



# HOLY INFANT SENIOR NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Issue # 222

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## FROM THE EDITOR – By: Maria Dorn

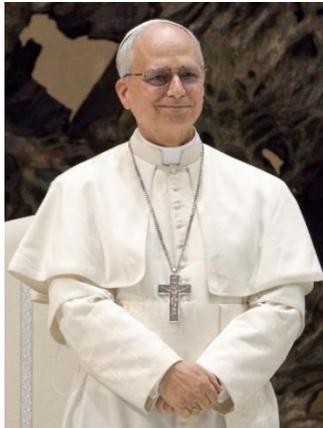
Happy Lent! We started with ashes on the 18<sup>th</sup> and are today enjoying a Day of Reflection as a group. I spent a lot of time discerning what to do extra for lent and what to perhaps stop doing as well. I decided to follow Lent 40 on the Hallow app and Crux on the Ascension app. It takes about 30 minutes to listen to both, and it gives me a lot to think about. I am also not eating between meals and am cutting back on sweets. Yes, for 40 days it will be difficult and give me an awareness that Jesus sacrificed for me and that many people go through hardships every day. I am already experiencing a more grateful heart and am looking at things a bit differently. I pray this will be a true preparation so that I will experience the true joy of the Resurrection on Easter morning.

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'.

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## Spotlight on Pope Leo XIV From wikipedia



### Views

Prevost chose the papal name Leo in honor of [Pope Leo XIII](#)'s social teachings.

Prevost's [regnal](#) name was chosen in honor of [Pope Leo XIII](#) (r. 1878–1903),<sup>[190]</sup> whose encyclical [Rerum novarum](#) established modern [Catholic social teaching](#) and promoted [labor rights](#).<sup>[141][191]</sup> According to the [Holy See Press Office](#) director [Matteo Bruni](#), this choice is "clearly a reference to the lives of men and women, to their work – even in an age marked by artificial intelligence".<sup>[192]</sup> Leo XIV confirmed the association with Leo XIII in an address to the [World Meeting of Popular Movements](#) in October 2025.<sup>[193]</sup>

According to Cardinal [Fernando Chomalí](#) of Chile, Leo told him that the choice of papal name is based on his concern about the world's cultural shifts, a type of [Copernican](#)

[Revolution](#) involving [artificial intelligence](#) and [robotics](#). Chomalí said: "He was inspired by [Leo XIII](#), who amid the [Industrial Revolution](#) wrote *Rerum novarum* launching an important dialogue between the church and the modern world."<sup>[194]</sup> Leo himself explained that "the church offers to everyone the treasury of her social teaching in response to [another industrial revolution](#) and to developments in the field of artificial intelligence that pose new challenges for the defense of human dignity, justice, and labor."<sup>[195][196][10]</sup>



In a May 2023 interview, Prevost stressed the need for prudence and responsibility on using social media to preclude "fueling divisions and controversy" and doing "damage to the communion of the Church".<sup>[197]</sup> This view is in line with his tendency to speak "with caution and great deliberation", as Christopher White, the Vatican correspondent of the [National Catholic Reporter](#), described him.<sup>[198]</sup>

The *National Catholic Reporter* stated that Leo XIV is committed to [ecumenism](#) with other [Christian denominations](#).<sup>[199]</sup> At [his inauguration](#), he referenced "sister Christian churches" and prayed for "a united church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world".<sup>[200][201][58]</sup> Leo XIV's first international trip as pontiff was to [Turkey](#) in November 2025, to celebrate the 1,700th anniversary of the [First Council of Nicaea](#) with other Christians.<sup>[199]</sup>

Leo has said religious freedom is "not optional but essential". During an audience with pontifical charity [Aid to the Church in Need](#), before the launch of its Religious Freedom in the World Report in October 2025, Leo said that the right to religious freedom is "a cornerstone of any just society, for it safeguards the moral space in which conscience may be formed and exercised", adding that "religious freedom, therefore, is not merely a legal right or a privilege granted to us by governments; it is a foundational condition that makes authentic reconciliation possible."<sup>[202]</sup>

