



## OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCH

2411 Bagnell Dam Blvd  
PO Box 2390  
Lake Ozark, MO 65049  
Phone: 573.365.2241  
Email: ourladylake@sbcglobal.net  
Website: ourladylake.diojeffcity.org

Sunday, June 28th, 2020  
13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We envision a church where Jesus Christ is proclaimed in a way that when parishioners are gathered, all may encounter the Living Word in their midst.

Pastor  
Msgr. Marion Makarewicz  
*marmak3261@att.net*

Deacons  
Paul Poulter  
Jim Hankins

Director of Music  
Steve Jannetti  
*olalamusic@sbcglobal.net*

Director of Religious Education  
Vicki Irsik  
*NEW - virsik12@gmail.com*

Office Support Staff  
Kelly Hamrin  
*oloffice2018@sbcglobal.net*

Office Support Staff  
Mary Wagemann  
*ourladylake@sbcglobal.net*

Maintenance  
John Riley

### WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all our guests and visitors who have graced us with their presence at today's liturgy. We hope that you feel at home here; please let us know if we can be of any assistance while you are with us.

### HEARING IMPAIRED

For those with moderate hearing difficulties, hearing assistance units are available in the Fellowship Hall behind the Sanctuary.

Parish Office Hours:  
Monday – Friday  
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

### REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, & 6:00 pm in Spanish  
No Daily Mass on Monday  
Tuesday at 8 am, Wednesday at 6 pm  
Thursday and Friday at 8:00 am  
Reconciliation is Saturday 4:00 pm – 4:45 pm,  
Sunday 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm, or by appointment

## Providing for Worship

by Msgr. Marion Makarewicz

One feature of the Eucharist is its deceptive simplicity. In form, matter, and personnel, it seems that the Mass requires little. Liturgists have identified this aspect of the Roman Rite in a positive light as “noble simplicity” which includes the simple furnishings required: an altar, a chair, and ambo; the simple proclamation of the word; very ordinary and simple offerings: bread and wine; and one priest to offer the sacrifice. The Church assumes that some other person be present as a congregant to assume the role of the people and or perform other ministries such as reading or sing the chants of the mass. Nevertheless, generations of priests have said private masses on their own without another person present. A custom that is not necessarily encouraged or promoted, but still common as many priests say a private mass without another soul present, especially those who may be retired, on vacation, or on a day off.

During the lockdown in our Diocese, Bishop McKnight was very clear that he expected the mass to be continually offered in the Church of a parish. Even while the strictest of social distancing was practiced—precluding even the few present from receiving communion—Bishop McKnight allowed that others be present to assist at the mass to read and respond to the prayers. I found it quite extraordinary that the simplicity

of the Mass allowed us to continue to offer the Eucharist without the normal support structure dedicated to the worthy and appropriate celebration of the sacrament.

To be truthful, the simplicity of the Mass has led priests and congregations to become on occasions unengaged in the proper celebration the Lord's Work requires. Laxity and minimalism have donned the guise of simplicity and parred away at the requirements for the valid celebration of the Mass. Some of these vices have continued to haunt us. That so many folks leave after receiving communion harkens back to the time when the faithful were told that to fulfill your obligation to attend Mass, you had to be present from the reading of the Gospel through the priest's communion.

So the minimum became permission. And the permission became custom. And the custom became a habit which outlived its original intention. There were some strange practices as a result. In many churches, communion was given out from the tabernacle before early morning mass, and the workers were able to leave as soon as the priest received communion to make it on time to work.

We are able to gather again as God's people. Yet things are different,

*continued on last page*

### MISA EN ESPAÑOL

Todos los domingos a las 6:00 pm.  
El último miércoles del mes a las 6:00 pm.

La reconciliación es el sábado de 4:00 pm a 4:45 pm, domingo de 5:00 pm a 5:45 pm, o con cita.

Por favor, consulte este folleto para las noticias en español.

### BISHOP'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus transform all men, especially fathers, to trust in the model of St. Joseph to instill in them courageous leadership and devotion for those whom God has placed their care.

