



SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH
DIOCESE OF PEORIA ~ PRINCETON, ILLINOIS
26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 27, 2020



*"He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross. Because of this God greatly exalted Him"*

-Philippians 2

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER HEPNER

Dear parishioners,

On May 26, 2012, your previous pastor and I both found ourselves lying face down on the cathedral floor. Don't worry, it was intentional. It was the mass of our priestly ordination, and the litany of saints was being chanted over us as we prepared to be configured to Christ the High Priest. That day we made our *second* promise of obedience to the bishop (We made the first one at our deacon ordination - I guess the Church really wants us to get this obedience thing down).

That promise of obedience came back up when I walked into the bishop's office on September 4, 2020. The bishop smiled and said, "Fr. Tim. How open, docile, and obedient are you feeling today?" Dangerous words. But I smiled back, and he told me that I had a new assignment. I was now the assistant at St. Mary's in Bloomington, where I had already been living. It took a few days, but I got used to this assignment. Five days later I was once again in front of the bishop and he smiled even bigger and asked me the same question. *This time* he was sending me to St. Louis in Princeton! So I texted my friend, Fr. Daniel Gifford (you may have heard of him), and once more we found ourselves side-by-side: He was sharing the joys and responsibilities of this parish with me while preparing to move on to Geneseo. He was packing up and I was unpacking. And both of us were saying "yes" with our hearts to that promise of obedience we had made. It was a crazy, blessed week.

Now that I am here, I honestly can't think of a better parish to begin at as administrator! Fr. Gifford has bragged a lot about you these past three years. Now I am overwhelmed by the generosity you show with your time, talent, and treasure. And, of course, this really is one of the most beautiful churches in the diocese! I'm so grateful for the day that I said "yes" to the priesthood, and the day that I said "yes" to the bishop. It has brought me here.

My goals over these next few weeks and months are to continue all the good work that is going on. I don't intend to make major changes or move off of the course that Fr. Gifford was guiding you. I have my own gifts and vision which are slightly different, but fundamentally we are both priests who love Jesus and love the teachings and traditions of the Church.

I also intend to reach out to parishioners, especially those who aren't able to come to Mass and aren't connecting with us over the internet. **If you know of**

anyone who may feel disconnected from the parish, please send me their contact info by calling the parish office or emailing me at stl.frtimothyhepner@gmail.com. The Lord immediately put onto my heart the immense responsibility of being a shepherd. I am responsible for your souls, and this is a uniquely challenging time for me to begin that. So I am grateful for your help.

I am guided by St. Louis himself. He was a just king who upheld the rights of the Church and the dignity of the poor. As maligned and misunderstood as he has been lately, I am convinced that we need St. Louis more than ever. He is a model of bravery, Christian manhood, and chivalry. One night when he was in battle seeking to take back Jerusalem for Christian pilgrims, as his men were being pummeled with volleys of "Greek fire" hurled in catapults by the enemy, he would lay on the floor with his arms stretched out and beg God to save him and his soldiers. In this time of crisis, pandemic, uncertainty, and spiritual warfare, St. Louis' example of reliance on God is true bravery. Perhaps the one person who can build on his example is another French Saint, whose feast day we celebrate Thursday: St. Therese, who was not assailed by fire, but by doubt and darkness from the ultimate enemy, said:

"On each fresh occasion of combat, when the enemy desires to challenge me, I conduct myself valiantly: knowing that to fight a duel is an unworthy act, I turn my back upon the adversary without ever looking him in the face; then I run to my Jesus and tell Him I am ready to shed every drop of blood in testimony of my belief that there is a Heaven."

I am so happy to be your shepherd, and I pray that we are all brave enough to run to Christ, and even to lay down before God in obedience and faith. I am so happy that Fr. Gifford and I both got to lay down on that cathedral floor and get up again, our lives completely in God's hands. Please pray to the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, my guardian angel, St. Therese, and St. Louis for me!

In Christ through Mary,
Fr. Tim Hepner

Parish Staff

Administrator Fr Tim Hepner
 stl.frtimothyhepner@gmail.com

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

Trustees Dan Legner
 Mary Paula Schmitt

Admin Assistant Paula Lough
Business Manager Renee Toomey

Director of Religious Education Julia Mead
 stl.juliamead@gmail.com

RCIA Coordinator Susanna Prushinski
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Maintenance Bill Uher

Parish Office

616 S Gosse Blvd., Princeton, IL 61356

Office hours: Currently Closed Due to COVID-19

To continue to serve you, we are checking voicemail and emails daily.

