



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

Third Sunday of Lent
March 20, 2022

Parish Mission

We are one Church: loving Jesus, serving Jesus, and sharing Jesus.

Parish Vision

We are a vibrant Catholic church serving a diverse community in a safe and welcoming environment where we care for all people along their faith journey.

Core Values

Discipleship • Hospitality
Serving • Worship

Weekend Masses

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:45 a.m.,
3:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Weekday Masses

Monday 6:30 a.m.
Tuesday 6:30 a.m.
Wednesday 6:30 a.m., 5:15 p.m.
Thursday 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m.
Friday 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m.
Saturday 6:30 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
or by appointment

There once was a person
who had a fig tree
planted in his orchard,
and when he came
in search of fruit
on it ...

LUKE 13:6



Inviting All Youth 1st-12th Grade!

TOTUS TUUS

Summer Youth Program

June 12-17, 2022

St. Vincent de Paul Parish

1913 Ritter Drive • Cape Girardeau

What is Totus Tuus?

Totus Tuus ("Totally Yours") is a week long summer Catholic youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through evangelization, catechesis, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. Totus Tuus is concerned not only with teaching the faith, but also igniting the hearts of young people!

Brochures are available in the gathering area. For more information, you may contact Kathy Raines, Totus Tuus Parish Coordinator, at 573-335-7667 or kraines@svcape.eduk12.net.

Scan the QR Code to register online.



Sponsored by:

**The Office of Evangelization, Catechesis, and Youth Formation
Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau**



1913 Ritter Drive • Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701
573-335-7667 • Fax 573-335-0034 • www.svcape.com

Serving the Catholic Community since April 9, 1836

• Mass Intentions •

Monday, March 21

6:30 am Living and Deceased Members
of the Joseph and Rowena Meyer Family

Tuesday, March 22

6:30 am Ella Friese ☩

Wednesday, March 23

St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

6:30 am Living and Deceased Members
of the Tim and Lori Powderly Family

5:15 pm Living and Deceased Members
of the Dean Heimes Family

Thursday, March 24

6:30 am Jennifer Ireland ☩

8:00 am No Mass

Friday, March 25

The Annunciation of the Lord

6:30 am Monsignor Richard C. Rolwing ☩

8:00 am Monsignor Ray Orf ☩

Saturday, March 26

6:30 am Julie Wulfers LeNeave ☩

5:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul Parish Family

Sunday, March 27 Fourth Sunday of Lent

7:30 am Living and Deceased Members
of the Mary Jane DeBrock Family

9:00 am Leon and Bernice Jansen ☩

10:45 am Montey Grimes ☩

3:00 pm Hilario Santay-Calel ☩
(Bilingual)

• Prayer Requests •

Please remember the sick, the hospitalized, and those who care for them. Pray also for homebound St. Vincent parishioners.

Are you looking for a Lenten service project? You are invited to help with the Ugly Quilt ministry on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. For more information, contact Kathy at 573-587-5970.

Confessions During Lent

“Turn Away From Sin and Be Faithful to the Gospel!” During these days leading up to Easter, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered at various times. Take advantage of these blessed encounters with the Forgiving Father!

- Every Wednesday of Lent from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in Church (This also includes Wednesdays at the **Cathedral** and **Catholic Campus Ministry Chapel**.)
- Every Friday of Lent from 12:00 noon - 12:30 p.m. and 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- Every Saturday from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

The parable in today's Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. While God mercifully provides us with time and opportunity, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity!

Special Collection for Ukraine Solidarity Fund

This weekend, March 19 - 20, St. Vincent de Paul Parish will join with other parishes in the Diocese to take up a special collection for the many families struggling in the area of Ukraine and Poland. The funds collected will be forwarded to the Knights of Columbus who are already helping families there. The relief funding is already being used to provide supplies and assistance. Through extensive local connections with churches and communities, as well as networks of local Knights and volunteers, essential resources and services are reaching families within hours of donations being received.

The Knights of Columbus have helped with the following

- Funds are being used to provide shelter, food, medical supplies, clothing and religious goods, as well as other humanitarian needs as identified, both directly in Ukraine and through refugee sites in Poland.
- Knights in Poland have established tents at the Polish-Ukrainian border to distribute food and water to refugees, continuing the spirit of the Order's "Everybody Welcome, Everything Free" campaign in Europe at the start of the 20th century.
- The Knights are working with both the Latin and Greek Catholic Church in Ukraine, with dioceses and councils in Poland, and with international humanitarian aid agencies to address needs quickly and effectively.
- Polish Knights of Columbus Councils have established collection sites in Kraków, and other cities where they are gathering and packaging medical supplies, warm clothing, and necessities.
- Based on the Knights' success in collecting and delivering relief supplies into Ukraine, a number of organizations and companies in Poland have asked to partner with the Knights of Columbus going forward.

