



SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH
DIOCESE OF PEORIA PRINCETON, ILLINOIS
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 8, 2020



*"Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you." -Psalm 33*

Mass Schedule

Monday & Thursday 5:15 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday,
Friday 7:00 am
Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm,
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 am

Eucharistic Adoration is held in the
Adoration Chapel at all times.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/
Benediction Tuesdays, 8 am - noon in
the Chapel; Mondays & Thursdays in the
Church from 4 - 5 pm

Confessions

Monday & Thursday
from 4:30-5:00 pm
Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm
By appointment; please call the
Parish Office.

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER GIFFORD

Last week, we made use of insights from the Christian author C.S. Lewis to reflect on *the weight of temptation*. Yet, this same Christian author is also known for having written a beautiful meditation on *The Weight of Glory*. It seems like cheating you to summarize the point of this brief address (published in a book of the same title), rather than simply encouraging you to some time read his incredibly rich and eloquently crafted words. And I do recommend that, but I will still try to capture his point, in order to work my way toward my own. Perhaps without trying, Lewis helps us understand the purpose of our Lenten self-denials, our small sacrifices. He does so by reminding us that, despite all of the vain things of this world to which we turn to far too easily satisfy our desires, “we remain conscious of a desire which no natural happiness will satisfy.” In short, this is the deepest desire within us for that eternal happiness found only in eternal communion with God in heaven. He describes the glory of that heavenly encounter with our Creator in a manner that helps us to realize the great weight of that glory, that of being looked upon with favor by our loving God, for all eternity no less. By the time Lewis comes to his end, it becomes clear how much better we would love one another - indeed how much more clearly we would see one another - if only we considered this incredible weight of glory, of being made for eternity with God, toward which we must seek to direct one another’s gaze. Yet, this weight of glory is hidden from the eyes, while the hope for it still burns deep within each of our chests. It requires, not only the eyes of faith, but indeed also of hope and of love, to see this hope of glory, hidden in the ordinariness of our neighbor, who Lewis tells us is “next to the Blessed Sacrament itself... the holiest object presented to your senses.” Certainly, Our Lady had such eyes, illumined by faith, hope and love, as she looked upon her Son, when she met Him along the way of the cross (front cover). While this weekend’s Gospel tells us of an instance in which three of His Apostles were given a glimpse of His glory, hidden within His human nature, Mary’s natural eyes could not have beheld that glory on that Friday called Good. They beheld a man suffering intense pain, indeed a Face that might have been scarcely recognizable beneath blood, sweat, dirt and the spit of the cruelest of scoffers. But, Mary’s eyes of faith, hope and love did not behold this pitiful sight alone. They beheld her Son, carrying a cross that was not His own, yet which He alone could carry. They beheld love. The hidden Glory of Love is often buried beneath an edifice of pain. No, this is not the meaningless pain which so often causes scoffers to despair as they pass on by, but a purposeful pain, skillfully crafted by a master architect who seeks to draw the jaded hearts of those same passers-by inside to come discover the glory hidden within. Such was the sight that was seen on the way of the cross, as that temple passed by which was to be destroyed and on the third day be raised. And like those many edifices of cathedrals which countless scoffers pass by, so also along the way of the cross not every heart would be drawn, not every eye would see. But those that do see, those that are drawn, will enter in to see the glory hidden within. And they will insist that they were drawn by something both within themselves and without. For indeed, Lewis was quite right, there is a desire within us for something far greater than this world can offer. It is the desire for a love greater even than any of the loves of this world, noble as they may be. It is the desire for the love of God. It is the desire for that eternal weight of glory, which is the Father’s blessing, resting upon us and reminding us who we are. This Glory of Love is indeed worth every sacrifice, worth forsaking every vain pursuit of this life we take up in order to quell our desires. Sadly, many will not make that sacrifice and so they will not taste that glory. Just as many did not recognize Love Himself, as He passed along the way of the cross, but only saw a disgraced criminal. Just as many will not see in their neighbor one who is destined for the same weight of glory and seek to help him reach it. Just as many will not see it within themselves. The tragedy of this fact should move our hearts in the Lenten season. It should motivate our prayer, our fasting, and our almsgiving. Let us ask Mary, who saw what others could not, to allow our eyes, our hearts, and our hands to come alive with faith, hope and love, so that when we meet our neighbor along the way of the cross, we may lend our shoulders, to help him bear the weight of his cross, in order to reach that great weight of glory.

