CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF SAINT LOUIS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 20, 2020

MASSES ON THE LORD’S DAY
5:00 pm Sat (vigil)
8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 noon, 5:00 pm
LiveStreaming of Sunday Mass and daily Mass offered at 8:00 am

WEEKDAY MASSES
7:00 am (Mon-Fri)
8:00 am (Mon-Sat)
12:05 pm (Mon-Fri)

OPEN WEEKDAYS
6:30 am – 5:00 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS
Evening Prayer 4:30 pm (Sat)

OPEN SATURDAY/SUNDAY
7:00 am – 6:30 pm

CONFESSIONS
7:30–8:00 am
Evening Prayer 4:30 pm
(Monday through Friday)
3:30–4:50 pm (Sat)
9:00–9:50 am (Sun)
11:00–11:50 am (Sun)

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS
Following 8:00 am & 12:05 pm Mass (Tues)

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
3:30 pm–4:30 pm (Sat)
8:30 am–11:45 am
(Every First Friday)
SCHEDULE FOR THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve Mass, Thursday, December 24:
3:00 PM Christmas Vigil
5:00 PM Christmas Vigil
11:30 PM, Musical Program followed by Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Mass, Friday, December 25:
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 12 noon
(Church will close following noon Mass)

Feast of the Holy Family:
Saturday, December 26 - 5:00 PM
Sunday, December 27 - 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12 noon, and 5:00 PM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:
Thursday, December 31 - 5:00 PM Vigil Mass
Friday, January 1 - 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12 noon, and 5:00 PM

A Note on Décor and Christmas

The Cathedral Basilica will be decorated with the usual festive holiday greenery and floral display, but not until the last days before Christmas, allowing the Advent season to have its own identity. Commercial interests decorate early and remove the decorations immediately after Christmas Day. The Church maintains the integrity of Advent, and then uses Christmas decorations until the end of Christmas time.

Mass Intentions

Specific Mass intentions for each scheduled Mass listed regularly in this bulletin are made by individual request. Requests for Mass intentions may be directed to the rectory by calling 314-373-8202.

Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis
4431 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis, MO, 63108
314-373-8200 • fax 314-373-8290
Website: www.cathedralstl.org
Email: parish@cathedralstl.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun., December 20– Fourth Sunday of Advent
8:00 a.m. - For the Parish Family
10:00 a.m. - The Frank Family
12:00 p.m. - Gladys R. Frontera
5:00 p.m. - Nick Theiss

Mon., December 21– St. Peter Canisius
9:00 a.m. - Teresa and Francis Farrow & Family
8:00 a.m. - Vi Phung
12:05 p.m. - Alberta “Bert” Breckenkamp

Tues., December 22– Weekday in Late Advent
7:00 a.m. - Rosemary Farrow
8:00 a.m. - Henry Schwartz III
12:05 p.m. - Vincent P. Hogan

Wed., December 23– St. John of Kanty
7:00 a.m. - Maximo Alacar
8:00 a.m. - Stephen Joseph Esposito
12:05 p.m. - Jennifer Janson

Thur., December 24– Weekday in Late Advent
7:00 a.m. - Teresa Hagan
8:00 a.m. - In Memory of Lloyd Taaffe III
12:05 p.m. - CANCELLED
3:00 p.m. - Peter Dwyer
5:00 p.m. - Archbishop’s Intentions
12:00 a.m. - Archbishop’s Intentions

Fri., December 25– The Nativity of the Lord
8:00 a.m. - For the Parish Family
10:00 a.m. - Archbishop’s Intentions
12:00 p.m. - Teresa and Francis Farrow & Family

Sat., December 26– St. Stephen
8:00 a.m. - Mr. & Mrs. William Mulhall
5:00 p.m. - Charles E. Whitten

Sun., December 27– The Holy Family
8:00 a.m. - Edward P. Rose
10:00 a.m. - For the Parish Family
12:00 p.m. - Vivian M. Alatorre
5:00 p.m. - Nick Theiss
Dear Parishioners,

This past week I was able to visit with a good friend of mine who is a Franciscan Sister of the Martyr Saint George. One of the maxims of their founder, Mother M. Anselma, reads: "We come to love not by finding a perfect person, but by learning to see an imperfect person perfectly." In reflection on the readings for that day, the following came to me from Thomas a' Kempis: "Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be." Perhaps, I wondered, is God trying to tell me something.

