



Sts. Joachim & Ann Parish

4112 McClay Road • St. Charles, MO 63304-7918

636.441.7503 • Fax: 636.441.6574

*Parish Website: www.stsja.org *Archdiocesan Website: www.archstl.org

Parish Office Hours:

Monday through Friday; 9:00am to 4:00pm
(Closed for lunch Noon to 12:45pm)

Deadline for submittals for the Parish

Bulletin: Tuesdays at Noon to
jvanacker@stsja.org

Eucharistic Schedule

Eve of Sunday 5:00pm
 Sundays **7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am**
 Daily 6:30am; 8:00am

Eucharistic Adoration

9:00am Tuesday until 7:15pm Wednesday
 6:00pm Saturday until 7:00am Sunday

Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays from 4:00 to 4:45pm or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents must be registered parishioners and practicing Catholics who have participated in the Baptismal Preparation Program. Contact the Parish Office for details.

Sacrament of Matrimony

At least one party of the couple must be a registered parishioner and a fully initiated practicing Catholic. Contact the parish priest of your choice at least six months in advance of the desired wedding date to arrange for marriage preparation.

Holy Orders & Consecrated Life

Those discerning a vocation to priesthood or consecrated life are encouraged to contact one of the parish priests for information and referral to the Archdiocesan Vocation Office.

Eucharist for the Homebound

Contact the parish office to arrange for the Eucharist to be brought to your home during a period of infirmity.

Crisis Pregnancy Assistance

Birthingright - St. Charles	636-724-1200
Pregnancy Resource Center	636-278-1212
Project Rachel	314-792-7565
Priests for Life	1-888-PFL-3448
Mary Queen of Angels	636-379-5070

Sts. Joachim and Ann

Care Service 636.441.1302

Serving those in crisis and preventing homelessness and hunger in St. Charles, Lincoln and Warren Counties since 1981

Ministries and Services

Pastor	Rev. John A. Brockland, JCL	441.7503
Associate Pastor	Rev. James L. Gahan	441.7503
Deacon	Deacon Tim Schultz	441.7503
Deacon	Deacon Jack Lipin	441.7503
School Principal	Mrs. Debbie Pecher	441.4835
DRE Children's Programs	Mrs. Rose Wieschhaus	926.0021
Parish School of Religion	Mrs. Rose Wieschhaus	926.0021
Altar Society	Mrs. Julie Huber	441.9667
Athletic Association	Mrs. Shannon Schultz	314.651.7114
Bereavement Ministry	Mr. & Mrs. Jim Potts	939.3428
Bereavement Ministry	Mrs. Pat Bennett	636.544.4600
Bl. Teresa Outreach	Mrs. Connie Tarin	636.634.0317
Boy Scouts	Mr. Mike Venegoni	279.1127
Care Service	Mrs. Miriam Mahan	441.1302
Cub Scouts	Mr. Michael Woodruff	314.482.5629
Donut Sunday	Mr. Roger Worner	447.6792
Eucharistic Adoration	Mrs. Kathy Rodamaker	636.352.9341
Eucharist for the Homebound	Mrs. Jayne Gilfoil	922.4466
Evangelization	Mrs. Jackie Zoll	636.734.4653
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Rev. James Gahan	441.7503
Facilities Oversight	Mr. Del Zerjav	441.4461
Finance Council	Mrs. Jan Difatta	244.0122
Funeral Luncheons	Mrs. Jeanette Gray	939.4550
Groundskeeping Committee	Mr. & Mrs. Dave Hoban	636.244.0302
Girl Scouts	Mrs. Patty Hough	636.697.6489
JASSS	Mrs. Betty Lickenbrock	936.0308
Knights of Columbus	Mr. Deaton Ellis	636.579.9052
Ladies' Club	Mrs. Helen Vernier	922.7573
Lectors	Mrs. Pat Maher	314.691.0112
Liturgical Art/Environ.	Rev. James Gahan	441.7503
Liturgy Committee	Rev. James Gahan	441.7503
Liturgy for Children	Mrs. Kathy Bendyk	441.5336
Men's Club	Mr. John Hoelscher	928.0650
Money Counters	Mrs. Mary Ann Grahn	441.3362
Music Ministries	Mr. Orin Johnson	636.980.6255
Nursing Home Min.	Mrs. Norma Hitt	970.2052
Parish Pastoral Council	Ms. Jane Muich	922.1315
Parish Picnic	Mr. Phil Dukeman	314.397.0411
Prayer Chain	Mr. Rich Rodamaker	636.578.7202
Pro-Life Apostolate	Mrs. Mary Auer	939.4953
PTO	Mrs. Maggie Brewer	314.602.7044
Sacristan Ministry	Mr. Steve Yallaly	447.1475
Safe Environment	Mrs. JoAnne Van Acker	441.7503
School Board	Mr. Tim Wheeler	314.619.3331
Servers	Rev. James Gahan	441.7503
Social Justice in Action Committee	Mrs. Miriam Mahan	441.1302, X-230
Sunday Morning Nursery	Mrs. Rose Wieschhaus	926.0021
Sunday Preschool	Mrs. Dee Yust	928.6642
St. Patrick Casseroles	Mrs. Mary Lopez	397.4815
Stitches for Life	Mrs. Molly Rudy	447.7566
Technology Committee	Mr. Mike Oberhill	441.3815
Technology Committee	Mr. Patrick Swackhammer	636.336.2345
Ushers & Ministers of Hospitality	Mrs. Adeline Callahan	636.447.7565
Youth Ministry	Rectory Office	441.7503