Que el Sagrado Corazón de Jesús transforme a todos los hombres, especialmente a los padres., para que confiando en el modelo de San José obtengan desoción y un liderazgo valiente por aquellos que el Señor ha encomendado a su cuidado

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	June 27	5:00 pm	Vigil Mass	Margaret & Jack Young Anniversary
Sunday	June 28	10:00 am	13th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Rusti Forest
Domingo	Junio 28	6:00 pm	Decimoterccer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario	Parishioners
Monday	June 29	No Mass	Sts. Peter & Paul	
Tuesday	June 30	8:00 am	The 1st Martyrs	
Wednesday	July 1	6:00 pm	St. Junípero Serro	Rusti Forest
Thursday	July 2	8:00 am	St. Bernardino Realino	
Friday	July 3	8:00 am	St. Thomas the Apostle	
Saturday	July 4	5:00 pm	Vigil Mass	The Gross Family
Sunday	July 5	8:00 am	14th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Judy Medved
Sunday	July 5	10:00 am	14th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Bob & Sally Ashby
Domingo	Julio 5	6:00 pm	Decimocuarta Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario	Parishioners

### PARISH COLLECTION

June 21, 2020

Envelopes: \$ 5,674

Loose: \$ 606

**Total: \$ 6,280**

Last Year: \$10,378

### THANK YOU

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Contact: Gary Chaput



[ourladylake.diojeffcity.org/  
knights-of-columbus/](http://ourladylake.diojeffcity.org/knights-of-columbus/)

#### LADY KNIGHTS

Contact: Melodi Graessle



[ourladylake.diojeffcity.org/  
parish-life/organizations/  
ladies-auxiliary-2/](http://ourladylake.diojeffcity.org/parish-life/organizations/ladies-auxiliary-2/)

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

#### SUNDAY

1st Reading – 2 KGS 4:8–11, 14–16A  
Psalm – PS 89:2–3, 16–19  
2nd Reading – ROM 6:3–4, 8–11  
Gospel – MT 10:37–42

#### MONDAY

1st Reading – ACTS 12:1–11  
Psalm – 34:2–9  
2nd Reading – 2 TM 4:6–8, 17–18  
Gospel – MT 16:13–19

#### TUESDAY

1st Reading – AM 3:1–8; 4:11–12  
Psalm – 5:4B–6A, 6B–8  
Gospel – MT 8:23–27

#### WEDNESDAY

1st Reading – AM 5:14–15, 21–24  
Psalm – 50:7–13, 16BC–17  
Gospel – MT 8:28–34

#### THURDAY

1st Reading – AM 7:10–17  
Psalm – 19:8–11  
Gospel – MT 9:1–8

#### FRIDAY

1st Reading – EPH 2:19–22  
Psalm – 117:1BC, 2  
Gospel – JN 20:24–29

#### SATURDAY

1st Reading – AM 9:11–15  
Psalm – 85:9AB, 10–14  
Gospel – MT 9:14–17

#### SUNDAY

1st Reading – ZEC 9:9–10  
Psalm – 145:1–2, 8–11, 13–14  
2nd Reading – ROM 8:9, 11–13  
Gospel – MT 11:25–30

### WEEKLY PARISH SCHEDULE

#### MONDAY, JUNE 29

#### TUESDAY, JUNE 30

Mass in Church & Online | 8:00 am  
Rosary & Online | 8:45 am

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

Adoration in Church &  
Online | 5:00 pm  
Mass in Church & Online | 6:00 pm

#### THURSDAY, JULY 2

Mass in Church & Online | 8:00 am  
Education Comm. Zoom | 6:00 pm

#### FRIDAY, JULY 3

Mass in Church & Online | 8:00 am

#### SATURDAY, JULY 4

Reconciliation | 4:00 pm  
Mass in Church | 5:00 pm

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Mass in Church | 8:00 am  
Mass in Church & Online | 10:00 am  
Reconciliation | 5:30 pm  
Misa en Iglesia y Online | 6:00 pm



We are grateful for your support of our church. Online Giving allows you to make contributions to our church without having to write checks or worry about donations. The site lets you set up automatic contributions and enables you to change the timing or the amount of your gift at any time. Go to: [ourladylake.diojeffcity.org](http://ourladylake.diojeffcity.org) and click the Donate Now button on the top bar to sign up.

