

Good News

Second Sunday of Advent

Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

John the Baptist was the first prophet in Israel in more than 200 years. Some even thought he was the Messiah. He preached with authority, and people traveled from all over Judea to hear his words.

His message was to prepare the way. As any pope, king, or president announces his intentions in advance so preparations can be made, John was sent to announce the coming of the Son of God and to tell the people how to prepare. Jesus comes to the world in three different ways: first, when he was born in Bethlehem and walked the earth; second, when he comes again at the end of time; and finally, when he comes to us constantly in the sacraments and liturgy. Preparing for his arrival is not a matter of fixing roads, painting houses, or organizing a parade. Our king desires a transformed spirit: "Not by appearance shall he judge...." John warns that we cannot hide behind the faith of another; each one of us needs to show the fruits of our own faith. Yet we need not fear, for he who comes has every intention of saving us. He appears as Lord and invites us to accept his kingdom. He is also a teacher who shows us the way back to the Father. Above all he is a friend who forgives unconditionally and accepts our sincere yet feeble efforts.

This week, reflect on this image of John the Baptist, heed his words, and imitate him: Cry out for repentance, cleanse others from their sins, and prepare the way to God.

For Reflection

How does John the Baptist's call to repentance challenge me? Where do I need to ask for God's mercy?

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Masses

Sun.	7:30	+Faye Floyd
	9:00	Parish
	10:30	Special Intention for the Houston Family
	12:00	Special Intention for Charlene & Carter Myers
	6:00	+Emmett O'Ryan
Mon.	6:15	Special Intention for Christian James Gorman
	8:15	+Clayton Poole
	12:00	+Bob Moore
Tues.	6:15	Special Intention for Bridget & Wilson Nelson
	8:15	+Mimi Uhlmann
	12:00	+Michael Dorian
Wed.	6:15	+Jack Argo
	8:15	+Hugh M. Walsh
	12:00	+Teresa Lucchesi Bounds
	6:00	+Jean Donati & +Jimmy Costello
Thurs.	6:15	+Margie Ryan & +Walter Joyce
	8:15	Special Intention for Peggy Steffan
	12:00	+Lewis Perkins & +Ed Mattingly
Fri	6:15	+Carmella Columbo
	8:15	+Tom Kavanagh
	12:00	+Cathie Kirk
Sat.	6:15	+Margie Ryan
	8:15	+John Lewis Pinkston
	4:30	+Betty Hayes

Prayers are requested for the sick: Jean Garbarini+Archbishop Peter Sartain+Peggy Steffan+Dr. Tucker Larkin+Deacon Ralph Donati+Bob Mader+Sarah Ward+Ann Berry+Mary Jane Miller+ Joyce West+Bernadette Pian+Rose Gaia+Archie Stewart+Michaela Dockery+Myrtle Kelly+Joyce Wilhelm+Perrin Hall.

Prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of Sid Kraker & Susan Laurenzi+Vicki Ticer+Karen Herbst+Tim Davis.

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 homebound.

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 4th, 2016—Second Sunday of Advent

ADVENT CONFESSIONS THIS WEEK

Confessions will be held on **Monday, December 5th** and **Tuesday, December 6th** from 5-6pm.



SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

The second collection this weekend **Saturday, December 3rd** and **Sunday, December 4th** will be for the St. Louis chapter of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The Second Collection on **Saturday, December 10th** and **Sunday, December 11th** will be for the Retirement Fund for the Religious.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

All are invited to the SVDP Christmas Pot Luck Dinner on **Tuesday, December 6th** at 6:30pm in the Clunan Center. Please let Linda Clark know how many are coming and what you would like to bring to share. You can text or call 569-1355 or email clarkll@bellsouth.net.

20s & 30s GROUP

St. Louis' new 20's 30's Group is looking forward to hosting a Winter Social in January of 2017! If you are not already a part of the group, you should be! Simply send a text to 497-2237 with your name and email or send an email to stlouis.youngadults@gmail.com. Be a part of something new and exciting while gaining fellowship and building a stronger faith together. Be on the lookout for our survey link that we are sending out this week!

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



Photography has started on our Parish Family Album. We are publishing a new pictorial directory through Lifetouch. Reserve your appointment time by clicking the link on stlouischurchmphis.org or call

866-756-0281. Each family will receive a complimentary directory and 8x10 custom color portrait. You will be able to view and select your portraits electronically from a variety of poses. Additional Lifetouch portraits will be available for purchase. Your entire appointment will normally take less than one hour. This is an excellent opportunity for family portraits which will be ready before Christmas.

