



A Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri 6020 Old Antonia Road, Imperial, MO 63052 sjiparish.org | 636-464-1013

| St. Joseph Parish | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Parish Office Hours: M-F: 7:30 am—3:30 pm 636-464-1013 | | | | | |
| Rev. Daniel G. Shaughnessy, Pastor | frs@sjiparish.org x104 | | | | |
| Rev. Jonathan R. Ruzicka, Associate Pastor | jruzicka@sjiparish.org x116 | | | | |
| Rev. Mr. Roland Kaiser, Permanent Deacon | retired | | | | |
| Rev. Mr. Brian Selsor, Permanent Deacon | 636-464-6901 | | | | |
| Rev. Mr. John Wolffer, Permanent Deacon | 314-420-3898 | | | | |
| Parish Administra | tive Staff | | | | |
| Carol DuBuque, <i>Bookkeeper</i> | cdubuque@sjiparish.org x105 | | | | |
| Julie Hepp, Parish Accountant | jhepp@sjiparish.org x119 | | | | |
| Kathy Larson, Communications Director | klarson@sjiparish.org x112 | | | | |
| Keith Newbury, Facilities Manager | knewbury@sjiparish.org x110 | | | | |
| Karla Owensby, Business Manager | kowensby@sjiparish.org x103 | | | | |
| Rachel Schoenberger, Parish Secretary | rschoenberger@sjiparish.org x102 | | | | |
| Heather Selsor, Corpus Christi Center Manager | hselsor@sjiparish.org x111 | | | | |
| Mary Truetken, Child Safety Coordinator | mtruetken@sjiparish.org x109 | | | | |
| Parish Ministeri | al Staff | | | | |
| Sr. Rosemary Buttice, ASCJ, Pastoral Associate | rbuttice@sjiparish.org x106 | | | | |
| Sean Feltz, Assoc. Director of Youth Ministry | sfeltz@sjiparish.org x114 | | | | |
| Torri Halbert, PSR Coordinator | thalbert@sjiparish.org x107 | | | | |
| Emily Kopff, Director of Religious Education | ekopff@sjiparish.org x108 | | | | |
| Saint Joseph Sc | | | | | |
| Sr. Carol Sansone, ASCJ, Principal | csansone@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x401 | | | | |
| Sr. Ellen Cronan, ASCJ, Admin. Assistant | ecronan@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x403 | | | | |
| Tara Gaudreault, RN, School Nurse | tgaudreault@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x500 | | | | |
| Rose Preston, Office Manager | rpreston@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x402 | | | | |
| Other Ministries | | | | | |
| Knights of Columbus, Nick Wallis | 314-703-6744 | | | | |
| Natural Family Planning, Sean/Amanda Dailey | thedaileys16@gmail.com; 314-540-1739 | | | | |
| Parish Cemetery, Bill Regelsperger | 314-808-2522 | | | | |
| Sr. Christine's Food Pantry | 636-464-7580 | | | | |
| St. Vincent de Paul Society Helpline | 636-274-6520 | | | | |

MASS TIMES

Sat.: 8:00 am & 4:30 pm

Sun.: 7, 8:30, 10, 11:30 am; 4:30 pm

Mon. - Fri. 6:30 & 8:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday-Friday: 7:00 am

Thursday: 5:30 pm—7:00 pm Saturday: 3:30 pm—4:30 pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

T/W/Th 9:00 am—9:00 pm

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

Attendance at a Baptismal preparation class is required. Classes are held the 2nd Thursday of the month; call to schedule.

SACRAMENTS of EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION

For those who have been baptized Catholic or wish to enter the Catholic Church, RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes are required. For more information contact Sr. Rosemary.

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Anyone who is seriously sick and would like a visit from one of the priests may call the parish office to request one. Hospitals no longer call parishes with this information.

SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE

Contact one of the priests to begin your preparation at least nine months before the anticipated wedding date.

SACRAMENT of HOLY ORDERS AND VOWED RELIGIOUS LIFE

If you are interested in learning about a religious vocation, please contact one of the priests or the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at stlvocations.org or 314-792-6460.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Parishioners who are homebound and wish to receive Holy Communion may call Mary Dixon at 636-467-2104 to make arrangements.

