



HOLY INFANT SENIOR NEWSLETTER

September 2024
Issue # 209



FROM THE EDITOR – By: María Dorn

Welcome back!! Another year of fun with HIS is beginning. Bob and I had a great summer with family and friends and most recently a trip to Gulf Shores with my sister and brother-in-law. One thing about traveling with others is that everyone becomes so grateful to God that he gave them the spouse they have and come to appreciate them more and more as the vacation days go on. 😊 Yes, God is GOOD!!! I hope everyone had as much, or more fun, than we did!

Our new officers are ready to go and are planning a fabulous year. Plan on being here for all the fun!

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. Be sure to put HIS in the subject line. Thanks, and I look forward to keeping you 'in the know'.



St. Rose of Viterbo a 3rd Order Franciscan who Raised Her Aunt from the Dead - September 4

Virgin, born at Viterbo, 1235; died 6 March 1252. The chronology of her life must always remain uncertain, as the Acts of her canonization, the chief historical sources, record no dates. Those given above are accepted by the best authorities.

Born of poor and pious parents, Rose was remarkable for holiness and for her miraculous powers from her earliest years. When but three years old, she raised to life her maternal aunt.

At the age of seven, she had already lived the life of a recluse, devoting herself to penances. Her health succumbed, but she was miraculously cured by the Blessed Virgin, who ordered her to enroll herself in the Third Order of St. Francis, and to preach penance to Viterbo, at that time (1247) held by Frederick II of Germany and a prey to political strife and heresy. Her mission seems to have extended for about two years, and such was her success that the prefect of the city decided to banish her. The imperial power was seriously threatened. Accordingly, Rose and her parents were expelled from Viterbo in January 1250, and took refuge in Sorriano. On 5 December 1250, Rose foretold the speedy death of the emperor, a prophecy realized on 13 December. Soon afterwards she went to Vitorchiano, whose inhabitants had been perverted by a famous sorceress. Rose secured the conversion of all, even of the sorceress, by standing unscathed for three hours in the flames of a burning pyre, a miracle as striking as it is well attested. With the restoration of the papal power in Viterbo (1251) Rose returned.

She wished to enter the monastery of St. Mary of the Roses but was refused because of her poverty. She humbly submitted, foretelling her admission to the monastery after her death. The remainder of her life was spent in the cell in her father's house, where she died. The process of her canonization was opened in that year by Innocent IV but was not definitively undertaken until 1457. Her feast is celebrated on 4 September, when her body, still incorrupt, is carried in procession through Viterbo.

THE HISTORY OF HOLY INFANT SENIORS—Sept 7, 2023—May 30, 2024

On Sept. 7th, 118 Holy Infant Seniors (HIS) gathered for the 26th year of our organization. We were treated to another year of fun, service, and growth in holiness by the excellent planning of our monthly meetings by our officers, namely: President Bob Maloney, Vice President Paul Bichsel, Secretary Becky O'Brien, Treasurer Ken Velten, and all the committee members who make up the Board.

September brought us our annual Ice Cream Social with strawberry sundaes provided by Nancy Turpin and her helpers. Bob Maloney planned a game of "Never Have I Ever" for a fun way of getting to know old and new members. Some examples of the game were: made a prank call, gotten a tattoo, rode in a limo, had a pet fish, etc.

"Aging Gracefully" was the topic presented by the Cardinal Ritter Department of the Aging at our October meeting. I thought it was a really good thing how it was emphasized that seniors should basically relax more, and send more cards to grandkids on ordinary days, not just birthdays and Christmas. The fun part of our meeting was due to Monsignor Mike's suggestion of celebrating the passing of Jimmy Buffet. So Nancy Turpin gave us the lunch menu of cheeseburgers & fries, a key lime dessert, and of course Margaritas. Two surprise guests were Msgr. Mike and Fr. Jacob Brawn. Strumming their guitars, they got us singing many songs with handout lyrics for "Margaritaville", "Cheeseburger in Paradise", and "Sea Cruise". What fun!

