

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

New Melle, Missouri



December 28 2014

*The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

*The child grew and became strong,
filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.*

Sacraments and Devotions

Celebration of the Mass

Weekend Masses in the Church

Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday 7:30 am
 9:30 am
 11:15 am

Daily Mass

Monday through Friday 8:00 am, Chapel
Saturday 8:00 am, Church

Devotions and Prayers, St. Joseph Chapel

Rosary following 8:00 Mass
Rosary at noon on Wednesday
Tuesday after Mass-
 Perpetual Help devotions
Thursday after Mass-
 Respect Life prayers
Friday at 11:30 am- Chaplet of
 Divine Mercy and Benediction

Reconciliation

Wednesday in church, 7:30 pm
Saturday after the 8:00 am Mass

Marriage

Contact the parish office at least six
months prior to the wedding.

Baptism

Contact the parish office to register for
Baptism class and to arrange for the
Baptism.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Contact Shawn Mueller in the
parish office

Eucharistic Adoration

St. Joseph Chapel is open for adoration
24 hours daily from Monday after Mass
to Friday benediction. **Code: 145**

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Mailing address :
PO Box 100
New Melle, MO 63365

Deliveries only address:
8 West Highway D
New Melle, MO 63365

Parish Office Phone: 636-398-5270
Fax: 636-398-5577

Website: www.ihm-newmelle.org

Parish Staff

Contact Information

Parish Office 636-398-5270

Pastor Fr. Tom Miller
Fr. Tom's cell phone; for emergency only
314-303-2428

askpadre@aol.com

Permanent Deacon Deacon Chris Ast
chrisast@archstl.org

Permanent Deacon Deacon Tony Falbo
tony.2011@centurylink.net

Director of Religious Education/ PSR
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Music Director Marilyn O'Neill
secretary@ihm-newmelle.org

Safe Environment Coordinator
Jeanne Smith
jsmith@ihm-newmelle.org

Parish Nurse Linda Ginther
lagg1787@gmail.com

Weddings, Receptions, Events

Hall Rental Information Pat Gentry
636-398-5270

Wedding Coordinators
Irene Caldwell 636-398-4311
Carolyn Schellert 636-398-5139

Event Coordinators
Joan Marren-Slaughter 636-398-5270
Mary Keune 636-398-5270

Welcome!

Religious Education

Parish School of Religion (Grades 1 through 8)

September through May on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Confirmation Preparation (8th grade)

September through May on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word

September through May on Sundays during the 9:30 am Mass

Adult Education

Wednesdays at 8:45 am and 6:00 pm.

This Week's Events

Sunday, December 28

9:30 am

Children's liturgy during Mass

Monday, December 29

6:30 pm

Scouts, Founders Hall

Tuesday, December 30

Wednesday, December 31

New Year's Eve

5:00 pm

Vigil Mass, church; the Solemnity of the Virgin Mary

Thursday, January 1 Holy Day of Obligation and New Year's Day

10:00 am

Mass, church; the Solemnity of the Virgin Mary

The parish office will be closed today.

Friday, January 2

8:30 am

Quilters, Weber Hall

Saturday, January 3

8:00 am

Mass followed by confession, church

Sunday, January 4

9:30 am

Children's liturgy during Mass

2:00 pm

Epiphany Concert, church;
reception following in the Grand Hall

Holiday Mass Schedule:

New Year's Eve Mass — 5:00 pm

New Year's Day Mass — 10:00 am

Join the Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for December



Christmas, hope for humanity. That the birth of the Redeemer may bring peace and hope to all people of good will. **Parents.** That parents may be true evangelizers, passing on to their children the precious gift of faith

Saints and special observances

Monday: St. Thomas Becket

Wednesday: St. Sylvester I

Friday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

Saturday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 27

8:00 am Anna May Fuerst +
Johnny Tarkington +
4:00 pm Judy Ulery +
Randy and Lukas Schneider +