For additional information about the Knights of Columbus **Ukraine Solidarity Fund** and how to donate, please click here: kofc.org/secure/en/donate/ukraine.html.

Please note that you may also make your donation for the Ukraine Relief Fund through Faith Direct.

Rosary Prayer Group

The Holy Rosary will be prayed this Sunday, March 20, at 1:30 p.m. inside the Old St. Vincent Chapel of Ease (downtown Cape).



Young Adult Lenten Event

Join the Regional Catholic Young Adult group (ages 18-40) on Tuesday, March 22, at 7:00 p.m. for their second Lenten event! The night will include the normal Bible study plus a short, live presentation on the third Lenten topic: Almsgiving. Come enjoy Catholic fellowship! Doors open at 6:50 p.m. at the old convent. For more info, contact Carlee at idCapeinfo@gmail.com.

God's blessings to Father Rick as he celebrates the 32nd anniversary of his Priestly Ordination on Thursday, March 24. Please keep him in prayer as he continues to serve the Church.

Hospitality Committee

A meeting of the St. Vincent Hospitality Committee will take place at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 23, in the upper meeting room.

Lenten Fish Fry



The St. Vincent's Men's Association is sponsoring a Catfish Dinner each Friday during Lent from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. The family friendly meal includes fresh American pond raised catfish, "Todt secret recipe cole slaw," "Koehler famous hush puppies," side dishes, dessert and drink. Tickets are \$13 for adults, \$7 for children, and ages 7 and under eat free.

Fish Dinner Desserts

Each week during Lent, the Circle Leaders of the Women's Council will contact parishioners to donate desserts for the Friday Fish Dinner. If you have never been called and would like to bring a dessert on Friday, March 25, please contact one of the following: Mary Gosche (573-450-7470), Cathy Kapfer (573-334-8714), Carol Glueck (573-334-8446), or Jeanene Craig (573-335-6998).

Stations of the Cross — A Beautiful Tradition

The Stations of the Cross are images of stories about the passion and death of Jesus Christ. Most of the stories which make up the Stations were drawn from Scripture, and others, such as Saint Veronica wiping the face of Jesus, were taken from tradition. The route traditionally held to have been taken by Jesus to his death at Calvary (Golgotha) in Jerusalem is called the Via Dolorosa or the Sorrowful Way. The Stations were erected in local churches as a way of bringing this prayerful experience to those who could not travel to Jerusalem.



Stations of the Cross are celebrated every Friday during Lent at 5:00 in Spanish and at 6:15 p.m. in English. Please join in this devotional prayer and make it a part of your Lenten journey.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will follow the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. each Friday during Lent.

SVS Raffle Fundraiser

St. Vincent De Paul School is excited to announce the its Raffle Fundraising event! The funds raised from this raffle will continue to benefit and support school students in numerous ways. **Tickets will be available in the gathering area before and after Masses next weekend, March 26-27.**

This year there is an All-Cash Raffle where you could win \$500, \$1,000, \$1,500, \$2,000, \$5,000, or \$10,000. Tickets are two for \$50 for this raffle.

There is also a You-Pick Raffle which consists of 22 items. Buyers will indicate which item they want to enter when they purchase tickets. Tickets are five chances for \$25.

Finally, there is a SVS Family Raffle which consists of 16 experiences for SVS students and even a few for parents. These experiences are for SVS families only. Tickets are five chances for \$15.

There will be a **live drawing** at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 2, on the SVS Facebook page. Please order tickets online at svsraffle.com. Thank you for supporting the school!

