

Special Cover page



# Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church

Diocese of Belleville

Office: (618) 286-4373

email: [sacredheartdupo@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartdupo@gmail.com)

Office Hours:

Website: <https://sacredheartdupo.org>

By Appointment

130 South Third Street, P. O. Box 35

Dupo, Illinois 62239

Administrator: *Father Evaristus Akabueze, C.M.*

Associate: *Father Andrew J. Knopik*



*The Most Reverend Michael G. McGovern, Bishop of the Diocese of Belleville*



## Parish Staff

Trustees:	Ms. Rose Jordan
	Mr. Dennis Martin
Secretary/Bulletin:	Mrs. Joan Scharf
Webmaster:	Mr. David Vernon
Liturgy Committee:	Mrs. Peggy Hoffmann
	Mrs. Karen Pratt

## Parish Organizations and Meetings

**Parish Council**-Second Tuesday of the Month @ 3 pm

**Women's Club**-Meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month at 6 pm (except June-August)

**Quilters**-Every Tuesday after 8 am Mass

**Knights of Columbus**-First (Business meeting @ 7:30 pm) and Third Wednesday (Social @ 7 pm)

**Society of St. Vincent DePaul**-First Monday of the month at 6:30 pm at Immaculate Conception Parish, Columbia in the Garden Level (except June-August)

## Worship Opportunities

### **Saturday Vigil Mass:**

5:00 p.m. at Holy Family, Cahokia

### **Sunday Masses:**

8:00 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart

9:00 a.m. Latin Mass at Holy Family (Log church) 10:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Family

**Weekday Masses are at 8:00 a.m.**

**No Monday Morning Mass**

**Sacred Heart:** Tuesday and Thursday

**Holy Family:** Wednesday and Friday

### Reconciliation

Sunday at 7:30 a.m. and by appointment

### Rosary

First Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.; Depending on weather, we will meet in the church or Mary Garden

**December 22, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Year C**

**By: Father Evaristus Akabueze, C.M.**

*Typical of last-minute Christmas shoppers, a mother was running furiously from store to store. Suddenly she became aware that the pudgy little hand of her three-year-old son was no longer clutched in hers. In panic she retraced her steps and found him standing with his little nose pressed flat against a frosty window. He was gazing at a manger scene. Hearing his mother's near hysterical call, he turned and shouted with innocent glee: "Look Mommy! It's Jesus – Baby Jesus in the hay!" With obvious indifference to his joy and wonder, she impatiently jerked him away saying, "We don't have time for that!"*

Christmas is upon us; I feel it all around. We lit the candle of love– a testimony to the core message of Christ's birth. The God of love broke into our story and lived among us. It's a unique event that inspires us to love, and spread love. The First Reading tells us that the Messiah shall bring peace. Peace is the product of his love. The beauty and joy of Christmas is our irresistible response to God's love. Families gather around dinner tables, tell love stories, acknowledge the hand of God in their lives, and recommit to recreating God's love in practical daily living. We gather in our parish families to relive this awesome event and open our hearts to Baby Jesus. At his birth he didn't find a decent home. Today we make a dwelling for him. He lives in us and among us as our best friend and greatest companion.

The Second Reading says that Jesus comes to do God's will. He is the human face of God's love. The example of his unconditional love inflames our world with joyful fellowships and generous gestures. It's about Jesus! Mary stands as a central Advent and Christmas figure. She points to the manger and invites us to meditate on the meaning of "God-among-us". The gospel describes Mary's visit with Elizabeth, her kinswoman. There was outburst of joy in that visit that underscores the Christmas season. Mary is the cause of our joy. She teaches us to always say yes to God. As you eat and drink and be merry, be mindful of the reason for the season: the Yes of a young and lowly woman who believed that nothing is impossible for God. Merry Christmas!

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**  
(+ Deceased)



**Sunday, December 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent (Fr. Andy SH & HF)**



7:30 a.m. Confession is available  
8:00 a.m. @ Sacred Heart –**Jacob Nelson+ and the Uhrhan Family Members, living and deceased**  
9:00 a.m. Latin Mass in the Log Church-**Deceased Members of the Pluff Family**  
10:00 a.m. @ Holy Family-**Mearl Justice+**



