

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

2934 Marshall Avenue
Maplewood, Missouri 63143

Rectory: 314-645-3307 • Deacon John Flanigan 314-922-2420

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Mass begins May 31st in the midst of COVID-19: Good News/Bad News:

Good news: the mass is as “good” as ever

Bad news: COVID-19 is as “BAD” as ever

We are not “back to normal”...I call this a “baby step”.

We are happy to begin mass again at Immaculate Conception...but mass will be DIFFERENT. We have received many pages of guidelines and directives from the Archdiocese to help in this transition. Back in the “old days” (before March 16th when masses were suspended) we wanted EVERYONE to come and join us for mass, “the more the merrier”. There was an “obligation” to attend mass. We had mass everyday, except Mondays we had a communion service.

Differences now: 1) All Missouri bishops have dispensed you from the obligation to attend mass until further notice. 2) Those who are symptomatic or who have been exposed to someone with the virus are not permitted to enter church. 3) Those who are **“at risk”** because of underlying health issues **OR WHO ARE OVER 60 ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED, FOR THEIR OWN HEALTH, TO AVOID THE RISK OF ATTENDING PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS OF THE MASS.** As a specific example, I would NOT be attending mass except for my role as Parish Life Coordinator; my wife Sue will *NOT be attending mass.*

4) Wearing a mask is mandatory for all, except young children.

Continued on next page

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:

To have mass, of course, we need a priest. **Fr. Peter Blake will say mass on Sunday mornings at IC at the usual 8:30 am time.** But after much prayer and discussion in order to protect the LaSalette priests, they will NOT be available to say mass for a while. They are all well over 60 and there are several priests in their community over 80 who are very much “at risk”. Just as St. Louis recently lost five priests to the virus, the LaSallettes have lost five priests in Hartford, CT. The virus spreads very easily and especially affects those over 60 and “at risk”. **So we will begin with just one mass a week.** (Note—some much larger parishes such as St. Peter's in Kirkwood are beginning with just one mass on the weekend.)

God gave us “common sense” and God expects us to use our common sense for ourselves and for the good of others. If the LaSallettes came here, they might spread the virus to the rest of their community. If someone in their community was contagious, they might spread the virus to our parish. By prudently waiting a few weeks we will all understand the risks and remedies for COVID-19 better and be able to worship together the rest of our lives.

LIMITS ON ATTENDANCE—for “social distancing”

The best way to limit the risk of COVID-19 is to stay home, especially those over 60. Masses are available on TV and smart-phones and computers.

The next best way to limit the risk is to maintain a six-foot distance between families. With the 19 pews in our church that means we can place individuals/families in one of 28 places in the pews. We have many single people so our total in church may be about 50. That means NOT EVERYONE WHO WANTS TO BE AT MASS WILL HAVE A PLACE INSIDE THE CHURCH.

DURING MASS:

Families need to remain six-feet from each other. Stationary baskets will replace offertory collection, No offertory procession, kiss of peace. At communion time, come up the side aisles and return by the center aisle (opposite of what we have done). Maintain single file, six-foot distancing at communion time using floor markings as guidelines. Communion from the chalice is still prohibited.

To receive communion: 1) Say “Amen” and receive the host in your hand, 2) take two steps to the side, 3) pull mask down below your chin and consume it, 4) then immediately place the mask back over your mouth and nose and return to your seat down the center aisle.

AFTER MASS:

Families depart keeping six-feet between families while still wearing masks until they get inside their cars. Clergy not to greet parishioners before/after mass for safety. NO receptions, social gatherings, or food following mass.

WE NEED EXTRA HELP:

We need people who know how to “live stream” the mass for those who remain at home. By using your smart phone or computer you could watch Fr. Pete's mass from Immaculate Conception. It might be possible if the church's 28 positions were full that others could watch at home and drive to the church parking lot to receive communion after mass (“drive through communion”) if they have participated in the mass on the screen. We need someone who knows how to video the mass with good sound (perhaps tie it into the church's sound system) and get it to “live-stream” on Youtube or Facebook live. Contact Deacon John at 314-922-2420.