• The Week Ahead •

Monday, March 21

8:00 am SVS Confirmation Prep
6:00 pm Mary's Mantle Consecration

Tuesday, March 22

8:00 am SVS Confirmation Prep
6:00 pm Tuesday Evening Bible Study
6:30 pm Parish Pastoral Council
7:00 pm Tuesday Night Thrive (Young Adult)

Wednesday, March 23

8:00 am Ugly Quilt Ministry (8:00 - 11:00 am)
9:00 am Wednesday Morning Bible Study
2:00 pm SVS Stations of the Cross
3:00 pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour
6:00 pm Parish School of Religion
6:00 pm Hospitality Ministry
6:30 pm Reconciliation

Thursday, March 24

9:00 am Maxine's Shareable Wearables (9:00 - 11:00 am)
9:00 am Thursday Women's Bible Study
1:00 pm Thursday Afternoon Bible Study
5:30 pm Centering Prayer

Friday, March 25

12:00 pm Reconciliation
5:00 pm Lenten Fish Fry
5:00 pm Stations of the Cross (Spanish)
6:15 pm Stations of the Cross (English)
7:00 pm Mary's Mantle Consecration
7:00 pm Reconciliation

Saturday, March 26

9:00 am Maxine's Shareable Wearables (9:00 - 12:00 noon)
3:30 pm Reconciliation
6:00 pm Vincent's Vittles

Sunday, March 27

9:00 am Children's Liturgy of the Word
10:15 am Coffee and Christ

Readings - March 27, 2022

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12
2 Corinthians 5:17-21 • Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Collection - March 13, 2022

Collection	\$17,486.01
E-Tithing	\$35,545.67
Total	\$53,031.68
Weekly Budget	\$31,450.00
Difference (7-1-21 to 3-13-22)	\$103,328.02

Thank you for being good stewards of God's gifts!

• Contact Information •

Parish Office

contactus@svparish.com / 573-335-7667

Father Rick Jones, Pastor

Stvcapepadre@gmail.com / 573-335-7667

Father Alex Sutachan

Associate Pastor/ Chaplain of NDRHS
fatheralex@svparish.com / 573-335-7667

Deacon Robbie Huff

Superintendent of Schools / Diocesan Chancellor
Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau
rhuff@dioscg.org / 573-335-7667

Deacon Mark Kiblinger

Coordinator of Stewardship and RCIA
mkiblinger@svparish.com / 573-335-7667

Deacon Thomas Schumer

Director of CCM, SEMO University
deacontom@ccmin.org / 573-335-7667

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Cheryl Oberhaus, Director of Parish Finance

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dwells@svparish.com / 573-335-7667



Vincent's Vittles

Next Saturday, March 26, Vincent's Vittles will be served in the parish center after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. All parishioners and community members are invited to come and enjoy this wonderful meal! Desserts are always welcome. If you can provide a dessert, please drop it off on Friday at the parish office or at the parish center on Saturday afternoon after 3:30 p.m.

Help for the Needy

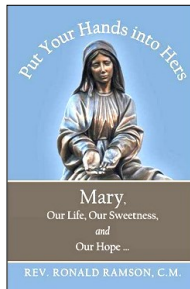
To help facilitate support for area needy, during the week prior to Vincent's Vittles held on the last Saturday of the month, a bin will be located in the gathering area in which to place donations that will go to community members who come to enjoy the meal. Please consider donating hand warmers, batteries (AA and AAA), winter/spring clothing, food items, and other basic living needs. These items will be offered to those in need who come to Vincent's Vittles. For more info on how to help the less fortunate in the area, please contact Deacon Mark.

NCCW Convention

Sorry for the late notice! The National Convention for the CCW will be held at the Marriott Minneapolis City Center, in Minneapolis, on November 2-5, 2022. Registration opens July 21. More information will become available at www.NCCW.org.

You can now apply for Diocesan Lay Endowment funds to help with expenses. The application deadline is March 31. **Please let Virginia (334-7944) know by March 28 if you are interested in attending.**

Put Your Hands into Hers



Mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 30, at 6:00 p.m. (after the 5:15 p.m. Mass) for a presentation on the Blessed Virgin Mary by Father Ronald Ramson, C.M. Father Ramson has written a book, *Put Your Hands into Hers*, and will share insights into the Blessed Mother from his many years of walking with her in prayer. If you have made your consecration to Mary through the Mary's Mantle or if you want to learn more about your Mother Mary, you are invited to attend.

Welcome to St. Vincent de Paul

If you would like to register for the parish, change your address, or simply have questions, please fill out the form and place it in the collection basket. You may also mail it to the parish office at 1913 Ritter Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701. Please free to contact parish office staff anytime during regular office hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. You may email the parish office at contactus@svparish or call 335-7667. A parish registration form is available at <http://www.svcape.com/Parish/>.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

☐ I am new to Cape Girardeau. ☐ I am new to St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

☐ I have been attending St. Vincent Parish and would like to register as a member.