**A Pastor's Perspective...The beginning of the Papal Bull of Indiction of the Holy Year
THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY
+ FRANCIS**

1. Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him. The Father, "rich in mercy" (Eph 2:4), after having revealed his name to Moses as "a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (Ex 34:6), has never ceased to show, in various ways throughout history, his divine nature. In the "fullness of time" (Gal 4:4), when everything had been arranged according to his plan of salvation, he sent his only Son into the world, born of the Virgin Mary, to reveal his love for us in a definitive way. Whoever sees Jesus sees the Father (Jn 14:9). Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God.

2. We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it. Mercy: the word reveals the very mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us. Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life. Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness.

3. At times we are called to gaze ever more attentively on mercy so that we may become amore effective sign of the Father's action in our lives. For this reason I have proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy as a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective.

The Holy Year will open on 8 December 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This liturgical feast day recalls God's action from the very beginning of the history of mankind. After the sin of Adam and Eve, God did not wish to leave humanity alone in the throes of evil. And so he turned his gaze to Mary, holy and immaculate in love (Eph 1:4), choosing her to be the Mother of man's Redeemer. When faced with the gravity of sin, God responds with the fullness of mercy. Mercy will always be greater than any sin, and no one can place limits on the love of God who is ever ready to forgive. I will have the joy of opening the Holy Door on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On that day, the Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instills hope.

On the following Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, the Holy Door of the Cathedral of Rome – that is, the Basilica of Saint John Lateran – will be opened. In the following weeks, the Holy Doors of the other Papal Basilicas will be opened. On the same Sunday, I will announce that in every local church, at the Cathedral – the mother church of the faithful in any particular area – or, alternatively, at the co-cathedral or another church of special significance, a Door of Mercy will be opened for the duration of the Holy Year. At the discretion of the local Ordinary, a similar door may be opened at any shrine frequented by large groups of pilgrims, since visits to these holy sites are so often grace-filled moments, as people discover a path to conversion. Every Particular Church, therefore, will be directly involved in living out this Holy Year as an extraordinary moment of grace and spiritual renewal. Thus the Jubilee will be celebrated both in Rome and in the Particular Churches as a visible sign of the Church's universal communion.

4. I have chosen the date of 8 December because of its rich meaning in

the recent history of the Church. In fact, I will open the Holy Door on the fiftieth anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. The Church feels a great need to keep this event alive. With the Council, the Church entered a new phase of her history. The Council Fathers strongly perceived, as a true breath of the Holy Spirit, a need to talk about God to men and women of their time in a more accessible way. The walls which for too long had made the Church a kind of fortress were torn down and the time had come to proclaim the Gospel in a new way. It was a new phase of the same evangelization that had existed from the beginning. It was a fresh undertaking for all Christians to bear witness to their faith with greater enthusiasm and conviction. The Church sensed a responsibility to be a living sign of the Father's love in the world.

