

The Shrine of Saint Joseph's Friends, Inc.

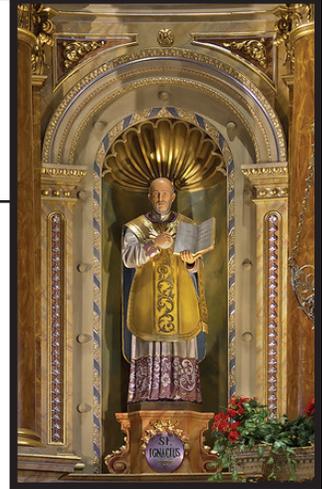
NEWSLETTER

1220 N. 11th Street • St. Louis, Missouri 63106-4614 • Rectory Phone (314) 231-9407
 e-mail: info@shrineofstjoseph.org

WINTER-SPRING ISSUE 2022

CELEBRATING ST. IGNATIUS AND THE JESUITS WHO FOUNDED ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

As we end the "Year of St. Joseph," which brought so many visitors from across the country to the Shrine, we begin the world-wide celebration of the Ignatian Year which began in May and concludes this July. In 1521, Ignatius was wounded by a cannonball while defending the city of Pamplona. This wound forced Ignatius to reflect on his plan for a life in the military and led to conversion and dedication of his life to service to God. As a result, when confronted with a hopeless situation, Ignatius sought greater intimacy with God and put God at the center of his life instead of worldly ambitions. During his long recovery, he read about the saints and was called to a holy life which then led to his founding of the Society of Jesus (the "Jesuits").



**St. Ignatius of Loyola, SJ
 from the Shrine's Altar of
 Answered Prayers**

The Jesuits founded St. Joseph Catholic Church

For nearly 122 years, the Jesuits of St. Louis University staffed St. Joseph Parish which was founded in 1844. During the years up to 1965, there were 27 Jesuit priests. In the 1860's up to 1920 when there were an estimated 4,000 worshippers with five Masses every Sunday and numerous sodalities and organizations, there was also frequently one assistant Jesuit priest and at times up to eight Brothers on the staff. It was the largest and considered the most active parish in St. Louis.

The Jesuits and their staff would meet German immigrants who were arriving daily by steamship up from New Orleans, and assist the newcomers in finding housing. This great influx of people created a huge population in the area around 11th and Biddle Street, which, at that time, was on the very northern edge of the City of St. Louis. The Jesuits allowed the German immigrants use of the St. Aloysius Chapel for worship which was on the St. Louis University campus located near 9th and Washington approximately where the Renaissance Hotel now stands. Father Helias, SJ was the first to offer Mass to the Germans, but it didn't take long for the small chapel to become totally overcrowded, scarcely holding one third of the worshippers.

In 1843, Bishop Kenrick asked the Jesuits to make plans for a new church expressly for these German immigrants. Shortly thereafter, land for this purpose was donated by Anne Mullanphy Biddle and the church was begun in 1844. Father Van de Velde, SJ, St. Louis University President, officiated at the dedication of St. Joseph in 1846. Then some 20 years later it was dramatically expanded. What follows is a brief description of just a few of the many exceptional and prominent Jesuit priests who served here or were associated with St. Joseph Parish before it was designated a Shrine.

During the 1840's Father Hofbauer, SJ, began a real estate information bureau at St. Joseph where German immigrants could learn about acquiring farmland. He was in contact with Jesuits in outlying areas who helped early parishioners to find land.

In 1850, Father Seisl, SJ, set up his own printing press at St. Joseph and began publishing a weekly German newspaper, called "*The Herald of the Faith*", for those Germans who were unable to read English.

In 1858, Fr. Patschowski, SJ, was instrumental in bringing the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) to the young parish. St. Joseph School was the first teaching assignment in St. Louis for the SSND Order.

In 1864, a well-known Austrian missionary, Father Xavier Wenninger, SJ came to St. Joseph to lead a mission. Father was very well educated, and was fluent in three languages. He had received a relic of a 17th century Jesuit missionary priest, then Blessed Peter Claver who worked tirelessly with slaves in South America for over 35 years. A dying man, Ignatius Strecker, was brought to the parish mission by his family and was blessed by Father Wenninger with the relic. Strecker was miraculously cured.

The miracle was used in the cause for the canonization of Peter Claver in 1888. In December of 1866, the large expansion at St. Joseph was completed and dedicated by yet another famous Jesuit, Father DeSmet, SJ, well-known and respected for his care of the indigenous Native Americans.

