eagerness to encounter Jesus in a deeper, more personal way? As I write this bulletin column I am currently on a trip in Edmonton, Alberta. I love coming up here and watching my favorite hockey team play at their home arena. One particular thing I love about watching Oilers games at Rogers Place (their home arena) is the Horn and Brass band that plays during game stoppage and during intermissions by going around the arena. I had the opportunity to see and hear them playing during the second intermission while the Oilers had a comfortable lead in the game. Good vibes, a winning score, and jubilant live music caused people to get out their phones and record people dancing, smiling, and having a great time. The joy and hope of winning the game was palpable. It made me realize that while this is true of a hockey game, it can be true of our lives more broadly. Could we truly experience joy and hope to the same degree, if not more, than Oilers fans eagerly anticipating winning the hockey game—with literally all the horns, brass, and pipes to accompany that joy? The answer is resounding “yes!”

If our first reading from the prophet Zephaniah makes it clear that, despite most of his condemnation of God’s people for their idolatry and coldheartedness, God will restore His people to an experience of richness, beauty, and purpose that exceeds the “good times” they took for granted and lost. The restored dignity God’s people will receive, according to Zephaniah, will cause God to sing “joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.” This statement at the end of our first reading should be taken to heart: many people don’t experience joy and hope in their lives because they don’t think they are worth rejoicing in. The most joyless people are ones who are convinced others don’t rejoice or find joy in them as a person. Not only that, but they believe God doesn’t rejoice in them despite their sins and failures. This is hardly the truth because God takes delight in each of us. Yet, he also calls all of us into deeper communion with Him and each other. This can be done by participating in personal prayer and the Church’s liturgical and devotional practices with an increasing open mind and heart. In short, the more you and I are engaged in the Advent season, or any time of the year, in personal prayer and commutative prayer we’ll experience a growth in hope, peace, and joy. Going through the motions is not enough; we need to be engaged in our faith and worship of our savior king.

The Lord Jesus is coming soon! Bring out the tambourines, trombones, and saxophones because we should be joyful as one who sings at festivals!

In Christ the Savior,

Jr. Rubie



“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your request known to God.”

(Philippians 4:6)

St. Paul reminds us that God is an abundant God—He is the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. Remember, that we are created in God’s image and likeness. We, too, are made to be generous with all our gifts as well. Placing our trust in God frees us from being a slave to possessions. It allows us to gratefully and generously share ourselves and our goods with others.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That we may take time everyday to show our gratitude to God, who is the ultimate giver of all gifts.

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

**Thank you for
supporting
Santa’s Workshop!
We are incredibly
grateful to everyone
who volunteered their
time or donated gifts.
With your help, the
event was
wonderful
for our students!**



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the reason for the rose color on the third Sunday of Advent is to remind us to rejoice for He is near?

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 --CONFESSION: A TOOLBOX OF SPIRITUAL HEALING

Sin is a deliberate evil action: a thought, word, deed or omission contrary to God's will. It either perverts some aspect of our human nature—such as being greedy, slothful or lustful or violates some explicit command from God, i. e., keeping Sunday holy.

Many sins wrong our neighbor. One must do what is possible to repair the harm (e.g. return stolen goods, restore the reputation of someone slandered, pay compensation for injuries). Sin also injures and weakens the sinner as well as one's relationship with God and neighbor.

Although absolution takes away sin, spiritual healing results from making amends, by doing penance. It should correspond with the nature of the sins committed and can consist of prayers, works of mercy, service of neighbor, voluntary self-denial. This spiritual toolbox is filled with God's limitless mercy and forgiveness.

Source: Evangelium

*Be Catholic—for information contact Debbie at the Rectory
314-645-1445 or drichter@littleflowerstl.org*

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.



No Little Flower Holy Hour ☒

In December, we will join the Advent Holy Hour/ Confession service at Mary Magdalen on December 18th from 6-9pm in the spirit of collaboration. All of our priests will be there. . It is important for us to work together as a pastorate when the opportunity presents itself. Please join us in supporting this beautiful tradition. All are welcome!