☐ I would like to learn more about the Catholic faith.

☐ I would like to register my child/children for Parish School of Religion.

☐ Please change my address to the one shown above.

☐ I would like to sign up for Faith Direct.

Tell your money where to go instead of wondering where it went! *Financial Peace University* is a nine-lesson class designed to help you build a budget, dump debt, grow your wealth, and leave money stress behind. Each lesson is based on biblical wisdom and common sense.



Sign up for this class, start your 14-day free trial of Financial Peace, and get details at fpu.com/1148186. Class starts at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 31, in the upper meeting room, and will be coordinated by Cheryl Klueppel and Katie Bunselmeyer.

Youth Stations of the Cross

Hosted by St. Vincent de Paul Youth

April 1, 2022 • 6:15 p.m.
St. Vincent de Paul Church

Travel the last few hours of Jesus' life through the eyes and ears of a teen.
 All are welcome!

Attention: Adult Catholic Men

You are invited to the Southeast Missouri



Friday, April 1, 2022 • 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.
St. Augustine Parish • Kelso, Missouri

An evening of Adoration, Confession, and a Manly Meal with discussion
Special Guest: John Edwards of Just a Guy in the Pew

To plan for food, please RSVP to SEMOCatholicManNight@gmail.com,
 or SEMO Catholic Man Night on Facebook or text 573-275-5214.

Restored Parish Mission

John Edwards with PEW Ministries will be at St. Augustine Church in Kelso, Missouri, to present "Restored Parish Mission Event" on April 1-2, 2022. Friday, April 1, will be a Catholic Man Night beginning at 6:30 p.m. as John presents "From Addict to Evangelist: John's Powerful Conversion Story." On Saturday, April 2, the day begins with Mass at 8:00 a.m. At 9:00 a.m., hear John present, "Identity Restored: Understanding Who You Are, Whose You Are, and Why You Are Here." At 10:30 a.m. he will present "The Game Changer: The Importance of a Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ." All are invited!

Visit the Lenten Relic Display

The Association of the Miraculous Medal invites you to a very special Lenten experience in Perryville, Missouri, to venerate sacred relics that include a piece of the True Cross, a fragment of the table at which Jesus celebrated the Last Supper, and particles from Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, and Calvary.

The relics will be on display at the historic National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Perryville, Missouri, from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. on April 2, 3, 9, and 10. Join fellow pilgrims in prayerful reflection to prepare for the celebration of Christ's Resurrection Questions? Call the Association of the Miraculous Medal at 1-800-264-6279.

Guidelines for Fasting/Abstinence during Lent

Abstinence is a penitential practice consisting of refraining from the consumption of meat and is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age and older. Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. **Fasting** is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday for ages 18 - 59 (inclusive). The Church defines fasting as one meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed the main meal, as well as no eating between meals.

Note: If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of self-denial suitable to their condition.

St. Vincent de Paul School News

New student registration is open for grades 1 - 8 at St. Vincent de Paul School. For more info, please call 573-334-9594 or stop by the school office.

A Lenten Opportunity

Beatitude Boxes / Bags

*Blessed are they who
 hunger and thirst for righteousness,
 for they will be satisfied.*

MATTHEW 5:6

During the season of Lent, the parishioners of St. Vincent are invited to collect food and paper items for distribution to the needy. **Beatitude Boxes** will be filled with specific food items and **Beatitude Bags** will be filled with specific paper products.

Tags are posted on the bulletin board in the gathering area. Some tags will list all items in the box (approximate cost \$30-\$35) and all items in the bag (approximate cost \$12-\$15). Other tags list some of the items in the box or bag. You are invited to take one or more tags and purchase the requested items. **Return the items to the designated boxes in the gathering area no later than April 15.** Boxes and bags will then be filled and given to the needy in the local community.

2022 DYC

DIOCESAN YOUTH CONFERENCE
FOR ALL YOUTH IN 7TH-12TH GRADE



Chosen



Broken



Forgiven



Decision

SATURDAY, April 2

9:30am - 5:00pm

St. Vincent de Paul Parish :: Cape Girardeau

Featuring:

Sister Josephine Garrett

with music leader Mary Kate Westrich



Brought to you by the Office of Youth Formation
Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau
Registration is \$30 per person, per conference date.
For more info, scan the QR Code, visit www.dioscg.org/DYC,
or contact your parish youth leader.