**Monday, December 23, St. John of Kanty No Mass**

**Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Vigil Masses (Fr. Andy SH & HF)**

Holy Family

**Parishioner of Holy Family**  
4:30 p.m. Choir begins caroling

5:00 p.m. Mass begins

Sacred Heart

**Blake Rene Urke, Elizabeth Marie Preis and Rose Sanders+**

9:30 p.m. Choir begins caroling  
10:00 p.m. Mass begins



**Wednesday, December 25, The Nativity of the Lord (Fr. Andy SH & HF)**

Sacred Heart

**Mariellen Geringer+**  
8:00 a.m. Mass begins

Holy Family

**Frank and Dorothy Matejka+**  
10:00 a.m. Mass begins

**Thursday, December 26 St. Stephen, the first Martyr (Fr. Eva)**

8:00 a.m. @ Sacred Heart-**Carol Kelling+**

**Friday, December 27, St. John, Apostle & Evangelist (Fr. Eva)**

8:00 a.m. @ Holy Family-**Carlos Zavala, Jr+**

**Saturday, December 28, Vigil of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Fr. Andy)**

5:00 p.m. @ Holy Family-**Donald Stengel+**

**Sunday, December 29, Vigil of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Fr. Eva SH & HF)**



7:30 a.m. Confession is available  
8:00 a.m. @ Sacred Heart –**Carol Kelling+**  
9:00 a.m. Latin Mass in the Log Church-**Ron & Helen Whited and Family**  
10:00 a.m. @ Holy Family-**Don Eversman+**



**Parish SUPPORT**

Please prayerfully consider your own stewardship and pray for the financial well being of Sacred Heart Parish

**December 15, 2024**

**General Collections**

Envelopes (24)	\$7,020.00
Other Donations	0.00
Loose	0.00
Candles	\$ <u>11.00</u>

**Total General Collections**

**\$7,031.00**

**Special Collections**

Immaculate Conception (3)	\$ 130.00
Christmas Flower Collection (1)	\$ <u>50.00</u>
<b>Total Special Collections</b>	<b>\$ <u>180.00</u></b>

**Total Deposit**

**\$7,211.00**

**Maintenance Fund (1) \$ 100.00**

**Mass Intentions (6) \$ 60.00**

**Society of St. Vincent dePaul () \$ 0.00**

*Thank you for your generous support of our church.*

**On-Line giving available.** You have the ability to safely and securely donate to Sacred Heart at: <https://sacredheartdupo.org/donate>.



**CHRISTMAS VIGIL**  
**DECEMBER 24, 2024**



<b>Sacristan:</b>	<b>Rose Jordan/Joan Scharf</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Joan Scharf</b>
<b>Host</b>	<b>Carol McClanahan</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister-Choir:</b>	<b>Kathy Koebbe</b>

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
**DECEMBER 25, 2024**

<b>Sacristan:</b>	<b>Peggy Hoffmann</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Geri Basinski</b>
<b>Host</b>	<b>Need</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister-Choir:</b>	<b>Need</b>

**THE HOLY FAMILY, JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**  
**DECEMBER 29, 2024**

<b>Sacristan:</b>	<b>Rose Jordan/Joan Scharf</b>
<b>Lector</b>	<b>Geri Basinski</b>
<b>Host</b>	<b>Joan Scharf</b>
<b>Eucharistic Minister-Choir:</b>	<b>Kathy Koebbe</b>



The **January 5th** bulletin must be submitted on **December 27th**, I will need any information for that bulletin by **December 24th**. Submit your information to: [sacredheartdupo@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartdupo@gmail.com) or [scharfjo1956@yahoo.com](mailto:scharfjo1956@yahoo.com)

**PLEASE NOTE: Due to the holiday our publisher requests our bulletin be submitted earlier.... Thank you for your cooperation, Joan**

**SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Tony Albers, Cassidy Aldridge, David and Sandy Anderson, Laretta Anzalone, Kim Arnold, Lindsey Arnold, Donita Baldwin, Benjamin Bassler, Monica Bauer, Betty and Larry Blair, Lydia Boyer and family, Jolene Carroll, Richard Chartrand, I.D. Cleveland, Elisabeth Curtis, Hannah, Jerry, and Marilyn Dycus, Mary Engleman, Eli Fielder, Loretta Gardner, Marion Gautreaux, Erica and Michael Golightly, Phyllis Gould, Joseph Gourley, Mary Gramm, Bryant Hahn, Christ Hallerman, Susan Heape, Charles Heard, Jerry Hight, John Jacobs, Linda Johnson, Earnest Jordan, Norma Karstetter, Richard Kelling, Hailey Kofron, Candice LaCroix, Constance LaCroix, William LaCroix, Alice LaMastus, Steve Lawlor, Barbara Mallory, Michele Martin, Duane McClanahan, Geraldine McCoy, Scott McIntosh, Joanna and Ron Mentel, Nancy Merkley, Robin Miller, Sr. Emile Morgan, Tammy Murdoch, Kady Myers, Brian Nobbe, Dillan Oberson, Parker, Bill Pennock, Karen and Sonny Pratt, Irma Proffer, Alyssa Rhyne, Kim Ross, David Ryder, Mary Schmid, Paul Schonlau, Richard Singer, Abby Steffen, Ron Smitt, Patty Urke, Joshua Wade, Evermore Grace Wagner, Maryann Wagner, Angela Weber, Dave Werner, James Whipple, Ashlei Wilson and Steve Wilson. **Please remember teenagers and their overwhelming challenges. \*If you know of someone that needs to be added or removed from this list, please let Joan Scharf know as soon as possible.\***

