

Saint James Catholic Community

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 2, 2022

CLOSER

God • Church • Community
Together We Can Do Great Things



**Lord, Every Nation On Earth
Will Adore You**

St. James Catholic Church

309 S Stewart Road, Liberty MO 64068
Office (816) 781-4343 Fax (816) 792-8691
School (816) 781-4428

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-11:00am

On the web @ www.stjames-liberty.org

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/stjamesliberty/>

Mass Schedule:

Weekdays: Monday - Friday, 8:15am

Saturday, 5:00pm

Sunday, 8:00am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4pm and Anytime by request

Our Pastoral Team

Rev. Mike Roach, Pastorx201
 frmike@stjames-liberty.org

Rev. Michael Volker, C.P.P.S. 816-883-2550
 Senior Priest in Residence

Deacon Chuck Fosterer
 chuck@stjames-liberty.org

Katie Klassen, Business Managerx220
 Katie@stjames-liberty.org

Danny Baker, Dir of Liturgy and Music Ministry
 danny@stjames-liberty.org x207

Religious Education x208
 lori.tajchman@stjames-liberty.org

Sandy Gagnon, Dir of Christian Initiation Ministry
 sandy.gagnon@stjames-liberty.orgx206

Jennifer Smith, School Principalx213
 jennifer.smith@stjames-school.org

Office Manager x200

Kirsten Maggi, Office Assistant x202
 kirsten.maggi@stjames-liberty.org

Judy Keisling, Bulletin Editor/Website x205
 bulletin@stjames-liberty.org

Cecilia Richardson, Pastoral Associate
 cecilia@stjames-liberty.org x203

Ernie Collins, dir of Children's Music Ministry
 erniecollins2@gmail.com..... 816-769-8862

Pastoral Council:

Dan Bacon, Chair
 bacon.dan324@gmail.com 589-7958

Louis Angles
 langles57@gmail.com 377-2884

Arsenio "RC" Arciga
 Mylibertyspark@yahoo.com 898-3614

Phil Baumert
 philb@vandergren.com 215-5225

Libby Hernandez
 libbyannehernandez@gmail.com 877-6181

Betsy Lewey
 allshandling@gmail.com 679-9910

Yvette Lopez
 yvettelopez@remax.net 777-4694

Patrick Schaub
 patrickcschaub@gmail.com 876-6771

Mission Statement

We, the community of St. James, are a prayerful and Eucharistic people who treasure our Catholic traditions. We strive to grow in our faith by being good stewards of the gifts God has given us; sharing God's truth with all. As the Body of Christ, we are called to love and serve everyone, especially the marginalized, with joy and hospitality.



MEMBERS OF
 THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 COUNCIL 6780

WILL BE OFFERING
 ROSES FOR LIFE
 FOLLOWING ALL MASSES
 JANUARY 8 AND 9

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING
 TO HELP SUPPORT
 THE RIGHT FOR LIFE
 PROGRAM FOR OUR PARISH

MEMBERS OF THE KNIGHTS
 WILL BE AT ALL MASSES
 TO ACCEPT YOUR DONATIONS



Newman Singers Here January 15/16

The Newman Singers will be singing at all Masses on Saturday, January 15 and Sunday, January 16 and will hold a concert on Saturday at 7:30pm in the church.

This liturgical and concert group from the Newman Catholic Student Center in Iowa City IA have been with us at St. James several times in the past.

We are excited to welcome them back.

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Whitney True-Francis, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816.392.0011 or true.francis@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

From the Pastor's Pen

The word "epiphany" means "manifestation" or "revelation." The focus of the liturgy today is how Jesus is manifested or made known through special events in the nativity story. The gospel tells of the visit of the Magi, a story not found in the gospel of Luke with his account about the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus. Nor is the visit of the Magi found in the gospels of Matthew and John. The question is: was it historical or simply a story which Matthew uses to illustrate a truth? We leave that up to the scholars.

