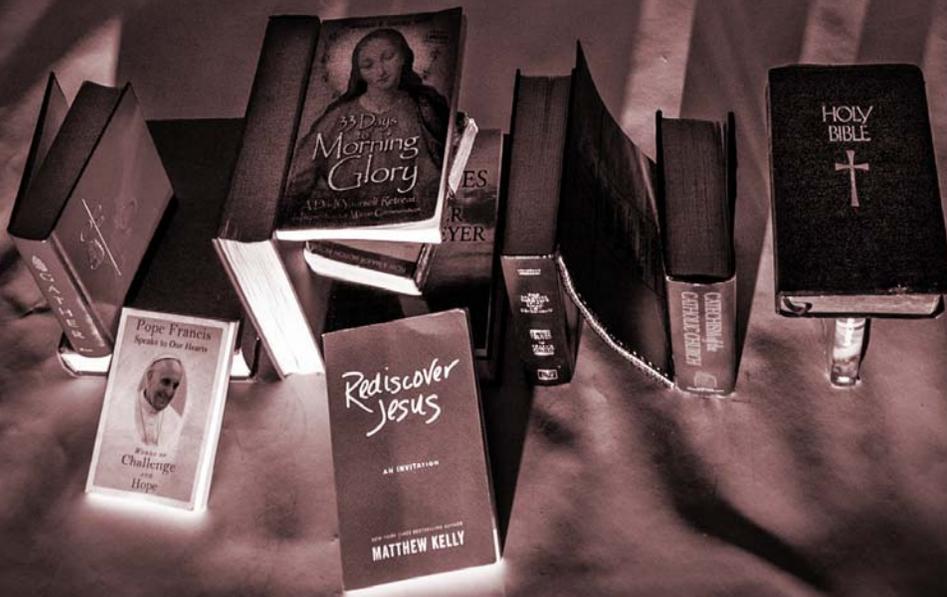


FEBRUARY 28, 2016  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

WHAT ARE *YOU* READING THIS LENT?

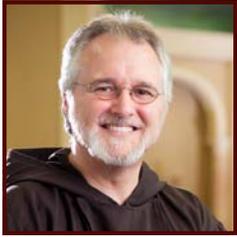
Go to [www.saint-johns.net](http://www.saint-johns.net) to find some  
Lenten reading recommendations for the entire family!



**Weekend Mass Schedule:** Saturday 4:30pm; Sunday 7:00am, 8:30am, 11:00am, 2:00pm (Spanish Mass), 5:00pm. **Website:** [www.saint-johns.net](http://www.saint-johns.net)

**Weekday Mass Schedule:** Monday-Friday 7:30am; Saturday 8:00am. **Reconciliation:** Mon 11am-1pm; Wed 11am-1pm, 6-8pm; Fri 11am-1pm; Sat 3-4pm

# BREAD to Offer



## A SEASON OF MERCY

By Fr. Jeff Ernst, OFM, Cap.

Probably the most perplexing aspect of our spiritual life is that of sin. It is perplexing because presumably, we desire to follow Jesus and to live in the way that he taught us, we want to live a life of faith and to witness to that authentically in our lives, but sometimes we fail to do so. On the one hand, we want to live in the way that we were inspired to live when we were at Mass, or after having confessed our sins, or at a prayer meeting, or when we helped someone in need. On the other hand, selfish and/or evil desires seem to prevail and overwhelm us. By the grace of God, we are able to resist acting on these desires, but there is always the possibility of succumbing to sin.

St. Paul seems to have struggled with this himself. Paul's undying commitment and perseverance in faith is evident when reading in the Bible about the many trials and difficulties through which he had passed for the sake of the faith of the newfound Christian communities in his charge. Yet, he seems to present a spiritual dilemma of his own. In his letter to the Romans Paul states, "What I do, I do not understand. For I do not do what I want, but I do what I hate . . . The willing is ready at hand, but doing the good is not. For I do not do the good I want, but I do the evil I do not want . . . For I take delight in the law of God in my inner self, but I see in my members another principle at war with the law of my mind, taking me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members" (7:15,18-19,22-23). Paul had been one of the most zealous of Jews, "a Hebrew of Hebrew origins," and a Pharisee. He says of himself that he was blameless when it came to righteousness based on the law (Galatians 1:13-14; Philippians 3:5-6). What a significant change in his life for him to be able to publicly admit his powerlessness over himself in the face of the struggle to resist doing the evil that he does not want to do! Paul submits himself to the mercy of God: "Miserable one that I am! Who will deliver me from this mortal body? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 7:24-25). This is not to imply that Paul was a great sinner after having become a person of faith: "What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? Of course not!" (Romans 6:15). But it is encouraging to us to know that one of the greatest saints in Church history struggled with human weakness and its inherent inclination to sin.

