

FAITH FLASH!

Faith Tip of the Week: May the Force be with you!

I recall going to the theater to see the first Star Wars movie. I have also seen a few others on television. One doesn't have to be a Star Wars fanatic to know the line "May the Force be with you". In the first Star Wars film, Episode IV: A New Hope, a character named General Jan Dodonna first uttered this iconic line. The line implied no matter where anyone went or the situations they would encounter, the Force would be there to guide and protect them. Sound familiar? How many times have we heard "The Lord be with you"? Every Mass, right?! What greater force is there to guide and protect us than our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ? On this "May the fourth (be with you)" weekend, let's us thank our Lord for being the force that guides and protects us as we encounter life's situations. While the choir most likely will not be playing the Star Wars theme song as we leave church this weekend, we will hear our Jedi, Fr. Dennis, telling us those words of hope. May the Force be with you! (and with your Spirit!).

Youth Group

Next Youth group meeting is May 15th. All newly confirmed 8th graders are welcome to attend! Bring a friend.

Vacation Bible School

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Vacation Bible School being planned for June. Please contact me at 618 282 3222 ext 4.

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.

CATHOLIC SERVICE AND MINISTRY APPEAL

Serve the Lord with gladness!--Psalm 100

A special thanks to everyone who has so generously supported The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal – we are most grateful. If you haven't had an opportunity to make a gift as yet, we hope you will prayerfully consider doing so now. Gifts can be made through your parish or by visiting www.diobelle.org and clicking on "Giving". Seventeen (17) ministries and programs and all those they so faithfully serve are counting on **YOU**. Please make your contribution today!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

GOD IS AS NECESSARY TO YOUR LIFE AS YOUR NEXT BREATH!



GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



Spring Concert-Join us for an evening of entertainment at our Spring Concert on Sunday, May 5, at 7 p.m.

Senior Art Show-The Class of 2024 art exhibit will be open at Awards Night on May 17 at 7 p.m. and Graduation on May 20 at 7 p.m.

Summer Camps-Registration for our summer camps is now open! Choose from art, boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' volleyball, and boy's soccer.

<https://gibalthawks.com/2024-summer-camps/>

Summer Classic Golf Tournament-Tee up for the students of Gibault Catholic High School as part of our 27th Summer Classic Golf Tournament! This year's tournament will be held on Friday, June 21, 2024, 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@gibalthawks.com or visit our event website: <https://SummerClassic.givesmart.com>

RESPECT LIFE

"The Lord says to us, 'Do not fear: I am with you' (Isaiah 41:10). He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to his suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests his victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Be Not Afraid" NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.

Pregnancy Resource Highlight

Pregnancy Care Center, 180 South 3rd St. Belleville, IL
Phone: (618) 233-2273

Pregnancycarecenter.org, open Mon, Tue, Wed from 10 am-2 pm

Provide referrals for pregnancy care, clothing, diapers, and other assistance to mothers and families free of charge.

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



VOCATION PILGRIMAGE WEEKEND WITH THE DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL

July 5-7-Curious about religious life? Spend a weekend with the Daughters of St. Paul, and participate in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage as it passes through St. Louis! This dynamic weekend retreat will introduce you to the Eucharistic spirituality, media mission, and community life of the Daughters of St. Paul and give you quiet time with the Lord to pray about your vocation. Open to single Catholic women ages 18-30. Learn more or register at connect.pauline.org/vocational-pilgrimage or contact Sr. Amanda Marie at stlouisvocations@paulinemedia.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Newman Catholic Student Center SIU-Carbondale Quilt & Cash Bingo Today, Sunday, May 5th at St. John's Parish Center. Lunch begins at 11 a.m. and bingo starts at 1 p.m. Win quilts, cash, gift baskets, and raffle prizes!
Prairie du Rocher American Legion fish fry, May 17th 4:30-8 p.m. Serving three kinds of fish, chicken strips, French fries, slaw, baked beans, mac & cheese, stewed tomatoes. Info: 284-9509.



MAY PROCESSION

Please join the Association of the Miraculous Medal on Sunday, May 5, at 1:00 p.m., for our annual May Procession at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Perryville, MO. The procession will form in front of Saint Mary's of the Barrens Church. Participants will pray the Rosary as we proceed to the historic grotto on the Rosary Walk. The traditional May Crowning and prayer service will be a part of this tribute to Our Blessed Mother. All are welcome to participate. You are encouraged to bring a chair or blanket, as there is limited seating at the grotto. There will be a Spanish Mass, with live music, in the Shrine Church at 3:00 p.m. For any questions, please call 1-800-264-6279 or visit our website, www.amm.org.

CATHOLIC SPEED DATING

The Diocese of Belleville is hosting Catholic Speed Dating for young adults ages 21-33 on Thursday May 23rd at Holy Trinity parish in Fairview Heights, IL. Hors d'oeuvres & drinks will be provided. Registration is required and there is a \$10 admission fee. Check-in begins at 6:30pm and the event starts at 7. For questions or more information, please go to <https://www.diobelle.org/marriage-enrichment> or contact mking@diobelle.org or mskorch@diobelle.org
 Registration QR code:



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.



THE TRUTH ABOUT SUGAR

Free Lunch & Learn May 10th from 11:30am-1:00pm at Red Bud Regional Hospital's Auditorium. Registered Dietician, Meghan Murphy, will give an overview of sugar, how it's processed in the body, and how to reduce your risk for developing diabetes. Register at 618-282-5464.

John 15:12 Love one another as I have loved you

Across

- Love one ----- as I have loved you
- Jesus wants us to ----- just like He did
- Jesus loves -----
- Ye are my -----, if ye do whatsoever I command you.
- Jesus wants us to ----- His Commandments

Down

- 10-9=
- The ten rules that Jesus gave us. The ten -----
- love hath no man than this
- One of Jesus's disciples. This is also the book in the Bible where our scripture is found
- The opposite of death