What matters is that we read the Magi story to discover what Matthew and disciples in the early Church believed and taught. Sometimes the word "kings" is used instead of the word "Magi," as in the hymn "We Three Kings." However, there is no mention of how many of these visitors there were, but three is usually assigned because of the mention of the three gifts. Because they were "from the East," it is assumed that they were Gentiles. They are seen as astrologers who looked for portents in the skies. It was common in antiquity to associate the births and deaths of great figures to be accompanied by astral phenomena. The star which guided the Magi symbolizes the guidance to a person of great renown. The gifts that they bring are also symbolic: gold for a king; incense for worship; myrrh for burial. The homage that the Magi show indicates the Lordship of Jesus. Obviously, Matthew wanted all people to recognize and rejoice in the Kingship of Christ over all peoples.

The practical implication is also obvious. People in our world family today come to know and recognize the Lordship of Christ through his disciples. Each of us is the manifestation or revelation of Jesus by our words and deeds. People should see in us examples of Christ-like virtues that lead them to want to know and follow Jesus. So the question for our meditation today might be: do my words and deeds show my Christian faith and the values of the gospel? We are well aware that our efforts will be inconsistent. Sometimes we can be very generous, very compassionate, very kind and thoughtful. But at other kinds we can be resentful, stingy, unkind, and selfish. In our morning prayer each day we can ask the Lord to help us to truly manifest the presence of Christ by all that we say and do. Our gifts will not be gold, incense, and myrrh, but a heart of gold, sharing and caring.

My prayers are with you today.

Fr. Michael

Mass Intentions

Week of January 3 - January 9

Monday	<i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>
8:15am	Veteran Patients
Tuesday	<i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</i>
8:15am	Ruth & Larry Anderson's Intentions
Wednesday	<i>St. John Neuman</i>
8:15am	The Tony Sellmeyer Family
Thursday	
8:15am	†Tom Rickman
Friday	
8:15am	Military Veterans Outreach Ministry
Saturday	
9:00am	†Augusten Page Lorraine Hilts
Sunday	<i>Baptism of the Lord</i>
8:00am	†John Garvey
10:30am	†Karola Peters
5:00pm	Our Youth Preparing For Confirmation



From Death to New Life

Our prayer support is with ...

Carol Rickman, sons Steve & Tommie, their families and friends, on the death of her husband Tom on December 16.
Patti & David Williams, their family and friends on the recent death of David's mother.

Jo Micek, her family and friends on the death of her sister Teri on December 20.

May the healing hand of our Lord Jesus be felt by all who are coping with grief and missing loved ones.

Contact Info

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sat 4pm until finished; any time requested.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Baptismal Preparation Classes: Once a month
Contact Kirsten Maggi in the parish office, ext. 202 or kirsten.maggi@stjames-liberty.org

Religious Education: For Preschool through adult spiritual development, please notify office of needs.

New Parishioners: Please register at the parish office.

We Welcome You!

St. James School: PS-8th grade offered.

Call the School Office, to inquire, 781-4428

Sacrament of Marriage: 9 months advance notice

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

To Schedule an event in our Parish Facility:

email daryl.sweetland@stjames-liberty.org

or call Daryl in the Parish Office.

All Bulletin articles must be submitted by Monday

12Noon to: bulletin@stjames-liberty.org

Blanket Drive Begins Next Weekend



The Respect Life Ministry is sponsoring a blanket drive for Uplift beginning the weekend of January 8/9.

Donations of new and/or gently used blankets

and/or quilts will be appreciated.

You may leave your donations in the Narthex from Saturday, January 8 through Friday January 14 between 7am and 7pm.

Uplift is a non-profit organization providing assistance and services to those in need. those in need



Did you know there are a variety of housing assistance options available at Catholic Charities? Veterans can seek assistance with gaining permanent housing through the SSVF program at: veterans@ccharities.com

Some emergency rent assistance is available through the Welcome Center at: assistance@ccharities.com

Finding a home for the chronically homeless is available with housing@ccharities.com and seniors can find assistance in some of our senior living facilities at seniors@ccharities.com.