## Church policy

The new pope's first message emphasized the greeting of peace of the risen Jesus "who gave his life for God's flock", giving "an unarmed and disarming peace".<sup>[203]</sup> Leo said he wanted to continue the [kerygmatic](#) blessing of Pope Francis: "God cares for you, God loves you all, and evil will not prevail! We are all in God's hands."<sup>[203]</sup> The themes in his first message included Jesus as [light needed by the world](#), becoming a missionary church through dialogue and openness, fidelity to the [Gospel](#), walking together in synodality, working as a united church for peace and justice, closeness to the suffering, and [praying to Mary](#). Twice he mentioned the need of not having fear, and emphasized God's help to "build bridges" for "all of us to be one people always in peace."<sup>[203]</sup>

In his first address as pope to the cardinals, Leo declared his "complete commitment" to the ecclesial path traced by the [Second Vatican Council](#). He praised Pope Francis's specification of this path through [Evangelii Gaudium](#), the Joy of the Gospel, and highlighted six "evangelical principles", which he deems as perennial and revelatory of [God's mercy](#): the [primacy of Christ in proclamation](#); the [missionary conversion of the entire Christian community](#); [collegiality](#) and synodality; attention to the [sensus fidei](#), the capacity of the whole faithful to sense the faith, especially [popular piety](#); loving care for the least and the rejected; and dialogue with the contemporary world.<sup>[204][205]</sup> He continues to promote the work of the Second Vatican Council, devoting his weekly audience to rereadings of its documents and calling the council's teachings the "guiding star" of the Church.<sup>[206]</sup>

Leo XIV's episcopal motto is *In illo Uno unum* ("In the One, we are one").<sup>[12]</sup> On the official start of his pontificate, during the [inaugural Mass](#), he requested that "our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world."<sup>[207]</sup> Noting that there is "too much discord" in the world, he stressed that "the two dimensions of the mission" of the papacy is "love and unity", as its authority is "a question of loving as Jesus did."<sup>[208][209]</sup>

Discussing the [ordination of women](#) in October 2023, Prevost stated that the "very significant and long tradition of the church" makes it impossible to consider women as priests and that "the apostolic tradition is something that has been spelled out very clearly." By contrast, he observed that the possibility of women deacons has been the subject of two Vatican commissions, demonstrating "openness to giving consideration" to that question. He also cautioned that the ordination of women as deacons "doesn't necessarily solve a problem" and could create new issues.<sup>[210][211][212]</sup> Commenting on Pope Francis's 2023 appointment of three women as members of the Dicastery for Bishops, which he headed, he noted that their perspectives often align with other members but can introduce new valuable viewpoints.<sup>[213]</sup>

As a cardinal, Prevost was a vocal proponent of [synodality](#), one of Pope Francis's signature initiatives. Prevost suggested that the participation and co-responsibility of all the faithful could address the polarization in the church.<sup>[198]</sup> In May 2023, Prevost said that [episcopal leadership](#) should prioritize faith over administration. The first priority is to "communicate the beauty of the faith, the beauty and joy of knowing Jesus."<sup>[197]</sup> Also in May 2023, Prevost said he has faith that "the Holy Spirit is [...] pushing us towards a renewal."<sup>[197]</sup> He stated that all the faithful are "called to the great responsibility of living what I call a new attitude," which is "to listen first of all to the Holy Spirit, to what He is asking of the Church."<sup>[197]</sup>

The pope is expected to have an expanded role for the College of Cardinals in his papacy. In January 2026, he announced he would like to meet with them annually as a group of advisors. <sup>[214]</sup>

