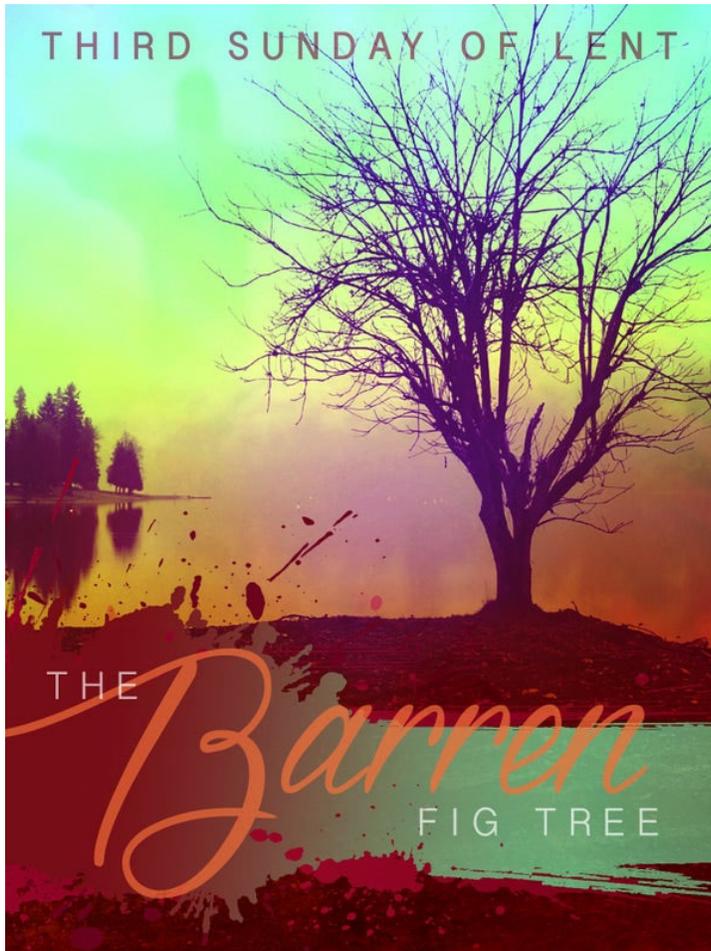


Church of the Little Flower

March 23rd, 2025

3rd 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
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

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	March 24	6:45-6:55	Confessions		
		7:00am	Mass		
Tuesday	March 25	6:45-6:55	Perpetual Help Devotions		
		7:00am	Mass		
Wednesday	March 26				
		7:00am	Mass		
		7:00pm	Men's Club		
Thursday	March 27	6:45-6:55	Confessions		
		7:00am	Mass		
Friday	March 28	6:45-6:55	Confessions		
		7:00am	Mass		
		8:00am-5:00pm	Adoration		
Saturday	March 29				
		4pm-4:45pm	Confessions		
		4:30pm	Rosary in Little Flower Chapel		
		5:00pm	Mass		
		6:00pm	Lolly's Place Trivia Night (SH)		
Sunday	March 30				
		8:00am	Mass		
		10:00am-10:15am	Confessions		
		10:30am	Mass		

Ministers of Service March 29 & 30 2025

MINISTERS OF SERVICE

03/29 5:00pm ~ Mal. Verry Mat. Verry Anders Verry
 03/30 8:00am ~ N. Saykes K. Thomason W. Saykes
 03/30 10:30am ~ Cl. Woods Geo. Woods Ros. Woods

LECTORS

03/29 5:00pm ~ P. Keenoy C. Verry
 03/30 8:00am ~ M. Boyce D. Bello
 03/30 10:30am ~ Bill & Ellen Carmody

THE GUILD of MOTHER ERNESTINE

(Sacristan Helpers)

03/29 5:00pm ~ B. Campeau (Team C)
 03/30 8:00am ~ S. Condit
 03/30 10:30am ~ J. Ostermann

