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 Phone: 618-234-2068  
 February 4, 2024  
 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULES AND INTENTIONS:**

Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m. – For the Parish

Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. – Helen Juenger

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** 20 minutes before Mass

**STEWARDSHIP FROM LAST WEEK:**

Envelopes \$1,009.55; Loose \$265.48; Candles \$27; Mtce. \$10; Mass Stipend \$30; 2024 Quilt Raffle \$140; Trivia Sponsor \$200 – Thank You

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK:**

**Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m.**  
**Lector:** Teresa Braunseis  
**Minister: Body of Christ** Barb Jany & Pat Tinoco  
**Minister: Blood of Christ** Joan Killebrew & Rosemary Yaekel  
**Servers:**  
**Crossbearer:**

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.**  
 Michelle Walls  
 Jennifer Neff & Sandi Gerdes  
 Morgan Gauch & Margie Bahan  
 Riley Neff & Carson Parker  
 Anastasia Gerdes

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Job, the blameless and upright man who was rich in family, land, and animals until his life was turned upside down, reflects on the human condition. He, who has recognized that he had once been the recipient of God’s many blessings, now sees life with different eyes. Interestingly, today’s verses begin with rather generic remarks about the human state and move to lines that speak specifically of Job’s experience of misery and darkness. The psalm refrain proclaims, “Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.” If seen as a direct response to Job, the refrain would indicate that Job’s condition is not permanent.

For the third consecutive week, the Gospel is from the first chapter of Mark. The verses for today’s selection immediately follow last week’s reading, in which Jesus performed his first miracle. With no time wasted and no verses excluded, Jesus moves from the synagogue to Simon’s house, accompanied by Simon, Andrew, and James (two weeks ago, these men were “called” in the Gospel reading).

Immediately after entering the house, Jesus is told that Simon’s mother-in-law was ill. Jesus took her hand and “helped her up”. Later that evening, Jesus cured “many who were sick ... and he drove out many demons.” Before dawn, Jesus and his companions left the house, and the text tells us that Jesus prayed. It would seem, however, that this prayer was brief, since “everyone” was looking for him. Jesus’ response is one of incredible kindness. He is ready to move on to wherever he can preach and heal.

**MESSANGER SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL**

The Messenger Newspaper Subscription Renewal is this weekend Feb 3-4. Please stay connected with your Diocese through a subscription to The Messenger Catholic Newspaper. Payments can be made via your Messenger envelope or by credit card on-line at [www.bellevillemessenger.org](http://www.bellevillemessenger.org) and click SUBSCRIBE. The cost for a 1-year subscription is \$30 for printed, home-delivery, \$25 for digital access and \$35 for both. **Please make check payable to THE MESSENGER.**

**ST. MICHAEL MEN’S EUCHRE TOURNAMENT**

The Euchre Tournament sponsored by the Men’s Club will be Saturday, February 24, at 7:00 pm, Doors open at 6:00 pm. All you can drink beer and soda; all you can eat fried chicken (at the end of last round). If you have any questions, please contact Rich Kreher 314-341-4904.

**NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS**

“Grace and Gratitude...in the Grief of Our Everyday Lives” – March 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm Lunch included Cost \$50. For more information, call 618-397-0584  
**The Power, Presence and Provision of Black Spirituality in a Time of Reflection and Discernment** – Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm Lunch included Cost \$50 for more information, call 618-397-0584  
**I Want to See You** – Men’s Retreat Friday, March 1 to Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. For more information, call 618-397-0584.

**2024 QUILT RAFFLE**

Our winner of the January quilt was Jan Mueller. If you haven’t turned in your tickets for the 2024 Quilt Raffle, please turn them in so that you will be entered in the remaining 11 drawings.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEEDS YOUR HELP AGAIN!**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council reports record numbers of people staying at its Night-Time Center and 300+ people per day coming for meals at Cosgrove’s Kitchen. With these increased numbers, there is an urgent need for food. We humbly ask for your prayers for SVDP and its clients and, if you are able, your donation of food (all kinds) that will be cooled and served at the soup kitchen and/or individually packaged food items (cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers, cheese sticks, yogurt, cereal, instant oatmeal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars, soup or pasta in a cup) to distribute at the Over-Nite Center.

**St. Michael’s Prayer Chain** – To request that someone be added to the Prayer Chain contact Karen Mueller at 473-3401. The person will be on the “prayer chain” for one (1) month, unless the person that requested the prayers asks for longer.

**ST. PETER & PAUL WOMEN’S ACTS RETREAT**

All women over the age of 18 are invited to join us for our women’s ACTS retreat to be held February 8-11, 2024, at the King’s House at Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville. You may register for the retreat at <https://www.ssppcc.org/acts>. The cost of the retreat is \$295 and includes all lodging, transportation, and meals. If you have any questions, please contact Courtney at 314-922-8459 or Tara at 618-340-2138.

**St. Michael’s Annual “Trivia Night”**

Thank you to everyone who donated a basket, items for a basket or wine.

**PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE: In the Footsteps of Paul**  
**December 1 -11, 2024**

Retreat Leaders: Fr. Jim Buerster, Deacon John Gomez, and Cheryl Sommer – Hosted by Catholic Relief Services in the Diocese of Belleville. The Cost is \$3,999. For more information contact Cheryl Sommer at [crsdiobelle@gmail.com](mailto:crsdiobelle@gmail.com).

**GIBAULT NEWS**

The Gibault Theatre Department presents Poe: Dreams of Madness, Performances Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm, Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm, Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm, and Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 pm. No performance of Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Join the Gibault Women’s Club on March 2<sup>nd</sup> for Taste of the Region. For full event info or to purchase tickets, visit: <https://givebutter.com/TasteoftheRegion>.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

**CATHOLIC URBAN PROGRAM:** St. Michael’s January collection; Towels and washcloths (for bath and kitchen) – Thank you!  
**St. Agatha** – Purse Bingo on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Doors open at 11:30, bingo starts at 12:30. The cost is \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door. Drinks included – bring your own snacks.  
**St. Augustine** – Hecker Quilt/Cash Bingo February 11<sup>th</sup>. Dinner served from 10:30 – 1 pm, Bingo begins at 1:30 pm.