

WORDS AND WORKS

quarterly newsletter for Holy Infant Parish
Ballwin, MO

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

By Eileen Buehrle



For the past three years, Holy Infant's PSR students have participated in Operation Christmas Child which is part of Samaritan's Purse. Simple, gift-filled shoe boxes are prepared by the students to let hurting boys and girls across the world know that they are loved and not forgotten. Since 1993, more than 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have received one of these shoeboxes filled with gifts. Since Holy Infant began its participation, it has prepared over 1,000 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

For over 40 years, Samaritan's Purse has done their utmost to follow Christ's command to be Good Samaritans by going to the aid of the world's poor, sick, and suffering. They specialize in meeting critical needs of victims throughout the world by providing food, medicine, and other assistance to those suffering conflict, disaster, famine, and epidemics. The organization's president is Franklin Graham, son of Christian evangelist Billy Graham.

Each child can fill a specially provided shoebox or they can decorate their own shoebox or a plastic container. The child will determine if the gift will be for a girl or a boy, and pick the age category: 2 -4, 5 - 9, or 10 - 14. Then the fun begins. They fill the box with new items that a boy or girl

would love to have. Toy cars, Barbie dolls, balls, school supplies, toothbrushes, bar soap and combs are some of the things that could be put into the box. Some boxes could include socks, hats, sunglasses,



Photo submitted by Patricia Foley



Photo submitted by Patricia Foley

hair clips; anything a child of that age would like. (Things that contain liquids, toy guns, knives, or military figures or glass items are not permitted.) Many of the children enclose a note telling the child who receives their box where they live and something about themselves.

These boxes are then distributed overseas by volunteers. Since 1993, more than 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child. Samaritan's Purse works with local churches and ministry partners to deliver the gifts and share the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ.

Holy Infant is participating again in 2016. Boxes are being prepared now to deliver to local churches to ship where they are needed. Anyone can prepare boxes for the organization. More information is available on their website.

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/occ> If you are interested please contact them for the 2017 Campaign.



Photo submitted by Patricia Foley



HOLY INFANT CATHOLIC CHURCH

627 Dennison Drive • Ballwin, Missouri 63021 • (636) 227-7440

December, 2016

Dear Parishioners,

Grace and peace to you and yours during this blessed season of Advent! Throughout this season, we anticipate the celebration of the birth of the baby Jesus, the Holy Infant of Bethlehem, the newborn Savior of the world!

We are delighted to have you as part of our parish family! We are blessed beyond measure by the goodness of so many in our community who faithfully join us for Sunday Mass. It is such a crucial part of our spiritual growth that we gather weekly to celebrate the Lord's Supper. Thank you for your faithful participation in the life of our parish!

On behalf of the parish, we offer a word of sympathy to all who may find these days to be painful. If you have buried a loved one or suffered some other loss, we know that the joy of the holidays can be mixed with heartache and pain. Please know that we care for you and will hold you and your loved ones in prayer throughout these days.


Our Mass schedule for Christmas is as follows:

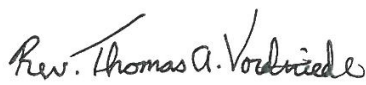
- Saturday, December 24th: 4:00 p.m., 4:10 p.m. (in the Parish Center/Gymnasium), 6:00 p.m. and 12:00 Midnight
- Sunday, December 25th: 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.


Our Mass schedule for New Year's Day, the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God is as follows (normal weekend Mass schedule):

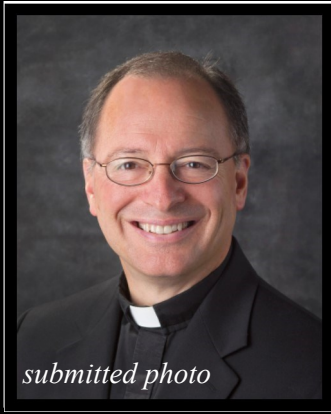
- Saturday, December 31st: 4:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, January 1st: 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Noon

We pray that you and your family will have a joyful and memorable Christmas and a New Year that is filled with peace!


