

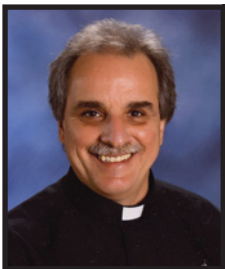
The Parish Family of
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Farmington, Missouri



December 26th, 2010
Living the Gospel Message Since 1890



Celebrating the Feast of The Holy Family
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners of St. Joseph

A Prayer for Christmas and the New Year!

**For unto us a child is born,
Unto us a child is given:
Upon his shoulder dominion rests.
He shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor,
The mighty God, the everlasting Father,
And the Prince of Peace.**
Isaiah 9:6

Dear Heavenly Father,
we come to the stable in Bethlehem this New Year,
our hearts overflowing with adoration and gratitude,
as we kneel with Joseph and Mary
before the manger of Your only begotten Son.

Unto us, who have lost our innocence
and sense of wonder, a Child is born. Unto us, who have
hardened our hearts and misplaced our joy,
a Son is given. Upon his shoulder rests a government
both compassionate and servant,
for Jesus has come to embrace us,
wash our feet, and save us on the Cross.
Truly, in all our trials, He is born to be our Friend!

O Lord, please send out Your Spirit
upon us this New Year and soften our hearts.
Help us to take time to look into each other's eyes,
listen a little more closely, and appreciate the goodness
of each person we meet along our journey.

Help us to take time also to seek you in the quiet
of our hearts, homes and our parish community,
for time with You is our greatest treasure.
Watch over our loved ones near and far,
especially those who protect us at home and abroad.
Bring peace to every part of the world,
every room of our homes, and every corner of our hearts.

Lord Jesus, bless each of us here at St. Joseph's
with your warmth and light.
May you be born again in us this Christmas,
everyday of the New Year and forever.
Amen!

Thank You!!! with Heartfelt Gratitude. . .

Each day I realize what an awesome gift it is to be a part of this life-giving and faith filled community. I have especially recognized it over the past weeks, as I look with wonder at all the Christmas cards and gifts in my office from so many of you. Thank you for all of the cookies and Christmas treats brought to the parish office. My heart is filled with much gratitude for all the expressions of thoughtfulness. Fr. James and I welcome this opportunity to say, "**Thank you!**" Your continued prayers and support help us to be the priests that we are here at St. Joseph's.

A very special thank you to our Women of Mary president, **Connie Grindel**, and our parish health minister, **Agnes Hinkebein**, who are in charge of decorating our sacred space. Thanks also to all who helped them decorate our church so beautifully for Christmas!!! You did an awesome job in making our Sacred Space truly celebrative for the season!

Thank you to all who took an ornament from our Advent giving tree for our **St. Vincent de Paul Society** and purchased a gift or toy for the poor visiting our food pantry. **This year's response was extraordinary!**

Thank you to **Dan Stott**, our choir director and organist, and all of our musicians for the wonderful gift of music and song at our Christmas masses! Our thanks also to **Daryl Buchheit** for the wonderful music and song at our 5:00 pm Christmas Eve mass.

A warm and special thanks goes to our awesome parish staff: **Fr. Dyer** for being the gentle and loving priest that he is; to **Deacon Al Gegg** for his unending dedication; to **Sr. Barbara Wentworth**, our religion coordinator, for the contagious spirit of joy that she spreads wherever she is. Thanks to **Nathan Stein**, our business manager, **Lisa Cartee** and **Jane Hardy** our part-time secretaries, **Agnes Hinkebein** our Parish Health Minister, **Sandy Doty** for the numerous hours of planning the various Christmas gatherings for our parish and the continuous awesome job of creating our bulletins each week, **Mike Ward** our facilities manager, **Susie Rohrer** our principal, and **Lauren Stein** our preschool director. Thanks also to **Gabby Schultz** and **Austin Roberts** our youth ministers. Our awesome staff brings the true meaning of Christmas every day to our parish family by who they **are** and by what they do.

