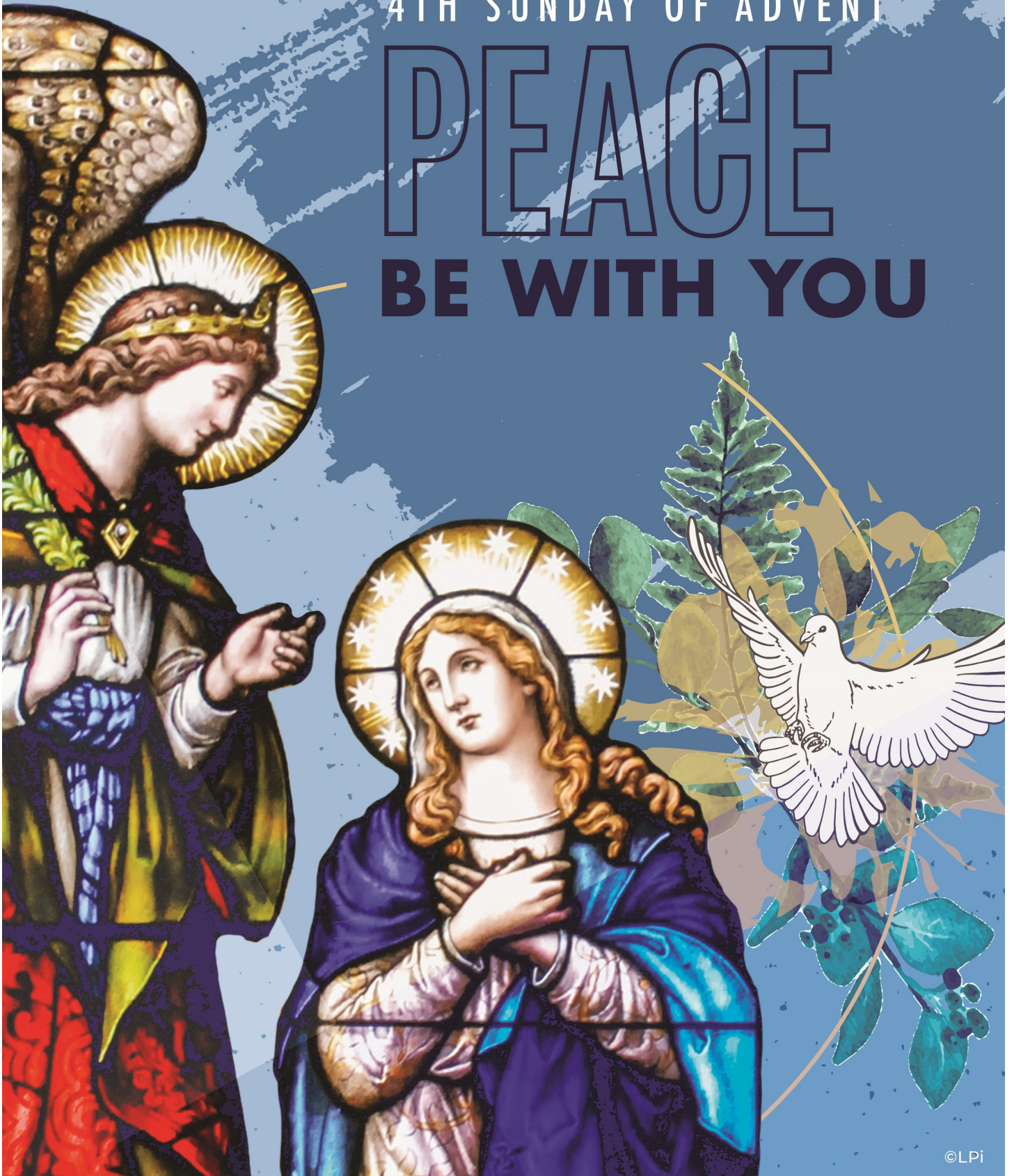


SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Diocese of Peoria ~ Princeton, Illinois
Sunday, December 22, 2024

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PEACE BE WITH YOU



PASTOR NOTE

Merry Christmas! What a truly wonderful time of the year. Once again, we contemplate the amazing mystery of God become man, born among us. What a wonderful gift we have received. I encourage you to offer praise and thanks to Almighty God for His many gifts. I praise and thank Him for our wonderful parish and its vibrant life. I rejoice in the many kindnesses that you offer to me. Thank you for your trust in me as we continue to grow in our friendship with Jesus. I pray that our new-born King will continue to bless each of us and our parish. I pray that you enjoy a wonderful Christmas with your family and friends. This Christmas is extra special because the Church throughout the world begins the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025.

