

Parish Office

12 W. Glendale, Webster Groves, MO
Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. (M-F)
Phone: 314-962-5955 Fax: 314-961-0643
Website: www.goannunciation.com

Pastor

Rev. Michael Esswein
314-962-5955, Ext. 128
frmikeesswein@goannunciation.com

In Residence

The Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituso
Auxiliary Bishop of Saint Louis

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mr. John Bonsanti
314-962-5955, Ext. 139
psr@goannunciation.com

Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Mrs. Barb Koch
314-962-5955, Ext. 121
parishsecretary@goannunciation.com

Bulletin

Deadline: 8:00 p.m. Mondays
Send to parishsecretary@goannunciation.com

Maintenance

Rich Hспен
314-962-5955, Ext. 123
maintenance@goannunciation.com

Parish Council

President: Bill Brassler
wbrasser@captiva-marketing.com

Parish Finance

Chairperson: AJ Henken
314-918-0212
henken1@charter.net

Parish Stewardship Commission

Chairperson: Carol Link
314-750-4576
clink13470@aol.com

Liturgical Music

Mrs. Ursula Zielinski
zielinski4@sbeglobal.net

Baptisms Contact the rectory, 962-5955,
to schedule baptisms & to sign up for the
baptism preparation class (for first family
member being baptized)

Holy Cross Academy

Dr. Gregory Densberger, President
314-475-3436 Website: www.hca-stl.org

Holy Cross Academy Middle School — Annunciation Campus

Mrs. Janet Dolan, Principal
314-961-7712, Ext. 437
Mrs. Theresa Berra, Secretary
314-961-7712, Ext. 441
16 W. Glendale Road Fax 314-961-2157

Saint Louis Life Teen

Lauren Scharmer, 314-288-8873
www.saintlouislifeteen.org
lauren@saintlouislifeteen.org

Annunciation

12 W. Glendale Road, Webster Groves, MO 63119

Cultivating Faith, Community & Academic Excellence

JANUARY 14, 2018

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



AS JOHN THE BAPTIST WATCHED
JESUS WALK BY, HE SAID,

"Behold, the Lamb of God."

JOHN 1:36

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday
at 6:30 a.m. & 8:00 a.m.

This week we will not have 6:30 a.m. Mass Thursday or Friday

Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00—4:30 p.m. or by appointment

Rosary: Every Sunday—Friday at 7:30 a.m. (before the 8:00 a.m. Mass)

celebrate
MARDI  **GRAS**



with *Annunciation*

SAVE THE DATE!

DATE: 2-9-2018 **TIME:** 7-11pm **PLACE:** Annunciation Gym **COST:** \$25.00

Join us for an evening of great food and beverages, cash prize drawing, sign up parties, and some great items for bidding as well as music and fun with friends!

More details to come! www.goannunciation.com/mardigras

Donation Opportunities:

Support / Sponsorship - Amy Kwentus at acktroop@sbcglobal.net

Sign Up Parties - Erin Brassler at mebrasser@charter.net

Women's Retreat



Come and be...Relaxed

Ladies of the parish, I would like to invite you to the upcoming **ACTS Retreat**. The retreat starts Thursday evening February 1, and ends on Sunday, February 4 returning to Mass at Our Lady of Providence. The Ladies from Annunciation, Our Lady of Providence and Sts. Teresa and Bridget parishes are on the team preparing for the retreat. During the retreat we have Mass every day, talks from the women on the team on various topics of faith, say

the rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet and have quiet time to pray and explore the beautiful grounds of LaSalle Retreat House. Consider giving yourself a gift of renewal and the opportunity to connect with ladies of the parish. Please contact Mary Nussbaum for more info 314-729-7375.

NOTICE: UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PERIOD
Elementary & High School Scholarships 2018-19 School Year

2018-19 Scholarship Application available on January 29th, 2018!

Alive! In Christ is first-come, first-served for all new awards and younger siblings that may be eligible, so we encourage you to apply as early as possible.

Approximately 500 new awards will be available.