String Orchestra Holiday Concert by Clayton School District directed by Ariana Wood is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 21 at 3:00 p.m. in St. Joseph Chapel located at 204 North Main Street, O'Fallon, MO. The event 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.



THE LITTLE FLOWER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

DECEMBER EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES!

For Dec. 22nd bulletin deadline is Dec. 12th
For Dec. 29th bulletin deadline is Dec. 20th
For Jan. 5th bulletin deadline is Dec. 27th

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

Christmas Country Church Tour Announcement

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (Saint Mary's of the Barrens Church) in Perryville, Missouri, will once again be participating in the Christmas Country Church Tour along with 38 other churches and chapels. The tour will take place on December 19 and 20, from 2:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. All of the participating churches welcome visitors to view their Christmas decorations and to spend a few moments in silent prayer during the Advent season. Here at the Shrine, a tree will be decorated with prayer petitions from local students. There will be live music both nights from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served in the Visitor Center, where unique Christmas items, including nativity sets, will be on display. If you have any questions, please call the Association of the Miraculous Medal at 1-800-264-6279 or visit our website at www.amm.org. We look forward to your visit.

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.

CHESTERTON ACADEMY
OF ST. LOUIS

The students of Chesterton Academy invite you to our

Festival of
**LESSONS
& CAROLS**

DEC | 20 | 7 PM

Little Flower Catholic Church
1264 Arch Terrace, 63117

Cookie Reception to follow



The Giving Tree will be up in St. Joseph's Chapel.

We are asking for donations of gift cards-some ideas are Walmart, Aldi, or Schnucks.

Gift cards may be placed in the offertory basket at mass, or in the rectory mailbox.

We ask for your continued prayers for our neighbors in need. Thank you!

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

TRIVIA KNIGHT

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 gatherings:

December 7th St. Alban Roe Church 2001 Shepard Road, Wildwood, 63038. Confessions 7:30-8:15. Mass 8:30am
First Saturday Prayers.

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 16 Thomas E. Muerller
Tuesday 7:00am	December 17 Katie Matula
Wednesday 7:00am	December 18 Kathryn "Mickey" Franke
Thursday 7:00am	December 19 Larry Waugh
Friday 7:00am	December 20 Jean Leonhardt
Saturday 5:00pm	December 21 Remo Beffa
Sunday 8:00am 10:30am	December 22 People of Little Flower & St. Mary Magdalen 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 | Chris Lewis Hutchcroft | Helen Mango |
| Frankie Boyer | Stan James | Stephanie Mortenson |
| Steve Bradshaw | Rebecca Jenson | David Nathe |
| Joanne Buchholz | Barb Jones | Sr. Jo Ann |
| Marissa Campeau | Chad Keeven | O'Connell, BVM |
| Ellen Carmody | Donald Kenney | Lachlan Oddy |
| Kathleen Carter | Mary Kinsley | Kristin Rafferty |
| Rachelle Chaney | Kevin Koeller | Christi Rice Blum |
| Nicholas Coleman- | Joanne Kraus | Sue Rice |
| Katie Crouch Willett | Ken Kuhlman | Marguerite Scheidegger |
| Clare Crouch | Jack Lally | James Smith |
| Margie Curran | Julie Lally | Tony Snider |
| Helena Czosnyka | Marianne Lally | Hollie Soto |
| Chandelor Davis | Jim LaMartina | Matthew Stuart |
| James Davis | Patty LaRochelle | Gary Underwood |
| James E. Davis | Mary Laws | Miriam Varas |
| Nathan Glore Davis | Everleigh Lauber | Margaret Verzino |
| Patrick Dolan | Sherry Lopez | Charles Volk |
| Bill Edwards | Greg & Shelley | Billy Wells |
| Kathryn Fischer | Lowrey | Joseph Wheeler |
| Bill Flottmann | Elizabeth Lyons | |
| Peter Freundl | Emma Lyons | |
| Ron Garnier | Bob McShane | |

Readings for the week of December 15, 2024

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Friday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

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