Jubilee Year 2025: Since the year 1300, the Church has celebrated a Jubilee Year about every 25 years. A Jubilee Year is a special celebration of renewal for the Church. The Jubilee Year is a time to re-establish a proper relationship with God. It is a call for a renewal of prayer, forgiveness, deepening the faith and offering acts of mercy. Traditionally, the Jubilee Year focused on making pilgrimage to Rome in order to pray at the tombs of Sts. Peter and Paul. It also includes walking through special Holy Doors. All of these penitential acts obtain an indulgence of grace. A Jubilee Year is a time of great renewal, grace and special events. The Jubilee Year 2025 will begin on December 24, 2024 and continue until January 6, 2026. The special events throughout the year are not simply held in Rome. Our Diocese will have some special events. And, our parish will embrace many special events throughout the Jubilee Year. These events will help us renew our faith and receive many blessings. All of these will be explained in greater detail in weeks to come. I hope that you will join us for the special events.

Youth Group. Our next Youth Group meeting will be on Sun. Dec. 22nd at 6pm. All high school youth are invited.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Tues. Dec. 24th: 4pm, 7pm, 10pm

Wed. Dec. 25th: 9am

Christmas Extra Confessions: Sun. Dec. 22nd, 11:30am. Mon. Dec. 23rd, 7pm. Tue. Dec. 24th, 12pm.

Magi Gala: The Magi Baby Chest will host a Gala Dinner/Dance on February 15, 2025. Tickets for the Gala make a wonderful Christmas present! Visit our website to purchase your tickets.

New Year's Eve Party: Come and join us for a parish party to bring in the new year. Our party is on Tuesday, December 31st beginning at 7pm in Harkrader Hall. The usual first Saturday Wine and Cheese Social of Jan. 4th is cancelled.

Parish Directory: The parish will be providing a new Parish Directory. Please pick up one of the forms near the doors of the church or visit our website www.stlouisprinceton.org to submit an electronic form. Please complete the form and return it by January 13, 2025.

The Spiritual Life: Excerpt from *The Spiritual Life* by Adolphe Tanquerey, Desclee and Co., Belgium, 1951.

We must take into account our moral strength, that is to say, we must refrain from imposing upon ourselves from the outset excessive privations which we could not long sustain, and the giving up of which may lead us to laxness. Above all, our mortifications must be such as would be compatible with the duties of our state in life, for the latter are obligatory and take precedence over practices of supererogation. Thus, it would be wrong for a mother to practice such austerities as would prevent her from fulfilling her duties towards her husband and her children.

There is a hierarchy in the practices of mortification. Those that mortify our interior faculties have a greater worth than those that mortify our exterior senses, because the former attack more directly the root of the evil; yet we must not lose sight of the fact that the latter aid in a great measure the exercise of the former. Whoever would attempt to mortify the imagination without mortifying the eyes will hardly succeed, for the very reason that these furnish our fancy with sensible images whereon it thrives. To jeer at the austerities of former Christian days is a baneful error of modern times. As a matter of fact, the saints of all ages, those that have been beatified in these latter days as well as those of old, have severely chastised their bodies and their exterior senses, well aware that man's whole being must be brought into subjection, that in the state of fallen nature, man's whole being must be crucified if he is to belong wholly to God. We shall therefore examine in succession the entire range of mortifications beginning with those that are exterior in character, finally arriving at those of a more interior nature. This is the logical order; in actual practice we must learn how to combine them and make proper use of them.

*Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word. -Lk 1:38*

Parish Staff

Pastor	Msgr. James E. Kruse, JCL jameskruse1996@gmail.com cell: 309-634-5822
Deacon	John Murphy dcjohnmurphy@icloud.com Cell: 815-878-4723 Hm: 646-4723
Trustees	Dan Legner Mary Paula Schmitt
Admin Assistant	Paula Lough
Business Manager	Renee Toomey
Special Projects/ RCIA Coordinator	Susanna Prushinski stl.susannaprushinski@gmail.com
Religious Ed Coordinator	Rebekah Mead stl.rebekahmead@gmail.com
Catechetical Assistant	Bethany Brigham stl.bethanybrigham@gmail.com
Maintenance	Tim Hermeyer
Janitors	Tim, Emily and Aggie Smith
Magi Baby Chest	Jessica Murphy
Director	stl.jessicamurphy@gmail.com
Magi Baby Chest	Ashley Gray
Asst. Director	stl.ashleygray@gmail.com
Music Director	Matthew Ernat stl.matthewernat@gmail.com

Parish Office

616 S Gosse Blvd., Princeton, IL 61356

Office hours: Monday—Friday 8am-4pm

Phone: (815) 879-0181

E-mail: stlparishoffice@gmail.com

Website: www.stlouisprinceton.org

YouTube Channel: youtube.com/user/stlouisprinceton

FaceBook Page: www.facebook.com/stlouisprinceton

Keep in touch with us via email or text

Text SLP To 84576 or

Connect with us online at

stlouiscatholicchurch.flocknote.com



Please remember to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life especially from St. Louis Parish!