# WORSHIP COMMISSION

Chair: Annette Miller

The next Worship Commission meeting will be Tuesday, June 30th at 6:00 pm online. We are always looking for members with a heart for helping with the liturgy, prayer, liturgical formation, or art and environment. Please all the office to join us.



We are in desperate need of ushers for the weekend masses.

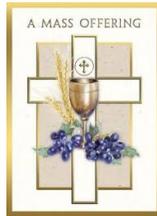
Anyone between the ages of 18 and 64 who can help, please contact Mary Wagemann in the office, 365-2241.



Join us every Tuesday morning after mass at 8:45 to pray the rosary together for all special intentions of your family, friends, the parish, the church, the community, the nation, and the world.

## Mass Intentions:

We have many openings to offer a Mass for a loved one. Masses can be offered for the deceased, for healing or for a special intention. Please call Mary or Kelly in the office to schedule a Mass. The requested donation is \$10.



## PRAYERS FOR RECOVERY

May they place their trust and confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ:

Tretch & Carrie Lawrence, Louis Noland, Kathy Deniston, Mary Burke, Tessie Gentges, Clark Gruninger, Pat Caswell, Elsie Mueller, Jack Ketterer, Emma Scheppers, Doris Rayal, Dr. Robert Mason, Lucille Needham, John Akscin, Harold Roll, Silvana Hoitt, Matt Lucido, Joe Fontanini, Kitty McCarthy.



## Leader Needed

The Worship Commission is searching for a leader for the Ministry of Hospitality. The coordinator of the Ministry of Hospitality recruits, trains and inspires parishioners to serve as ministers of hospitality so that all who visit our parish find a welcome place to worship. This would be a great position for a couple to work together as a team. Please contact the office for more information.

## PRAYERS FOR THE MILITARY

- LCDR Christopher Boehm
- Major Brad Bustin
- Major Meg Bustin
- Capt. Dan Collini
- Sgt. John Cobb
- CPO Matt Culver USN-SEAL 6
- E4 Cody Griffy
- Sgt. George Thomas Gross
- E7 M/Sgt. Amanda Hammond
- E4 Aaron Helms
- Major Michael Lucky
- 1st Sgt. Christopher Metz
- 1st Lt. Thomas Nelson
- SPC Austin Nye
- Jayson D. Osborne (Air Force)
- CW4 Kent Rackers
- A1C Logan J. Rackers
- Tech. Sgt. Kevin Reilly
- S/Sgt. Adam Rentsch
- S/Sgt. Daniel E Reynolds
- SPC Chris Riley
- SPC John M. Schneider
- 1st Lt. Adam H. Still
- Sgt. Justin C. Thomas
- S/Sgt. Matthew Willis
- LCDR Tony Wolfe
- Lt. Nicholas Zahn
- A1C Jacob Zahn

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!*

Please inform the office if there are any changes from active duty. If a name is on this list, please make sure that Gary and Karen Chaput have the information to post on our wall of honor. There is a basket on the wall behind the Welcome Center for this.



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the divine power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen

Are you or a family member ill, in the hospital, or homebound and would like to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass, on the Prayer Chain, or in the bulletin? Please contact the office at 365-2241 or email ourladylake@sbcglobal.com. Names will be listed for one month unless the office is notified that continued prayer is needed.

## PARISHIONER NEWS



Please extend a warm welcome to the following new family at Our Lady of the Lake:

Gary and Ann Toohey



Congratulations to Dayana Hernandez & Ceclia Kai who celebrate their First Holy Communion this weekend.

We pray for the repose of the soul of our sister in Christ, Lori McDermott who passed away Thursday, June 25th.

Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon her. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

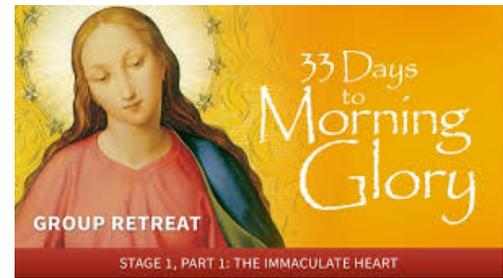
Thank  
You

Jack Ketterer would like to thank everyone for the prayers for his surgery. It was a success. Continued prayers for recovery are greatly appreciated.

## EDUCATION COMMISSION

Chair: Linda Adams

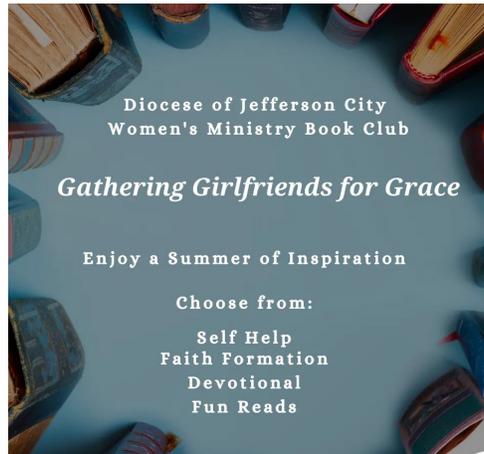
The next Education Commission will meet Thursday, July 2nd at 6:00 pm online. Please contact Kelly in the office if you would like to attend and have not received the online invitation. If you have a calling to helping others learn about our faith, come join us.



Coming on Mondays starting July 13th, we will be doing a book study on "33 Days to Morning Glory" by Fr. Michael Gaitley.

"Finally an easy way to understand and live out Marian consecration! Forget about difficult theology and out-dated language. Here, for the first time, you'll find the best Marian teachings of St. Louis de Montfort, St Maximillian Kolbe, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and Pope St. John Paul II – all presented so simply and clearly that you can immediately make them your own and apply them in your daily life." ~ Vinny Flynn, Director of MercySong Ministries of Healing.

The program will culminate with a consecration to Jesus through Mary on the Parish Feast Day of the Queenship of Mary. If you are interested in joining us in person or via Zoom, contact Kelly, 365-2241, ext 5.



Please visit <https://diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry-book-club-2/> for more information.



### Getting Closer to God

1. The birth of St. \_\_\_\_\_ is celebrated on September 8. (Hint: Jesus' mom)
2. June 29 celebrates the Feast of two great saints, St \_\_\_\_\_ and St \_\_\_\_\_. (They were some of his disciples)
3. Under what Emperor were they martyred in approximately 64 A.D. ? \_\_\_\_\_ (Hint: It might rhyme with hero)
4. Saul of Tarsus' name was changed to \_\_\_\_\_. (One of the disciples in #2)

# EDUCATION COMMISSION

Chair: Linda Adams

## NOTES FROM VICKI

Dear Friends in Christ!

I come to you this day with a glad heart for all the good things in my life. You, my friends are a big part of the happiness I feel! A very personal experience is one I feel I should share with my closest friends, so here goes!

Six months ago, I began a journey with St. Ignatius Examen Prayer. Through this process, which takes me 15 minutes twice a day, I have become more confident in who I am and who God is! I cannot tell you the beauty and peace the examen has brought to my heart and soul. I will give you a short rundown on the steps but will also reference the books and materials I have used the past weeks that can put the examen into context for you.

I began with a search for 'more,' you know when you feel like you are just missing a piece somewhere. I needed something, a 'blanket' prayer that searched my mind and heart. "How open were my eyes to grasp that presence and that self-revelation (Luke 24:31)?" Looking deep inside is something we seldom relish, but I have no vanity in such things if I'm not right with God. I had no idea that the very first time I tried it, I would not even finish the process and still feel more peace than ever before! (Now, I have told you before that I'm not the sharpest tool in the shed and God takes a bit more time with me... but this was truly amazing!) Grab a pencil and paper, or a mass journal if you have one, and begin with the tips below.

