



Better Together

Volume 2, No. 2

QUARTERLY PARISH NEWSLETTER
ST. CLEMENT • ST. JOSEPH • MARY QUEEN OF PEACE

April 2025

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

We have 7 individuals that are going through the process of coming into full communion with the Catholic Church. They are at various stages of the process and we hope to welcome all of them as new Parishioners very soon. Let us all continue to pray for them.

Tina Nolan is married to Aaron Nolan and they are from the Olney, Mo. area. Tina works at Warren County 911.

Izibella Ball is the granddaughter of Tina and Aaron Nolan and lives in the Olney, Mo. area.

Madison Ingram is from Bowling Green and is Assistant Head Teller at People's Bank & Trust.

Seana Schilling is the fiancée of Ashton Oberman and lives in Louisiana, Mo. They have 2 children: Adelyn and Nolan. Seana works at Ruth Jensen Residential Care.

Alexis (Lexi) Dyke is the fiancée of Zane Allen and lives in Curryville. They are parents of Braxton, age 3 and Everleigh, 8 months.

Lance Calvin is married to Phyllis Calvin and lives in Bowling Green. They have 3 adult sons. Lance is self-employed working in construction.

David Huckstep is married to Kayla Huckstep and lives in Bowling Green. They have 4 children: Tyler, Bentley, Korbin and Kolton. David is owner of Huckstep Tree Service, LLC.



Left to right seated: Tina Nolan, Izibella Ball, Madison Ingram
Standing: David Huckstep, Seana Schilling, Lance Calvin.
Not present: Alexis Dyke

Queen of Hearts Raffle



St. Clement Knights of Columbus are selling \$5 tickets in our NEW progressive Queen of Hearts E-Raffle. The Queen of Hearts is a Weekly drawing. We sell the raffle tickets and the money from the sales goes towards the Jackpot (like a 50/50).

Each week, on Friday at 8 pm, one random raffle ticket is drawn from all purchased entries to select our winner for the week. All other raffle tickets are discarded. New tickets must be purchased each week to participate in the next drawing.

A card from the deck is automatically pulled for the winner and they receive whatever prize is associated with that card. Number cards pay \$25, Face cards pay \$50, Jokers pay \$100, and of course the Queen of Hearts wins 50% of the Jackpot. **The other 50% goes to the Knights to be used to help the Parish.**

There are 54 total cards in the deck, jokers included. After the card is pulled each week it is not placed back in the deck, which increases the odds that the Queen of Hearts will be pulled in the next drawing. We continue every week like this until the Queen of Hearts is drawn.

The Jackpot rolls over every week getting larger and larger. This is similar to the lottery, the prize gets bigger until someone wins the whole thing.

Participants will need to buy a ticket each week. Tickets do not roll over from week to week, also similar to the lottery.

Players can view what the jackpot currently is at and also what cards have been pulled on the fundraising website: goraisedough.com/buy/2840. Full details on the rules are available on the site where tickets can be bought.

Tickets are \$5, or BUY 5 Tickets and receive 1 Ticket FREE!

Purchase your online tickets by going to the link: goraisedough.com/buy/2840 or scan the QR code.



Vocations Update

From Bryce Smith:

I hope everyone at St. Clement is having a prayerful and successful Lent.

It has been busy here at the Josephinum with many obligations and preparing for finals. I am currently in my final semester of Undergraduate Pre-Theology (college portion of seminary), and there are still many challenges before I graduate. That being said, I look forward to coming back to St. Clement to celebrate the Triduum with everyone at the parish and be able to rest a bit before heading back to school for two weeks to finish papers and take finals.

I will be receiving candidacy this summer at St. Clement Church, which means that Bishop McKnight will formally accept me into the candidacy for the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Fall semester, I will be moving into theology studies and be receiving more intense formation and classes. While this is an overwhelming next step, I am confident that the Lord will give me the graces I need in order to succeed.

This semester for me has been focused around one thing, and that is the love of the priesthood and the special place in God's heart each priest holds. One last thing I want to share is a quote by St. John Vianney that has been on my mind and heart lately concerning the priesthood: "The priest will not understand the greatness of his office till he is in Heaven. If he understood it on earth, he would die, not of fear, but of love." May God bless you all this Lenten season.

Ad Jesum Per Mariam

Bryce Smith

From Chad Freie:

In February, we had our Deacon Class Retreat at Conception Abbey with Fr. Dan Merz. On the last day of retreat, we all signed the Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity on the Altar.

These last few months are going by quickly and I want to thank everyone for all the prayers. Ordination is scheduled for June 7 at 10 am at the Cathedral in Jefferson City. All are invited. Danielle and I want to thank each and everyone of you all.