Lent is a season of penance and conversion, but it is also a season of mercy. In fact, the whole point of penance is to receive anew God's abundant and gratuitous mercy. We are sinners and the battle with sin and temptation is a part of Christian life. Like St. Paul, if we humbly admit that we are powerless over sin, we will experience a strength that we are not always aware that we have. When we feel powerless or overwhelmed by temptation, we have to first resist and then in resisting, we will find strength. It is much like faith – we do not see what it is that we believe before accepting it on faith. Rather, we believe first, and then we see. It is like that with temptation. If we act on our faith first – that is, if we resist temptation – then we will receive strength to continue to resist. In addition to forgiveness of sin, God's mercy includes the ability to resist temptation and the ability to act on what we know to be good and holy.

May God continue to assist us in those moments of temptation when we feel left to our own power. And may the Lord bless each of us in a special way throughout this Lenten Season so that we might appreciate in a more profound way the mercy that was won for us in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord!

- Fr. Jeff

## the FRANCISCAN Journey

Anyone interested in pursuing a Secular Franciscan vocation is also invited to attend!



On **Tuesday, March 1, at 7:00 p.m.**, Fr. Mike will have another installment of his ongoing course on Franciscan living. The class will meet in the Church Basement.

This course will deepen your understanding of Franciscan thought and how elements of Franciscan thought can be applied to decision making and actions we perform in our day-to-day living. You will gain a deeper understanding concerning how the teachings of Francis of Assisi of the 13th century have relevance for us today and why his teachings have survived for 800 years.

Come learn how the example of St. Francis has impacted the lives of fellow parishioners as you study and grow together in your appreciation of St. Francis and what his example can offer you. The hour long presentation will include input from Fr. Mike, time for discussion, and close with a short prayer service.

# RECOMMITMENT WEEKEND: COMING MARCH 5 & 6

Preserving our Past ... Building Our Future!  
Capital Campaign Offers Growth in our Parish and Faith Life...  
A Parishioner's Perspective:

Life is all about transitions. Some are subtle, like the gradual changes in temperature and daylight as winter subsides and spring begins. We're seeing that happen daily as the grass has a bit more of a hint of green and birds are returning.

As a parent of an eighth-grader, my wife and I are watching as our second child finishes her time at St. John's and prepares to join her brother at Free State in the fall. We recognize that they are moving ever so closer to the end of one academic journey and starting the next.

One constant in all of these transitions and the opportunities that they bring is the faith that our family shares. It starts with family prayers daily, reminding us to give thanks for our blessings and ask for God's love and wisdom for what lies ahead. The foundation of our faith is reinforced by the vibrant parish that we all call home here at St. John.

Our parish is transitioning, as well, as evidenced by the ongoing capital campaign. We are building on our rich heritage of being a cornerstone of Lawrence. Our parish has carried out the mission of the Catholic church by spreading the Gospel and reaching out to those in need of support and mercy. We have provided our children with a solid education and formation in the faith. And we continue to grow.

The ongoing capital campaign to expand the campus of St. John's will help us transition to an even more important and exciting mission of service as we look to the parish needs well into the future. We have topped the \$2.1 million mark thanks to the sacrificial gifts and generosity of our parish and school families. To those who have answered the call we say "thank you." If you haven't yet, please give prayerful consideration to this campaign.

Together, regardless of the size of the gift, we will help St. John's transition to the next opportunity that God has in store for us. Together we will continue to touch the lives of others through our ministries and celebration of the Eucharist. Thank you for all you do for St. John's and may God continue to grant His mercy and blessings to you and your family.

—John Milburn



## HOLY WEEK LENTEN CHALLENGE

We will have a Holy Week Lenten Challenge the week of March 20-26. An email will be sent out to all those parishioners who are currently receiving our weekly emails and we will post on Facebook each day! We will try to go even deeper in the final week of Lent as we prepare our hearts for the Resurrection of Christ in our lives!

