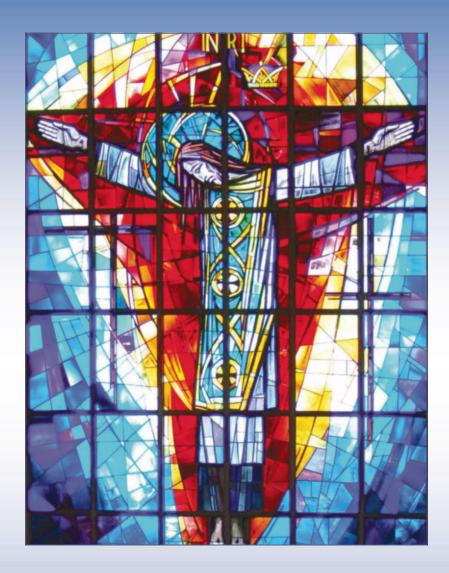
Holy Redeemer Parish

Founded 1886 17 Joy Ave. Webster Groves 63119



Holy Mass:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 am

Weekdays: M-F 6:15am (Summer Months) 6:15 & 8:15 am (During the School Year)

Holy Days: See Bulletin Announcements

Eucharistic Adoration:

Tuesday 9:00 am until Wednesday 6:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

Rectory/Office: 314-962-0038

Website: www.holyr.org

Pastor: Reverend Kevin Schmittgens
In Residence: Reverend Charles Samson
Deacon: Patrick Waldschmidt
Deacon: Stephen L. Murray, M.A.

4th Sunday of Advent

Fr. Kevin Schmittgens, Pastor Fr. Charles Samson,	fatherkevin@holyr.org	Holy Redeemer School	(314) 962-8989
Priest in Residence	charlessamson@kenrick.edu	Mrs. Pam Galluzzo, Principal	principal@holyr.org
Dea. Stephen Murray, M.A.	stephen-murray@sbcglobal.net	School Secretary	office@holyr.org
Dea. Pat Waldschmidt	patrickwaldschmidt@archstl.org	Todd Senzig, Music Director	music@holyr.org
Parish Office	(314) 962-0038	Teresa Roberson-Mullins, CRE	PSR@holyr.org
Parish Office Hours	Mon-Fri 9 am - 4:00 pm	Molly Berra, Youth Director	youth@holyr.org
Bulletin Deadline	Monday at Noon	Parish Council	parishcouncil@holyr.org
Laurie Medley, Parish Secretary	lmedley@holyr.org	St. Vincent De Paul Helpline	(314) 289-6101 Ex 2250
Carol Herber, Bookkeeper	bookkeeper@holyr.org		

Monday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Isaiah 9:1-6 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14

8:00 am: Daniel Hart L'Ecuyer 10:00 am: Francis Heck

<u>Tuesday, December 26</u> St. Stephen

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Mt. 10:17-22 6:15 am: James E. Swoboda 8:15 am: Casper & Mary Louise Sack

Wednesday, December 27

St. John 1 John 1:1-4 John 20:1a,2-8 6:15 am: Frank & Lucille Boyer 8:15 am: Louis & Velma Swoboda

Thursday, December 28 The Holy Innocents
1 John 1:5—2:2 Mt. 2:13-18

6:15 am: Joseph F. & Kathryn H. Darpel

8:15 am: Jacob Swoboda

<u>Friday, December 29</u> 5th Day within the Octave of Christmas

1 John 2:3-11 Luke 2:22-35 6:15 am: Leo F. Seiffert, Sr. 8:15 am: Donna Hohgrefe-Waters

Saturday, December 30

6th Day within the Octave of Christmas 1 John 2:12-17 Luke 2:36-40

5:00 pm: Veronica Furey

Sunday, December 31

The Holy Family
Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3 Ps 105 Col 3:12-21 Luke 2:22-40
7:30 am: People of the Parish

9:00 am: Emilia Rose Carnucci 11:00 am: Pepple Family

S.I. - Special Intention

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Catie Barnes Joe Cantalin John Charron Jamie Christy Salvatore Colletti Torni Corno **Bethany Curtis** Gayla Daugherty Susy Dolan Janét Doubek John Dwyer Patrick Fox

Claire Galli Jim Hardin Ruth Henry Cletus Henry Teresita Manubay Bev Straub Johanna Marnatti Mary Swift Patricia V. Miano Ginny Miller Bob Nawrocki Will Newman Don Pokorny

David Schilli Bob Simcox Rhonda Simeone Rick Slais Kathy Timpe Judie Tucci Paul Vogt Ken Wetzel Patricia Wilhelm

Your Gifts to God and Parish. Thank you!