2 May 21, 2023

| Ministry Schedule | May 27 4:30 pm | May 28 7:00 am | May 28 8:30 am | May 28 10:00 am | May 28 11:30 am | May 28 4:30 pm |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Lectors | Simms Dalton | Schiavi Hoffmeister | Szewcyck Hostetter | Lang Brotherton | Schurk | Volunteer |
| Servers | A. Rakers S. Rakers Volunteer | Volunteers | J. Lehn A. Lurk F. Null | A. Fanetti J. Halfmann E. Lang | Ja. Vonder Haar Jo. Vonder Haar P. Vonder Haar | A. Julius K. Julius N. Julius |

| Mass Intentions | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Monday | May 22, 2023 | | | |
| 6:30 am | Mary Bailey | | | |
| 8:00 am | Beth Throm (special intention) | | | |
| Tuesday | May 23, 2023 | | | |
| 6:30 am | Tony Little | | | |
| 8:00 am | The Heying Family (special intention) | | | |
| Wednesday | May 24, 2023 | | | |
| 6:30 am | Elaine Frauenhoffer | | | |
| 8:00 am | Susan Curran (special intention) | | | |
| Thursday | May 25, 2023 | | | |
| 6:30 am | Jeanne Klosterman | | | |
| 8:00 am | Joshua Dudaric | | | |
| Friday | May 26, 2023 | | | |
| 6:30 am | Karen Riggio (special intention) | | | |
| 8:00 am | Lester & Lucy Sitzes | | | |
| Saturday | May 27, 2023 | | | |
| 8:00 am | William & Margaret Dust | | | |
| 4:30 pm | Leona Gast | | | |
| Sunday | May 28, 2023 | | | |
| 7:00 am | Parishioners of St. Joseph | | | |
| 8:30 am | William Christman | | | |
| 10:00 am | Ann Moloney (special intention) | | | |
| 11:30 am | Frank Halfmann | | | |
| 4:30 pm | Lester & Lucy Sitzes | | | |

Please stop by, call, or email the parish office to schedule Mass Intentions. Mass cards for *special intentions* or *in memory* are available; they may be picked up in the parish office. The stipend per Mass is \$10.

| Confession Times in the Jefferson Co. Deanery | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| Monday | | |
| 5-6:30 pm | St. David, Arnold | |
| Tuesday | | |
| 5-6 pm | St. John the Beloved, Imperial | |
| Wednesday | | |
| 5-6 pm | St. John the Beloved, Imperial | |
| Thursday | | |
| 5:30-7 pm | St. Joseph, Imperial | |
| Saturday | | |
| After 8 am Mass | St. Rose of Lima, DeSoto | |

| Parish Stewardship - 5/1/2023-5/7/2023 | | | | |
|--|-------------|----------------|--|--|
| | Current | Fiscal YTD | | |
| Offertory | | | | |
| Total collected | \$26,042.21 | \$1,012,568.81 | | |
| Amount needed | \$22,170.00 | \$997,650.00 | | |
| Surplus or shortage | \$3,872.21 | \$14,918.81 | | |
| SPECIAL COLLECTIONS | | | | |
| Tuition assistance | \$377.00 | | | |
| St. Vincent dePaul | \$2,183.00 | | | |
| Sr. Christine's Food Pantry | \$1,442.00 | | | |

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

If you have something for publication in the bulletin, please send it to bulletin@sjiparish.org. The deadline is each Monday at noon.







From the Desk of Fr. Jack Ruzicka, Associate Pastor

Dear St. Joseph Parish community, It's time for some R&R – that is ... RUZICKA RECOMMENDS!

But first, let me take the scenic route to explain what I mean....

I'll never forget the homily given by Bishop Rice at a Steubenville Conference several years ago. He was raving against the hottest hobby among America's youth at that time: "Pokémon Go." In this game, kids were tasked with walking around God's good creation, iPhones in hand, hunting for Pokémon. In the throes of passionate exasperation, Bishop Rice said, "Get your nose out of your phone and stick it in a book!"