Rev. Edward J. Stanger
Pastor


Rev. Thomas A. Vordtriede
Associate Pastor


Rev. Timothy J. Foy
Associate Pastor



submitted photo

By Kathie Hanneke

Fr. Timothy Bannes

October 29, 1963 - October 26, 2016

Ordained May 26, 2007

Fr. Bannes, former Associate at Holy Infant from 2007 to 2013, died suddenly from heart disease on October 26th. He was Pastor of St. John the Baptist-Gildehaus, Villa Ridge, at the time. He was only 52 years old. He served at Holy Infant as an Acolyte in 2005 and returned here after his ordination in 2007. He was a great listener and was loved for his sense of humor. Many were touched by his kind, peaceful and compassionate heart. His deep faith and love for Jesus and His Blessed Mother inspired all. He will be sorely missed. May he rest in peace!

Connecting with Holy Infant Catholic Church just got easier!



We have decided to use Flocknote, an email and text messaging tool created for churches. Flocknote will allow you to get important updates from Holy Infant Catholic Church in a timely and convenient way! This new tool lets you choose what information you'd like to receive, via email or text message, from the various ministries and groups in our church. You can unsubscribe at any time. There are 2 ways to subscribe (*select one*):

Option 1) Sign up at www.flocknote.com/hi or **Option 2)** Text "hi" to **84576** from your phone. Contact **Kris Mispagel** in the Parish Office with questions or if you need any help.

This year has been a time of change at Holy Infant Parish with both new and familiar faces in the Parish Office!

By Kris Mispagel



Photo submitted by Kris Mispagel

Dan Angel, our new Youth Minister, came to St. Louis in June 2016, from Tampa Bay-St. Petersburg, Florida, where his parents still live. He has a brother, Bobby, who lives in Anaheim, California with his wife Jackie and their two daughters, Abigail and Zélie. Dan is engaged to Dr. Christina Gauthreaux,

who is currently working at Barnes Jewish Hospital specializing in Internal Medicine. When he was a child, Dan wanted to be an animal trainer. He studied biology in Orlando at the University of Central Florida. While in Orlando, he worked at SeaWorld Orlando as an Associate Trainer with the orcas. Later Dan's life took him on a different path and he entered the seminary in Miami, Florida.

After five years, Dan discerned out of the seminary and with the help of his spiritual director, made his way to St. Louis and Holy Infant. When asked what he loves most about working at Holy Infant, he says, "getting to know the wonderful parishioners, staff, and the youth of the parish." **Something you may not know about Dan:** "When I first started in the seminary, I was sent for a summer assignment in Liberia, Africa. It was an incredible experience learning about the universal Church and seeing the joy and love of people who are considered to have so little. Their reliance on faith and family is so strong. I cannot wait to return one day."



Photo submitted by Kris Mispagel

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Sandy Hughes is the new Office Manager in the Parish Office. She was born and raised in St. Louis. Sandy has been married to her husband Steve for 20 years. They have three girls, Caroline (18), Claire (17) and Grace (15) and two dogs, Olivia and Leo. Sandy

(Continued on page 5)

Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline

By Kris Mispagel

When I was in grade school, I remember staying inside for recess writing, "I will not talk in class" one hundred times. Holy Infant School takes a different approach to discipline. All grades at Holy Infant School use the Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline (VBRD) program, a program based on the word "virtue," a holy habit that imitates God.



Photo submitted by Jennifer Kelly and Adam Meesey

or activity that incorporates that virtue," she adds. The circle meetings are opportunities to share and ask questions, in a judgement free zone. There are no "dumb questions", no right or wrong answers, just an invitation to share and learn.

The school focuses on four virtues each year, one per quarter. For the 2016-2017 school year, the virtues are empathy, peace,

VBRD, developed by Lynne Lang, Director of School Climate at the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and pioneered by several area grade schools, has the following guiding principles:

All people make mistakes and need an opportunity to make up for the harm done and return to full acceptance in a community.

