

Dear Parishioners,

We have now entered Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar. We could easily take this word to refer to only the common or everyday things of life. At one level it does mean that. However, it primarily carries a meaning that tells us that all things are ordered to God, even time. So in the common, ordinary, and everyday things we should see the hand of God and allow our life to be ordered to Him.

Samuel shows us how to do this in the first reading. "At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD, because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet." Even so, Samuel noticed the Lord's call and did his best to respond. He needed the help of someone who already knew God. Samuel was able to hear God's voice but Eli had to teach him how to respond, "reply, Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."

In the Gospel John the Baptist had to point Jesus out to his disciples so that they knew Christ Jesus was the one John had been telling them about. They approached Jesus with the question, "where are you staying?" Jesus' response was, "Come, and you will see." In other words they had to spend time with Him in the everydayness of His life to get to know Him.

We have just celebrated a season centered on the great mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God, Jesus Christ. It is a powerful event, an incredible and wondrous exchange. God the Son humbled Himself and took on our humanity so that we could participate in His Divinity. This is our salvation unfolding before our very eyes. Yet the fact that He entered into the everydayness of our lives also brings the real risk that we can easily walk by Him without notice.

The Incarnation brings a change beyond our ability to grasp easily. Before, heaven was closed to us. Now it is open. We were created in the image and likeness of God with all of the great dignity that entails. We squandered it in sin. Christ Jesus, the new Adam, by taking on our humanity, restored us to our original dignity and then elevated it. By our Baptism we are actually incorporated into the Body of Christ.

There is a bonus to this great miracle. God didn't make a temporary visit. By virtue of our Baptism the Holy Spirit dwells in us and we are part of the Body of Christ. By reception of the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us. This is how St. Paul can say in our second reading, "Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? ... Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?" From this we can see the root of all Catholic Social teaching. We can see why the great dignity of humanity and why every single human life must be treated with great respect.

From this we understand we can easily learn and understand why the Church teaches as it does about the unborn, the elderly, the poor, the sick, the war torn, and all those whose dignity is under assault. The Church even requires us to treat our dead bodies with great respect. The person is no longer in that body. They have moved into eternity. However, the body was once a temple of the Holy Spirit, a tabernacle of the Christ. Even more than all things blessed it must be treated with respect, even in burial.

We are so used to our humanity that we can easily take it for granted in our self as well as in others. We need the Church to point this out and help us spend time with Jesus so that it sinks in and takes root. St. Paul was writing to a Church that had lost sight of its own human dignity. May we never lose sight. May our understanding of this great gift grow deeper each day.

In Christ,

Fr. David Hoefler

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St. Anthony's QR Code takes you to www.stanthony.com where you can read our bulletins online or access any of our parish and school web pages.

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Pro-Life Corner



Norma McCorvey, the "Jane Roe" of the *Roe vs. Wade* 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion, is now a pro-life Catholic. On March 23, 1997, she declared these memorable words:

"I am Norma McCorvey. I became known as Jane Roe on January 22, 1973, when the U.S. Supreme Court released the *Roe v. Wade* decision, which created a woman's "right to abortion". I am now a child of God, a new creature in Christ; I am forgiven and redeemed. Today, I publicly recant my involvement in the tragedy of abortion. I humbly ask forgiveness of the millions of women and unborn babies who have experienced the violence of abortion. In this place of healing, the National Memorial for the Unborn, I stand with those who honor the worth of every unborn child as created in the image of God. I will strive, in the name of Jesus, to end this holocaust."

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 16, 6:30 a.m. Mass: Mary Louis Dietzen Anniversary **8:30 a.m. Mass:** Bertha M. Mette
Tuesday, January 17, 6:30 a.m. Mass: Parishioners of St. Anthony **8:30 a.m. Mass:** Don Dasenbrock
Wednesday, January 18, 6:30 a.m. Mass: Deceased Members of St. Anthony **8:30 a.m. Mass:** Kathleen Smethers, Clem & Clara Goldstein Family
Thursday, January 19, 6:30 a.m. Mass: For Those Serving in the Military **8:30 a.m. Mass:** Dr. John H. Dust
Friday, January 20, 6:30 a.m. Mass: Leo Reiss Family **8:30 a.m. Mass:** Carl & Carolyn Koerner Family
Saturday, January 21, 4:30 p.m. Mass: Andy Luchtefeld
Sunday, January 22: 7:30 Mass Rose Soltwedel **9:15 Mass** Harold Pike **11:00 Mass** Parishioners of St. Anthony

Mass Intentions for the weekends in 2012 are fully scheduled, but there are many weekday openings available. Stop by the Parish Office if you are interested.