Chad Freie Signing Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity

First Communion

First Communion for St. Clement Parish children will be held the weekend of April 26-27. The School students will be held at the Saturday 5:30 pm Mass; PSR students will be held at the Sunday 10:30 am Mass.

PSR students and their parents:

Evie Fallert - daughter of Tommy and Libby Fallert
Paxton Johnson - son of Randall and Whitney Johnson
Owen Kessler - son of Cory and Katie Kessler
Kyle Martin - son of Andrew and Whitney Martin
Sebastian Tepen - son of Ryan Tepen and Michelle Sorensen
Anna Spegal - daughter of John and Gretchen Spegal

St. Clement School students and their parents:

Leighton Ankelman - Caleb and Lindy Ankelman
Jesse Wyatt Brown - Paul and Margaret Brown
Mirielle Grote - Bill and Kelly Grote
Raelyn Hearn - Cody and Georgia Hearn
Harper Henderson - Jared and Kayla Henderson
Johnathan Koenig - Clayton and Elisha Koenig
Olson Niemeyer - Matthew and Courtney Niemeyer
Zoe Orf - Mark and Nichole Orf
Addison Scherder - Matthew and Mary Ann Scherder
Ethan Touchette - Adam and Chelsey Touchette

St. Clement Parish Council News

The dates, times and locations for the Easter Triduum are as follows:

Holy Thursday - April 17, St. Clement at 7 pm
Good Friday - April 18, St. Joseph 5 pm; St. Clement 7 pm
Holy Saturday - April 19, St. Clement 8:30 pm
Easter Sunday - April 20, normal Mass times at each parish

On February 25, St. Clement Parish hosted the Diocesan Central Deanery St. Clement Coalition. Representatives from parishes in Clarksville, Jonesburg, Laddonia, Louisiana, Martinsburg, Montgomery City, Vandalia and St. Clement were in attendance. This was the first time Deanery meetings in the Central Deanery met at various locations. There were 4 other locations that Coalitions of the Central Deanery met. The meeting opened with a Zoom call with Bishop McKnight where he discussed Co-Responsibility among laity, priests and the bishop. There was also a presentation regarding Catholic Charities. Following the presentations, those present discussed questions to assist parish leadership in the development of new pastoral plans for each parish. These are due June 1 to the Bishop.

At the March Parish Council meeting, the various parish groups were discussed with the need for each group to share meeting minutes with Council to help improve communications across the parish. It is also important to be consistent with meeting dates to avoid scheduling conflicts for Fr. Ussher and anyone needing to attend multiple meetings.

In other business, there will be a Building Inspection by an Engineering firm to look at cracks in the Parish Center foundation and determine if there is water damage.

Parish Council will be reviewing the Parish Constitution and current Pastoral Plan at the April meeting.

St. Joseph and Mary Queen of Peace Parish News

Condolences to the family of Steve Brown, a resident of Maple Grove Lodge in Louisiana, who passed away recently. According to Deacon Mark Dobelmann, Steve's brother made a point to tell him how much the Communion Ministers meant to Steve with their visits. His brother also related that the Priest and the visits of those kind people had literally brought Steve back to the Church after being away for fifty years. May God rest his soul! A wonderful example of how that Ministry can help people in need!

Condolences to the family of Donna Lee (Parsons) Price of O'Fallon, IL who passed away March 25. Donna was born and raised in Louisiana to parents Bailey and Byrna (Silvey) Parsons, graduated from LHS, received her BS at Central Missouri State University, then traveled the world with her military husband and three sons. Donna was active in Cursillo in Belgium, and a member of DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) and PEO organizations throughout her life. Donna's Visitation and service by Fr. Ussher was held March 31 at Collier's with burial in Fairview Cemetery. May God bless her soul!

Several members of the Ladies Sodality attended the Ecu-menical Women's Group (EWG) Breakfast hosted by the Centenary United Methodist Church in Louisiana on March 11. The program was given by one of the providers of services coming to Louisiana for women who have had problems with addiction. There are also houses provided in towns for men who are also trying to overcome addictions. EWG pays a nominal fee of \$6 per person for the breakfast and a large portion of that is donated to some worthy cause in the community.

There was a good turnout of St. Joseph/Mary Queen of Peace Parish Council, Sodality, Knights, etc. joining Father Ussher, St. Clement and other Central Deanery Parishioners on February 25. Bishop McKnight presented information via Zoom to those present and other Deaneries. His theme was on the subject of "Co-Responsibility" among Parish lay people, the Priests, and the Bishop. He emphasized the information shared between those avenues can help us all to ultimately share the responsibilities of a parish to make things "Better Together." Our Central Deanery Representative, Sarah Robinson, mentioned this was the best turnout of people--even better than at the Deanery meetings that have been held in Columbia where so many have to drive a longer distance. Thanks to our three parishes for sending representatives to the St. Clement meeting!