MISSED THE MOVIE?: Speaking of hidden glory, the topic has come up recently of the glory of God’s plan for love and life, which sadly remains unknown to many. In our hopes to let the secret out, we had a wonderful viewing of the documentary *Sexual Revolution: 50 Years Since Humanae Vitae* at the start of Lent. I want to thank Bethany Brigham for not only her initiation of the idea, but also all of the hard work she put into promotion, refreshments and other aspects. Some expressed interest in it, despite being unable to attend the viewing. We do have it available to be checked out, for anyone who is interested. Simply contact the parish office to inquire.

MORE ON THE GLORY OF GOD’S PLAN FOR LOVE: Also, the night of our Holy Hour for Marriage, I read the following passage from Paul VI (*Humanae Vitae*): “Married love particularly reveals its true nature and nobility when we realize that it takes its origin from God, who “is love,” the Father “from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.” Marriage, then, is far from being the effect of chance or the result of the blind evolution of natural forces. It is in reality the wise and provident institution of God the Creator, whose purpose was to effect in man His loving design. As a consequence, husband and wife, through that mutual gift of themselves, which is specific and exclusive to them alone, develop that union of two persons in which they perfect one another, cooperating with God in the generation and rearing of new lives. The marriage of those who have been baptized is, in addition, invested with the dignity of a sacramental sign of grace, for it represents the union of Christ and His Church.” ... *To Be Continued...*

In Christ through Mary,
Fr. Gifford

St. Louis, pray for us!
Blessed Mary, Queen Mother of the King of Kings, pray for us!

Pastor

Parish Staff

Fr Daniel Gifford
Email: stl.fr.gifford@gmail.com

Deacon

John Murphy
Wk: 664-1155/Hm: 646-4723

Trustees

Dan Legner
Mary Paula Schmitt

Admin Assistant

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Caylee Kennedy
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RCIA Coordinator

Susanna Prushinski
Email: stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com

Maintenance

Bill Uher

Parish Office

616 S Gosse Blvd., Princeton, IL 61356
Office hours: Monday - Thursday ~ 8 am - 3 pm
Friday ~ 8 am - noon
Phone: (815) 879-0181

E-mail: stlparishoffice@gmail.com
Website: www.stlouisprinceton.org

Other Sacramental Information

Marriages ~ Call the parish office at least eight months before the wedding.

Baptisms ~ Normally after 10:30 am Sunday Mass. Requires registration at St Louis Parish and participation in baptismal preparation (held the third Thursday of every odd month). Please wait until after the preparation to choose Godparents. Call parish office for more information.

Other Information

Rosary

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday *after* Mass
Monday and Thursday *before* Mass.

If going out of town

Locate Mass Times by visiting: www.MassTimes.org

Bulletin Announcements

Submitted to Parish Office *no later than noon*
on Tuesday for publication the following Sunday.

Joining the Parish

Please call the Parish Office for an appointment.



Please remember to pray for Vocations to the
Priesthood and Religious Life especially
from St. Louis Parish!
St. Therese, Patroness of Vocations, pray for us!



We Are Called

Join our faith community—and more than 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a life-changing Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from one of the information tables.

STEWARDSHIP

**Church Monetary Support for the weekend of
February 29/ March 1 2020**

Weekly Budget	\$7,250.00
Amount Received	\$7,905.00
Amount Over/(Under)	\$655.00

Fiscal period July 1, 2019— June 30, 2020

Amount needed to date	\$253,750.00
Amount received to date	\$264,704.45
Over (Under) budget to date	\$ 10,954.45

Children's Offering

Total weekend	\$18.36
Fiscal year total	\$683.90

Readings for the week of March 8, 2020

Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 /2 Tm 1:8b-10/
Mt 17:1-9
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 /Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/
Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

St. Louis Fish Fry!



Don't miss the St. Louis Fish Fry! Join us next Friday, March 13th from 4:30-7 pm for fellowship and delicious food. Please drop off desserts by noon on Friday.

A Holy Hour for Life



All are welcome to gather in prayer on the fourth Sunday of each month from 7-8 pm in the Adoration Chapel for the intention of respect for the sacredness of all human life. **Please join us Sunday, March 22nd.**

**St Louis Parish's Traveling Statue of
Our Lady of Fatima**



Would you like to host Mary in your home? The host family is asked to pray a daily Rosary, praying in particular for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood. If you would be interested in hosting, please sign up on the sheet on the information table in Harkrader Hall's foyer.

