

My first instinct upon waking is to grab my phone and start scrolling. Sometimes I do it for 20 or 30 minutes, and it makes me feel distracted and agitated. I feel guilty, too, for wasting my first moments of the day. So recently, I committed those minutes to reading a book that would focus my mind on Jesus. I enjoy the fact that I am not scattering my attention as much. I feel more peaceful and focused on God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about attention. He contrasts wise and foolish virgins, and then sums up the teaching by saying, "Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour" (Matthew 25:13). The basic currency of the human heart is attention. The foolish bridesmaids are not immoral or malicious; they are unfocused, distracted, and unprepared. They assume that borrowed oil will suffice, that someone else's readiness can make up for their own lack. But the attention which is love cannot be outsourced. A relationship with God requires personal attentiveness cultivated over time. This Gospel leaves us with an honest question. What am I giving my attention to each day, and am I forming a heart that is awake, watchful, and ready to meet the Lord when He comes? How can I use key moments of my day to focus my attention where I need it to be?

--Fr. John Muir

Liturgical Ministers for Nov. 14 & 15, 2026

Sat. Nov. 14 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas
Reader: Karen Kalous
Euch. Min.: Doris Eilers & Joyce Schlemper
Server: Pat Kalous
Ushers: Tom Kalous & Jed Kalous

Sun. Nov. 15 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude
Reader: Katrina Korsmeyer
Music: Nick Worman & Randy Eckstein
Sacristan: Wendy Essenpreis
Euch.Min.: Gail Ohren, Debby Schwarz & Brenda Knackstedt
Ushers: Terry Dickman & Kevin Schwarz
Servers: Maris & Aubrey Barr

Sun. Nov. 15 @10:00AM @ IC
Reader: John Dea
Servers: Rebecca Dea & Avery Gilomen
Euch. Min.: Rick & Ruth Zurliene & Kristin Potthast



Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day,and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues. John Alberternst, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Teresa Dickman, Garland Edwards, Jean Fields, Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Karen Grabowski, John Grubb, Eugene Henson, P.J.Hereford, James Hodge, Gene Jolliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Barrett Korte, Denny Korte, Gerry Korte, Randy Korte, Steve Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Luber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill Schroeder, Suzanne Steinbring, Brenda Usher, Rich Weis, Ginny Werner, Dean Wernle, Melanie Wernle, Paige Wernle

For Our Parishioners in Nursing Homes:

Delmar Knebel, Harold Schwarz, Barbara Weiss, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

For those currently serving in the military:

Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Ensign Eli Jones, Chad Knebel, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerritt Mettler, Jimmy O'Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Ford, JosephSchatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.

If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.



Congratulations To
Candace Luitjohan & Mitch Campbell
who were married at
Immaculate Conception Church
on Saturday, November 7th.
Please keep them and all those discerning Holy Marriage in your prayers.



St. Gertrude Feast Day Celebration

We are having a 3-parish St. Gertrude's feast day celebration on Sunday, November 15th at 12:30PM at STG parish hall. There will be sign-up sheets at the back of each church. Please sign up if you plan to attend and what dish you would like to bring. St. Gertrude is providing fried chicken. There will be coffee, tea, and lemonade to drink.

This is the last weekend to sign up!





† Mass Intentions †

Mon. (Nov. 9) **No Mass**
Tues. (Nov.10) 8:00am (St.G) † **Helen Wuebbles** – Int. of Hitz Ringers
Wed. (Nov.11) 8:00am (IC) † **Archbishop Augustine Akubeze** – Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey
Thur. (Nov.12) 8:00am (St.N) † **All Souls**
Fri. (Nov.13) 8:00am (IC) **Mass of Thanksgiving** —Int. of Lowell & Denise Wellen
Sat. (Nov.14) 4:30pm (St.N) † **Clara Liening** —Int. of Matt & Debbie Zoehner
For the People of St. Nicholas, St. Gertrude, & Immaculate Conception
Sun. (Nov.15) 8:00am (St.G) † **Dean & June Sauls** — Int. of Lawrence & Shirley Schwarz
+ **Ronnie & Bonnie Rutz** — Int. of Emily Schwarz
Sun. (Nov.15) 10:00am (IC) † **Joetta Korte** — Int. of Marjorie Kruep
† **Cy & Dolores Weis** — Int. of the Weis Family



Readings for the Week of November 8, 2026

Sunday
Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

Monday
Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Tuesday
Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23, 27 and 29/Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday
Ti 3:1-7/Ps 23:1b-3a, 3bc-4, 5, 6/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday
Phlm 7-20/Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Lk 17:20-25

Friday
2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/Lk 17:26-37

Saturday
3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday
Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21



We would like to thank all those who helped at Harold's luncheon and those who assisted during Mass.
We appreciate all the cards, prayers, and condolences from our parish family.
The Family of Harold Meskil

Prayer – Blessing for Veterans

O God,
Bless the men and women who have stepped forward in the service of our country.
Protect them in Your mercy, care for their needs:
physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual.
Give them courage, strength, perseverance, and support.
Amen.

November HACSM Pantry Needs:
Saltine Crackers, Pasta Sides

STN Collection	10/31/26
Envelopes/Loose	$1,162.00
All Saints	$270.00
All Souls	$50.00
Justice & Hope	$100.00
World Mission	$20.00
Sister Parish	$30.00
Christmas Flowers	$25.00
Budget Goal	$1,276.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	$156.00
Support Needed (budget)	$22,968.00
Support Actual	$22,669.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	$-299.00

"Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." – Matthew 25:13

Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We've all said, "I'll do it later when I have time." Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus' call is urgent, in the here and now, in your current circumstances. How is God calling you to use your gifts today? Don't delay. None of us is guaranteed tomorrow.