If you have any questions, or to have your email added to the challenge, please contact Samantha Romero: [sromero@saint-johns.net](mailto:sromero@saint-johns.net)

## REDISCOVER JESUS: WEEKLY REFLECTION

*Each week we will be posting the reflection items from a chapter of the book Rediscover Jesus here, on our website, and on our Facebook page. Bear these items in mind as you go through your week! (If you do not have a copy of the book, you can pick one up for free at the parish office.)*

**Point to Ponder:** No matter what happens, God loves you.

**Verse to Live:** "Am I now seeking human approval or God's approval? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still pleasing people, I would not be a servant of Christ {Gal 1:10}

**Question to Consider:** Do you value yourself anywhere near as much as God values you?

**Prayer:** Jesus, thank you for revealing yourself to me. Thank you for all you have done for me. Thank you for loving me even more than I love myself.

## TAIZÉ SERVICES IN LAWRENCE

Many people deepen their prayer lives during Lent, and Taizé offers a weekly prayer opportunity. This Lent's Taizé services will be held Sunday, Feb. 28, at First Baptist Church; on Friday, March 4, at First United Methodist Church at its downtown location; and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church hosts on March 11.

**On March 18, the Lenten services conclude at St. John the Evangelist Church, with the popular Taizé Stations of the Cross.**

All of the services start at 6 p.m.

For more information or to receive Taizé emails, contact Judith Galas at [judithgalas@gmail.com](mailto:judithgalas@gmail.com). Bookmarks listing all services and their locations are available in the church's information area.

## 2016 ST. JOHN MEXICAN FIESTA SCHOLARSHIP

These scholarships are offered to qualifying students of Mexican descent from the Lawrence Catholic community who wish to pursue or continue a higher education either at a college, technical or trade school. Applicants must complete the financial assistance application form that is available at the St. John Parish office or by contacting Michael Ramirez at 843-3801 or [ramirezmarj@hotmail.com](mailto:ramirezmarj@hotmail.com).

These forms must be completed and returned to the St. John Church office by April 4th, 2016.

# CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH AT ST. JOHN CHURCH

**Women, this is your invitation!**

Women's Retreat (March 5-6, 2016)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname (for name tag): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a registered member of St. John? (circle one) No Yes

Do you have food allergies or special dietary needs? (circle one) No Yes, they are: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you require any other special accommodations? (circle one) No Yes, they are: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact #1 Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact #2 Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions or Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Return form to the collection plate or mail/return to parish office: **St. John Church, 1229 Vermont St., Lawrence, KS 66044.**

First come, first serve. Only 25 spaces available, so register soon!

Please contact Cris Denning with any questions: [cdenning@saint-johns.net](mailto:cdenning@saint-johns.net), (785) 843-0109.

## For Office Use Only:

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ # for desired retreat \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmed Date \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Confirm Letter \_\_\_\_\_

### Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What is CRHP? "Christ Renews His Parish" is a spiritual renewal process which calls together the members of the parish – priests, religious, laity – to experience personal conversion and Christian community in the environment of their own parish. It is completely oriented to the parish in order to give both the individual and the parish an opportunity for renewal and growth in the spiritual life. It is led by a team of parishioners properly formed in prayer and love and instructed in the content of the total process. It was developed in 1969 and has been experienced by hundreds of parishes across the country.

2. What happens during the weekend? Most say, "You can't explain what happens; you have to experience it." This is your invitation to the experience. You will enjoy the 30-hour Christ Renews His Parish Weekend. This includes group activities and discussions, prayer and sacraments together, and reflections by fellow parishioners on such subjects as: Father's loving care for us, Renewal, Scripture, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Discipleship, and what Christian Life is all about.

3. Where and when is the retreat weekend? There are retreats for Men and retreats for Women on different weekends.

4. How long will it last? Begins 7:30am on Saturday and ends Sunday by 5pm.

5. Who may come? Anyone 19 years or older, Catholic, and who is a registered member of St. John Church is invited.

6. I'm doubtful. Who will invite me? This is your invitation. It is up to you to make up your own mind. You are not being pressured. Praying for guidance is important. If you feel that Christ, through the Holy Spirit is calling you, COME!