We recall the poignant words of Saint John XXIII when, opening the Council, he indicated the path to follow: "Now the Bride of Christ wishes to use the medicine of mercy rather than taking up arms of severity...The Catholic Church, as she holds high the torch of Catholic truth at this Ecumenical Council, wants to show herself a loving mother to all; patient, kind, moved by compassion and goodness toward her separated children." Blessed Paul VI spoke in a similar vein at the closing of the Council: "We prefer to point out how charity has been the principal religious feature of the spirituality of this Council...the old story of the Good Samaritan has been the model of the spirituality of the Council...a wave of affection and admiration flowed from the Council over the modern world of humanity. Errors were condemned, indeed, because charity demanded this no less than did truth, but for individuals themselves there was only admonition, respect and love. Instead of depressing diagnoses, encouraging remedies; instead of direful predictions, messages of trust issued from the Council to the present-day world. The modern world's values were not only respected but honored, its efforts approved, its aspirations purified and blessed...Another point we must stress is this: all this rich teaching is channeled in one direction, the service of mankind, of every condition, in every weakness and need."

With these sentiments of gratitude for everything the Church has received, and with a sense of responsibility for the task that lies ahead, we shall cross the threshold of the Holy Door fully confident that the strength of the Risen Lord, who constantly supports us on our pilgrim way, will sustain us. May the Holy Spirit, who guides the steps of believers in cooperating with the work of salvation wrought by Christ, lead the way and support the People of God so that they may contemplate the face of mercy.

5. The Jubilee year will close with the liturgical solemnity of Christ the King on 20 November 2016. On that day, as we seal the Holy Door, we shall be filled, above all, with a sense of gratitude and thanksgiving to the Most Holy Trinity for having granted us an extraordinary time of grace. We will entrust the life of the Church, all humanity, and the entire cosmos to the Lordship of Christ, asking him to pour out his mercy upon us like the morning dew, so that everyone may work together to build a brighter future. How much I desire the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God! May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the Kingdom of God is already present in our midst!

...More to come from Pope Francis' message on the Year of Mercy as we make our way forward in faith. May we each seek to deepen our own experience of God's mercy in our lives by availing ourselves of it – especially in the Sacrament of Forgiveness (Penance/Reconciliation). May we make every effort to live merciful lives – toward those dear to us whom we may at times take for granted and toward those distant from us whom we might otherwise be tempted to judge without knowing.

...Blessings to you and your families for abundant grace and growth as Advent draws us nearer to Christmas!

✠ Mass Schedule

Monday, December 14, St. John of the Cross

6:30am Rev. John G. Dempsey
8:00am Julie Allmann

Tuesday, December 15, Advent Weekday

6:30am Rev. Msgr. Joseph D. Pins
8:00am Pat Gardiner

Wednesday, December 16, Advent Weekday

6:30am Eugene Yates
8:00am Roland Hall

Thursday, December 17, Late Advent Weekday

6:30am All Souls
8:00am Roland Hall **All School Mass**

Friday, December 18, Late Advent Weekday

6:30am Helen O'Shea
8:00am Betty Rich

Sat., Sun., December 19/20, Fourth Sunday Of Advent

5:00pm Marie Kloepfel
7:30am Virginia Schafermeyer
9:30am People of the Parish
11:30am Marie Kloepfel
6:00pm Vespers

The Week Ahead

Mon., Dec. 14 PSR 6-7:30pm & 7-8:30pm
Men's Club 7:30-10pm Cafeteria
Athletic Association 6:30-9pm PC

Sat., Dec. 19 TMIY 6:30-8am Cafeteria

Sun., Dec. 20 Decorate church for Christmas after the
11:30am Mass

Thurs., Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Mass Schedule
4:00pm, 6:30pm, 11:00pm

Fri., Dec. 25 Christmas Day Mass Schedule
7:30am, 11:00am

Thurs., Dec. 31 Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass - 5:30pm

Fri., Jan. 1 Solemnity of Mary Mass - 9:00am

Readings for the Week

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9;
Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23;
Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17;
Lk 1:5-25

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10;
Lk 1:39-45

December 19/20, 2015

Lectors

5:00pm Mary Jane Daum, Gary Feller
7:30am Sherry Hartz, Jim Hubbman
9:30am Sheila DeLong, Anna Davis
11:30am Betty Gravlin, Diane Distl
6:00pm (Vespers) Pat Maher

