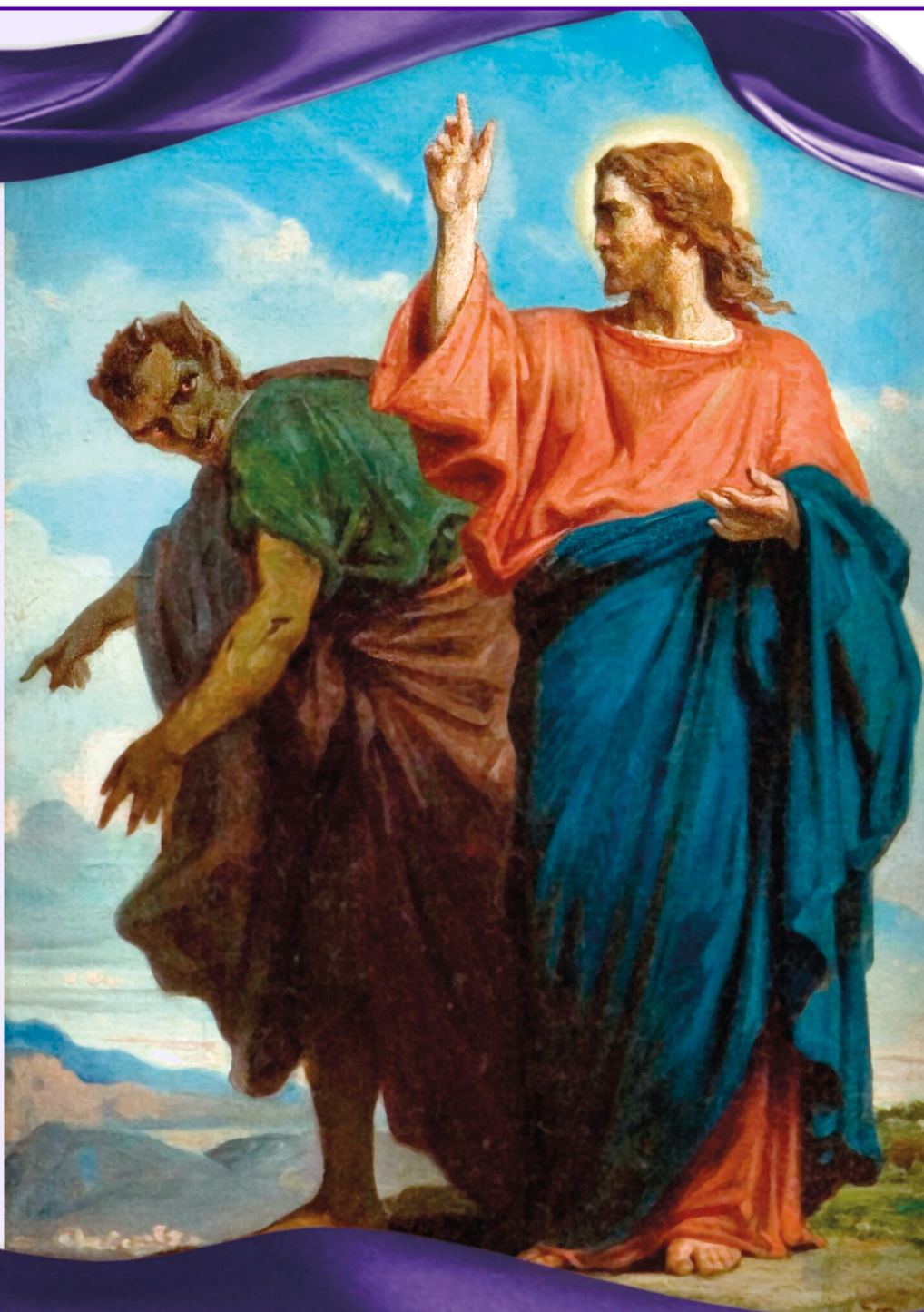


The Spirit
drove Jesus
out into the
desert, and he
remained in
the desert
for forty days,
tempted by
Satan.