## Liturgical and ceremonial practice

### Pope Leo XIV presiding over his inaugural papal Mass

During his service in [Peru](#), Prevost was described as an "impeccable dresser" when it came to celebrating the Mass, wearing full vestments even when summer temperatures rose above 85 °F (about 29 °C) in Chiclayo. <sup>[61][215][91]</sup> Prevost described himself as "very obedient" in liturgical matters, and urged that the liturgy be prepared "in the best way possible." <sup>[216]</sup> In August 2024, speaking to a Chicago-area parish, Prevost stated that "liturgy needs to be beautiful to help us, to strengthen us in our faith." <sup>[217]</sup> In his first Mass in the [Sistine Chapel](#) as pope, he chose to use a [papal ferula](#), or ceremonial staff, made for [Benedict XVI](#) and seldom used by Francis. <sup>[218][219]</sup> The mozzetta worn after his election, and Benedict's ferula signaled to some a "return to normal" in the Holy See following the Francis papacy. <sup>[220][221]</sup> However, during his Inauguration Mass in St. Peter's Square on May 18, 2025, Leo XIV used the ferula of Pope Paul VI which is most commonly associated with Pope John Paul II, and frequently used by Francis. <sup>[222][223][224][225]</sup>

Pope Leo XIV received another pectoral cross upon his election, which he has been wearing instead of the one he wore during the conclave and his first appearance as pope. This one is silver, with relics of St. [Leo the Great](#), St. Augustine, St. [Thomas of Villanova](#), and Blessed [Anselmo Polanco Fontecha](#). <sup>[226]</sup> He also chose to restore the custom of the pope himself giving archbishops the [pallium](#), which had been altered by Francis in 2015. <sup>[227][228]</sup> In September 2025, it was announced that Leo had given permission for the [Tridentine Mass](#) to be said in St. Peter's Basilica the following month, the first time such permission had been granted since the promulgation of [Traditionis custodes](#) in 2021. <sup>[229][230]</sup> His choices in vestments and returning to established liturgical norms that had been altered under Pope Francis have been described as a commitment to restoring tradition. <sup>[231][232]</sup>



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## 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](http://furniturelady@charter.net).

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## Adult Bingo

March 21, 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

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## Birthdays - March

By Theresa Bichsel

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

Bernie	Flacke	4-Mar	Paul	Mallery	9-Mar
Bob	Komor	5-Mar	Theresa	Bichsel	13-Mar
Charlotte	Hamm	6-Mar	Ginnie	Guinness	14-Mar
Maureen	Richter	6-Mar	Joanne	Lewis	16-Mar
Rita	Tucholski	7-Mar	Mary	Schlemeier	16-Mar
Alan	Jordan	7-Mar	Maria	Tate	16-Mar
Marylou	Bergman	8-Mar	Mary	Salvia	20-Mar
Kathleen	Kahmann	8-Mar	Don	Johnson	25-Mar
Sue	Rosswick	8-Mar	Cathy	Lehman	1-Apr

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## Sentiments

By Carol Laupp

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

**Get Well Cards:** Jim Powers, Joan Wojciechowski, and Nancy Turpin

**Sympathy Mass Card:** Nell Cox Family and Mary Jane Zust family

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.

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# ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

By: Kathie Hanneke

## Parish Mission, "Create in me a clean heart."

We will be reflecting on the last three Sundays in Lent known as the Scrutinies in OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) During this year's Mission, all parishioners and guests are invited to dive deeper into these readings to similarly prepare our hearts for Easter.

Tuesday, March 3 (6:30 Mass, 7:00 Mission Talk) *From the Well to the World* by Maria Bremerkamp, FOCUS parish missionary at Immaculate Conception, Dardenne Prairie.

Thursday, March 5 (6:30 pm Mass, 7:00 Reconciliation)

Holy Infant priests and guest confessors will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 10 (6:30 pm Mass, 7:00 pm Mission Talk)

*Seeing Jesus Clearly: The Healed Believer Born Blind* by Fr. Charles Samson, Assistant Professor of Biblical Theology, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary; young adult ministry chaplain.

Tuesday, March 24 (6:30 pm Mass, 7:00 pm Mission Talk, 8:00 pm Reception)

*Mary, Martha, and Lazarus: Beloved Friends of God* by Fr. Joseph Martin, Associate Pastor, St. Joseph, Cottleville

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### My Companion by Bill Carr

I wouldn't think of starting out  
To face a coming day  
Without a 'thank you' word to God  
To Help me on my way.

Yes, He's always there to help me  
When I stumble and fall  
To give me aid and pick me up  
And guide me through it all.