Schnucks presented our annual wine and food pairing in November. They offered wine selections paired with cheese, crackers, pasta, meat, and chocolate. They started with a Sauvignon Blanc and ended with a red Pinot Noir. A surprise free lunch was served and prepared by Fr. Stanger for all us seniors. Was a wonderful meal of tossed salad with amazing dressing and a pasta entree to die for. The high point of this meal was his homemade chocolate turtle candies he served with the pinot noir wine.

After Thanksgiving, HIS volunteered to turn the upper cafeteria to a festive Christmas wonder work. Thanks go to Maureen Maloney and Trisha Powers for the beautiful table decor. A record 163 attended the Christmas Party on December 8th. Our head chair Bernie Flacke organized the day. She procured a delicious catered lunch by Christy which consisted of a mixed green salad, top round of beef au jus, chicken modiga, cavatelli con broccoli, au gratin potatoes, green bean almandine, rolls, butter, and a mousse filled white and chocolate cake. Oh my! Our entertainment was superb by the duo of Scott Latham & Karl "Tricke" Holmes. They used several instruments for many songs that we enjoyed singing along with. Tricke Holmes was also good at mimicking the voices of several entertainers like Louis Armstrong, and Elvis. Such memories!

January brought us the potluck lunch of soup, salads, and desserts. What a tasty variety of scrumptious offerings! Paul Bichsel procured Karaoke for our participation and enjoyment. Many HIS volunteered for the pure joy and fun of it! One memorable and laughable act was sung by Nancy & Don Turpin who entertained with props and gestures to the song "I Have His Picture, She Has You". February brought us a presentation by a Master Gardener and a mouthwatering lunch of pork loin sandwiches, salad, and coffee cake.

In March the seniors experienced a wonderful Day of Reflection as a part of our Lenten journey towards Easter. Our celebrant of Holy Mass at church and later the presenter of talks in the lower cafeteria was our own associate pastor Rev. Jacob Brawn. The talk on "Banished Children of Eve" was a great review for us, and the "A Sign of Contradiction" talk gave us much to reflect on. Lastly, we enjoyed a free lunch of catered sandwiches.

A presentation on American Folklore of St. Louis was given by guest speaker John Oldani in April. He talked about some interesting myths and traditions from this area. We held an election of officers for the coming year. Congratulations go to: President Bob Maloney, Vice President Randy Ewers, Secretary Mary Daus, and Treasurer Linda Gatton. Nancy Turpin supplied the lunch of hot dogs, baked beans, toasted ravioli, and ice cream cones.

In May, led by our V.P. Paul Bichsel, we celebrated the Kentucky Derby (which even included a mint julep punch). With non-member judges, a ladies decorated hat contest parade was admired by all. This was followed by hilarious horse races and derby trivia. Gift card prizes were given to the decorated hat winners, the horse race winners, and \$1000 Grand Bars to the trivia winners. A lunch of chicken marsala, cheesy potatoes, and chocolate zucchini cupcakes finished out the day.

Our June picnic at the Busmann Pavilion at Bluebird Park was our final fun day on May 30th this year. Organized by the talents of Mary Schlemeier, we enjoyed fun games on the grass, 50/50 with ALL the collected money given out, and Bingo with good-sized money prizes! Pasta House catered the lunch of hamburgers, mac & cheese, and the famous Pasta House Salad. The weather cooperated with sun and warm breezes. Yeah!

The Adult Faith Formation Ministry provided HIS and our parish with many religious opportunities during the year which many members attended, namely:

- Blessed prayer shawls for people to feel the warmth of God's love.
- A Paint and Sip night.
- A ladies Advent Tea and an amazing Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit in Nov.
- A date night in April with guest speaker Dr. Tom Wagner, a specialist in couple enrichment.
- A Eucharistic Retreat by Fr. Augustine Wetta, an author, speaker, teacher, and Benedictine monk from St. Louis Abbey
- A 3-week video series "Presence, the Mystery of the Eucharist"
- A presentation by Fr. Joe Kempf on "Are You Good Enough Yet?"