The application deadline for Beyond Sunday, SOAR!, Catholic Families Tuition Assistance (CFTA), and the Parish Employees Endowment Fund (PEEF) is February 28th, 2018. Any family who would like to be considered for these programs, even if you are applying for requalification, must apply between January 29th and February 28th, 2018.

Up to 60 new elementary school awards and 35 new high school awards will be available in Beyond Sunday. Siblings attending the same school are not eligible in this program.

St. Louis City residents applying for elementary schools in the City should also apply as early as possible to be considered for Help for Today, Hope for Tomorrow.

Approximately 350 new awards will be available.

IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- If you have ever applied to TTEF before or are currently on scholarship, you must use the email address we have on file for you. If you do not know what this email address is, please email our office at ttef@archstl.org or call us at 314-792-7777. If you know what your email address is but forgot your password, please visit the family login page and click Forgot Password below the family login box. To access the Family Login Page, go to www.ttef-stl.org and click *Apply Here*.
- Individual students may not receive more than one scholarship if awarded. However, Catholic Families Tuition Assistance and Parish Employees Endowment Fund are tuition aid programs that may be awarded in addition to another scholarship. Families may have multiple children receiving scholarships.
- Documents needed to complete applications include:
 - Proof of Income: Adjusted gross income (taxes or W2) and any other assistance you may receive (including but not limited to Child Support, Food Stamps, and Social Security)
 - High School Students are required to submit responses to two short-answer questions and contact information for two references at the time of application to be considered for the Beyond Sunday Fellows Program. Students currently receiving a Beyond Sunday Fellows scholarship are not required to submit responses or references for requalification. For more information about the Beyond Sunday Fellows Program, please see the *Beyond Sunday Fellows FAQs*, available at www.ttef-stl.org.
 - Proof of Residency (St. Louis City residents applying to City elementary schools only)

Please visit our website for more information on acceptable documentation and application support!

www.ttef-stl.org

Click on Info for Parents under the Scholarships section for helpful resources!



T: 314-792-7777 | F: 314-792-7629 | E: ttef@archstl.org | www.ttef-stl.org

PARISH STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE FY 18

Jan. 7, 2018

SUNDAY ENVELOPES	\$14,812.00	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET FY 18 (7/17-6/18)	\$328,461.56
LOOSE DONATIONS	\$174.00	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL FY 18	\$368,973.51
ONLINE DONATIONS	\$2,405.00	YEAR TO DATE SURPLUS/(SHORTALL)	\$40,511.95
HOLY DAYS DONATIONS	\$285.00		
STOCK DONATIONS	\$0.00		
TOTAL	\$17,676.00	TOTAL NO. OF HOUSEHOLDS	697
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$11,730.77	TOTAL NO. OF ENVELOPES USED THIS WEEK	163
WEEKLY SURPLUS/(SHORTFALL)	\$5,945.23	% OF HOUSEHOLD USING ENVELOPES	24%

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS SVDP Bob Lauman Scholarship First Offering Permanent Diaconate St. Louis Review
Thank you \$205.00 \$75.00 \$418.00 \$5.00 \$120.00

Did you know? You can sign up for *Online Giving* by visiting our parish website <http://www.goannunciation.com/annunciation-online-donations.html> You can also sent up automatic payments through your own bank too.

To donation stock or securities to Annunciation, please contact Patricia Griffaw in the Archdiocesan Finance Office, Securities Department, at 314-792-7123.

MASS INTENTIONS		
Monday January 15	6:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m.	Joel Hodapp James McMullan
Tuesday January 16	6:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m.	Rick & Nancy Danzeisen 40th Anny Marie Quirk
Wednesday January 17	6:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m.	Rachel McMahon Special Intention
Thursday January 18	8:00 a.m.	No 6:30 a.m. Mass Today Sr. Mary Therese Esswein, CSJ
Friday January 19	8:00 a.m.	No 6:30 a.m. Mass Today Margaret DeRuntz
Saturday January 20	5:00 p.m.	People of the Parish
Sunday January 21	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Elizabeth Chitwood Doris Berger