For when things seem uncertain  
And my steps may falter too  
It is then I ask the Father for  
His Help in what to do.

What a wonderful companion  
What a joy in life to know  
That the Father God walks with me  
No matter where I go.



## Carol's Corner - by Carol Komor

### A REFLECTION FOR LENT *(Henri Nouwen)*

O Lord, this holy season of Lent is passing quickly.  
 I entered it with fear, but also with great expectations.  
 I hoped for a great breakthrough, a powerful conversion, a real change of heart.  
 I wanted Easter to be a day so full of light that not even a trace of darkness would be left in my soul,  
 but I know that you do not come to your people with thunder and lightning. Even St. Paul and  
 St. Francis journeyed through much darkness before they could see your light.  
 Let me be thankful for your gentle way. I know you are at work. I know you will not leave me alone.  
 I know you are quickening me for Easter.....but in a way fitting to my own history and my own  
 temperament.

I pray that these last weeks, in which you invite me to enter more fully into the mystery of your passion,  
 will bring me a greater desire to follow you in the way that you create for me and to accept the cross  
 that you give to me. Let me die to the desire to choose my own way and select my own desire.  
 You do not want to make me a hero but a servant who loves you.

Be with me tomorrow and in the days to come and let me experience your gentle presence. Amen.

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## Gene's Funnies -

By Gene Bestgen

Being popular on Facebook is like sitting at the cool table in the cafeteria of a mental hospital.

No matter how stupid you feel, remember, Little Red Riding Hood couldn't figure out a talking wolf in drag wasn't her grandmother

WHY DO EGGS COME IN FLIMSY STYROFOAM CARTONS AND BATTERIES COME IN A PACKAGE ONLY A CHAINSAW CAN OPEN?

After my funeral I want one of my friends to take my phone and text everyone "Thanks for coming"

**AGE 12:** Fell off of bike at high velocity onto gravel road, biked 5 miles home.  
**AGE 50:** Used wrong pillow, back was nonfunctional for two days.



## Odds and Ends

By HIS members

### THANKYOU!!! - Nancy Turpin

Thank you so much for the heartfelt beautiful bouquet of flowers, and for your prayers and kindness. My husband Don and I value your friendship, which is such a blessing in our lives. Thank you for your volunteering spirit; whether it is preparing that beautiful array of luscious desserts or helping serve, or clean-up after our fun times together. Thanks for the Love!

### RECIPES WANTED! - Nancy Turpin

The food brought to the potluck was **SOOOO** delicious. We are asking everyone to bring their recipes in, and Maria will publish them in the Newsletter. It's great to share all these wonderful family traditions.

### FREE TAX PREPARATION – Janet Lowe

St Louis Taxpayers Assistance program prepares tax returns for free for households with income up to \$69,000. You can sign up for an appointment at any of our eight sites throughout the region at [stlouistap.org](http://stlouistap.org) or call 314-325-9941. Janet Lowe, one of our club members, has volunteered for this organization for over 20 years and they provide a great service for all ages.