It was Father Joseph Weber, SJ, who gathered the parishioners together at the height of the cholera epidemic of 1866 and asked them to pray and sign a vow that if they could be saved from the dreaded cholera, that they would build a monument in honor of St. Joseph. From that day forward, no one who signed the vow or anyone in their immediate family died of cholera which led to the building of the main altar that became known as the "Altar of Answered Prayers."

In the late 1970's in the height of the plans to sell and demolish the Shrine, Father William Barnaby Faherty, SJ from SLU, a prolific Jesuit writer, was very supportive of saving the Shrine and urged the Archdiocese to reconsider its decision.

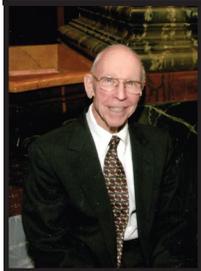
Thus, in this year as we celebrate St. Ignatius and the founding of the Society of Jesus, we also remember the numerous contributions of the Jesuits who ministered to this church and their positive impact during their many years of service.



Jesuit Influence at the Shrine

The influence of the Jesuits is visible throughout the Shrine. The Main Altar is emblazoned near the top with the Jesuit motto - "*Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*" (To the Greater Glory of God) - and this motto is repeated outside, etched in limestone, above the main doors. In addition, the letters AMDG, an abbreviation of the motto, appears in various locations throughout the Shrine. Life Sized wooden statues of both St. Ignatius and his devoted follower, St. Francis Xavier surround the Statue of St. Joseph and the Child Jesus on the Main Altar. On the right side of the church, the Jesuit Altar bears the images of Sts. Aloysius Gonzaga, Stanislaus, and John Berchmans - all Jesuit seminarians who died prior to ordination. A smaller statue of St. Alphonsus Rodriguez, a humble doorkeeper at a Jesuit Seminary, stands in the corner. Rodriguez was a great influence on St. Peter Claver, encouraging him to pursue his ministry to the slaves. In the center aisle at the rear of the church is a statue of St. Peter Claver.

CONRAD PHILIPP: A SALUTE TO ONE OF OUR OLDEST ACTIVE SHRINE VOLUNTEERS



Conrad Philipp

At age 90, Conrad is unquestionably one of the oldest in our family of volunteers who has ever continuously offered his energy and talents here at the Shrine for nearly 37 years. Before retirement, having worked for over 25 years with Climate Engineering Corporation, Conrad developed a great amount of hands-on knowledge and experience in the heating and air conditioning business. He had also served as the president of the Sheet Metal Contractors Association.

About 1985, this began his long, dedicated, and continuous service to the Shrine. "I initially came at the request of John Schene (past Board president) John and I were classmates at St. Engelbert Parish School as kids... John got two of us from there back together again to volunteer—Walt Raney and me. Along with John and Ralph Ellerbrock (long time organist) we had all been students from there," said Conrad. All of them ended up later in life reuniting together as Shrine volunteers and even eventually serving on the Shrine's Board of Directors together. So here were four kids who went their separate ways and came back to volunteer their efforts and talents at the Shrine.

Conrad was quickly placed on the Shrine building committee and has served in that capacity for years. A significant contribution of Conrad's has been that through all his years here he has always kept an eye out for areas that needed to be attended to. He would then report to the Board on needed work, getting estimates in a prudent and business-like manner, and then co-ordinating work to its successful completion. He, along with Raney, a retired IBM executive, and Ted Wofford, the Shrine's architect, were on the building committee, and used their combined knowledge and experience to approve work bids on some of the larger Shrine projects over the last 25 years. Conrad also made a habit of logging every maintenance record performed at the Shrine and always scrutinized contracts between the Board and companies making sure the work was fulfilled correctly.

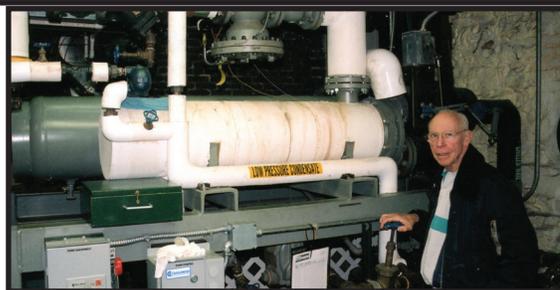
As if this level of volunteering were not enough, for many of these years, Conrad very unselfishly also helped out his home parish in similar ways.