Mass Servers

Weekday Masses, January 16-20


Jan. 16-18	6:30 a.m.	Abigail Will/Parker Seachrist
Jan. 19-20	6:30 a.m.	Allie Dasenbrock/Will Willenborg
Jan. 16	8:30 a.m.	Kyle Hartke/James Kabbes
Jan. 17	8:30 a.m.	Chandler Martelli/Jay Niebrugge
Jan. 18	8:30 a.m.	Samantha Brandenburger/Chris Jones
Jan. 19-20	8:30 a.m.	Grade School Provides

Weekend Masses in January

4:30 p.m. Sat. Grace Zeller/Kaitlyn Zeller/Laura Deters
 7:30 a.m. Sun. Dawn McGuire/Keri McGuire/Barbara McGuire
 9:15 a.m. Sun. Samantha Brandenburger/Nicholas Goeckner/Natalie Goeckner
 11:00 a.m. Sun. Greg Utz/Avery Liss/Parker Seachrist



If you would like someone who is sick included in our prayer list please call the Parish Office at 347-7129. Due to the large number of requests to be placed on the prayer list, names will be left on the list for one month and then removed, unless we receive a call to continue. Please pray for those who are ill, those in hospitals and nursing homes, for those recovering from surgery, and for all those serving our country. Also, Deb Alldredge, Michael Avery, Glenn Ehrhart, Duane Feldhake, Bob Hawickhorst, Brandt Jarrett, Jeaneane Jenne, Tammy Keller, Mary Lawyer, Mary Ellen O'Brien, Ken Polarek, Ron Shoffstall, Roger Smith Pat Tate



CCW Quilting
 The CCW Ladies are going to be quilting in the Parish Center from 9 a.m.—4 p.m., beginning Monday, January 9 through Friday, January 20. Anyone who is interested is welcome to join in. Come and stay as long as you wish. Call Rita Niccum at 342-6810 if you have any questions.

Calendar of Events Jan. 14-22

Sat., Jan. 14 5:30-6:30 Scrip Store Open
Sun., Jan. 15 10:15-11:15 Scrip Store Open
Mon., Jan. 16 9-4 Quilting in Parish Center
 10-2 Scrip Store Open
Tues., Jan. 17 9-4 Quilting in Parish Center
 7pm, Bereavement Support
Wed., Jan. 18 9-2 Scrip Store Open
 9-4 Quilting in Parish Center
 6pm, School Board Meeting
 6:30 PSR
Thurs., Jan. 19 9-4 Quilting in Parish Center
 7-9 RCIA
Fri., Jan. 20 9-4 Quilting in Parish Center
 9-2 Scrip Store Open
Sat., Jan. 14 5:30-6:30 Scrip Store Open
Sun., Jan. 15 10:15-11:15 Scrip Store Open



*May the soul of
 Harold Bushur
 sing praises with the Angels in
 Heaven Forever.*

Baptism Class

Anyone wishing to have their child baptized at St. Anthony Church must attend a Baptism Class every 3 years. The next class is Monday, January 23, 2012 at St. Anthony Parish Center at 7:00 p.m. Call the parish office at 347-7129 to register.



Protecting God's Children

St. Anthony Church will host a Protecting God's Children training class from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Monday, January 30 in the Parish Center. Any adult volunteers in the school system are required to attend. Please call 347-7129 to register.



Pre-Cana

St. Anthony will host a Pre-Cana Workshop Sunday, March 4, 2012. Please call 347-7129 to register. Size is limited to 15 couples.

Stewardship Scripture Quotation

In today's first reading, we hear Samuel respond eagerly, "Here I am!" each time the Lord calls him. May we, too, be listening for the call of God in our lives and be ready to say like the Psalmist, "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."



Collection for the Church in Latin America

Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Many unique challenges face the Church in that region. A lack of priests and trained lay ministers, high emigration rates, and the alarming pace at which parishioners are leaving the faith make it difficult for the region's Church to provide for the faithful. It is more important than ever that we **keep faith** with the Church in Latin American and the Caribbean. Please give generously in next week's Collection.

Renew Your Catholic Times Subscription Today!

Each household has received a renewal envelope in their January packet to *Catholic Times*, the official newspaper of the Diocese of Springfield. Please renew your subscription today. The cost is \$15.00 for 48 issues and is a valuable way to keep up with issues affecting the Catholic faith.



Plans are being made for a Mission Trip this fall to our Sister Parish in Haiti. Please prayerfully consider being one of the 10 people helping enrich the lives of the poor. Watch the bulletin for more information.