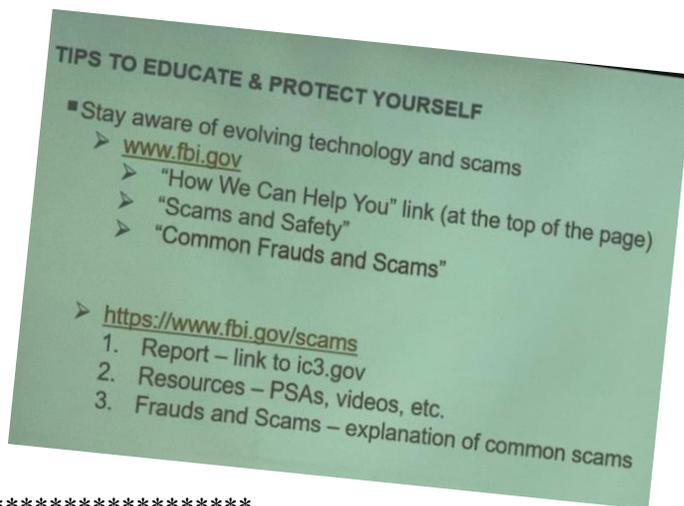
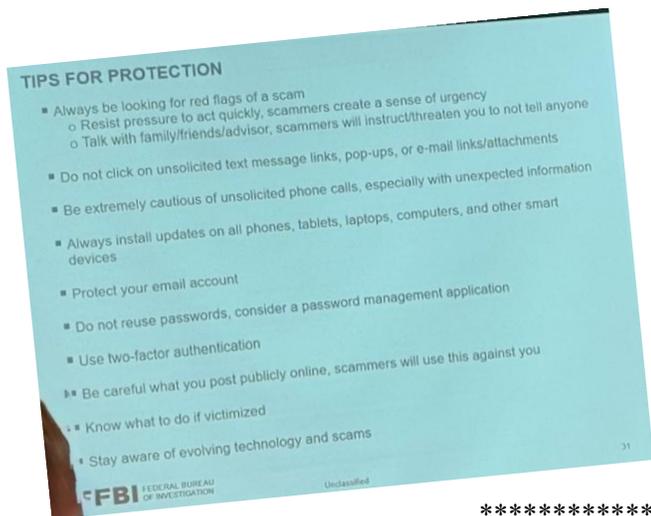
### Newsletter Articles or Items of Interest needed - Maria Dorn

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.

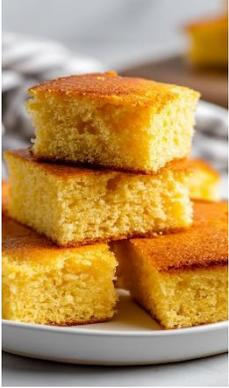
### Meal Train – Maria Dorn & Becky O'Brien

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). You can also reach out to Becky O'Brien by calling 314-973-4515 or email at [beckyo8@att.net](mailto:beckyo8@att.net)

### Reminders from our Fraud Talk in February



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## *Recipe of the Month - CORNBREAD FOR 36*

*By: Nancy Turpin*

I combined two different recipes and it tastes like Jiffy Corn Mix but isn't as unhealthy:)

The Famous Dave's corn bread recipe by itself is much too sweet, so I experimented and came up with this mixture from each recipe on the pkgs. Everyone liked it! YAY

### *Ingredients*

COSTCO'S FAMOUS DAVE'S CORN BREAD, 2 POUCHES

2 CUPS "PEARL MILLING COMPANY SELF-RISING CORN MEAL MIX"

1 CUP MILK

3 EGGS, SLIGHTLY BEATEN

1 CAN CREAMED CORN

1 CAN REGULAR CORN, DRAINED

3 TBSP. MELTED BUTTER

### *Directions:*

BUTTER THE BOTTOM AND SIDES OF TWO 9" X 13" BAKING DISHES.

COMBINE DRY INGREDIENTS IN A LARGE BOWL

COMBINE 'WET' INGREDIENTS IN ANOTHER LARGE BOWL

MIX WET INGREDIENTS INTO DRY INGREDIENTS AND STIR JUST ENOUGH TO COMBINE WITHOUT OVER-STIRRING THIS.

POUR CORNBREAD MIX INTO EACH OF THE TWO BAKING DISHES.

BAKE @ 400 DEGREES FOR 25 to 30 MINUTES.

SERVING SIZE: 3" X 2-1/4"

18 SERVINGS IN ONE 9" X 13" BAKING DISH. YOU CAN HALF THIS RECIPE OR FREEZE THE OTHER HALF. IT FREEZES WELL.



## Parish News

By Sandy Hughes

### March

- 7 Shamrock Shuffle
- 8 Day Light Savings Time Change: Spring forward!
- 8 St. Pat's Celebration: 1pm-7pm
- 19 HI Seniors' Board Meeting: 10am-11am, Holy Infant Room
- 21 K of C Bingo: Doors open at 5pm, Upper Cafeteria
- 28 Date Night Event: 5pm-10pm, Upper Cafeteria
- 29 Palm Sunday
- 31 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Living Stations, 7pm Church

