

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 2
6:00 p.m.
 Jerry Thompson (D)

Sunday, December 3
8:00 a.m.
 St. Louis Parish

10:30 a.m.
 Frederick Ogbodo (L)

Monday, December 4
8:30 a.m.
 (Communion Service only)

Tuesday, December 5
8:30 a.m.
 Fr. Kevin Johnson (L)

Wednesday, December 6
8:30 a.m.
 Peter Williams (D)

6:00 p.m.
 No Latin Mass

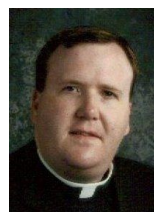
Thursday, December 7
8:30 a.m.
 Reagan Elise Aikens (D)

Friday, December 8
8:30 a.m.
 Shook Family (L)

Saturday, December 9
6:00 p.m.
 Linda and Brenda Kelly (D)

Sunday, December 10
8:00 a.m.
 St. Louis Parish

10:30 a.m.
 Edward Veccia (D)
 Richard Sullivan (D)



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Parish Family,

Everyone faces the temptation of fast forwarding their attention and concern to Christmas, and many times that takes them off track, focusing on shopping and family logistics instead of the Reason for the Season.

Advent is an opportunity for each of us to meditate on the Reason for the Season and help others to do so as well (hint: the Reason is not presents, despite what your children tell you).

It is a time for reflecting on our sins and asking Our Lord to continue to redeem us from them. If there's some point of spiritual growth with which we are struggling, Advent is a time not only to work on it but to pray unceasingly for the Lord's help in overcoming it. If we've become estranged from someone we love (or loved), we can ask Our Lord to help us to become reconciled. Shopping and family logistics are a reality of this season, but they also provide a spiritual opportunity to go out of our way for others.

All the organizing, planning, budgeting, wrapping, etc. is to express your love for someone, and in loving others, you love Christ. Don't forget to include something for someone who may have no one to love them.

Peace to you and yours,

Fr. Stevens

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Holy Day of Obligation)
 Mass schedule: Vigil Mass Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m.
 Friday, December 8 at 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

WELCOME TO ST. LOUIS!
 Matthew and Micaela Advent
 Kyle and Alexandra Tobin
 Owen Michels
 Peter and Sofia Lehmann
 Alexander Skufca
 Carol and William Turner

CHRISTMAS ANGELS
 Christmas Angels are available for pick-up on the tree in the back of the Church. Thanks to Chuck and Marie for the donation of the tree and for Barb Stout for chairing this project. Gifts will be due back the weekend of December 9/10.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve
Sunday, December 24
 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Day
Monday, December 25
 10:00 a.m.

For Sunday, November 26, 2017

Offertory this week: \$3,319.00
 Target: \$4,542.54
 Collected vs Target for month **-\$1,020.30**
 Collected vs Target since July **-\$2,906.52**
 Projected Offertory for year: \$242,814.44
 Annual Budget: \$250,000.00

Building Fund this week: \$318.00
 Collected this month: \$1,878.00
 Target for the month: \$2,713.00
 Collected since July 1: \$12,613.00
 Collected vs Target since July 1: **-\$952.00**

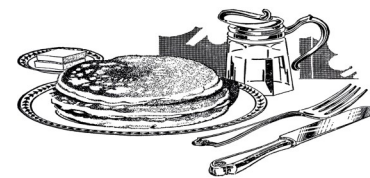
Improvements Collections: \$99.00
 Total collected to date: \$2,564.00

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES:

This ministry is helping to improve the look and upkeep of our parish! **The goal for the year which began July 1st is \$11,000.** To date we have collected \$2,465.00 in second collections (taken up on the third weekend of each month) and \$592.75 from Movie Nights. If you have an idea for a future fundraiser we hope you'll share it with us.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

This year we will be having our Parish Christmas Party after Mass



PANCAKE BREAKFAST
 December 10
 St. Louis Parish Hall
 8:45 – 10:15 AM
 Pancakes, Bradley Sausage and Orange Juice
 Cost: \$5.00 (\$3.00 Children)

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus

on December 16th. This time will also be used to welcome Father Stevens! Sign-up sheets have been placed on the bulletin board in the parish hall. The Sisterhood will be purchasing a cake and the parish will purchase the meats so we would like everyone else to sign-up for salads, vegetables, drinks, bread, etc. (And if you have a special dessert, feel free to bring that too!) We will be doing a 50/50 raffle and also have our ornament gift exchange. If you want to participate in the exchange, bring a wrapped ornament with your name on an outside tag. When all the ornaments are under the tree, we'll have folks pick an ornament and then their job is to pray all year for the person whose name is on the tag. We are hoping to have some Christmas carol sing-alongs and maybe even "break in" Father Stevens with the Reindeer game.....hmmm.

HOMELESS SHELTER
 The Shelter Kitchen thanks you for this week's donations. (We hope to report soon on our lasagna dinner.) The next dinner is January 6th. You can let Mary Balkcom know (jmbalkcom@gmail.com) if you want to join our ministry. Any parishioner can contribute to the Shelter's "wish list" by donating cups, small bowls and large size, unpowered disposable gloves. Place these items in the gray bin at the back of church.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
December 7- Knights of Columbus meeting - 7:00 p.m.
December 9/10 - Christmas Angels gifts due back
December 10 - NOTE: Sisterhood Christmas Party/meeting has been



cancelled.
December 16 - Christmas Party/Welcome Dinner for Father Stevens at 7:00 p.m.

December 16/17 - Second Collection Weekend for Capital Improvements Campaign
January 7 - Sisterhood meeting at 11:30 a.m. (We will be putting bags together for Casa Calderon)
January 14 - Shelter Dinner Ministry meeting at 11:40 a.m.
January 28 - Blood Drive

SISTERHOOD

The Sisterhood is still collecting items for its January community project.....gift bags for residents at Casa Calderon. If you would like to help we are collecting the following regular size (not travel size!) items until the end of December: bars of soap, shampoo, deodorant (men and ladies), socks (men and ladies), toothpaste, lotion and toothbrushes (we still need 45+ more individual brushes). Many of these residents have no one to visit and this is a special treat for them. Thank you!



CHURCH FLOWERS

The Flower Ministry is an important part of creating a beautiful environment for worship. Would you like to donate money for the altar flowers for a particular weekend? Your donation could be in remembrance of a loved one or some special occasion in your life. Call the office to reserve a date and get details.