**SIX DAY VOTIVE CANDLES ARE \$3.00**

**Please remember our Service Men and Women protecting our freedom!**



**Tressa Tucker**, U.S. Air Force

Sister of Jake Weber

**Hunter Kelling**, U. S. Navy

Son of Holly and Travis Kelling

**Joseph F. Gloeckner**, U. S. Navy

Son of Michael and Renee Gloeckner



**\*Mass Intentions are a wonderful way to remember your loved ones, those who have special needs, or any special occasion. The recommended offering is \$10.00. Put your intention and money in the collection basket or send it to Joan at the parish office, P. O. Box 35, Dupo, Illinois 62239.\* Available NOW!**

**Hospital Visitations**-Due to the new privacy laws most hospitals are not notifying the Pastor of parishioners who are in the hospital. If you or a loved one is in the hospital and wish for Father Akabueze to visit, please leave a message for him at (618) 340-6915 with the name, hospital, and room number (if you have it).

**Home Visitation and Communion**-If anyone would appreciate a visit or Communion brought to their home please call Fr. Akabueze at (618) 340-6915 or leave a message at the parish office (618-286-4373).

**Hall Rental**-For hall rental information please contact Tim Frederick at (618) 286-4373. You can view the Parish Hall -Policy and print out the Rental Agreement by visiting our website at [www.sacredheartchurchdupo.org](http://www.sacredheartchurchdupo.org) and clicking on Hall Rental.



♪Happy Birth day to ♪ ♪ ♪You....Happy ♪ birthday ♪ to you...happy♪  
birthday ♪ ♪dear...December: 27th-Travis Kelling 28th-Linda Hoock

*May each of you be richly blessed by the Lord!  
From Your faith family.*

**NOTICE...NOTICE...**2025 Mass Intentions are being scheduled. If you have any special Mass Intentions you would like to schedule for 2025 please send me the name of the person the intention is for, the date and if it is in memory or a special occasion, and if you do not wish the intention to be shared. Send your request to: [sacredheartdupo@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartdupo@gmail.com).



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
**At Immaculate Conception in Columbia**

Please join them for Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Spend some quiet time with the Lord.



**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION ON WEEKNIGHTS IN OUR AREA:**

**St. Clare, O'Fallon: Tuesday evenings 6 to 7 pm**

**Cathedral, Belleville: Thursday evenings 6 to 7 pm (weekly exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)**



**Catholic Service Ministry Appeal 2024 From Bishop McGovern. . .**  
*The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord - Psalm 15*

As of November 30, we have received pledges amounting to \$1,200,055 representing 92% of our goal. Cash receipts total \$1,127,424 which is 94% of the total amount pledged. Four thousand six hundred eighty-seven (4,687) households have pledged their support, 275 households less than compared to this time last year. We have 70 households registered. If each household gave \$65 we can make our goal this year. As of **10/31/2024 17** households have pledged **\$2,465**. We are **\$1,851** from our goal. Your contribution to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Education to impact the lives of over 11,128 students at 25 Catholic grade schools, three Catholic high schools and in PSR (Parish School of Religion) classes throughout our Belleville Diocese. If you haven't already done so, we prayerfully ask you to consider making a gift to the 2024 Appeal today...no amount is too large or too small! Thank you.-**Bishop Michael McGovern**

## Respect for Life

### ASSISTED SUICIDE SENDS A MESSAGE TO PEOPLE THAT THEY ARE BURDENSOME

Lord Jesus Christ, you chose to share our human nature and redeem all people. We ask for help for our brothers and sisters who are ill. Support them with your power and shelter them from sadness. Keep them firm in faith and serene in hope. Also help those who assist the sick and care for them in their time of illness. Inspire our society to resist the temptation of assisted suicide for the elderly, the sick, the vulnerable and all your people. May life's beauty and sanctity be respected among all our brothers and sisters. All this we ask in your holy name. Amen.

<https://www.ilcatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/>



### Vocation Corner

"Today's Gospel details the 2nd Joyful Mystery of the Rosary – the Visitation. Mary has accepted HER call to be the Mother of God. And even though pregnant, she travels to visit Elizabeth who is the mother of John the Baptist. Elizabeth tells her "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." Have you asked yourself if you are fulfilling what the Lord has spoken to you? Are you being called to something special? Is that a call to the priesthood or religious life?



