

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**



**Catholic Deaf Ministry**

**Archdiocese of St Louis**

## Archdiocese of St Louis

### Signed and Interpreted Mass

St Richard's  
11223 Schuetz Rd  
Creve Couer MO 63146  
Every Sunday at 11 AM

### Interpreted Mass

#### **Our Lady of Sorrows**

5020 Rhodes Ave  
St Louis MO 63109  
Every Sunday at 10 AM

#### **Holy Infant**

627 Dennison Dr  
Ballwin MO 63021  
Every other Sundays at 10:15 AM  
**Unknown until notice further**

#### **St Joseph's**

13555 Motherhead Dr  
Cottleville MO 63304  
Every Sunday at 10:30 AM  
**Unknown -Contact church**

#### **Our Lady of Pillar**

401 S. Lindbergh Rd  
St Louis MO 63109  
Every Sunday at 8:30 AM  
**Unknown—Contact church**

### Signed/Interpreted Christmas Mass

**St Richard's 9:30 AM**

**Lady of Our Sorrow 9:00 AM**

## Belleville Diocese

### **Immaculate Conception Church**

411 Palmer Rd  
Columbia IL 62236  
Saturday at 5 PM

**Note: Sometimes change to Sunday  
Check for interpreter available  
Contact Janette Fields**

**VP 618 767 6993 / Email: Sewinghobby90@yahoo.com**

**If your church interpreter is not available, please come to St Richard for Jesus and keep your spirit strong. Also, show your support to Fr Dan.**

**\*\*\*\*\*Wear masks are required during the Mass\*\*\*\*\***

# ***Silent Holy Spirit***

## **SPECIAL FEAST DAYS DURING ADVENT ST NICHOLAS THE TRUE SANTA CLAUS DECEMBER 6**

Do you believe in Santa Claus? Is that a true Santa Claus?

Back to late 1960's, my family went to Town and Country Mall on Page Ave in Overland, MO where there was shopping along the mall. There was a large Christmas tree with a Santa chair in the mall. My sister, brother and I hopped on Santa Claus's lap and he asked us what we wanted for Christmas.

On Christmas eve, we left a glass of eggnog and several cookies on the table near our real, large Christmas tree. We realized that we did not have a fireplace and we asked our parents "How can Santa Claus come in?" My mom said Santa can come in thru the front door. We told her not to lock the door!!

We were in bed and tried to stay awake and hoped to catch him in our sights but it never happened because we fell asleep and missed him! A few years later, we did not believe Santa Claus, but it is a great memory.

Don't be shocked! I do believe in Santa Claus...am I crazy or weird? LOL. But, I do not believe that he flies in the sky with reindeers and drops presents off at every home around the world. Why do you think that I believe in him? His real name was Saint Nicholas. But people called him Santa Claus. I found an interesting story to share with you below:

Saint Nicholas was a Christian bishop who provided for the poor and sick and is the basis for the popular character of Santa Claus. After his death, the legend of his gift-giving grew. He transformed into the legendary character called Santa Claus, who brings Christmas presents to children around the world.



A poor man who had three daughters and could not afford to pay their dowries and decided to put them into prostitution. St Nicholas secretly went to their house at night and put a bag of money inside. He did the same for the second daughter. On the third visit, the father caught him and thanked him for his kindness.

His uncle (also named Nicholas) was a bishop of Myra, Lycia, and ordained him to the priesthood. St Nicholas gave all of his money to the poor people, entered the monastery, and then became an abbot. After his uncle passed away, St Nicholas was chosen to be a bishop of Myra. He and other priests, deacons and bishops were imprisoned and tortured for the Faith during the persecution waged by Emperor Diocletian. Later, he was released by Emperor Constantine after the legalization of Christianity.



In 325, he attended the Council of Nicaea and joined in the condemnation of the heresy of Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ. When St Nicholas heard that Arius denied the divinity of Jesus, he became angry and slapped Arius's face. The Council Fathers cheered that he took an action against Arius. He was removed from his episcopal regalia and was sent to prison. One night the Holy Family came to release him from prison.

Various stories about St Nicholas helping others:

Three innocent men were punished to die by beheading. He went over to stop the guard and rescued them and moved to do penance.

Sailors were on a ship and got caught in a terrible storm at sea. St Nicholas was still on the land and took to prayer. The miracle prayer answered was that the wind and waves were calmed and the sailors were safe.



