



# HOLY INFANT SENIOR NEWSLETTER

November 2025

Issue # 220

\*\*\*\*\*



## FROM THE EDITOR – By: Maria Dorn

Here we are, heading into the holiday season. Thanksgiving with family, football and good food. We should see some fall colors and feel the need for sweaters. My favorite time of year. Another way to pass the time this season is to go to the Craft Shows. Holy Infant’s Holiday Boutique is on November 16<sup>th</sup> this year.

When reading the Wikipedia article on Pope Leo, I found that he served at the Immaculate Conception Parish, the Church that my mom and dad got married in and that my grandma went to daily mass. It was just across the ally from their house on Pennsylvania Avenue in Lafayette Square. How cool is that!!

I went on a silent retreat at the White House Retreat Center with 11 other ladies of our parish. I know that some of you may have thought that I wouldn’t be able to keep my mouth shut. But you’d be WRONG! I was able to maintain silence when it was required, and I found that I actually like the quiet. The silence was conducive to letting us hear when Jesus is talking. I’ve concluded that not everyone needs or wants to hear my opinion on everything. Everyone should go on a retreat from time to tune into God and His plan for you and yours.

Remember, 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’.

\*\*\*\*\*



## Spotlight on Pope Leo XIV From wikipedia

### Background and ancestry

Main article: [Family of Pope Leo XIV](#)

Robert Francis Prevost was born on September 14, 1955,<sup>[11][12]</sup> at [Mercy Hospital](#) in the [Bronzeville](#) neighborhood of Chicago, Illinois, on the city's [South Side](#).<sup>[13][14][15]</sup> He is of [Spanish](#),<sup>[16]</sup> [French](#),<sup>[17]</sup> [Italian](#),<sup>[18][19]</sup> and [Louisiana Creole](#)<sup>[20]</sup> descent.<sup>[16][13][21][22]</sup> His father, Louis Marius Prevost, was a Chicago native, having grown up in [Hyde Park](#).<sup>[23]</sup> Louis's father and mother were immigrants from Italy and France, respectively.<sup>[24][3][25]</sup> Louis Prevost was a [United States Navy](#) veteran of [World War II](#) who commanded an infantry landing craft in the [Normandy landings](#) and later participated in [Operation Dragoon](#) in southern France.<sup>[25]</sup> An educator, he later became superintendent of [Brookwood School District 167](#) in [Glenwood, Illinois](#).<sup>[26][27]</sup> Leo XIV's mother, Mildred Agnes Prevost (*née* Martínez),<sup>[28][25][29]</sup> was also born in Chicago, into a mixed-race [Black Creole](#) family from [Louisiana](#).<sup>[29][30]</sup> She was also an educator, and a librarian, including at [Mendel Catholic High School](#).<sup>[31]</sup>

## University and early priesthood (1973–1998)

In 1973, Prevost was planning to attend [Tolentine College](#), an Augustinian seminary in [Olympia Fields, Illinois](#),<sup>[48]</sup> but it closed that same year.<sup>[49]</sup> He promptly enrolled in [Villanova University](#), an Augustinian college located near [Philadelphia](#), where he earned a [Bachelor of Science](#) (BS) degree in mathematics in 1977.<sup>[12][49]</sup> At Villanova, he took elective courses in [Hebrew](#) and [Latin](#) (which was seen as unusual because he was not majoring in theology), read the writings of [Saint Augustine](#), and discussed the work of theologian [Karl Rahner](#) with other students.<sup>[9]</sup> He lived in the Augustinian [friary](#), and was remembered as "particularly committed... to missionary work," and being "the most community minded" among the students.<sup>[50]</sup> Prevost also worked as a cemetery groundskeeper at Saint Denis Catholic Church in [Havertown, Pennsylvania](#), while studying at Villanova.<sup>[51]</sup>

## Entry into Augustinians

On September 1, 1977, Prevost joined the [Order of Saint Augustine](#) as a [novice](#) in the [Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel](#). He resided for one year at [Immaculate Conception Church](#) in the [Gate District](#) neighborhood of [St. Louis, Missouri](#).<sup>[52][53][54][55]</sup>