Thank you so much to everyone who participated in the "**Secret Santa**" to help some of our faithful

parishioners! I can't begin to express to you how grateful I am for your generosity! Your gifts made Christmas much brighter for **23** households within our parish family. For numerous years this has been one of the highlights of Christmas for me, to help parishioners who could use an unexpected lift on the journey! The people we helped were all registered and contributing members of our parish family, and attend Mass faithfully each week.

Thanks to your generosity we were able to give each of these families an average of **\$380** to help with such things as utility bills, medical bills, and two house payments. We collected a total of **\$10,300** which was distributed either personally by myself or a member of our staff.

May God's gift of peace be yours this Christmas and throughout the New Year. I thank you for the most precious gift, the gift of your faithful witness to the Gospel as a parish community called St. Joseph.



Thank You to Our Knights of Columbus

My special thanks to our **Knights of Columbus** for the generous Christmas gift for serving as their Chaplain through the years. Pictured above is our Grand Knight, **John Thurman**, presenting the gift to me at our recent breakfast with Santa. It is truly a joy for me to have the honor of being the Chaplain of our Knights. **My sincere thanks to each of our Knights for their awesome dedication to our Church.**

Eucharistic Adoration

Please note that due to the holidays there will be no Eucharistic Adoration on **December 30th**. Eucharistic Adoration will resume on January 6th.

New Years Day is not a Holy Day of Obligation This Year

The solemnity of **Mary, Mother of God**, falls on a Saturday this year, and therefore is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

Special Meeting for Those Going on the Pilgrimage to Washington D.C.

For those attending this year's pilgrimage, please mark your calendar for a special meeting on **Thursday, January 6th in Church at 7:00 pm** to go over the itinerary of the trip! Your sweatshirts will be available for pick up on this evening.

Thank You for the Memorials for Christmas Poinsettias for Our Church

Thank you for the many memorials for the Christmas flowers that will grace our church this Christmas season! As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family today, what a beautiful way to remember your loved ones by having the poinsettias in their memory adorn our holy altar and sacred space this Christmas season! The memorials are listed on pages 13 - 15 of this week's bulletin.

Please note: the extra funds collected are placed in a restricted flower fund and are used for decorating our Sacred Space year round. Thus, throughout the year when you see the plants and flowers we hope you will be reminded of your loved ones.

Join Us Next Sunday for Coffee, Donuts and Fellowship. . .

Next Sunday, **January 2nd**, our **Knights of Columbus** will be hosting Coffee & Donuts after all masses in the Parish Center. Be sure to stop in, visit with one another and enjoy delicious donuts. What a great way for us to get to know each other and share our faith journey.

And Finally...

As we celebrate the **Feast of the Holy Family** today and continue to celebrate the octave of Christmas, I sincerely thank you for being such an awesome parish family!!!

Blessings of Christmas Joy... Fr. Rickey

Our Pastoral Team

Rev. Rickey J. Valleroy..... Pastor
email: frrickvalleroy@aol.com

Rev. James W. Dyer..... Associate Pastor
email: frjim@stjosephfarmington.com

Deacon Albin Gegg Permanent Deacon

Susie Rohrer.....Principal
email: principal@stjosephfarmington.com

Sr. Barbara Wentworth.....Religion Coordinator

Agnes Hinkebein Pastoral Health Care
email: agnes@stjosephfarmington.com

Lauren Stein.....Preschool Director
email: prekdirector@stjosephfarmington.com

Nathan SteinBusiness Manager
email: nathan@stjosephfarmington.com

Sandy Doty..... Event Coordinator and Bulletin Editor
email: bulletin@stjosephfarmington.com

Jane Hardy & Lisa Cartee Secretaries
email: secretary@stjosephfarmington.com

Mike WardMaintenance Supervisor

Brian Stamm Pastoral Council

Chuck Hayden Financial Commission

Ed Brown.....Cemetery Association
phone: 573-756-5369

Parish Business Office Hours

Monday thru Friday • 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Phone (573)756-4250 • Fax (573)756-6938
10 North Long Street • Farmington, MO 63640

