

## Good News

### The Baptism of the Lord

*Mary Katharine Deeley*

When we were growing up, my siblings and I would often ask our grandmother to tell us stories about our mother when she was young. We liked listening to our mother tell those same stories from her perspective. The stories varied in some details, but it always felt like a veil was lifted on the past and we had some sense of where we came from along with some insight about our mother's personality.

She, of course, did the same thing for my daughters, making them giggle at the story of my getting into her perfume bottle when I was three. Such stories connect us with the people we know. Old friends trade stories of shared experiences; young companions learn about the world from the stories of their elders and even from the stories their friends tell them about their lives.

In Acts, Peter appeals to his listeners by telling the story they know so well. He even appeals to their shared experience as he says, "You know..." (v. 36). Stories connect us to one another and open the door to understanding each other a little more and a little better. In his story, Peter marks the baptism of Jesus as the beginning of his ministry. Our story in the Christian community begins with baptism as well. Peter records that Jesus went on "doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him" (v. 38). What would the story of our lives after baptism tell people about us? Would someone like Peter tell people that we went about doing good and loving God and neighbor?

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## Masses

Sun.	7:30	Parish
	9:00	+Jeanne Fisher
	10:30	+Thomas Dunavant
	12:00	+Mimi Uhlmann
	6:00	+Joan Whiteacher
Mon.	6:15	+Tom Robinson
	8:15	+Jell Scisillo
	12:00	+Ella Perkins Dudley
Tues.	6:15	+Anna Pinkerton
	8:15	+Tom Robinson
	12:00	+Dan Thompson
Wed.	6:15	+Emmett O'Ryan
	8:15	+Joseph Linder
	12:00	+Joe Calabretta
Thurs.	6:15	+Luke Schanzer
	8:15	+Walter Joyce
	12:00	+Samuel Pante
Fri.	6:15	+Mimi Uhlmann
	8:15	+Mary Beth White & Derek Shaw
	12:00	+Raymond Bentz, Sr.
Sat.	6:15	+Harold Thomaczek
	8:15	Special Intention for Pat & Becky Smorra
	4:30	Special Intention for Wilson & Winnie Nelson

Prayers are requested for the sick: Jean Donati+Lewis Proctor+Gloria Andereck+Walker Jackson Kiser+Kathleen Bryant+Nick Pinter+Maria Meyers+Teresa Bounds+Molly Norfleet.

## 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.

# January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016—The Baptism of the Lord

## JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis has called for a special Jubilee Year of Mercy. St. Louis Parish will 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. Contact Susan Smith at [Sbsmith408@aol.com](mailto:Sbsmith408@aol.com) or Libby Parks at [libbykparcs@gmail.com](mailto:libbykparcs@gmail.com).



## PERPETUAL ADORATION

Visit [www.tinyurl.com/SLCCAdoration](http://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](mailto:jan.odonnell@stlouis.cdom.org) or call 255-1954.

## ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Altar Guild Meeting will be held on **Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>** at 12pm in the Clunan Center. We will have a luncheon meeting and pray the Rosary. All ladies invited and welcome. Please bring your rosary.

## YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

Junior and Senior High Youth Groups will meet on **Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**. 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](http://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).



## LIFE BLOOD

LifeBlood will be at St. Louis on **Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>** from 8am-2pm in the Clunan Center. Every 3 minutes someone needs a life-sustaining blood transfusion. Blood donors must meet state age-eligibility requirements, weigh at least 115 pounds, be generally healthy, and provide picture ID. Contact [kmcates@comcast.net](mailto:kmcates@comcast.net). It is not required to sign up in advance. It is wise to eat prior to donation.

## MEN'S CLUB RETREAT

The Men's Club Retreat will be held on **February 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>** 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.



## MARDI GRAS DINNER & PARADE

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual St Louis Parish Mardi Gras Dinner and Parade will be held **Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>** at 6pm. This is a fun family evening with great Louisiana-themed food prepared by the Men's Club. Dinner is followed by a float parade around the parking lot. All groups of parish organizations, supper clubs, neighborhood friends and others are encouraged to decorate a trailer or truck bed and participate. Please contact Greg Crone at [croneg@bellsouth.net](mailto:croneg@bellsouth.net) ASAP if you would like to have a float in the Mardi Gras Parade or if you have questions. The theme is "Favorite Sports Teams."

