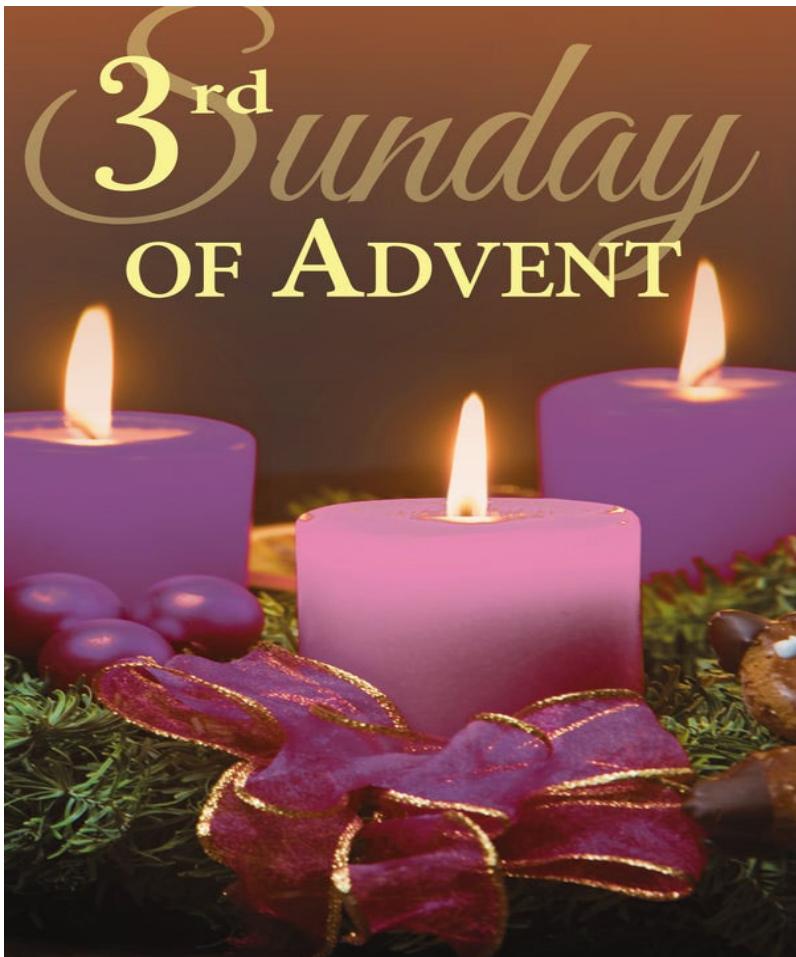


Church of the Little Flower

December 17, 2023



*"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.

3rd Sunday of Advent

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Msgr. Timothy Cronin
314-961-8400 Ext. 101
msgrcronin@gmail.com

Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Lawrence Herzog
314-645-1445 Ext. 12
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

New Latin Mass Ms. Regina Morris,
Music morrisrp@swbell.net

Custodian Mr. Leonard Goff

School Administration

Principal Gloria Openlander
314-781-4995
gopenlander@littleflowerstl.org

Administrative Asst Ms. Lisa Chassaing
314-781-4995
lchassaing@littleflowerstl.org

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

School Office 1275 Boland Place
Richmond Heights, MO 63117
phone: 314-781-4995

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
Sunday, Latin Mass: 9:15am
Liturgy of the Word for Children at 10:30am Mass during the school year

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday - Friday: 7:00am
Saturday: 8:00am
Holyday Masses: Please check the bulletin for Mass schedule
Legal Holidays: 9:00am

School Mass: 8:15am Wednesdays (during school year)
MORNING PRAYER of the LITURGY of the HOURS:
Monday through Sunday: 7:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 4:00-4:45pm or by appointment and before every Mass

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS:

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

ROSARY:

Saturday: 8:30am

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.

Calendar of Events

MASSES WILL BE LIVE-STREAMED

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Monday | December 18 |
| 7:00am | Mass |
| Tuesday | December 19 |
| 7:00am | Mass |
| 10:00am | Legion of Mary |
| Chesterson Performance at 7:00pm in Church | |
| Wednesday | December 20 |
| 7:00am | Mass |
| 8:15am | All-School Mass |
| Men's Club | |
| Christmas Vacation for the School begins at 3:00pm | |
| Thursday | December 21 |
| 7:00am | Mass |
| 6:30 | Ladies Club |
| Friday | December 22 |
| 7:00am | Mass |
| ADORATION 8:00AM-5:00PM | |
| Saturday | December 23 |
| 8:00am | Mass |
| 5:00pm | Mass |
| Sunday | December 24 |
| 8:00am | Mass |
| 9:15am | New Latin Mass |
| 10:30am | Mass |
| 5:00pm | Christmas Eve Mass |
| Monday | December 25 |
| 9:15 | New Latin Mass |
| 10:30am | Christmas Day Mass |