*Cast away
your doubts and fears
and let the New Year
bring forth to you
hope and courage.*

Someone is Watching and Wondering

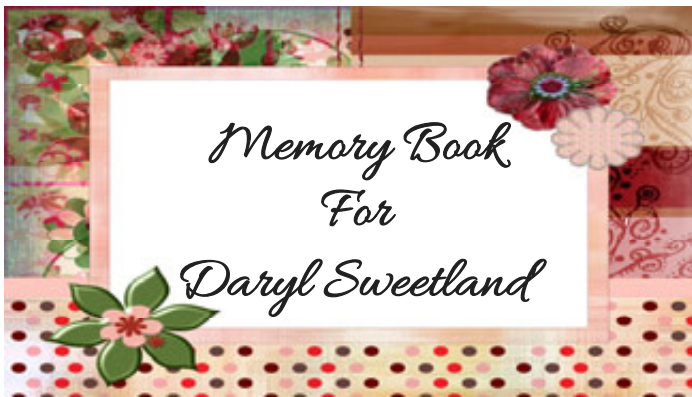


The Christmas Season continues today with the Feast of the Epiphany. The tradition of this feast is to recognize and celebrate the

visit of the magi to the Christ child; those men from the East who followed the star. Sometimes hidden or forgotten in this celebration, however, is the revelation of the Christ to gentiles, that is the world of people who were outside of Judaism and the rich traditions and culture of Jesus' world. I find it significant that the story of the magi visit is found in Matthew's gospel (a Jew himself who wrote in Palestine for Christians converted from Judaism) instead of in Luke's gospel (a gentile physician, who accompanied Paul on his second and third missionary journeys). To me it seems that Matthew wanted his community to understand that Christ Jesus was the messiah for all people, who came into the world to bring light and life to all who lived in fear and darkness. Matthew's writing in the first part of chapter 2, beautifully incorporates the four themes of Advent: **HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE**, while the second part of chapter 2 connects the holy family to the entire human family, recognizing suffering, hardship, acceptance, caring, and recovery. While Matthew very intentionally tied Jesus to the lineage of David and strong Jewish roots in chapter 1, he appears to present Jesus as the Christ who cannot be limited to one place, one time, or one people in chapter 2. Christ Jesus is universal and eternal.

Rereading these two stories, the visit of the magi and the flight into Egypt, I felt a personal epiphany, a connectedness to humanity in a way I had not previously considered. Christ Jesus did not come solely into my Roman Catholic world or even into the Christian world. He was born a Jew in Palestine, yet the incarnation was for all people. God loves and cares for all creation and all people. We are all sinners, falling short in so many ways; we are joined by our humanness and united by grace. The real epiphany is our mutual need and desire for God, regardless of the name we use to worship, give thanksgiving and praise. God doesn't turn away from humanity, humanity turns from God. We forget the goodness of being human; we look to so many other things for fulfillment and meaning, when it is already before us in the person of Jesus and within us as the Holy Spirit. We read in Genesis that humankind was created in the image and likeness of God, and that our creation was good. Yet, somehow we really do not believe that. We focus on our faults and sin which we freely choose, rather than on the goodness, the completeness of God's love and mercy. God became one of us (in the person of Christ Jesus) in all things but sin, to shine light and reflect the goodness of being human. That is the real epiphany I have come to understand in the visit of the magi.

Your Sister in Christ, *Sandy Gagnon*



Calling all!

We need these Memory Book “sheets” to be turned into us by January 16th. We want everyone to be included, so please don’t wait until the last moment to share with Daryl your fond moments spent with her.

The memory sheet can be found on the tables near the drop baskets or online on our website. You can also just use any sheet of paper if you like and drop it in the baskets, send via email to Cecilia.Richardson@stjames-liberty.org, or mailed to the parish office, 309 S Stewart Rd. Liberty MO 64068.

Share this with others that have moved from our area that you know would love to send Daryl off with a warm heart!

Thank you for helping us surround Daryl with the warm loving arms she has provided so many of us over the past 30 plus years.

Blessings,
Katie Klassen

Eucharistic Adoration



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday from 9:00am until 9:00pm in the Chapel.
Come and spend some time with Jesus.

