

Good News

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Mary Katharine Deeley

An old joke portrays an Irish couple with several children listening to the priest extolling the obedience of Jesus and the patience of Mary and Joseph and exhorting his congregation to be just like them. When the Mass was ended, the couple turned to each other and one muttered to the other, "Sure to heaven, they were patient—they and their one." The joke highlights one struggle for many parents: keeping patience while children learn the lessons of life. It's a job that may seem easier with one than with many.

Today, though, the Holy Family offers an example that applies to all families, whether large or small. Since Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph knew that one day he was going to have to follow his own path. They couldn't choose it for him; they could only prepare him as best they could. After they found him in the Temple and he told them, "I must be in my Father's house" (which can also be translated as "I must be about my Father's work"), they knew he was growing into adulthood and that his time was coming. However, Jesus returned with them because it was not yet time for him to leave, and he remains obedient to them as he always is to his heavenly Father.

All of us who are parents know that we cannot dictate what our children can or should be. We can only help them discern what God has called them to be. In the meantime, we give them the best foundation we can give by praying with them, talking to them, and modeling our own response to God's call.

Reprinted with permission of Liguori Publications, Lager, MO 63057-9999. No other reproduction of this material is permitted.

Masses

Sun.	7:30	Parish
	9:00	+James Kimbrough & +Dorothy Wafler
	10:30	+Margie Hardy
	12:00	+Sean Michael Bolton
	6:00	+Christopher Adam Cothran
Mon.	6:15	+Kay Kraus
	8:15	+Robert Capocaccia & +James Kimbrough
	12:00	+Walter A. Rentrop
Tues.	6:15	+Jane Wurster
	8:15	+Michael Heifet
	12:00	+Larry Gros Myrna & Special Intention for Johnny Costello
Wed.	6:15	Special Intention for Catherine Ann Mack
	8:15	+Maximino Perez & +Fedelina Duque
	12:00	+Mide Biehn
Thurs.	6:15	+Yanna Kimbrough
	8:15	Special Intention for Maggie & Eric Barrowclough
	12:00	+Chris Mosby
	6:00	+Cecilia Presley
Fri.	6:15	Miracle for Clare Marie Wilson
	8:15	Special Intention for the Wilson Family
	12:00	+Betty Thron
Sat.	6:15	Miracle for Clare Marie Wilson
	8:15	+Emmett O'Ryan
	4:30	+Rosemary Kerns

Prayers are requested for the sick: Jean Donati+Grady Hurley+Lewis Proctor+Paul Zoccola+Gloria Andereck+Trish Gurney+Walker Jackson Kiser+Kathleen Bryant.

Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Tim Corrigan+Tara Snider+Barbie Burgmeier.

Information

Sacrament of Baptism—Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays following noon Mass. Parents are asked to attend an instructional class prior to the baptism. Please call the parish office to schedule a baptism.

Adults interested in the Catholic Faith—to learn more about the Catholic Faith, please contact Deacon Jeff Drzycimski at 682-6606, ext. 1953 for information about our R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program.

Sacrament of Marriage—Please contact one of the priests for an appointment at least 6 months in advance of the proposed wedding date. Diocesan policy requires that certain guidelines be met.

Funerals—please call the parish office to make funeral arrangements; our staff will be happy to assist you.

Ministry to the Sick—When a family member is ill, home-bound, or hospitalized, please call the parish office to request prayers and to arrange a pastoral visit. The priests and our lay Ministers to the Sick make regular visits to the sick and home-bound.

Counseling Services—St. Louis Parish participates in the Parish Family Counseling Program of the Diocese of Memphis. Professional available; fees are based on one's ability to pay. Contact Anne McInnis at 722-4711.

Nursery—a nursery is provided in the Clunan Center each weekend at 4:30 pm, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, and noon Masses on Sunday.

December 27th, 2015— Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

CONGRATULATIONS FR. SAJI ELLICKAL

Fr. Saji Ellickal is celebrating the 15th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood this **Sunday, December 27th**. A reception hosted by the Altar Guild will be held in his honor on **Wednesday, January 6th** following 8:15am Mass.

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis has called for a special Jubilee Year of Mercy. St. Louis Parish offer the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Church at 2:30pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and following the 8:15am Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Special confession times and other programs will also be offered. Volunteers are needed to lead the Divine Mercy Chaplet. To volunteer, contact Susan Smith at Sbsmith408@aol.com or Libby Parks at libbykparcs@gmail.com.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

According to IRS regulations, for the church to post donations to the current year, your December dated check must be **in the church office by Thursday, December 31, 2015**. December dated checks collected at the December 31st Vigil Mass qualify for the current year tax substantiation. Checks received in the January 1st collection are posted to the new year regardless of the date on the check. If you bring your check to the church office, the envelope will be stamped with the date it was received to comply with IRS regulations. Thank you.