Sunday, December 28

7:30 am Ann Seper +
Jerome Kluge +
9:30 am Gail Willman +
Helen Orf +
11:15 am People of the Parish

Monday, December 29

8:00 am All Souls Intentions
Joseph and Sarah Spiess

Tuesday, December 30

8:00 am Mike Zurweller +
Ben Bader +

Wednesday, December 31

8:00 am Jim Weiskopf +
Joe Sinopole +
5:00 pm IHM Parishioners

Thursday, January 1

10:00 am Peace in the Metropolitan Area

Friday, January 2

8:00 am Holy Vocations

Saturday, January 3

8:00 am Mimi Ferguson +
JT Fowler
4:00 pm People of the Parish

Sunday, January 4

7:30 am Mary Berfanger +
Robert McEneny
9:30 am Mena Winters +
11:15 am Jim and Anna Tarkington +

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Thursday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7;
Lk 2:16-21
Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Parish Organizations

Scouting Units

Parish Rep (All Units) Jerry Hespen; 636-236-1955
Cub Pack Karen Williams; 636-699-7517
Scout Troop Chad Peters; 314-807-7177
Venture Crew Dana Hoffman; 636-734-8423

Budget and Finance

John Wappelhorst
636-398-5786

Cemetery Committee

Mark Keune
314-220-7075

Dinner Committee

Richard Lalonde
636-798-2511

Knights of Columbus

Mike Reel, Grand Knight
314-581-6797

Legion of Mary

Nancy Hollenstein
636-798-2105

Marian Council

Carolyn Schellert, President
314-232-2042

Meals on Wheels

Bob Rapp
636-398-4776

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Julia Kettler
314-616-0096

Pro-Life Committee

Bill Winters
636-828-4133

Quilters

Eleanor Sadlo
636-398-5595

Mary Ann Brakensiek
636-828-5776

St. Vincent DePaul

For information or assistance,
call 636-398-5270 , ex. 225

MEDITATION ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

There lived in Jerusalem at the time a certain man named Simeon. He was just and pious, and awaited the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25

Union with Christ means that sin no longer can hold us hostage and that we long to be free of its grip of our lives. It does not mean, necessarily, however, that sin vanishes totally from our lives. Emilie Griffin says of the Christian: "While he is a new man in Christ, he has brought over a good deal of the old man with him. His little sins and temptations begin to creep back into his life and catch him unawares. The new man and the old man... coexist throughout our lives in constant tension, so life becomes a spiritual battle. The mature Christian accepts this duality as part of the daily journey, always invoking the strength and consolation of the Lord who calls us to place our hope in him.

I confess I am not what I ought to be, but I thank you, Lord, that I'm not what I used to be. Maxie Dunnam
Mark Link S.J. "Mission"

BLESSED NEW YEAR!

Dear Parishioners,

As our holiday season continues, I wish each of you a blessed and happy New Year! As we look back on 2014 I hope and pray that it was a year of blessings for you. While not without its challenges, I hope you experienced the fullness of Jesus' friendship and peace. Our Lord is waiting to share in our lives and desires nothing more to bless us with His Gospel of Life.

As I look back over 2014 it seemed to be a year of changes and trials. Here is a brief recap of some of the events we may remember from 2014:

- Russia annexes the Crimea and unrest in the Ukraine
- Canonization of Sts. John XXIII and John Paul II
- ISIS (Islamic State) begins widespread persecutions of non-Moslems
- Unrest in Ferguson and our Nation
- Ebola deaths in Africa and fears of the disease in the USA

Overall, it is too easy to focus on the negative events that take place on a national or global level. Our response is always one of prayerful reflection and priestly intercession. As God's priestly people we are called to intercede for the trials and to give thanks for the blessings. There is more good in the world than will ever be reported. Good is rarely sensational, but always enduring.