In the summer of 1978, Prevost spent three months in [Clinical Pastoral Education](#) at [Abbott Northwestern Hospital](#) in [Minneapolis](#).<sup>[56][57][58]</sup>

He took his [first vows](#) on September 2, 1978 and his [solemn vows](#) on August 29, 1981.<sup>[11][12]</sup>

He returned to his father's native Hyde Park to obtain a [Master of Divinity](#) (MDiv) from [Catholic Theological Union](#) in 1982 and taught physics and math at [St. Rita of Cascia High School](#) in the [Wrightwood](#) neighborhood of Chicago during his studies.<sup>[13][59]</sup> As his [spiritual director](#), a guide to the Christian life, he chose a [woman religious](#), Sister Lyn Osiek, [RSCJ](#), the supervisor of his theological reflection class. She described him as "calm and steady... a person who was at peace with himself."<sup>[60]</sup>



## Ordination and missionary work in Peru

On September 10, 1981, Prevost was ordained a deacon by [Thomas Gumbleton](#) at St. [Clare of Montefalco](#) Parish in [Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan](#). That same year, Prevost concluded his studies at Catholic Theological Union.<sup>[61][11]</sup> Prevost was [ordained](#) a priest in Rome, at the [Chapel of Saint Monica of the Augustinians](#) by Archbishop [Jean Jadot](#) on June 19, 1982.<sup>[11][12][62]</sup>

Prevost earned a [Licentiate of Canon Law](#) (JCL) in 1984, followed by a [Doctor of Canon Law](#) (JCD) degree in 1987, both from the [Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas](#) in Rome.<sup>[12]</sup> During this period, he also learned [Italian](#).<sup>[9]</sup> His doctoral thesis was a [canon law](#) study of the role of local [priors](#) in the Order of Saint Augustine.<sup>[63]</sup>

Prevost spent his [novitiate](#) at Immaculate Conception Church in St. Louis, Missouri.

"Padre Roberto" joined the Augustinian mission in Peru in 1985, serving as [chancellor](#) of the [Territorial Prelature of Chulucanas](#) (1985–1986), as well as an aide to bishop [John McNabb](#). Much of his work in his first year in Peru was focused on disaster relief following severe [El Niño](#) rainstorms.<sup>[11][64]</sup> In 1987, after defending his doctoral thesis, he was vocation director and missions director of the Augustinian [Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel](#) in [Olympia Fields,](#)

Illinois, and worked with the faculty of the Augustinian Novitiate in [Oconomowoc, Wisconsin](#), before returning to Peru in 1988.<sup>[12][65]</sup> During his time in Peru, Prevost met and appreciated the [Dominican priest](#) and theologian [Gustavo Gutierrez](#), a pioneer of [liberation theology](#).<sup>[62]</sup> He also learned and mastered the [Spanish language](#) during this period.<sup>[9]</sup>

Prevost spent a decade heading the Augustinian seminary in [Trujillo](#), teaching [canon law](#) in the diocesan seminary,<sup>[12]</sup> serving as prefect of studies, acting as a judge in the regional [ecclesiastical court](#), and working in parish ministry on the city's outskirts, coming into contact with poor farmers and Peruvian [indigenous peoples](#).<sup>[66][64]</sup>

Cathedral Basilica of Saint Mary, Trujillo. As a young missionary, Prevost served in various roles in the Archdiocese of Trujillo. [Archdiocese of Trujillo](#)

He proved successful in the Augustinians' efforts to recruit Peruvians for the priesthood and leadership positions in the order.<sup>[67]</sup> He organized support for Venezuelan refugees to Peru despite discrimination against the Venezuelans.<sup>[68]</sup>