St Nicholas was traveling in France, stopped at the inn and at night, he dreamed that three boys were lured, murdered and hid their bodies in a brine tub by an evil butcher. St Nicholas got up and confronted the butcher. He raised three boys back to life and returned them to their families.

There are many more stories where he saved many innocent people, rescued people from disasters, helped those in poverty, rescued missing children and more.

St Nicholas passed away on December 6, 343 in Myra. He was buried at his cathedral church.

Because of the many miracles, St Nicholas is known as Nicholas the Wonderworker. He is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, archers, repentant thieves, prostitutes, children, brewers, pawnbrokers, unmarried people, and students in various cities and countries around Europe and more.

Now, do you believe in Santa Claus? If so, do not leave fire in your fireplace or leave door unlocked!!! If not, you will get a black charcoal in your stocking!!!



# Immaculate Conception Feast of Virgin Mary December 8

Written by Fr Dan Kavanagh

One of my favorite feelings is when I finish going to confession. I am happy to know that God has forgiven my sins, and to know that I receive grace from God, I receive his love, to help me to be strong if I am tempted to sin again. Can you imagine what it would be like if life were always like that? What if we always know God's love for us, and we never were tempted to sin again? That would be amazing!

If we go back to the beginning of the Bible in Genesis, we read about Adam and Eve sinning by eating the fruit from the tree of knowledge, even though God told them not to. Because of that, all people have been born with "original sin". That is why we all need to be baptized and receive forgiveness from God. There have been two other people after Adam and Eve who did not have "original sin" when they were born, can you guess who? Yes, one person is Jesus, the Son of God. Jesus does not sin since he is God. But there is one other person, can you guess who? It is his mother, Mary.



The Church teaches that Mary was born with no "original sin." How do we know this? Where is it in the bible? It is not written in the Bible, but we read that the angel Gabriel said to Mary "Hail Mary, full of grace" No one was ever said to be "full of grace" except for Mary. Grace is God's love, and if Mary was full of God's love, then there is no room for sin.

On December 8th every year, the Catholic Church celebrates the Immaculate Conception. This is a celebration of Mary becoming a baby in her mother's womb. We say that Mary is "Immaculate" meaning that she is pure, because she has no "original sin." Many Catholics confuse Immaculate Conception and think of the time when Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to baby Jesus, but that day is called the "Annunciation." Gabriel "announced" to Mary that she would give birth to baby Jesus. The Annunciation is on March 25, 9 months before Christmas, because mothers usually are pregnant for 9 months, right! So on the Immaculate Conception, we celebrate Mary becoming a baby in her mother's womb, and Mary is pure and has no "original sin."



# Christmas Trivia Game

1. Where in the Bible do we read about the Birth of Jesus?
2. Who gave birth to Jesus?
3. What city was Jesus born in?
4. Who appeared to tell Mary that she was with child?
5. How many miles did Mary and Joseph have to travel to get to Bethlehem?
6. How many angels spoke to the shepherds?
7. What sign were the shepherds supposed to look for when searching for Jesus?
8. Who followed a star to find baby Jesus?
9. Where was Jesus laid after he was born?
10. What gifts did the wise men bring to baby Jesus?
11. Who was the one trying to kill Baby Jesus?
12. Who was the prophet that foretold a virgin shall give birth to a son called Immanuel?
13. What does the name Immanuel mean?

## True or False

14. The Bible says Jesus was born in December.
15. Christmas wasn't celebrated for over 300 years after Jesus died.
16. Joseph is the father of Jesus.
17. The three wise men were present at Jesus' birth.
18. Bethlehem is known as the city of Abraham.

Answers on next page

# OBITUARY

## Catholic Deaf Society Members

-Jim Kudrna (1934-2020)

-Bill Crume (1938-2020)

-Tom Flynn's mother- Geraldine Marie Dryden Flynn (1930-2020)

## Death Outside of CDS Members

-Ralph Hinch- Deacon—Chicago IL (1926-2020)

-Jean Cox – Former ICDA President (1964-2020)

-Bob Bek, Deaf Interlink Staff Interpreter, and former C.Ss.R. priest working with deaf for many years (1938-2020)

-Sr Arline Eveld CSJ -formerly Sr Robert Cecile- (1930-2020) Her birthday on Dec 7th

Taught primary level children at St Joseph Institute for the Deaf for many years.

