



News & Notes for May 31, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, June 1:	2:30PM	Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
Wednesday, June 3:	10:30AM	Joint Use taskforce – conference room
Thursday, June 4:	6:00PM	Yoga – Parish Hall
Saturday, June 6:	6:00PM	SHINE worship - chapel

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Brian is on vacation **through Monday, June 1**. This morning we welcome back **Pastor S. Blake Duncan** as our guest preacher and presider.

In case of pastoral emergency, please contact **Fr. Mark Ohlemeier** of St. George's at **785-220-5528**.



Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program is Back!

We're partnering again with Westview Baptist to provide **free lunches for low-income kids!**

Donations: Individually packaged Cheez-Its, chips, pretzels, nut-free cookies (homemade cookies are welcome!), and juice pouches (e.g., Capri Sun). Drop off at church or contact **Sherri Foppe** for other arrangements.

+ **Monetary gifts welcome:** Give to Sherri, Ann Martens, or online: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-15AC7>

+ **Volunteers Needed for...**

Packing: Wednesdays, 5–5:45 PM @ Westview Baptist

Delivery: Thursdays, 10:35 AM–1 PM

Dates: June 1–Aug 7 (weekly)

+ Sign-up in Parish Hall!

Info: Sherri (618)791-6148 | cookinsherri2@gmail.com or Ann (618)235-7762 | ga72mart@charter.net

Summer Office Hours

With the slower summer months, Randi's administrative assistant hours are reduced by one day each week, with a commensurate reduction in pay. Starting this week through August, her work hours will be Monday-Thursday from 12:00PM-4:00PM. *Henry will be in the office on Fridays (9a-3p) should anyone need to access the office proper.

St. Mark Offerings for 5/24: General Fund: **\$1,644.17**; DM Landscaping: \$101; Fiber Arts: \$101; Grounds/Property Maint: \$101; Coffee Fund: \$58

Save the Dates!

+ **Beacon Ministries Fundraiser Yard Sale** on **Friday, June 12** and **Saturday, June 13** from **7:30am to 1:30pm**. This is a *multi-congregational* fundraiser. Volunteers are needed before the event to move and arrange furniture, household items, and other items that do not serve Beacon's clients' needs. Volunteers are needed both days of the event also. Please contact Sherri Foppe for more information and/or to volunteer.

+ This year's "**Patriotic Potluck**" will be held in the Parish Hall on **Saturday, June 27** from **4:00PM-6:00PM**. Watch for a sign-up sheet for attendance and dishes to be out soon (maybe today!).

+ Consider joining the group of us traveling to **EverVella** (formerly Mercy/Rosewood) **Rehab & Care Center** (Swansea) and **another location to be determined** on **Sunday, July 5** to **sing some patriotic songs and other favorite melodies**. More information coming soon!

+ **Wed., June 10**, the **Ladies Lunch Bunch** will meet at Wahaka Margarita Bar & Grill in O'Fallon.

Free Summer Meals

Healthy and nutritious **free summer meals** are available for all **children ages 18 and under** for **breakfast (7:30AM-8:30AM)** and **lunch (10:30AM-1:00PM)**, **Monday through Thursday** from **June 1 through July 2** at the **Belleville East Cafeteria** (255 West Blvd, Belleville, IL). Pass the word along to any families who might benefit!

Reflection on this Week's Feast

On July 16, 1945, the first nuclear weapon was tested in the New Mexico desert. J. Robert Oppenheimer, director of the project, named the test **Trinity** (*Oppenheimer*, directed by Christopher Nolan, Syncopy 2023). Nolan's 2023 film asks pressing questions of humanity's responsibility toward creation and our capacity for great destruction. Theologians have questioned whether humanity's power to destroy creation might be enabled by our trust in God's omnipotence (Gordon Kaufman, *Theology for a Nuclear Age* (Nashville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1985). While the title of the test may not have had theological significance, Oppenheimer drew from the poetry of John Donne (Patty Templeton, "Plutonium and Poetry: Where Trinity and Oppenheimer's Reading Habits Met, *Los Alamos National Laboratory*), which envisions the paradox of being drawn into the Trinity and held by their love. Consider pondering the inevitability of the Trinity and humanity's role to accompany God in the mending of creation. – from *Sundays & Seasons*