He was among
wild beasts, and
the angels
ministered
to him.

Mark 1:12,13

The Temptation of Christ by the Devil
by Félix Joseph Barrias, 1860



1ST SUNDAY OF
LENT

March 9, 2025

©Diocesan

Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - CHILDREN OF HOPE AND FAITH



During the Jubilee Year of Hope, COHF is bringing hope to orphans and abandoned children through our support of Angel Home Orphanage. It is run by the Franciscan Sisters of St. Bernadette who provides a home for 60 children ranging in age from infants to young adults in college. They are most grateful for our assistance with food, clothing and medical care for the children. All of the orphans are sponsored in Catholic schools and have the opportunity for higher education upon graduation from secondary school. The children thrive at Angel Home because of the loving care of the sisters.

Your sponsored child, Lydia Patrick, has been challenged with learning disabilities. The opportunity she has to attend college is due, at least in part, to the love and support she has received from the sisters. Our older children, including Lydia, have been very good role models for the younger children. Lydia is pictured helping the younger children at mealtime.

To learn more about Angel Home Orphanage and how you can help, visit our website at childrenofhopeandfaith.org



Sister with children
at Angel Home



Lydia Patrick helping younger
children at Angel Home

ADORATION ON FRIDAYS

Please consider signing up for a half-hour or more to visit Our Lord on Fridays beginning after the 8:15 a.m. Mass and ending with Benediction at 2:30 p.m.

Jesus would so love your company!



DEVOTION AND MASS

Please join our parish family on Wednesday evenings for Devotion and Mass.

The Devotion begins at 5:30 p.m. in the church, followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m.

In March we are praying the
Litany to St. Joseph



PASTORAL STAFF SERVING HOLY CROSS

Msgr. Brian Brownsey
Father Joseph Baker
Deacon Ed Mohrbacher
Deacon Michael Smith

TRUSTEES

John Powers John Kelley

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Elizabeth Kelley

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Jonathan Young

TRIBUNAL AUDITOR

Deacon Ed Mohrbacher

MASSES

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m.
Weekdays: 7:00 a.m. Mon., Tue., & Thurs.
6:00 p.m. Wed.; 8:15 a.m. Fri.

DEVOTION 5:30-6:00 p.m. Wednesday

HOLY CROSS PARISH OFFICE

405 W. Clark St., Champaign, IL, 61820
Phone: 217-352-8748 Fax: 217-366-2929
e-mail address: office@holycrosscatholic.org
website: www.holycrosscatholic.org

HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Greg Koerner, Principal
410 W. White, Champaign, Illinois, 61820
Phone: 217-356-9521 Fax: 217-356-1745

ADORATION

Fridays after the 8:15 a.m. Mass with Benediction
at 2:30 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:00-5:00 p.m.
Mon, Tue, Thur, 6:30-6:45 a.m., Fri. 7:45-8:00 a.m.
Or by appointment.

BAPTISM: Second and fourth Sunday of the month, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Parents must be registered members and attend baptismal preparation sessions, preferably before the birth of the child. Contact the Parish Office 3 months in advance to schedule.

MATRIMONY: Couples contemplating marriage should call the Office at least 8 months in advance. At least one partner must be a registered parishioner at Holy Cross and be actively practicing the faith. If you have had a previous marriage, set no marriage date until you have discussed this with your Pastor.

CARE OF THE SICK: Call the Parish Office to make arrangements at any time for Communion and/or the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Two Wednesdays prior to the bulletin in which the information will be posted.

