



# HOLY INFANT SENIOR NEWSLETTER

February 2023  
Issue # 199



FROM THE EDITOR - By: Maria Dorn

Happy February to all of you! The month of LOVE!! What will you be doing to be more like Jesus and show love to everyone we meet wherever we are? Maybe it is as simple as treating people as we'd like to be treated. Give a smile, pay a compliment, put a person up in line, think of others before yourself. Pay it forward whenever you can, others will experience the love of Jesus through you and you will immediately feel the love of Jesus in your heart. My New Year's Resolution is to strive every day to make God happy. The Joy of the Lord is my strength!

We sure missed the potluck and all the delicious soups and salads last meeting, but Bob and I were on our cruise. We had a great time with great weather. We explored some new Caribbean ports and met some new friends. Unfortunately, within 2 days of returning, we get the flu. We are lucky we weren't sick on the cruise, and if nothing else, it forced us to relax and recover from 10 days of cruise fun.

**I have some good news about Gracie!** I'd shared with some of you the story of this little girl who is a friend of my granddaughters from her Cheer team. Back in October she was in a car accident and was in a coma for 2 months. The doctors didn't hold out much hope, BUT she woke up on December 10<sup>th</sup> and is recovering now. She spoke her first words on Christmas Day. She's in Children's hospital and has made some great strides but has a lot of obstacles to overcome. She's looking at another 8 weeks of rehab. She and her family are very grateful for all the prayers and support!! Please keep the prayers coming.

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



## Saint of the Month - Saint Valentine

**Patron Saint Of Love, marriages, engagements, young people, greetings, travelers, beekeepers, people with epilepsy, and numerous churches**

### **Biography**

Saint Valentine was a Catholic priest who had also worked as a doctor. He lived in Italy during the third century AD and served as a priest in Rome.

Historians don't know much about Valentine's early life. They pick up Valentine's story after he began working as a priest. Valentine became famous for marrying couples who were in love but couldn't get legally married in Rome during the reign of Emperor Claudius II, who outlawed weddings. Claudius wanted to recruit lots of men to be soldiers in his army and thought that marriage would be an obstacle to recruiting new soldiers. He also wanted to prevent his existing soldiers from getting married because he thought that marriage would distract them from their work.

When Emperor Claudius discovered that Valentine was performing weddings, he sent Valentine to jail. Valentine used his time in jail to continue to reach out to people with the love that he said Jesus Christ gave him for others.

He befriended his jailer, Asterious, who became so impressed with Valentine's wisdom that he asked Valentine to help his daughter, Julia, with her lessons. Julia was blind and needed someone to read material for her to learn it. Valentine became friends with Julia through his work with her when she came to visit him in jail.

Emperor Claudius also came to like Valentine. He offered to pardon Valentine and set him free if Valentine would renounce his Christian faith and agree to worship the Roman gods. Not only did Valentine refuse to leave his faith, he also encouraged Emperor Claudius to place his trust in Christ. Valentine's faithful choices cost him his life. Emperor Claudius was so enraged at Valentine's response that he sentenced Valentine to die.

### ***The First Valentine***

Before he was killed, Valentine wrote a last note to encourage Julia to stay close to Jesus and to thank her for being his friend. He signed the note: "From your Valentine." That note inspired people to begin writing their own loving messages to people on Valentine's Feast Day, February 14th, which is celebrated on the same day on which Valentine was martyred.

Valentine was beaten, stoned, and beheaded on February 14, 270. People who remembered his loving service to many young couples began celebrating his life, and he came to be regarded as a saint through whom God had worked to help people in miraculous ways. By 496, Pope Gelasius designated February 14th as Valentine's official feast day.

### ***Famous Miracles of Saint Valentine***

The most famous miracle attributed to Saint Valentine involved the farewell note that he sent to Julia. Believers say that God miraculously cured Julia of her blindness so that she could personally read Valentine's note, rather than just have someone else read it to her.

Throughout the years since Valentine died, people have prayed for him to intercede for them before God about their romantic lives. Numerous couples have reported experiencing miraculous improvements in their relationships with boyfriends, girlfriends, and spouses after praying for help from Saint Valentine.

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](mailto:mariadorn@hotmail.com).

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STEPHEN MINISTRY

By Gene Bestgen

### ***Who will know about my problem if I talk to a Stephen Minister?***

Many people ask this question. Confidentiality is the cornerstone of Stephen Ministry. No one will find out. If you have a burden you need to share, perhaps a Stephen Minister can help. For someone who will listen and help you find the resources you need to get through this tough time. To learn more about this caring ministry, call Patricia at 636 227-0802, opt #3. There is a confidential email as well [stephenministryhi@yahoo.com](mailto:stephenministryhi@yahoo.com) that you can use if you prefer.