## Trivia Game Answers

1. Luke
2. Mary
3. Bethlehem
4. The Angel Gabriel
5. 90 miles (Thank God that we have cars!!)
6. One
7. A baby lying in manger wrapped in swaddling clothes
8. The Wise Men
9. In a manger
10. Gold, Incense and myrrh
11. King Herold
12. Prophet Isaiah
13. God with Us
14. False
15. True First Christmas Day on Dec 25 336 AD
16. False Trick question God is the Father
17. False They visited Him as an INFANT
18. False City of David



Thank you for all of the work you have already done to make the 2020 *Annual Catholic Appeal* a success. Below is our current parish progress report. I want to thank everyone who has donated to this, as I know this is a very difficult time for many with everything that has been going on with COVID-19. The work of our greater Church throughout the Archdiocese is needed now more than ever. I encourage you to take a look at all of the great work that the various offices and ministries throughout the Archdiocese have been able to do, thanks to the generous support of parishioners throughout the Archdiocese of St Louis. We here at St Richard are thankful for the sizeable grant that we received through the ACA to go toward the new roof for the Parish Life Center, as well as for the funding that our Archdiocesan Office for Catholic Deaf Ministry (which is located here at St Richard) receives through the ACA as well! <https://www.archstl.org/aca>

If you would like to return your pledge card, you may send it directly to the ACA Office at the Archdiocese, or you can return it to the Parish Office.

Fr Dan Kavanagh.

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## FAQ

Question: How can I find “Catholic Deaf Ministry” on website.

Answer: First, open ACA website (see website address above). Then you fill out the blanks. You will see “Gift Designation” then scroll down until you see “Catholic Deaf Ministry”.

Question: I’d like to donate per month instead of once, how can I set up monthly?

Answer: There is an “installment” payment. For example: \$500 a year enter \$41.66 per month. (500 divide by 12 months).

Question: If I want to donate two or more organizations, how can I set up different organizations?

Answer: Fill out the form for each organizations.

Question: I do not have an internet, how can I donate?

Answer: Contact CDM office (AI) for assistance.

Any more assistance or questions, please contact AI.



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS  
Catholic Deaf Ministry

**Pastor**

**Fr Dan Kavanagh**

**314 232 9803 VP**

**314 432 6224 x1016 Emergency**

**frkavanagh@strichardstl.org**

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**CDM Coordinator**

**Al Alvord**

**314 282 4941 VP**

**aalvord@strichardstl.org**

**Allenalvord@archstl.org**

## **St Richard's Mass and Other Services**

### **Signed and Interpreted Mass**

St Richard's  
11223 Schuetz Rd  
Creve Couer MO 63146  
Every Sunday at 11 AM

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Richard's**

#### **Signed Confession**

Thursday - 7:30 AM to 8 AM  
Saturday —3:45 PM to 4:30 PM  
Or by appointment.