Special Collections:

December 25 - Seminary Collection

12/10/23		Actual	Budget
	Envelopes	\$ 14,735	
	Online	\$ 6,547	
	Total	\$ 21,282 \$	15,335
YEAR TO DATE		\$ 309,847 \$	368,040

REST IN PEACE

Nancy Berndt

Kenneth Portwine John Hagerty

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and may eternal light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Please Pray for Our Military:

1st Lt. Connor Doran - Army Capt. George Hardin - Army Airman Ethan Baer - Navy Sean Haug - Navy 2nd Lt. Max Hartrich - USMC Capt. Riley Konzen - USMC LCpl. Logan Smith - USMC Capt. Patrick Visser - Army PV2 - Alex Beckerle - Army Spc. Joseph Lowry - Army



If you would like to add your family member, please email the rectory at Imedley@holyr.org.

PASTOR'S CORNER

It was a gift. A very special gift, a 1.6 carat diamond ring, tucked into a burgundy-colored box with gold piping and a gold clasp. The ring was meticulously placed inside a solid briefcase.



That gift, an engagement ring, was never to be presented by Andrew Krukar, the man who bought it, for it was stowed upon TWA Flight 800, a tragic airliner which crashed in flames several minutes after takeoff

on July 17, 1996. In the blink of an eye, the ring was lost, adrift in a sea of sorrow.

Probably no story of that sad event was more poignant or moving than that of a woman named, Julie Stuart, the woman whose hand that engagement ring was intended to adorn. Her fiancé, Andrew perished on that fateful flight. He was flying early to Paris to meet Julie the very next day for their engagement. All their plans, all their hopes, all their dreams for the future suddenly and tragically dashed? How does one recover from that sadness? How does one keep moving forward in one's grief? How does one find the courage and the hope FBI. It seems improbable, if not impossible, that to continue?

Sadly, the story of Julie Stuart is just one of many tragedies that plague our world, stories that are displayed each and every day in the news. Loss, difficulty, sickness, disease, war, oppression, despair. Day after day after day. And thus it has been down through the ages. Let's be honest, the story of humankind is one long difficult story of darkness. This year in the Holy Land we were brutally reminded of the madness of hate, the insanity of violence.

And yet, in the midst of all of this, we, who call ourselves Christians, dare to light a flame. We have the audacity to celebrate in the deep dead of winter. We rejoice and we revel, we sing and we laugh. Because on this day, Christmas Day, we know that whatever the sadness, whatever the difficulty, whatever the pain, whatever the loss, still: Christ is born. "For unto us a Child is born, a son is given." "Unto those who dwelt in darkness, a light has shown!"

This is not an escape into an illusion. This is neither fantasy nor make believe. We do not deny nor ignore the evil. We don't dull our senses with Christmas cheer, as if the sadness never existed. That should not be, this cannot be what Christianity stands for. Our religion is not, as Karl Marx famously said, our opiate, our drug. Instead, our faith commands us to look straight into the eyes of evil; it demands us to face steadfastly misfortune and sorrow. Yet, with hope. Why? Because we know that our God has visited us. We understand that our God knows our weakness. Our God knows our pain. Our God knows what we know. For our God became one of us. He leapt down from the heavens and made his dwelling among us, showing himself even to poor, simple shepherds.

Christmas is a time of light, a reminder of the light which came into the world. Christmas also challenges us to carry the light of Christ out into the world -- a world so often filled with, indeed resigned to darkness. One tiny light lit 2000 years ago continues to light the way for men and women even today. The Lord of Light, the Gift of God, the Christ. And so we must light the way for others in our own little imperfect ways.

Six months after the plane crash, a week before Christmas in 1996, the ring that Julie Stuart was to receive from her fiancé was returned to her by the they could recover such a small item out of the vast sea, but they did. And even though it is not quite the happy ending she had hoped for, I am certain that she will wear that ring as a lasting sign of the love that she shared with her beloved. Even in the saddest of situations, there is always hope, there is always life. It reminds us that no matter what may come our way -- because our God chose to come into our world, darkness will not defeat us. There is light after all.