During the [Fujimorato](#) era, Prevost criticized the actions of then-President [Alberto Fujimori](#), placing special emphasis on the victims of the [Peruvian Army](#), especially the [Colina Group](#), during the [period of terrorism in Peru](#), as well as on political corruption. In 2017, he criticized President [Pedro Pablo Kuczynski](#)'s decision to [pardon Fujimori](#), and called upon Fujimori "to personally apologize for some of the great injustices that were committed".<sup>[69]</sup> His years in Peru gave him personal knowledge of political violence and inequality; at times, as a missionary, he traveled by horse on difficult roads to reach the isolated communities in the valleys of [Lambayeque](#).<sup>[70]</sup> He also stood out as a defender of human rights of the population of the [Norte Chico](#) region against the violence of the [Marxist–Leninist–Maoist](#) guerrilla organization [Shining Path](#).<sup>[71][72]</sup> However, Trujillo, the area where Prevost served, was not particularly affected by the Shining Path.<sup>[64]</sup>



- Next Month - Prior provincial and prior general (1998–2013), Bishop of Chiclayo (2015–2023) and [Dicastery for Bishops and cardinalate \(2023–2025\)](#)

\*\*\*\*\*



## STEPHEN MINISTRY

By Alberta Gilbertson

Life can be challenging, and at times we all face situations where we could use a little extra support. Whether it's the loss of a loved one, illness, job loss, or another life difficulty, you don't have to face it alone. At Holy Infant, our Stephen Ministers are here to walk alongside you. These caring members of our parish are specially trained to provide one-to-one, confidential, Christ-centered care and support. If you or someone you know—a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or family member—could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, we invite you to reach out. To learn more, please contact Alberta McGilligan at 636-399-6567 or [albertamcgilligan@yahoo.com](mailto:albertamcgilligan@yahoo.com), or Michele McCartney at 636-675-1159 or [furniturelady@charter.net](mailto:furniturelady@charter.net).



## ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

By: Kathie Hanneke

### **Movie Night: Fatima (2020 Film, PG-13) Sunday, Nov. 9, 6:15-8:30 p.m. in the GYM.**

Find a seat and settle in for a powerful and uplifting journey of faith with three young shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal. Enjoy our large screen and new sound system! Let's pack the GYM!

### **Ladies' Advent Tea, Sunday, Dec. 7, 1:30-3:00 p.m. Upper Cafeteria**

Jen Ryan of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary will present this annual program to infuse the true spirit of Advent into your season. Come as an individual or with a group.

### **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Mark your calendar! Prayer Shawl Ministry display weekend will be Nov. 1-2 after all the Masses. Come and see all the lovely Shawls the ladies of our parish have made! If you know of someone who is going through a difficult time or needs to know she/he is loved, pick out a blessed Shawl to give the person! If you would like to join this caring and dynamic Ministry, contact Kathie Hanneke, 314-704-2350 cell/text for more information. Many of the ladies in the Ministry will be happy to show you how to knit or crochet or teach you a new pattern, if you are rusty or unfamiliar with how to start. Everyone is welcome!

\*\*\*\*\*



### *Sentiments*

By Carol Laupp

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

**Get well cards:** JoAnne Lewis, Jim Whiling, and Frank Mohr

**Sympathy card:** Bernie Flacke (passing of sister)

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 - November

By Theresa Bichsel

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

11/06 Marie Fox

11/10 Maureen Lawrence

11/12 Monica Vaccaro

11/13 Carolyn Boardman

11/15 Lynn Koch

11/15 Nancy Turpin

11/16 Frank Mohr

11/16 Pat Tierney

11/18 Ken Clemens

11/18 Mary Brooks

11/19 Barbara Luecke

11/20 Brenda George

11/21 Marcia Bequette

11/21 Mary Cook

11/23 Peggy Beckmann

11/24 Shelley Matlock

11/25 Mary Pancella

11/25 Barb Fprd

11/26 Barbara Jegiljewski

11/27 Jack Birkner

11/28 Christyne Billingsley

11/30 Carol Greenaway

\*\*\*\*\*



### Carol's Corner - by Carol Komor

When it comes to saying "thanks", I don't think anyone does it better than Lyanla Vanzant in her book EVERY DAY I PRAY. As we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, I am so pleased that I can share her thoughts with you.....

