

FAITH FLASH!

Faith Tip of the Week: Rejoice!

Standing alongside a loved one who is suffering before death can be unbearable. When death arrives, our hearts are broken. This physical separation of the living and the dead causes so much sadness. Mary, the mother of our Lord was not immune to this sadness. She had to stand by and watch her son die. She certainly endured the same emotions and grieved as we do. The Resurrection of Jesus tells us death is not final. I can picture Mary meeting Jesus for the first time after the Resurrection. Jesus standing before her with a big smile and arms outstretched. Mary hugging him over and over. I can hear them laughing with joy and her crying in relief. I can hear her praising a loving God. Easter morning gives us hope, that we too will have a jubilant reunion with our loved ones. Jesus conquered death and rose to new life. Jesus shows us the way to do the same. Easter morning says, "Do not fear death". Easter tells us we will all be together again. And, Easter cries out "The best is yet to come!" Happy Easter. Rejoice!

Youth Group!

Our next Youth Group gathering is Wednesday, April 24th at 6:30pm. All high schoolers are invited to attend. We will meet in the Church basement. Use the breezeway doors of the church to enter. Hope to see you there. Bring a friend!

Dave Hollinshead, Director of Faith Formation

FORMED AND AMEN are streaming platforms of religious resources that are available to all of our parishioners. Information for both are on the bulletin table.

SJB SCHOOL NEWS

Spring Rummage Sale-Our Spring Rummage Sale will be: Friday, April 26th (4-9pm.; everything priced); Saturday, April 27th (8am-1pm.; \$5/bag; we have bags); Sunday, April 28th (8am-1pm.; \$4/bag). Cash or local check with ID only. Item Drop-Off: Saturday, April 20th (8am-3pm); Sunday, April 21st (11am-4pm); Monday-Thursday (8am-7pm) We do not accept TVs, computers, monitors, printers, keyboards, used mattresses, non-working items, or heavily soiled items. Before dropping off large items, please call the school first 618-282-3215

UNITED FOR LIFE

United for Life will begin on April 6 from 10-11 am. Please come to support ALL life from conception to natural death. Participants will gather at the gazebo near the four way stop in Red Bud, given a sign, and stand/sit as a witness in supporting all life. God bless all for gathering to protect His children!



GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Future Hawk Events-Join us at these fun events!

7th & 8th Grade Scavenger Hunt-7th and 8th graders are invited to participate in our Junior High Scavenger Hunt on April 5 from 6-8 p.m. at Gibault. Pizza and Drinks will be included. Bring your own team or sign up individually, and we can create a team.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/gchshunt24>

5th & 6th Grade Future Hawk Hangout-5th and 6th graders are invited to hang out in the Gibault gym! Shoot hoops, bump volleyballs, play bags, and MORE. Drinks and Snacks included. Come HANGOUT and HAVE FUN! RSVP: <https://bit.ly/hawkhangout>

Future Hawk Baseball Tailgate-Cheer on the State Champion Hawks on May 1 at 4:30 p.m. More info to come!

Spring Rummage Sale-The Gibault Catholic Women's Club Rummage Sale is Sat. Apr. 13, 8 am-2 pm. (1/2 price and bag sale after noon.) Donations can be dropped off April 8 & 9 from 8 am-6 pm and April 10 & 11 from 8 am-8 pm.

Summer Classic Golf Tournament-Tee up for the students of Gibault as part of our 27th Summer Classic Golf Tournament! This year's tournament will be held on Friday, June 21, and there are lots of ways to get involved. You can sponsor our event, donate raffle prizes, or gather a team to play at the beautiful Annbriar Golf Course. For more info, email

dfrasure@gibaulthawks.com or visit our event website:

<https://SummerClassic.givesmart.com>

Poker Run-Join the Gibault Women's Club for an afternoon of fun on April 28.

CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL

Number of households that have pledged: 19

Amount Pledged to date: \$1,735

Our parish goal: \$3,692

CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Serve the Lord with gladness-Psalm 100

Easter Blessings-We pray that God may bless you and your loved ones with the peace, the hope and the love that the Lord gave to us all through the Resurrection of Jesus.