BONUS: Bring in a non-perishable food item for our St. Vincent de Paul Society and receive a \$5 coupon off of your Lifetouch portrait order.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

At Christmas Masses, lovely poinsettias decorate the altars. If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special, please use the envelope in your packet. Your donation will be recognized in the bulletin Christmas weekend. Deadline for donations is **Monday, December 19th**.

ADVENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITY



St. Louis has over 300 homebound and/or active older parishioners. Each Christmas we deliver a flower to them from the church. Msgr. McArthur is asking for families to volunteer to deliver just one—yes, just one flower to these families. Deliveries will begin **Thursday, December 8th**.

FEAST OF

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is on **Thursday, December 8th**. Mass will be celebrated at 6pm on **Wednesday, December 7th** and at 6:15am, 8:15am, 12noon and 6pm on **Thursday, December 8th**. *This is a Holyday of Obligation.*



FLEUR DE LIS



Merry Christmas everyone! Our last meeting for 2016 will be **Thursday, December 15th**! We'll meet at 6pm in the Clunan Center. Ham dinner from Leonard's will be served at 6:30pm. Our parish choir will join us for dinner and then sing us into the season after dinner. Please make a reservation by Monday, December 12th. Call Rita Linder at 682-9734. Dinner is free for those who have paid dues and \$10 for those who have not. Please bring canned goods or donation for St. Vincent de Paul.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS



The Health and Wellness Ministry will be doing free Blood Pressure screenings following 4:30pm Mass on **Saturday, December 3rd** and from 8:30am-12pm on **Sunday, December 4th** in the Parish Social Ministry Office.

2016 CALENDARS

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



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

St. Louis Church and School will again sponsor a Giving Tree for Christmas. Tags stating items needed will be in baskets in the Narthex and in the hallways outside the church office. Please take a tag and return the unwrapped gift to the church office, with the tag attached, by **Sunday, December 18th**. All gifts will be distributed by Catholic Charities.

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS



The Senior High Youth Group will meet on **Sunday, December 4th**. Junior High will meet on **Sunday, December 11th** from 4:30-5:45pm in the St. John Paul II Youth Ministry Center.

Visit the Facebook page at St. Louis Catholic Church Youth Ministry and follow the Youth Group on Twitter at St_Louis_Youth and on Instagram at st.louis_youth_ministry. To be added to the email distribution list, email Hannah Hill at Hannah.zaleski@stlouis.cdom.org and include the grade of your child.

PILGRIMAGE WITH FR. DEXTER

Anniversary Pilgrimage to Fatima, Santiago de Compostela, Saragoza, and Lourdes, **April 18-28, 2017** with Fr. Dexter Noblefranca. \$3836 plus \$160 taxes include air, lodging, and 2 meals a day with wine served at dinner, and all admission fees. Early reservations are needed, as seats are limited. Brochures are in the office or contact Jeannie Presley for more information at 335-4563.

SAVE THE DATE!

MARDI GRAS DINNER & PARADE

The St. Louis Men's Club will sponsor the annual Mardi Gras Dinner and Parade on **Saturday, February 4th**. The theme will be "60th Anniversary of St. Louis Parish and 10th Anniversary of the Mardi Gras Dinner and Parade". Email Greg Crone for information at croneg@bellsouth.net.

SAVE THE DATE!

MEN'S CLUB RETREAT

The Men's Club Retreat will be held on **February 10th-12th** in Cullman, AL. Speaker is Msgr. Val Handwerker.

ANGEL OF HOPE

The Angel of Hope Memphis welcomes those interested to attend a candle lighting service at the Angel of Hope statue at St. Louis Catholic Church on **Tuesday, December 6th** at 7pm.

Banns of Marriage

Banns of Marriage are announced for the second time for **Bramlett McLaurin** and **Austin Myers**.

St. Louis Cradle Roll

St. Louis Cradle Roll welcomes **Allison Bell Neuman**, born November 16th, weighing 9 lb., 3 oz. Allison is the daughter of **Lindsey and Tim Neuman**, granddaughter of **Sue Ellen and Rayford Haaga, Rick and Mary Neuman**, and first cousin of **Mattie, Sophie, and Raines Berger**.