## SERRA CLUB HOLY HOUR

The Serra Club of Memphis will hold its monthly Holy Hour on **Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm at St. Louis Church. The Holy Hour is dedicated to praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

## BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

**Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 p.m. in the Clunan Center Meeting Room, there will be a Baptismal Preparation Class. Parents planning to have a child baptized are expected to attend one of these sessions. Contact the church office at 682-6606 to register.

## BASKETBALL REGISTRATION GRADES 1-4

Deadline to register is **Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**. Parish Basketball is open to students who are parishioners and attend St. Louis School or PRE. Visit [www.stlouismemphis.org](http://www.stlouismemphis.org) to download registration form or pick one up in the church office.

## THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Morning Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 9:30am in the Meeting Room. The study on the teaching of St. Therese of Lisieux is titled "I Believe in Love" by Fr. Jean C.J. D'Elbee. Contact Kathy Hackett at [kahackett@yahoo.com](mailto:kahackett@yahoo.com).



## ITALIAN WINTERFEST

Italian Winterfest will be held on **Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016** at 5pm at the Racquet Club of Memphis. The event will honor **Msgr. Peter Buchignani**. Tickets are \$45 and are available in the church office. For information, contact Lisa Bell at [bell@avemariahome.org](mailto:bell@avemariahome.org) or 405-3791.

## VOYAGE RETREAT FOR GRADES 7 & 8

The annual VOYAGE retreat will be held **Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>-Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>** at Memphis Catholic High School for those students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Registration is required and forms are available at [www.stlouisyouth.org](http://www.stlouisyouth.org). Cost is \$50.00. Contact Dianne Dolan at 373-1292 or [dianne.dolan@cc.cdom.org](mailto:dianne.dolan@cc.cdom.org).

## ROOM IN THE INN

St. Louis Parish is participating in the Room in the Inn with Colonial Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We need drivers and shepherds to spend the night. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/SLCRITI>. For information call Pam Scarbrough at 763-0295 or Ann Drennan at 674-2117.

## JOY OF LIVING IN THE SPIRIT

Joy of Living in the Spirit will be held on 7 Mondays beginning on **Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>** from 10am-12pm in the Clunan Center. Contact Carlene Inzer at [chinzer@juno.com](mailto:chinzer@juno.com) or 454-5314 to register. 14 credit hours possible.

### 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.

## Flowers on the Altar

Flowers on the altar are in honor of **Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ward, Jr.** and **Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fleming** from the wedding of **Julie Ward Varnado** and **Evan Scott Fleming**.

## ROSARY BRIGADE INTENTION

Pray for everyone who is cold, homeless or has no heat. Guide them to shelter, food and the warmth of God's love.

## NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading	Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm	Psalm 96
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 12:4-11
Gospel	John 2:1-11

## 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 27, 2015

Total collection	<b>\$65,788</b>
Envelopes	57,727
Electronic	7,166
Loose	895
Budget requirements	40,385
Total registered families	<b>1,711</b>
Donated by envelopes	367 families
Donated electronically	76 families
Non-participants	1,226 families
26% of families participated . . . 74% <b>did not</b>	

## OFFERTORY REPORT

Week of January 3, 2016

Total collection	<b>\$59,018</b>
Envelopes	51,471
Electronic	6,567
Loose	980
Budget requirements	40,385
Total registered families	<b>1,711</b>
Donated by envelopes	465 families
Donated electronically	76 families
Non-participants	1,161 families
31% of families participated . . . 69% <b>did not</b>	

## WOW—WOMEN OF THE WORD BIBLE STUDY

Please join us every Tuesday in the Clunan Center Meeting Room to discuss the Gospel of Mark. We are using the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible which can be purchased at St. Paul's Book Store. Meeting time is Tuesdays from 11:30am-12:30pm.



## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Thank you for your continued support of SVDP. We had many activities Christmas.