Mass Schedule

Monday thru Friday 7:00 am
Friday (All School Mass August - May) 8:05 am
Sunday Observance
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am, 9:00 am, and 10:30 am
Holy Days of Obligation 7:00 am, 8:00 am, and 7:00 pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 pm, Sunday 7:00 am, or by appointment

The Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are held the first Sunday of the month after the 10:30 am Mass

The Sacrament of Marriage

Celebrated after meeting the bride and groom and beginning preparation six months before the wedding, in accordance with Archdiocesan Wedding Policy.

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 7:30 am thru Closing Prayer Service at 5:20 pm
First Fridays of the month from 8:30 am to 2:15 pm

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Open Tuesday and Friday from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

For assistance call 756-0997

This Week in Our Parish

Wed 12/29 **NO PSR classes**
NO Bible Timeline
Parish Rosary
7:15 pm • Church

Thurs 12/30 **NO Eucharistic Adoration**

Sun 01/02 **NO RCIA**
Doughnut Sunday
After all masses • Parish Center

New Year's Eve Office Hours

Please note that the parish office will be open on New Year's Eve until 3:00 pm.

Congratulations

to the longest married couple in our parish family,
Bill & Frances Young, who were married **69** years ago today on December 26th, 1941.



Happy Birthday



December 26th

Joe Blum
Bev Bryant
Agnes Davis
Joe Freeman
Keith Huck

December 27th

Jeanne O'Hara

December 28th

Kelly Freeman
Mary Ellen Jones
Cletus P. Jung
Shelby Ratliff
James Rose

December 29th

A. J. Vessell

December 30th

Mike Greif
Christopher Huitt
Jesue Lara
Dan Stott
Rita Strauser

December 31st
John Earnst
Irene Eck
Natasja Haffner
Marvin Hahn
Kathy Miller

January 1st

Tiffani Busenbark
Mutsie Greif
Charmaine McFarland
Jacinta Weidenbenner

January 2nd

Rosemary Kane
Alex Kearns
Luke Landreneau
Courtney Nicholson
Kody Winch



Happy Anniversary



December 26th, 1981

Kevin & Chris Engler

December 26th, 1941

Bill & Frances Young

December 27th, 2000

Dwayne & Karen Perkins

December 27th, 2008

Jeffrey & Jennifer Swinarski

December 28th, 1979

Mark & Jane Basler

December 28th, 1987

Kent & Angie Scism

December 30th, 2004

Brent & Brenda Medley

December 31st, 1971

Kenneth & Sue Bryant

January 1st, 2003

Brent & Heather Meyer



Eucharistic Celebrations and Mass Intentions

Week of Dec 27th, 2010 - Jan 2nd, 2011

Monday: St. John Apostle & Evangelist

Readings: 1 Jn 1:1-4 Jn 20:1a,2-8

7:00 am: **Joan & Jack Manley**

Tuesday: Holy Innocents

Readings: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Mt 2:13-18

7:00 am: **The Block Family**

Wednesday: Octave of Christmas

Readings: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Lk 2:22-35

7:00 am: **Anthony & Marie Thurman**

Thursday: Octave of Christmas

Readings: 1 Jn 2:12-17 Lk 2:36-40

7:00 am: **Peggy Weber**

Friday: Octave of Christmas

Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-21 Jn 1:1-181 Jn 2:18-21 Jn 1:1-18

7:00 am: **Craig Schnurbusch**

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Readings: Sir 3:2-7,12-14 Ps 128:1-5
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Mt 2:13-15,19-23

Saturday

5:00 pm **Vincent Tallo**

Sunday

7:30 am: **Parishioners**

9:00 am: **Joe & Jackie Maloney Family**

10:30 am: **Joan Manley**

visit www.stjosephfarmington.com and click on "daily mass readings" for easy reference.