On the local and personal level, I am always humbled by the outpouring of goodness that I see in our parish family as well as our local community. Our Advent season was a time of prayerful anticipation and generous contribution. So many of you supported our Giving Tree and helped make this season more joyful for those who are less fortunate. Our local community has been so generous in supporting our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry that the shelves are overflowing. I am privileged to witness all these things and lift them up in prayer as part of my offering at our Sunday Masses. May all of us unite our blessings when we come before the Lord at Mass. Our daily gratitude is pressed down, shaken together and overflowing when we unite our joys to those of Jesus. Joy is not the absence of sorrow or hardship, but an awareness and confidence in the Lord's sustaining love. I pray that the joy of Jesus Christ has been a real experience in your life this year and that you will experience more of His joy in the coming New Year. Prayer is the road to such joy. Praise, gratitude, adoration, contrition and intercession are the steps along the road to joyful discipleship.

Blessed New Year,

Fr. Tom

"To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything He has given us - and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him. Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by hearsay but by experience. And that is what makes all the difference." — Thomas Merton



There will be no classes on December 24 and December 31. Thank you to all those who have been keeping up with all of the online work. This is meant to be a tool for you and your children to have "the faith" come first from the direction of the parents at home, and secondarily from the "parish school of religion" here at Church. We will be back on January 6.



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"...Honor thy teacher, principal and crossing guard!"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"...and thy grandmother"

from JoyfulNoiseletter.com
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Which commandment says if you don't obey thy parents y'get a time-out?"

from The Joyful Noiseletter
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

CHILDREN OF ETERNITY

You are children of eternity. Your immortal crown awaits you, to reward your duty and love. You may indeed sow here in tears, but you may be sure there to reap in joy.

—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton



NEWS FROM HOME



Stewardship

December 28, 2014

St. Joseph Chapel "Heavenly Dusters"
The Heavenly Dusters are on vacation this week, and will return in the next bulletin.

Enjoy your time off!

The "Heavenly Dusters" schedule needs to be updated. Please call the office if you have changed your information.

Collection figures for Sunday, Dec. 21, 2014 will be published in the next bulletin.

Try Electronic Offertory

Those who are pledging for the "Many Gifts. One Heart" new debt reduction campaign should mark their envelopes with the correct campaign title. Pink debt reduction envelopes are included in the monthly envelope mailing. There are options for giving. Use weekly envelopes or check out On-Line giving at www.ihm-newmelle.org

St. Vincent DePaul Society

Items needed for the food pantry: Jelly, chili beans, canned meats, Coffee, sugar, oil, bleach, trash bags, Kleenex, paper towels, shave cream.

Memorial tribute and healing cards are available. The order forms can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

MARIAN COUNCIL NEWS

Holiday dinner: We had a GRAND banquet, with **122 ladies in attendance!** Thanks to our Knights (in shining armor) of Columbus- the food was great (**thanks to Mike Reel and the Knights**), fabulous dessert (**thank you, Jenni Orf!**) and the Grand Hall looked very festive. A good time was had by all and got the Holiday Spirit going! Personal care items were donated by the ladies for distribution by St. Vincent de Paul. A big THANK-YOU to all who helped and contributed Thank you, Father Tom, for your inspiration and also to our outgoing president, Carolyn Schellert for her six years as our leader!



What's Your Catholic IQ?

On this feast of the Holy Family, see if you can answer some of the "facts of the family" we are facing today.

Source: www.smartmarriages.com /

www.operationus.com

1. The number of couples who marry and divorce under current trends is at this percent.

- A. 20-30%
- B. 30-40%
- C. 40-50%
- D. 60-70%

2. Most marriages that end in divorce, take place during this time frame.

- A. 6 months
- B. 3-5 years
- C. 6-7 years
- D. 10 + years

3. Given the often difficult temporal consequences of single parent households, marriage is a particular benefit to this group.

