

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

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Maplewood, Missouri 63143

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As John the Baptist watched Jesus walk by, he said,
"Behold, the Lamb of God."

JOHN 1:36

SECOND *Sunday*
in **ORDINARY TIME**

January 17, 2021

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Mission Statement

Called to be disciples of Jesus Christ, we strive to live His Gospel by answering daily, "Yes, here I am Lord". Strengthened by the sacraments and trusting in God's saving grace, we joyfully commit ourselves to sharing our gifts for the continual renewal of our parish and the Maplewood community.

From Deacon John:

What does our faith say about the Events of “the Week that was”?

We all watched and read about the events of last week when a crowd (“insurrectionists” many said) broke past police barricades, broke into the U.S. Capitol building and disrupted the counting of the Electoral College votes. The vice-president, senators and congress had to hide in safety for hours as their offices were ransacked. Their lives were very much at risk. The last time Washington DC was under siege was during the War of 1812.

At Christmas we celebrated the Incarnation. God became man when Jesus was born. Jesus was thrust into history. He was born in Bethlehem due to the census ordered by the emperor, Caesar Augustus (Luke 2:1). As the magi left, the Joseph had to take Mary and Jesus, traveling by night to Egypt, to protect them from King Herod (Matthew 2:13). The lives of the Holy Family were disrupted by the political powers of the time.

In our Gospel today John the Baptist identifies Jesus as “the Lamb of God”. Andrew and Peter become the first disciples with the invitation to “*Come, and you will see.*” In our first reading Samuel is called by the Lord and responds “*Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.*” The Psalm refrain this week is “*Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.*”

We all became disciples of Jesus when we were baptized. We are also called to “see” (like Andrew and Peter), to “listen” (like Samuel), and “to do your will” (Psalm).

Martin Luther King Jr. – Holiday on Monday:

I was a student at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. on the day Martin Luther King Jr. was shot and killed. I remember when the city was under a curfew and no one was allowed out. I remember the campus was shut down and we were told to leave campus and go home.

I remember when Pope Francis came to Washington D.C. and became the first pope to address both chambers of the Congress on September 24, 2015. His talk focused on four influential Americans. What tied them together were their efforts to help the poor and promote racial justice:

Abraham Lincoln

Thomas Merton, the Trappist monk

Dorothy Day, founder of Catholic Worker

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

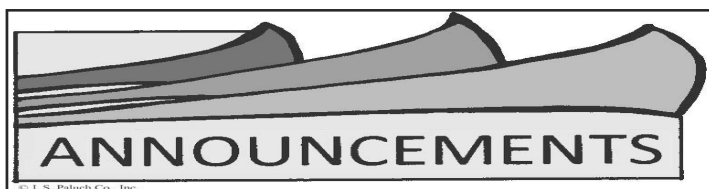
Am I my brother's keeper?...The Racialization of America:

Join the Archdiocese of St. Louis and other groups on a “zoom” meeting on Thursdays, January 21 & January 28. The American bishops have called Racism “the original sin of America”. As disciples of Jesus we are called “**to see...to listen...to do your will.**” These meetings and discussions will help us to understand this important issue better. I hope MANY in our parish will attend.

The second reading Paul says to the Corinthians “*Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him...Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you?*” The bodies of all the baptized have the Holy Spirit in them. The Holy Spirit is living in the bodies of all the baptized, those of all races. **HOW WE TREAT OTHERS IS HOW WE TREAT THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

The Good News is we can recognize the Holy Spirit in others. We can see each other and strangers as brothers and sisters in the Lord. We can help to bring Good News to the poor...to heal the broken-hearted... to walk with others on their journey.