MASS SERVERS		
Monday January 15	8:00 a.m.	No school servers today
Tuesday January 16	8:00 a.m.	Sean K., Miles S., Jack M.
Wednesday January 17	8:00 a.m.	Jodie P., Garrett M.
Thursday January 18	8:00 a.m.	Keegan C., Brody Z.
Friday January 19	8:00 a.m.	Andrew K., Ryan W.
Saturday January 20	5:00 p.m.	Emily R., Elizabeth Z., Emily B.
Sunday January 21	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Miles R., Therese S., Daniel P. Thomas O., Will P., Caroline H.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE			
DATE TIME	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS	JAN. USHERS
Saturday Jan. 20 5:00 p.m.	M. Lucchesi, S. Paster, J. Phillips, H. Place, M. Riganti	P. Hillmeyer	B. Bretsch, K. Franklin, B. Halliday, K. Kujawa
Sunday Jan. 21 8:00 a.m.	M. Mueller, M. Wedel, J. & W. Schuster, KC Schute	T. Ritten- house	D. Braun, C. Henry, J. Picoo, G. Trost
Sunday Jan. 21 10:00 a.m.	P. Teak, EM Cor- coran, J. & J. Moore, T. Beavin	B. Corcoran	T. Strahan, R. Nix, G. Mackey, T. Domino

MONEY	COUNTERS
Tues., Jan. 16	Mon., Jan. 22
G. Burns	S. Lucas
J. McArthur	M. Disbennett
M. Wedel	S. Stock

WEEKLY ANNUNCIATION PARISH CALENDAR			
Monday January 15	12:40 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 8:30 p.m.	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day The Parish Office is Closed Today Bible Study Basketball Practice Stewardship Adult Basketball Practice	Klocker House Gym MPH Gym
Tuesday January 16	8:30 a.m. 8:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m. 2:50 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Eucharistic Adoration (ends at 9 p.m.) Quilters Divine Mercy Chaplet Basketball Practice Rosary for Religious Freedom HCA Board Divine Mercy Chaplet Grief Support	Church Church GlenElm Church Gym Church MPH Church Klocker House
Wednesday January 17	5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	Basketball Practice PSR Bible Study Men of the Parish Pray the Rosary	Gym School & Cafe Klocker House Outside Church
Thursday January 18	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:30 p.m.	Basketball Practice Adult Choir Practice Women's Faith Sharing Adult Basketball	Gym Church Klocker House Gym
Friday January 19	5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	Basketball Games RCIA Five O'Clock Shadows	Gym Klocker House Church
Saturday January 20	8:00 a.m.	Basketball Games	Gym
Sunday January 21	10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Liturgy of the Word for Children R.C.I.A. Basketball Games Basketball Practice	Church Klocker House Gym Gym

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.


January 2018

Annunciation Catholic Church
Fr. Mike Esswein, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Angela Merici


Born in Italy, St. Angela and her sister were raised by an uncle after the deaths of their parents. Angela received the vocational call as a teenager. Her sister died without receiving the Sacraments, so Angela became a Third Order Franciscan to pray for her. She opened her home as a girls' school for religious education. She was later inspired by a vision to start a religious community to educate young women, and founded the Ursuline Order.



The face of God

God doesn't want us to sacrifice our own wellbeing, but does want us to willingly bring his love to other people. It can be uncomfortable being his loving face to others. This means being patient with those who annoy us, kind to those who are demanding, and forgiving to those who haven't asked.

"Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips" (Proverbs 27:2).



Move closer to God in the New Year

While contemplating your New Year's resolutions, wouldn't it be great to make at least one change this year that brings you closer to God? Consider these ideas from other Catholics to strengthen your prayer life, learn more about your faith, or serve your parish.

Greg was bored with his prayer routine and wanted a change. His priest suggested he try a novena, nine days of focused prayer. So, Greg chose a novena to the Immaculate Conception. He loved the meditations and felt a connection to Our Lady. Soon, he became hooked on novenas. Once again, he was excited to spend time in prayer.

Jennifer's husband is not Catholic

and asks lots of questions about her faith. Her own religious education ended years ago, and she became dismayed when she couldn't answer his questions.

