

A C T S Adoration Community Theology Service



St. Louis ACTS Missions 2nd Quarter Newsletter July 2016

Upcoming Events

August 27th - Core Workshop at ICC in Columbia, IL

September 25th - Annual ACTS Picnic/Mass at LaSalle

October 15th - Leadership Workshop at St. Martin de Porres

October 29th - Night of Worship at St. Martin de Porres

What's new from ACTS Missions -San Antonio, TX

ACTS Missions recently launched a redesigned web site. On the home page, you can check out the latest monthly newsletter and view a great ACTS testimonial video (or show it to your friends to convince them to go on retreat). There is also a link to join the ACTS Missioners. The address is the same, www.actsmissions.org. The ACTS Store also has a redesigned website, which you can access through the ACTS Mission home page, or go to directly at www.actsstore.org.

Please note: If you have ACTS questions that we can help you with, please send them to the chapter directly rather than through the "Contact Us" link on the ACTS Missions website. Often questions submitted through their website are referred back to the chapter for resolution, so we can save time and effort by contacting us directly. The chapter website is www.stlouis-acts.org.

2015-2016 A year in review from: Steve Brokaw STL ACTS Chapter Director

The past year has been a busy one for ACTS in the St. Louis area. The two primary responsibilities of the Chapter are missioning to new parishes and education. Additionally, we support the existing St. Louis ACTS community and find ways to help all of us to grow in our faith and our relationship with Christ.

Missioning: Several parishes decided to start an ACTS program during 2014 and 2015 year, and these efforts come to life during this past year. Church of Our Lady in Festus conducted their first retreats in November (2015) and May (2016), with the second retreats coming in August (2016) (women) and November (2016) (men). The women of All Saints in St. Peters are in formation for their first retreat -which will be in September (2016), followed by the men in January, 2017. Formation is also beginning for the women's team for the first retreat for St. Genevieve du Bois in Warson Woods, also in September, (2016) and the men's team is being assembled for an October (2016) retreat. Finally, we saw the completion of second mission teams for St. Anthony of Padua in High Ridge last fall. Congratulations to these parishes for choosing to offer ACTS to their communities.

There are opportunities to serve on a mission team during the next year, and we need your help! Several parishes have expressed interest in ACTS, and some already have seed team members who have been on a retreat. As always, we will continue to communicate these mission teams on our web site and through emails sent to you through your core teams and the Yahoo groups.