### Christmas Diocesan Collection for the Needy

The 47th Annual Diocesan Christmas Collection is to be taken up at all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Monies collected will be utilized in the coming year to provide emergency assistance to those in need throughout the diocese. Please prayerfully consider your blessings and help those who are not so fortunate.



### 2025 A Holy Year of Hope JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Pope Francis will open the Jubilee Year 2025 by opening the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve. Join Bishop Michael McGovern in opening the celebration of the Jubilee Year in our diocese at the 10:30am Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter (200 West Harrison, Belleville) on Sunday December 29, 2025. Our theme for the Jubilee Year is **Pilgrims of Hope**. For more information visit [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org).



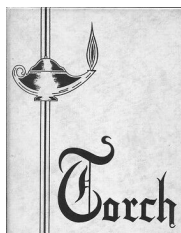
### Retirement Fund for Religious Sunday, was December 8, 2024

It is not too late to consider your stewardship in supporting those who have given their all for God through religious life. There is an envelope in your packet for your convenience.

### Merry Christmas from The Messenger!

At The Messenger, we love bringing you Catholic News from Southern Illinois. Support your Catholic faith and parishes in southern Illinois by subscribing. To subscribe to the paper copy or E-Edition, call The Messenger at 618-233-8670 or by going online go to: [www.bellevillemessenger.org](http://www.bellevillemessenger.org).

**Tax-deductible donations are also appreciated.**



### Attention: Are you from St. Teresa Academy and Assumption Catholic High School class of 1975?

A 50th Class Reunion will be held on Saturday, September 6, 2025 to reconnect, reminisce and celebrate our shared journey. Please contact Monica Threlkeld by email at: [ahs.sta.classof75@gmail.com](mailto:ahs.sta.classof75@gmail.com) or visit Facebook page at: AHS Class of '75.

# Events around the Parish, within the Diocese and in the community

**Queen of Hearts**  
**\$6,872 JACKPOT**  
**& Growing**

Get YOUR tickets today!



Tickets are \$5  
**BUY 5 Tickets and receive 1 Ticket FREE!**


Online drawings are every Friday at 8pm unless otherwise posted.  
 Card Payouts: Number Cards: \$25, Face Cards: \$50  
 Joker Cards: \$100!

goraisedough.com/buy/2170

Sponsored by St. James Catholic Parish  
 Thank you for your support!




**Way of Lights Display**



**When:** November 22 through December 31, 2024, 5:00 to 9:00 pm.  
**Special note:** The event will be closed for viewing on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**What can you expect?** The Way of Lights Display uses over 1.5 million lights to depict the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem. Come celebrate the birth of Jesus and enjoy the journey! Indoor activities continue to be offered for all to enjoy!

**Cost:** The light and Christmas Tree displays accepts free-will donations, but some of the indoor activities have a small fee.

For more information, call 618-397-6700 or visit at:  
<https://snows.org/wayoflights>

Donations needed for


## ST. ANNE CRADLE OF HOPE

Want to prepare for Christmas by helping families in need?  
 Consider hosting an Advent donations drive for St. Anne Cradle of Hope in Carbondale


**NEEDED ITEMS:**

diapers & pullups	baby blankets
wipes	infant sleepers
baby lotion	onesies
baby wash	toddler coats
hooded towels	toddler outfits

For donation drive ideas or more information, please contact [mskorch@diobelle.org](mailto:mskorch@diobelle.org)




**St. Vincent de Paul Still Needs Coats!**



Despite all the generous coats we received during our Coat Drive last month, the Cold winter weather has definitely arrived and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council desperately needs coats to distribute to those in need. Gently-used or new coats of all types in all sizes for all ages – toddlers, children, teens and adults (men and women) are being requested. Items can be dropped off at the St. Vincent de Paul office located at 8800 West Main Street, Belleville, across from Blessed Sacrament Church, or call Joe Hubbard or Pat Hoglebe at 618-394-0126 for additional information. Warm your heart by keeping someone warm and donate a coat today!

**Thank you very much.**



**DuKare**



As we move into the fall months and school and social events begin, please do not forget that there are many in our community that still need your help. All your donations are greatly appreciated; **peanut butter and jelly** is desperately needed at this time. Direct questions to Geri Basinski, Rose Jordan, I.D. Cleveland, Christopher Cronin or Linda Martin. The DuKare team wishes to thank everyone for their generous donations that help feed those in need in our Community!

## Christmas Trivia

1. When does Christmas season begin and end?
2. When and where did the Wise men visit Mary and Jesus?
3. Where there more than three Magi?

Find the answers in next weeks bulletin.