#### I AM THANKING YOU RIGHT NOW

I want to thank you for what you have already done.

I am not going to wait until I see results or receive rewards, I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until I feel better or things look better, I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until people say they are sorry or until they stop talking about me, I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until the pain in my body disappears, I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until my financial situation improves, I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until I understand every experience in my life that has caused me pain or grief, I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until the journey gets easier or the challenges are removed, I am thanking you right now.

I am thanking you because I am alive,

I am thanking you because I made it through the day's difficulties.

I am thanking you because I have walked around the obstacles.

I am thanking you because I have the ability and the opportunity to do more and do better.

I am thanking you because you have not given up on me.

I am thanking you because you have forgiven me.

I am thanking you because you love me and accept me and acknowledge me when I cannot do it for myself.

I am not going to wait another moment or hour or day.

I am thanking you right now for every little thing you have already done.

Thank you God !!!!

For all I have already received and all that is yet to come !!!!

And So It Is !!!!

# ADULT BINGO

November 15, 2025  
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  
Tootsie Roll drive is the recipient of this  
month's bingo

\*\*\*\*\*



Recipe of the Month -Baked Beans  
from Fr. Stanger

## Ingredients:

1 lb. bacon cut in pieces and fried crisp.  
1 lb. hamburger well browned.  
Drain both and put into a greased baking dish.

### Add:

1 med. onion, chopped  
¼ cup sugar  
1/3 cup brown sugar  
¼ cup BBQ sauce  
¼ cup ketchup  
2 Tablespoons mustard

2 Tablespoons molasses  
(I use the **Brer Rabbit** Full Flavor Molasses)  
1 28 oz. can pork n beans  
1 16 oz. can light red kidney beans -drained  
1 16 oz. can baby butter beans –drained  
**OR** if you cannot find baby butter beans,  
1 15.5 oz can Cannellini Beans  
(White Kidney Beans) -drained

### Mix together

Place all ingredients in a 9 x 13 baking dish. Bake in oven at 350 for at least 1 hour.



*Travel Plans – MaryJane Bahr, Becky O'Brien, Marcia Faquin and  
Joan & Tom Wojciechowski*

**The Holiday Brass Concert** - Monday, December 1st. at 10:15. The admission is \$28.00. Meet at the Manchester United Methodist Church for this fabulous Christmas Concert where we have reserved seating. All tickets have been sold and distributed. There are no refunds if you can't make it, so find another person to buy it from you should you not be able to attend.

**Agusta River Luncheon Cruise** – 47 Seniors went out to Agusta on a crisp fall day and boarded the August Belle for a 45-minute scenic cruise along the shoreline of the Missouri River. The lunch was very tasty too. Here are a few pictures shared with me. We celebrated our birthday girls, Trish and Kathy.

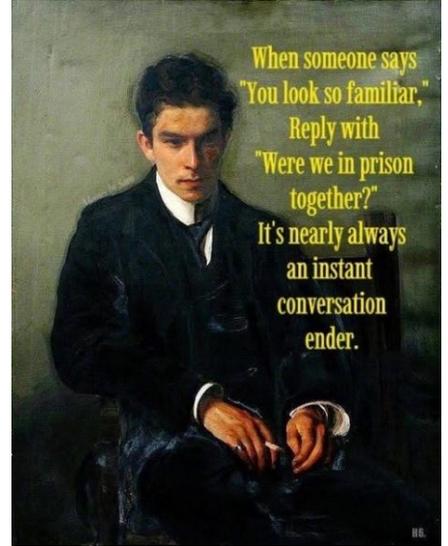




Gene's  
Funnies -  
By Gene  
Bestgen



"So, Mrs. Tyler, we're going to take a scan of your brain to see why you have such debilitating claustrophobia."