- A. Taxpayers
- B. Auto workers
- C. Schools
- D. Colleges

4. Marital problems often bring about this specific behavior in men.

- A. An increase of inner peace.
- B. Decreased work productivity
- C. More time spent with children
- D. An increase of reading

5. Couples who live together prior to marriage are less likely to do this.

- A. Go on trips
- B. Visit their in-laws
- C. Hold hands
- D. Stay married

6. These two things are what people say they argue about most in marriage.

- A. Money and Sexual relations.
- B. Work and Children
- C. Money and Children
- D. Work and Sexual relations

7. Studies testify that this group of people have the most frequent and satisfying sexual relationships, both physically and emotionally.

- A. Teenagers
- B. Unmarried singles
- C. Couples who live together
- D. Married couples

8. Most men and women who divorce will remarry. Second marriages will...

- A. Fail at a higher rate than do first marriages.
- B. Increase one's financial standing
- C. Bring about healing in one's children
- D. Increase one's self esteem.

9. 80% of adolescents in psychiatric hospitals come from here.

- A. The city
- B. The red states
- C. Broken Homes
- D. Wealthy homes

10. Children of divorce who choose not to have children specifically cite this as the main reason.

- A. Money
- B. Divorce
- C. Anger
- D. Selfishness

Answers on the next page

A BIG THANK YOU!

St. Vincent de Paul is very grateful for the generosity of the congregation, the VFW, New Melle Fire Dept., Daniel Boone Elementary, St. John's UCC, St. Paul's UCC in Defiance and many others during this holiday season. We have been able to help over 25 families with 45 children this season and have provided over 250 gifts and food through this generosity.



While we're at it, many thanks for all the pies donated to the food pantry at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in St. Louis. Thanks also for your generous donations given during the Thanksgiving Day Mass.

TV MASS: NEW TIME ON WRBU (ION) CHANNEL 46

Heart of the Nation's TV Mass for the home-bound will move to 5:30 a.m. on WRBU (ION) channel 46. When you or someone you love cannot get to church because of illness, unsafe driving conditions, or other struggles, the TV Mass offers spiritual comfort and inspiration. For cable/satellite channels, check your TV listings for WRBU (ION). The Mass will continue to air at 9:00 a.m. on KTVI channel 2.2. Video of the TV Mass is also available online at www.HeartoftheNation.org.

CHECK IT OUT

*..for youth
and young adults*
YDinner—YDisciple:
Group Meeting- in the Grand Hall on Wednesday, January 7, 2015, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

ANSWERS TO CATHOLIC IQ

1. C. 40-50%
2. B. 3-5 years
3. A. Taxpayers
4. B. Decreased work productivity
5. D. Stay married
6. C. Money and Children
7. D. Married Couples
8. A. Fail at higher rate
9. C. Broken Homes
10. B. Divorce



**For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven.**

...a time to die...

Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Catherine Marquart,
Sister-in-law of Frank and Rosemary Marquart;
and Patti Kendrick,
cousin of Dianne Sudbrock.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Marion Mueller
Patricia Rudolf
Shirley McDonald
Diane Bocklage
Jack Hitt
Steve Geldien
Terri Guernsey
Maria Miller
Melissa Van Hoy

Dave Hendrix
Al Bamert
Ted Feldewerth
Charlie Grady
Janet Hesper's Dad
Jane Holstein's sister
John, who has had
back surgery
Ann Fitzgerald
Keri and Jesse Knopp
and their unborn baby



Do you get emails from the "Church of IHM New Melle"?

Constant Contact has been a great, powerful and inexpensive way to communicate with members of the parish regarding upcoming events, obituary notices, general news and more. As always, such email addresses are blind copied to respect privacy, and there is also an option to unsubscribe on the email itself. But given this gift of communication, would you like to be added to the list? Just send an email to the parish office at smueller@ihm-newmelle.org

YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE

Religious life ought to promote growth in the church by way of attraction. The church must be attractive. Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living!...It is this witness that I expect of you. Religious should be men and women who are able to wake the world up. - Pope Francis, meeting with the Union of Superiors General, Nov. 29, 2013