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS

Liturgical Roles

Daily Servers For March 9-13, 2020 3-9 Simeon Bystry, 3-10 Brennan Roden, 3-11 Luke Smith, 3-12 Ben Larsen, 3-13 David Kunkel

4:00 pm: Saturday, March 14

Servers Milo, Simeon & Faustina Bystry
Lectors Liz Dahlen, Bob Schabow
EMHC Irene Milligan, Mandy Robinson
Sacristan Peg Sandberg/ Emilee Merkel
Ushers Rick Torri, Mike Boesch, John Cotter,
Tim Hermeyer

7:30 am: Sunday, March 15

Servers *Servers needed, please check in at Sacristy*
Lectors Rita Pacunus, Luke Atilano
EMHC Charles Tiemann, Rita Tracey
Sacristan Lori Atilano
Ushers Mike Farley, Wayne Stone, Gary Blessman,
Dennis Thompson

9:00 am: Sunday, March 15

Servers James Erwin, Ben Larsen, Sydney Scully
Lectors Steve Harmon, Tim Kunkel
EMHC Mary Beth Crowe, Mary Harmon
Sacristan Colleen Harmon
Cantor Shelley Gorenz
Ushers Jim Whiteaker, Quint Quiram, Dan Legner

10:30 am: Sunday, March 15

Servers Aaron Cano, Nick & Nathan Lough
Lectors Dave Boylan, Cathy Trowbridge
EMHC David Lawrence, Ginger Murphy
Sacristan Linda Carter, Cameron Lawrence
Cantor David Sims
Ushers Bob Hartwig, Chris Romagnoli, Ken Lough

Home Ministry ~ Mary Beth Crowe, Mary Harmon

Nursing Homes ~ Bethany Brigham, Pat Galassi-Carlson, Mandy Robinson, Rita Tracey, Chris Williams

Illinois Valley Cursillo Ultreya

Lay Leader Bill Dekowski will be Master of Ceremonies at the **Saturday March 14** Illinois Valley Cursillo Ultreya being held at St. Peter & Paul's Catholic Church, Peterstown. Potluck dinner will commence at 6:00 p.m. with the meat being provided by the Steering Committee. Those coming are asked to bring a dish to pass. Much anticipation as Deacon Dan O'Connor will announce the Rector and Rectora for the upcoming June Cursillo Weekends. As always, all are invited who have attended a Cursillo, Via de Cristo, Walk to Emmaus, Tres Dias, or The Way three-day spiritual renewal program. Peterstown is located about one mile west of Rt. 251 at the junction of E. First Road and N. 39th Road (dubbed Peterstown Road). For further information call Lay Leader Bill Dekowski at (815) 663-7188 or Publicity Chair Loretta Volker at (815) 875-1330.

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 9 **St. Francis of Rome, Religious**

4:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration

5:15 pm +Josephina Felimon by Amie Neiman

Tuesday, March 10 **Lenten Weekday**

7:00 am +Rita Miller by David & Susan Boylan

* 9:00 am +Fr. Thomas Badovsky

Wednesday, March 11 **Lenten Weekday**

7:00 am + Marita Jagers by Phyllis Johnson

Thursday, March 12 **Lenten Weekday**

4:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration

5:15 pm +Dave Sawitoski by Amie Neiman

Friday, March 13 **Lenten Weekday**

7:00 am +Joan Smith by Ron & Eileen Behrends

Saturday, March 14 **Vigil of the Third Sunday of Lent**

4:00 pm Special Intention

Sunday, March 15 **Third Sunday of Lent**

7:30 am +Lois McKeown by Tim and Aggie Smith

9:00 am People of the Parish

10:30 am +Roger Balensiefen

*Aperion

Belonging: Baptismal Preparation



Our next session will be held on Thursday, March 19th from 6 to 9 pm. If you're expecting a child, consider attending prior to your child's arrival. Call Julia Mead, 815-872-3199 to register. Please refrain from choosing Godparents until after the meeting.

Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael Johnson and for consolation for his family.

Eternal Rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon his soul.

OUR TABLE REMINDER Our Table is this Monday, March 9th, at the Methodist Church. If you forgot what you signed up for please check the sign up sheet on the information table in the Harkrader Hall's foyer. Thank you for helping with this project. If you have any questions, please call Marcia Obenhaus at 815-878-1812.