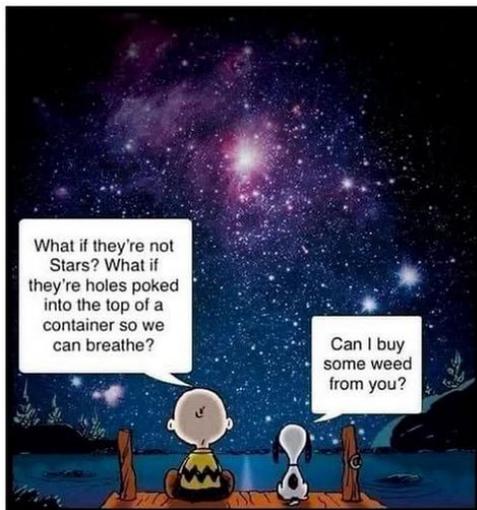
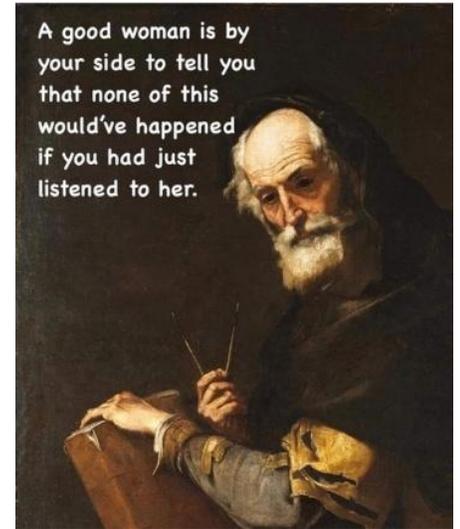


- If you're attracted to both women and men, but neither of them is attracted to you, that means you are **Bi-Yourself**

- Me:** Just had my physical today and the doctor says I'm a beast.
- Wife:** No dear, he said you are obese.

- One day you'll find someone that's obsessed with you. It's probably going to be a dog. **But it is what it is.**

- WANTED:** Someone to brush my teeth because 9/10 dentists says that brushing alone won't help tooth decay. **NO Weirdos!!**
- My mom was cleaning out their liquor cabinet and offered me a bottle of Vodka they've had for ages. **I had to say no because I know it's 70% water from me stealing it when I was 16.**





## Odds and Ends

By HIS members

### The FREE Table

All are welcome to drop off books, puzzles, no longer needed glasses, pull tabs from soda and beer cans, plus those tabs from pet food cans onto the FREE table. All are welcome to pick up a book or puzzle to read or work on. The glasses will go to Lions Club deposit boxes in an eye doctor's office. The pull tabs are turned in at the David Pratt Cancer Center to be given to Ronald McDonald House to generate money.

### 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!

### Newsletter Articles or Items of Interest needed - Maria Dorn

Please share any types of interesting articles, tips, notes of thanks or recipes with fellow HIS members. This is YOUR Newsletter; I am just a collaborator.

### Meal Train – Maria Dorn

Please keep this program in mind when you or one of the HIS members needs some support. If you want to be added to the list of volunteers, let Maria know by calling 314-610-8784 or email [mariadorn@hotmail.com](mailto:mariadorn@hotmail.com).

**FOR SALE!! – GO CHAIR** by Pride Mobility. It is easily portable with 4 pieces for easy assembly and disassembly. Black/Ruby Red, right hand controller with wall plug in for charging. It is 4 years old and asking price is \$650.00. **Please contact Linda Gianoulakis at 314-541-3370 if interested.**



\*\*\*\*\*



### Parish News

By Sandy Hughes

November

- 9 Adult Faith Movie Night: "Fatima" 6pm in the Parish Center
- 13 Men's Club Meeting, 7pm in Lower Cafeteria
- 14 Veterans Day Prayer Service & Reception: 9am-10:30am
- 15 K of C Bingo: Doors open at 5pm, Upper Cafeteria
- 16 Holiday Boutique: 9:30am-2pm, Lower Café
- 18 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting. 6pm - Holy Infant Room. All women are welcome.
- 27 9am Thanksgiving Day Mass.
- 28 HI Seniors Decorating for Christmas
- 30 First Sunday of Advent