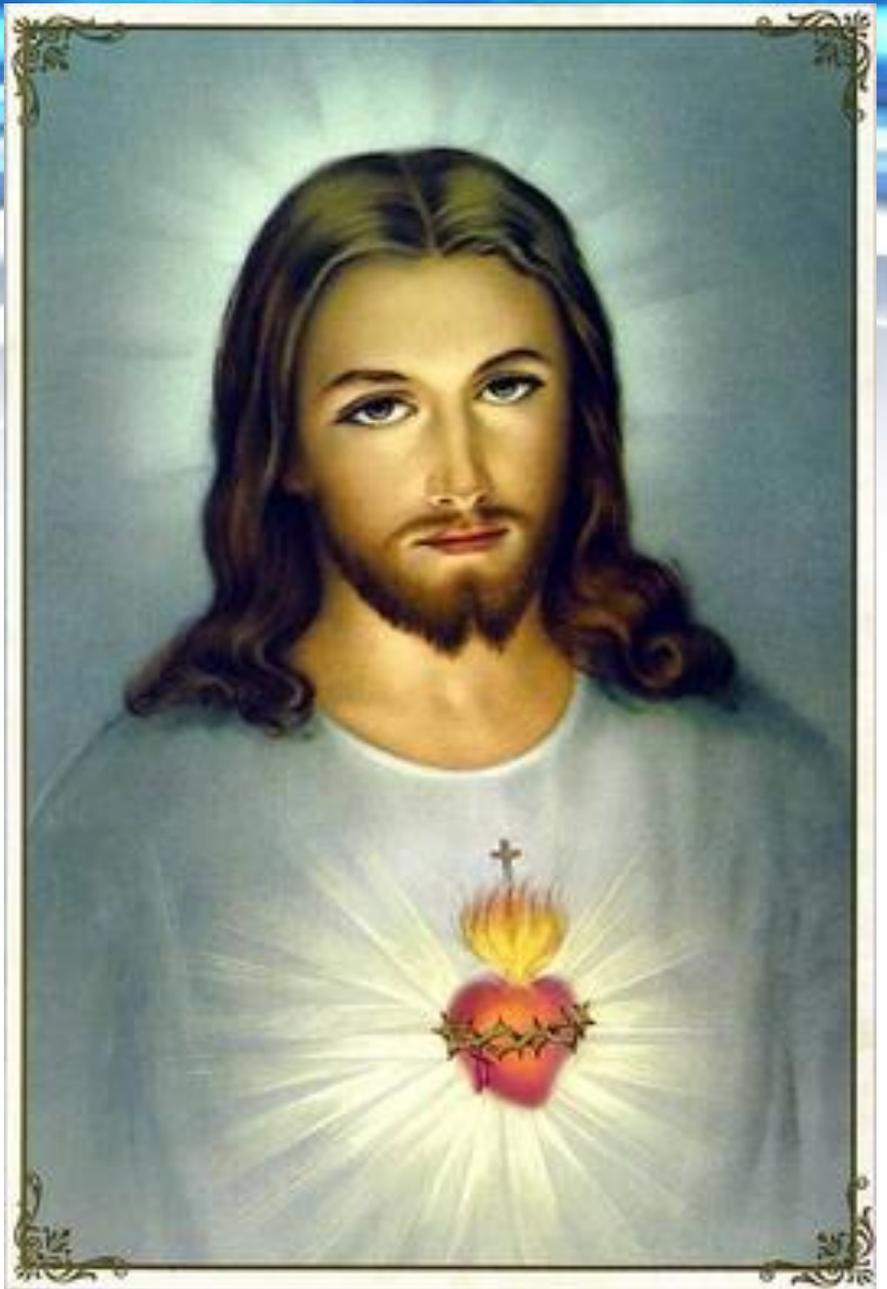
Education: We set a goal of offering the ACTS Leadership Workshop and Core Team Training on a quarterly basis, and this was achieved with great participation from our ACTS brothers and sisters. An important part of this was to continue to stress the need to stick with the basics and the format of ACTS as it was defined following the Bishop's Initiative. A total of 197 people attended workshops in Aug., Nov., Feb., and Apr., and a Spanish workshop in Jun. Core team training in Jul., Oct., Feb., and Apr. was presented to 116 core team members. Additional workshops and training are being offered this summer and fall. Remember, the Leadership Workshop is required for all retreat leaders (Dir., Co-Dir, and SC) within three years of leading a retreat, and attendance at Core Team training is required for all who serve on a core team (within their first year).

Events: In an effort to bring together ACTS alumni from all parishes, we are planning area-wide ACTS events. We began by hosting our first Lenten Day of Reflection in March, presented by our two graduates of the ACTS Spiritual Companion program, Bob Radley and Russ Weil. We also promoted ACTS on local Catholic radio in April. This was added to the existing annual ACTS picnic in September. (The next picnic is on Sept. 25, so put that in your calendar now!) We will offer more events in the next year, and your ideas and participation are encouraged and appreciated.

Parish Support: We also formed two new ACTS "coalitions." Coalitions can be formed by two or more smaller parishes not large enough to sustain ACTS on their own. They combine their efforts in conducting retreats. - St. Vincent de Paul joined St. Catherine Laboure to form a new coalition called "Vincentian ACTS". St. Monica formalized their existing relationship with St. Richard to form another coalition. The Saint Anthony of Padua, High Ridge Core Team was installed in January of 2016

Other Areas: The redesigned of the St. Louis Chapter web site (www.stlouis-acts.org) brought the opportunity to broaden the Chapter's ability to communicate information to the ACTS community-Guidance, developments, and new opportunities from ACTS Missions sent to the Core Team and the ACTS Community.

The Chapter has tried to answer your questions and help resolve issues in a timely and gentle manner (although this was sometimes a challenge). We all look forward to continuing this work and serving the ACTS community during the coming year. As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions.



**Reverent Simplicity = ACTS Retreats
Keeping Jesus as the focus and the
Holy Spirit as our guide.**

ACTS



**St. Anthony
of Padua
High Ridge, MO**

Parish Spotlight

St. Anthony of Padua High Ridge

In the spring of 2013 Fr. Sebastian approached parishioners and encouraged them to attend an ACTS retreat. Needless to say they returned very excited about their experience. Our parish is very grateful for Fr. Sebastian's support in bringing ACTS to St. Anthony's of Padua.