I took this advice to heart.

That homily set me on a trajectory to dive into the rich literary heritage that belongs to us as human beings. Growing up, reading was nothing short of the cruelest punishment. It was like pulling teeth for my parents to convince me to sit down and read a book, even for ten minutes. Today, I'm happy to report that reading is a welcome ritual in my life.

"But Father," you might object, "I just don't have time to read!"

Nonsense. If you can binge Netflix, social media, or YouTube, you can read a book. It may take discipline. As my brother once told me: "Discipline trumps motivation." We may not always feel *motivated* to read, but once we establish the *discipline* and routine, it will happen. Reading may come naturally for some people – they can simply plop down anywhere and start reading as readily as I can pull out my phone and take a selfie. BUT...for folks like me, it just ain't that easy.

It's nothing short of a ritual to sit down and read a book. One may say it's even sacramental. If it helps, treat yourself as you read. Maybe that means grabbing some tea, a hot cup of coffee, or mixing together an Old Fashioned while listening to Vivaldi's Bassoon Concerto in A-Minor to gear up for your evening read.

Regular reading means to wage war on the diabolical chokehold that technology has on us. Reading is difficult for most people because, quite simply, it's easier to pull out our phones or sit in front of the TV and "numb out" for a few hours. However! — do we ever feel better about ourselves after these indulgent binges?

Whenever I'm invited to guest-write a bulletin article, I will recommend books for your reading pleasure. I will only recommend books that I have read personally. Most important, I will recommend books that I believe will nourish, edify, and hopefully entertain you at the same time. The most important factor in "getting into reading" is having the right book. Not all of these books will appeal to everyone, but I at least want to get these titles and au-

thors out there. I hope you actually take the time to dive into some of these recommendations! [N.B. These books are recommended in no particular order.]

This week, I recommend: "VIPER'S TANGLE" by François Mauriac (I particularly recommend the edition published by Cluny Classics because it offers interesting footnotes and commentary.)

Synopsis: The book is written in the form of a man's letter to his estranged wife. The wife is a devout Catholic while the author is a staunch atheist. He is nearing the end of his life and, in the course of these letters, he muses on what his life meant. He's not a delightful character. In fact, he's a miserable character. He spent most of his life rejecting love from the people who loved him purely. Thus, he has closed his heart to the God who is Love. In his own words, "I know my heart – it is a knot of vipers. They have almost squeezed the life out of it. They have beslavered it with their poison, but, underneath their squirming, it still beats."

As we journey through his existential reflections...do we notice him beginning to wrestle with Faith?

Timothy O'Malley, in his introduction to the book, says eloquently: "Yet, there is another way to read *Viper's Tangle*, one that takes seriously the persistence of divine grace in wooing even the most hardened sinners toward prayer. The darkness of human sin finally cannot affect God's persistent calling of men and

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As we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, we recognize the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us. In this moment, as Archbishop Rozanski prepares to share the future structure of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, we are struck by the constant need for Pentecost to happen in our Church each and every day. It is the Spirit that allowed the early Church to move from fear to courage - from silence to a bold proclamation of the Gospel. As we have arrived at this moment in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, this indeed is a new Pentecost for us.

After nearly two years of gathering data and feedback, Archbishop Rozanski will announce his decision regarding All Things New on Saturday, May 27, the day before Pentecost.

Pastors will be sharing information regarding the announcement as it pertains to their parish at all Masses Pentecost weekend, as well as through their usual communication outlets. On Saturday evening, information regarding all parishes and priest assignments will be posted on allthingsnew.archstl.org

As we prepare our hearts to be open to follow where the Holy Spirit will lead us, consider joining parishioners all over the archdiocese in praying a Novena to the Holy Spirit in the days leading up to Pentecost. The Novena prayers and audio can be found at allthingsnew.archstl. org/Resources/Novena-to-the-Holy-Spirit

Let's continue to pray for each other as we discern the best path toward a renewed Catholic presence in every part of our archdiocese.