Welcome to St. Joseph Parish

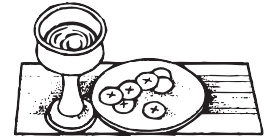
Welcome to St. Joseph's Parish. If you are a regular visitor and would like to join our parish, please return this form in next week's collection basket or stop by the Parish Office at 10 North Long Street.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Ministers of the Liturgy



Saturday, January 1st

5:00 pm Mass

Priest: Fr. Rickey Valleroy

Lector: Ree Rogers

Extraordinary Ministers:

Jerry & Dotty Bach, Rosetta Halter,
Rick & Donna Conklin

Ushers: John Jones, Mark Kellogg,

Richard Reney, Dennis Rogers

Servers: J. McNamara, A. Willis, M. McNamara

Sunday, January 2nd

7:30 am Mass

Priest: Fr. Rickey Valleroy

Lector: Vicky Damba

Extraordinary Ministers:

Chris Westrich, Tom & Brenda Donze,
Jack & Kathy Neiner

Ushers: Ed Weidenbenner, Ed Brown,

Dale Jones, Francis Figge

Servers: E. Damba, F. Hulsey

9:00 am Mass

Priest: Fr. James Dyer

Deacon: Deacon Al Gegg

Lector: Vanessa Trokey

Extraordinary Ministers:

Ron Strauser, Margaret Greif
Mitch & Dawn Fuemmeler

Ushers: Don Trokey, Mike Turner,

Mike Ward, George Kracke

Servers: A. Barnhouse, L. Trokey, E. Barnhouse

10:30 am Mass

Priest: Fr. James Dyer

Lector: Gary Berblinger

Extraordinary Ministers:

Jana Dore', Shirley Bieser,
John & Helen Thurman

Ushers: Bob Bone, Tom Freeman,

Jim Robert, Chuck Koppeis

Servers: T. Holloway, J. Roney, R. Colligan

Monday, January 3rd, 2011

Sacristans

Theresa AuBuchon, Sue Brown,
Barb Doss, Geneva Jokerst

Money Counters

Beulah Carrow, Jackie Maloney,
Nancy Ott, Carolyn Rigdon

Come join us for our weekly Parish Rosary to be offered this Wednesday at 7:15 pm in church.



Our rosary leaders will be:
Pat Dastoor, Barb Doss, Joni Jones,
Jeanie Gegg, Helen Mell

The Mysteries this week are: **Luminous**

Our petition for this week will be:

“As we approach the coming of the New Year, we ask our Lord to bless this nation, founded “under God”, with peace and prosperity.”

In Our Thoughts and Prayers. . .

We pray for the repose of the soul of



Francis Figge
father of Diane, Tina, and Kenny

Kathryn Otto
mother of Rick (Donna) Conklin

May God welcome them home, fill them with peace, and bless those who will miss them.

We welcome into our faith community through Baptism. . .



Dominick Kendrick Gallagher
son of Kirk & Denise Gallagher

“May the Lord give His angels charge over you, to guide you in all your ways.”
Psalm 91:11

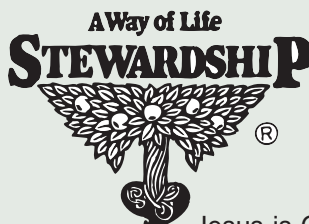
Your Gifts to God and Parish Sunday, December 19th, 2010

Adult Envelopes	\$10,286.00
Loose	\$334.30
Children’s Envelopes	\$6.75
Spanish Mass	\$420.43
Immaculate Conception	\$31.00
Solemnity of Mary	<u>\$55.00</u>
	\$11,133.48

	<u>Current Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Sunday Offering	\$11,133.48	\$269,503.72
Budgeted Amount	<u>\$10,850.00</u>	<u>\$271,250.00</u>
Shortage/Overage	\$283.48	\$(1,746.28)

Partners in Education	\$167.00
Maintenance & Repair	\$23.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$449.00
Seminary	\$110.00
Christmas Flowers	\$498.00
Christmas	\$185.00
Secret Santa	<u>\$100.00</u>
Total for Specials	\$1,532.00

Thank You For Your Faithfulness!!!