### April

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 2 Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7pm
- 3 Good Friday: Morning Prayer 8am, Way of the Cross 3pm, Lord's Passion 7:30pm
- 4 Holy Saturday: Morning prayer 8am, Vigil Mass 8pm, OCIA reception to follow
- 5 Easter Sunday Masses: Regular Mass Schedule
- 6 Men' Club Meeting: NCAA Final Four Watch Party, 6pm lower cafeteria
- 6 Easter Holiday: Parish office closed.
- 9 Seniors' Meeting: 10am, Lower Cafeteria



## DID YOU KNOW ....

By our board and members

- **That you can get your income taxes done for FREE?** - St Louis Taxpayers Assistance program prepares tax returns for free for households with income up to \$69,000. You can sign up for an appointment at any of our eight sites throughout the region at [stlouistap.org](http://stlouistap.org) or call 314-325-9941. Janet Lowe, one of our club members, has volunteered for this organization for over 20 years and they provide a great service for all ages.
- That we have over 170 members in our Holy Infant Seniors group? Yes, and we continue to grow.
- That you could avoid using Finish in your dishwasher and still get clear finish? Use in the dishwasher as usual, but then instead of buying Finish to help it rinse, use just a drop of Dawn in the dispenser with the dishwashing soap. It works like a charm to rinse the dishes clear. 😊

- That Paul Schroeder Park has collections for all metals, electronics, shredding, and canned foods on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of odd months. There is no charge but they do accept donations. The next collection is on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
- That Gorilla Grip has products to prevent slipping in the shower or bath and many other handy items? Go to [Helio@gorillagluue](mailto:Helio@gorillagluue) and check it out.
- That the Halo App is offering a free 90-day trial? The annual subscription is \$69.00 and it contains SO MUCH prayer material, you will have everything at your fingertips. I strongly recommend it. [Hallow's Lent Pray40](http://Hallow'sLentPray40)
- That the [schooloffaith.com](http://schooloffaith.com) has a great daily rosary meditation? Holy Family School of Faith leads people to Jesus through friendship, good conversation, and the Rosary. The meditations are not typical and are theme based and very thorough. (i.e., The Exodus, Joseph, Jacob's ladder) Give it a try.
- 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://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](mailto:mariadorn@hotmail.com) or call Maria at 314-610-8784.

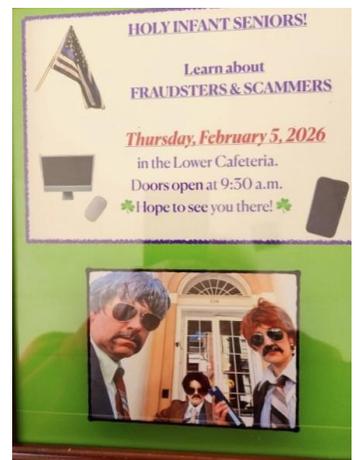
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## OUR THANKS GO OUT TO....

submitted by HIS members

- Betty Hedder for creating a poster advertising our upcoming HIS monthly meetings. Betty puts these in the vestibule of church the week before our next meeting. Here's the creative poster she made for our Fraud meeting. What a fun way to inform us of what is to come.
- All our members who are bringing such delicious desserts to our luncheons. Homemade is the BEST
- To Kathy Hanneke who pulls together our annual Day of Reflection, being sure to provide us with this special opportunity in Lent and gets us great speakers to inspire and enable us to have a truly blessed Easter.
- To our officers who continue to bring us fun times every month. Plans are underway for our May meeting with Margaritas and Hat decorating as well as the end of year Summer Picnic to be held on June 6<sup>th</sup>.



## 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			

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**Rita Tucholski 636.399.6453**

16343 Lake Shore Terr Ct

Wildwood MO 63038

[rtuch1@att.net](mailto:rtuch1@att.net)

Birthday 3/7



**Don Weber 314.484.1400**

441 Forsheer Dr

Chesterfield MO 63017

[weber.donalde@gmail.com](mailto:weber.donalde@gmail.com)

Birthday 10/27

**Marianne Weber 314.757.4800 41**

Forsheer Dr

Chesterfield MO 63017

[formath@aol.com](mailto:formath@aol.com)

Birthday 12/18