Sacramental Catechesis: The Sacrament of Holy Orders

Several years ago I met a seminarian from another diocese while my diocesan brothers and I were on our summer assignment in Omaha, Nebraska for the Institute for Priestly Formation (“IPF”). The seminarian’s name was Lucas and he told the class about his own extraordinary story of discovering his own call to discern the priesthood. Six years prior to our summer together in Omaha for IPF, Lucas was involved in a major car accident that sent him to the hospital. Lucas, as he proceeded to tell the class, was not living a holy life and often spent his weekends in self-indulgent activities, which left him feeling empty and self-critical. One too many nights of alcohol consumption and self-indulgent behavior led to a terrible car accident, in which he, fortunately, took the bigger hit. After waking up in the hospital with two broken ribs, a fractured pelvis, and a serious concussion, Lucas knew he made a big mistake that could have turned out worse than it did for him. Lucas, in this moment of weakness and disbelief, was reminded of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe he kept in his car on that traumatic night. Our Lady gently reminded Lucas to reach out to God in his prayer of mercy and forgiveness. Bedridden and distraught with remorse, Lucas prayed to the Lord for forgiveness and solace in his pain, both moral and physical. As Lucas prayed, he too reached out to a nurse through divine inspiration and asked her, “Can you get me a priest?” Lucas began to explain that his calling out for a priest was to tangibly hear the consoling words and gentle voice of a priest who represented Jesus Christ to him in his hour of need. In other words, Lucas wanted to be loved with the *fatherly love of the priest—who represented and embodied sacramentally the incarnation of Jesus Christ as both human and divine*.

Lucas’ story went on further, but the above captures the essence of what he told the class that summer: Just as Lucas experienced the spiritual fatherhood of the priest to him in the hospital, so too did this experience provide the foundation for Lucas to discern that same call to spiritual fatherhood. This experience left Lucas with a profound impact on his life and there are many others who can testify to the profound impact priests make on the faithful as spiritual fathers. In our sacramental catechesis on Holy Orders, I want to focus on the priest as spiritual father because this identity is at the heart of a priest’s charism to the Church. But first a little catechism lesson: Certainly, the sacrament of Holy Orders entails three levels: diaconate, presbyterate (priestly), and episcopal (bishop). Since all three sacramentally share in Christ’s headship of the Church as her mystical Bridegroom, it is fitting and necessary that those ordained be baptized and confirmed, Christian males. However, all three levels (for lack of a better term) are distinct from each other. The diaconate (deacons) are charged with proclaiming the Gospel, preaching, and serving the Church in various pastoral or corporal capacities. Deacons represent “Christ the Servant” to the faithful. The presbyterate (priests) are deacons who go on to be ordained priests, to principally act in the person of Jesus Christ as High Priest of the New Covenant. Priests exercise their priestly power to offer the sacrifice of the Holy Mass, to absolve sins in confession, and to anoint the sick or dying through their communion with the bishop. The priest exercises his ministry *in persona Christi capitis (“in the person of Christ the Head”) for the good and wellbeing of the body of Christ, the Church. Yet, he cannot legitimately do this without his union and communion with his bishop or religious superior. Every priest must be united to one bishop or religious superior to legitimately exercise his priestly ministry. Bishops have the fullness of the ordained priesthood. They have by right the ability to do everything an ordained priest can do, but the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Orders are reserved for the bishop’s ministry, especially in the Western Church. The bishop is the direct successor to the Apostles and has the fullness of apostolic authority in his diocese. While all three are distinct, deacons, priests, and bishops should make the sacrament of Holy Orders a gift to the Church.*

Every sacrament in the Church is a gift not only to the principal recipient of the sacrament, but to the whole Church. This is undoubtedly true of the Sacrament of Holy Orders and Matrimony (Marriage), although not everyone is the principal recipient of these sacraments. How is Holy Orders a gift to the whole Church, especially since these sacraments are not directly received by the majority of the faithful? This is where spiritual fatherhood, whether it can come from a deacon, priest, or bishop, is how the faithful can receive the gift of this sacrament. Often, Holy Orders is looked at as a sacrament received by men in order to *functionally consecrate the Eucharist, absolve sins, preach the Gospel, and ordain other men to the same sacrament. In short, it can mistakenly be seen as the means to perform these other sacraments. In truth, the sacrament of Holy Orders—the priesthood specifically—makes visible Jesus Christ’s fatherhood an incarnational experience in the priests ordained for divine service. Christ’s spiritual fatherhood will look different for every priest because every priest is different; he nuances his ministry and his own charism differently from his brother priests. Some of the faithful may gravitate to one priest’s charism and gifts more than other priests. This, of course, is human nature, but we should not be tempted to compare priests to each other; it would be like comparing two natural fathers of two different households to determine who is better than the other. Such comparison is fruitless and petty and it closes off God’s graces communicated to the faithful by a variety of priests.*

Another note on a priest’s spiritual fatherhood: a priest is a father to a parish and to the local Church. There is an old epitaph written about priests, “A priest is a member of all households, but belongs to none.” What this statement says is a priest’s spiritual fatherhood is to impart human and divine love to the faithful, which is never possessive love. A priest is ordained for service and fatherhood to the local Church (diocese). In his time of ministry, the priest is to exercise his service and fatherhood to the parish he is assigned to through the duration of his assignment. The priest is never ordained for a specific parish, but should serve and love that parish faithfully for a season of his life—whether it is short or long. I understand this sounds pretty hard, but this is the reality of sacrificial love—which is at the heart of true, divine love. A priest’s fatherhood can teach us how to love others, love our priests, and our community without the hurt and resentment possessive love could cause when that love is lost. Jesus modelled this in his Paschal Mystery and, hopefully, priests today can show spiritual fatherhood through the divine heart of Christ.