Learning that adult faith formation classes were starting in her parish, Jenn jumped at the chance to learn more. "Everything I discover helps me to grow stronger in my faith," Jennifer declared. "I'm so excited by what I'm learning that my husband wants to come, too."

Maureen's children are grown and on their own, yet she teaches a

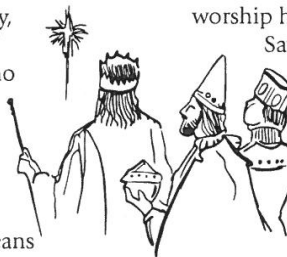
religious education class at her parish. "What better way to evangelize our faith than to share it with children? That's where I can do some real good," she said.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics celebrate Epiphany?

On the feast of Epiphany, we recall the adoration of Jesus by the wise men, who had traveled "from the East." They were looking for the newborn king of the Jews, though they themselves were not Jewish. "Their coming means that pagans can discover Jesus and



worship him as Son of God and Savior of the world" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, #528*). The Epiphany celebrates the revelation of the Messiah to the Gentiles (non-Jews) and to the rest of the world.

Adopt a three-point plan for holiness in the New Year

All Christians are called to holiness. "Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). There are three tools on which every Catholic can rely to attain greater holiness.

Daily prayer. God meets us in a very real and present way when we come to him in prayer. Start in the morning and pray throughout the day.

Weekly Mass. The Mass is a sacrifice and a meal. We receive Jesus' body and blood as real food for our souls. He said, "For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is

drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (John 6:55-56). That's why we call it, "Communion."

Monthly Confession. Jesus created the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) because he knew we would stray. He also knew we would want to come back. Frequent participation in this Sacrament sharpens our sense of sin, holds us accountable for our errors, and gives us the grace to keep trying for



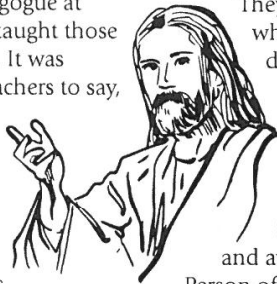
holiness.

from Scripture

Mark 1:21-28, God's authority is not a formality

In this Gospel passage, Jesus and his apostles entered the synagogue at Capernaum where Jesus taught those gathered for the Sabbath. It was customary for learned teachers to say, "Thus says the Lord..." Instead Jesus said, "I say to you..." He taught as one who spoke with the authority of God.

His calm authority astounded Jesus' listeners. Just as they began to wonder what it meant, he gave them a sign. He further demonstrated his authority by performing an exorcism. Spirits that bedeviled an unfortunate man at the



synagogue recognized who Jesus was.

They were forced to obey him when he commanded them to depart, despite their reluctance. In fact, God's power and authority isn't just a formality. What God says, happens.

Our kind and gentle Savior is also our powerful and awesome Lord. As the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus has supreme majesty and we will one day appear before him to be judged. Yes, he is our divine savior and mediator. But if we say, "Jesus is Lord," then we give him our loyalty and obedience.

Q & A I make terrible decisions. How can I do better?

It's true that bad decisions can lead to sin. Try to take a formal approach to decision making.



Get all the facts. That helps you know your options.

Pray. Place yourself in God's presence and ask for his guidance.

Listen to your conscience. Your conscience is the ability within you that helps you discern right from wrong. "Moral conscience, present at the heart of the person, enjoins him... to do good and to avoid evil. It also judges particular choices, approving those that are good and denouncing those that are evil." (CCC #1777)

Choose to do the right thing, choose to follow your conscience. This requires courage.

Ask for help. When in doubt, ask a trusted advisor.

Be accountable. Take responsibility for any decisions you make and for their consequences. Although blaming others in some cases is justified, it usually is not productive.

Admit mistakes. Learn from mistakes you make and apply what you have learned to future situations. Don't get thrown by errors. Continue to persevere, despite setbacks.