Our travel committee planned a late summer trip to Arrow Rock, MO. The hilarious play "Laughter on the 23 Floor" at the Lyceum Theater was enjoyed by many. They next purchased 45 tickets to the popular Holiday Brass Concert at the Manchester United Methodist Church for Dec.4, 2023. All enjoyed the music and songs to bring in the joy of the Christmas season. The next trip brought a full bus load of HIS to Jefferson City to tour the newly renovated Governor's Mansion on April 24, 2024. This was followed by a trip to Fulton, MO for lunch at the Wurst Haus, and an interesting tour of the Winston Churchill Museum. Many thanks go to Gene & Rosemary Bestgen who are retiring as the travel committee heads. They helped plan many memorable trips and outings since 2016.

We wish to say a fond prayer of farewell to our members who died this past year.

Ginnie Arends 7/27/2023
Linda Krull 8/25/2023
Jan Dollus 12/17/2023
Jean Kirchner 3/9/2024

Marcie Zufall 3/13/2024
Joe Sinibaldi 4/9/2024
Jack Anastasi 5/1/2024

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Mallery (Historian)



ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

By: Kathie Hanneke

Carlo Acutis, the Millennial Saint

Sunday, Sept. 22, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Upper Cafeteria

Come learn about Blessed Carlo Acutis and why he has been approved for canonization. This program will be presented by JoAnn LKleekamp and Carolyn Martin, members of the local Eucharistic Miracle Educational Foundation, who will share:

- Carlo's life story
- His dedication to Eucharistic Miracles education
- Information and mini-display on recent Eucharistic Miracles
- Q & A time
- A first-class relic of Blessed Carlo and the opportunity for veneration of the relic.

Faith & Poverty - A Biblical Response Through Catholic Social Teaching, a part of the JustFaith Catholic Series presented by parishioner Time Morrison on Tuesdays, Beginning Sept. 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Rosario Hall. All are welcome to explore how our Catholic faith address poverty and injustice, and what is the Good News of the Gospel in light of human suffering?

This program includes:

- 10 sessions (8 discussion sessions and 2 immersion experiences)
- Excellent books, resources, narratives and videos
- Rigorous discussion and education
- Person-to-person service experience

Register by Sept. 17at <http://justfaith.org/product/faith-poverty-a-biblical-response-catholic-version-holyinfant/> Costs include \$35 registration fee to JustFaith Ministries and two books: Joy of the Gospel (\$11 or download the free PDF) and Poverty: Responding like Jesus (\$14) - both available to purchase on the registration site. Contact Program Facilitator Tim Morrison at tetmorrison@gmail.com



STEPHEN MINISTRY

By Gene Bestgen

"Why don't you try this?"

When you're going through tough times, everyone has advice. But often it isn't advice you need—it's caring. Stephen Ministers are trained to give this care by listening instead of telling you what to do.

If you, family member, neighbor or friend would benefit by having a Stephen Minister, have them Contact Patricia, 636 227-0802, opt#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



Gene's Funnies - By Gene Bestgen

The kids text me 'plz' which is shorter than please. I text back "no" which is shorter than "yes".

I'm going to retire and live off my savings. Not sure what I'll do that second week.

I've lost my mind and I'm pretty sure my kids took it!

Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound!

Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

Of course I talk to myself; sometimes I need expert advice.

Why did the cat go to Minneapolis? To get a mini soda!

Where do orcas hear music? Orca-stras!

Why did the cow cross the road? To get to the udder side.

What do you do if your dog chews a dictionary? Take the words right out of his mouth!

What do you call a cold dog sitting on a bunny? A chili dog on a bun.

Why do fish live in salt water? Because pepper makes them sneeze!