Everyone in a restorative system must commit to being positive, which means dwelling on the positive rather than the negative.

Virtue is the opposite/positive aspect of harm and needs to be taught and developed.

Prayer must be a part of discipline in a Catholic environment. (www.holytrinity-stann.org)

Mrs. McQuaide, principal of Holy Infant School, explains that the program is a proactive way to discipline by focusing on the goodness in the students and stressing Christ-like actions. Rather than punish wrongdoing, VBRD gets to the heart of the problem that caused it, how an action causes harm to another and how students should address it in a constructive way, free of negativity. (<http://stlouisreview.com/article/2016-06-23/virtue-based>) VBRD "is a way of dealing with discipline issues by focusing on the virtue(s) that the student needs to practice. Every other Monday, students take part in circle meetings with their homeroom. The teacher focuses on a virtue and the students complete some type of project

prudence, and fortitude. During the Advent season,

they are focusing on the virtue of peace. "We are discussing peace in our world, in our homes, and in our classrooms," she explains. Along with discussing the virtue of peace, the classrooms will participate in service projects to learn about living out the virtues in their everyday lives. The classrooms are collecting needed items that will be donated to Our Lady's Inn, Guardian Angel Settlement, and inner city Catholic Schools.



Photo submitted by Kris Mispagel

service projects to learn about living out the virtues in their everyday lives. The classrooms are collecting needed items that will be donated to Our Lady's Inn, Guardian Angel Settlement, and inner city Catholic Schools.

Please mark your calendars for the Open House on Friday, January 27, 2017. After 8 a.m. Mass, tours will be given by current and past students of Holy Infant School.

If you are unable to attend the Open House, please call the school office at (636) 227-0802 to schedule a tour. Visit www.holyinfantschool.org to learn more about Holy Infant School.

(... *time of change at Holy Infant Parish* ... continued from page 3)

went to Saint Louis University and Saint Louis University School of Law. She practiced law until Caroline was born, when she became a “stay at home Mom.” When Grace was in first grade, Sandy began working part-time at Holy Infant School. Sandy is so happy to be working in the Parish Office. “We truly have a parish family that is so supportive, caring, and compassionate toward each other. Our parish also has a strong spirit of helping those in need. I enjoyed working at the school with the students, faculty, and families. Now, I’m enjoying getting to know many parishioners involved in many aspects of our parish life,” she explains. ***Something you may not know about Sandy:*** Since her parents moved to Londonderry, New Hampshire when she was in her twenties, Sandy considers New England her second home. “We get to spend many holidays and vacations there visiting my side of the family,” she adds. “We especially love going to the coast to go to the beaches and fish in the ocean.”



Photo submitted by Kris Mispagel

Cheryl Nienas is the new Office Assistant in the Parish Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cheryl was born and raised in St. Louis. She has been married to her husband Jon for 28 years. Shortly after they were married, Jon’s job took them from St. Louis to Kearney, Nebraska. Over the years, they moved from Kearney to Denver to Omaha. In 1995, they moved home to St. Louis. Cheryl and Jon have three children,

twins Leah and Tyler (24), and Emily (20). Cheryl loves being a parishioner at Holy Infant. There is such a strong “sense of community at Holy Infant. There’s always someone willing to help or someone to be by your side in times of need,” she explains. So, when she was able to work in the Parish Office, she was so excited! Cheryl’s favorite part of working at Holy Infant is

“interacting with the parishioners and helping them on a daily basis.” ***Something you may not know about Cheryl:*** When Cheryl was in her twenties, she worked on a 150 passenger luxury yacht for Clipper Cruise Line that sailed the Caribbean and the Inner Coastal Waterway. “I was unhappy with my current job [at the time] and a friend told me about this position. I worked as the cruise director and activities coordinator. I was like Julie McCoy from the Love Boat!”