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Saturday, April 30, 2022

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Drury Plaza Hotel - Cape Girardeau Conference Center

Cape Girardeau, Missouri

A day of intellectual and spiritual formation for Catholic men

Featuring:

- Mass celebrated by Bishop Edward Rice
- Four world-class theologians speaking on subjects ranging from man in the contemporary world to scripture, grace, and salvation
- Refreshments and lunch provided
- Open to all men 16+

Registration and Attendance are FREE

To register go to: <https://forms.gle/gxggdoNV5nccDmJL9>

Livestreamed Masses

Each weekend, the Mass celebrated here at St. Vincent is livestreamed and available to view on the St. Vincent de Paul Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/svcape/>). The video is also available to view after Masses on the parish website (www.svcape.com). Most of the live feeds will be at the 5:00 p.m. Saturday evening Mass to allow for the longest viewing time.

Food for the Fathers

Each Tuesday Food for the Fathers, a parish ministry, will supply a warm meal for three priests. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please sign up at <http://signup.com/login/entry/67699625678106404>. You will need to enter your email address but will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com. If you don't like the choices listed, change your selection to include an entrée and two side dishes (no desserts, please!). Choose the date you would like to provide the meal. SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Then, on the date chosen, deliver the meal between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. to the new rectory. If you prefer not to sign up online or have questions, contact Beverly in the parish office at 335-7667.



• Holy Week Schedule •

Monday, April 11

Chrism Mass • 7:00 p.m.
Blessing of Oils and Priests'
Renewal of Commitment
St. Mary Cathedral

“Spy” Wednesday, April 13

Confessions “on the hour”
12:00 - 8:00 p.m.

*Please note there will be no scheduled
confession times during the
Sacred Triduum of Holy Thursday,
Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.*

Holy Thursday, April 14

Morning Prayer • 9:00 a.m.
Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:30 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Good Friday, April 15

Morning Prayer • 9:00 a.m.
Passion of the Lord • 12:00 p.m.
Passion of the Lord (Bilingual)
3:00 p.m.
Passion of the Lord • 7:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 16

Morning Prayer • 9:00 a.m.
Easter Vigil Mass • 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 17

Easter Masses
7:00 a.m. • 9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m. (Spanish)



Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried ... But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!" "With war everything is lost." Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division," "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother," and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam!

Amen

Positions Available

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School is currently accepting applications for a **Sixth Grade Teacher** for the 2022-2023 school year. Applicants should be able to teach World History, Religion, and English. For an application, go to dioscrg.org, call the school office at 573-334-9594 or please email kglastetter@svcape.eduk12.net or call 573-334-9594.

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School is currently accepting applications for **Pre K and Kindergarten teachers** for the 2022-2023 school year. Preference will be given to candidates possessing a teaching certificate in early childhood education. For an application or questions, please email Kay Glastetter at kglastetter@svcape.eduk12.net or call 573-334-9594. Applications may also be found at dioscrg.org.

Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Springfield, Missouri, is seeking an **Elementary School Principal** beginning the 2022-23 school year. The successful applicant would be individual with demonstrated skill in spiritual, academic, and advancement leadership. Immaculate Conception has 507 students in K-8th grades and 56 preschoolers, all taught by 38 teachers. Applicants for this position must be practicing Catholics in good standing and understand the mission and ministry of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. To download and submit an application, go to www.ic-parish.org, go to the "About" tab, and click "IC School." Deadline for applications is March 30, 2022.

St. Augustine School is seeking a full-time **Fourth Grade Teacher** for the 2022-23 school year. Applicant must be a practicing Catholic, possess an appropriate certification and hold a Bachelor's degree. Previous teaching experience at the elementary level is preferred. Applications are available on the school website, www.stakelso.eduk12.net. Applications may be submitted in person, through mail, or online to Mrs. Katie Hendricks, St. Augustine School, 231 S. Messmer St., Kelso, MO. Mail to PO Box 97, Kelso, MO 63758. Email to khendricks@stakelso.eduk12.net.

St. Mary Cathedral School is seeking a **Sixth Grade Teacher** with a concentration in Math for the 2022-2023 school year. Candidate should be Catholic and certified in elementary or middle school education. Interested individuals should email christineostendorf@stmarycape.org by April 8.

Immaculate Conception Parish, Jackson, is currently accepting applications for a **Youth and Family Director**. Applicants must be a practicing Catholic. Please contact Fr. Randy Tochtrop at 573-243-3182 or pastor@icjacksonmo.com.