“Over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts.”

Colossians 3:14-15

Jesus is God's ultimate gift of love to us. The countless other blessings that God showers upon us are nothing compared to the gift of His only Son. And the only appropriate way for us to respond to such generous love is with our own generous love. When we dedicate our lives to sharing all the many gifts that God has placed within our hands, the peace of Christ truly will control our hearts. We will know Christmas joy every day.

Together we pray for those who are sick. (Parishioners names are in bold.)

Please pray for: **Mary Ann Burns, Howard Denton, Becky Hassell, Tracy Beussink, Kathy Stewart, Joe Stewart, Mike Carriere, Meg Corizine, Jack Cunningham, Mazie Roegner, Debbie Gebhardt, Jhena Copeland, Shannon Moorman, Kirk Family, Kathy Pearce, John Wieland, Doug Booth, Jim and Mary Ogden, Jamie Golden, Quentin King, Brenda Barks, Stephanie Webb, Mary Lou Lodholz, Nan Link, Kim Wilkinson, Wanda Meyer, Mary Jones, Charmaine McFarland, Tom Rigdon, Bob Medley, Charles Southard, Kathy Krechnyak, Rhonda LaPierre, Norma "Mutzie" Greif, Diane Starks, Robert McManus, Patrick Kernan, Roy Wirth, Melissa McKelvey, Rose Trepasso, Thelma Blake, Frances Zolman.**

If you need to add someone to the prayer list, please contact Pat Boatright at 756-4169.

Subordinate Clause

The second reading today has both a long form and a short form. The short one omits the verses about women being subordinate to their husbands. That verse offended many women (and men smart enough to agree with their wives.) St. Paul, of course, meant no offense. In fact, he saw men and women as equals in the eyes of the Lord. (Gal 3:28) Remember that after Paul lists the qualities of a Christian, he tells us that love is the most important. What he recommends for wives, husbands, and children is based on that love. Think of how you would do anything for someone you love. That is the kind of subordination Paul is talking about.

Look at how those last verses apply to the Holy Family. Mary loved Joseph enough to go with him to Bethlehem for the census. She trusted him enough to go to Egypt based on his dream-message from the angel. When a later dream warned him to return to Galilee instead of Judea, Mary went along with it. Her faith and love gave her the freedom to be “subordinate” to Joseph.

Joseph did not treat Mary as his property. He loved and trusted her enough to take her into his home when he learned she was pregnant. He raised Jesus and taught him to be a carpenter. (Mk 6:3) And even Jesus “went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them.” (Lk 2:51)

Today’s feast is part of the Christmas season. It shows us how God became one of us, even to the extent of sharing the joys and troubles of family life. As members of the Body of Christ, we can try to see Him in our own families: In the joys we share together, in the pains of growing up, in the miracle of new life. St. Paul also tells us to be grateful; perhaps one of the best ways to give thanks to God is in the love we show to our closest relatives.

(from “The Word in our Lives”)



2011 Religious Calendars



Compliments of
Cozean Memorial Chapel
 Available in the
back of church

In the back of church you may pick up your 2011 religious calendar. Our sincere thanks go to Cozean Memorial Chapel for providing the calendars for our parish each year! On the calendars is St. Joseph’s Parish contact information along with the mass schedule. If you are at Cozean’s for a visitation, please express your gratitude for these beautiful calendars.

A Christmas Prayer

Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas.

Put into our hearts this peace for which we sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give us.

Help us know one another better, and live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father.

Reveal to us also your beauty, holiness and purity.

Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.

Join us all together in your love, and give us your heavenly peace.



Bl. Pope John XXIII

Holiday Mass Schedule

Feast of the Epiphany Sunday, January 2nd

Vigil at 5:00 pm on Saturday, January 1st
 Sunday Masses at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 am

Since New Year’s Day falls on a Saturday it is not a holy day of obligation this year.