A group of St. Joseph Sodality members attended the Anne's Anchor Fundraiser dinner on March 11 at St. Clement. Deacon Mark offered the blessing and the program following the dinner consisted of information about Anne's Anchor in general, it's workings, it's properties and most importantly, it's residents. Each of the four residents told their individual stories. A plan for building another resident structure and grounds improvements was shared with those present. Anne's Anchor is a transitional home for unwed mothers and their children.

The St. Joseph Knights of Columbus held their Fish Fry Fridays on March 14 and March 28, with the final one to be on April 11. Thanks guys!

A St. Joseph/Mary Queen of Peace Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 16 at 6:30 p.m. in Seton Parish Center.

Pray-Eat-Play was held on March 13 at Mary Queen of

Peace in Clarksville. Due to Father attending a Retreat, a Communion Service was held by Deacon Mark. A great dinner was enjoyed by Clarksville and Louisiana parishioners afterward. However, even though Dana Barker brought games, no games were played without Father--it just wasn't the same not having him there trying his best to win!

Both St. Joseph and Mary Queen of Peace are always in need of parishioners stepping up to fill a Ministry position. If anyone wishes to become part of the Ministries of the parishes, please call and leave your name, number and email address at 573-754-4757 or email it to the rectory at st.joseph4757@gmail.com. Training will be provided for all positions: Lector (reading at Mass); Sacristan (preparing the Altar before and putting things away after Mass); Eucharistic Minister (assisting with Communion); Altar Server (assisting the Priest at Mass); Greeter or Usher (assist people coming in, taking up collection, handing out bulletins). Perhaps you'd be interested in taking Communion to the residents at Maple Grove Lodge or Lynn's Heritage House in Louisiana--a very blessed service to the residents--and rewarding to your "self and soul." Again, training is provided for all positions.

Here's another opportunity to be Co-responsible within your parish....Can you carry a tune? Even in a bucket? We always need people who will SING out God's Good Word! Don't be shy.....just put it out there and sing along!

If you'd like to participate with the Parish Council, Finance Council, Stewardship Council, Deanery Council, Cemetery Board, Ladies Sodality, Knights of Columbus, or any other area, please send your information to the Rectory that you're interested. The St. Joseph Rectory phone is 573-754-4757 or email st.joseph4757@gmail.com. Someone will contact you. Please note most all positions in the Parish now require you take the online Virtus instructions whether one is working around children, teens, or young adults "in any capacity" (even Lectors). It's very worthwhile information or an information tool for "anyone." Call the Diocese of Jefferson City website for the Virtus training at diojeffcity.org.

The "Proof Copy" of the new Directory for St. Joseph and Mary Queen of Peace has arrived. The committee, comprised of Dana Barker and Jean Burkemper of Mary Queen of Peace and Terry Stark and Sandy Orf of St. Joseph, will be checking for accuracy and returning the corrected copy to the company for final printing in the next 20 days. Again, we apologize for it taking this long, but the final product can be helpful in identifying people in your parish and a great memory source in years to come! Thank you for your patience

St. Clement Knights of Columbus News

In February, the KC's passed a motion to donate \$500 to host and fund the account for the Queen of Hearts Foundation/Raffle. Proceeds from the Raffle will be used to support St. Clement School and/or Parish as needed.

In March, KC Hall hosted a Blood Drive for the American Red Cross. KC's hosted a Trivia Night on March 22nd and it was a big success. March 25th was the Past Grand Knights Breakfast. KC's served the Ladies Sodality Breakfast on Sunday, March 30.

In April, the KC's Men's Breakfast will be after Mass on Sunday, April 6.

Save the Date: K of C Picnic is Saturday, July 19.

Ladies Sodality News

At the Annual Ladies Sodality Breakfast held March 30, they shared their Year in Review, looking back at all events they served and donations made from March 2024 to March 2025. These included: Young Farmers & Ranchers Dinner • Lenten Fish Frys • Project Prom • KofC Appreciation Dinner • Community State Bank Dinner • Ladies Sodality Bingo • St. Clement School Graduation Dinner • Sacred Heart Bingo • K of C Picnic • Parish Auction • Golf Tournament • Options for Women Dinner • Ellis Family Benefit • K of C 4th Degree Dinner • White Tail Banquet • Chicken Fry Dinner • St. Clement School Supply Donation • 6 Wedding Dinners • Monthly Parish Tithe • Monthly Cleaning.