Photo submitted by Kris Mispagel

Deacon Jim Powers and his wife, Trisha, have lived in Holy Infant parish for 36 years. They have been blessed with four children and eight grandchildren. Jim is a clinical psychologist on staff at DePaul Hospital.

Deacon Jim heard a “call from God” and was ordained ten years ago. He has served as a deacon at Ste. Genevieve du Bois, Our Lady of the Pillar, and Our Lady of Guadalupe parishes. In his free time, Deacon Jim plays in the Holy Infant Mens’ Monday night basketball league, and plays bass in the Joyful Noise Choir. What does Deacon Jim love most about being assigned to Holy Infant, besides the short commute time? “It’s like coming home,” he says. “I look forward to praying with you, worshiping with you, laughing with you, and crying with you”. ***Something you may not know about Deacon Jim:*** Deacon Jim is the organizer of the *Just Plain Folks Festival*, a concert that is performed on his front porch. The music is performed by friends and family who enjoy and play music. Once they had 75-100 people on his front lawn. “We’ve had piano players, a bagpipe, even acapella showtunes”, he explains.

Peace sign and doves can be

observed facing

New Ballwin Road on Holy Infant’s school yard fence.



Photo submitted by Becky McQuaide



Words and Works is a quarterly publication of Holy Infant Parish, informing parishioners of events and activities of interest to the parish, with a further goal of fostering unity within the Church and drawing all together into a closer warmer Church family.

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2016-2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT HOLY INFANT

Recurring Events

Quilting Group (Mondays, 9:30 am, thru May, 2017) – Lower Cafeteria

PSR Classes (Mondays, 3:15, 4:30 & 6:30 pm sessions, Sept. 2016 thru May, 2017)

Bible Study (Tuesdays, 9:30 am, thru May, 2017) – Holy Infant Room,

Adult Faith Formation (2nd Tuesdays, 4:30 pm, thru May, 2017) – Adult Education Room

Knights of Columbus Membership Monthly Meeting (2nd Tuesdays, 7:30 pm, thru May, 2017) – Holy Infant Room

Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary Monthly Meeting (3rd Tuesdays, 7 pm, thru May, 2017) – Holy Infant Room

Knights of Columbus Officers Meeting (4th Tuesdays, 7:30 pm, thru May, 2017) – Holy Infant Room

Joyful Hope Prayer Group (Wednesdays, 7:00 pm,) – Cry Room

Stewardship Team Ministry (2nd Wednesdays, 7 pm, thru May, 2017) – Church Cry Room

Divorce Care (Wednesdays, 7 pm, thru Sept. 28 – Dec. 21, 2017) – Holy Infant Room

RCIA Classes (Wednesdays, 7 pm, Sept. thru Easter 2017) – Rosario Hall

Women's Bible Study (Thursdays, 9 am, thru May, 2017) – Holy Infant Room, except third Thursdays in Lower Cafeteria

HI Seniors Monthly Meeting & Luncheon (1st Thursdays, 10 am, thru May, 2017) – Lower Cafeteria

Men's Club Meeting (2nd Thursdays, 7 pm, thru May, 2017) – Lower Cafeteria

Evangelization Committee Meeting (2nd Thursdays, 7 pm) – Holy Infant Room

Book Club (3rd Thursdays, 1 pm, thru May, 2017) – Holy Infant Room. See Bulletin for exact dates.