St. Therese, Patroness of Vocations, pray for us!

PARISH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas break through Friday, January 3rd. The office will reopen at 8am on Monday, January 6th. If you need to donate items for the Magi Baby Chest while the office is closed, please contact Jessica Murphy at 217-433-9329 or email stl.jessicamurphy@gmail.com Thank you!

Religious Ed classes will resume classes the week of January 6th.

If you have an immediate need for a Priest for a medical emergency or funeral planning please call the Parish Office (815-879-0181) and select option 5. Your call will then be transferred as an emergency call to Msgr. Kruse.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 23 **St. John of Kanty, Priest**

7:00am +Adelaida Green by Marcia Obenhaus

*Tuesday, December 24 **Christmas Eve**

4:00pm +Herb Zurliene

by Sue Zurliene and Tammy Hill and Family

7:00pm +Richard Milliron by Laury Mavity & Family

10:00pm People of the Parish

Wednesday, December 25 **Christmas**

9:00am +Corso & Robbins Family by Fran Robbins

Thursday, December 26 **St. Stephen, First Martyr**

**8:00am +Dr. Edward Saad, OSF by Susan Boylan

Friday, December 27 **St. John, Apostle and Evangelist**

7:00am +Konni Sandford by Rachel Bystry

Saturday, December 28 **Vigil of The Holy Family**

4:00pm +Mary Josephine Miller by Barbara Bass

Sunday, December 29 **The Holy Family**

7:30am People of the Parish

9:00am + Ron Happach by Nancy DeBord

10:30am +Dennis O'Brien by The Family

***Adoration on Tuesday, Dec. 24th, Christmas Eve is cancelled and Confession time will be at 12pm. **Mass time on Thursday, Dec. 26th will be at 8am and Adoration and Confession for that afternoon are cancelled.**

St. Malachy Joy to the World Nativity Display

Over 250 Nativities will be on display in the St. Malachy Parish Hall. December 26, 2024 - January 1, 2025

2:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Free will donations will be accepted
Handicap Accessible

Sponsored by St. Malachy Altar & Rosary

St. Malachy Parish - 595 E. Ogden St. Geneseo

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FOOD PANTRY WEEKEND: Next weekend, December 28 & 29, the Knights of Columbus will be collecting nonperishable food items and monetary donations for the Bureau County Food Pantry. Donations tend to drop off after the first of the year so now is the time to get the Pantry fully stocked. The high need items are always needed. Those include: breakfast cereal, peanut butter, mac & cheese, canned fruit, boxed potatoes, canned chicken, pancake syrup and canned pasta. If you purchased something for Christmas and didn't need it, the Pantry can probably put it to good use. Thanks to all in advance, your continuing generosity is amazing. Merry Christmas!

Liturgical/Volunteer Roles

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24th

4:00 pm

Altar Servers: Cameron & Sam Lawrence, Sylvie Viger
EMHC: Madeleine Robinson, Tim Taylor
Lectors: Katie Lawrence
Camera Operator: Marty Makransky
Ushers: Dennis Thompson, Tom Tracey

7:00 pm

Altar Servers: Angelo & Patsy Bystry
EMHC: Amy Murphy, Lynn Delaney
Lectors: Gene Menard
Ushers: **Ushers Still Needed**

10:00 pm

Altar Servers: Anaisabela Ramirez-Tz, Luke Smith
EMHC: Tim Smith, Linda Carter
Lectors: Julie Hassler
Ushers: Bart & Tony Maciczak

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th

9:00 am

Altar Servers: **2 Servers Still Needed**
EMHC: Pam Whiteaker, Mary Beth Crowe
Lectors: Margaret Martinkus
Ushers: Tom Murphy, Jim Whiteaker

4pm Saturday, December 28th

Altar Servers: Gabby & Gretchen Carden
EMHC: David Lawrence, Shirley Steele
Lectors: Patty Daluga
Sacristan: Mandy Robinson
Ushers: Dan & Cynthia Tracy, Liz Piacenti