We will need a few people to learn the new directives and guidelines and explain them to people as they enter the church.

BOTTOM LINE:

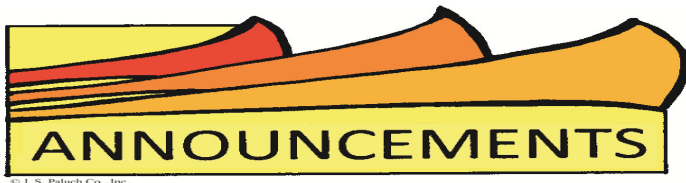
We are watching the virus and learning more about it.

The virus is watching us, waiting for us to let down our guard to infect more.

These are “baby steps”, not the final steps.

We will get through this together.

*May God bless you in a special way,
Deacon John*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Archdiocese of St. Louis has created a comprehensive landing page with the latest parish and school updates, statements from Archbishop Carlson, resources and prayers in response to the Coronavirus. You can access that page here: <https://www.archstl.org/coronavirus>



And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him." Invite Jesus into your marriage on an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekends are Aug. 7-9 and Sept. 25-27 at the Courtyard Marriot in St. Peters, MO.

<https://stl-wwme.org/schedule.php> or call or text 314.649.7317.

SLUH is pleased to offer MULTIPLE virtual opportunities to future Jr. Bills and their parents to experience our brotherhood, our academics, and our robust athletics and co-curricular opportunities including InsideSLUH Visits, a Campus Tour, Office Hours, and Feature Zoom Events with SLUH Subject-Matter Experts. Visit our Virtual Admissions Office at <https://www.sluh.org/admissions> to learn more.



Free Rosaries!
Pray to end the Pandemic

Saturdays in May, 11am - 1pm
May 16 / 23 / 30

The sisters will be distributing rosaries in our Book Center parking lot each Saturday in May.....

Pauline Books & Media, 9804 Watson Rd., St Louis, MO 63126



St. Louis Friends of Birthright Virtual Run for Life and Learning

Looking for a fun and safe way to support Moms in need? The Friends of Birthright Run for Life and Learning has gone Virtual! To register or donate, visit:

run4lifeandlearning.eventbrite.com. Complete a Run/Walk distance of your choice (6K, 1 mile, 0.25 mile) individually or with your immediate family anytime between Monday, June 1 and Sunday, June 7. Post your time and/or photo to our Facebook page, or email us, and receive a race t-shirt. Proceeds enable women who are financially stressed by an unplanned pregnancy to continue their education. Please email us at run4lifeandlearning@gmail.com for sponsorship opportunities.



Glennon Sunday
Where faith and healing unite
June 7

SSM Health
Cardinal Glennon
Children's Hospital

When SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital opened its doors as the nation's first free-standing Catholic pediatric hospital, a promise was made to the community that any child in need of care would be welcomed, whether their parents could afford to pay for care or not. That promise still holds true today.

St. Louis has a long tradition of responding generously in times of crisis, coming together in solidarity to give hope to those in need. SSM Health Cardinal Glennon is a proud part of that tradition, and we need you now more than ever. In this extraordinary time of crisis, our costs to deliver care are extraordinary as well. Now is the time for our dear friends in the faith community to come together and partner with us as we uphold a commitment to our mission of faith-filled health care services, delivered by some of the region's best caregivers: Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.

IC please join us by making a gift during Glennon Sunday weekend, June 6-7, online at glennon.org. Together we will continue to make miracles possible bringing God's love and joy into the lives of our young patients. On behalf of our patients and families, may God bless you for providing hope, healing, faith and compassion to every child who walks through the doors at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon.

Schedule For The Week

Sunday, May 24

8:30 a.m.

Mass-Suspended



Monday, May 25

9:00 a.m.

Memorial Day

Mass on the Grass-St. Luke's

Office Closed

Tuesday, May 26

7:00 p.m.

Choir-Cancelled

Wednesday, May 27

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Parish Hall Walking-Cancelled

Thursday, May 28

9:00 a.m.

Small Faith-Cancelled

9:30 a.m.