Where do mice park their boats? At the hickory dickory dock.

Where did the sheep go on vacation? The baaaahamas

What do you call a thieving alligator? A crocodile

The problem with political jokes is they get elected. ~ Henry Cate, VII

If God wanted us to vote, he would have given us candidates. ~ Jay Leno

We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office. ~ Aesop

If we got one-tenth of what was promised to us in these State of the Union speeches, there wouldn't be any inducement to go to heaven. ~ Will Rogers

Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river. ~ Nikita Khrushchev

When I was a boy, I was told that anybody could become President; I'm beginning to believe it. ~ Clarence Darrow

Why pay money to have your family tree traced; go into politics and your opponents will do it for you. ~ Author unknown



Odds and Ends

By HIS members

Donation Opportunity and clean out your closet too! – Theresa Bichsel

Last year the HIS group generously donated flip flops to the Assistance League of St. Louis in support of our ROSE group who provide items for the area women's shelters. Your generosity was unparalleled! This year we at ROSE are making bags for the shelter clients to store their personal items (I'll have samples at the September meeting) and we are in need of your help again.

Perhaps you have material tucked away that you “were going to use” but never did. That “cute fabric” that never became those cute curtains. If you have fabric, ribbon, cording, belting, anything that you think we might use to make bags we’d love to take it off your hands! I’ll even pick it up!

I’ll be collecting at the September & October meetings, or if you give me a call I’ll come by your house and pick it up. If we can’t use what you donate, we will pass it on to the SVDP store.

Several HIS members belong to the Assistance League so if you have questions about the organizations, please seek us out. We’d love to share the story of the wonderful things we do in the St. Louis area.

Theresa Bichsel (text or call) 314.564.7591 bichselfam@gmail.com

Worn Flags Disposal – Olivia Pieknik

Bring your worn American flags to the next luncheon. I will accept the worn flags for dignified disposal. All flags collected will be deposited at VFW/American Legions Posts for proper disposal. God Bless America!

Christmas Party – Save the Date – Bob Maloney

The HIS Christmas Party will be on Saturday **December 14, 2024**. Mark your calendar for a fun time!!

The Cyber Seniors started at the beginning of the Pandemic to help keep seniors connected and informed. They offer many informative classes.

Aging Ahead is the name of the local nonprofit agency that offers activities, lunch and will come to provide informative presentations. Their website: <https://www.agingahead.org/> They came in the past to give a talk but can't remember what the topic was. Having a senior moment, I guess!

Meal Train – Maria Dorn

We are not currently serving any of our seniors. 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 mariadorn@hotmail.com.

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



Sentiments

By Carol Laupp

Since our last HIS newsletter the following sentiments were sent to:

Get well Cards - Barb Luecke, Jack Birkner, Frank Mohr, Evie Sinibaldi, Fr. Mike Dieckman, JoAnn Dinkelkamp, Pat Bouchart, Mary Jane Bahr

Praying for you - Denis Thien, Ann Goldsmith

Sympathy Card - Sue Rosswick (passing of her brother)

If you know of anyone in our HIS group that could use a Get-Well card, a Thinking of 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 the HIS group.



Birthdays - September Birthdays

By Theresa Bichsel



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

Terry	Bryant	3-Sep	Liz	DeRum	19-Sep
Pat	Weikart	3-Sep	Donald	Montgomery	21-Sep
Patti	Kusky	7-Sep	Linda	Bruer	23-Sep
Jaeque	Glaeser	9-Sep	Vincent	Daus	23-Sep
Jim	Wilding	11-Sep	Lanada	Marcinko	26-Sep
Mary Jane	Bahr	13-Sep	Mary Ann	Carney	27-Sep
Joleen	Halleman	13-Sep	Mary	Emke	27-Sep
Lee	Freeman-Rung	15-Sep	Ronald	Marcinko	27-Sep
Jim	Hudgens	17-Sep	Barb	Velten	29-Sep
Ken	Velten	18-Sep			

Carol's Corner - by Carol Komor



I am so pleased that Carol's Corner has been added to our monthly Newsletter and allowed me to introduce you to the prayers of Lyanla Vanzant. Hopefully you find them as meaningful as I do.