20/20 Holy Hours—7 pm



Tuesday, April 21st
For Vocations To the Priesthood and Consecrated Life

FAMILY DISCIPLESHP

Parent Atria will be held this week for all parents with children in *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*. This month we will focus on the Gestures of the Holy Mass, seeking to better understand these signs of the Liturgy, that we may fully and prayerfully participate and guide our children to do the same.

First Reconciliation for eleven children of our parish will take place Saturday, March 14th at 10 am. Though originally scheduled and cancelled due to weather earlier this year, how fitting that it will now take place in the penitential season of Lent. Please pray for these children and their families, that they remain on the True Vine, continually drawing life-giving graces from the Sacraments.

Children's Stations of the Cross & Simple Supper ~ Families, set aside the date of Friday, March 20th at 5 pm to pray a children-led Stations of the Cross! A simplified children's version of the Stations will be used, that if you've been hesitant to participate in this devotion with your children before, will be a great way to begin. A time of fellowship will follow with a shared simple supper for all parishioners. If your child is a confident reader and would like to lead one of the Stations, contact Julia Mead, stl.juliamead@gmail.com or 815-879-0181.

What's Happening at St. Louis Parish

Sunday, March 8

Second Sunday Stay & Play and Children's Mass
Junior High Youth Ministry Night 5:30-7 pm
High School Youth Ministry Night 7—8:30 pm

Monday, March 9

Men's Study 6:00 -7:00 pm
Our Table at Methodist Church

Tuesday, March 10

Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel 8-noon
CGS (Level One & Level Three) 3:30 - 5:00 pm
CGS (Level One & Level Three) 6:00 - 7:30 pm
First Year Confirmation Class 6:00 - 7:30 pm
CGS Parent Atria—Last 1/2 hour of your child's session
No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion 6—7:30 pm

Wednesday, March 11

CGS (Level One & Level Two) 3:30 - 5:00 pm
CGS (Level Two) 6:00 - 7:30 pm
CGS Parent Atria—Last 1/2 hour of your child's session
Second Year Confirmation Class 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Thursday, March 12

CGS (Level Two) 3:30 - 5:00 pm
CGS Parent Atria—Last 1/2 hour of your child's session
RCIA 6:15—7:45 pm

Friday, March 13

The Word of God Women's Prayer Group 8:00 - 9:00 am
Stations of the Cross 3:30 & 5:00 pm
Fish Fry 4:30—7 pm

Saturday, March 14

First Reconciliation 10 am

YOUTH DISCIPLESHP

Jr. High Youth Ministry! Our next Jr. High Youth Ministry night will be this Sunday, March 8th from 5:30-7! If you are in 7th or 8th grade, you are welcome to attend! We'll have snacks, games, and opportunities to enter into lent with Eucharistic Adoration! We hope to see you there!

High School Youth Ministry! If you are in high school, join us this Sunday from 7-8:30pm for Eucharistic Adoration and Confession! This is a great way to enter into the Lenten season! Also, mark your calendars for 2 fun events coming up! Next Sunday, March 15th, we will be bowling at Pin Splitter Lanes from 6:45-8pm. The Sunday after that, March 22nd, will be our Incoming Freshman Welcome Party! Anyone currently in 8th grade is welcome to start attending the high school youth ministry group on Sunday nights from 7-8:30pm.

Thank you to everyone who helped make last weekends Confirmation Retreat a success! We had 30 students from our parish and two surrounding parishes participate in a day of recollection, prayer, and preparation to be Confirmed and sent out as disciples of Jesus Christ! The day concluded with a wonderful dinner where the sponsors and parents of the students joined them for discussion. Please keep our 13 students in your prayers as they continue to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on March 15th at the Cathedral in Peoria, IL.



Saint Louis Parish 2020

Reconciliation Times

7:45 – 8:15 am Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays
4:30 – 5 pm Mondays and Thursdays
3:15 – 3:45 pm Saturdays
After all Masses Saturday and Sunday, March 21/22
Area wide Lenten Penance Service Thursday, April 2nd
5:30—7:30 pm at Holy Cross, Mendota

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday at 5 pm in the Church February 28th—
April 5th (Also, at 3:30 pm on March 13th)
Family Stations of the Cross on March 20 at 5 pm
followed by simple soup supper for **all** parishioners