



HOLY INFANT SENIOR NEWSLETTER

December 2021
Issue # 189



FROM THE EDITOR - By: Maria Dorn



During this season of Advent, we celebrate the coming of Jesus, our Savior. We wait patiently in hope knowing that all of God's promises will be kept. While we received the Christ child over 2021 years ago, we still patiently await the second coming of Jesus, triumphant from the sky to take us to our home. A home God has readied for us since the 'beginning'. We get caught up in the season and may be tempted to NOT stop and remember the reason for the season. Take a few minutes to reflect on God's purpose for us and know that he loves us very much and wants us to be with him in heaven for all eternity. Whatever you are doing, whenever you are doing it, ask yourself if this is something that God wants you to spend time on. Is it preparing you for a life with Him? If it isn't something that serves God and his people in love, don't waste your time. Our time here is limited and while we don't know when we'll be called home, if we are always working for God's people with our heavenly goal in mind, we will ALWAYS be ready to open the door to Jesus when he knocks for us. Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

If you ever have suggestions or an article that you think other members would enjoy, you can send an email to mariadorn@hotmail.com. Be sure to put HIS in the subject line. Thanks, and I look forward to keeping you 'in the know'.



Member of the Month - Theresa and Paul Bichsel

Paul and Theresa met on a blind date while in college. In June, they'll be married 45 years and have 3 children and 11 grandchildren, their greatest joy.

Both are Missouri natives and most of their families still live here. Theresa grew up in Kirkwood; Paul in Monroe City (northeast MO). They raised their children in the 80/90's as members of St Joseph in Manchester. Those years of keeping up with 3 active children

were great and blessed now with 11 grandchildren they continue the baseball, football, gymnastics, soccer, basketball, volleyball, band and the school program circuit. Following Paul's job with Liberty Mutual (formerly Safeco) they lived all over the country. They lived for 13 years in McKinney TX, prior to moving to Ballwin, where Theresa was the pastor's assistant at a very fast-growing Catholic Church. In July of 2014 they moved back to Ballwin and bought their forever home (coincidentally just a mile from their children.)

In 2018 they officially retired. These days Paul plays a lot of Pickleball and basketball. Paul cantors quite a bit at HI mass and funerals and is active in the Knights of Columbus and Saturday morning men's group, PX90.

Theresa loves to sew, paint, and spend as much time with her "grand loves" as possible. She helps with Helping Hands funeral ministry and crochets baby blankets for the Blanket ministry. Both volunteer at the Food Pantry, Catholic Radio, and Coalition for Life on a regular basis and are active in a Teams of Our Lady group, Adult Bible Study, and several other parish faith-sharing opportunities.

They love to travel and fish (not necessarily in that order) and have done European trips, Alaska and much of the Western US. Their trips usually involve a lot of hiking and 'back to nature' activities. Fishing is Theresa's passion and a day on the river chasing trout is their best date together. They like to keep busy if their many

trips don't get in the way. People say they are never home, and they consider that a great compliment! Paul and Theresa love their Holy Infant family and are very happy that they have so many "new" friends here. If anyone needs card playing partners let them know!

If you or someone you know would like to be featured as the Member of the Month, please let me know at our meeting, by calling me at 314-610-8784 or emailing me at mariadorn@hotmail.com.



Travel & Tourism News

By: MaryJane Bahr, Gene Bestgen, Rosemary Bestgen

Our Trip Committee is exploring a "Day on the Hill" in early Spring. Reports on this trip have been good. We're planning on the Horse Races in June or July. Always looking for someplace new to visit this Summer. If anyone has any ideas, please pass it along to our travel team.



Odds and Ends

By HIS members

St. Vincent DePaul Society at Holy Infant has 24 members; many of this group are seniors. With the financial support of all the parish, they help neighbors in need within our parish boundaries. We visit in pairs those requesting our help to ascertain their need. Since COVID we have not been able to do home visits but have used phones. We hope to be able to start home visits soon. Vincentians have helped with food, utilities, transportation, medication etc. People normally not in need, may find themselves needing help especially when a crisis pops up such as loss of a job, accident, or sickness. If you or any neighbor you know is in financial need, call us at 314-289-6101 Ext. 2265. Leaving a short message with the phone number gets the process started. All calls and contacts are confidential. Privacy of our neighbors in need is very important to us.

Resurrection Choir - Dolores Kaemmerer

New members are needed to help the Resurrection Choir support the families and priest in song during a funeral mass. There is no audition or previous experience necessary. Your God given voice is all that is needed to comfort the family during this trying time. A master list of singers is maintained, and you are notified by phone when a funeral is scheduled. You come when you can. Please call Dolores at 636-391-7743 if you have any questions.