Congratulations to the

SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL

Class of 2023 who will graduate on May 24th

Lily Anne Berry* Anthony James Colantuono Hayden Matthew Coleman* Gage Jason Dearda* Alexander Ryan Foster Dustin Michael Freeman Emmerson Marguerite Frimml* Pascale Josephine Gaudreault* Bailey Jean Goodman Kaihlynn Ann Julius* Ava Marie Kelley* Connor Krzysztof Kuczwara Jayne Eileen LaMouria Amelia Kaye Lang* Olivia Rowan Lantz-Melker* Michael Anthony Lay Aidan David Lowry*

Marley Solomon Mayes* Luke James McEneny* Troy Joseph Meyer Jacob Isadore Mikko Jane Mae Padgitt Maverick Roman Pieper* Shane Joseph Rakers* John Andrew Reiter John William Schmidt Kate Naomi Tilley* Heidi Danielle Vatterott* Faith Hana Wallis* Grace Lee Walt* Rogan Victor Westerman* Annie JoLyn Williams Sofie Anne Wilson *National Junior Honor Society Members

Graduates' High School Selections

Christian Brothers: Hayden Coleman, Marley Mayes

Cor Jesu Academy: Emmerson Frimml, Ava Kelley, Jane Padgitt

Hillsboro: Michael Lay Northwest: Maverick Pieper Notre Dame: Pascale Gaudreault

Seckman: Lily Berry

St. Pius X: Anthony Colantuono, Gage Dearda, Alexander Foster, Bailey Goodman, Kaihlynn Julius, Connor Kuczwara, Jayne LaMouria, Amelia Lang, Olivia Lantz-Melker, Luke McEneny, Troy Meyer, Jacob Mikko, Shane Rakers, John Reiter, Kate Tilley, Heidi Vatterott, Faith Wallis, Grace Walt, Rogan Westerman, Annie Williams, Sofie Wilson

Vianney: Dustin Freeman, Aidan Lowry, John Schmidt

TEACHING POSITION- OPEN

Saint Joseph School has an opening for one or more educators to help further develop our music, band, choir, and drama offerings. If you know anyone who may be interested in a position, we are flexible about considering how they might help us develop a stronger fine arts program. More information is available here: https://www.archstl.org/job-opportunities/music-teacher-full-time-or-part-time-4461. Resumes may be sent to school principal, Sr. Carol Sansone, ASCJ, at csansone@stjosephimperial.org.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Registration Open for 2023-2024! Classes will meet late August - early May.

On-Time Registration: April 17th -July 16th Registrations received after July 16th will incur a \$50 late fee per family.

Two Options to Fit Your Family:

1.In-Person: Students meet weekly in-person on Wednesday evenings from 5:15-6:30 pm.

2. Family Focused: Students and parents meet monthly in-person on Sunday mornings from 9:45-11:15 am. The majority of material will be covered at home with parents as the primary

Questions? Contact Emily at ekopff@sjiparish.org or 636-464-1013 x108

Register online today!
https://osvhub.com/sjiparish/forms/





Faith Alive in the Home Conference

"Feeding the Families We Serve: Eucharistic Spirituality in

Family Life"



This is a great opportunity for all religious education coordinators, catechists and parents to gain resources and build community!

Event includes: breakout sessions, presentations and praying together!

Thursday June 1st, 2023
Guest Speaker: Fr. Eddie Godefroid

Note: You can earn catechetical certification credits for attending this workshop!

Location:

Scan the QR code to register online now!

Details:

Cardinal Rigali Center 20 Archbishop May Dr St. Louis, MO 63119



Doors open at 4:30pm Dinner is provided. Event begins at 5:30pm





Please register for the

St. Joseph Men's ACTS Retreat

When: June 1-4, 2023

Where: Marianist Retreat

Center, Eureka, MO

The cost for each retreatant is \$265.00. A deposit of \$75.00 is requested to reserve your place. The balance of \$190.00 will be due by the time of check-in on Thursday, June 1st. Financial difficulties should not prevent anyone from attending this retreat. If you wish to inquire about special arrangements or need



more info, please contact Gabriel Pope at 314-420-2282, or Joe Leisure at 314-229-4094

Scan the code for full details

Did you know there are movies available at formed.org?