Advent is a time in which we ask ourselves how we can prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. So we have to be careful sometimes when we ask God for direction. Perhaps God was speaking to me that morning. Perhaps he was reminding me not to judge others so quickly and not to demand that those around me must be perfect when I myself am not.

So, maybe all the things that we do during the Advent season to prepare— from donning our homes with lights, to gathering at Advent by Candlelight— is also about a change of heart for ourselves. How can we authentically change for Him? First, we have to ask for the grace. Then we need to fall in love with the person of Christ. Once we have fallen in love with Him, we will change. Even if it is painful for our human nature we don't mind. We no longer live for what we want. We look to see what the one we love wants. This is love. This is what makes a person happy. This is for what a person is created.

Masses for the Solemnity of Christmas begin on Christmas Eve with Mass at 3:00 p.m. and then followed by Mass at 5:00 p.m. and midnight. Masses on Christmas day will be at 8:00 am, 10:00 am, and 12 Noon.

Many thanks in advance to everyone who has worked to make our Christmas celebrations so wonderful. While we will not have our full choir this year, our soloists have been working hard with Dr. Buchholz and Ben Blasingame to lift our hearts in song. Many hours have already been spent by volunteers decorating our Basilica with greenery, and will begin setting up the Nativity Scene in the coming days. And many thanks to our Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers) for all their work as well. Thanks to all!

Monsignor Henry Breier
Archbishop’s Column

Jesus comes to us in all humility and offers His peace

We can accept His offer, or refuse it, but the consequences for our spiritual health are eternal.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I am keenly aware of what a gift the Holy Father gave to me this year in assigning me to the Archdiocese of St. Louis. More than its beautiful buildings (and they are beautiful!), and more than its amazing history (and it is amazing!), each of you is God’s gift to me this Christmas. I thank God, and I thank you, for that gift.

The whole world seems to pause at Christmas. There’s a deep sense of peace and joy. A deeper, more fulfilling kind of life seems possible — one in which heaven draws near to earth. And faith tells us: that is exactly true! Jesus not only came into the world 2,000 years ago, but He also continues to bring heaven and earth together each day.

One of the beauties of the Catholic faith is that it gives us the opportunity to experience a little Christmas every week. Two thousand years ago, in humility, heaven came to earth in the form of a baby. Every Sunday, in humility, heaven comes to earth again in the form of bread and wine.

Jesus comes to us in all humility and offers His peace. The question is, will we welcome Him with humility? The sad fact is, we can ignore Him.

The law of physical realities — like a rock or a tree — is that you can’t ignore them. Well, you can try. But there are consequences if you do. They assert their reality when you bump up against them!

The law of psychological realities — like the need to apologize or forgive — is that you can ignore them. But there are still consequences if you do. They assert their reality in the turmoil we experience within ourselves, and the alienation we experience from others. We bump up against them psychologically.

What, then, is the law of spiritual realities? If we look to biblical history, or look at our own culture, we can find the answer. People can pretend that God doesn’t exist, or that God hasn’t spoken. Or, believing that God exists, people can still refuse to respond with their lives, preferring to give all their time and energy to worldly things. But there are spiritual consequences. When people walk away from Jesus, they walk into alienation from God, and the sadness and anger and despair that result. We can see that in our culture. When people draw close to Jesus, they receive peace even in the midst of hardship. It’s our job to let our culture witness that peace in us.

If a doctor offers us medicine, and we refuse to take it, there are consequences for our physical health. If a psychologist offers us counsel, and we refuse to cooperate, there are consequences for our mental and emotional health. Two thousand years ago Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came into the world to offer us eternal life. Every Sunday, He comes again with the same offer. We can accept that offer, or refuse it. The consequences for our spiritual health are eternal.

This Christmas, and this coming year, let’s welcome the Prince of Peace into our lives. And then, let’s offer the world our witness to the peace we receive from following Him.

Merry Christmas!

Note: this column appeared in the St. Louis Review for December 21-27 and may be read in the print edition or at https://bit.ly/3eJOXr.
Christmas 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Rejoice! The weeks of Advent waiting are over, and Christ is born!