We also welcome **Daisy Teresa Mullins**, born November 21st, daughter of **Megan and Patrick Mullins**, granddaughter of **Teresa and Rob Wallace**.

ROSARY BRIGADE INTENTION

Pray for our young parishioners who will receive the Sacrament of Penance for the first time on **Saturday, December 10th**.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
Psalm Psalm 146
Second Reading James 5:7-10
Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

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, and Capt. Charlie Kennedy.

OFFERTORY REPORT

Week of November 27, 2016

Total collection	\$39,740
Envelopes	\$30,515
Electronic	\$7,720
Loose	\$1,505
Budget requirements	\$40,385
Total registered families	1,805
Donated by envelopes	393 families
Donated electronically	98 families
Non-participants	1,314 families
28% of families participated . . . 72% did not	

SAVE THE DATE: WMOS

Women's Morning of Spirituality will be held on **Saturday February 25th** at the Church of the Incarnation from 8:15am-1:30pm with a Continental Breakfast beginning at 7:15am. Keynote Speaker is Renee Hendrix. Witness Speaker is Kelli Williams. Music with Bethany and Kevin Paige. Register at www.womensmorning.com.

PRISON MINISTRY

Each Christmas, we supply 450 inmates of C.C.A. Prison in Mason, Tennessee, a Christmas package containing a white towel, large bar of soap, large toothpaste, pen, four Christmas cards along with a card from St. Louis Catholic Church.

We would appreciate cash or check donations so the items may be purchased in bulk and must be all the same brand and size. Any donations may be left in the church office for St. Louis Prison Ministry.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES

PROVIDING HELP BRINGING HOPE CAMPAIGN

Please support the work of Catholic Charities of West Tennessee during this season of Advent and their annual Providing Help...Bringing Hope campaign. Their Fig Tree program assists over 25,000 of our neighbors with emergency gifts of food, clothing and other essential needs. Please donate at www.ccwn.org or by returning the envelope found in the brochure mailed to your home.



ST. LOUIS CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Apply for enrollment by calling the school office at 255-1900 or apply online at www.stlouismemphis.org. Because of limited space in our Preschool, it is imperative that parents apply for admission 18 months prior to the start of your child's school career. We offer priority enrollment to siblings of current students and to contributing members of our parish. Check our website for a detailed explanation of our admissions process. Those interested in K-8th grade for the 2017-18 school year should call or apply online as soon as possible. Enrollment will take place in early 2017. Tours and shadow days can be scheduled with our Admissions Director, Kim Pesce.

NOTRE DAME CLUB SPEAKER

The Notre Dame Club of Memphis will sponsor the Hesburgh Lecture at OLPH in St. Therese Hall on **Monday, December 5th** from 7-9pm (including Q & A). Nicole Garnett, Law School, University of Notre Dame will speak about the importance of Catholic schools for disadvantaged children and urban neighborhoods. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. Charles Kenny at 237-7048 or Charlie@rightbrainpeople.com.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

Tuesday, December 13th 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.

WOW—WOMEN OF THE WORD BIBLE STUDY

Please join us every Tuesday in the Clunan Center Meeting Room to discuss the Gospel of Matthew. 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.

ROOM IN THE INN

St. Louis Parish is participating in Room in the Inn Memphis. In partnership with Colonial Cumberland Presbyterian Church (1500 S. Perkins Rd.) we will feed, shelter and provide fellowship to 12-14 homeless men and women on our scheduled nights. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/SLCRITI> to volunteer. We also welcome financial donations, as well as new underwear for men and women. Call Pam Scarbrough at 763-0295 or Ann Drennan at 674-2117.

LEBONHEUR MINISTRY

The next luncheon we will host for the families on the 5th floor will be held on **Saturday, December 17th**. Check the sign up at www.tinyurl.com/stlouissignup to volunteer.

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. **Adorers are needed for the 3pm slot on Mondays, 1am slot on Tuesdays, the 2am (shared time) and 5pm slots on Fridays, the 9pm slot on the 1st and 2nd Saturdays of each month and the 10am and 4pm slots on Sundays.**

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

JOIN THE CHOIR!
Contact Ray Mullins at
rmullins@stlouismemphis.org

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Even though the Year of Mercy has ended, the Divine Mercy Chaplet will continue every Friday at 2:30pm in the Church. All are welcome.