Servers

5:00pm Camilla Delano, Maggie & Luke Matschiner
7:30am Bud Bradford, Nathan Martizsus, Mason Criscione
9:30am Tony Mathew, Jacob Stamer, Bryce Ernst
11:30am Paige Hadley, Rilee Hercules, Emilee Hercules

Stewardship of Our Treasure

5 to 10 Year Plan Weekly Sunday Offering Goal \$ 24,728.00

Sunday, 6 December 2015

Envelopes	\$ 18,600.36	
On-line giving	\$ 7,176.13	
Loose	\$ 748.24	
Youth	\$ 2.00	\$ 26,526.73
Budget vs Actual for this Sunday		\$ 1,798.73
Fiscal Year-to-date Sunday Offering Goal		\$ 568,744.00
Fiscal year-to-date Actual Offertory		\$ 535,013.15
Budget vs. Actual Fiscal Year-to-date		\$ (33,730.85)

Care Service	3,983.00
Immaculate Conception	106.00
Camp. For Human Development	352.00
Seminary	78.00
Christmas Offering	131.00

Christmas Club for Major Needs

5 to 10 Year Plan Goal for Christmas Club 2016	\$ 180,000.00
Yr to Date	\$ 79,078.01
Budget vs Actual for Fiscal Y-to-date	\$ (100,921.01)

Parish Construction Debt

Loan Balance as of 11-5-2015	\$ 604,476.32
Payment 12-4-2015	Principal \$ 21,952.78
	Interest \$ 1,622.48
	\$ 23,575.26

Current Loan Balance \$ 582,523.54



MERCIFUL
~ LIKE THE ~
FATHER

Jubilee Year of Mercy

God's mercy can make even the driest land become a garden, can restore life to dry bones (Ez 37:1-4)

...Let us be renewed by God's mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives, too; and let us become agents of this mercy. ~Pope Francis

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2015

Eucharistic Adoration

Witness: I look forward to my time alone with my Lord. I find an inner peace and stillness from the hustle of my day with work and family. It gives me a chance to "recharge" my heart. (Anne)

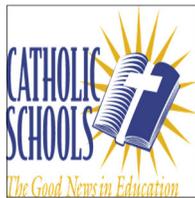
We have Eucharistic Adoration from Tuesday 8:30am until Wednesday 6:30PM and Saturday 6:00pm until Sunday 6:00am. We have two Adorers in each hour except Tuesday 2:00pm and 3:00pm and Wednesday 1:00am and 3:00am. Come spend an hour with Our Lord.

We are in need of an additional adorer on Tuesday at 2pm & 3pm and Wednesday at 1am & 3am.

Call or text Kathy Rodamaker at 636-352-9341 or email kathy_rodamaker@yahoo.com.

Church Decorating

We will gather after the 11:30am Mass on Sunday, December 20th, to decorate the Church for Christmas. Many hands make light work!



Sts. Joachim and Ann School

Embracing God's Love,
One Child at a Time

Muffins for Moms: We invite our moms to please join us for Muffins for Moms on Thursday, December 17th. We will start with an all school 8AM Mass and then

continue with a light breakfast when the students return to class. Please RSVP by Monday, December 14.

Christmas Band Concert: Mark your calendars now and plan on coming to our Band Concert on Tuesday, December 16, at 6:30PM, in the Parish Center. The students have been practicing many hours and are excited to present this concert to you!

Upcoming Events:

Monday, December 14: Partners in Prayer 2:00-2:45
Wednesday, December 16: Band Concert 6:30 in Parish Center
Thursday, December 17: Muffins for Moms 8AM Mass
Monday, December 21: Christmas Story 2PM in church
Tuesday, December 22: All School Mass 8AM & Noon Dismissal

Parish School of Religion News

Alive in Love, Alive in God!

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength." Mark 12:30-31

Upcoming Events

Dec 14 PSR Class, 3rd grade play practice, Partners in Prayer for Parents 6:30-7PM, Adult Ed Room
Dec 21 PSR Class, 3rd Grade Parent Activity Night - Christmas Nativity Play in Church 6:30PM

Dec 28-Jan 3
No PSR Christmas Break

Bulletin Deadline

Please note the early transmission schedule for upcoming bulletins. We kindly ask that all bulletin information for the December 27th issue be sent by Tuesday, December 15th, and all bulletin information for the January 3 issue be sent by Friday, December 18th.