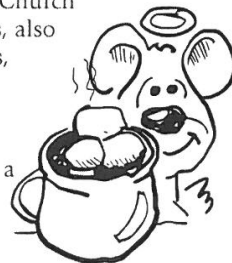
Feasts & Celebrations

Jan. 1 – Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Today, we honor Mary, but also Jesus as God. In their honor, pray a Rosary. Because this feast day is on a Monday, Mass attendance is optional (but encouraged) this year.

Jan. 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (1st Century). Setting out for Damascus to carry on the persecution of the Christians, he encountered Christ (Acts 9:1-19; 22:5-16; 26:12-18) while on the road to Damascus. He was struck blind from

the experience until he was baptized by Ananias three days later. He converted and began preaching the faith as he travelled around the Mediterranean.

Jan. 26 – Sts. Timothy and Titus (1st Century). Timothy was a convert of St. Paul's and later became his trusted friend, joining him in apostolic work. He was with Paul at the founding of the Church in Corinth. Titus, also a friend of Paul's, served the early Church as a peacemaker and administrator to a community on Crete.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
 Success Publishing & Media, LLC
 Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
 (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>
 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

We pray for the repose of Jane Stanze. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. May the families know the compassion and comfort of the Risen Lord. Amen.



Rest In Peace

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JANUARY GIVE-A-MEAL-A-MONTH MENU: Beef stew, canned corn, Martha White biscuit mix, pineapple & Jello. Optional items: Peanut butter & jelly, crackers (any kind), hearty soup



RCIA will meet in the Klocker house after Sunday's 10:00 A.M. Mass. This week we learn about the Sacrament of Reconciliation....Contrition/Confession/Satisfaction. We will also explore the unending love and mercy of God the Father through His Son. Feel free to join us . If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about RCIA, contact Fr. Mike at 314-962-5955 or RCIA director Patrick Stack at 314-565-9143.

THE ANNUNCIATION GRIEF SUPPORT'S NEXT MEETINGS ARE:

7pm in the Klocker House on Jan. 16. All are welcome, please join us. Jeanne Place, jeanne.place@gmail.com or 314-918-0783, or Mary Hittler, mhittl@sbcglobal.net or 314-277-5116



YOUNG ADULT PRO-LIFE HOLY HOUR: Join young adults (19-39) throughout the archdiocese for this annual event on **Thursday, Jan. 18**, to

promote a greater respect for human life. Begin with dinner and fellowship in Boland Hall (at the Cathedral Basilica) at 6 p.m. followed by Adoration, the rosary, and an opportunity for Confession at the Cathedral at 7 p.m. Then we'll return to Boland Hall for a dynamic pro-life speaker and dessert! Contact stlyva@archstl.org or 314-792-7555 for details, or visit online at: <http://archstl.org/node/4405413>

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Ruth Henry | Mike Vonderharr | Patty Cabot |
| Margit Vincenz | Robert Janecek | Joann Willis |
| Mary Strauss | Pat Rebman | Mark Forrest |
| Richard Timmerman | Julie Gibson | Cassie Gorecki |
| Drew Hittler | Sue Knoll | Robin Hittler |
| Molly LaBarge Sublette | Holly Stoltz Smith | |

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EMAIL PRAYER TEAM: If you have any requests for the Email Prayer Chain, call Cheryl Braun, prayers@goannunciation.com or 314-712-0966. (For name in the bulletin, please call or email the parish office)

ST. LOUIS LIFE TEEN There will be NO LIFE TEEN THIS WEEK! Please pray for all of us that will be attending the March for Life in Washington, D.C. We will look forward to seeing you back on Jan. 24th. ATTENTION ALL 8TH GRADERS! We are excited to announce that Luke 18 will be held Feb. 16-18 at Bishop DuBourg High School. Signups for Luke 18 are now live - please see saintlouislifeteen.org/luke18 for more information!! Contact lauren@saintlouislifeteen.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

The Webster Groves Council 2119 of the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Free Throw Championship for boys and girls ages 9 - 14. Winners advance to compete against other Knights of Columbus councils. The contest will be held on **Friday evening January 26 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM** at Webster Groves Parks and Recreation Center. [Contestants compete in one of four divisions: Boys ages 9 - 11; Girls ages 9 - 11; Boys ages 12 -14; Girls ages 12 -14. (Age as of Jan. 1 of this year.) All contestants will shoot 15 free throws. Ages 9-11 shoot from a 12-foot line; ages 12-14 shoot from the 15-foot line.] Volunteers, including high school students seeking service hours, are welcome as rebounders, scorers, and judges. For more information or pre-registration contact Dave Braun of Annunciation at 314.968.5131 or email at wg.kofc.freethrow@gmail.com. Registration at the event is also available. Written parental consent and proof of age is required.