In the fall of 2013 Judy Brouk and others started the SCRIPT fundraiser to raise money to support the ACTS program. The parish began their first mission teams; with the help of the St. Louis ACTS community; in June and September 2014 followed by the second mission retreats in 2015. In May 2016 the women of St. Anthony of Padua hosted their first retreat; with the help from a few ACTS alumni; 14 parishioners attended. The men's ACTS team is currently in formation for their first retreat scheduled August 25-28 at LaSalle. Please join us in prayer to the Holy Spirit that the men of the parish will answer God's call and say "YES" to this retreat.

We owe a great deal of thanks to the St. Louis ACTS Mission Chapter and many parishes and ACTS alumni for assisting our parish in getting ACTS off and running. By adhering to the guidelines from San Antonio ACTS Missions; we have had 104 members of the parish attend an ACTS retreat. A special thanks goes out to Angie Meglio who designed our banner which represents what ACTS is to the St. Anthony's parish.

Like the apostles, we are tasked with teaching what God asks of us, partaking of the Eucharist and proclaiming God's Goodness among all His people. We are all fishers of men and St. Anthony's of Padua Parish is blessed to be part of the world-wide ACTS Mission Team!

Refresh your Spirit; Reflect with God; Renew your Faith and Revitalize your body at Pallottine Renewal Center

Fifty years ago this year the Pallottine Missionary Sisters moved westward from West Virginia and landed in Florissant MO - they built their new convent and retreat center and called it Pallottine Renewal Center which opened its doors in 1969. With the vision and zeal of their founder, St. Vincent Pallotti, the Pallottine Missionary Sisters opened Pallottine Renewal Center as a venue to awaken all to their apostolic call and deepen their love of God and their faith. St. Vincent Pallotti believed that all are called to revive faith, rekindle charity and be apostles. This belief and the mission of the ACTS' movement compliment each other in many ways.

About 5 years ago, Fr. Rich Bockskopf, the pastor at Holy Spirit Parish in Maryland Heights and the Executive Director at that time met and discussed how Pallottine Renewal Center could serve parishes offering ACTS with their campus amenities and excellent hospitality.

For several years Pallottine has had the privilege of hosting about 20 ACT'S retreats each year. We have a chapel in the round, several conference rooms, board rooms and breakout meeting areas that allow each ACTS team to uniquely plan their weekend schedule. The 83 acre grounds and outdoor spaces offer additional areas to include in the plan, weather permitting.

Our in-house dining offers excellent meals with options for hosting social events during retreats.

We have private and double rooms with capacity of 90 guests' and two fully furnished retreat houses on campus for smaller groups.

Our full-sized gymnasium, heated indoor pool and outdoor labyrinth, solarium, patio's and garden are additional amenities we offer that assist all retreats an opportunity to find balance of mind, body and spirit during their stay at Pallottine.

I have been inspired and enriched interacting with so many ACTS groups on our campus and I am proud having a personal connection with ACTS beginnings. My uncle, Ed Courtney, is one of the founding men who created ACTS retreat. The spiritually enriched weekends compliment the mission of Pallottine Renewal Center – to offer retreatants an opportunity to *Reflect with God, Refresh their Spirit and Renew their Faith.*

The mission of Pallottine Renewal Center is embodied in the employees – we are open and present to the needs of our guests providing compassion and exceptional hospitality throughout your visit. We are a 501 (3) c non profit mission that is sustained through retreats, donations and the in-kind skilled services of many of our retreatants. For more information and a virtual tour visit www.pallottinerenewl.org.

Marillyn Webb, MA
STL ACTS Chapter Board

STL ACTS Missions Upcoming Events

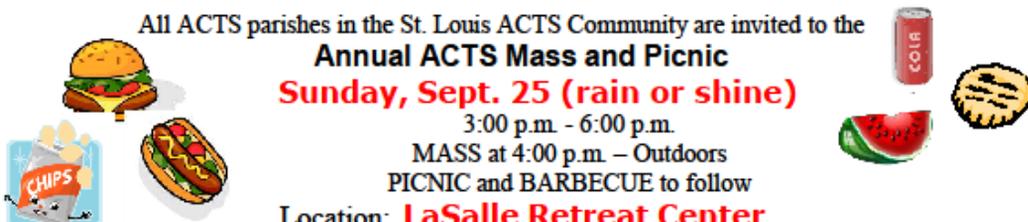
STL ACTS Missions Workshops

Leadership Workshop - Saturday, October 15th at St. Martin de Porres from 8:30-4:00pm. The fee is \$25 which includes lunch. This workshop is designed to give a historical perspective and understanding of ACTS and its purpose. The training provides an explanation as to the need for uniformity and protecting the integrity of ACTS, and direction on facilitating an ACTS Retreat. Attendance is required for Directors, Co-Directors and Spiritual Companions who have not attended a Leadership Workshop with three (3) years prior to the Retreat they are leading; Core members who have not attended a Workshop previously. Team members are encouraged to attend to further their understanding of the ACTS retreat process.