Members of HIS that are current Stephen Ministers, or have retired as Stephen Ministers are: Alberta McGilligan, Maureen Richter, Monica Vaccaro, Paul Mallery, Pauline Nocifora, Mary Salvia, Bob Komor, Jack Birkner, Peggy Buechler, Hank Kraichely, Linda Gatton, Mary Emke, Carol Laupp, Carol Wolf and Gene Bestgen.

If you or a loved one can benefit from a Stephen's Minister, **check out Stephen Ministry on our church website** [www.holyinfantballwin.org](http://www.holyinfantballwin.org)

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## Odds and Ends

By HIS members

### Meal Train – Maria Dorn

We are not feeding anyone at present but will be ready to go with delicious meals when the need arises. Thanks to all who generously volunteer already and if you want to be added to the list of volunteers, let Maria know by calling 314-610-8784 or email to mariadorn@hotmail.com.

Please keep this program in mind when **you or one of HIS members** needs some support.

### THANK YOU!!!

The HIS Seniors would like to thank the Anonymous Donor for their very generous gift of 500 dollars.

### An opportunity to help our community – Theresa Bichsel

Thank you all for your generosity to the ROSE wish list. If you forgot to bring today we will extend into our first March meeting. Call me if you want me to pick items up at your house. Here is a list of needs again if you have forgotten.

#### Items needed:

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Hotel size toiletries            | Socks                                  |
| Full size body wash & Lotion     | Underwear                              |
| Dental Floss                     | flip flops                             |
| Individual packages toothbrushes | Toiletry/cosmetic bags                 |
| Travel & full-size toothpaste    | Journal with blank pages               |
| Deodorant                        | New or gently used luggage/duffle bags |
| Bristle hairbrushes              |  |
| Hair scrunchies                  |  |

I am happy to answer any questions you have about the Assistance League, and if you'd like to volunteer, I can give you information for that as well. Please email me if you have questions about the donation items.

[bichselfam@gmail.com](mailto:bichselfam@gmail.com)

### Little Library Project -Olivia Pieknik

Thank You!! to all HIS members for books donation to Little Library Project. Your generous books donation will be shared among Ballwin Little Library (Ferris Park; New Ballwin Park and Vlasis Park) and other libraries in Ellisville and Manchester locations. Blessings to you and Thank YOU again for your continued support.

### Worn Flags – Olivia Pieknik

A BIG Thank You for the Worn Flags – I have collected a total of 200 flags. The worn flags are taken to VFW and American Legions for dignified disposal. Blessings to you and Thank YOU again for your continued support.

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## Sentiments

By Carol Laupp

Since our last HIS Newsletter, these sentiments were sent:

**Get Well** - Mary Salvia

**Sympathy** - Helen Gozdal Family & Russ Marzorati Family & Al Jordan 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 Carol Laupp at 636-256-0924 and she will send them a card from our HIS group.

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## Travel & Tourism News

By: Mary Jane Bahr, Gene Bestgen, Rosemary Bestgen

### **Cathedral Basilica and History Museum – April 11, 2023**

We will be taking a bus to the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis for a guided tour. We will eat lunch at the St. Louis Foundry. After spending a few hours at the Foundry, we will travel to the Missouri History Museum. The only cost of this trip will be your bus ride and lunch. We will be collecting money for the bus at the March meeting.

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## ADULT BINGO

February 18, 2023  
Holy Infant School – Upper Cafeteria  
248 New Ballwin Road  
Doors Open at 5:30 P.M.  
Bingo Starts at 7:00 P.M.



\$25.00 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



## Birthdays - February

By Theresa Bichsel

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

John	Nortman	02/08	Marie	McKeiver	02/18
Tom	McElroy	02/10	Peggy	Buechler	02/20
Linda	Gianoulakis	02/12	Beth	Colonna	02/26
Joan	Bess	02/15	Dolores (Dee)	Kaemmerer	02/27

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## Carol's Corner - by Carol Komor

### Do It Anyway

The good you do today people will often forget tomorrow.....do good anyway.

If you are successful you will win some false friends and some true enemies.....succeed anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of having ulterior motives.....be kind anyway.

What you spend years building someone may try to destroy overnight..... build anyway.

If you are honest and frank people may cheat you....be honest and frank anyway.

Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough.....give the world the best you have anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness they may be jealous.....be happy anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it's between you and God....it was never between you and them anyway.

Live in such a way that those who know you but don't know God, will want to know God because they know you.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY !!!!!

There it is.....hope you like it.



## ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

By Kathie Hanneke

### HIS Day of Reflection

Holy Infant Seniors Day of Reflection is March 2<sup>nd</sup> and we are excited to have our guest speaker, Fr. David Suwalsky, S.J. He is the Department Chair of Theological Studies at St. Louis University. He received his Masters from Harvard in the American Religious Experience; Masters in Divinity from Boston College and Masters in History from St. Louis University. Come, and be reignited in the love of God and in your faith at the Day of Reflection! A free catered lunch will be provided.