SAVE THE DATE: The Ladies Sodality will be hosting a Cash Bingo on June 27th at the KC Hall. More details will be provided soon.

Stewardship Council

In this issue, we are highlighting the Pillar of Service, one of the four Pillars of Stewardship. Under this Pillar are the activities that provides parishioners with opportunities to serve the needs of our parishes and our community. These include: Communion to the Sick and Homebound, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Knights of Columbus, Ladies Sodality, Martha's Ministry, Parish Council, Parish Grounds Upkeep, Parish Maintenance Group, Quilters, Sacristan, and School Volunteers. St. Clement, St. Joseph and Mary Queen of Peace all have a wide array of ministries in which parishioners can serve others. Anyone interested in any of these service ministries can find more information in the Stewardship Guide, which are available at the back of the church or the Parish Office.

The Stewardship Council is researching available software programs to better facilitate tracking parishioner information. The purpose is to improve the communication of information to parishioners via email or text messages in the future. This process may include periodic requests for parishioners to update their information to the parish office. More information on this process will be forthcoming.

Opportunities for Parish Youth

Youth Summer Camps:

If your teen would like to attend any of the Diocesan sponsored summer youth camps listed below, contact Leisha Kent at 573-470-0808. Leisha will help answer questions and help secure funding for families that need assistance.

- Camp Lolek Boys 6th-8th grades: June 8-12
- Camp Lolek Girls 6th-8th grades: June 15-19
- Camp Siena North & Camp Maccabee South: July 13-18
- Camp Siena South & Camp Maccabee North: July 20-25

To Register go to: diojeffcity.org/youth-camps/

Teens Encounter Christ (TEC)

For teens age 16-21, held at Franciscan Retreat Center, Quincy. Upcoming dates: April 12-14 • June 14-16 • July 26-28
Register at: greatrivertec.org/tec/

St. Clement School News

Upcoming Events and End of School Year Schedule:

- Holy Thursday, April 17 - Passion Drama will be presented at 11 am in the Parish Center. All are invited to attend.
- Easter Break April 18 - 27 - No School
- Saturday, April 26 - First Communion at 5:30 pm Mass
- Thursday, May 1 - Diocesan 8th Grade Mass at Jefferson City
- Friday, May 2 - May Crowning 10:45 am; Kite Day at 2 pm
- Wednesday, May 7 - 6th Grade Vocation Day
- Thursday, May 8 - Smithsonian Day, 1 pm, Parish Center
- Monday, May 12 - Field Day at 12:45 pm
- Tuesday, May 13 - 8th Grade Graduation 6 pm Mass
- Wednesday, May 14 - Pre-K Graduation 9 am; Kindergarten Graduation at 10 am
- Thursday, May 15 - Last Day of Classes - dismiss at noon

8th Grade Graduation: Maxwell Koenig is our only graduate this year. Next year we will have seven 8th grade students.

We are still in search of a **Kindergarten Teacher** starting with the 2025-26 school year. If you know of anyone that might be interested, contact Principal Linda Henderson at 573-324-2166 or email resume to: lhenderson@stclementmo.org.

The new School Secretary will be Katy Merz. She will replace Kelly Crane who is the new County Assessor. Elizabeth Schroeder has been hired as the new 7-8 grade teacher. She replaces Wendy Boenker, who is retiring as full time teacher but is coming back as part-time. Also retiring is Carla Chlebanowski as Kindergarten teacher and Karen Schuckenbrock as part-time PE teacher.

Home and School Officers were elected at the March meeting. New officers for 2025-26 school year: President- Jill Hoepf; Vice-President - Ashlee Ellis; Treasurer - Megan Ginnings; Secretary - Lauren Ince. Thanks to outgoing President Maggie Brown and Vice-President Chelsey Touchette for serving on the Home and School Board this past year. The next meeting will be Thursday, August 28.

School Board elections will be coming up in early May with nominations requested the later part of April. Be thinking of parishioners to be considered for nomination. Bradley Raney and Amy Biggs are up for re-election.

Thank you to Barbara Scherder-Goetz for the donation of an upright freezer for the School and to MASH for a great price and delivery.

Baptisms at St. Clement

Recent Baptisms at St. Clement:

Lakelynn Mae Fosdick - January 19, 2025
Parents: Brian & Kaitlyn Fosdick
Brian is the son of Clete & Jennifer Miller

Trevor David Portwood: March 30, 2025
Parents: Matthew & Dana Portwood
Sophie Rose Portwood: March 30, 2025
Parents: Matthew & Dana Portwood

Better Together Parish Newsletter

Pastor: Fr. Henry Ussher • Newsletter Editor: Marie E. Korte • Send newsletter information to: newsletter@stclementmo.org