NDRHS Spring Musical

Notre Dame Regional High School is proud to present *Once Upon A Mattress*. Performances will take place at Notre Dame Regional High School's King Hall on April 7, 8, 9 and 10 at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at www.notredamehighschool.org/musical.

Once Upon a Mattress includes fun songs, including "Shy," "Yesterday I Loved You," "Sensitivity," "Swamps of Home," and the exciting dance "The Spanish Panic." Come enjoy this merry medieval musical!

The spring musical will be Miss Cynthia R. King's final production, as she is set to retire from Notre Dame Regional High School after 50 years. Alumni are encouraged to attend "Alumni Night" for the April 9 performance to pack King Hall!

Journeying Through Lent

Attending to the Ordinary

Monday, March 21

The Gospel today notes how those with no status, such as an unknown widow, a leper, and a man from Nazareth, were overlooked. No one saw their greatness. The living God works in and through every part of creation, most notably through human beings. Pay attention to all the ways that God presents himself to you in ordinary ways — the sunrise, a budding plant, the person behind the counter when you get lunch, the laugh of a family member. *Today's readings: 2 Kings 5:1-15ab; Psalm 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Luke 4:24-30.*

How Many Times?

Tuesday, March 22

How many times should we forgive? Jesus says seventy-seven times. Furthermore, he doesn't mean an exact count either! If we are to expect God to forgive us, we must be willing to forgive others. Set aside time today for journaling, reflecting upon, and writing about any grudges you are holding or past grievances you have not released. Forgive in your heart, and vow to keep the grievance in the past. *Today's readings: Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Psalm 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8 and 9; Matthew 18:21-35.*

The Greatest

Wednesday, March 23

Greatness often is associated with accomplishments, athleticism, or scholarship. Jesus presents another vision in the Gospel. He tells us that to be the greatest in the kingdom, we need only to follow God's commandments and teach others to do the same. The best way to teach is by example. Be mindful that your actions and words show love for God and your neighbor. *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Psalm 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Matthew 5:17-19.*

Listen, and Listen Again

Thursday, March 24

Jesus strongly tells us that a kingdom divided against itself cannot survive. If hearts are hardened against God's Word, we cannot be unified—as a community, a country, or a Church. Pray for unity today, that we will listen to the voice of God and open our hearts to God and one another. *Today's readings: Jeremiah 7:23-28; Psalm 95:1-2; 6-7; 8-9; Luke 11:14-23.*

Annunciation of the Lord

Friday, March 25

Today we hear the story of Mary's encounter with the angel Gabriel, when Mary said yes to God's will. Mary's courage, faithfulness, and humility are examples for all seeking to live as disciples. The annunciation is the first of the joyful mysteries. (The other mysteries are the visitation, the nativity, the presentation in the temple, and the finding in the temple.) Pray the Rosary, reflecting on each joyful mystery. *Today's readings: Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Psalm 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38.*

Steadfast Love

Saturday, March 26

The Pharisee was sure of his worthiness, while the tax collector was just as sure of his sinfulness. Though the Pharisee fasted, paid tithes, and kept the law, it was the tax collector who went home justified. Our God of steadfast love and mercy welcomes back sinners who seek forgiveness. Do not be afraid to acknowledge your sins and receive God's mercy and forgiveness through the sacrament of reconciliation. Check neighboring parishes and your own for schedules for confession. God will heal and bind up the wounds of contrite sinners. *Today's readings: Hosea 6:1-6; Psalm 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab; Luke 18:9-14.*

Sunday, March 20

Another Chance

Today's readings: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 7-8, 11; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9. Jesus often taught through parables, stories that illustrate truths and moral principles through everyday encounters, situations, and activities.

Today, the parable comes from the world of agriculture. A fig tree has not borne any fruit for several years. The owner wants to cut it down, but the gardener wants to give it another chance, providing especially good care to it for another year. If after receiving increased attention the tree does not bear fruit, it will be cut down. Just as the gardener is willing to spend more time cultivating the fig tree, God will offer us many chances to change our lives. It is up to us to allow God's love to nourish us so that we can bear good fruit. Where do you need to be open to God's intervention in your life? Will you seek God to change your heart to mend a relationship or to help another person in need?

God graciously welcomes us when we repent and desire to be more of who we are called to be. Allowing Jesus to cultivate the soil of our hearts brings growth. As we give our hearts to the Lord, our compassion, generosity, and humility will increase. With changed hearts, we gain more clarity about the meaning and purpose of our lives, and will spread God's love to others.

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