In 1997, using his prior technical expertise, Conrad helped to design and install a new heating and air conditioning system at the Shrine, which, for the first time, created a comfort level throughout the summer months. He also has a working knowledge of the steam system used for heat which is fed by the city's downtown steam circuit and is piped in to the Shrine's lower level.

Conrad, along with Walt Raney, Gene Wetzels, Howard Matthews and Jim Fuller, worked for several years on Tuesdays and co-ordinated their efforts. They determined the work projects list for the following week. The next week, they were all working on those projects in an effort to save on expense. After lunch, Conrad was nearly always back at it again. "When I first met Conrad, I was very impressed with his sheer energy level," said Matthews.

Today, at nearly 90 years of age, Conrad still puts in a good morning's worth of work. Joe Finazzo along with Tim Tierney, are now assisting in various maintenance areas that Conrad has for years performed. But, to this day, Conrad is frequently already here sometimes before anyone else busily working on something. Furthermore, Conrad still attends Mass most Sundays and continues to be an active member of the Board of Directors.

Conrad has always been humble about his many volunteering contributions. But there can be no doubt that the Shrine has benefited greatly from Conrad and people like him who have given immensely through the years to the success of this grass roots effort to save, restore, and maintain the Shrine. He shall always be remembered for his significant contributions, in using his work knowledge, and applying it with an amazingly energetic and dedicated work ethic.



Conrad checking the Shrine's steam converter



The Late Walt Raney & Conrad reviewing a work contract



Conrad receives blessing from his newly ordained grandson Fr. Clark Philipp

THE YOUNGEST OF OUR SHRINE VOLUNTEERS

Eugene Morisani, age 12, and his brother Joseph, age 10, are currently the youngest of our regular volunteers. Both are servers every month at our 12 noon First Friday Mass and other special Masses. Also, their younger sister, Celie helped one year by bringing the baby Jesus to the manger during the Christmas Eve processional. The Morasini have 5 children, all are home schooled, and the family is a terrific inspiration to all of us.



L to R: Eugene Morisani, Archbishop Rozanski; Joseph Morisani Feast of St. Joseph 2021

KUDOS TO LLOYD PRINDIVILLE



Lloyd Prindiville

For 27 years, Lloyd has brought smoked turkey and ham to the weekday Shrine volunteers for our Thanksgiving luncheon. He meticulously smokes the meats to perfection at home for 3 hours prior to his arrival. On Nov. 16, the day of the luncheon, volunteers brought side dishes and desserts. This luncheon provides a time when some 20 volunteers can all come together from their various working areas. Said one volunteer, "Lloyd continues to inspire each of us for the way he has supported the Shrine and our volunteering efforts." At the age of 90, Lloyd, aided by his two daughters, has been at the center of this luncheon tradition for over quarter of a century. We thank you, Lloyd, and may God bless you abundantly.

A SPECIAL VISITOR

When Fr Wunderlich announced after the December 19, 2021 Mass that there seemed to be a bearded man dressed in red out on the roof and now he's up in the balcony, some 25 delighted youngsters turned around to see Santa ringing his sleigh bells. Santa then came down and greeted the children and adults. We are grateful to Jim Fuller who, once again, in his gregarious and talented ways, managed to arrange this visit with Santa!



Santa with 9 month old, Rory Sydney, grand daughter of Kathie Schmid (A Shrine Wedding Coordinator)



A Happy and Blessed New Year to All

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DEVOTION GOES TO THE HEART OF LENT

The Stations of the Cross, a 14-step devotion that is a reflection of Jesus' journey to death and entombment, encourages believers to think and meditate about the sacrifice Jesus made for them. For the third year, during Lent, on each of the six Fridays leading up to Holy Week, The Shrine will celebrate in prayer, song, and meditation the Stations of the Cross. This devotional gives worshipers an opportunity to actually reverently meditate more fully upon Jesus' sacrificial offering of himself — and to appreciate the symbolism behind each of the Shrine's fourteen elaborately hand-carved fully restored wooden works of art which adorn both side walls. The wood carving of Mary at the crucifixion of Jesus was placed on the wall of the center east aisle in 1892 and is considered a very high-quality wood carving that was just recently restored. All of the two by three foot stations are exquisite works of art, hand-carved, and three dimensional with great attention to detail.