In Christ the Savior,

In Rubie

*"He said to the gardener, For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none."
Luke (13:7)*

We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have, or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God ask you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous; we are called to develop and nurture our gifts; and return them with increase. We are called to be generous with all of gifts; especially the one that means the most to you.

Did you know?

Little Flower was originally going to be a new St. Patrick's parish? They decided to keep St. Patrick's in the city and instead chose to name the parish Little Flower.

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 weekday at 7:00am.



**Little Flower
Fish Fry!**

Friday, April 4

More details coming soon.



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.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

*That we are generous with all of our gifts;
nurture and develop them to return
with increase.*

Amen



OCIA LESSON: REVERENCE FOR THE HOLY EUCHARIST

At Little Flower extreme care to honor the Holy Eucharist is a priority. We genuflect in the presence of the Eucharist in the Ste. Therese Chapel as well as when we pass the chapel doorway.

When the reserved Eucharist is brought into the sanctuary, two altar servers with lighted lamps accompany the ciborium.

As we approach the Eucharist to receive Holy Communion, a solemn bow is performed by the communicant. In response to the words: "The Body of Christ", the communicant professes belief by saying "Amen".

On very important feast days at Little Flower, special torch bearers surround the altar during the consecration to pay love and respect for the Eucharist.

For the past twenty years, Adoration of the Eucharist continues in the chapel every Friday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. The Eucharist in the Monstrance is never left unguarded. All are welcome to come to pray.

Once a month, a Tuesday evening Holy Hour with Benediction takes place from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. All are invited for prayer and opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession.

Little Flower is blessed that here is a living Eucharistic community.

Interested in learning more? Please contact OCIA at the Rectory: 314-645-1445 or email drichter@littleflowerstl.org

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.



THE LITTLE FLOWER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

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



In the Spirit of St. Therese

The Way of Love

featuring

Marie Miller

A MULTI-FACETED ARTIST and speaker who weaves music, humor, and storytelling to convey God's love for us and our opportunity to share that love with others.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 2ND @ 7:00 PM
LITTLE FLOWER CHURCH
1264 ARCH TERRACE
SAINT LOUIS MO 63117

This event is free to all. Children's activities will also be offered.
Please contact Judy with any questions: osterjudy@att.net

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

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.



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 **OurCatholicRadio.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**.

To all Separated, Divorced, Widowed, or Remarried Catholics:

We would like to invite you to join us for fun and to make new friends at the next meeting of the South County Separated, Divorced Widowed and Remarried Catholics (SCDC) on Thursday, March 27, 2025. We meet at St. Catherine Laboure Parish Cafeteria (next to the playground), 9740 Sappington Rd, Sunset Hills, MO. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Following our short business meeting we will be having a Quartet to entertain us and enjoy refreshments. It's a fun evening!!

SCDC is a support group for the separated, divorced, widowed and remarried of our community but all are welcome. SCDC offers social activities for everyone that range from cards, game days, happy hours, and dinners. We also plan many other activities such as visits to wineries, area sites, etc.

Ask about our same day \$5 discount for new members.

For additional info please contact Tom Shepard, 781-221-7839.

In the Spirit of Saint

Therese The Way of Love

Featuring
Marie Miller

A multi-faceted artist and speaker who weaves music, humor, and storytelling to convey God's love for us and our opportunity to share that love with others.

Wednesday, April 2 @ 7 pm
Church of the Little Flower
1264 Arch Terrace

Free evening for all! Confessions begin at 6:30 pm.

Simple Supper at 6 pm in school hall. Children's activities also. **Little Flower Church 100 years and growing!...**

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	March 24 Celebrants Choice
Tuesday 7:00am	March 25 (Sp. Intention) Anna Lohmann
Wednesday 7:00am	March 26 Richard Doerr
Thursday 7:00am	March 27 Jim Niekamp
Friday 7:00am	March 28 Colleen Kohler
Saturday 5:00pm	March 29 John Herber
Sunday 8:00am	March 30 Eddy Todd
10:30am	Jim Driscoll

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 March 23, 2025

Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 11 (8a)/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9

Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4/Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/ Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23

Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/Lk 18:9-14

Next Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 (9a)/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

*In your charity,
 please Pray for*

All the souls of the faithful departed, especially Eddy Todd, brother of Jay Todd, and James "Jim" Niekamp, father of Ramona Jacknewitz. May they rest in peace...

The sick and shut-ins of our parish, especially:

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

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*