Our Sunday 8:00am Mass
is live-streamed on
Facebook Live and YouTube
Video available later on our website

Feast Of The Most Holy Name Of Jesus January 3

IHS

We give honor to the Name of Jesus, not because we believe that there is any intrinsic power hidden in the letters composing it, but because the Name of Jesus reminds us of all the blessings we receive through our

Holy Redeemer. Honoring our Savior’s name fulfills the word of St. Paul: “That in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, on earth, and under the earth.” (Philippians 2:10)

In the commandments given to Moses on Mount Sinai, and handed down to us, we are told to honor the name of God. It is a name used in prayer and as a blessing, but it is, unfortunately, all too often these days used in vain or as a curse. Nowadays we hear not only the word “God” invoked in negative ways, but also the name of Jesus, the name of God born of the Virgin Mary.

The name of Jesus has been a source of devotion for centuries. In 1274, the Council of Lyons recommended that all the faithful should foster a devotion to the name of Jesus. Many saints also have recommended the devotion, most notably, St. Bernadine of Siena. Fr. Paul O’Sullivan’s book “The Wonders of the Holy Name” gives an exhaustive overview of the countless saints, known and unknown, who promoted devotion to the name of Jesus.

We receive every grace and blessing through the Holy Name of Jesus. Jesus said, “I give you my assurance, whatever you ask the Father, He will give you in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you shall receive, that your joy may be full” (John 16:23-24). In summary, St. Paul said, “Whatever you do, in whether in speech or in action, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Colossians 3:17).

St. Bernardine of Siena (1380-1444) and his student St. John of Capistrano (1386-1456) promoted devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. In their preaching missions throughout Italy, they carried a monogram of the Holy Name surrounded by rays. In its origin, the monogram IHS is an abbreviation of the name Jesus in Greek: I and H representing an Iota and Eta respectively, the first two letters of the name; to which later was added S, a Sigma, the final letter.

There are many ways we honor the Holy Name of Jesus. There is a Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus, and many songs such as “Holy God We Praise Thy Name” or “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name,” in addition to several contemporary Christian songs.

Celebrating Epiphany



Christmas may come but once a year, but thankfully the season doesn't end in the church's Liturgical Calendar on December 25th. After all the bustling activity leading up to Christmas

Day, we get more time afterwards to reflect on the wonders of the Incarnation.

Think of it! God first assumed a human nature to save us from our sins, most vulnerably, as a little baby in a stable in a cave in Bethlehem! In being born in such a seemingly lowly circumstance, Jesus wished to highlight for us how much he values true humility.

On Epiphany, we hear the story of the Three Wise Men who followed the Star of Bethlehem that they saw in the sky heralding our Lord's birth. Matthew's Gospel refers to them as Magi, a word for astrologers, although tradition associates these men with royalty. They followed that star to pay homage to the "newborn king of the Jews" as they referred to Jesus.

The Magi first arrived in Jerusalem thinking that would be the most logical spot to find the long awaited Messiah but when they got there, guess what – they found...nothing and they were directed by King Herod to go to Bethlehem. And the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

Our God is truly a God of surprises! Born in Bethlehem? Not in the Temple or a palace surrounded by worshipers? Nope – in a stable in a cave outside Bethlehem!

Mass Intentions

The custom of requesting a priest to offer the Mass for a specific intention, is a longstanding tradition in the Church. When we celebrate the Eucharist, in addition to prayers for the deceased, a particular intention may be included.

If you would like to have a Mass offered for one of your loved ones or for a special intention, please call the parish office at 816-781-4343. A small donation may be offered.

Sister Elizabeth Ann Seton Feast Day January 4



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first native born American to be canonized by the Catholic Church.

Born August 28, 1774, she grew up in the upper class of New York society. Despite this, her early life was quiet and often lonely. As she grew older the

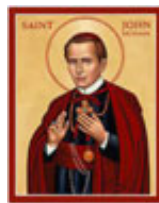
Bible became her support and comfort and she continued to love the Scriptures for the rest of her life.