LA SALLE RETREAT CENTER On Wed., Jan. 31, 6-9 pm, La Salle Retreat Center (2101 Rue De LaSalle Drive, Glencoe) is hosting a dinner and a behind-the-scenes tour. Explore our historical buildings and hear fun stories from Brothers who attended school at La Salle! The cost is \$30 per person which includes cocktails, 3-course dinner, tour and historical book. Space is limited! Register www.LaSalleRetreat.org

RETROUVAILLE is marriage program for couples whose marriage has become off course. It begins with a weekend program that can help get your relationship back on track. The next program begins with the weekend of Feb. 2 - 4. 800-470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com or contact Kerry (314.753.2022) or Tom (314.409.4199)



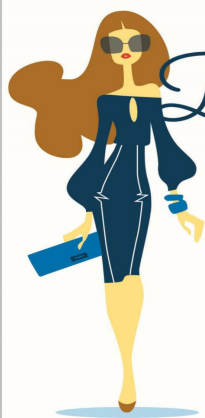
Thank you's to all of you from....

Thank you for your gifts to Our Lady's Inn Maternity Homes. We are blessed by your generosity and so appreciative of your support.May God bless you for your generosity! **—Our Lady's Inn**

On behalf of all of us at Birthright Counseling, St. Louis, I want to thank you for your faithful support. It is a beautiful witness to the words of our Lord. May you always enjoy the comfort and peace you so kindly extend to others. **—Birthright Counseling, St. Louis**

Thank you for your donation in support of Feed My People, one of the largest food pantries in the St. Louis area."Hand in Hand – The Dream Continues" is our motto. Each of us is called by our Heavenly Father to reach out and help each other. In addition to food and supplies, your donations offers Hope to those who often feel hopeless. Thank you for being part of this vital mission. **—Feed My People**

<p>Could you help us? We still have a few certificates left that we need to sell.</p>	<p>TWB CERTIFICATES THAT WE HAVE FOR SALE:</p>	<p>Papa Johns \$10</p>	<p>TJ Maxx/Marshals/Home Goods \$100</p>
	<p>Best Buy \$100</p>	<p>Straubs \$25</p>	<p><i>Thank you!</i></p>
	<p>California Pizza Kitchen \$25</p>	<p>TGI Fridays \$25</p>	



DiviDash

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20th AT SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS
DOORS OPEN @ 6:30, TABLE JUDGING & TRIVIA START AT 7:00

- Ladies! Join in the fun for Diva trivia, raffles, games and Dashing for prizes from the hidden stash.
- Bring one bottle of wine or liquor and a new \$15, unwrapped gift for the Stash Room. Some ideas include: Gift cards, jewelry, OPI polishes, candles or makeup kits. *Not to be a Grinch but divas will have their Christmas things packed away, so no Christmas Items please.*
- Opportunities to Dash in the Stash Room throughout the evening for decked-out Divas.
- \$25/pp for punctual divas received by Jan. 5th, \$35/pp for fashionably late divas after Jan. 5th (8 people per table)
- Evening includes Diva signature cocktail, beer and water. Feel free to bring your own drinks and snacks for the table.
- Prizes for the winning trivia table and for the table with the best Diva attire!
- You might not want to be fashionably late to register, space is limited!

Visit the [Holy Cross Academy Diva Dash Facebook page](#) for more info and updates!

Visit DiviDash.gesture.com to register today!

Contact Heather.T.Potts@gmail.com with any questions.