First of all we helped 11 families: 2 rent for \$515, 5 utilities for \$1,027, 1 funeral for \$1,800 (twinned with 4 other conferences), Christmas gifts 3 of Ozanam Center Soup Kitchen Workers \$200, and M. Palazola Produce at Holy Names Soup Kitchen \$454.75. Total December \$3,996.75.

Special thanks to St. Louis Catholic School, Teddi Niedzwiedz and Vickie Shaw for their most generous food drive. We had enough to share with Catholic Charities through parishioner Mary Martin. Catholic Charities shared with us in Jack Borg's food hand out December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Jack & Karen Almand handed out food boxes to over a dozen of our friends who are in need. Jack even made boxes for their drivers. Most of these people do not own cars and had a friend drive them to St. Louis. We have a year round food collection in baskets around the church exits.

Don Nobert heads our SVDP Prison Ministry. On December 13<sup>th</sup>, Don, Jane Antrobus, Tricia Ross, Carolyn Edwards, Curt Mayhew, Tom Wilkinson, Jack Borg, Tony and Reid Lanigan put together 400 gift bags for the prisoners at Mason, TN. Each bag contained 4 Christmas cards for them to send loved ones, pen, toothpaste, bar soap, and towel. The gift bags were delivered by Tony Lanigan. Special kudos to Melyne Strickland & Haden Kane for AGAIN organizing St. Louis families to make Christmas for over a dozen of our SVDP families. Melyne & Haden have done this service for several years. Your generosity with your St. Louis SVDP helps us help Memphis folks! We are blessed to have such a generous parish and for the support of Msgr. McArthur. Donations gladly accepted year round.

Please join us at our Council dinner meeting **Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>** at St. Ann Bartlett, 6:45pm. If you have questions about SVDP, please call 755-8213. We meet the first Monday night each month in the Clunan Center Donut Room at 6pm. We wish a happy, healthy new year to all of you. God bless!

## QUEEN OF PEACE

Rosary, Confessions and Eucharistic Adoration begin at 6:00 p.m. on **Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>** at St. Louis Church. Mass begins at 7:00 p.m.

alzheimer's  association®

## ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

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

## 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE BREAKFAST

The public is invited to the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Respect Life Breakfast at Holy Rosary Catholic School **on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**. The breakfast will be held at 9am in the school cafeteria (next to the church) and will be graciously hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Guest speaker is Michael Podraza, M.D., who specializes in obstetrics and gynecology in private practice at the St. Francis Women's Health & Fertility Clinic. Dr. Podraza will speak about "The Deception of Contraception." The breakfast is complimentary, but pre-registration is preferred. To pre-register, email Jan Courtney at [jcourtney777@gmail.com](mailto:jcourtney777@gmail.com).

## FAITH MAGAZINE

In the Diocese's print publication, Faith West Tennessee, you will read about local Catholics who put their faith in action. For \$18 a year (\$1.50 per month) the magazine will help you to explore your faith and to evangelize. Please make checks payable to St. Louis and drop in collection basket or leave in church office. Donations over \$18 help to cover working costs of the Memphis Diocese's communications.

**Reminder:** Federal regulations prevent hospitals from divulging patient information. If you would like a visit from a priest; contact the church office at 682-6606 or [jan.odonnell@stlouis.cdom.org](mailto:jan.odonnell@stlouis.cdom.org).

## *Parish Religious Education News*

### PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS NEEDED

St. Louis Church is seeking three additional volunteer teachers for Parish Religious Education classes. PRE is offered for grades Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> for students who do not attend Catholic schools. Parishioners willing to assist in these programs are asked to contact Sonya Fleck at 921-1833.

### R.C.I.A.

RCIA, or the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, is the process through which non-Catholics come into the Catholic Church. For more information, contact Deacon Jeff Drzycimski, Director of Religious Education, at 682-6606, ext. 1953, or [deaconjeff@thecatholiccafe.com](mailto:deaconjeff@thecatholiccafe.com).

## KNITTING & CROCHETING MINISTRY

The St. Louis Knitting Ministry meets on Sundays from 1-3pm. People who crochet (in preferred yarn) are also needed. Beginners are welcome. Members supply their own materials (donations welcomed!). Needs and demands are growing tremendously to wrap newborns and sick in God's love. Call Charlotte B. Parry at 820-0531 for information.