We rejoice in our Savior’s birth—remembering the great gift of faith He has given us through the mystery of His incarnation and the saving power of His death and resurrection.

If you are like me, you have a lot of uncertainty about the coming weeks and months. Because of the pandemic, there are many challenges ahead. But I am sure of one thing, Christ will be with us in the midst of our difficulties. Now is the time for Catholics to step forward, giving generously to help those in need.

Each year, the people of the archdiocese are asked to make a special gift on Christmas Day to support our seminarians at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. These men are responding to Christ’s call to follow Him as they discern a vocation to the holy priesthood and have dedicated themselves to living, growing, and serving in His love as they prepare for a life of parish ministry. God-willing, these men will bring the faith given to us by Christ 2,000 years ago to future generations.

This Christmas, I ask you to pray for vocations and for all our priests and seminarians. I also ask you to be generous in your donation to the Christmas collection at your parish, which helps ensure that our seminarians receive the education and formation they need to grow closer to Christ each day. Your support is a source of inspiration for the seminarians and helps to build up the Church in St. Louis. Together, we can encourage our future priests to walk the path of holiness as they seek to configure their hearts to the Heart of Jesus Christ.

I am blessed to be celebrating my first Christmas with the people of the Archdiocese of St. Louis! I am grateful for the warm welcome I have already received. What a gift it is be part of this community! Please be assured of my prayers for you during the season of Christmas. May the Lord of life come into your hearts and homes in a special way during this holy time of year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis
Daily Readings for the Week...
The readings are included each week so that the parishioners who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

Readings for the Week
December 20, 2020 through December 27, 2020

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28 1 Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8
Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14
Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Lk 1:67-79

Christmas Vigil: Is 62:1-5 Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25
Mt 1:1-25 (or Mt 1:18-25)

Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14

Christmas Day: Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18 (or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14)

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Ps 31:3-4, 6-8, 16, 17 Mt 10:17-22

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Ps 128:1-5
Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Re-Gifting for Pro-Life
The Cathedral Pro-Life Ministry will be collecting two types of items the weekend of January 2-3 to support expectant moms and babies:

- Those new or like-new items you may have received during Christmas which can be “re-gifted” to the thrift shop at Our Lady’s Inn, which can then generate revenue to support the Inn’s mission.
- Baby supplies in original packaging, such as diapers, new bottles, and toys, all of which will be gift-ed to Our Lady’s Inn shelter.

Simply place your item(s) in the drop boxes at the entrance of the church after any of the Masses the weekend of January 2-3. Questions? Please email Bryan Kirchoff at bryankirchoff@att.net.

A Thought on The Sanctity Of Life
“Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother.” Learn ten tips at respectlife.org/support-her.

Respect Life Memorial Mass
January 22 marks the 48th anniversary of the court decision that legalized abortion on demand throughout the entire nine months of pregnancy. On Saturday, January 16 at 10:00 a.m., all are invited to the celebration of the Annual Roe V. Wade Memorial Mass and Prayer Vigil here at the Cathedral Basilica, to pray for the protection of all unborn children who are in danger of abortion; for wisdom, strength, and fortitude for their mothers and fathers; for the conversion of all those who participate in the abortion industry; and for parents, family members, and friends who have suffered as a result of an abortion experience, that they may find hope and healing. The offertory collection will benefit LifeLine Coalition, a group of social service agencies whose financial and emotional support help over 10,000 women in our community annually. The Mass will be followed by a Rosary procession to the Planned Parenthood facility on Forest Park Avenue. For additional information, please contact the Archdiocesan Respect Life Apostolate at 314-792-7555.
ANIMA CHRISTI YOUNG ADULTS

All young adults interested in growing the fellowship of our young adult community are invited to the next young adult gathering. We’re taking a break for the holidays, but will return on Thursday, January 7. We begin with a Holy Hour in the church at 5:30 pm (enter through the west door by the playground), followed by Mass at 6:30 pm, and conclude with a dinner at 7:00 pm. Please join us, in full or in part, to deepen your relationship with Christ and with one another. For more information, please e-mail AnimaChristiStL@gmail.com.