First Sunday of Lent

OUR PARISH

HOLY CROSS MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Catholic Community of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is to provide a home for all who wish to join our spiritual family and share our Catholic beliefs and values. We are here to continue the life-giving works of Jesus Christ, to make His name known and loved, and to live our lives according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, under the leadership of the Bishop of the Peoria Diocese.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30 p.m.	Mar. 15 Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Dave Kristovich Sharon Kristovich, Kathy Murray Tom Murray, Ethan Weldy
Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Mar. 16 Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Jay Geistlinger Sue Berndt, Lynette Barham Nicolette Burton, Landen Douglas
10:00 a.m.	Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Joe Mefford John Dixon, Pat Dixon, Ben Laws, Jessica McMahon Brooke McMahon, Ursula Tembo
4:00 p.m.	Lector: EMHC: Servers:	Ed Seebauer Juliann Seebauer Sam Easton, Ithuriel Randall

††† Masses For The Week

Monday, March 10 7:00 a.m.	Chris and Pat Cosgrove
Tuesday, March 11 7:00 a.m.	Karen Santarelli
Wednesday, March 12 6:00 p.m.	Robert Krakowiak
Thursday, March 13 7:00 a.m.	Joe, Ruth, and Pat Doyle
Friday, March 14 8:15 a.m.	Kristen Kuhne
Saturday, March 15 5:30 p.m.	Jim Morris
Sunday, March 16 8:00 a.m.	Julia Clea Glennon
10:00 a.m.	Raymond Satterfield
4:00 p.m.	For the Parishioners



SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

Everyone knows March 17 is St. Patrick's Day, but did you know March 19 is St. Joseph's Day? In fact, March 19 is so important, that despite falling within the season of Lent, the Mass of the day has us sing the Gloria and the priest wears white or gold rather than the usual Lenten purple. In many countries of the world it is even a Holy Day of Obligation. Why so important? Because there was no man who ever lived who was closer to Jesus than St. Joseph!

As such, Holy Cross will be celebrating a Solemn sung Mass at 5:30 p.m. on March 19 with incense to honor St. Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus and spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Everyone is invited! St. Joseph Day is a particularly festive day in Italy where it remains a major day of celebration. In the spirit of the day, after the Mass at roughly 6:30, the Catholic Daughters of America will host a meal in the Holy Cross parish hall. There will be a traditional St. Joseph Altar, a presentation on St. Joseph, and lasagna will be the main course.

To recap – March 19, St. Joseph Day, Solemn Mass at 5:30 p.m. Italian Lasagna Dinner at 6:30, Holy Cross Parish Hall – All the coolest people in C-U will be there.

Fr. Joe

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will be praying the Stations of the Cross during Lent each Friday at 5:30 p.m.



This prayer is the parish patronal prayer for the Church of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. We will carry with us, through the stations, the relic of the true cross. When Stations are prayed with a relic, the customary response, "Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world" is modified to, "*Because by THIS holy cross you have redeemed the world.*"

Following the Stations of the Cross, the relic will be enthroned for a period of veneration while confessions are being heard.



Senior Luncheon

If you are 55 or older, Join us for good food, good friends, and fun at the Senior Luncheon Thursday, **March 13th at noon**, and every second Thursday of the month. We look forward to seeing you there. Don't forget to bring a side dish to share!



COFFEE AND DONUTS

Come over to the Parish Center after the Sunday morning Masses and warm up with a cup of coffee and a delicious donut. It's been a Holy Cross tradition for over 50 years. Join us for stimulating conversation.

Collection

Offering for March 1st/2nd.....\$8,006.05
School Tuition Assistance.....\$815.00

Thank You Very Much!



FISH FRYs ARE HERE!

Fish Fry Dates: March 14, 21, 28, & April 4, 11.

We need volunteers to work from 1 to 3 hours during the event. Choose from the following times: 4:45—5:45 p.m. or 5:45—6:45 p.m. or 6:45 p.m. clean-up crew. Jobs include pouring soda, cleaning tables, assisting people to their seats, taking out trash, refilling supplies, washing dishes, etc. It's the most fun you'll ever have working! To sign-up, please contact Nicolette Burton (26nburton@hs-stm.org), or Brooke McMahon (26bmcmahon@hs-stm.org), or go directly to sign up genius.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E45ABA723A0FCC25-54371571-holy>



FISH FRY CAKE SALE!