Christmas is Love

Love is the small baby **Jesus**. *Love humbles itself*. Love is that young girl **Mary**, who believed in the words of the angel and said "yes" to the call. *Love believes and obeys*. Love is **Saint Joseph** who accepted what he could not understand. *With love we realize that there are things we can never understand*. Love is **you and me**. *With Jesus in our hearts, we can make a difference in each others' lives*.

95 Year Birthday Milestone - Pauline Nocifora

Mary Cook, 95 years young, started her birthday at the 10:15 AM Mass, on Sunday November 21st, with Father Stanger congratulating her. To Mary's delight, at the end of Mass, the choir and everyone in the Church sang HAPPY BIRTHDAY to her. Mary always lights up any room with her warm personality and smile! On that bright sunny afternoon, to her surprise, we visited her and sang Happy Birthday, gave her a mum plant, balloons, and a variety of cookies. The Birthday Party included her daughter and son-in-law, Jan and Mark from California; her son, Rod, and Donna; and Holy Infant Seniors: Rosemary & Gene Bestgen, Linda & Denis Thien, Nancy & Don Turpin, Kathie Hanneke, Barbara Luecke, Pauline Nocifora, and Rita Adolphson and children. Why, even a cute clown showed up with Best Wishes for Mary, I think she sounded like Nancy Turpin?? A great time was had by all.





Sentiments

By Carol Laupp

Since our last meeting, the following sentiments were sent:

Praying for you - Margie Thome, JoAnne Lewis, Carol Lodes, Carolyn Kraichely

Sympathy Card - The Hauf Family

If you know of anyone in our HIS group that could use a Get-Well card, a Thinking or Praying for you card, a Sympathy card, etc. please call me, Carol Laupp, at 636-256-0924 and she will send them a card from our HIS group.



OUR THANKS GO OUT TO....

By Jo Lewis

- To Audrey Westmorland, Dolores Kaemmerer and Mary Mallery for keeping attendance and providing name tags; even for those who lose them.
- To Maria Dorn who keeps us up to date with our Newsletter.
- To our vice president, Bob Maloney, for our wonderful wine tasting party. We had enough to perhaps help us to laugh a little during these trying times.
- To all of you from the bottom of my heart for the prayers and good wishes for my recovery.
- To Nancy, Don and Bernie for a great and delicious chicken noodle lunch and fruity dessert.



DID YOU KNOW

By Jo Lewis

- That Consumer Guide says that one of the cheapest, and most effective dishwasher is a Bosch-SHX3AR75UC – **Amazing!**
- That the making of the sign of the cross can, and should, take a little time to do. Since we are asking each, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost to answer our prayer – forgetting it seems kind of foolish as does rushing through it (like I often did)???
- That gas prices are cheapest in 29 states on Mondays. A penny saved is a penny earned.
- That any of our HI Seniors can submit words of wisdom they may want to share to this column? We can all benefit from these little gems. Just send to mariadorn@hotmail.com or call Maria at 314-610-8784.





Birthdays -December/January

By Theresa & Paul Bichsel

Wishing each of you, and any others I may have missed, a very Happy Birthday!

Mary	Hyland	12/01	Carol	Lodes	12/25
Margie	Thome	12/03	Jerry	Marstall	01/01
Kathy	Buritsch	12/13			
Candice	McBain	12/15	Dorothy	Denzer	01/02
Audrey	Westmoreland	12/15	Nora	Henricks	01/04
George	Rosswick	12/16	Joe	Sinibaldi	01/04
Gloria	Puricelli	12/22	Donald	Mertz	01/05
			Mary		
			Ann	East	01/07



STEPHEN MINISTRY

By Gene Bestgen

Alone?

"What's wrong?" "Nothing." But there is something wrong, and it makes it all the worse when you don't know what it is. You're hurt. You're alone. If you are going through a period of loneliness, call Stephen Ministry. We want to help. Call Patricia, 636 227-0802 Option 3.

If you or a loved one can benefit from a Stephen's Minister, **check out Stephen Ministry on our church website www.holyinfantballwin.org**



New Members -

By: Paul & Theresa Bichsel

Carney, Mary Ann
751 Woodside Trails Drive
Ellisville, MO 63021

636-515-6064
Birthday: 09/27

macarney27@yahoo.com

Spencer, Marcia
206 Shadyoak Drive
Ballwin, MO 63021

636-686-5382
Birthday: 06/27
ssmarcia.dmf@sbcglobal.net

ADULT BINGO

January 15, 2022
 Holy Infant School – Upper Cafeteria
 248 New Ballwin Road
 Doors Open at 6:00 P.M.
 Bingo Starts at 7:00 P.M.

