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 Phone: 618-234-2068  
 January 21, 2024  
 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULES AND INTENTIONS:**

Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m. – For the Parish

Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. – Annette Klein

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

**STEWARDSHIP FROM LAST WEEK:**

Envelopes \$3,613; Loose \$130; Candles \$44; Catholic Ed. \$150; Mtce. \$400; Cemetery Care \$50; Solemnity of Mary \$20; 2024 Quilt Raffle \$460; Trivia Sponsor \$300 – Thank You

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK:**

**Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m.**

**Lector:** Pat Vogel  
**Minister: Body of Christ** Barb Jany & Joan Killebrew  
**Minister: Blood of Christ** Pat Tinoco & Rosemary Yaekel  
**Servers:**  
**Crossbearer:**

**Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.**

Sandi Gerdes  
 Vic Klein & Margie Bahan  
 Jennifer Neff & Morgan Gauch  
 Kinzley Kurtz & Nolan Traiteur  
 Lydia Huffman

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Today’s first reading, from the Book of Jonah, can easily give us the wrong impression of this prophet. Why? This selection provides the picture of a prophet who hears the Word of God and immediately responds to what the Lord commands. It is important for us to know that in the first three verses of the book, we hear God giving Jonah a more detailed command to preach against Nineveh. How does Jonah respond? He completely ignores this command and flees in the opposite direction! The material between Jonah’s first and second command from the Lord is familiar to many. While on a ship headed away from Nineveh, the prophet is thrown overboard during a storm, is swallowed by a large fish, and then prays to God, after which he is spewed onto dry land. Then, only then, do we hear today’s reading that portrays Jonah as the obedient prophet. Interestingly, the psalm refrain “Teach me your ways, O Lord,” would certainly have been an appropriate prayer for this prophet.

Our short passage from Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians and the opening lines from Mark’s Gospel account remind us that God’s kingdom is near. The Gospel continues with material not unlike what we heard from the Book of Jonah. Both of these excerpts can be referred to as “call narratives,” texts in which an individual or individuals are called by God and given a particular command. You may notice that Mark’s call of Simon and Andrew (as well as James and John) is somewhat different from how John presented the call of these two men in last Sunday’s Gospel.

**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.sppcc.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.

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

The Diocese of Belleville is hosting an informational meeting for men (and their spouses) who are interested in the Permanent Diaconate. This meeting will take place on Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 10:00 am in the Undercroft of the Cathedral of St. Peter, 200 w. Harrison Street, Belleville. The Office of Permanent Diacon is considering another new class of aspirants starting in the fall of 2025. Eligibility is extended to men who have reached the ages of 33 to 56 by September 2025. Men older than 56 may still apply but require special approval from the Deacon Formation Office and the Bishop. The formation process is a five-year commitment including academic studies conducted by St. Meinrad School of Theology, spiritual direction, and learning about the deacon’s role. Participants are required to attend a three-day meeting once per month over the course of the five-year program. Interested individuals should first discuss their interest with their pastor.

**2024 QUILT RAFFLE**

If you haven’t turned in your tickets for the 2024 Quilt Raffle, please turn them in so that you will be entered in all 12 drawings.

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

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Night-Time Drop-In Center continues to operate at full capacity every night, providing shelter and helping homeless men, women and children survive the dangers of the city streets. In addition, Cosgrove’s Soup Kitchen serves an ever-growing number of hungry people each day. We humbly ask for your prayers for the staff and clients and, if you are able, to once again provide any of these much-needed items: Individually packaged cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers, cheese sticks, yogurt cups, cereal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars, soup, or pastas in a cup, bottled water, and other individual-serve drinks. In addition, laundry detergent pods, paper towels, toilet paper and tissues are always in short supply. Items may be left in the entrance of church.

**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.

**MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL**

The Messenger Newspaper Subscription Renewal is 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 print, home-delivery, \$25 for digital access and \$35 for both. **Please make check payable to THE MESSENGER.**

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

The Mysterious Ways of God in the Books of Job, Jonah, and Ruth 3-part Scripture Series. Saturday February 3, 2024, 10:00 am – noon, Shrine Visitors Center Cost \$10  
**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.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

**CATHOLIC URBAN PROGRAM:** St. Michael’s January collection; Towels and washcloths (for bath and kitchen) – Thank you!  
**Ss. Peter & Paul** - Euchre Tournament Friday, February 2, 2024. Doors open at 6:30 Play begins at 7:00. Tickets are \$25.  
**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. James Quilt-A-Rama** – tickets are on the bulletin board.  
**Our Lady of Good Council** – Quilt Raffle – tickets in the entrance of church

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

Have you reserved your table yet for Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Michael’s “Trivia Night”? The doors open at 6 pm and trivia starts at 7:00 pm. \$120 per table includes ‘Survivor’ round and two other special games; Mulligans available; 8 people maximum per table. Questions & answers presented in PowerPoint! Cash prizes. Silent Auction, wine pull & 50/50. Bring your own snacks & drinks. Please call for reservations: Barb Jany 618-920-5384 email: [bzapem@aol.com](mailto:bzapem@aol.com). **Please Note: Once again, the Trivia Committee are asking parishioners to donate items for the Silent Auction and also bottles of wine are needed for the “Wine Pull”. Items may be left in the entrance of church until February 1<sup>st</sup>.**