Luminaries for Life Jan. 21 & 22

*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you*
Jeremiah 1:5

In 1973 the Supreme Court legalized abortion in the United States. Most of our current high school students were born about 20 years later in the 1990s. At that time, 27% of pregnancies ended in abortion. *Over one quarter of our high school generation has been wiped out by abortion!*

Our church leaders continually encourage us to stand up for the weakest among us, those who have no voice. Luminaries for Life is one way for our parish to do that, to publicly affirm our pro-life beliefs on the 39th anniversary of the tragic Roe vs. Wade court decision. Hundreds of luminaries will be decorated by St. Anthony High School and PSR students and placed on the church steps as a visible memorial to the one quarter of their generation no longer with us. The luminaries serve as a beacon of hope for the future of all the unborn. Visit the lighted display on the evenings of January 21 & 22. As you view the display you are encouraged to pray for an increased respect for life.

Special thanks to the Effingham Knights of Columbus and students of St. Anthony Schools for providing funds. In the event of inclement weather January 28 & 29 will be chosen.



2012 Fundraising Calendar Update Congratulations 01/6/2012—\$50 Winner: Susan Lorenz, Effingham

Tickets for the 2012 Calendar Raffle are available! Stop by the parish office to pick yours up today!



Please make plans to join us on the 3rd Wednesday of every month for our regularly scheduled meetings. Fr. Hoefler joins us again on January 18 for our discussions. Our evening begins at 8:00 pm with the rosary. Enter through door #3 in the back of the high school. All mothers welcome. Mandatory attendance/membership is not required; come when you can, as we grow in our faith and friendships. To learn more about Mom's Ministry, visit us at www.stanthony.com/ministriesprograms/momsministry



PINK OUT DAY

High School Boys' Basketball Game

Fill the stands with PINK on Friday, February 3 at the high school boys' basketball game! Show your support by wearing pink. St. Anthony Pink Shirts are available. Order and payment should be submitted to the school office by Friday, January 13.



High School Open House: St. Anthony High School is planning an open house for Wednesday, February 1 for all 2012-2013 incoming freshman and interested families. The open house begins at 7:00 pm. Please feel free to extend the invitation to families that may be interested in learning more about St. Anthony High School! Contact the high school office at 342-6969 with any questions.

Grade School Open House: St. Anthony Grade School is planning an open house for Tuesday, February 21 for all 2012-2013 incoming kindergarteners and interested families. The open house begins at 6:30 pm. Please feel free to extend the invitation to families that may be interested in learning more about St. Anthony Grade School! Contact the grade school office at 347-0419 with any questions.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR) NEWS

During the weeks and months before Christmas the whole student body and staff of the Parish School of Religion gathered gifts, which were lovingly given to many children and families in need. For two weeks in early December, PSR families brought food donations for the Catholic Charities food pantry; the fourth grade class make fleece blankets for the “Linus” program; all classes stuffed shoe/boot boxes with small toys, school supplies and hygiene materials, then Christmas-wrapped the ‘show box gifts’ for children around the world. In one week’s time, the high school and eighth grade class sold pizzas raising about \$1200. Adding their money to the \$120 donated by Wal-mart, the students purchased food for a good Christmas dinner, toys and clothes for two needy families and for a child whose mother had just died. In the midst of all these actions of giving to others, the students learned very solid and practical lessons in their Catholic faith. Regular religion classes were taught, as well.

Very recently we had the feast of the Epiphany, celebrating the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem. The Magi were suddenly aware of the divine identity of the Child and they adored Him. They had an ‘epiphany’—a sudden realization or comprehension of the larger picture or meaning of something. They returned to their homelands enlightened and changed men, carrying with them a gift much greater than the material gifts they’d given the Child. Although most signs of the feast are gone from our homes and public places, we are still in the Christmas season. The graces and blessings (epiphanies) still live on in us, as well as in the people to whom our gifts were given. Eventually, the crib with the camels and kings will be stored away for another year, but that doesn’t mean we can’t celebrate our own epiphanies throughout the year.

My guess is that some have already failed—once—twice---in your new year’s resolution. Instead of counting the failures, look for and count your epiphanies. Looking for epiphanies isn’t like hunting mushrooms in the woods. We can be people seeking a nobler purpose, like an encounter with God through prayer or inspiration through spiritual reading or discovering a goodness in someone or something that you weren’t expecting. By being open to possibilities, we better our chances of experiencing something exciting, something new, something wonderful. This happens all the time for us in PSR classes. We don’t expect the Magi to knock on our door with gifts, but we still expect great things to happen in PSR this year of Our Lord 2012.



OUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS:

	Actual	Budget	Last Year
1/8/12	\$ 46,190	\$ 34,990	\$ 66,339
YTD (since 07/01/11)	\$1,017,430(-1.5)	\$ 979,740	\$1,032,414
12 month totals		\$1,819,500 (10.0)	\$1,653,511
Scholarships	\$ 640	\$ 19,165 YTD	
Haiti Parish	\$ 722	\$ 16,026 YTD	
ACSA	\$ 36,043(12/6)	\$ 89,029	
Catholic Times		\$ 18,157	

Thanks to our generous parish family, some year-end amounts are still arriving. These are shown in the week's total at left, with the other weekly amounts, and some will be included next week. Please know that the budgeted amount shown is the annual amount divided equally over 52 weeks. So being ahead of budget is just a function of the math for the 28 weeks of the fiscal year. The total budget for the 12 months is still our need to operate the parish and schools....Thanks to the group who decorates the Church and grounds for Christmas. Everything looked tremendous and many little children still marvel at the

crib scene with the baby Jesus....Just around the corner will be the banners and luminaries which remind us the need for prayer to overturn the laws allowing abortion. The school students decorate the bags with will adorn the Church steps on the 4th January weekend. And we pray for the safety of the group from our parish and diocese who will travel to Washington, D.C.



CARD PARTY dates at St. Michael's in Sigel are Sunday, January 15 and February 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the parish gym.



Admission is \$5.00. Cash prizes will be awarded and light snacks will be provided during intermission.

BINGO will be played on Sunday, January 29 at 7:00 p.m.. Cost is \$5.00 per card for the night.

Effingham County Right to Life Whole Hog Sausage & Egg Breakfast will be served from 7:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m., Sunday, January 15, at the Teutopolis Grade School. The menu consists of sausage, scrambled or fried eggs, orange juice, coffee and homemade breads. Funds derived from this "All You Can Eat" breakfast will be used for educational purposes and for rent and supplies for the ECRTL Resource Center located next door to the former Heart Theater. Literature and audio-visuals will be purchased and donated to area crisis pregnancy centers.

Effingham County Right to Life Meeting

Sacred Heart Church, Effingham will host the January 16 Prayer Vigil for Life. Praying the Holy Rosary will begin at 6 p.m. and the Holy Mass for the safety of the Marchers will begin at 6:30 p.m. Business meeting, Lifetalk News Video and refreshments will be held in the Parish Center after Mass.

Cash Bingo will be held from 1-4 p.m, Sunday, January 15th at Holy Cross Parish Center, Wendelin. Concessions will be available. Public is welcome to attend. Sponsored by Family Life Committee.

Effingham Knights of Columbus FREE THROW CONTEST will begin at 2:00 p.m., January 22, 2012 at St. Anthony High School Enlow Center. Contact Bill Hoelscher or Jerry Hecht for more information. The winner will go on to the District Free Throw Contest in February.

CASINO NIGHT IS FAST APPROACHING! With the great success of last year's Casino Night fundraiser, we have again decided to team with Sacred Heart Parish to host the casino event on Saturday, March 10 at the Effingham Knights of Columbus. We are in need of committee chairs from St. Anthony Parish to help with the planning and implementation. The committee chairs might be a couple, or a few friends, or even a pair of couples looking to have fun and to help ensure another great fellowship and fundraising event. If you're interested in being a part of this exciting event or would like to sign up as a casino dealer, please contact Carrie Koenig at 217.342.6969 or email at ckoenig@stanthony.com.

St. Thomas' Annual Wine Tasting – will be held on **Saturday, January 28** at 6:30 p.m. at the Newton Knights of Columbus Hall. *Your \$10.00 minimum per adult donation will go towards the new church capital campaign.* Sparkling grape juice will be available for children. Sponsored by Koerner Distributors, Knights of Columbus and Friends of St. Thomas.

Second Hand Rose Resale Shoppe is set to start the New Year off right! The store is open to the public Mon.-Fri. 10:00 AM–4:00 PM and Saturday 10:00 AM–1:00 PM. Debit and credit cards are accepted. The store will be hosting in-store specials January 23-28 during regular business hours. We will be closed Mon., January 16.

Household items and donations for all seasons of clothing and decorations are accepted Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM–4:00 PM and Sat. 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM. Please do not leave items of any kind outside the back door as they could be damaged due to weather or animals.

Anyone with questions about donations or is interested in volunteering should contact the Second Hand Rose Manager, Carrie Crippen, at 217-857-1482. The store is located at 1502 East Fayette Avenue, between Effingham and Teutopolis.