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

January 3 4:00

EM: Mary Jean Hartenbach, Dave & Judy
Hendrix, Karen Wilson, Walt & Jan Karase
L: Jean Bamert, Nancy Ast
GB: Florence Joerling, Joyce Brakensiek
S: Colton, Camden & Celina Genta
U: Bryan Potter, Bill Pollihan, Stan
Nikonowicz, Jerry Braden

January 4 7:30

EM: Walt & Jean Reel, Rich Molitor, Michelle
Greiwe, Ed & Carol Rabbitt
L: Lucy Smith, Elizabeth Vehige
GB: Hahn Family
S: Mary Grace Becker, Anna & Connor Jaeckle
U: Frank Marquart, Larry Gassei, Gary Potter,
volunteer please

January 4 9:30

EM: John & Karen Wappelhorst, Dave & Pam
DeBold, Don & Susan Hladky, Chris Richter, Craig Hoel
L: Bob Leeker, Tim Beerman
GB: Phyllis Zerr, Gary Struckhoff
S: Morgan & Brianna Dale, Karly Raymond
U: Gary Struckhoff, John Bossert, Stan
Kostecki, Ben & Nick Wappelhorst, Curt Eccardt

January 4 11:15

EM: Debi Orf, Elaine Sudbrock, Donna Wolff,
Pat Roche, Jane Holstein, Joan Marren-Slaughter
L: Theresa & Jim Risch
GB: Chris & Kat Menne
S: Maggie Molitor, Jordan Randall
U: Glen Taylor, Ron Riley, Todd Neihouse

The sign-up sheets for New Year's are in the narthex.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

DONATIONS FROM RESTAURANT-

Bob Evans Restaurant in Wentzville will donate 15% of their proceeds to hospitalized children and the Special Olympics on the second Thursday of the month. The next date for this generous donation will be January 8.



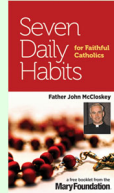
Many thanks for a highly successful holiday dinner. A good time was had by all!

St. Paul Library / Lighthouse CD Resources

(Note: With close to 3000 items, the Parish Library is located in the Grand Hall past the restrooms. It is open during the week-normal business hours- and works on an honor system. Items from the Lighthouse CD rack are located and available in the Narthex.

From the Lighthouse Catholic CD – Pamphlet Rack: Narthex

From the Lighthouse Catholic CD – Pamphlet Rack: Narthex



About This Booklet

Already the most popular Catholic booklet of its kind in America, **Seven Daily Habits for Faithful Catholics** was adapted from a spectacularly successful article by Fr. John McCloskey (the "convert-maker" who helped notorious abortionist Bernard Nathanson convert to Catholicism). It provides seven traditional ways to spend more time on a daily basis with Jesus and His mother, along with practical advice on how to approach and implement spiritual habits amidst our distracting secular culture. Its power to transform lives is profoundly simple. Any person who adopts one or more of these habits will grow closer to Jesus. Our Lord does the transforming. Even devout Catholics will discover habits they'll want to add to their daily lives.



Adapted from the popular online essay, the information in this expanded-length 24-page booklet has brought hope to devout Catholics all over the world. Based on decades of research and direct contact with thousands of practicing Catholics across America, the central thesis is simple: the Church is already experiencing an explosion of dedicated Catholic families and vocations which will last for decades to come. Topics covered include: A brief survey of the implosion of the Church over the past two generations. The simultaneous countersurge of evangelical Catholic families. The rise of lay movements in the 1970s. The founding of numerous Catholic apostolates and renewal movements. The astounding impact of Saint John Paul II's papacy. The crucial role of the Blessed Mother. "Vocational lag" and its effects on the institutional Church. The great variety within Catholic orthodoxy. The triumphant suffering and fruitfulness of devout Catholic families. The increasing number and faithfulness of religious vocations. Unstoppable "vertical" evangelization.