Find a quiet place now and begin.

Step 1: Gratitude.

1. Make a list of everything good in your life; God, family, home, job, friends, church, conversations, relationships with others, everything! Be specific, though, and write names, places and descriptions. Make a notation after each one about WHY you are thankful for that particular item, situation or person. Make it a concrete experience that allows you to turn things over and examine them from all sides. You will be so filled with gratitude for all these things when you finally stop writing. The first time this will take you awhile! You will find that you are blessed with more than anyone deserves, and you should give thanks to God, right that moment! God has revealed Himself and His gifts to you!

--By the way, you have just had a personal experience with God!

Step 2: Petition (I call it Transformation!)

2. "I ask God for an insight and a strength that will make this examen a work of grace, fruitful beyond my human capacity alone." For what reasons might God have given you these very specific blessings? What did God intend for you to do about/with/to/for all those blessings? Some blessings such as children or a home may be shared with another, but most are specific to YOU.

a. In the examen, then, after recalling the gifts of God's love (Step 1) "Ignatius invites us to turn

to God in humble prayer, asking for the grace that alone can make our examen (how am I to use these blessings) fruitful." This faith-inspired and hope-filled asking is the second step. It is all about something that God does; it is all about grace. These are not just words. Human effort is indispensable in the practice of examen, but those who undertake it quickly realize that they cannot hope for a faithful and fruitful practice of the examen simply through their own efforts. Their experience teaches them clearly that the insight and transforming power that the examen offers are essentially the work of God's grace within us (1 Cor. 15:10)."

I am going to stop here because, if you are like me, you won't get through all of it this first time during one week! It is important to recognize the blessings you have been given, and that is the best place to begin. Get that done in depth and you will experience a change; maybe subtle maybe abrupt, but you will feel different! I will complete the instructions for the next three steps over the next coming weeks.

Blessings and prayers to all!  
~Vicki

Gallagher OMV, Timothy M.. The Examen Prayer . The Crossroad Publishing Company. Kindle Edition.

## KIDS CORNER

As we prepare to celebrate Independence Day, why not plan a special family prayer time for freedom? Thank God for all the special blessings we have because of the freedoms we enjoy in the United States. Pray for all the souls who lost their lives to help secure these freedoms. Pray for all those who are sacrificing right now to protect those freedoms. Finally, pray for the people around the world who do not have the freedoms we enjoy.



If you and your family would like to present the gifts for the offertory procession during the weekend Masses, please sign up in the blue binder located at the Welcome Center. This would be a wonderful way to commemorate a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion.

## DEACONS' CORNER

We are ending the month of June. June usually is a time for marriages to occur. But with the spring we have had dealing with the COVID pandemic – many marriages are taking place in July and early Autumn. As such, there are several ‘tips’ this Deacon’s corner can provide to all those who are contemplating marriage, those who are engaged and even those who have been married for some time.

Marriage is a sacrament in the Catholic Church. In so being, we receive special graces when married within the Catholic Church. Marriage is also the only sacrament which involves three individuals – the bride, the groom and God. It is not only you and God, but it is you, God, and that special someone you have chosen to help you attain and to help them attain heaven. It is a sacrament that truly needs the most work from married couples due to their daily interaction and cooperation with each other.

Here are some points as Catholics we must maintain to have a good, lasting, and loving marriage.

**FIRST – Keep God First.** You love your spouse and all children born unto this union. But your focus is on God. If something in your or your spouse’s lifestyle is taking you away from God, this is a red flag to have a heart to heart talk. God needs to be first in you and your spouse’s lives to attain a good marriage and a Godly life.

**SECOND – Pray Together.** You have heard the old saying “The family that prays together stays together”. There is really a lot of truth to this saying. When one prays, many times you say what is truly on your mind. This is a great way to communicate with your spouse and always

remember God is in the equation. In this hectic world, what a great time to just stop and take a breather and say thank you to God and ask Him for anything that is bothering you. Also, your spouse may not have known a certain issue was on your mind. So, it is a great way to start communication. Which leads to another tip of taking time to communicate with each other.