## DID YOU KNOW ....

By our board and members

- That you can **sign up for Property Fraud Alert**, by visiting [propertyfraudalert.com](http://propertyfraudalert.com) or calling 1-800-728-3858. Choose the county where you own property and how you want to be notified of activity affecting your property. Enter your name and other variations of your name, including common misspellings. She said you may even monitor documents involving your business or family members' property.
- That we will be getting a new parish pictorial directory? Get yourself signed up so we can all be counted.
- That **we will collect Thanksgiving food items for the St. Wenceslaus Food Pantry at the November 6 meeting?** Foods in demand are boxed potatoes and dressing, canned pumpkin and cranberries, boxed pie crust or anything else that you think of as Thanksgiving food.
- That the Christmas party with music by Even Steven will be on **Monday December 8 in the Upper Cafeteria**. Doors open at 10:30 am. Due to rising costs this year, the Party will be **\$25 per person**. Money will be collected at the table near the food serving tables in the cafeteria today and at the November meeting. Please make checks out to HIS. Also, if you prefer to sit with friends, tables will be max of 8 people please have that information prior to registration.
- That we will be **collecting warm Clothing for St Wenceslaus Church at the Christmas Party**- hats warm gloves socks for Men Women and Children.
- That we will **decorate the Upper Cafeteria for the Christmas season on the day after Thanksgiving Friday November 28 at 10am** and we can use your help.
- That we will **decorate for the HIS Christmas party on Sunday December 7 at 4:30pm**... Ladies Advent tea ends at 3pm that day and would love your help.
- That Jo Lewis is now in St Agnes Home, 10341 Manchester Rd, Kirkwood MO 63122. I'm sure she would love a card or a note from you.
- That Carol Wolf moved to Florida to be closer to her daughter. Her new address is 17612 Northwood Place, Bradenton, Florida 34211.
- 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 since September of 2015.  
<https://holysinfballwin.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](mailto:mariadorn@hotmail.com) or call Maria at 314-610-8784.



# OUR THANKS GO OUT TO....

submitted by HIS members

- To Olivia Pieknik for always being available to take our used flags for proper disposal.
- To all those members who donate to the FREE table. It's great to get new puzzles and drop off perfectly good ones that you've already done that others can enjoy.
- To Father Stanger for bringing the delicious beans to last month's luncheon. They went perfectly with the pulled pork sandwiches. **I've posted Father's recipe in this bulletin.**
- To Nancy and Don Turpin for feeding the masses at our HIS meetings. It is always delicious and never boring.
- Bob Maloney for sending out emails with details of the upcoming meetings a few days prior. This way members can be aware and prepared with any money or items they should bring.
- Thanks to all our members who are bringing such delicious desserts to our luncheons. Homemade is the BEST!!

\*\*\*\*\*

## 2024-2025 H.I.S. Board Members

Bob Maloney	President	636-230-7988	Gene Hanneke	Recycle Coor.	314-913-4230
Becky O'Brien	VP	314-973-4515	Nancy & Don	Refreshment	314-800-7420
Mary Daus	Secretary	314-307-1366	Turpin &		
Linda Gatton	Treasurer	314-853-8185	Bernie Flacke		636-227-3825
Mary Mallery	Attendance	314-616-4809	Eileen Buehrle	Service & PAC	636-230-5435
Carol Laupp	Sentiments	636-256-0924	Rev. Edward Stanger	Spiritual Dir.	636-227-7440
Kathie &	Graphics	314-704-2350	Mary Jane Bahr	Trips	636-227-8927
Gene Hanneke		314-913-4230	Becky O'Brien		314-973-4515
Mary Mallery	Historian	314-616-4809	Marcia Faquin		314-498-0668
Mary Schlemeier &	Hospitality	636-391-9556	Joan & Tom Wojciechowski		636-346-3190
Brenda George		636-394-2286	Monica Vocarro &	50/50	314-518-6793
Theresa Bichsel	Directory &	314-564-7591	Carol Komor &		636-230-9697
	Membership		Rose Birkner		636-485-6415
Maria Dorn	Newsletter &				
	Meal Train	314-610-87894			