The Children of Hope and Faith will be hosting their annual cake sale at the Fish Frys this year!

We are looking for donations of cake mixes, frostings, eggs, and oil. **For each sheet cake we use 3 boxes of the same cake mix, 3 cans of frosting, 9 eggs and about 1½ cups of vegetable oil.** A gluten free dessert and angel food cake are also served each time, but we do not need any donations.

Please contact Sharon Kristovich at (217) 355-2096 or kristomail@comcast.net if you have any questions or have a special request.

100% of the sales are donated to The Children of Hope and Faith to raise tuition for Holy Cross's sponsored children Amelia Gotifrid and Lydia Patrick.

Thank you in advance for your support!

~ Look for more news on the inside



BIBLE STUDY WITH CATHOLIC SPIRIT RADIO

(Attend in-person or via Zoom)

St. Leo the Great said, "What was visible in our Savior has been passed over into the mysteries." In the Eastern Church the sacraments are often referred to as the mysteries. Learn how the mysteries of Christ's incarnate life become present today in the sacraments. Learn how these mysteries have been woven into the very fabric of salvation history. See how they are foreshadowed into the Old and revealed in the New Testament. Join us at Catholic Spirit Radio starting Thursday, March 13th at 6:30 p.m. for this 11-part series. \$20. For more information or to register contact Anthony Pecora at 309-750-9062 or perio2000@frontier.com

Thanks to a generous parishioner, we now have an AED station at the front entrance of the church!

We are so thankful to have this life saving device on hand.



Catholic Spirit Radio Network invites you to join them on a Pilgrimage to Mother Angelica's Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, Alabama and EWTN Studios in Irondale, Alabama from **Monday, August 18, 2025 to Thursday, August 21, 2025.** For more details go to our website: catholicspiritradio.com and click on the EWTN Pilgrimage tab in the menu. **Only a few seats are available.**

Registration and full payment need to be completed by May 31, 2025.

For questions, call Kathy at (309) 828-6554 or Jerry at (630) 514-6221

A Family Blessing



Lord of all, bless our families, be they formed by blood or by circumstance. Make them holy.. May we find you in our relationships, in our marriages, in our families, in our households, in our communities, in our global humanity.

May we look across all that divides us and see family, and embrace as a family does, and love as a family ought to. For where two or three gather in your name, there are you. Amen.



HOLY CROSS MOMS' GROUP March 12th 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows



Join the Holy Cross Moms' Group in the Parish Center for morning meetings and/or a moms' night out for fellowship and fun! Next night out is March 12th. Mark your calendars and join our email list or Facebook Group for event reminders.

Email - hcmomsgroup@gmail.com |

Facebook Group - facebook.com/groups/holycrossmoms



High School of St. Thomas More
 217-352-7210
www.hs-stm.org

STM Job Opportunities: STM is currently seeking applications for a Head Football Coach and a Bus Driver. If interested, email Sr. M. Bridget at srbridget@hs-stm.org, and John Delaney, Athletic Director at jdelaney@hs-stm.org.

Spring Sports Showcase: Get ready for an exciting evening on March 13th at 6:00pm! This event will be a fantastic opportunity to get a sneak peek into the upcoming spring sports season. We will be introducing our dedicated Spring Sport Athletes, and a captivating keynote speaker will share their insights and inspiration with us. Save the date and join us in supporting our athletes' commitment as they embark on an exciting season ahead!"

Shadow Visit Days for 7th and 8th Graders: Do you have a 7th or 8th grader interested in attending the High School of St. Thomas More? Sign them up for a Shadow Visit Day! Generally, on the 2nd Tuesday and 4th Thursday of each month, shadow visits give prospective students a chance to see firsthand what STM is all about by following a current Saber for a day. To sign your son or daughter up, go to hs-stm.org and click the "Visit" button on the menu on the homepage. Questions? Email Rachael McMillan at admissions@hs-stm.org for more information.