St. Nicholas Blood Drive at St. Nicholas Parish Hall on Tuesday, November 17th; 1:00 to 6:00 PM Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter STNICHOLASCHURCH to schedule an appointment.

Follow Springfield Illinois Vocations! – The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois has launched new Vocations social media accounts on Facebook and Instagram at @spivocations. These accounts are designed especially to reach young men who may be discerning a call to the priesthood, while also sharing stories, encouragement, events, and resources that help foster a culture of vocations throughout our diocese. You can help! Follow @spivocations on Facebook and Instagram, and share the accounts with young men, parents, teachers, coaches, youth ministers, and others who may know someone asking where God is calling him. Sometimes a simple share can help put the right message in front of the right person at the right time.





PSR Saint Presentation at IC
Chloe Duffin as St. Rose, Miley Duffin as St. Bernadette, Nolan Korte as St. John of the Cross, Cayden Hannan as St. Isidore & Branch Kapp as St. Michael the Archangel

STG Collection	11/1/26
Envelopes/Loose	$1,030.00
All Saints	$130.00
All Souls	$125.00
Justice & Hope	$35.00
Maintenace Fund	$255.00
Sister Parish	$35.00
Cemetery	$50.00
Budget Goal	$1,524.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	$-364.00
Support Needed (budget)	$27,432.00
Support Actual	$21,595.00
Surplus/Deficit YTD	$-5,837.00

IC Collection	11/1/26
Envelopes/Loose	$2,858.00
All Saints	$140.00
All Souls	$95.00
Justice & Hope	$30.00
Building Fund	$23.00
Sister Parish	$50.00
World Mission	$20.00
Cemetery	$105.00
Budget Goal	$2,920.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	$78.00
Support Needed(budget)	$52,560.00
Support Actual	$44,680.14
Surplus/Deficit YTD	$-7,879.86



Observances for the Week of November 8, 2026

Sunday
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday
The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Tuesday
St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday
St. Martin of Tours, Bishop; *Veterans Day*

Thursday
St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

Friday
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

Next Sunday
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Marine, Illinois is seeking an Office Manager. This is a part-time position, with 20 hours or less anticipated each week. The Office Manager's time schedule may be a hybrid work environment. Should any potential applicant want to discuss the requirements of the position further or would like to express interest, please call 618-792-2831 or 618-830-1647.



Both in life and after death, it is love that purifies. If in life we allow God to come close to us in love, to take us in His arms and hold us fast, this inevitably means pain, simply because we are so twisted, hard, and unyielding. If we submit, His love softens us, straightens us out, transforms us into His own likeness. The pain of purification is the direct effect of love. And this is the same after death.
Sister Ruth Burrows, O.C.D.
(from the meditation for November 2)

Koinonia of Springfield to celebrate 50th anniversary

This year, Koinonia of Springfield is observing its 50th anniversary. The event will be marked with an observance Sunday, Nov. 15. Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph the Worker parish in Chatham (700 E. Spruce St) at 2 p.m., followed by refreshments, fellowship and historical exhibits in the parish hall. Priests who have made TECs and/or Koinonias are welcome to concelebrate the Mass. Please let Gail Eck know (217-971-3883).

There is abundant parking and no stairs to navigate. A free-will donation will be accepted to cover costs. Please join us. Invite a friend and offer him or her a ride!



The UFO group will meet on Tuesday, November 10th at 7pm at the Grantfork UCC social hall. Mallory Schlechte, owner of the Flower Preserve, will be our guest speaker explaining how she preserves fresh flowers and creates beads, rosaries, etc. from petals.

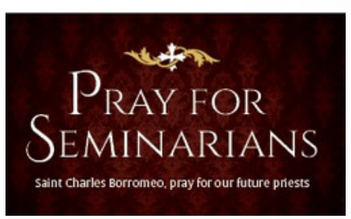
St. Martin of Tours was born a pagan in what is now Hungary around 316, but he was raised in Italy, where his father, a tribune, was posted. At 15, he was compelled to serve in the Roman military, though he was already a catechumen. There is a popular legend that while on campaign, the saint cut his cloak in half to share with a cold beggar. That night, he dreamed of Jesus and his cloak was restored. He was baptized at 18, and two years later was released from the military; he had refused his battle pay and to fight, saying he was a soldier for Christ. He is the first recognized conscientious objector. After his release from the military, he became a disciple of Hilary of Poitiers. He worked diligently against the Arian heresy, which denies the divinity of Jesus Christ, and established the first French monastery, a community of hermits near Poitiers in 361.

In 371 he reluctantly became Bishop of Tours. Nearby, he founded a second monastery, Marmoutier, because he preferred the life of a monk; he often retreated. In 384, a popular heresy was infecting the Church in Spain, led by the bishop Priscillian and his followers. The emperor Magnus Maximus became involved, ordering the execution of the heretics. St. Martin opposed the executions and protested the emperor's involvement in Church matters. Unfortunately, the Priscillians were executed anyway. St. Martin of Tours died in Candes-Saint-Martin, Gaul, in 397. He is notably among the first saints who were not martyred. He is the patron saint of France. St. Martin of Tours, pray for us!





Thomas Marten
Configuration III
Kenrick-Glennon Seminary



32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME NOVEMBER 7 & 8, 2026



Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork



+BISHOP
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
DIOCESE OF
SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA
PASTOR

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Office Hours:
Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm
Fridays 9am to 1pm

MassTimes

ImmaculateConception
Wed.& Fri.—8:00am
Sunday —10:00am

Saint Nicholas

Thursday — 8:00am
Saturday — 4:30pm

Saint Gertrude
Tuesday — 8:00am
Sunday — 8:00am