May God bless you in a special way,
Deacon John



Please Join Us from the Comfort and Safety of your Home or Business for a
Virtual Volunteer Fair

A great opportunity to learn:

- ✓ How the American Red Cross helps your local community every day.
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- ✓ Find out how you can help...even from the comfort and safety of your own home
- ✓ How the American Red Cross is delivering our mission during the Coronavirus Outbreak

2020-2021 Upcoming Dates

Thursday, Dec 3 rd 12pm	Thursday, Dec 17 th 4pm	Tuesday, Jan 5 th 12pm
Tuesday, Jan 12 th 4pm	Thursday, Jan 21 st 12pm	Tuesday, Jan 26 th 4pm
Thursday, Feb 4 th 12pm	Tuesday, Feb 9 th 4pm	Tuesday, Feb 16 th 12pm
Thursday, Feb 25 th 4pm	Tuesday, Mar 2 nd 12pm	Tuesday, Mar 9 th 4pm
Thursday, Mar 18 th 12pm	Tuesday, Mar 23 rd 4pm	Thursday, April 1 st 12pm

Please REGISTER here: www.redcross.org/ARCVolunteerFair

You will then receive the necessary information you will need to join by phone and/or online.

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Kristin Pendleton kristin.pendleton@redcross.org or call/text 314-281-7968

You can also schedule a virtual presentation for your company or organization to find out how little time it takes to have a huge impact on your local community.



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Our Lady's Inn Maternity Homes is having their Virtual Trivia Night - Saturday, January 23rd. Trivia begins at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Cost is \$25 per person and \$200 for a team of 8. For more information or to register, visit www.ourladysinn.org or call Katrina at 314-736-1544. Join the fun from the comfort of your own home.

2021 MARCH FOR LIFE in Washington, DC

Seats still available with Missouri Life Caravan -January 28-30. Buses depart from several areas throughout St. Louis. Cost: \$230. Registration deadline in Jan. 22nd Register online or download the form: www.MissouriLifeCaravan.org 314-434-4900 mrl.eastern@yahoo.com

St. James the Greater Early Childhood has a job opening for a lead teacher in a multi-age (3-5 years old) classroom. Contact Katie Ryan at kryan@stjamesthegreater.org

AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER? The Racialization of America

A 2-Night Event, 7 - 9 p.m.
Thursdays Jan. 21 & 28



Thurs, Jan 21, '21 - The Racialization of America
Thurs, Jan 28, '21 - History of Segregation in St. Louis

Join us on-line (Zoom)

Registration: See attachment for Zoom links



Sponsored by the Racial Harmony Program, Archdiocese of St. Louis, the West County Collaborative, and Social Justice 4 All



Part 1 RSVP link: <https://www.parishsupportstl.com/event-details/am-i-my-brothers-keeper-the-racialization-of-america-part-1>

Part 2 RSVP link: <https://www.parishsupportstl.com/event-details/am-i-my-brothers-keeper-the-racialization-of-america-part-2-1>

Schedule For The Week

Sunday, January 17

8:30 a.m.

Mass-Also streamed on Facebook Live

Monday January 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-Office Closed

Tuesday January 19

Wednesday, January 20

Thursday, January 21

Friday, January 22

7:00 p.m.

Holy Hour-Roe v Wade Anniversary

Saturday, January 23

4:00 p.m.

Mass-Suspended

4:15-4:45 p.m.

**CONFESSIONS—with Fr. Pete
St. Luke's Parish**

Sunday, January 24

8:30 a.m.

Mass-Also streamed on Facebook Live

Weekly Offering



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Online Giving at:

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www.osvonlinegiving.com/1357

January 2nd/3rd:

1st Collection: \$1,460.00

2nd Collection: \$350.00

Online Giving: \$732.25

January 9th/10th:

1st Collection: \$2,315.00

2nd Collection: \$594.00

Online Giving: \$1,620.25

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS: I want to remind you that collections remain essential to the continued operation and existence of our parish and our mission. Thank you to all who use online giving. It helps so much during times like this. You may make one-time payments or set it up for automatic payments—it is very flexible. Otherwise, please mail or drop-off your contribution. Many expenses continue.

Stewardship

Do you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body. 1 Corinthians 5:19 & 20

We don't think of being stewards of our bodies, but we are. We are stewards of all the gifts God has given us and certainly the gift of life in our bodies is a great gift.

In the second reading today, St. Paul emphasizes that our bodies are for the Lord and are members of Christ. Do not let your bodies become miserable by laziness, anger, jealousy or any other destructive thoughts or actions. Listen to the Holy Spirit within you and live the lifestyle of Jesus. Begin the New Year not only focused on a healthy body, but a healthy mind and spirit. Embrace the law of the Lord in your heart and allow Jesus to do to his work on earth through you!