Admissions Application Open for 2024-2025. STM is accepting admissions applications for the next school year. Go to www.hs-stm.org and click on the menu in the upper right corner, then "Apply Now" to get started today. Have questions or need help with the application? Contact the Enrollment Office at admissions@hs-stm.org. We hope and pray to welcome you and your child to the Saber family!

Come join The High School of Saint Thomas More this March 27-29 for "You're A Good Man Charlie Brown." The beloved Peanuts cast are all here exploring the ins and out of growing up and coming to realize where true happiness can be found! Tickets are \$8 for Adults, \$5 for Students, and Children 5 and under get in free. For tickets and information visit our ticket site at <https://stmusicanddrama.ludus.com> or email ckreps@hs-stm.org.

Rome Odunze Youth Football Camp at STM! Star Chicago Bears Wide Receiver Rome Odunze will be having a youth football camp for ages 6-16 here at STM on July 12th, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. For more information, go to: <https://www.flexworksports.com/camps-1/rome-odunze-champaign%2C-il>.



**ST. THOMAS SCHOOL IN PHILO
 JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

St. Thomas School in Philo is accepting applications for the following two positions:

**7th Grade Homeroom Teacher/Science -- Full Time
 Intervention Teacher -- Full Time**

Starting with the 2025-2026 school year.

For full qualifications of each position, please contact Principal Jean Cothron at jcothron@stthomasphilo.org or call her at 217.684.2309.



Holy Cross School
 217-356-9521
www.holycrosselem.org

From the Desk of Principal Greg Koerner:

Where did February go? Don't blink. Lent is here!

Isn't that how it always is? The Christmas season is behind us and it feels like Ordinary Time has only just begun, but suddenly it's Ash Wednesday, and we're scrambling to decide what we're doing for Lent and wondering whether our choice of penance is too hard or too easy.

This year, don't let Lent take you by surprise, have your plan in place.

Make a point of sitting down at the kitchen table, in your classroom, or in the church and give some thought to how you want to spend Lent this year. If you have no idea where to begin, rest assured: there is a solid foundation to work from. The Church doesn't leave us to figure things out ourselves. There are three holy practices in which Catholics are called to embrace in penitential seasons such as Lent and Advent. These three practices are **prayer, fasting, & almsgiving**.

When you make your Lenten plan, choose something specific from each category and you're set for a grace filled journey to Easter. Have a great Lenten season.

WE ARE HOLY CROSS!

May our schools continue to be beacons of light which enable all to live the Gospel message – 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.'
 (John 13:34)

JOIN US

STM Preview Night

March 12, 2025
 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

For Prospective Families
 with Students
 in Grades 5-8

- TAKE A TOUR
- LEARN ABOUT OUR ACADEMICS, ATHLETICS, ARTS, AND EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
- HEAR FROM FACULTY & STAFF, STUDENTS, AND FAMILIES
- FINANCIAL AID OPPORTUNITIES

SCHEDULE A SHADOW VISIT OR TOUR + LEARN MORE AT WWW.HS-STM.ORG



**THE HIGH SCHOOL OF
 SAINT THOMAS MORE**

Questions?
 Contact the Enrollment Office at
 217.352.7210 or
admissions@hs-stm.org





FORETOLD

Sign up to receive these videos during Lent at <https://daily.formed.org/lent>.

Our world is full of noise. Often, that noise is loud and negative. When was the last time you heard something good on the news? Because of the constant intake of "bad news," many people no longer believe in the Providence of God, nor trust that he has a plan for us.

Maybe this is you. Perhaps you think God doesn't have a plan for you and your family. But Jesus is the Lord of History, yours included. Join Dr. Sean Innerst in Foretold, a new series from the Augustine Institute that weaves together the Old and New Testament stories, highlighting their connecting threads of prophecy and fulfillment. What was promised in the biblical story came to pass through Jesus, his apostles, and the Church. Ultimately, this biblical history is your history. Just as the prophecies of the Old Testament were fulfilled, you can trust that Jesus will care for you and your story. Encounter this profound mystery and reality for yourself in Foretold.