Bishop Michael McGovern and the Ministries and Agencies Funded by The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

EASTER EGG HUNT

St. Patrick's Easter egg hunt will be Sunday, March 31st after the 8AM Mass. Kids set your Easter baskets up to the right of the altar.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Cupboards Are Bare

St. Vincent De Paul Needs Your Help!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council reports record numbers of people staying at its OverNite Center and 300+ people per day coming for meals at Cosgrove's Kitchen. With these increased numbers, there is an urgent need for food. We humbly ask for your prayers for SVDP and its clients and, if you are able, your donation of food (all kinds) that will be cooked and served at the soup kitchen and/or individually packaged food items (cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers, cheese sticks, yogurt, cereal, instant oatmeal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars, soup or pasta in a cup) to distribute at the OverNite Center. Items can be dropped off at:

St. Vincent de Paul Council Office-8800 West Main, Belleville (across from Blessed Sacrament Church) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00-2:30pm. or **SVDP Thrift Store/Soup Kitchen**-3718 State Street, East St. Louis. Monday-Friday 9:00-1:30 pm.; Saturday 9:00-Noon. For additional info contact Joe Hubbard or Pat Hogrebe at 618-394-0126. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity which enables St. Vincent de Paul's ministry to the poorest among us.

PONTIFICAL HOLY LAND COLLECTION

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Holy Land Collection which will be held on Good Friday. Your support helps the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education to our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. The collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. In times of crisis, the Pontifical Holy Land Collection also provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land.

SPRING TRAINING FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Spring Training for Your Marriage, Saturday, April 13th, Holy Trinity Parish, Fairview Heights, featuring Fr. Jim Deiters. Cost is \$50 per couple. Mass at 4 p.m.; dinner at 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Diocese of Belleville Department of Life, Marriage, and Family. Space is limited so reserve your spot now: www.diobelle.org or mking@diobelle.org; call 618-722- 5048.

**LET US PRAY TO END
ABORTION AND TO RESPECT
ALL LIFE FROM CONCEPTION
TO NATURAL DEATH!**



Can You
Help?

WHOM ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

The disciples were thrilled. They had their Lord back in their presence once again. Since his Resurrection, he had appeared to them and others several times. They were still a little confused, though, when he talked about "waiting for the gift his Father promised" (Acts 1:5), and then, "He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight" (Acts 1:9). You can imagine their bewilderment. He had died and been buried and then had risen from the dead! He had walked among them and taught them again, and now...He is taken up into the clouds. No wonder they stood there--probably with mouths agape--looking into the sky where they had last seen him. It took "two men dressed in white" (Acts 1:10) to bring them back to their senses. "'Men of Galilee,'" they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into Heaven'" (Acts 1:11). Whom are you looking at? Yes, Jesus has ascended. We can only imagine his joyful, triumphant return as all the hosts of Heaven welcomed back the risen, victorious Savior. Because he is that Savior, because he is the Author and perfecter of our faith, "let us fix our eyes on Jesus" (Hebrews 12:2). Through his Word and Sacraments, he will lead us in his ways; he will teach us obedience and self-sacrifice; he will teach us love for our neighbors. With joyful and generous hearts, we celebrate the new life that Easter brings us by sharing the message of the Cross and the Empty Tomb with all who will listen. Keep looking at Jesus until in Heaven you see him face to face!



UPCOMING EVENTS

OLD FASHION QUILTING BEE-St. George Community Life Center 317 E. Maple St., New Baden (In Quilting Room) Monday, April 1st 1-9pm. Dinner and good conversation will be served at 5pm. And Tuesday, April 2nd 6-9pm. Refreshments & Desserts will be served. We will be quilting all evening, both nights, so come when you can! Sponsored by the St. George Quilting Group. The quilts will be used at the Bingo for our St. George Picnic on August 10th.