LITURGY CAMP Registration for the 2015 Liturgy Camp is now available. A flyer and registration form have been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. We have several new events planned for this summer's camp including a tour of some of the churches in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Space is limited so be sure to reserve a spot for your student, child or parishioner today. Registration is open for students 8th grade – Senior in High school. Please consider sending your student, parishioner, or child to this year's Liturgy Camp. If you have further questions about the camp please contact Amy Buehrle in the Office of Sacred Worship, 314.792.7231

Liturgical Ministers:

The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 31

5:00 pm

EM: Irene Caldwell, Bob Caldwell, **four more needed please**

L: Peggy Depree, John Grady

GB: **two needed please**

S: Liam Grady, Connor Jaeckle

U: **three needed please**

January 1

10:00 am

EM: Walt Reel, Jean Reel, Jane Holstein, Janet Hespen

L: Jan Messig, Michelle Greiwe

GB: **two needed please**

Paige Greiwe and Genny Greiwe

U: Larry Gassei, **two more needed please**

ANOTHER THANK-YOU

Many thanks to the young people who provided music for the 5:00 pm Christmas Mass. You sounded great! Maybe we can have a children's choir at Mass on other days of the year, too! Also, many thanks to the parents who made sure their children attended rehearsals. (photo next week).

WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own presuppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

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Parish Office: 636-398-5270

Future Events



Annual Ecumenical Epiphany Concert; here at IHM; 2:00 pm. Please bring finger food to share. All are invited, free of charge!



YDinner-YDisciple; Wednesday, January 7 in the Grand Hall; 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm



Blood Drive, Thursday, Jan. 8 from 2:30 to 6:30 pm in Founders Hall



Marian Council Meeting, open to all women of the parish; Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 6:30 pm in Weber Hall



Baptism Class; Monday, Jan. 19 at 7:00 pm in Weber Hall. Please call the parish office to register.



Knights of Columbus meeting, Tuesday, Jan. 20 in Founders Hall



New Parishioner Wine and Cheese Party; Friday, Feb. 6 at Father Tom's house; more information will follow



Knights of Columbus Horse Races; Saturday, Feb. 21; more information to follow

ROSES FOR LIFE

The Knights of Columbus will be holding its annual Roses for Life campaign next weekend. The Knights ask for your support by signing the roses you will find in the pews. These roses will then be collected and sent to our elected representatives in Washington D.C. to remind them that we support the right to life of the unborn, and that we expect them to vote in support of pro-life legislation.

The Knights also ask you to pray the Rosary to end abortion and to give your moral support to those people going to Washington D.C. to participate in the March for Life on Jan. 22nd, which is the 42st anniversary of the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion on demand in the U.S.

WE'VE GOT JUST THE TICKET -

a chance to win 10 tickets plus \$200 of food and drink in the Mercy Hospital's Baseball Suite for a mutually agreed upon 2015 home game - all while supporting adoptive families! The **Archbishop Robert J. Carlson Adoption Fund's 2015 Cardinal Suite Raffle** purchases can be made ONLINE; Visit our link early and often before Feb. 19!