A Prayer Before The Blessed Nativity

O Blessed Mary and dearest Joseph, allow me to journey with you to Bethlehem. I am a lowly pilgrim making my way to the center of history, the center of the universe: the birth of Christ the Lord. With unspeakable awe and expectant wonder I long to behold the promised Messiah. Time will stand still, forever divided by the entry of the Creator into His creation. What joy to my eyes to see His adorable face. What joy to my ears to hear

His soft cries. My heart is overcome with delight to see the splendor of God now truly alive in human flesh. For by God's infinite humility and kindness we now know Emmanuel, God with us. This dear infant at rest in a feeding trough will become the food for mankind, redeeming the world and nourishing each soul that receives Him. Both shepherd and lamb recognize Him as one of their own. For this Child will lead many into the green pastures of deathless Paradise by becoming the slain Shepherd, the sacrificial

Lamb of God. By the light of a great star above, I see His precious eyes begin to open. He who is Light of Light now sees with eyes of flesh that star's gentle lumen. My heart is prostrate before Him and I have but one sorrow: I am poor, bereft of fitting treasures for this newborn King. And so I lay before Him the gift of my life, though even that be His own gift to me. O sweet Christ, Author of Life, accept my heart as gift born of Gift.

O Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom. Amen.

"St. Joseph, You Understand"

St. Joseph the Provider,
Protector of our Savior and His holy mother,
My own family is in need of protection, too.

Joseph, you understand.
You know what it's like to work hard for little wages. You know what it's like to wonder where your family will sleep. You know what it's like to depend on the generosity of others. But, your example teaches us to trust completely in our true provider:
God, our loving Father.

Joseph, friend and kindred spirit,
Please bring the needs of my family to
your Son. Amen.

*"Look at the birds which fly in the air:
they neither plant, nor harvest, nor gather into
barns, but your heavenly Father feeds them.
Aren't you worth more than they?"
Matthew 6:26*

Year End Contributions

Rejoice! This is the time of the year to recognize our many blessings and reflect on the special gifts in our lives. . . family, friends, talents and treasures. This is a great time to reflect on the past year and to count your blessings! Making a gift to St. Joseph parish or school is one way to show your gratitude for the many blessings received throughout the year! Contribution statements needed for tax purposes will be mailed in late January!

*Let us pray for those who share weekly
in our Eucharistic Celebration and who
are carrying the gift of life. . .*

Golda (Anton) Aseniero

Stephanie (Paul) Boshoff

Lauren (Nathan) Stein

*If you are carrying the gift of life and would like the prayers of
your parish family please call Sandy at the parish office.*



A Special Christmas Meditation



The Word Was Made Flesh and Dwelt Among Us...

10 WAYS TO LIVE THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION and to practice our belief that Christ came to live among us and is with us now

Listening: The art of listening is essential to living incarnationally. Appropriate listening is grounded in a faith that believes each person is made in the image of God. The Holy Spirit is active, working, leading, and inviting the church into the mission of Jesus especially when we listen to each other in the process of discernment.

Presence: Presence is about connection. In our culture, we connect through technology, and at the same time there is a great longing for face-to-face relationships. Bernard Cooke says it well: "We need people who mean something to us and to whom we mean something, knowing that being with them is coming home." The gift of presence is about building relationships and letting people see you and know you are there and letting people experience that you see them and want to know them.

Prayer: The regular practice of prayer, reflection, scripture reading, awareness, sharing faith and fasting, prepare us for genuine ministry and service pleasing to God and shape us into a people rooted in the Gospel.

Simplicity: With deep faith and trust in God, we choose to not live a stressed existence. Rather we choose to avoid rushing and frantic schedules. We choose to be rested, grounded and aware. Expediency and efficiency, plans and deadlines, are put in their proper perspective.