Quilting-Cancelled

Friday, May 29

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Adoration-Cancelled

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Parish Hall Walking-Cancelled

Saturday, May 30

4:00 p.m.

Mass-Suspended

4:15-4:45 p.m.

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

Sunday, May 31

8:30 a.m.

Mass-RESUMED

Weekly Offering



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Register for simple & convenient

Online Giving at:

<https://>

www.osvonlinegiving.com/1357

May 10th/11th: 1st Collection: \$1,192.00 2nd Collection: \$408.00

Online Giving: \$1,457.25

May 16th/24th: 1st Collection: TBD 2nd Collection: TBD

Online Giving: \$1,192.25

Stewardship

Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on the earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

Before leaving His disciples, Jesus told them point blank what God the Father expected of them. He was like a foreman on the job site; "all power in heaven and on earth has been given to me". He let the disciples know that He was speaking for the Father. He was given authority to command the disciples to fulfill the word of God. "...make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...teach them to observe all that I have commanded you." He gave them strength and hope telling them He would be with them always, and would be here for all generations.

We are now the disciples. We are one of the generations. The task has now become our life work. Little by little we can have an enormous impact on the lives of others. We are the stewards of our time, talents and treasures, and we can use these gifts to fulfill our lives as Christians.

MASS ON THE GRASS

Monday May 25 2020 at 9:00 am

St. Luke's Baseball field

Bring a Lawn Chair and a Mask

(Remember to keep social distancing—six feet)

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab;

Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab;

Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11;

Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab;

Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or

Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35,

27-28, 29-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39

Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34;

1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

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, snow days and vacation times. It is EASY to sign up for online giving at www.osvonlinegiving.com/1357. 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.

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

PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

Deacon John Flanigan, Parish Life Coordinator
314-922-2420 (cell) 314-645-3307 ext. 201
johnflanigan@hotmail.com
Father Peter Blake, Sacramental Minister
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

Eva May, Administrative Assistant, 314-645-3307 Ext. 202
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
Nikki & Todd Bircher
Deacon John Flanigan
Laura Miller
Mary Bankston
RJ & Suzee Irwin
Becky Konersmann
Ken Amend

Schedule

Effective Sunday, May 31st:
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m.

SVDP Food Pantry: Saturdays from 9:30-11:00am

Ministry Schedule-Suspended

Saturday EM's: *Suspended until Masses resume*
Saturday Lectors:
Saturday Servers:
Saturday Usher Captain:
Saturday Gifts:
Sunday EM's:
Sunday Lectors:
Sunday Servers:
Sunday Usher:
Sunday Greeters:
Sunday Gifts:



Hope and Healing

“There is no grief like the grief that does not speak.”
Henry Longfellow.

The grief over an abortion experience is often so deep that it seems to be silent. Women and men may bear this burden for years thinking that there is no hope of forgiveness or peace. Project Rachel/Project Joseph offers free, private, professional counseling for anyone who is suffering because of an abortion experience. Call Project Rachel/Project Joseph at 314-792-7565 to begin your journey of healing and reconciliation.



Sunday, May 31st:
For the people of the parish
Please email the church to reschedule a Mass Intention scheduled from March 16th-present or call Eva May at 314-776-7172.

Please Pray For:

Jim Higgins, Eileen Lencz, Jim Haislip, Alice Hezel, Gary Gray, Ellen Simmons, Chuck Ellermann, Mona Tillman, Heidi Barks, Madelyn McClure, Paul Rygelski, Mary Johnston, Jim White, Everleigh Lauber, Jack & Pamela Warner, Pam MacDonald, Nancy Maurer, Linda Amend
Terry & Ron Kippenberger (family of Rita Kippenberger)
Lisa Massack (sister of Joshua Capstick)
Jamie Jackson (Granddaughter of Annabelle Moran)
Pam Brown (former parishioner)
Tony Simmons (son of Tom & Ellen Simmons)
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)
John Biondo (brother of Maria Gray)
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**

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

Available at St. Luke's Parish
Saturdays 4:15 to 4:45

Rest in Peace

JOSEPH SALAMON,
nephew of Marie Mudd

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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