Tis the Season for Giving

The Cathedral Basilica’s Advent Giving Tree is located in the west transept and, as is our custom, we are requesting monetary donations rather than the purchase of specific items. By taking a red envelope from the tree and dropping it into Sunday’s offertory basket with your donation, you will help provide necessary items for Fr. Dempsey Charities and the residents of both Bernard West Pine Nursing Home and St. Elizabeth Hall. Visa gift cards or gift cards to appropriate stores (such as Schnucks or Walmart) are also greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generous participation in this very special parish program!

INFANT BAPTISM

According to the mind of the Church, parents are obliged to see that infants are baptized within the first weeks after birth. If you are a registered parishioner who is or is about to become a parent or godparent, please contact the parish office at 314-373-8202 to schedule a baptism.

WEEKLY THOUGHTS ON GIVING

“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!” – Lk 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God’s call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ’s light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

THE GIFT THAT HAS NO SEASON

Over the years, it has been gifts left to the Cathedral Basilica in wills, bequests, and memorials that have largely enabled us to continue to operate as a place of worship. As we approach year end and consider the upcoming tax season, please remember the Cathedral Basilica Parish in your will or charitable giving plans.

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<tr>
<th>OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR THE WEEKEND OF 12/06/2020</th>
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Mass for Social Justice
The Annual Archdiocesan Mass for Social Justice will be celebrated on Sunday, January 17, at 2:30 p.m., with Archbishop Rozanski as celebrant and homilist. For further information, please contact the St. Charles Lwanga Center at 314-367-7929.

Prepare for the Lord
Every Catholic should recognize that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation is a gift from the Lord to be used frequently and effectively, not just seasonally, but as an all-year opportunity to meet Christ as He intended: as the merciful Redeemer. However, in this time of preparation for the Lord, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is needed more than ever. For a complete listing of our confession schedule, please refer to the cover of this bulletin.

For the Poor
On the first Sunday of every month, the Cathedral Parish collects foodstuffs and canned goods (non-perishable items only, please!) for delivery to food pantries in the area. Our next parish food drive will be held Sunday, January 3.

Eyeglass Drive
"The Respectacle Project", an eyeglass recycling program, facilitates the redistribution of quality used eyeglasses to those in need both locally and abroad. Donations are typically accepted on the first Sunday of every month. Our next eyeglass drive will be held Sunday, January 3.

St. Patrick Casserole Program
Casseroles and other offerings collected by volunteers of the St. Patrick Casserole Program provides one week of dinners for the Women’s Shelter, and one night of dinners for the Men’s Alumni Club.
Cathedral casserole organizers will host our next "touchless" drop-off in the parish parking lot on Thursday, January 7, from 1:00 –2:00 p.m. Please call Skip or Nicki Batchelor at 916-834-4843 for additional information.

Have You Considered Online Giving
On Line Giving is a secure and convenient web-based service to make your weekly or monthly contributions to Cathedral Parish from your computer, or lap top, or tablet. Simply access the Cathedral website (www.cathedralltl.org) and click on the bright red DONATE button on the home page. Watch the 5 minute “Watch Help Video” and follow the easy instructions to set up your secure account and authorize your contributions to be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the date you specify. All of information is encrypted and stored securely.

Catholic Radio
Seasons come and seasons go, but our pillar of Faith remains in season and out. Keep your radio set on AM 1460 or FM 92.7, Covenant Network Catholic radio. You are sure to find many educational and inspirational programs to nurture your faith and devotional programs throughout the day and night-time hours to support and enrich your faith life. In addition to the radio stations, you can listen live, day or night, on our free Covenant Network app or on our website: ourcatholicradio.org.

Surrender to God
Ecce ancilla Domini. Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum. “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word” (Lk 1:38).
This is one of the most beautiful lines in Scripture. It conveys to us the total surrender and power of obedience to God’s will in our lives. Because of Mary’s fiat, the Savior entered the world to save us from our sins and to bring us back to God.
As we celebrate Christmas later this week, let us do so in the spirit of joy, welcoming the humble Christ-child into our hearts once more and asking Him to conform our hearts to His most sacred heart. In this joyful time, let us show love, kindness, and mercy to our loved ones who have fallen away and never lose hope in their return home. The angel Gabriel tells us, “For nothing will be impossible for God” (Lk 1:37).
May God bless you and your family this Christmas! Venite adoremus Dominum! For more, visit archstl.org/live-the-faith.
Midweek Music Series

On the first Wednesday of each month, the Cathedral presents a "Midweek Music" organ recital. Please note a slight schedule change: our next Midweek Music is scheduled for Wednesday, January 6, at 4:00 p.m..