**THIRD – Do Not Let Others Come Between You, Your Spouse or God.** If someone is leading you to do things that perhaps takes you away spiritually, physically, or emotionally from your spouse or God – Don’t walk away – RUN! These behaviors and habits can snowball with turning you away from your spouse, the special people in your life and most importantly, from God.

**FOURTH – Be Swift to Hear and Slow to Speak.** Many times, in our day to day life, we are in a hurry and we flippantly say things that can really hurt others – especially our spouse. And with the world of texting, this could happen often. Make sure what you are saying is something that you would want to hear from another person. Slow down. Think about those words. And listen to what the other person is saying.

**FIFTH – Lastly, understand that love is a choice not merely a feeling.** We chose every day to love our spouse. Because your wedding day is just that – one day. Marriage is a lifetime. And within that lifetime, there will be days you do not feel well. Days things do not go exactly as we wanted. But we still need to remember that we chose to be in love with our spouse. And with the special graces we attain in the sacrament of Marriage and throughout our lives



with the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist – God will help each of us reach our goal – heaven!

Pope Francis, during a group gathering of young engaged couples, was asked what advice he had to have a good marriage. He said it was simple. Three easy expressions. He stressed the need to be grateful, “because it’s the spouses who confer the sacrament of marriage, one to the other. And this sacramental relationship is maintained with this sentiment of gratitude, of thanks.” Second is “always ask your spouse, the wife to the husband and the husband to the wife, ‘what do you think, what do you think if we do this?’” rather than just “running over” the other without getting their opinion. The third word, he noted, is forgiveness, which is “a very hard word to say.” In marriage, mistakes are always made, he said, noting that the important thing is to know how to recognize one’s mistakes and ask for forgiveness.

May God bring His blessings unto those contemplating marriage, those engaged and especially those married couples! May God grant them many Blessed Years!

Blessings – Dcn Jim



*“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” Ephesians 4:2*



## SOCIAL CONCERNS

Chair: Deacon Jim Hankins

Call the office to join us at the next Zoom meeting on Thursday, July 9th at 6 pm.

The Social Concerns Commission includes the following ministries:

- To families
- To the community
- To the poor
- To the oppressed
- For protecting life
- Of hospitality & fellowship
- Of health & well-being.

## HOPE HOUSE

Week of June 14th:  
7 Bags, 3 Can, 30 Misc.

During these troubled times, Hope House is still providing much needed support to the most vulnerable in our community. If you are healthy enough and not in a high risk group, please consider volunteering your time. If you are shopping for your needs, please consider picking up a few extra items and dropping them by the church. If you can assist financially, you can send a donation to the church with notation that it should go to Hope House or send it directly to Hope House.

To learn more contact:  
573-365-0099  
or

[www.hopehouseofmillercounty.org](http://www.hopehouseofmillercounty.org)

**Bring your CAN to Church.**



Support the  
Hope House Food Pantry

## MINISTERIO EN ESPAÑOL

Contacto: Ethan Perez

## ORACIONES PARA LA RECUPERACIÓN

Que ellos depositen su confianza en el Señor Jesucristo:

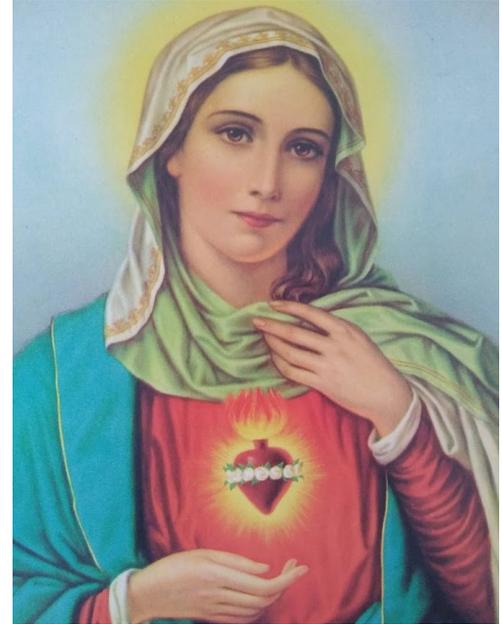
Tretch & Carrie Lawrence, Louis Noland, Kathy Deniston, Mary Burke, Tessie Gentges, Clark Gruninger, Pat Caswell, Elsie Meuller, Jack Ketterer, Emma Scheppers, Doris Rayal, Dr. Robert Mason, Lucille Needham, John Akscin, Harold Roll, Silvana Hoitt, Matt Lucido, Joe Fontanini, Kitty McCarthy.