Please send submittals to jvanacker@stsja.org. Any questions, please contact JoAnne Van Acker at 636-441-7503 or at the above email address.

Ushers The Christmas schedule is on the counter in the vesting sacristy. Please consider helping! Thank you!!



On Sunday, December 6, 2015, Nora Lynn Pettis received the Sacrament of Baptism.

We congratulate her family and welcome her into our Family of Faith.

Sunday Morning Nursery

Babysitting services will not be available on Sunday, December 27, 2015 or Sunday, January 3, 2016. The normal schedule will resume on Sunday, January 10, 2016 with babysitting services offered during the 9:30am Mass.



We are asked to pray for those who have died:

- Jim Harmon, Sr., father/father-in-law of Ron & Beth Harmon, grandfather of Caleb, Elizabeth, Madeline, Claire & Kyleigh Harmon
- Ruth McCarville, mother/mother-in-law of Mary Kay & Dan McCarville-Scheuths

Shop For Our Schools We have so many great ideas for everyone in your family. Grandparents love gift cards to restaurants, such as Bob Evans, Cracker Barrel or KFC; Walgreens or Walmart for their pharmaceutical needs. Your teens **do not** want you to pick their clothes! Give them cards from TJ Maxx/Marshalls, Aeropostale or Target. Wives would love thoughtful gift cards from Macy's, Kohl's, Dress Barn and more! Stop by in the Gathering Space and shop with us! Don't forget to stock up on grocery store gift certificates to make holiday meal planning easier! We have Shop and Save, Dierberg's, Anthony's Produce and more. Remember, Walmart gift cards are also good at Sam's Club. Plan ahead and help fund our School! **Hours** Saturday: After 5:00 Mass; Sunday: after 7:30am Mass (1st & 3rd Sundays), after 9:30am Mass and before 11:30am Mass. During the week: Orders received for IN-STOCK items by 8:30am will be filled and sent home with a student as requested or can be picked up in the school office after 2:00pm



The That Man is You program second semester will be starting on Saturday morning Jan 9th. Breakfast at

0630, presentation at 0700, and concluding at 0800. Please join the 50 or so men already enrolled in the program. semester # 1 is NOT a prerequisite for semester #2. Call Joe Wooldridge at 636-922-4761 to get registered.

Third Sunday of Advent



(III) There is a promise of Marriage between
Emily Ann Kendrick &
Fabio Priore De Almeida on Saturday,
December 19, 2015, at 2:00pm.

Hospital Visits

Contact the Rectory Office if you or a loved one are hospitalized so that one of our priests can visit. 636-441-7503

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE SICK

Especially those in our parish:

Tim Goedeke	Tricia Woods	Bette Chant
Jacob Burnett	Jillian Litton	Joanna Schneider
Christine Chapman	Daniel Palms	Lisa Phillips
Lori Mayo	Lenore Kelly	Pat Knickmeyer
Tariq Eddington	Debbie Ilges	Jeff Coleman
Christopher Gwin	Chakita Fields	Bob Ruzensky
Kathy Cartwright	Regis Blutas (son)	Juanita Fernandez
Bob Boland	Tony Winkler	Loretta Schleeper
Michael Gasper	Becky Fretz	Chris Wooldridge
Mike Fischer	Ronald Williams	Frank Schmersahl
Debbie Shaw	Bill Rogers	Ed Leith
Kelly A. Smith	Bessie Gavura	Edith Layton
Jessica Thomas	DJ Heiger	Gerry Moore
John Kientzel	Jo Schaeffering	Luke Kahrhoff
Angie Terry	Chelsi Hauser	Brett Haubrich
Dennis Christensen	Barton Lehr	Tasha Herbig
George Nugent	Tracy Sherman	Sarah Mahler
Maggie Brown	Kurt Heist	Arnold Meyer
Sue Behrends	Ralph Ponzar	Kit Flor
Tony Kavadas	Margaret Priest	Dan Meyer
Marian Irwin	Mary Long	Marissa Wanninger
Eleanor Monolo	Dorothy Pelletier	Diane Dorn
Dan Schaefering	Richard Hendel	Rich Neuner
Nancy Conover	Ronnie Stockmann	Edward Ruethling
Angie Merton	Mary Ann Mills	Henrietta Buchheit
Mara Berry	Francesca Taullo	Mariah Tarin
James Beck	Shawn Criscione	

Christmas Floral

Anyone wanting to help defray the cost of our church floral decoration for the Christmas season may do so by filling out the form below and returning it to the rectory.