These recitals feature 20-30 minutes of music on our magnificent Cathedral organ. We invite you to join us online or in-person. Please note that the wearing of masks and other social distancing guidelines remain in effect for in-person attendance.

Why A Registered Parishioner

Due to the number of requests for baptisms and weddings, the Cathedral Parish adopted a policy years ago that generally requires parents to be registered parishioners of the parish before their infant may be baptized here, or for an engaged person to be a registered parishioner and practicing Catholic for a minimum of one year for preferred dates and for a more modest stipend. Non-parishioners must be registered in a Catholic parish somewhere and will need to secure their pastor’s permission to be baptized or married outside of their proper parish before we can schedule any ceremony. If you attend Mass at the Cathedral regularly, call the parish office for more information on how to get registered today!

A Lasting Gift

Looking for a special gift to memorialize a loved one, or celebrate a birth, wedding, ordination, graduation, anniversary, or other important event? Consider a commemorative brick in the Cathedral Basilica Jubilee Prayer Garden! For more info and order forms, please, contact the parish office at 314-373-8202.

St. Vincent de Paul Membership

Members of the Cathedral St. Vincent de Paul Society meet weekly. Members are committed to aiding fellow parishioners and neighbors with necessities such as food, clothing, utilities, and rent—all in the context of the Christian imperative. If interested in becoming a member or in learning more about the Society and our Conference, please leave a message on the SVDP HotLine at 314-373-8288.

TEXT CATHEDRALSTL TO 84576

Don’t miss out on the latest parish news! Flocknotes is a fast and easy email distribution platform utilized by the Cathedral Basilica to keep in touch with our parishioners.

Text, logon, or simply call the parish office at 314-373-8202 to sign up today!

OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT cathedralstlflocknote.com
**Liturgical Ministers December 26-27, 2020**

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<tr>
<th>Extraordinary Ministers</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Ministers of Care</th>
<th>Servers</th>
<th>Ushers</th>
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| **5:00 p.m. (Sat)**    | **No Cup Ministers At Any Mass This Weekend** | Barb Murray  
Jessica Lobo | Doug Weber | Jerry Pastore  
Matt Colvin  
Robert Sutter  
Luke Koebbe |
| **8:00 am**             | Barb Murray  
Patricia Rice | Doug Weber  
Kevin Mattingly | Dave Meyer  
Tom Doyle  
Frank Snyder |
| **10:00 am**            | Sr. Mary Kathleen  
Mike Roth | John Paul Blanner  
Simon Blanner  
Matthew Brewer  
Joseph Brewer | Victor Stuart  
Barb Murray  
Susan Metheny |
| **12 Noon**             | Vito Alu  
Al Alatorre | TBD | Kenneth Brandl  
Rebecca Brandl  
Jerry Danekas |
| **5:00 pm**             | Sandy Dubuque  
Barb Murray | Sacristan | Willie Kelsey  
Charlie Hapke  
Pat McCann |

**Parish Information**

**Registration in Parish**
To join our parish, please fill out a registration card (found at entrances to church) or contact the parish rectory at 314-373-8202.

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**Baptism of Infants**
Parents requesting Baptism should be registered members of the parish. To schedule baptisms or register for baptismal preparation classes for parents or godparents, contact Laura Voegelie at 314-373-8202.

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**
For persons interested in becoming Catholic, contact the parish rectory at 314-373-8202.

**Anointing of the Sick**
Parishioners facing surgery or struggling with serious illness may request this sacrament by calling the rectory at 314-373-8202.

**Vocations to Christian Marriage**
Couples planning to marry at the Cathedral Basilica may contact Mary Ann Fox at 314-373-8208.

**Vocations to Holy Orders and Consecrated Life**
Those who feel called to this life are invited to call the Archdiocesan Office of Vocations at 314-792-6460.

**Cathedral Basilica Rectory**
4431 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63108  
314-373-8200 • fax 314-373-8290  
www.cathedralstl.org — Email: parish@cathedralstl.org