Create your free account by selecting "sign up as a parishioner" then type "St Joseph Imperial" in the search bar.













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The Ascension of the Lord

Today as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension, we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continued through his disciples... AND NOW THROUGH US.



Is there a family you know who needs assistance?

Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can bring Christ's love and peace to those who are struggling to feed, shelter, or clothe their families.

For more information about joining our SVdP team, email Dbalsman@ymail.com

Business Meeting: May 22nd 6:30 pm Prayer Meeting: June 14th 6:30 pm *All Meetings in the Corpus Christi Center*

Raise Right Gift Cards For Sale

Thanks for purchasing RaiseRight gift cards! We appreciate your support of this fundraiser formerly known as Scrip. Purchase physical gift cards with cash or check in the School Office M-F 8am-2:30 pm till



May 25. Over the summer you can purchase gift cards during the School Office summer hours (June and July Tu-Th 9 am-1 pm). Or you can buy eGift cards or reload your gift cards using the RaiseRight app. Need help going digital? Reach out to our RaiseRight coordinator Lynn Quinlan at lynn.quinlan@ymail. com.

Buy gift cards for teachers, graduates, gas, groceries,

restaurants, supplies, and home improvements. Support our school with no additional out of pocket expense to you. Our school earns a percent rebate for every gift card sold through the RaiseRight program. Thanks for your continued support!





2023 Parish Auction

Anyone involved with an auction knows that the planning takes months! Our stellar auction committee is already hard at work and they're looking for donations of new or gently used items. Spring cleaning? Cleaning out your closets? Want to purchase new items to donate? Look for our Amazon wish list coming soon as well.

You can drop items off in the parish office or call Angela Mueller (314-795-5528) or Kelly Lehn (314-608-9866) to pick them up.

Thank you for helping to make this year's auction successful!



From the Desk of Fr. Jack Ruzicka, continued from page 4 women toward love."

The protagonist is steeped in self-loathing and he ravishes in his own ruin. He writes, "It was not only that my heart had become a nest of vipers...what was worse than that was that I had refused to look beyond the tangle of vile snakes. I had treasured their knotted hideousness as though it had been the central reality of my being." He throws himself at sin as St. Augustine did in the days of his wayward youth. In the words of Augustine: "The malice was loathsome, and I loved it. I was in love with my own ruin, in love with decay." So, too, our sorry protagonist.

However, the source of hope for our spiteful and faithless protagonist is love. Love and interpersonal relationships are the only antidote to isolation and self-destruction. Will our protagonist recognize this hope in time before his death? Read the book to find out!

Viper's Tangle is not for the faint of heart. It is existential, thought-provoking, and heart wrenching. It does not shy away from the messiness of sin and real life. That's why I believe it is worthwhile reading for any serious disciple of Jesus Christ.

So...find a comfortable chair, a blanket, and a cup of coffee and crack open a book! Until next time, happy reading!

God bless you all!

Respectfully,

Fr. Jack Ruzicka

Baby Bottle Campaign

This year, from Mother's Day to Father's Day, St. Joseph Parish is participating in a Baby Bottle Campaign for Hand 'n Hand Pregnancy Help Center located in Barnhart.

Don't forget to return your baby bottle to the tub in the back of church by Sunday, June 18. Your generous donations will be used to help support the life-affirming mission of Hand 'n Hand PHC.

What better way to commemorate and celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day than to support the gift of life!



Love, serve, and give generously this summer

Our church offers Online Giving as an additional option to support our ongoing mission, ministries, and programs. Your generosity and support make our church's work possible!



Make donations, payments, and pledges to our church via your mobile phone, smart device, or computer.

Set up your gift today or consider an additional gift via our Online Giving link on your smart device.

