

Good News

Solemnity of Mary

Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For the first four centuries following Jesus' ascension, Christians grappled with how to understand how his humanity and divinity commingled in his person. His humanity was evident to all who walked and talked with him. His divinity was also evident to his disciples because of the miracles he worked, not least his death and resurrection. In short, they knew he was fully human, and they knew he was fully God, but how could he be fully both at the same time?

The Council of Ephesus in 431 settled the issue definitively. The Church declared that in the one person of Christ there are two natures: one divine and one human. This same council also declared, as a natural consequence, that the holy virgin is the Mother of God (Theotokos), since she conceived and gave birth to the Word of God. So today's feast is one of the oldest, shared by all Christians from the earliest times.

When Mary said "yes" to the Incarnation and gave birth to the Savior, all of us could bask in his divine light. She is like the morning star that first breaks the horizon and mirrors the light of the sun that she both foretells and follows. In loving Mary, we truly honor her Son. God was the first to praise her through Gabriel—"Hail, favored one!"—and the one who blessed her beyond all other creatures. We are merely following his example.

For Reflection

Do I let God's face shine on me by spending time in prayer or before the Eucharist? How can I honor Mary today for her lifelong fidelity and grace?

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Masses

Sun.	7:30	+Katherine Joyce
	9:00	+Emmett O'Ryan
	10:30	+Sid Kraker
	12:00	+Betty Thron
Mon.	6:15	+Luke Borger
	8:15	+Tom Kavanagh
	12:00	+Martha Isabel
Tues.	6:15	Special Intention for Johnny Jude & Scarlett Nelson
	8:15	+John & +Betty Meihofer
	12:00	+Luke Borger & +Madeline McCormick
Wed.	6:15	Special Intention for Lillian Cara
	8:15	Special Intention for the Kraker Family
	12:00	+Dr. John Nash & Special Intention for Charles Larkin
Thurs.	6:15	+Kay Kraus
	8:15	Thanksgiving
	12:00	Special Intention for Johnny Jude & Scarlett Nelson
Fri	6:15	Miracle for Clare Marie Wilson
	8:15	Special Intention for the Wilson Family
	12:00	+Vicki Ticer
Sat.	6:15	Miracle for Clare Marie Wilson
	8:15	+Nancy Tooke
	4:30	+William Huntington & +Thomas Dunavant

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+Joyce West+Bernadette Pian+Rose Gaia+Archie Stewart+Michaela Dockery+Joyce Wilhelm+Dr. Santiago Vera+Forrest Jenkins+Annelle Saig.

Prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of Dan Kidney+Phil Gagliano+Gene Albonetti+Mary Jane Miller.

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.

January 1, 2017—Solemnity of Mary

CONGRATULATIONS FR. SAJI ELLICKAL

Fr. Saji Ellickal celebrated the 16th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on **Tuesday, December 27th**. A reception hosted by the Altar Guild will be held in his honor on **Wednesday, January 11th** following 8:15am Mass.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



Photography will resume in January on our Parish Family Album. **January dates are now available!** 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.

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.

BASKETBALL REGISTRATION GRADES 1-4



Deadline to register is **Friday, January 6th**. Parish Basketball is open to students who are parishioners and attend St. Louis School or PRE. Visit www.stlouismemphis.org to download registration form or pick one up in the church office.

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.

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 18th (new date)**. The theme will be "Presidents" and "We are Family". 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. Visit www.tinyurl.com/SLCMC2017 to reserve your room.

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 Saturday, December 31, 2016**. December dated checks collected at the December 31st Vigil Mass qualify for the current year tax substantiation. Checks received in the **January 1st collection, regardless of the date on the check**, are posted to the new year. 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. Donations that are mailed must have a check date of December 31st or earlier **AND** the post mark on the envelope must be December 31st or earlier. Thank you for your cooperation.



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.

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

Junior and Senior High Youth Groups will meet on **Sunday, January 8th**. 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).



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.



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 4am 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, 4pm and 10pm slots on Sundays.**

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



A ROSARY INVITATION

All our welcome to join a group to pray a rosary for our priests/church, city, country and world at St. Louis Church on the first Thursday of every month at 7pm. Our rosary will be on **Thursday, January 5th**. For more information contact Susan Smith at 755-9447.

CBHS 16th ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT EVENT

Please join CBHS and Br. Ignatius Brown, **Saturday, February 4th** at 6pm, for an evening of fun, laughter, and mental challenge! Proceeds benefit the tuition assistance program. Door prizes will be given throughout the evening and prizes will be awarded to winning teams. Contact Gina and Stuart McCown at stuartgina@comcast.net or you can download the registration form at www.cbhs.org under the "SUPPORTCBHS" tab. You'll find all the details on the registration form. Everyone has a great time at Trivia Night...don't miss it!



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 Reneé Hendrix. Witness Speaker is Kelli Williams. Music with Bethany and Kevin Paige. Register at www.womensmorning.com.

THE DIOCESAN CELEBRATION OF WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Married couples throughout the Diocese celebrating 25, 50 and 50 plus years of marriage in 2017 and their guests are invited to attend the Diocesan Celebration of Wedding Anniversaries on **Saturday, February 4th** at 10am at St. Louis Church. Celebrant will be His Excellency, Most Reverend Martin D. Holley, D.D. Reception to follow at the Clunan Center. For more information, contact the Office of Pastoral Life at 373-1237 or register online under events.

Banns of Marriage

Banns of Marriage are announced for the second time for **Dory Sellers** and **Greg Gaston**.

ROSARY BRIGADE INTENTION

Pray that all believers carry the light of faith in Jesus Christ to those in darkness.

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 Capt. Jay Schaffler.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

The Health and Wellness Ministry will be doing free Blood Pressure screenings following 4:30pm Mass on **Saturday, January 7th** and from 8:30am-12pm on **Sunday, January 8th** in the Parish Social Ministry Office.



ITALIAN WINTERFEST

Tickets are now on sale for the 7th Annual Italian Winterfest to be held **Sunday, January 15th** at the Racquet Club of Memphis at 5pm. Cuisine from 15 restaurants. Wine and soft drinks. Italian tableside music and dancing to all the greats! Bishop Emeritus Terry Steib and Mayor Jim Strickland will be honored. Tickets are \$50 per person and \$500 per table for 10. To reserve, contact Lisa Bell at 405-3791 or Janet Donato at 373-1221.



MINISTRY TO THE SICK NEW MINISTER TRAINING

Ministry to the Sick Training will be held on **Saturday, January 21st** from 8:30am-1pm at the Catholic Center. This training is designed to provide new ministers with the basic tools that will be helpful in their ministry. Candidates are required to send a completed registration form signed by the pastor or representative by **Wednesday, January 18th**. Registration forms are available in the parish office or at www.cdom.org. For more information call the Office of Pastoral Life Ministries at 373-1237 or email alma.abuelouf@cc.cdom.org.