"A cheerful heart is good medicine." Proverbs 17:22



ANNOUNCING AN UPCOMING RETROUVAILLE WEEKEND FOR COUPLES

FEBRUARY 2, 2018
ST. LOUIS, MO

In marriage, communication is more than just talking.

At some point, did you stop sharing about the things that were important to you? Did your spouse?

Improving a marriage takes time and a conscious effort to learn about your spouse. Growing closer in a marriage does not happen automatically. Retrouvaille is a marriage program dedicated to helping couples grow closer and develop a stronger bond. You give your heart and soul to everything you do, between your work and your family. Are you giving your heart and soul to your marriage? Sometimes the distance between a husband and a wife can seem so wide that it cannot be repaired. Retrouvaille is a marriage program designed to bring couples closer together.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: 800.470.2230 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE: HELPOURMARRIAGE.COM



Save the Date!

Our Next Parish Blood Drive is March 5, 2018

FIAT WOMEN'S GROUP

All women are invited to Kenrick-Glennon Seminary (5200 Glennon Drive, 63119) on the third Thursday of each month for prayer and a talk. The next meeting will be on January 18th, 2018. The speaker will be the Most Reverend Robert J. Hermann, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus and Spiritual Director at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. Bishop Hermann's talk is entitled: *"Come, Holy Spirit - Help Us Bring Alive the Faith of Our Children!"* The Rosary will be prayed at 8 a.m., and Bishop Hermann will speak from 8:15 a.m. - 9 a.m. Coffee will be offered afterwards in Fireside Lounge until 9:30 a.m. www.kenrick.edu/fiat.



www.mocatholic.org

Contact
600 Clark Ave. Jefferson City, MO 65102
P: (573) 635-7239 F: 573-635-7431
MoCatholic@MoCatholic.org
www.mocatholic.org

NEW TAX BENEFIT FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS

Catholic school parents may benefit from the recent changes to the federal tax code. The recently passed federal tax law allows parents to make contributions to a child's Missouri 529 MOST account for K-12 tuition, in addition to expenses for higher education that are already permitted.

The Missouri 529 MOST account is an investment program sponsored by the Missouri State Treasurer's office. Anyone can open a MOST account, including parents, grandparents, or friends of K-12 or college-aged students. In this way, if parents lack financial resources, others can contribute to the family's MOST account.

Interest earnings on contributions made by parents to MOST accounts are **not** subject to state or federal taxes. Furthermore, qualified distributions from the account (those for higher education expenses, and now K-12 tuition) are also not taxed. Parents can withdraw up to \$10,000 annually for private K-12 tuition per student as an eligible distribution from a MOST account. Parents can elect to make contributions to the MOST account according to their own timetable, such as monthly.

Funds contributed to a MOST account are deducted from the parent's taxable income. For example, if a Catholic school parent contributes \$5,000 during the year to their child's MOST account, \$5,000 will be deducted from their taxable income for state tax purposes. Larger contributions to MOST accounts will further reduce taxable income.

Reducing taxable income, in turn, will reduce the state tax bill parents pay. (Other factors may affect the tax benefit realized, but this change in federal law will provide a real state tax benefit to Catholic school parents.) See following table:

Amount Contributed to Account	Reduction in Taxable Income	Reduction in Tax Bill*
\$5,000	\$5,000	\$300
\$7,000	\$7,000	\$420
\$10,000	\$10,000	\$600

*Based on Missouri's highest tax rate of 6%; \$5,000 x 6% = \$300

Parents may want to consult with their local bank or financial advisor regarding the advisability of setting up a 529 MOST account.

To calculate a Missouri school family's tax benefit, click here: <https://vanguard.wealthmsi.com/stdc.php>

To set up a Missouri 529 MOST account, visit the Missouri MOST website: <https://www.missourimost.org/home/open-a-most-529-account.html>

CATHOLIC MEN FOR CHRIST CONFERENCE 2/3/2018

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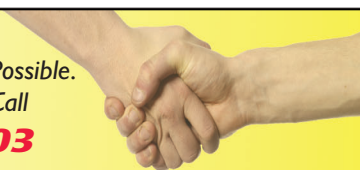
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