This Christmas, as we search for what was lost in a sea of sadness, may we discover the gift that reminds us how deeply loved we are.

Merry Christmas!



Father Kevin

Lector & Extraordinary Minister Assignments

Date	Mass Times	Lector	Extraordinary Ministers	
	rines		1411	
December 30	5:00 pm	Christine Novalis	Sue Darcy Mike Darcy	Beth Mayer Paul Mayer
December 31	7:30 am	Patricia Futhey	Ellen Fusz Ann Fusz	Phyllis Matteuzi Kathy Rehmer
December 31	9:00 am	Sara Johnson	Patty Miano Tony Miano	Erin Scherer Carol Devanny
December 31	11:00 am	Mary Schurk	Maria Savage Susanne Doran	Theresa Jeevanjee Pam Mahoney

Schedule Notes:

4th Sunday of Advent Masses
Dec 23 & 24 - 5pm, 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve 4:00 pm & 10:00 pm

Christmas Day 8:00 am and 10:00 am

New Year's Eve Masses: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am

New Year's Day Masses: 8:15 & 10:00 am

Rectory Office - Holiday Hours:
The Rectory office will close on December
25th and will reopen on January 3rd.

Server Schedule					
Date Mass Times		Servers			
December 30	5:00 pm	Carly Satchell Kennedy Tolle Charlotte Zimmerman			
December 31	7:30 am	Eleanor Anderson Maggie O'Connell			
December 31	9:00 am	Jackson Guller Riley Guller Claire Wood			
December 31	11:00 am	Jack Graf Bobby Garrett Evan Johnson			

St. Vincent De Paul

During this season of giving, we are truly blessed by the generosity of our parishioners in your support for our neighbors in need.

This year, your giving has allowed us to continue to provide the means for families to have holiday meals and gifts for the children in their families. We are truly grateful for your support. If you know of anyone who needs assistance, please have them call our hotline at 314-289-6101, mailbox 2250.



Holy Redeemer Parish ACTS Retreat weekend for men: Jan 4 – 7, 2024

This parish-based retreat offers the opportunity to renew your spirituality, to strengthen your faith and its application in your daily life and to build lasting friendships and parish community. It is presented by a team of Holy Redeemer men with spiritual direction from our parish priests.

The retreat begins Thursday evening, January 4th, with check-in at 6:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Church, 17 Joy Ave. Webster Groves, MO 63119. Transportation will be provided to and from the retreat center, located in Eureka. The retreat will conclude at the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday at Holy Redeemer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO GET A REGISTRA-TION FORM, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OF-FICE. (314) 962-0038



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

Missouri Bishops Encourage Missourians to Safeguard Sanctity of Human Life

December 11, 2023, JEFFERSON CITY, MO - We, the Catholic Bishops of Missouri, are committed to promoting the sanctity of human life in every circumstance, from conception until natural death. In Missouri, the dignity of life in its earliest stages is being threatened by proposed amendments to the state constitution that would remove legal protections for women and preborn children.

Though several initiatives are being contemplated and none have yet to be finalized for the November 2024 ballot, we encourage all Catholics and people of good will to safeguard as much as possible the fundamental principle of the right to life. We also support efforts that seek to reduce or eliminate the underlying social causes for abortion by expanding care and resources available to mothers. Even with legal protections for the unborn, as we have in our state today, more can still be done to build a culture of life.

The Missouri Catholic Conference will continue to collaborate with diocesan pro-life offices and with other pro-life groups to protect the health and safety of women and their children. As we stated after Roe v. Wade was overturned, the Catholic Church stands ready to continue providing spiritual and material support to expectant mothers and their families through our parishes and ministries, and to advocate on their behalf and on behalf of their unborn children at the state and federal levels. We look forward to the day when every child, born and unborn, has the love and support needed to thrive and reach his or her full potential. Let us pray for a greater recognition of the gift of each and every human life in our society.

CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF MISSOURI

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski General Chairman Archbishop of St. Louis

retabill T Porgand.

+

Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr. Vice Chairman Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph

+ James V. Jahuston, Jr.

Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight Executive Chairman Bishop of Jefferson City

Most Reverend Edward M. Rice Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau

+ Edward M. Rice





EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Spend some Quiet Time With Our Lord

9:00 am Tuesday & continues through Wednesday before the 6:15 am Mass.

Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy Pray for Peace in Our World at 7:15 pm

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. Consider escaping the Christmas rush and enjoy some quiet time with Christ. Please prayerfully consider stopping by Eucharistic Adoration. There is an urgent need for someone to be present from 3-4PM on Tuesdays. Please call me if you can help. Glenn Fox 314-803-9292

Christmas Flower Memorials:

Daniel Sullivan Marilyn Wandling Bill Seymour Joann Dorr Wayne Dorr Dorothy Martz Paul Martz Ann Manubay Manubay Family Jerry & Mary Ann Baum Family Donna Crump Wayne Scherer Ruth Scherer Francis X. Anderson Theresa Anderson Elizabeth & Joe Foster Cullen Shearburn Logan Shearburn Dudley Shearburn Carolyn Kibbons Patricia McAuliffe Sharp Dolan Family

McAuliffe Family
Wachtel/Wilson Families
Stevens/Shaughnessy
Families
Kaiman Family
Peterson Family
Miano Family
Simeone Family
Hohlfeld Family
Pidgeon Family
Koenigsfeld Family
Sack Family
Claeys Family
Horn Family



Interested in becoming Catholic?

In the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA, you will learn about the teachings of Jesus, as the Catholic Church has handed them on, and also have the opportunity to participate in the life of the parish through service and prayer. If you or someone you know would like more information, please contact Mary Ziegelman (314) 732-8708 or the parish office (314) 9962-0038.

YOUTH MINISTRY



Life Teen - High School

All High School Students are welcome to join us every Thursday

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

in the church meeting space, for a night of fun, fellowship, and snacks

7th and 8th Graders

weekly Edge Hang out 7th & 8th Grade, Every Thursday **5:30 - 6:30pm** in the School Cafeteria



OPEN GYM

ALL 7TH AND 8TH GRADERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR OPEN GYM NIGHT ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH 7:00 - 9:00 PM IN THE SCHOOL!



Follow us on social media



Questions? Contact Molly Berra mail: mberra@holyr.org

Our Common Home Ministry & Green Machines

REDUCE! REUSE! RECYCLE!

The fourth Sunday of Advent is here and it's Christmas Eve! Please remember to **RECYCLE** when we have exhausted our REDUCE and REUSE efforts.

- -recycle that paper wrap IF IT DOESN'T have glitter or metallic designs
- -recycle right! Stick with recycling Glass*, Paper, Cardboard, Metal food & beverage cans, Food & Beverage Cartons, and Plastic Beverage Bottles & Containers.
- -drop off your Christmas lights at the Holy Redeemer School door to be taken to recycling
- -recycle your Christmas greeting cards <u>ONLY</u> if they are glitter & metallic free

*The City of Webster Groves is now collecting glass recycling if you want to go the extra step to drop it off at the Public Works Department.

Important!

And one more note before you begin to sip your eggnog, please refrain from wish-cycling (when we throw something in the single-stream recycling bin in hopes that it can be recycled.) Follow this little rule of thumb: when in doubt, throw it

that broken glass knocked out of clable.



out. Unfortunately,ornament kittythe tree is not recy-

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR **SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS**



Norbert Krekeler, brother of Mary Ann Baum Rosemary Rowe, sister of Sr. Angela Senyszyn, OSF Stephen Serati, son of Marlene Michael Miana, friend of the Serati family Peter Schreiner, grandson of Audrey Schreiner Jim Serati, son of Marlene Serati Jean Marie Darcy, sister of Mike & Sue Darcy Julia Furey-Bastian, niece of Rob & Jane Furey Patricia J. Doubeck, mother of James Rita Hill, sister of Germaine Schlueter Ken Johnson, friend of Faith & Deeds Fletcher Joan Martin

Terry Jordan, friend of Marlene Serati Sarah McCready, aunt of Michelle Mikosz Brendan Mahoney, son of Pam & Peter Joan Dailey, mother of Mary Schurk James L. Dubek - father of James Anne Radovich - mother of Phyllis Hartrich Jim Siebel, son-in-law of Barbara Oates Pat Geiss, mother of Tim Geiss Allison Alexander Judy George, friend of Carol Devanny Bethesda Orchard Residents Mary Ann Borage, mother of Pam Rogers Nazareth Living Center Residents