Donor's Name: _____

To Be Remembered: _____

Amount of donation (\$12 ea) _____

Please make checks payable to Sts. Joachim and Ann

St. Charles Friends of Birthright ...Celebrate Life; coming to First Assembly Church in St. Peters on Saturday, 1/30. Doors open at 6:30pm, concert begins at 7pm. This free music festival featuring local artists who will inspire, motivate and energize the crowd through music with a mission. For more details, to reserve complimentary individual or group tickets, visit us at www.stcfriendsofbirthright.org or celebratelifemusicfest.eventbrite.com.

December 13, 2015

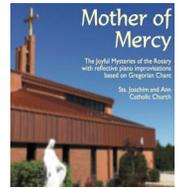
Music Ministry Notes

NEW CD!

J&A music ministry is excited to let you know of a new CD which will be available to everyone the four weekends before Christmas!

A CD to assist you in praying the rosary along with contemplative piano music by our Director of Music Ministries.

This CD will be offered for a \$10 donation (and a few remaining copies of our previous CD will be available for a reduced price as well!)



Catholic Book Club During the month of December we will not meet but everyone is invited to read the booklet *Pondering In Your Heart*, *Advent Reflections* by Rita McDonald, SSND. A few copies are available for \$2 if you are interested please contact Rose at wieschhausr@stsja.org or 636 926-0021. For the month of January we will be reading the book *Smart Martha's Catholic Guide for Busy Mom's* by Tami Kiser. Motherhood is so demanding, it's easy to become a Martha always worried about the next thing we have to do and rarely choosing the better part, as Martha's sister Mary did. Tami Kiser understands. She's a busy mom of nine who juggles teaching at her children's parish school, volunteering at her parish, running a household, and many other responsibilities. Her Smart Martha seminars have helped thousands of women learn to set their priorities so that they still have ample time for Jesus throughout the day. This is the book that can help any frazzled Martha become more spiritually focused, more holistically fulfilled, and more mentally prepared than ever before. Discover practical tips that will help save time and your sanity. Any adult in the parish is welcome to purchase and read the book ahead of time and then join us on January 26 at 7PM in Room 100 for discussion.

Food Pantry Tax Credits Available for 2015

The State of Missouri is once again offering the **Food Pantry Tax Credit**. Monetary donations and donations of food (with a receipt) to Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service Food Pantry, up to \$5,000 and made by December 31, 2015, are eligible for a 50% tax credit (up to \$2,500) on your Missouri tax return. If you are married, filing a combined Missouri income tax return, you can double your tax credit up to \$5,000 with a \$10,000 donation.

To find out more, please contact your personal tax professional, call our Finance office at (636) 441-1302, ext. 260 or contact the Missouri Department of Revenue at: <http://dor.mo.gov/taxcredit/fpt.php> (website), income@dor.mo.gov (email) or by telephone at (573) 526-8733 (individual); (573) 751-4541 (corporation). Please pass on this information to your friends, neighbors, and contacts in support of our mission, "to serve those in crisis and to prevent homelessness and hunger."

Teen Ministry Events

Come join us for the following events.

Wednesdays in the Youth Ministry Room - from 7-9pm

January 6 - Adoration - Epiphany Party

13 - The Ultimate Gift - Movie

20 - Bible Study - Prayer Night

27 - Game Night

Sundays in the Cafeteria - from 7-9pm

January 17 - Steubenville Kickoff Night

February 14 - Valentine's Day Party

For more information, contact Phillip Uro, 314-614-4901.

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2015

Thank You, Read for Need Participants!