Empathy: The love of God is the beginning of incarnation. A response filled with compassion and fueled by the Holy Spirit comes out of our encounter with God, both personally and communally. This enables us to grow in awareness of God's love and to grasp the insight that those who suffer are Christ himself suffering. "Whatever you did for the least of my brothers, you did for me!"

Patience: Relationships, like any important aspect of life, take time. Incarnation happens through committed involvement with others and through faithful discernment of God's will. God waits for us. We wait for the evidence of Incarnation each day and "on that day" when Christ will come again. We wait for each other.

Generosity: The gift of Christ who became one of us calls us to be generous with all we have, especially our time, our presence, our attention. When we recognize Christ in each other, the desire to express that spiritual insight by generous gestures evangelizes and enriches both the giver and receiver. Generosity is both an imitation and a response to the abundance we have been given by God in Christ.

Advocacy: Following in the footsteps of Jesus means standing with the marginal, the poor and oppressed. We not only identify with them, but we act as advocates for them. The incarnation challenges us to work for a world where justice, peace and reconciliation are the norm. "The Lord hears the cry of the poor."

Hospitality: The Eucharist is the most tender expression of hospitality. Sharing a meal deepens relationships and allows all to be and to become the Children of God. Welcoming and being welcomed by all who follow Christ, strengthens us to go forth and invite others to the table. "When I was a stranger, you welcomed me."

Noticing: Our eyes are opened to Christ's Presence in our culture when we attend to and reflection on the stories people tell and live by, along with the media news and the GOOD NEWS, and those things people desire and buy into. Noticing these expressions and expectations, these values and vision, we are better able to respond to opportunities for evangelization. "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Youth Group News

Greetings Parish!

A special prayer goes out to all the members of the Parish from the youth ministers wishing them a happy and safe Christmas vacation! Hopefully everyone is able to spend it in the warm company of loved ones!



Last weekend the Junior High was able to watch the movie, "One Night With the King", a movie based on the story of Esther. Many little ones who were children of the helpers of "Our Father's Table" also joined in watching the movie and it was enjoyed by many!

In recognition of this Holy time of year, there will not be any Youth Group tonight, and we hope that everyone will enjoy today with their family and friends!

Quote of the Week: "He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree." - Roy L. Smith



WE NEED YOU... to have your portrait taken!

We would really like to have 100% of our parish families have their photo taken for our new pictorial directory. This is a great way to preserve the history of St. Joseph's for future generations. You will also be able to put a face with all the names in the bulletin and a name with the friendly faces you see at mass each week.

**There is no cost to have your photo taken,
and you will receive a complimentary 8 x 10
portrait and directory for participating.**

You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after photography. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends.

You may call the parish office at 756-4250 to make an appointment or visit our web site (stjosephfarmington.com) to schedule your own appointment.

**Appointment times are available on
January 6th, 7th, 14th and 15th!!**



**Please set
up your
appointment
to have your
photo taken
for our parish
directory.**

The Answer is Always “Jesus”

Sr. Barbara Wentworth, DHM • Parish Religion Coordinator



The Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament tells us all about the “meal liturgies” of the Apostles and the early Christians.

“day by day, continuing steadfastly with one accord in the temple and breaking bread at home, they took their food with gladness and singleness of heart.”
(Acts 2:46)

The word “liturgy” means “the work of the people,”....a common act of God’s people together offering praise to Him in the manner which He revealed that they should. This was the type of worship which took place in the synagogue and which came into the early Church. But around 60 A.D., the fledgling Christian church passed out of Jewish control and by 70 A.D. had become largely a Gentile association. Paul converted many pagans yet the new Christian liturgy still remained Judaic in its form. The temple practices were continued because they included communion as well as sacrifice and because they contained familiar worship patterns -- they were part of God’s intent from the beginning. The first gentile church outside of Jerusalem was established probably around 40 A.D. at Antioch by Barnabas. We know from the Acts of the Apostles that this early church was worshiping in a “liturgical” manner using a Christian form carried over from the synagogue, evidence of a continuity of worship between the Old and New Covenants. With this union came what we know as the Liturgy of the Word which in turn led up to the prayers of blessings, thanksgiving and words of institution.