Felicitaciones a  
Dayana Hernandez & Ceclia Kai  
que celebran su Primera Comunión  
este fin de semana.

## OFRENDA DE MISA

Tenemos muchas oportunidades para ofrecer una misa para un ser querido. Se pueden ofrecer misas para los fallecidos, para la curación o para una intención especial. La donación habitual solicitada ahora es de \$10. Póngase en contacto con Mary o Kelly en la oficina para reservar una fecha y hora.



Inmaculado Corazón de María, nos confiamos a ti, Salud de los Enfermos.

Al pie de la cruz, participaste en el dolor de Jesús, con fe firme.

Patrona de la Diócesis de Jefferson City, sabes lo que necesitamos.

Estamos seguros del poder de su intercesión, de modo que, como lo hizo en Caná de Galilea, la alegría y el banquete podrían regresar después de este momento de prueba.

Ayúdanos, Madre del Amor Divino, a conformarnos a la voluntad del Padre y a hacer lo que Jesús nos dice.

El que nos enseñó a “amarnos los unos a los otros, como yo los he amado a ustedes”, tomó nuestros sufrimientos sobre Sí mismo y cargó con nuestras penas para llevarnos, a través de la Cruz, al gozo de la Resurrección.

Traiga bajo su manto de protección a todos los que atienden a los enfermos y atienden a sus necesidades, ya que su Hijo nos implora que hagamos el uno por el otro.

V. Buscamos refugio bajo tu protección, oh Santa Madre de Dios.

R. No desprecies nuestras súplicas y líbranos de todo peligro, oh gloriosa y bendita Virgen. Amén.

¿Está usted o un miembro de su familia enfermo, en el hospital o confinado en su hogar y le gustaría ser incluido en la Oración de los Fieles en la Misa o en el boletín? Comuníquese con la oficina al 365-2241 o envíe un correo electrónico a [ourladylake@sbcglobal.com](mailto:ourladylake@sbcglobal.com). Los nombres aparecerán en la lista durante algunas semanas, a menos que se notifique a la oficina que se necesita una oración continua.

and must remain so as long as the pandemic continues to run its course. Folks have to work through a problem. The obligation to attend Mass has been lifted, but now comes the real test of faith. The people are free to attend or not attend and have a good conscience. People may feel relieved and experience this as “great, now I don’t have to go to mass.” That’s understandable. Who of us would feel guilty about missing school when it is called off for a snow day?

Because the risk of severe illness is so varied among the population, there is a great disparity in folks’ reactions. Many folks give no thought to getting infected or spreading the disease. That certainly is not the usual sign of an informed conscience. Some folks make the error of putting their own individual free choice above the golden rule—do no harm to others which you would have done to you. A nurse I know responds to folks who say they don’t have to wear a mask around others, “Ok, next time you are in for surgery, I will forgo wearing my mask since you don’t think it is a harm to you.”

Going deeper, the bigger dynamic is for the faithful who miss being present at Mass. It has been a great hardship, to fast from the Eucharist, the Bread of Life. I have prayed constantly for guidance, especially in putting into practice the recommendations from the CDC and other competent health officials. Some things seem to be arbitrary, especially when you are just a little part of a bigger statistic. Take the moving of the goalpost from 60 to 65 as the cutoff for a recommendation to avoid public places as much as possible. That recommendation can feel like a rejection, especially during this time of crisis. Folks would gladly participate, assuming the risks, but are asked to continue to bear the hardship of separation from something they love so much. As of 6–25–2020, the CDC has now removed the specific age reference and simply speaks of increasing risk as one ages. Increased age is one factor of risk and accompanying other conditions can increase risk. It seems that we all have a little more leeway in either direction by which to make our assessments.