One of the Shrine's Stations of the Cross

Large Wood Carving Our Lady at the foot of the Cross East wall of Shrine

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 2, 2022, Wednesday	Ash Wednesday	12:00pm (Noon)
March 4, 2022, Friday	First Friday Mass	12:00pm (Noon)
March 6, 2022, Sunday	✠ Stations of the Cross ✠	Immediately following Mass
March 11, 2022, Friday	First Sunday of Lent	11:00 am
March 13, 2022, Sunday	✠ Stations of the Cross ✠	12:00pm (Noon)
	Second Sunday of Lent	11:00 am
	<i>(Annual Mass for Strecker Descendants)</i>	
March 18, 2022, Friday	✠ Stations of the Cross ✠	12:00pm (Noon)
March 19, 2022, Saturday	Solemnity of St. Joseph	12:00pm (Noon)
	<i>(Distribution of Blessed Bread following Mass)</i>	
March 20, 2022, Sunday	Third Sunday of Lent	11:00 am
	<i>(Distribution of Blessed Bread following Mass)</i>	
March 25, 2022, Friday	✠ Stations of the Cross ✠	12:00pm (Noon)
March 27, 2022, Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Lent	11:00 am
April 1, 2022, Friday	First Friday Mass	12:00pm (Noon)
	✠ Stations of the Cross ✠	Immediately following Mass
April 3, 2022, Sunday	Fifth Sunday of Lent	11:00 am
April 8, 2022, Friday	✠ Stations of the Cross ✠	12:00pm (Noon)
April 10, 2022, Sunday	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion	11:00 am
April 14, 2022, Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper	7:00 pm
April 15, 2022, Friday	Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3:00 pm
April 16, 2022, Saturday	Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection	7:00 pm
April 17, 2022,	Easter Sunday	11:00 am

Easter Season

April 24, 20	Second Sunday of Easter	11:00 am
May 1, 2022	Third Sunday of Easter	11:00 am
May 6, 2022	First Friday Mass	12:00pm (Noon)
May 8, 2022	Fourth Sunday of Easter	
	and May Crowning (Mothers' Day)	11:00 am
May 15, 2022	Fifth Sunday of Easter	11:00 am
May 22, 2022	Sixth Sunday of Easter	11:00 am
May 29, 2022	Solemnity of the Ascension	11:00 am
June 3, 2022	Memorial Saints Charles Lwanga and Companions	12:00pm (Noon)
June 5, 2022	Solemnity of Pentecost	11:00am
	Springfest BBQ and Spring Fundraiser	Finale immediately following Mass

TO OUR BENEFACTORS AND DONORS

Once again, so many of you have helped us get through another challenging year with your prayers and financial contributions. Your donations have gone a long way toward helping us and you are one of the key ingredients that have allowed us to restore and maintain this Shrine. Words cannot describe how grateful we are for the support you have given to us in 2021. We are deeply indebted to all of you who participated again in our Fall fund raiser raffle which ended on November 28th. Look for Spring fundraiser to arrive in April. Father Wunderlich, our Rector, pulled the Fall winners which were: 1st place: Bryan Kirchoff; St. Louis; 2nd place: Debra Cira; Grover, MO; 3rd place: Sue Duncan Columbia, MO; and 4th place: Helen Waing, Florissant, MO.

2021 ENDS ON A HIGH NOTE ! WITH UNFORGETTABLE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

To put it succinctly: the liturgical celebration of the Shrine's Christmas Vigil on Christmas Eve was absolutely sacred, holy, and inspiring. As one worshiper remarked, "I am leaving with memories of this wonderful celebration tonight." Prior to Christmas, on December 12, 2021, the Choir of the Shrine of St. Joseph along with the Old Cathedral Choir sang the "Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols" at the Old Cathedral with Archbishop Rozanski as presider. Here at the Shrine, the Vigil began with a full hour of Choral and Congregational Carols before Mass. By the end of Mass, the choir had performed over 20 carols with a blend of traditional and lesser known carols, and service music accompanied by Organ, Piano, Brass Quintet, timpani, and violin which filled the entire Shrine with an absolutely glorious sound. After communion the Choir sang "O Holy Night" featuring a solo by well-known local tenor, Scott Kennebeck which was totally flawless and moving. In addition to the music, the magnificent Shrine was



David Byrne, Organist and Choir Director with the Shrine Choir and Instrumentalists splendidly decorated with over 27 lighted Christmas trees, the near life size nativity scene, garland, and gorgeous red and white poinsettias—all prepared by the dedicated volunteers on December 11th. This visual beauty combined with the music was an extraordinary experience. As the Celebrant, Father David Suwalsky SJ, said, "Christmases like this one are made of many happy memories going all the way back to the birth of Jesus."