Married in 1794, her husband died within a few years while they were in Italy. Thanks for her Italian friends, Elizabeth became interested in the Catholic Faith. She officially entered the Church in 1805. Along with two friends, she started the first free Catholic school in America. Along with her friends they began plans for a Sisterhood.

She pronounced her vows as a Sister in 1809. The Rule of the Sisterhood was ratified in 1812, upon the Rule St. Vincent de Paul had written for his Daughters of Charity in France. By 1818, she and the other sisters formed another school and two orphanages.

She died in 1821, at age 46, only 16 years after becoming a Catholic. She was beatified by Pope John XXIII on March 17, 1963 and was canonized on September 14, 1975 by Pope Paul VI.

Fr. John Neumann Feast Day January 5



John Neumann, was born in what is now the Czech Republic on March 28, 1811. After studying in Prague, at age 25 he immigrated to the New York in 1836 where he was ordained. He did missionary work in New York until he was 29, when he joined the Redemptorists and became its first member to profess vows in the United States.

In 1852, he became the fourth Bishop of Philadelphia where he founded the first Catholic diocesan school system in the U.S.

While doing errands on January 5, 1860, he collapsed and died. He was 48 years old.

Well-known for his holiness and learning, spiritual writing and preaching, on October 13, 1963, John Neumann became the first American bishop to be beatified. Canonized on June 19, 1977 by Pope Paul VI 1977, he is the only male US citizen to be named a saint.

Birthdays this week: Today we celebrate all that you with God's help, have accomplished.

Norma Armour	Frank Balkovec	Eleanor Bergin
Sarah Crossett	Paul Estavillo	Katelyn Burkhart
Hailey Cruz	Jeanne Greenwald	Nubia Caraballo
Daniel Duran	Bridget Hedrick	Katherine Downey
John Eggers	Jeffrey Lea	Holden Graham
Edward Enriquez	Toni Mussorici	Scarlett Krim
Frank Fuentes	Isabella Oyer	Shahzad Naseem
Matthew Iway	Shea Prather	Kimberly Rizek
Elliott Kieffer	Cindy Rizo	Charlea Winkler
Anne Kurtenbach	Anthony Rizzo	Lawrence Bergeron
Robert Long	Morgan Rumsey	Josephine
Marla Neal	Amy Taylor	Bonacorso
Daniel O'Neill	Ella Torno	Jason Bringus
Madeline Phillips	Mark Westhoff	Erin Eichler
Thomas Reyes	Addison Winders	Drew Kernell
Quincy Streich	Darian Zubiri	Brooklyn Krause
George Zackert	Emiliano Alcala	Cameron Luedke
Toni Arthur	Joseph Benoit	Matthew Maggi
William Hayes	Jenna Callaway	Priscilla Mulac
Juan Hernandez	Lisa Daldrup	Rubey Seiler
Timothy Litka	Harper Denton	Kevin Sellmeyer
Liam Maggi	Beth Fuller	Jane Sharum
Faith Hong-Aw	Amanda Herr	Lia Venditti
Natividad	Mary Holyfield	Ernest Collins
Chris Pedroza	Sophie Lienhop	Jacob Frawley
Stephen Schneider	Chibueze	Edward Hughes
Samantha	Muonagolu	Ashley Neels
Siegmund	Lily Nguyen	Sloane Phillips
Robert Streich	Julia O'Donnell	Courtney Whited
Edward Tungol	Leticia Tyrrell	Teresa Witherow
Emily Underwood	Michael Ulrich	Breana Wolf
Zofia Unterreiner	Lowella Arciga	
Salvador Vivanco	Sandy Barnes	

St. James School News

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WWW.SJSLIBERTY.COM



Our first, second, & third graders performing in our annual Christmas program!



The Magi from the East arrived in Jerusalem saying "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and came to do him homage."