We are figuring this all out as we go along. The more people you have together, the higher is the risk of contagion. That is a basic fact. We can lessen the risk of infecting others and being infected by the practices

we engage in. Remember that having the public at all at mass is a risk. I am assuming a risk by being in the same room with so many people I do not know. I have to trust that everyone is keeping best practices by avoiding contagion and is monitoring their symptoms. I see evidence that this trust might not be merited when I read about the many symptomatic people who go out in public with no regard for the health of others. This leads me to my final points. It is hard to ask for volunteers at this time. In good conscience, I can’t ask anything of people that I am not willing to risk myself. That is what I do every time I celebrate Mass. Any minister on the altar increases the risk of spreading the virus. That is why we have minimized the number of people who are doing any of the ministries at the altar, and also limiting their interaction. It is discouraging not to have an altar server assist at Mass. We allow for them to do some minimal activities and still feel like they are serving. The Deacons feel it particularly strongly. They feel their place is right next to me, always there to help. To remain separated even in the sanctuary is awkward and uncomfortable. They long to resume their place at Mass, especially in the distribution of Holy Communion, something that because of the age classifications of the CDC is not the best practice at this time.

On the recommendation of the parish staff and the Worship Commission, I myself have refrained from giving out Holy Communion. Again, I would be happy to take the risk, but they don’t think my getting sick would be a good idea for anyone else. Then no one would have the Mass. It’s not a pleasant experience. I find so much joy in distributing Holy Communion. It is when I see the people I shepherd face to face, and I miss them!

So we need people now to celebrate the Mass. Not because of any inherent need of the Roman Rite, but because circumstances at this time require us to do our best to keep people healthy even as we offer our worship to God. We especially need people who can usher. This is an essential duty of hospitality, but also a real service to the common good. By having such a clear protocol for entering church, finding a place, going to communion and exiting Church, we can assist each other in staying healthy. The ushers make an uncomfortable and difficult situation easier for all of us. It is a sacrifice of

time, and honestly it is an increased risk. I can’t say that anyone should usher. All I can say is that there is a need if we are to continue to offer the mass publicly.

Next Sunday is the 4th of July Weekend. Typically, we might have a thousand people at mass at the 10:00 AM on that Sunday after 4th of July. We can’t accommodate that many at this time, and we don’t expect that many. We do anticipate more people attending. Therefore, we are having an 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday morning, July 5. I would recommend that parishioners attend the Saturday evening Mass, which has yet to reach capacity these past weeks, or the 8:00 AM Sunday Mass. We need at least 12 people to volunteer for ushering at those Masses next weekend, four at each Mass. This is in addition to the 4 Eucharistic Ministers and 1 Lector also needed for each Mass. Mary Wagemann, who works in the office and does the complicated job of ministry scheduling, has been finding it difficult to fill all the ministry roles at Mass. Please contact her at the parish office email or parish phone number 365–2241 to let her know you can assist.

In the end, I see the special need for more engaged ushers as an answer to my prayers. I have always thought we could do so much more in welcoming people to Church, assisting them during Mass, and guiding them on the way out. We have had some improvement with the ministry of greeter who provide a cheerful welcome to Church. But once past the door, folks usually are left on their own, unless things get drastic and there are only a few seats left. Bishop McKnight has actually decreed that there be ushers at every mass. This time of pandemic has demonstrated that the role of an usher must be an essential ministry at every mass. We are more concerned than ever about health, safety, and security at public gatherings. Even when we are all in the best of health. There will be those who aren’t and might need our assistance, or simply be someone new and unfamiliar and could use a friendly face. Ushers can be seen as our guardian angels, showing everyone we do not take anyone’s welfare for granted.

