



*Our welcome comes to you loosely paraphrased from an article published by St. Patrick's Church in Oakland California, and of course we've added our own St. Louis twist, because we mean it when we say "All are Welcome".*

We, the members of St. Louis Catholic Community extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, life-partners, straight or gay. We don't care if you are filthy rich, dirt poor or anything in between. We extend a special welcome to

crying newborns, loud whispers, quiet talkers, those who are so skinny they disappear when they turn to the side or those who carry some extra "junk in their trunk". We welcome you if you can sing like a sweet choir of angels or like Larry, our Pastor, attempts to sing.

You are welcome here if you're "just browsing", just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you haven't been in church since your youngest kid's baptism or since Easter or since last Christmas. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, those who are three and act like they're 90 and to teenagers -- not knowing where they fit in and growing up way too fast. We welcome hockey moms, soccer dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, non-fat-half-cafe-latte-sippers, smokers, vegans and junk-food eaters.

We welcome those who are in recovery of any kind and in every stage of it. We welcome you if you're having "problems" or you're down in the dumps or if you are excessively happy and bouncing off walls. You are welcome here even if you dislike "organized religion" or "disorganized religion" depending on your views. We welcome you even if you've blown all your offering money at the casinos and can only toss a buck in the basket. Join us if you are a workaholic, looking for employment or can't spell *implymant*. You are welcome here if you are afraid of spiders, other people, commitment, other people, Math, other people, being alone, being in crowds, dying, failure or being loved. Come join us if you can't sit still, can't stand long, if you walk with assistance or roll with it. We welcome those who have visible and secretly hidden tattoos, as well as those who are pierced – gauges included.

We offer welcome to those who need prayer now, share prayer every day, had religion shoved down their throats or whacked across their knuckles, those who came to religion of their own accord, drive an Accord, found our Liturgy time convenient or got lost and wound up here by mistake. So in short, you are welcome here anytime!