SHRINE'S NEW BROADCAST CONTROL CENTER

When the Covid Pandemic forced limitations on in-person worship, the Shrine, like many parishes began to live-stream the Mass. Lacking proper equipment, however, the visual and audio quality was poor. The Shrine Board Members decided to invest in the necessary equipment to improve the Shrine's media outreach. Joe Finazzo, Board VP, agreed to chair the project and research the audio-visual requirements. After choosing a Vendor, Joe oversaw the installation of the equipment, and personally installed hundreds of feet of new cable through the sub-basement and discreetly hidden in the Shrine connecting to each of three new cameras. With the ability to add graphic overlays to enhance the video production, the new system has the capability of streaming the Shrine's Liturgical Celebrations to Facebook, YouTube (and eventually the Shrine's Web-page) so that Friends around the country and the world can be connected to the Shrine. The new upgraded system consists of two monitors, a PC, a control board to adjust the 3 cameras located throughout the church. It allows high quality live views of nearly any part of the Shrine, and is directly connected to the Shrine's sound system so that sound quality is greatly improved. Joe said, "this integrated system will be able to be used for a long time and we have just begun to look at the possibilities of filming memorable weddings [or funerals] in a live broadcast for folks anywhere in the country who cannot attend." We are blessed also to have Timothy Nies, a Shrine Volunteer who assists with the production of the Sunday Live-stream.



Joe Finazzo at Shrine's Video Center



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 1220 North 11th Street
 St. Louis, MO 63106-4614



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I no longer wish to receive the Newsletter.

Please clip the address panel and mail it to us noting your correction or request.

Mass Times

Sundays: 11:00am

First Friday of each Month: 12:00pm (Noon)

Holy Days of Obligation: See Website www.shrineofstjoseph.org for details

Veneration of St. Peter Claver Relic or St. Padre Pio Relic following Mass

Fr. Dale Wunderlich, Rector and Recipient of the Aquinas Institute "Great Preacher" Award.

Staying in touch with the Shrine:

• Website: www.shrineofstjoseph.org • Facebook: [Facebook.com/shrineofstjoseph](https://www.facebook.com/shrineofstjoseph) • YouTube: StJoseph Shrine •

Supporting the Shrine with Your Membership



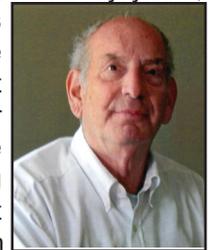
Sherry Chibnall

The restoration and on-going maintenance of the Shrine is accomplished strictly through private contributions. Annual membership dues are only \$10 per individual. If you are already a member, we **GRATEFULLY THANK YOU** and ask for your continued support. If you are not currently a member, please consider joining. **Your financial support is necessary** to help in the preservation of this

irreplaceable historic and religious landmark for future generations. If you have any questions, please contact Sherry Chibnall, your Membership Committee Chairperson, at (314) 231-9407.

Air & Steam Club

Members of the Air & Steam Club have, for many years, helped to cover utility costs. Your donations have contributed greatly toward the Shrine's heating and AC bills. If you aren't currently a Member, please consider joining now. Your help is needed! There are monthly drawings for prizes totaling \$200. Tickets are \$12 each, and 1 ticket gives you 1 chance to win each month and there's no limit on the number of tickets you can purchase. Simply complete the form below and mail it together with your check payable to:



John Colao

"Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc."

1220 N. 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63106-4614.

For more information, please contact **John Colao**, Chairperson at (314) 231-9407

Please Remember the Shrine in your Will or Trust.

Application for Membership
 Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc.
 Dues are \$10 per person, per year

Mr. _____
 Mrs. _____
 Ms. _____
 Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____

Check \$ _____ Check Number _____

Date _____ Cash \$ _____

Make Checks payable to:
 Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc.
 1220 N. 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63106-4614

Air and Steam Club
 Shrine of St. Joseph's Friends, Inc.
 1220 N. 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63106-4614

1st Prize	\$100
2nd Prize	\$ 50
3rd Prize	\$ 50

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____

Please enter my name. I do not wish to make a donation at this time.

Special Notice:

Please be aware that the Shrine has not and does not give or sell names and addresses on our mailing list to any other groups or organizations.