## OUR THANKS GO OUT TO....

By Jo Lewis & various HIS Members

- Bernie Flacke for volunteering to take on the HIS Christmas Party now that Alberta has 'retired'.
- All who brought delicious food to our annual potluck in January. We sure do have some great cooks out there!
- All who set up and clean up after our meetings, and not just the ones in charge.
- To anyone who will help lead us next year. "New blood is the answer to our survival. We started in 1997.

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## DID YOU KNOW ....

By Jo Lewis,

- That you might not need a whole 'squirt' of shampoo to really clean your hair? Not if you have short hair. Just listen for the squeak sound to be sure it is clean.
- That if you have grease on your hands, you can clean it yourself? Use 1 tsp of oil and some sugar.
- That soft soap pumps can cost, at least \$1.50? Buy a gallon bottle of soft soap and refill the pump dispenser for a mere \$.68.
- That you could find our HIS Newsletter on HIS Newsletter through the online bulletin? Go to the website and scroll down till you see HIS Newsletters. We have them all from September of 2015.  
<https://holyyinfantballwin.org/news/newsletter/>
- 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](mailto:mariadorn@hotmail.com) or call Maria at 314-610-8784.

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## Parish News

By Sandy Hughes

### FEBRUARY

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 2  | HaPpY GrOuNdHoG DaY!!                               |
| 2  | Seniors' Meeting: 10:00am, Lower Cafeteria          |
| 9  | Holy Happy Hour: 6:30pm - Church                    |
| 11 | K of C Blood Drive: 9:00am - 2:00pm Upper Cafeteria |
| 14 | Happy Valentine's Day!                              |
| 16 | Seniors' Board Meeting: 10:00am, Holy Infant Room   |
| 18 | K of C BINGO! Doors open at 5:30pm, Upper Cafeteria |
| 20 | Presidents Day!                                     |

- 22 Ash Wednesday Masses: 6am, 8am, 9:30am (school), and 7pm
- 23 Lenten Masses (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 5:30pm)  
Beginning on February 23 - April 5
- 24 First Fish Fry: February 24 - 4:30pm-7:30pm, Upper Cafeteria.
- 24 Way of the Cross: Every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm
- 27 Stations of the Cross: School at 2:00pm

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Recipe of the Month – ROASTED RED PEPPERS SOUP  
from Fran Capra (Potluck Day)

Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp. butter
- 1 large, sweet onion, chopped.
- 2 garlic cloves, minced.
- 2 jars (14 or 15 ½ oz. size) roasted sweet red peppers, drained.  
Note: I used one jar of plain and 1 jar of marinated peppers
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- ½ tsp. dried basil
- ¼ tsp. salt
- 1 cup Half & Half cream
- Optional: Fresh basil and additional Half & Half

Directions

1. In a large saucepan, melt butter over medium heat; add onion. Cook and stir until tender, 3-5 minutes. Add garlic, cook 1 minute longer. Stir in red peppers (I broke them up into smaller pieces here), broth, dried basil, and salt. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 20 minutes. Cool slightly.
2. Can do either of the following (I used step b, below):
  - a. In a blender, cover and process soup in batches until smooth. Remove 1 cup, place it in a bowl, and stir in cream. Return the pureed soup to the pan and stir in the cream mixture.
  - b. Using an immersion blender, puree the peppers in the pan until they are fine, small pieces and soup appears just a little lumpy. Slowly stir in the cream.
3. Heat through but do not boil. Add thickening, as needed or desired.
4. May garnish with additional cream and chopped fresh basil, as desired.

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### 2022-2023 H.I.S. Board Members

Bob Maloney	President	636-346-1765	Maria Dorn	Newsletter	314-610-8784
Paul Bichsel	VP	314-564-7568	Gene Hanneke	Recycle Coord.	227-8163
Becky O'Brien	Secretary	314-973-4515	Nancy Turpin & Bernie Flacke	Refreshment	314-800-7420 227-3825
Ken Velten	Treasurer	636-386-5208	Marie Fox & Dolores Kaemmerer	Resurrection Choir	227-2750 391-7743
Audrey Westmoreland	Attendance	636-394-7919	Eileen Buehrle	Service & PAC	230-5435
Dolores Kaemmerer	Attendance	391-7743	Rev. Edward Stanger	Spiritual Dir.	227-7440
Mary Mallery	Attendance	391-9716	Gene & Rosemary Bestgen		527-5385
Carol Laupp	Sentiments	256-0924	& Mary Jane Bahr	Trips	227-8927
Kathie & Gene Hanneke	Graphics	314-913-4230	Carol Wolf & Carol Komor & Rose Birkner	50/50	227-6214 230-9697 636-458-6415
Mary Mallery	Historian	391-9716			
Mary Schlemeier & Brenda George	Hospitality	636-391-9556 636-394-2286			
Theresa Bichsel	Directory	314-564-7591			
Membership					