A big thank you to all the students, teachers and parents of Sts. Joachim and Ann School who participated in the Read for Need Program this year! The Care Service was presented with a check for \$2,748.15. We are so proud of the children who worked so hard to help other children in need. May God bless you as you have blessed us with your generous spirit! You have helped us keep Jesus in the hearts of children and families in our local communities and have made a huge difference in their lives. ~ From your brothers and sisters at the Care Service

JASSS - Sts. Joachim & Ann Senior Service & Social Club Seniors 55 & Older New members welcome! Monday, January 4 - Board Meeting, 1:00pm in the Care Service. All members invited to help plan events.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the Heart." - Elizabeth Andrew

12th Annual Boys & Girls J & A 2nd Grade Basketball Camp - Please note corrected start & registration dates (from printed bulletin)

Begins Saturday, January 16, 2016. Four weeks (Saturday evenings) for \$20. Register by Jan. 9, 2016 on the Sts. Joachim and Ann website under the Athletics tab. This provides a great way to introduce the girls & boys to basketball in a non-competitive way to see if they will enjoy the game. The goal is to introduce the girls/boys to basketball and some of the basic fundamentals (dribbling, passing, shooting) in a fun environment Parents are welcome to assist in 'station' activity during camp **providing they are compliant with the Safe Environment Program.**

If any questions about the camp, please email basketball@stsja.org or call Beth Versheldon @ 314-220-7982. If you have questions regarding your status in the Safe Environment Program, contact JoAnne Van Acker, 636-441-7503 or jvanacker@stsja.org

Update Membership Information

Does our Church database have YOUR family membership record correct?

Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book & Directory (if you haven't already done so).

If you have changes to your membership record, please complete the form below and return it to the rectory so that the information in the Guide Book and Directory is correct.

PLEASE PRINT

Family Name: _____

Family Members: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Do not include family phone number in the directory

Do not include family in the directory at all

Please make the following changes: _____

*New parishioners will automatically be listed in the Guide Book & Directory unless stated otherwise on registration form.

THANK YOU, PARISHIONERS, for ALL YOUR BLESSINGS! Thank You for Your Support of the Annual Catholic Appeal. Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service has been awarded \$90,000 for the 2016 year from the Annual Catholic Appeal by Archbishop Carlson. Through your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal, you are personally helping to serve people in need in a meaningful way that can influence change. ACA proceeds help provide safe, secure housing to those who are vulnerable and ensure that they receive case management, integrated services and tools necessary to overcome homelessness and reach self-reliance through SYSTEMIC CHANGE. Thank you for your generous contributions to the ACA, which assists the families and individuals served by the Care Service as well as many other agencies who help those most in need. As the 2016 Appeal approaches, we will be seeking volunteers to share with others the impact our mission has on the community. If you would like to help us tell our story, please contact us at (636) 441-1302, ext. 263.

Trivia Night Returns!

The Parish Trivia Night returns on Saturday, February 27, 2016! Last year's event was a huge success and sold out early. Tickets will go on sale in January - watch the bulletin for details. Tables consist of eight players - It's not too early to gather your family and friends over the holidays and have them mark their calendars. Trivia will once again be produced by Bob Fortner. If you have questions, please contact Sue McCoy at trivia@stsja.org

Thank You for Your Contributions to the Annual Parish Picnic

My dear fellow parishioners,
In November of 1981, the parishioners of our newly founded church decided to have a sausage sandwich and soup dinner as our first fundraiser. St. Joseph's Parish of Cottleville was kind enough to welcome us into their kitchen and cafeteria to put on the event since all we had was 11.5 acres of muddy fields. The event was a great success! The following year in the early fall we had a Parish Picnic on the grounds of All Saints' Parish, we did the same in 1983. We were amazed how the community supported us and embraced our efforts.

In 1984 a volunteer electrician provided us with utility infrastructure on our own field so that we could have our Parish Picnic on what is now the Sts. Joachim and Ann, north school parking lot. That was a HUGE success! In our unfinished "cafeteria", in our newly built school, we served 1,200 chicken dinners in one day. It was amazing!

As the years go by, the momentum of our Parish Picnic continues to GROW and to make a mark in our history. It's the one time of the year that we ALL come together as parishioners to share the work and the success of our fabulous Annual Parish Picnic. Thank you to all who have given so much of your time, talents and treasures to make the 2015 Picnic such a GREAT success!

In our Sts. Joachim and Ann Parish tradition, 10% of the net proceeds from the Parish Picnic is given to the Care Service to serve the most vulnerable members of our parish and community. Once again this year, through your love and dedication, we will impact many of our brothers and sisters in need.

On behalf of all those we serve, I humbly thank you for your financial gift to the Care Service. Know that you are in our prayers. God bless every one of you!

Thank you! ~Miriam