PERPETUAL ADORATION



Visit www.tinyurl.com/SLCCAdoration to sign up to volunteer for one hour per week or as a substitute.

Many slots have only one adorer and there is a great need to have at least two adorers per shift.

Contact Jan O'Donnell with questions by email at jan.odonnell@stlouis.cdom.org or call 255-1954.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS NEEDED

Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Hospitality Ministers are needed to serve all Masses on the Solemnity of Mary on **Thursday, December 31st** and **Friday, January 1st**. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/SLCMinisters> to sign up.



BULLETIN DEADLINE CHANGE

The deadline to submit an article for the **Sunday, January 3rd** bulletin is the **Monday, December 28th** at 10am.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 31st
Vigil Mass 6:00 pm

Friday, January 1st
6:15 am, 8:15 am & 10:00 am

This is a Holy Day of Obligation

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA & LOURDES WITH FR. DEXTER NOBLEFRANCA

Fatima Santiago de Compostela, and Lourdes Pilgrimage, **April 5-15th, 2016** with Fr Dexter Noblefranca. The price from Memphis with 2 meals included every day is \$3790 plus \$148 taxes. There are many extra visits included plus a stop at a Eucharistic Miracle in Santarem, Portugal. If you saw the movie, The Way, you will want to explore Santiago. Fatima and Lourdes are very powerful shrines with messages for today. Itinerary may be seen on www.traveltyme.com or brochures are available in the Church office. A \$400 deposit will hold your place. **Deadline for deposit is Monday, December 28th**. Contact Jeannie Presley at 335-4563 for information.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

The Alzheimer's Support Group will meet on **Wednesday, January 20th** from 10:30-11:30am in the Clunan Center.

MEN'S CLUB RETREAT

The Men's Club Retreat will be held on **February 19th-21st** in Cullman, AL. Speaker is Fr. Mike Johnston, who is a friend of Msgr. McArthur's from Nashville. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/SLCMen> to sign up.

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

Junior and Senior High Youth Groups will meet on **Sunday, January 10th**. Junior High will meet from 4:30-5:45 pm and Senior High Youth Group will meet from 7-9pm. Both groups meet in the St. John Paul II Youth Ministry Center. For the calendar and other information, visit www.stlouisyouth.org. You may also visit the Facebook page at St. Louis Catholic Church Youth Ministry and follow the Youth Group on Twitter at [St_Louis_Youth](https://twitter.com/St_Louis_Youth) and on Instagram at [st.louis_youth_ministry](https://www.instagram.com/st.louis_youth_ministry).



**Pope Francis' Prayer for
Jubilee Year of Mercy**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Amen.



Banns of Marriage

Banns of Marriage are announced for the third time for **Chanler Hansen** and **Joel Stark** and for the second time for **Julie Varnado** and **Scott Fleming**.

ROSARY BRIGADE INTENTION

Pray that all are blessed with peace & joy in this season filled with hope.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm Psalm 72
Second Reading Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel Matthew 2:1-12

PRAYERS FOR THE ARMED FORCES

Please keep the men and women serving in Iraq, and other conflict areas around the world, in your prayers as well as their families. Pray especially for Jonathan Paul Morales, Robert Bender, Desiree Bender, Brad Israel, Capt. Charlie Kennedy, and Philip Principi.

OFFERTORY REPORT

Week of December 20, 2015

Total collection	\$39,520
Envelopes	33,943
Electronic	4,371
Loose	1,206
Budget requirements	\$40,385
Total registered families	1,711
Donated by envelopes	415 families
Donated electronically	70 families
Non-participants	1,226 families
29% of families participated . . . 71% did not	
Visit www.stlouischurchmphis.org to give online.	



2016 CALENDARS

2016 Calendars are available in the Narthex. Please take one per family.

**ROOM IN THE INN
NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

Please look at our Signup Genius link <http://tinyurl.com/SLCRITI>. St. Louis Parish is participating in a ministry in Memphis called Room in the Inn by sponsoring and running the Inn ten nights this winter in partnership with Colonial Cumberland Presbyterian Church (1500 S. Perkins Rd.). We especially need drivers and shepherds to spend the night. Donations of new socks and underwear for men and women are greatly needed. Financial donations for supplies would be most welcome. For information call Pam Scarbrough at 763-0295 or Ann Drennan at 674-2117.



A ROSARY FOR OUR WORLD

The monthly Rosary for our World will take place **Thursday, January 7th** at 7pm in the Church. All are welcome to join us. Contact Susan Smith at 755-9447.

MARDI GRAS DINNER & PARADE

The 9th Annual St Louis Mardi Gras Dinner and Parade will be held **Saturday, January 30th** at 6pm. Please come out for a fun evening of authentic Louisiana-themed food and an exciting Mardi Gras Parade. If you would like to enter a "float" in the parade, please contact Greg Crone at croneg@bellsouth.net or 359-2893 for more information.