Prayer For A Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home
Remember those who must choose between
preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for
our children when their schools close,
Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,
Let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically
wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace
of God to our neighbors.

Amen.



URSULINE SISTERS
OF LOUISVILLE

Prayer: Historic Saint Paul Catholic Church, Lexington, KY

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PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

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314-644-2144

Deacon Clyde McEntire, Deacon (Retired)
Kathleen O'Reilly, Parish Nurse, 314-644-6805
Father Michael Esswein, Pastor 314-962-5955

PARISH STAFF

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Colleen Eichler, Campus Manager, 314-645-3307 Ext. 206
Daniel Jenkins, Maintenance Assistant

Parish School of Religion

Karen Lightfoot, PSR Coordinator, psricmaplewood@gmail.com
St. Vincent DePaul Help Line
314-289-6101 ext. 2226

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Tim Yohe, Chair	Mary Bankston
Nikki & Todd Bircher	RJ & Suzee Irwin
Deacon John Flanigan	Becky Konersmann
Laura Miller	Ken Amend

Schedule

Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.
SVDP Food Pantry: Saturdays from 9:30-11:00am

Ministry Schedule-Suspended



Hope and Healing
Do you live with the pain of an abortion? Do you still feel anger, guilt or sadness even though the abortion was years ago? You may think your actions could never be

understood and certainly not able to be forgiven. These emotions are common results of abortion. Healing and forgiveness are possible through Project Rachel. Specially trained counselors can help you experience Christ's peace. For private, professional counseling at no charge call Project Rachel at 314-792-7565.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c;
Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: Heb 7:25 — 8:6; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
Friday: Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8, 10-14; Mk 3:13-19, or any of
a number of readings for the Day of Prayer
Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9;
Mk 3:20-21
Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31;
Mk 1:14-20



Sunday, January 17th:
For the people of the parish

Please Pray For:

Charlie Gustafson, Mike O'Reilly, Johnnie Evans,
Phyllis Lee, Charlene Konersmann, Jim Higgins,
Jim Haislip, Alice Hezel, Gary Gray, Mona Tillman,
Heidi Barks, Madelyn McClure, Paul Rygelski,
Mary Johnston, Jim White, Everleigh Lauber,
Jack & Pamela Warner, Pam MacDonald, Nancy Maurer,
Linda Amend
Charles Rossi (brother of Eva May)
Gort Haislip (brother of Jim Haislip)
Vera Thigpen (mother of Barb Bouvatte)
Terry & Ron Kippenberger (family of Rita Kippenberger)
Lisa Massack (sister of Joshua Capstick)
Sr. Barbara Paul (former parishioner)
Jan Pilla (daughter in law of Eddie Pilla)
Nick Simmons (son of Tom & Ellen Simmons)
Carl & Susan Case (brother and sister in law of Pat Curtis)
Mary Lucas (friend of Al & Maureen Daniels)
Drew Becker (son of Paul Becker), Deimeke Family
John Graves (brother of Karen Bish)
Lisa Hanley Blake (daughter of Celene Hanley)

PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY

Col. Peter White, USAF, son of Jim & Lucy White

Senior Chief Matthew J Paul, USN,
son of Maria and Gary Gray

William Patrick Flynn, USN,
son of Patrick & Michelle Flynn

Henry Kloeckener, USA
grandson of Ken & Barb Kloeckener

Michael Garland & Stephen Garland, USA
Great-Grandsons of Annabelle Moran

To add your loved one's name (s)
contact Eva at the rectory. 314-645-3307 or email at
icmaplewood@gmail.com

CONFESSIONS—with Fr. Pete

St. Luke's Parish Saturdays 4:15-4:45

The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything.
—St. Julian

The greatest of worries can't pay the smallest of debts.
—Anonymous

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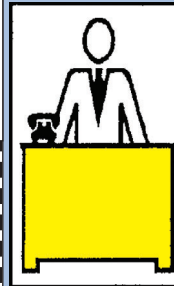
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