Ministers of Service Dec. 23 & Dec. 24 2023

MINISTERS OF SERVICE

| | | | |
|---------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 12/23 5:00pm | ~ M. Basi | C. Koontz | P. McClure |
| 12/24 8:00am | ~ M. & M. Verry | | H. Reinagel |
| 12/24 10:30am | ~ Cl. Koontz | | G. & C. Woods |
| 12/24 5:00pm | ~ E. Sullivan | | D. & W. Dietz |
| 12/25 10:30am | A. & H. Reinagel | | (Server needed) |

LECTORS

| | | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------|------------|
| 12/23 5:00pm | ~ | C. Verry | P. Keenoy |
| 12/24 8:00am | ~ | T. Serena | M. Campeau |
| 12/24 10:30am | ~ | B. & E. Carmody | |
| 12/24 5:00pm | ~ | M. Hazelwood | L. Bub |
| 12/25 10:30am | ~ | K. Koeller | M. Chauvin |

THE GUILD of MOTHER ERNESTINE

(Sacristan Helpers)

| | | | |
|---------------|---|----------------|--------|
| 12/23 5:00pm | ~ | P. Keenoy | Team A |
| 12/24 8:00am | ~ | K. Sargent | |
| 12/24 10:30am | ~ | K. & S. Toombs | |
| 12/25 10:30am | ~ | B. Campeau | |

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

| | | | |
|---------------|---|-----------|-----------|
| 12/23 5:00pm | ~ | Volunteer | Volunteer |
| 12/24 8:00am | ~ | Volunteer | Volunteer |
| 12/24 10:30am | ~ | Volunteer | Volunteer |
| 12/25 10:30am | ~ | Volunteer | Volunteer |

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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Desire to see God, be fearful of losing Him, and fine joy in everything that can lead to Him.

If you act in this way, you will always live in great peace. —St. Theresa of Avila

In today's Gospel it is proclaimed: "John answered them, 'I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.' This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing."

The third Sunday of Advent presents the theme of Joy. It is the rejoicing that the Lord is coming and there is hope in the heart of every person that the Lord is close at hand. The first word of the entrance hymn today is "Rejoice!" And so, this Sunday has come to be known as "Gaudete Sunday", from the Latin word Gaudete meaning you rejoice. And why should we be rejoicing? Because we are soon to remember that the Son of God, Jesus the Christ, came to live among us as a human being and be one of us. Yet the liturgy does not keep away from the theme of Advent namely to prepare for the coming of the Lord. The Gospel of today focuses on John the Baptist, the Advent Prophet. This is the person who is totally faithful to the mission given to him by God. His job is to point to Jesus Christ the Messiah. He does it as the lone voice from the desert asking people to mend their ways and be converted and later he baptizes them.

In today's First Reading, God speaks to us through Prophet Isaiah. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me." In these Words, we hear those of the Lord Jesus who was sent by God the Father for the salvation of mankind. "He, God the Father, has sent Jesus to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

In today's Second Reading, we are told to always rejoice, to pray without ceasing, to give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us. We should always rejoice because God has done great things for us as previously mentioned. We should always pray to secure our daily communion with the Lord God. We should always give thanks because all things come from God for the purpose of our sanctification as His children. We should do this in the Name of Jesus because it is through Christ, the only Mediator between God and man, that we receive our salvation.

As the Lord God commands us today through the words of the great Prophet Isaiah, the words of St. Paul speaking to the Thessalonians and the words of John the Baptist in the Gospel of John, we are to prepare ourselves to commemorate with great joy the special year of the Lord's favor. To do so, we must repent of our sins and change our hearts so that we may once more become righteous in the eyes of the Lord at His coming.

In advent we come to the amazing realization that God calls us like he called John the Baptist, to point to the messiah to everyone around us. Advent theme expresses the complexity of the world, the yearning for the light, needing the straight path, waiting with eagerness and expectation for the author of goodness and life. We are then an advent people called by God to testify to the light. We have our share in the straightening of the path and lead people to the light which is Jesus Christ.

God Bless—Fr. H



"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."

(-1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, everyday. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That we realize suffering is a gift and helps us build empathy for others and build our dependence on God.