LENT WITH BROTHER FRANCIS

Learn and pray with Brother Francis in any of the four seasons offered below!

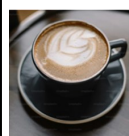
- Season 1: Daily Meditations (new this year!)
- Season 2: 4-part Series
- Season 3: Let's Learn about Lent
- Season 4: The Stations of the Cross

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

The advertisements that appear completely defray all publishing costs with which the church would otherwise be burdened. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank you for their kind generosity.

OSF Healthcare

Pro-Life and Good Catholic Happenings!



Pro-Life Discussion Group for March

Special drop-in time at Panera's on Kirby 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on March 17th.

Come and grab a cup of coffee, snack or lunch, and join in a drop-in discussion!

Join us for any amount of time for friendship and fellowship!

For more information, contact Joy Pace 217 840-0322

A Word From Joy

We have a new one-year-old we will be supplying diapers for. The original Mom just had a new baby, and she signed over temporary guardianship to a friend. This guardian family is not getting help from the original family and we are stepping in with diapers. This guardianship should be temporary, and we are happy to help out.

Prayers needed: one of our Moms is ill, but is delaying her own surgery. She is not only taking care of her three children, but is helping raise 5 children from her friend's family. One of those children may be sick with cancer.

Please pray: Continued prayers for Malachi, a super cute little boy we have supplied diapers to for years. He has to have major surgery because he has a colon that is too big for his body. Arrangements to go to a more specialized hospital is in the works. Please pray for him and his Mom (who is his grandmother) and all the medical professionals helping with his care. Thank you.

- We have a request for a bus pass for an adult daughter of a woman we have helped.
- We have a new partner to help supply twin beds to area children – it's called Sleep in Heavenly Peace. They are a national organization and have a chapter in Mahomet. We received a request from a grandmother who needed a bed for her grandchild, and herself. We hope SHP can help! Thank you to everyone helping families in need! God bless you all!

HOLY CROSS FIRST FRIDAY MEMORIAL

Devall, Desmier, Jensen Families
 Menke & Leahy Families
 James, Marie, Paul, Joe, & Edward, Knoke
 Living & Dec. Mem. of Donato, Pace, Follis Families
 Dec. Mem. of Mueller, Neunhoffer, Willard Families
 Robert F. Reiser Family
 Dec. Mem. of Corkery, Cox, Murray Families
 Nichols, Oetzel, Parod, Foltzler & LoGrasso Families
 Ed & Jean Bown
 Chuck, Chad, Meghan Schweighart
 Larry Hausmann, Bob Soucie
 Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Pastore, Buzinsky, & Piccolo Families
 Lamendola/Smith/Hammers Families
 Hammel & Mitsdarfer Families
 Margaret & Eldon Tuft and Dec. Mem. of their family
 Barham & Bosch Families

Tangora & Kovera Families
 William & Mary McMahon, Linda & Mike Wesolowski
 McNamara & Mulcahey Family
 Living & Dec. Mem. of Giuffre & Cacioppo Families
 Boudreau & Arseneau Family
 Aloysius J. Winka
 Charlie & Evelyn Bell
 Zeilenga Family
 Rentfrow Family
 Towner Family
 Haggin Family
 Rakers-Wade Families
 Hershbarger & Kick Families
 Dec. Mem. of Cochrane-O'Brien families
 Liv. & Dec. Mem. of Graham, Fellers & Gordon Family
 John E. Sullivan Family

Theresa Brya
 Birdie & Edward Cronau
 Raymond Timpone
 Maxine Tlmpone
 Margaret B. Schwenk
 Living & Dec. Mem. of Schwenk Family
 Perrodin Family
 Menacher & Sizer Families
 Leonard & Loretto Doyle
 Alan & Patricia Berndt
 Thomas McCarthy
 Costello Family
 Ron Murphy
 Dec. Mem. of Murphy & Sullivan Families
 Living & Dec. Mem. of Williams, Lykins, Barham Fam.
 Dan Crawmer