\$20.00 per Person
 Admission includes 15 Games of Bingo
 Beer, Soda, Wine and Water
 Food available for purchase
 Sponsored by the Holy Infant
 Knights of Columbus





Parish News
 By Sandy Hughes

DECEMBER

- 4 MOPS Breakfast with Santa
- 5 Ladies Advent Tea: 1:30pm, Upper Cafeteria
- 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Masses at 6am, 8am, 10am and 7pm
- 8 Seniors' Christmas Party: Upper Cafeteria
- 15 School Christmas Concert: 6:30pm, Church
- 24 Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00pm, 4:15pm(gym), 6:00pm, and Midnight
- 25 Christmas Day Masses: 8:00am and 10:00am
- 31 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Vigil Mass: 4:00pm

JANUARY

- 1 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: Since it is a Saturday, it is not a holy day of obligation. There will be a regular 8:00am Mass.
- 6 Seniors' Meeting: 10:00am, Lower Cafeteria

The sleigh was all packed,
 the reindeer were fed,
 But Santa still knelt
 by the side of the bed.

"Dear Father," he prayed
 "Be with me tonight.
 There's much work to do
 and my schedule is tight.

I must jump in my sleigh
 and streak through the sky,
 Knowing full well
 that a reindeer can't fly.

CreativeChristmasIdeas.com



RECIPE OF THE MONTH – Monnie's Cheese Ball

We called my Grandmother Monnie, and she made this every Christmas

By: Becky O'Brien

Ingredients

1 8 oz pkgs slightly softened cream cheese
8 to 10 oz of crumbled blue cheese (based on your taste for blue cheese
1 jar Kraft Old English cheese spread
1/8 cup minced onion
2 Tablespoons of Worcestershire Sauce
1/4 teaspoon of cayenne pepper

12 oz pecans
1/2 to 3/4 cup of parsley



Place cheeses, onion Worcestershire Sauce and cayenne pepper into a mixing bowl. Mix on low or medium speed until thoroughly blended. Put cheese mixture on wax paper and form it into a ball or dome shape and refrigerate for at least 6 hours. Finely chop the parsley and pecans in a food processor or chopper. Put this mixture on a new piece of wax paper and roll the cheese ball in the mixture until covered. Wrap the cheese ball in the wax paper and put back in the fridge for another 6 hours. Serve with Wheat thins, Ritz or Socialables.

Christmas Quotes from our Popes

"Christmas is a feast of restored creation. It is in this context that the Fathers (of the Church) interpret the song of the angels on that holy night: it is an expression of joy over the fact that the height and the depth, Heaven and Earth, are once more united; that man is again united to God." - **Pope Benedict 16th, Midnight Mass, 2007**

"Christmas is the privileged occasion to highlight one of the most influential Christian values: with the birth of Jesus, in the simplicity and poverty of Bethlehem, God gave back dignity to every human being's existence. He offered to all people the possibility to participate in his same divine life. May this immeasurable gift always find hearts ready to receive it!" - **Pope John Paul 2nd, Advent mass for the students of the Roman State Universities, 2003**

The birth of the Lord; the event of God who became man in order to save us; the manifestation of the love of God who does not just give us something, but gives us himself; the mystery of God who took upon himself our humanity and our sins in order to reveal his divine life, his immense grace and his freely-given forgiveness; our encounter with God who is born in the poverty of the stable of Bethlehem in order to teach us the power of humility; he feast of the light which is not received by the "chosen", but by the poor and simple who awaited the salvation of the Lord." - **Pope Francis, Presentation of the Christmas greetings to the Roman Curia, 2014**

2019-2021 H.I.S. Board Members

Tom Wojciechowski	President	256-2510	Gene Hanneke	Recycle Coord.	227-8163
Bob Maloney	VP	636-346-1765	Nancy Turpin & Bernie Flacke	Refreshment	314-800-7420
Becky O'Brien	Secretary	314-973-4515	Marie Fox & Dolores Kaemmerer	Resurrection Choir	227-3825
Brenda George	Treasurer	636-394-2286	Eileen Buehrle	Service & PAC	227-2750
Audrey Westmoreland	Attendance	636-394-7919	Rev. Edward Stanger	Spiritual Dir.	391-7743
Dolores Kaemmerer	Attendance	391-7743	Gene & Rosemary Bestgen		230-5435
Mary Mallory	Attendance	391-9716	& Mary Jane Bahr	Trips	227-7440
Carol Laupp	Sentiments	256-0924	Carol Wolf & Carol Komor & Rose Birkner	50/50	527-5385
Kathie & Gene Hanneke	Graphics	314-913-4230			227-8927
Mary Mallory	Historian	391-9716			227-6214
Mary Schlemier	Hospitality	227-1254			230-9697
Theresa & Paul Bichsel	Directory	314-564-7591			227-9498
Maria Dorn	Membership				
	Newsletter	314-610-8784			

Merry  
 *Christmas*