Amen



Dear fellow parishioners, Little Flower Saint Vincent de Paul kindly asks you to help our neighbors in need this Christmas.

In the St. Joseph chapel, you will find the Giving Tree.

Select an ornament from the tree, which you may keep as a gift from us.

We ask for a donation of a gift card from 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.

“Let us do without hesitation whatever good lies at our hands.”

Blessed Frederick Ozanam, Founder
SVDP



Parish Council Nominations

We are accepting nominations for Parish Council. Please consider nominating yourself or a fellow parishioner.

Parish Council is an advisory committee which assists the Pastor in his leadership of the Parish. The council represents the needs and interests of the entire Parish community .

Consider a term on the Parish Council. There is no election for membership. New members are chosen through a lottery system.

Membership is open to all registered, active members of Little Flower Parish, age 18 or older.

Please call Debbie at the rectory to express your interest or nominate a candidate .

IMPORTANT EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES!

Please note these upcoming dates!

Bulletin for Dec. 24 is Wednesday, 12/1

Bulletin for Dec. 31st is Wednesday, 12/20

Little Flower Ladies' Club meeting: Thurs. Dec. 21, 2023

On Thursday evening, Dec. 21, 2023, the Little Flower Ladies Club will pray the Rosary in church at 6:30 p.m. At 7:00 p.m. we will move to the School Hall for a short business meeting, followed by “Carols, Cookies and Cocoa”.

Regina Morris will lead us in singing carols that reflect this year’s theme of “Come to the Table”, as well as traditional holiday favorites. Cookies and cocoa will be served.

Any cash donations received that night will be donated to the St. Louis Christmas Caroling Association, for distribution to worthy children’s charities.

Ladies are invited to bring personal unwrapped gift items that need wrapping (without the threat of discovery by curious children or spouses!). Ladies Club will provide wrapping paper and other needed supplies.

The students of Chesterton Academy of St. Louis invite you to a

Festival of LESSONS & CAROLS

**19 DECEMBER 2023
7:00 PM**

**LITTLE FLOWER CATHOLIC CHURCH
1264 ARCH TERRACE, 63117**

Reception to follow





Little Flower
Catholic School

A LETTER FROM THE LITTLE FLOWER PRINCIPAL

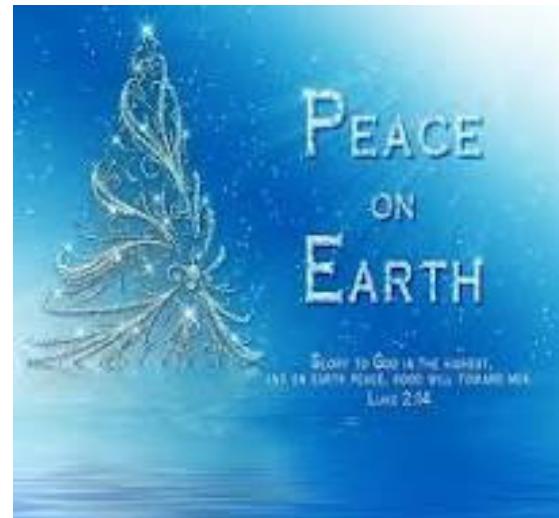
Dear Little Flower Community,

I pray daily to St. Therese of the Little Flower to take care of our community. I have trusted her to be my guide and not to become discouraged on challenging days. The Little Flower community is dedicated to the church's mission to foster Catholic Education for children. The parish and the school families have committed themselves to St. Therese's spirit by believing as she did in God's great love and to imitate her "Little Way" of doing good for others each day.

Thank you for sharing your time, talent, and treasure! The administration, the faculty, and the staff embrace the Little Flower mission. Each day we come to school to give our best to your children during these uncertain times. Your children enjoy coming to school. They are excited to learn and to give their best each day. The expectations of producing a quality Catholic Education Program is our mission. We will continue to work together as we enter the new year.

Together, we value our rich past, and we look to a future filled with challenge, enthusiasm, value, and joy.(Little Flower School Handbook.) Currently, the teachers are reflecting on how they will move forward with their personal Catholic Education careers. We patiently wait and pray for more direction from the All Things New process.

For now, the faculty and I wish you peace and success in the New Year. Enjoy the Christmas season with your loved ones! The weekly newsletter will resume on January 4, 2022! The faculty, staff and I thank you for all that you do! We wish you a very blessed Christmas filled with joy and hope! May God guide you through the New Year with new challenging opportunities to serve others with kindness and compassion. Please continue to pray for each other. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



**Gloria Openlander
Principal
Little Flower Catholic School
1275 Boland Place
Richmond Heights, MO 63117
314-781-4995**



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 giving portal of our website.