I thought I would begin a new year with another from her book "Every Day I Pray" called.

PRAYER FOR THE OVERWHELMED

Dear God.....

I don't need to know how. I don't need to know when. I don't need to know why. I don't need to know where. All I need to know is WHO.

Thank you for being the one WHO is always there for me. The one WHO never fails to respond to my frantic pleas for help.

Thank you for being the one WHO is always dependable, ready and able to support, protect and guide me through situations I face in my life.

Thank you for being the one WHO knows the answer and offers it freely. No matter where I am or what I may need, you are always the one WHO will take me by the hand and pull me through.

Thank you for being the one WHO knows me better than I know myself. WHO loves me when I can't find love within myself. No matter what the situation or experience, you God, are WHO I need and what I need.

Thank you for being just WHO you are and for supporting me, guiding me, and pushing me into being a better me.

For who you inspire me to be, I am so grateful.

And So It Is!!!!!!

ADULT BINGO



Sept 21, 2024
Holy Infant School –
Upper Cafeteria
248 New Ballwin Road
Doors Open at 5:00 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

OUR THANKS GO OUT TO....



- Jo Lewis for keeping her tips and words of wisdom coming.
- To Mary Schleimer and her team for hosting our wonderful end of the year HIS Picnic. She and the crew did it all from reserving the park shelter, coordinating the set up of table and chairs, drinks, 50/50 (or the 100/0 this time), bingo and ordering the hamburgers and mac and cheese from Pasta House. Great weather too! A good time was had by all!
- Our new officers for accepting the challenge of serving our HIS this year.

DID YOU KNOW OR CARE....

By Jo Lewis, and other members



- That getting old isn't for Sissies?
- That you can add cottage cheese to your scrambled eggs for more protein? Delicious and extra creamy!
- That you could find our 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://holynfantballwin.org/news/newsletter/>
- That any of our HI Seniors can submit words of wisdom they 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.



Parish News
By Sandy Hughes

September

- 8 Happy Grandparents Day!
- 11 Men's Club Meeting, 7pm in Lower Cafeteria
- 13-14 Parish Festival. Normal Mass times on Saturday: 4pm and 5:30pm
- 21 K of C Bingo: 5pm, (please note new opening doors time) Upper Cafeteria
- 24 Evening Book Club: 7pm-9pm, Lower Cafeteria

2023-2024 H.I.S. Board Members

Bob Maloney	President	636-346-1765	Theresa Bichsel	Directory &	314-564-7591
Randy Ewers	VP	314-477-8900	Membership		
Mary Daus	Secretary	314-307-1366	Maria Dorn	Newsletter	314-610-8784
Linda Gatton	Treasurer	314-853-8185	Gene Hanneke	Recycle Coor.	227-8163
Audrey Westmoreland	Attendance	636-394-7919	Nancy Turpin &	Refreshment	314-800-7420
Dolores Kaemmerer	Attendance	391-7743	Bernie Flacke		227-3825
Mary Mallery	Attendance	391-9716	Eileen Buehrle	Service & PAC	230-5435
Carol Laupp	Sentiments	256-0924	Rev. Edward Stanger	Spiritual Dir.	227-7440
Kathie & Gene Hanneke	Graphics	314-913-4230	Mary Jane Bahr	Trips	227-8927
Mary Mallery	Historian	391-9716	& Joan & Tom Wojciechowski		636-256-2510
Mary Schlemeier &	Hospitality	636-391-9556	Carol Wolf &	50/50	636-795-7982
Brenda George		636-394-2286	Carol Komor &		230-9697
			Rose Birkner		636-485-6415