Visit our church website today to sign up and get started



Eucharistic Adorers needed:

Tuesdays:
3 and 6 pm
Wednesdays:
9 am, 7 pm
Thursdays:
11 am, 4, 5, 8 pm

Visitors are always melcon

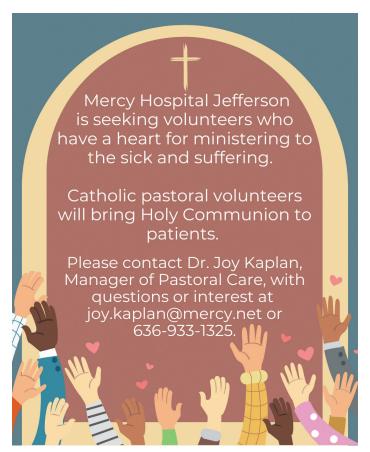
Call Mr. Patrick Smith (573) 310-3472

Next Grief Support Group Meeting Thursday June 8, 2023

6-7 pm in the Corpus Christi Center

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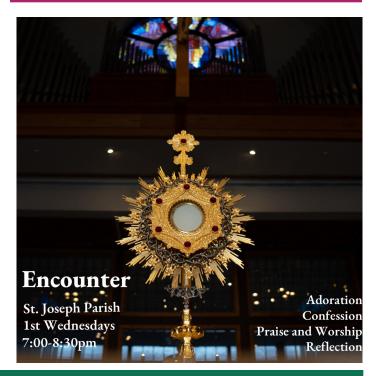


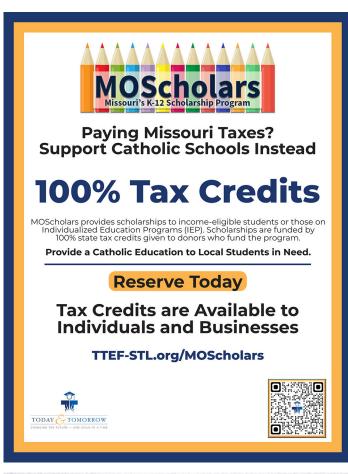


RCIA INQUIRY SESSIONS 2023

Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home? Have you been sitting next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what you have to do to become Catholic? Statistics show that most people respond to a personal invitation. So, this is that personal invitation and a challenge to all of you who might know someone to invite that person to explore this option by considering the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA.) RCIA is the process in which adults enter the Catholic Church, or possibly return if they've been away for a long time and may not have received their First Communion and/or been confirmed. If you are interested in becoming Catholic or returning to the practice of your Catholic faith please contact Sr. Rosemary Buttice, ASCJ, at 636-464-1013 x106 or email at rbuttice@sjiparish.org. Inquiry sessions to help answer your questions will be held on Monday, June 5 and Wednesday, June 7 at 7:00 pm in the Corpus Christi Center Gathering Space.

We look forward to meeting you!









St. Joseph Parish Crisis Care Line

Passionate about sports? SJAA is looking for a few good people! Free sports for up to 4 kids!

For more information contact Mitch Mueller (314) 220-5305. Thank you for your consideration!

Our Parish Praying Together

May those who are ill be blessed by Jesus' healing presence.

Matthew Anderson Bob Baer Elizabeth Bell Mike Boyd Jeannie Brown Christine Callahan Don Compton Ben Cotter Bobbi Dickerson Donna Fischer Will Fischer Ty J. Foster Murphy Garner Michelle Gillman Dave Greco Scott Haase Melissa Hartmann Adelaide Herrell Ken Hopkins Eileen Kaiser Iim Kaiser Roland Kaiser Scott Layton

Charles Lesch Floyd McClintock Janet McClintock Georgia McDermott Ron Merideth Barb Miller Dwayne Parker Jill Pesek Dennis Pollard Linda Powers Barbara Presson Jean Rakowiecki Janeen Reinbott Will Roberts Claire Sackman Nancy Shuttleworth Vernon Speidel Andrew Staggenborg Carleen Thomas Noella Torgerson Doreen Watts Iane Werner Sue Werner

We pray for those in the Military:

Meaghan Angus
Stephen Appelbaum
John Costigan
Jack Jeffers
Isaac Longtin
Austin McHaffie-Sharp
Douglas Moloney
James Moloney
Mary Margaret Moloney
Michael Moloney, Jr.

Maxwell Rayman
Tony and Elise Rich
Jacob Sarfraz
Jared Sheets
Lauren Slough
Grant Staggenborg
Conner Stark
Jack Vilchis
Lucas Weiland

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