### **Confession/Anointing of the Sick**

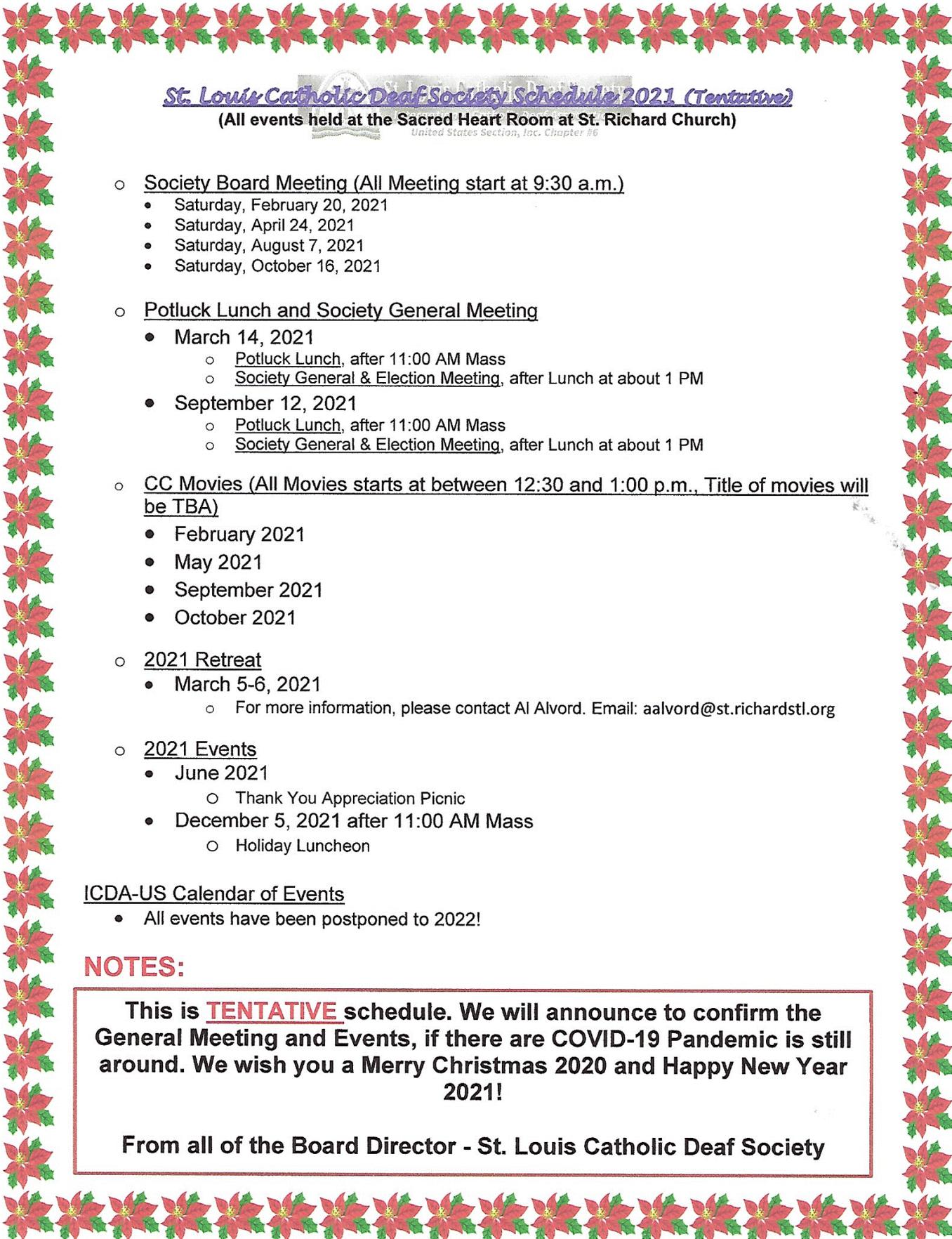
For any person with no transportation or in living assistant or home, Fr Dan will be glad to visit you at your desired place. Contact Fr Dan to set up an appointment.

### **Funeral/Wedding Arrangement**

We are happy to help arrange your wedding or funeral here at St Richard's church. If you prefer to have it at your own church, Fr Dan will be happy to come and be the priest leading the service at your church, or if you want your priest to lead and Fr Dan to be there to help, he is happy to do that also. Please contact CDM office for more information.

**Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion**— Contact CDM

**RCIA— Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**— if you are interested in becoming Catholic— Contact CDM



St. Louis Catholic Deaf Society Schedule 2021 (Tentative)

(All events held at the Sacred Heart Room at St. Richard Church)

United States Section, Inc. Chapter #6

- Society Board Meeting (All Meeting start at 9:30 a.m.)
  - Saturday, February 20, 2021
  - Saturday, April 24, 2021
  - Saturday, August 7, 2021
  - Saturday, October 16, 2021
  
- Potluck Lunch and Society General Meeting
  - March 14, 2021
    - Potluck Lunch, after 11:00 AM Mass
    - Society General & Election Meeting, after Lunch at about 1 PM
  - September 12, 2021
    - Potluck Lunch, after 11:00 AM Mass
    - Society General & Election Meeting, after Lunch at about 1 PM
  
- CC Movies (All Movies starts at between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m., Title of movies will be TBA)
  - February 2021
  - May 2021
  - September 2021
  - October 2021
  
- 2021 Retreat
  - March 5-6, 2021
    - For more information, please contact Al Alvord. Email: [aalvord@st.richardstl.org](mailto:aalvord@st.richardstl.org)
  
- 2021 Events
  - June 2021
    - Thank You Appreciation Picnic
  - December 5, 2021 after 11:00 AM Mass
    - Holiday Luncheon

ICDA-US Calendar of Events

- All events have been postponed to 2022!

**NOTES:**

This is **TENTATIVE** schedule. We will announce to confirm the General Meeting and Events, if there are COVID-19 Pandemic is still around. We wish you a Merry Christmas 2020 and Happy New Year 2021!

From all of the Board Director - St. Louis Catholic Deaf Society