Legion of Mary Meeting (Fridays, 9:30 am) – Holy Infant Room

PX90 (Saturdays, 7 am, thru April, 2017) – Upper Cafeteria

First Saturday Devotions & Confessions (1st Saturdays, 8:30 am) – Church

Children's Liturgy of the Word (Saturdays, 4 pm Masses, Sept. thru May, 2017) – Lower Cafeteria

Children's Liturgy of the Word (Sundays, 8:30, 10:15 am & Noon Masses, thru May, 2017) – Lower Cafeteria

Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion (Tuesdays, 7:15pm) - Chapel

December 2016

3		RCIA Day of Reflection – Rosario Hall
3-4		Mike Kelly Basketball Tournament – Parish Center
4	9 am	MOPS Breakfast with Santa – Upper Cafeteria
4	4pm	Blessing of the Infant Jesus – Church
4	5pm	Youth Group Live Nativity
5	6:30pm	PSR First Reconciliation – Church
6	6:30pm	Day School First Reconciliation – Church
8	10am	Holy Infant Seniors Christmas Party – Upper Cafeteria
8	6, 8, 10 am & 7 pm	Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation) Masses – Church
11	1 pm	Baptisms
11	1:30pm	Ladies Advent Tea – Upper Cafeteria
18-Jan. 3		Day School Christmas Break (begins with Noon dismissal)
19	7pm	Baptism Preparation Class – Holy Infant Room
24	4 pm	Christmas Eve Mass – Church
24	4:10 pm	Christmas Eve Mass – Parish Center
24	6 pm	Christmas Eve Mass – Church
25	Midnight	Christmas Day Mass – Church
25	7, 9, & 11 am	Christmas Day Masses – Church
31	4pm-5:30pm	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass

January 2017

1	7, 8:30, 10:15 & Noon	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Masses
8	1 pm	Baptisms
16	7pm	Baptism Preparation Class – Holy Infant Room
21	7 pm	Knights of Columbus Adult Bingo – Upper Cafeteria
22	1 pm	Baptisms

January (continued)

26 7 pm Confirmation Sponsor & Candidate Evening of Reflection – Upper Cafeteria
 28 7pm Men's Club Trivia Night – Parish Center
 29-Feb. 3 Catholic Schools Week

February 2017

3 6pm Catholic School's Week Sock –Hop - Parish Center
 5 4:30 Men's Club Super Bowl Fundraiser – Front & Lower Cafeteria
 10-11 7 pm Day School Sixth Grade Play – Parish Center
 12 1pm Baptisms - Church
 18 7pm Knights of Columbus Adult Bingo – Upper Cafeteria
 19 8:30am Girl Scout Mass and Reception – Upper Cafeteria
 20 7pm Baptism Preparation Class – Holy Infant Room
 21 6:30pm First Eucharist Parent/Child Evening of Reflection – Church
 24-25 6pm Pinewood Derby – Upper Cafeteria
 26 1pm Baptisms - Church
 28 8:30am Burning of Palms – Church Steps

March 2017

1 6,8am & 7pm Masses and Distribution of Ashes
 2 5:30 pm Lenten Mass
 3 4:30 pm Men's Club Fish Fry – Upper Cafeteria
 3 7 pm The Way of the Cross – Church
 5 Holy Infant Shamrock Shuffle – Holy Infant Campus
 5 3pm Confirmation Retreat
 6 2 pm The Way of the Cross – Church
 7 8 pm Lenten Confessions -- Church
 7 5:30 pm Lenten Mass
 8 5:30 pm Lenten Mass
 9 5:30 pm Lenten Mass
 10 4:30pm Men's Club Fish Fry - Upper Cafeteria
 10 7 pm The Way of the Cross – Church
 12 1-7 pm St. Patrick's Celebration
 14 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 15 5:30 pm Lenten Mass
 16 5:30 pm Lenten Mass
 17 4:30 pm Men's Club Fish Fry – Upper Cafeteria
 17 7 pm The Way of the Cross -- Church
 18 7 pm Knights of Columbus Adult Bingo – Upper Cafeteria
 20 7 pm Baptism Preparation Class – Holy Infant Room
 20 2 pm The Way of the Cross -- Church
 21 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 21-23 7pm Adult Formation "Special Lent Program" – Church
 22 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 23 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 24 7 pm The Way of the Cross – Church
 24 4:30pm Men's Club Fish Fry – Upper Cafeteria
 25-26 Men's CRHP Retreat Weekend
 24 4:30pm Men's Club Fish fry – Upper Cafeteria
 26 1pm Baptisms
 27 2pm The Way of the Cross – Church
 28 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 29 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 30 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 31 4:30pm Men's Club Fish Fry – Upper Cafeteria
 31 7pm The Way of the Cross – Church