Our Lady of Life Residents Evan Hummel, grandson of Bob & Janet Hart Leah Taylor, friend of Pam Mahoney Tricia Peckham, daughter of Kate & Bob Nawrocki Ann Hattrich, sister of Kate Nawrocki John Coburn, brother of Pat Consiglio Mary Moran, sister of Pat Consiglio Rick Thomas, friend of Deeds & Faith Fletcher Robby Johnson, friend of Kathy Robinson Katie Fechter -- Sister in Law of Barb & Gary Roufa Jane Wegert - Mother of Todd Senzig Marie Senzig - Aunt of Todd Senzig Andy Baumgart - nephew of Steve & Geri Baumgart Theresa Waltos - mother of Amanda Waltos Hieger Rita Gralike - Aunt of Rhonda Simeone Jim Schurk - brother of Mark Schurk Paul Christman - cousin of Mary Ziegelman John Costello - Great-nephew of Phyllis Matteuzi Michelle Drinning - daughter of Brenda Drinning Peggy Probst - daughter of JoAnne Probst Dr. Toby Harris - Haiti Committee Member Cyndi Caimano - niece of Corky & Harry Bahr Christy Reh - sister of Tricia Reh





- One Free Month
- No Long-Term Contract
- Price Guarantee
- Easy Self Installation

Call Today! Toll Free 1.877.801.8608

AD SALES EXECUTIVES BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com





Performing Arts Academy u

15 S Old Orchard, Webster Groves 314-968-3903 mjperformingartsacademy.com

State Farm

P: 314-961-4800

34 N. Gore Ave, Webster Groves, Mo

www.carltoninsurance.net

AZARONTHODONTIC

314.968.1800 www.azarorthodontics.com Webster Groves . South City

TIGER Travel Service 314.968.4410

NEWSLETTER

Red LA MORE BODY CO. Since 1938 Quality Collision Repair www.redlamoreautobody.com 79 North Gore 962-4233



314.837.4671

James Carlton

ACE

\$20 OFF Tree Pruning / Removal / Fertilization 314-782-5328 | davey.com



AMERICAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS

- Structural Evaluations/Designs
- House designs/Blueprints (2D&3D)

 MEP Engineering
 Call Now: 314 899 0599 8615 Gravois Rd. St Louis, MO 63123 Served over 10,000 projects of Residential-Commercial-Industrial

LET'S GET HEALTHY PERSONAL TRAINER HEALTH & FITNESS GOALS 314-517-2983 • JORDANTRAINS@GMAI

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Doug Wolfe

dwolfe@4LPi.com • (913) 522-2211

Mike Fontana

FONTANA PAVING

965-4745

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

catholicmatch

Missouri

CatholicMatch.com/myMO

Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!

DOES YOUR NONPROFIT

ORGANIZATION NEED

Engaging, ad-supported

to reach your community.

Visit Ipicommunities.com

print and digital newsletters

AD CREATOR STUDIO





FREE AD DESIGN

with purchase of this space

800-950-9952



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Flood Detection Carbon Monoxide

833-287-3502



SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Local business ads sponsor the printing of our bulletin. 4lpi.com/adcreator



SHORT STAFFED

CALL 800-950-9952

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Schnarr's Hardware

Formerly Mac's "Your WEBSTER Hardware Store"

40 E. Lockwood Ave. 961-4522

Good-bye to Clogged Gutters!

CALL NOW 314-549-8449



Receive a \$100 Visa gift card with

is guaranteed never to clog or we'll clean it for FREE*

edles, and debri ninates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean

clogged gutters Durable, all-weather tested system not a filmsy

eaf Guard Get it. And forget it.

Jay B. Smith Funeral Homes Celebrate Life Funeral

and Cremation Services **CLOSE • CONVENIENT** 314.781.1115 7456 Manchester Road MAPLEWOOD jaybsmith.com



& FINANCIAL PLANNING

MIKE DEBERGE, CFP® (314) 798-6523 mdeberge@detalus.com



AD SALES EXECUTIVES



NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!

SUBSCRIBE

Visit www.parishesonline.com