Phone: (815) 879-0181

E-mail: stlparishoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.stlouisprinceton.org

YouTube Channel: St Louis Parish in Princeton

FaceBook Page: www.facebook.com/stlouisprinceton

Mass Intentions

Monday, September 28 **St. Wenceslaus, Martyr;**
St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs
 4-5:00 pm Holy Hour
 5:15 pm +Benny Trowbridge

Tuesday, September 29 **Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael,**
Archangels
 7:00 am + Hank Skibinski by Norm & Marie Merkley

Wednesday, September 30 **St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of**
the Church
 7:00 am +Ron Hulslander

Thursday, October 1 **St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin**
and Doctor of the Church
 4-5:00 pm Holy Hour
 5:15 pm +Cecilia Hartwig by Mary & Tom Murphy

Friday, October 2 **The Holy Guardian Angels**
 7:00 am +Donna Keener

Saturday, October 3 **Vigil of the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 4:00 pm + Arnold McCauley by Pat Quiram

Sunday, October 4 **Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 7:30 am +Ron Pioterek by Amie Neiman
 9:30 am People of the Parish
 11:30 am +Dorothy Bebej by Mary Beth Dever



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

The Glimmer of Comfort Grief Support Group

will be held on Tuesday, October 6 at 121 Miles Court beginning at 6 p.m. This gathering welcomes all women who have lost a child (children) due to suicide, an illness, an accident or from a miscarriage. For more information, please contact Jeanie Gelsomino at (815) 872-6571.

We will wear masks and socially distance.

Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Jim Annen
 and for consolation for his family

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



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!

Liturgical/Volunteer Roles

4:00 pm: Saturday, October 3

Lectors Dave Boylan
 Sacristan Julie Hassler
 Greeters TBD

*Cleaners Bystry & Larsen Families

7:30 am: Sunday, October 4

Lectors Rita Pacunas
 Sacristan Lori Atilano
 Greeters Tom Ballard, Dennis Thompson

*Cleaners Gary & Marcia Blessman, Tim & Paula Anderson,
 Pat Wiggim

9:30 am: Sunday, October 4

Lectors Tim Kunkel
 Sacristan Chris Romagnoli
 Greeters Dan Legner, Jim Whitaker, Quint Quiram

*Cleaners Quint Quiram, Jim Whitaker, Steve Bouslog

11:30 am: Sunday, October 4

Lectors Patty Daluga
 Sacristan Susanna Prushinski
 Greeters Bob Hartwig, Ken Lough, Andy Sims

*Cleaners Lough Family, Mary Beth Crowe

* If you are unable to fulfill your cleaning duties on a particular weekend, please call Tim Smith 815-503-9329

2020 Annual Diocesan Appeal

The Diocese of Peoria is made up of 156 parishes and over 55,000 registered Catholic families. There are many ministries and apostolates that the Diocese can offer that we as a single parish cannot. As we continue to prepare a mailing of your pledge cards for the 2020 Annual Diocesan Appeal, we ask you to spend some time in prayerful discernment, to determine at what level you might be able to share your treasure for the good of the Diocese. Please visit www.cdop.org/ada2020 to learn more about this year's campaign. **Please note: if you elect to make your contribution online, it will still be necessary to complete and return the pledge card when it is mailed to you. That is the only way we can be assured that online contributions are properly applied against the St. Louis Parish ADA Goal!**

Respect For Life

Respect Life Sunday ~ 'National Life Chain' Please join in this year's 'National Life Chain', a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life Americans, standing for one hour, praying for our nation and an end to abortion. **On this 'Respect Life Sunday' October 4, we will meet at Veteran's Park at 2:45 pm. From 3 -4pm we will stand in prayerful silence, reflection and praying for the more than 3,000 unborn Americans who each day lose their lives to abortion.** We will also pray for their mothers and fathers, abortionists, clergy, our president and the legislative leaders of America. Pro-life signs will be provided. **Everyone and every age is welcome.** If you are unable to stand for an hour, you may bring a chair. **Please contact Rita Tracey at 879-0308 with questions.** Masks required only when not able to social distance.