Mondays during Lent - 2pm – The Way of the Cross
 Sundays during Lent – 5pm Confessions (except 3/5 and 3/12)
 5:30pm Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during Lent
 Fridays during Lent – 4:30pm Fish Fries – 7pm The Way of the Cross

April 2017

1-2 Women's CRHP Retreat Weekend
 1 4pm Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary Fundraiser – Upper Cafeteria
 3 2pm The Way of the Cross – Church
 4 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 5 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 6 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 7 4:30pm Men's Club Fish Fry – Upper Cafeteria
 7 7pm The Way of the Cross – Cafeteria
 8 6:30pm Father/Daughter Dance – Upper Cafeteria
 9 1pm Baptisms
 9 12pm-8pm RCIA Retreat – Upper Cafeteria & Rosario Hall
 10 2pm The Way of the Cross
 11 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 12 5:30pm Lenten Mass
 12-23 Day School Easter Break
 13 7pm Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper – Church
 14 1:30pm Day School 8th Grade Passion Play – Church
 14 7:30pm Good Friday – The Lord's Passion
 15 8pm Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil – Church
 16 Easter Sunday Masses
 17 7pm Baptism Preparation Class – Holy Infant Room
 22 7pm Knights of Columbus Adult Bingo – Upper Cafeteria
 23 Divine Mercy Sunday - Church
 27 6 pm Cub Scouts' Blue & Gold Banquet – Lower Cafeteria
 29 10:30am PSR's First Eucharist
 29 1:30pm Day School First Eucharist

May 2017

5-7 Luke 18 Retreat Weekend for 8th Graders
 9 6:30pm Day School Fine Arts Night – Parish Center & Lower Cafeteria
 11 6:30pm Confirmation Practice & Service of Light – Upper Cafeteria & Church
 14 1pm Baptisms
 15 7pm Baptism Preparation Class – Holy Infant Room
 19 7 pm Confirmation
 20 7pm Knights of Columbus Adult Bingo – Upper Cafeteria
 22 7pm 7th Grade Parent Confirmation Meeting – Upper Cafeteria
 24 5:30 pm Day School's 8th Grade Graduation Mass & Ceremony – Church and Upper Cafeteria
 26 Day School's Last Day of School – Noon Dismissal
 28 1pm Baptisms

June 2017

5-9 Vacation Bible School
 11 1pm Baptisms
 19 7pm Baptisms Preparation Class – Holy Infant Room
 23-25 Parish Rummage Sale – Parish Center & Lower Cafeteria
 25 1pm Baptisms

Regular Mass Schedule

Sunday Obligation

Saturday: 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m.,
10:15 a.m. and noon

Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday: 6 a.m. and
8 a.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.

Holy Day Masses

Please check the bulletin or
call the rectory to check
times for Holy Day Masses.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

24 hours, 7 days a week.
Enter the chapel through the
main lobby.

Holy Infant Church

627 Dennison Drive, Ballwin MO 63021-4898

Rectory: (636) 227-7440 FAX (636) 227-4548

Website: www.holyinfantballwin.org

Pastoral Staff

Father Edward J. Stanger Pastor

Father Thomas Vordtriede Associate Pastor

Father Timothy Foy Associate Pastor

Daniel Henke Deacon

Jim Powers Deacon

Jacob Carlin . . . Transitional Deacon

Rectory Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Closed for lunch from noon -1 p.m.

Ministry to the Homebound

Please call the rectory if you are ill at home or in the hospital or
nursing facility and would like Communion brought to you. Volun-
teers also are available to help in other ways.

Notice:
Holy Infant Parish ~
Important Christmas
News inside!



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