We Pray to our Lord Jesus for healing

Ann Marie Puck Lorraine Hilts Diane Heather Peggy Luchtefeld Dorothy & William Bradford Alexis Doug & Susan Blair Jackie Rapp Jeff Lea Bradley Jones Mark Daldrup Tracey Thomas & Alexander Minniece Jason Harris Delight Thomason Family Harley Jake Melissa Zach Wyatt Morris Brandon Hutson Norma Molina Amy Abbiatti Ramon Mendoza, Sr. Ramon Mendoza, Jr. Margaret Ellen, Herb and Mark Thompson Baby Edan Michael Monley Oliver Schmidt Cathy Lakebrink Dorothy Bradford Mike Carr	Harrison Pete Burmeister Kate Nowatzke Carolyn Kay Dan Van Leeuwen Kathleen Amos Susan Federoff Kathy Nowatzke Reba & Debra Suttief Fran Norton's Family Knowel and Lee Phil Willoughby Jim & Julie Miller Wendy Barton Silhavy Mike Rodriguez Fred Massman Chris Vitt Brian Amos Julie Beamer Josh Beisly Mary & Gabriel Wier Karen Ann Stevens Amanda Arlene Dietrich Hailey Johnson Jake Harman Bob Orschein Charles Mann Douglas Shreffler Jeff Ridder Kenny Walker Sabrina Hinkle Susan Koeppen John Mreen	John Williams Deacon Doug Hemke John Murphy Derek and Katie John Fessler Jessica & Brad Ricky & DeeDee Sue & Shannen Christi Dudrey Arsenio "R.C." Arciga Gene Stephani John Davis Janet Walker Rory Elliott Casel Family Todd Higgins Larry & Bea Farnan Walter Swanson Ron Shinkle Michael Ruiz Kathy Peters Mauricia O'Brien Janet Ward & Jeff James Filippe Alicia Paredes Bob Pezلمان Patty Larson James Gubera Tina Helm Hazel Lewis Dan Tomc Laurie Beach Rachel Johnson Wanda Finnigan	Beth Atwater Ciara Davis Pat Neibergall-Timm Brian Akers Audria Martin Jose Torres Dan & Bibi Chadwick Pat Aten John Vrocato John Barrington Philip Pernice Don Taylor Nick Peters Dwain Jones Desmond Arciga-Quenga Frances Parker Michelle Bacus Brian Glaser Mark Schweitzer Bill Kirwan Jamie Martin Deacon Bud Jackson Erwin Pat Carey & Family Gavin McKenna Helen Szczech Eddie Campbell Melissa Andrasik Diana Marchisio Wilfredo Crespo, Jr. Rachelle Pomfrey Ron & Peggy Pettz John & Susan-Kelly Corsione Lynn & Monica Nelson	Alice & GERALYN Hosticka Hannah Taylor Rodriguez Family Scott Neibergall Margie Myers & Mattea Jean and Richard Jackson Pamela & James Anderson Barbara Meigs Tony and Tet So Travis & Sarah Shay The Curiel Family Monica Barrington Kari & Jesse Rainey Barbara Fortier Barb Schwery Nichole Stewart Doug Schuster Kelly Gentrup The Hollomon Family Jacke & Enike Hayes Carla George Kyle Sellmeyer Margarita Mendoza Family Marie Brancato Rich Curasi Bob Roach John Brocato Barbara (Roach) Still Kathleen Haines John Pfanenstiel Mike Sheeley Saree Morely John Findlay Duane Sander	Mattie Mae Weaver Troy Cronkite Matt Biskup Family Kim Lackey Pam Fink John Nauser Bill Roach, Jr. Jacob & Dana Lansford Gary Andrew Reese Sam Porter Mary Alice Worth Amy Villarreal Mary Kaye Masnado John Amaro Randy Baumert Jackie Plack Pelling Kennedy Noel Holcumbrink Rita Lowe / Megan Tony V. Sr. Deric DeMasi Sarah Rupp Chris Alvey Patrick O'Neill John McMahan Eddie Ansalmo Maria Giannelli Kenadee Gallagher Shawn Adkins Jason Robinson Leah Biskup Coady Olivia Hernandez Darleen Farnan Kenny Laura Ann DiGiovanna Robert Doleshal
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**Join Us In Prayer
Rosary For Healing
Thursdays
at 6:30pm**

**Please notify us to remove your name
from our prayer lists when it is time.**
In respect of HIPAA we will add names
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