Core Team Workshop - Saturday August 27th at Immaculate Conception in Columbia, IL from 8:30-4pm. The fee is \$25 which includes lunch. This workshop is required for all ACTS Core Members and provides ACTS Cores with information to maintain and foster the ACTS apostolate within the parish community. The sessions cover leadership with the heart of a Servant, team building compatibility, assimilating ACTS and after ACTS initiatives into the parish community, keeping ACTS integrity and review of the ACTS Core Charter.

STL ACTS Missions Annual Picnic and Mass

Join in with other ACTS alumni for mass, food and worship



All ACTS parishes in the St. Louis ACTS Community are invited to the
Annual ACTS Mass and Picnic
Sunday, Sept. 25 (rain or shine)
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
MASS at 4:00 p.m. – Outdoors
PICNIC and BARBECUE to follow
Location: **LaSalle Retreat Center**
2101 Rue De LaSalle Glencoe, MO 63038
\$5.00 per person - Kids 5 years & under and clergy are free

Bring your own lawn chairs & blankets, and enjoy celebrating Mass on the beautiful grounds at LaSalle Retreat Center. You can bring your own games for the picnic afterwards (washers, Frisbees, croquet etc.) **All food is provided.** Please bring your own cooler of drinks; **no alcohol** please. Make sure to pack some insect repellent and sunscreen as well!!!

ACTS silver fisherman bracelets and silver pendants will be available for sale.

In the event of bad weather, please call (636) 938-5374 and we will have a recorded message with updated information on the Mass and picnic. *We will have the Mass and picnic inside if it rains.*

Directions: Exit 264 off I-44 (Eureka Exit). Go North approximately 3 miles to a bridge at Old State Road. About 100 yards past the bridge, turn right onto "Rue de La Salle." Go about 50 yards and turn left in the driveway of La Salle Center. The picnic is around back.

Enjoy **CHURROS**, a
crunchy Spanish treat!

A free will collection
for the ACTS Mission
Board will be made
during Mass!

Any questions? Call Jeanne Moore at 314-578-4835.

Reservation Form for the Annual ACTS Barbecue/Picnic and Mass at LaSalle Retreat Center
Sunday Sept. 25, rain or shine
\$5.00 per person - Kids 5 years & under and clergy are free

Family Names _____

Phone #: _____ Parish: _____

Number of Kids: _____ Over 5 _____ Under 5 E-mail: _____

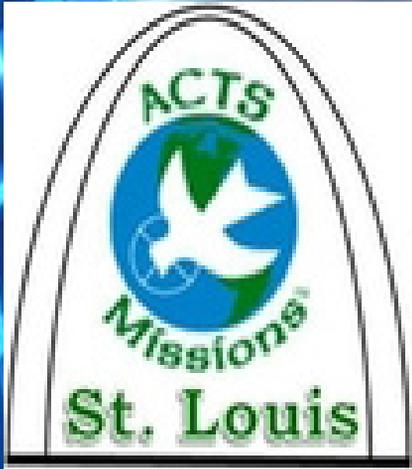
Number attending BBQ _____ X \$5.00/person = _____

*BBQ will include hamburgers, hotdogs, potato chips, cookies, and CHURROS.

Please make checks payable to "ACTS Missions - St. Louis Chapter".

Mail to: Jeanne Moore
235 Worthing Drive
St. Louis, MO 63119

STL ACTS Missions welcomes you to the first Night of Worship



St. Louis ACTS
Missions Chapter
invites you to

NOW

Night of Worship

October 29th, 2016 from 4:30-8:00pm
St. Martin de Porres • 615 Dunn Rd. •
Hazelwood, MO

- 4:30 pm - Mass at St. Martin de Porres
- 5:30 pm - Light food & refreshments
 - 6:30 pm - Praise & Worship
 - Invite a friend or family member
- (open to all) and enjoy liturgy, music and reflection from a combination of ACTS parish
- singers lead by St. Louis' own ACTS Candlelight Band.

Please bring can goods to support St. Martin de Porres' food pantry

Please RSVP to: Sue Syers *stlouisacts@stlouis-acts.org* or 314-974-6587
Include your parish and each person attending