7:30 am: Sunday, December 29th

Altar Servers: *Servers needed, please check in at Sacristy*
EMHC: Mary Beth Crowe, Amy Murphy
Lectors: Rita Pacunas
Sacristan: Lori Atilano
Ushers: Wayne Stone, Tom Tracey

9:00 am: Sunday, December 29th

Altar Servers: Angelo & Patsy Bystry
EMHC: Cindy Behrends, Tim Taylor
Lectors: Diane Carlone
Sacristan: Quint Quiram
Camera Operator: Marty Makransky
Ushers: Dan Legner, Quint Quiram, Jim Whiteaker

10:30 am: Sunday, December 29th

Altar Servers: Griffin Gray, Luke Smith
EMHC: Gene Menard, Tim Smith
Lectors: Jeff Peacock
Sacristan: Tim Smith
Ushers: Bart & Anthony Maciczak, Michael Ellis

EMHC Homebound: Cindy Behrends 9/South
Tim Taylor 9/North

EMHC for Nursing Home: Mary Beth Crowe - Liberty; Lynn Delaney - Hawthorne; Colleen Harmon - Goldwater; Tom Jagers - Greenfield

ST. LOUIS PARISH SCHEDULE

MASS SCHEDULE

MON, WED, FRI	7:00 AM
TUE, THR	5:15 PM
SAT	4:00 PM
SUN	7:30, *9:00, 10:30 AM

First Saturday Devotion 7:00 AM

*SUN 9:00AM Live-streamed on YouTube & FaceBook (when a volunteer camera operator is available)

RECONCILIATION

TUE, THR	4:00—4:50 PM
SAT	3-3:45 PM

Or, by appointment. Call or email Msgr. Kruse to make an appointment. In order to maintain privacy, he will be in the confessional a few moments before the arranged time. 309-634-5822 | jameskruse1996@gmail.com

HOLY HOUR

TUE, THR	4:00 PM
SAT	Men's Holy Hour 7am

PRIVATE PRAYER: The Chapel is open for Private Prayer— Contact the Parish Office for the access code.

STEWARDSHIP

Church Monetary Support Through December 8, 2024

Amount Budgeted	\$6,975.00
Amount Received	\$5,416.00
Amount Over (Under)	(\$1,559.00)

Fiscal Period July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Amount needed to date:	\$160,425.00
Amount Received to date:	\$1,157,344.00
Over/(Under) budget to date:	(\$ 3,081.00)

Totals for December 15th will be provided in the December 29th Bulletin.

Readings for the week of December 22nd

Sunday: Mt 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19(4)/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29(2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Wednesday: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6(3c)/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd, 4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—22/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8/Mt 2:13-18
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 24:1-52

2025 Calendars



If you haven't already done so, please pick up a 2025 Calendar from the information tables located at the entrances of the Church. Please contact the parish office if you need one mailed to you. The calendars are compliments of Fiochi-Jensen Funeral Home. **A special thank you to parishioners Rich and Kathleen Fiochi!**

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Extra Confession Schedule for Advent

"Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God." St. John Paul II

Sunday, December 22nd 11:30am
Monday, December 23rd - 7pm
Tuesday, December 24th - 12pm



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Sing,
choirs of
angels, sing
in exultation!



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24th
Masses: *4pm (Children's Choir); 7pm; 10pm
Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25th: 9am

*4pm Mass will be live-streamed

MAGI BABY CHEST



Our next distribution is Saturday, January 4th
9AM-12PM.

The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas Break through Friday, January 3rd. The office will begin accepting donations again on Monday, January 6th. If you need to donate items while the office is closed, please contact Jessica Murphy at 217-433-9329 or email her at stl.jessicamurphy@gmail.com Thank you!

ALL are invited to the Magi Baby Chest Valentine Gala on Saturday February 15th! Don't forget to get your tickets and invite your friends and family this Christmas! No more worries about fighting the crowds and trying to get a reservation on Valentine's Day. Come on out to the Gala and bring your date or friends! There will be live music, dinner & drinks, dancing, and recently NEW - there will be a small silent auction of exciting items! If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, follow the link below. This is a public event and all are invited! Please share this with your friends and family in the community. All proceeds from the event will go towards purchasing baby supplies for the Magi Baby Chest. <https://www.stlouisprinceton.org/magi-baby-chest>



YOU ARE INVITED
ST. LOUIS PARISH
NEW YEAR'S EVE
Party

DECEMBER 31, 2024

HARKRADER HALL 7:00 PM