If the early worshipers had a Liturgy of the Word, what did it look like? How did it work? Tradition holds that they read from the prophets, especially those passages dealing with the Creation Story and the Messiah. Then, by 50 A. D., Paul’s letters began to circulate and they were added to the mix. Oral tradition would have been part of the celebration....stories about Christ told by eye-witnesses were a prominent part of the liturgy. By 80 A.D. the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke and all the letters of Paul had been written and were in use...by the year 90 John’s Gospel were available.

Besides the development of the liturgy of the Word prayers surrounding the words of institution began to develop. These became known as the prayer of thanksgiving or the Eucharistic Prayer. We have an example of this from the *Didache*, or the “*Teaching of the Apostles*” which emerged around the year 60.

By the year 150 A.D. the basic form of the Eucharistic Liturgy had emerged. It remains the same in its fundamental structure today. As we examine its progress through history in these articles, we will see a number of accidental additions and subtractionsbut what we have now in 2010 is substantially what a mid-second century Christian would have experienced.





Archdiocese of St. Louis

Cardinal Rigali Center

20 Archbishop May Drive

St. Louis, Missouri 63119-5738

Christmas 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The preparatory weeks of Advent are nearly completed and we find ourselves this Christmas Day welcoming our savior, the Babe of Bethlehem, into our midst. Now is the time for each of us to rejoice in His birth, while remembering the great gift of salvation He has given us through His death and resurrection.

In my 18 months in St. Louis, I have been overwhelmed by the generosity and support of the faithful in this Archdiocese. For decades, the people of the Archdiocese have made a special gift each year at Christmas to support our seminarians at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. This collection enables us to pay the day-to-day expenses for the maintenance of the Seminary. The men of our seminary, who have responded to Christ's call to follow Him, are truly a gift to the Church and our own Archdiocese. It is these men who will bring our faith, the faith given to us by Christ over 2000 years ago, to future generations of the faithful here in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

About 72 seminarians volunteered to speak to the parishes in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Perhaps your parish was fortunate to have had one of these seminarians visit you and ask for your prayerful and financial support.

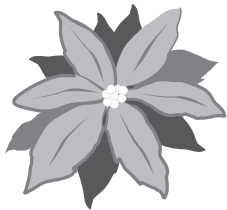
Along with the seminarians, I ask you to please be generous with your donation to the Christmas Day collection in support of our seminarians. I also ask you to join me in praying for them and for our priests who share in the gift of the priesthood. These men are truly Christ with us.

Please be assured of my continued prayers for you and your family during this most blessed season of Christmas.

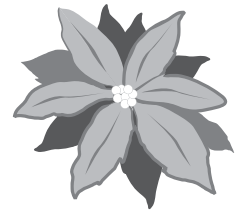
Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert J. Carlson', written in a cursive style.

Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson
Archbishop of St. Louis



Thank you for your loving Christmas Memorials in memory of the following loved ones...




In memory of.....from

- Everett Dee Akers, Anthony & Erline Peterein Martia Akers
- Carroll Allen, H.E. & Norma Francis Jane Allen
- Glennon & Hildegard Smith, Fred Bach Jerry & Dotty Bach
- Jim Baechle Ginger Baechle and family
- Eva Kohut, Ted Barnhouse Joe & Kelly Barnhouse
- Lindell Basler, Robert Smith Mark & Jane Basler
- Gertrude & Leo Basler, Nancy & Jim Horton, Lindell Basler Ruth Basler
- Cecilia Bergman, Rudy Bergman, Virginia Townsend John Bergman
- Vincent and Jewell Blunt David Blunt
- Glennon & Hildegard Smith, Lindell & Elvina Harter Kevin & Pat Boatright
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- Orval & Genevieve Carrow, Edward & Ruth Huber Francis & Beulah Carrow
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