<http://archstl.org/giving/online/donations/4325411>

Out and About Opportunities

- **WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS;** Please join Fr. Bill Debo from Hermann, Mo. on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land Feb. 3 - Feb. 12, 2015. We will visit Nazareth, Cana, Mt. Carmel, Mt Beatitudes, Capernaum, Sea of Galilee, Jordan River, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Mt. of Olives and much more. All accommodations are in first class hotels. Please call Travel Tyme [636-391-1000](tel:636-391-1000)
- **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:** Couples –Do you want to give each other something REALLY special for the holidays this year? How about a gift filled with romance and excitement? Make reservations to attend one of the Marriage Encounter weekends in 2015 on February 6-8 or April 24-26. Just pick up the phone for more information and call [314.469.7317](tel:314.469.7317) or see the web page at www.stl-wwme.org.
- **YOU ARE NOT ALONE. YOU CAN SURVIVE AND THRIVE AFTER DIVORCE.** Decide to start the new year with hope and healing by attending **The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide** program. The 12-week DVD program features Catholic experts, and lay men and women who have been where you are. Topics include denial, anger, grief, guilt, forgiveness, money, the kids, the ex-spouse, spirituality, annulment and much more. Immaculate Conception Parish – Dardenne is hosting the program beginning January 8, 2015. There is a \$25 fee which will cover all materials needed. (*Scholarships are available for anyone who cannot afford the fee*). Contact Debi at debijo@att.net or 314-276-3859 for more information.
- **EXPERIENCE THE LORD'S CONSOLATION AND HOPE:** Our Infertility Support Group gathers each year for celebration of the Mass and fellowship on or around St. Valentine's Day. The Mass this year will be celebrated by Archbishop Robert J. Carlson, Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Chapel of the Cardinal Rigali Center, 20 Archbishop May Drive, St. Louis, MO 63119. Light refreshments followed in the Sister Ebo room. If you would like more information, please contact the Archdiocesan Office of Natural Family Planning [314.997.7576](tel:314.997.7576) or e-mail melissa.barnason@mercy.net or orlucy.harris@mercy.net.
- **CARMELITE SISTERS- Sequela Christi: December 30, 2014** from 2:00 pm -8:00 pm; An opportunity for young women (10th grade and older) to volunteer with Seniors at St. Agnes Home with the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus, hear a spiritual talk, and share in the prayer and recreation of the Sisters. **Lenten Holiness Retreat: "A Heart for Worship" - March 6-8, 2015** for young women ages 17-29 who desire to grow in holiness and spend time with Carmelite Sisters D.C.J. More information available at www.carmelitedcj.org/retreats.asp; To register contact Sr. Mary Michael, Carmel DCJ: [314-965-7616](tel:314-965-7616) or vocations@carmelitedcj.org; Location of both events: 10341 Manchester Rd. Kirkwood, MO 63122
- **SLAVERY STILL EXISTS IN OUR WORLD--AND IN OUR OWN COUNTY!** Help to break the chains of modern day slavery! Attend the St. Charles Outreach Coalition Against Human Trafficking awareness event on Sat., Jan. 10, 2015, from 10 am to noon, at the Spencer Rd. Library, Community Commons (upper floor, accessible from the north parking), 427 Spencer Rd. in St. Peters. For more info., contact ehogan@cpps-ofallon.org or [636-248-1117](tel:636-248-1117). Catholic groups, such as the Precious Blood sisters in O'Fallon, are supporting this effort. The pope and bishops have spoken on this issue. More info. is available from www.humantraffickingawareness.org.

Benefits and Faith Events

- **PRO-LIFE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED** Mary Queen of Angels is in desperate need of financial assistance. Checks must be made out to "Mary Queen of Angels" and mailed to 827 West Terra Ln., O'Fallon, MO 63366. We can be reached at [636-379-5070](tel:636-379-5070) or [636-634-7243](tel:636-634-7243).
- **16TH Annual St. Louis Marian Conference;** Jan. 9-10-11, 2015 at HILTON ST. LOUIS at the Ballpark. A Catholic Event for the Entire Family. Confirmed speakers are: Bishop Robert J. Hermann, DD; Fr. Charles Becker; Msgr. John J. Hickel; Fr. James Kubicki, SJ; Fr. Mitch Pacwa, SJ; Fr. Tom Sullivan, CPM; Dale Ahlquist; Deacon Jack Sullivan; Kaye Park-Hinckley; Annie Karto. For more details please call [314 423-1075](tel:314-423-1075)

Just for Fun

- **RECOMMENDED HOLIDAY VIEWING** – Take a moment to sit back, put up your feet, and enjoy The Forsaken on Tuesday, December 30 on EWTN at 5:30 pm. This thirty minute documentary, featuring the Archdiocese of St. Louis mission program Pan y Amor, will open your eyes to the lives of children who have been rescued from living on the streets of Cochabamba and La Paz, Bolivia. Prior to being rescued, these children barely survived and often went to sleep hungry and on the streets. This is a show you don't want to miss!!