ST. LOUIS SCHEDULE

MASS SCHEDULE

| | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| MON, THR | 5:15 PM |
| TUE, WED, FRI | 7:00 AM |
| SAT | 4:00 PM |
| SUN | 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM |

(SAT 4 PM Live-streamed on FaceBook and broadcast on WZOE 1490 AM)

OUTDOOR DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(AT ANDERSON ST ENTRANCE)

| | |
|-----|----------|
| SAT | 5:00 PM |
| SUN | 10:30 AM |

RECONCILIATION

(ST. JEROME ROOM)

| | |
|----------|---------|
| MON, THR | 4:30 PM |
| TUE, WED | 3:00 PM |
| SAT | 3:00 PM |

HOLY HOUR

| | |
|----------|---------|
| MON, THR | 4:00 PM |
|----------|---------|

PRIVATE PRAYER

(INSIDE CHURCH-OPEN TO ALL)

| | |
|-----------|----------------------|
| MON, THUR | 9-2:30 PM |
| TUE, WED | 9-1:30 PM; 3-8:00 PM |
| FRI | 9-1:30 PM |

STEWARDSHIP

Church Monetary Support
 through September 20, 2020

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Amount Budgeted | \$ 6,500 |
| Amount Received | <u>\$ 4,177</u> |
| Amount Over/(Under) | \$ (2,323 .00) |

Fiscal Period July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Amount needed to date | \$ 78,000.00 |
| Amount Received to date: | <u>\$ 74,507.00</u> |
| Over/(Under)budget to date | \$ (3,493.00) |

Readings for the week of September 27, 2020

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11 /Mt 21:28-32
 Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7 [6]/Lk 9:46-50
 Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 138:1-2, 3, 4-5 [1]/Jn 1:47-51
 Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10-11,12-13,14-15/Lk 9:57-62
 Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8-9, 13-14 [13]/Lk 10:1-12
 Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6, 10-11 /Mt 18:1-5, 10
 Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130 [135]/Lk 10:17-24
 Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20 [Is 5:7a]/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-4



BIRTHDAY Blessings

Fr. Ed Harkrader's
90th birthday is
Wednesday, September 30th!

We offer prayers of
thanksgiving for the life of
Father Ed and for him serving
St. Louis for 13 years!

Mail may be sent to him at
c/o Greenfield Retirement
508 Park Ave. East,
Princeton, IL 61356

Volunteer OPPORTUNITIES

As we move into the change of seasons we are also making a change in entering/exiting our church with the front doors on Park Avenue open. This creates a need to look at who is available to be a Greeter/Usher! We are calling out to our previous volunteers and to anyone new who would like to help meet and greet. There's just a few things to help with - guiding people to open spots, reminders to wear masks or give one to those who don't have one as well as opening/closing doors before and after Mass. No collection baskets will be passed nor assignment of seats responsibility. **Won't you please consider helping us with this great opportunity of hospitality?** You can choose to be scheduled for weekly, monthly or bi-monthly at the Mass of your choice. **Please call the parish office at 815-879-0181 and leave your name.** We will return your call and answer any questions. **Thank you so much!**



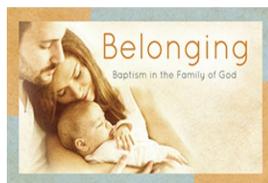
A Holy Hour for Life Benediction, Rosary, and other Prayers

All are welcome to gather in prayer on the fourth Sunday of each month from 7-8 pm in the Church for the intention of respect for the sacredness of all human life.

Please join us this Sunday, September 27th

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP

Belonging—Baptism Preparation



If you are seeking baptism for your child, please contact Julia Mead for information regarding baptism preparation.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd & Confirmation Prep

This will be our first week with full 90 minute sessions for all who are attending in-person. This year we have 53 children participating in CGS in 7 different sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and 13 in Confirmation prep in two classes on Wednesdays. What a blessing to be back catechizing our young people to know, love and serve the Lord! Please keep them and all the catechists in your prayers, asking for an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all our work in the Lord's Vineyard this year; may we yield a fruitful harvest.

YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP

GOT THINGS TO
THANK HIM FOR?

OTHER THINGS
TO TALK ABOUT?

COME TELL HIM
IN PERSON.

YOUTH
EUCHARISTIC
ADORATION

WEDNESDAYS AT
7 PM

"LET US COME INTO
THE LORD'S
PRESENCE
WITH
THANKSGIVING..."



—PSALM 95