The New Testament of the Bible documents the conception and Birth of Jesus, his teachings his teachings and the events surrounding his death. The gift of faith allows us to accept that Jesus is truly God, the sacrificial "Lamb" who takes away the sins of the world, and is our only way to salvation.

As Christians we are part of Christ's body through grace. Through Prayer, the sacraments and living our lives in conformity to Jesus Teachings we encounter him personally and intimately. Incredibly He calls us "Friends".

Source:Evangelium

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Shrine Grounds and Visitors Center

From November 17 through December 31, 2023, 5:00pm to 9:00pm. Indoor activities closed on Thanksgiving Day,

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The Way of Lights Display depicts the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem using over 1.5 million

beautiful lights. This year, we have added colored lights to celebrate the birth of Jesus and continue to offer activities for young and old alike!

Cost: No charge for display, donations accepted and additional charges for some activities.

For more information, call 618-397-6700 or visit our website at <https://snows.org/wayoflights>

There is a Little Flower parishioner currently looking for a 1 or 2 bedroom apartment within the LF parish area. If you have one for rent or know of someone who does please contact the rectory at 314-645-1445.

Thank you for your help!



Advent LESSONS & CAROLS

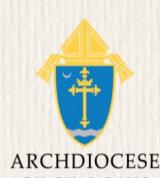
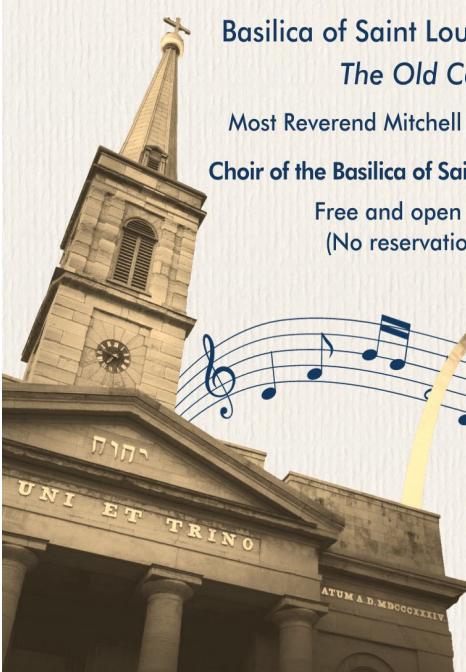
Sunday, December 17 • 2pm

Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France
The Old Cathedral

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski, Presiding

Choir of the Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France

Free and open to the public
(No reservations required)



Unity in the Community

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
4:30 PM**

First Church of God,
7770 Dale Avenue,
Richmond Heights

All are welcome!

"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:
Margie Curran (645-1709) or Anita Blattenberger (644-4740)

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:

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

Mass Intentions

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Monday</i> | <i>December 18</i> |
| 7:00am | Eugenia Roncal |
| <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>December 19</i> |
| 7:00am | Bettie Vineyard |
| <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>December 20</i> |
| 7:00am | Bill Reimer |
| 8:15am | Little Flower Parish |
| <i>Thursday</i> | <i>December 21</i> |
| 7:00am | Sp. Intention (Alicia Beavers) |
| <i>Friday</i> | <i>December 22</i> |
| 7:00am | Sp. Intention (Helen Miller) |
| <i>Saturday</i> | <i>December 23</i> |
| 8:00am | Dan Miller |
| 5:00pm | Bill Kelly |
| <i>Sunday</i> | <i>December 24</i> |
| 8:00am | Lois Milford |
| 9:15am | David Murphy |
| 10:30am | Nancy Mueller |
| <i>Sunday</i> | <i>December 24th (Christmas Eve)</i> |
| 5:00pm | John Herber |
| <i>Monday</i> | <i>December 25 (Christmas Day)</i> |
| 9:15am | Michael Fitzhenry |
| 10:30am | Margie Meatte |

Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
(Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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

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

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

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

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

PLEASE PRAY for our PARISHIONERS and/or LOVED ONES SERVING in the UNITED STATES MILITARY



Allen Conrey
Mollie Conrey
Rebecca Conrey
Blaise Coulter
Alex Garofalo
Derek Hirtz
Brian Kloppenburg
Justin Kloppenburg
Alexander LaRochelle
Ean Eichert

Maurice Muro
Ashton Piper
Christopher Wamhoff
John Weber
Jonathon Habb
Dashawn Arrendondo