7. What about Confession? There is a Reconciliation Service that concludes with confession for those who desire it.

8. What about Mass? The Eucharistic Celebration is in the church, which is reserved for the participants of the weekend.

9. Where do people sleep? Sleeping accommodations are at St. John Catholic School. It is recommended that you bring a air mattress. Service is excellent, since you make your own bed and provide whatever linens, pillows, blankets, sleeping bags etc.

10. What about meals? Hot meals are served. The food is excellent and the portions ample.

11. What is the uniform of the day? Casual and comfortable clothes. Blue jeans and track suits are the usual. No extra "Sunday best" attire is expected.

12. Can I afford the price of the weekend? Suggested donation \$35.

13. I'd like to attend the weekend, but I have a health problem. Mention that you have a special need on this form. A person from the Retreat Team will contact you.

14. I can't get up and talk in front of people. Will I have to? You will not be asked to get up and talk.

15. I'm still not sure. How do I know if I need renewal? As Christians we are called to continually renew our faith and our relationship with Christ. As a parish we are called to continually renew our community, to experience "being church for others". Do not worry about your preconceived reluctance to participate. Come and see. What do you have to lose?

16. How do I register? Invitation Registration forms are available at the back of Church and in the Parish Office. Applications are accepted on a "first come, first served" basis.

## A NEW CLASS WITH FR. BARNABAS:

### How to Share and Explain Your Faith with Family, Friends, and Others

Please join Fr. Barnabas for this free, ongoing class throughout the spring season. Classes meet from 7:00—8:30 p.m. in the church basement on the following Tuesday evenings:

**March 8 April 12 & 26 May 10**

The book for this class, *Catholic Answers to Protestant Questions*, by Father John J. Pasquini is available at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

If you buy online, you can support St. John School (for free!) by buying through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and designating St. John School as your organization. The school will receive 5% on any purchases you make!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE, SOCIAL ACTION

By Susan Tabor

*"We are just a paycheck away from being on the street!"*

I don't know how many times I've heard people who are concerned about making their money stretch as far as possible make that statement. In fact, I've said it a few times myself when frustrated with my own financial situation.

But for some Lawrence area families, ending up on the street has unfortunately become a frightening reality. Some find friends and family members to stay with until they get back on their feet. Others are not so lucky.

If a family has a vehicle, sometimes they live out of their car for awhile. Some, especially if there is active chemical dependency or some other issue that could compromise safety, end up at the Lawrence Community Shelter. Other families, if they meet the screening criteria which are set mostly for safety purposes, end up a part of the Family Promise program.

Family Promise is a local program based on a nationally-known model. To save overhead, families are housed at local churches and move to stay overnight at a different church each week during their time in the program. During the day, they work on goals at the day center or go to work or school. Their children also attend school without interruption. Our local program can help up to four families or 14 people at a time. They have 90 days to meet their goals concerning housing and employment. Their time can be extended if need be. Family Promise also has transitional housing available for people who are ready to leave the program but need a place to stay for a little while before they can move to their new place and if the provider(s) for the family are in stable employment. The goal is to increase the family's ability to be stable.

St. John's partners with Corpus Christi in hosting families one week each quarter. St. John's hosts at the Holy Family Center at Corpus Christi on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday evenings. We need people to prepare a meal for each day, to host during the evening and two people to stay overnight. Holy Family Center at Corpus Christi becomes a dormitory during these times.

We have a great group of people helping from St. John's but could use some more help.

If you and/or your family would like to become a part of this great ministry, please contact Susan Tabor, the St. John's Family Promise coordinator. You may email her at [souljourner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:souljourner@sbcglobal.net) or at [stabor@saint-johns.net](mailto:stabor@saint-johns.net). You may phone her at 841-3875 or on her cell at 865-9949. Yes, you can make a difference in the lives of those who are struggling! Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

## GROCERY CARDS & TRASH BAGS

March 5-6

### Padre Pio Chapel @ North Entrance after all Masses except 2pm

Purchase Hy-Vee gift cards and Hy-Vee donates 6% back to St. John School. Sold in \$50 or \$100 increments.

Purchase Checkers gift cards and Checkers donates 6% back to the school. Sold in \$10 increments.

Purchase Merc gift cards and the Merc donates 6% back to the school. Gift card good on all purchases at the Merc. Sold in \$50 increments.

Dillons stores have replaced their gift card program with Community Rewards. Go to [www.dillons.com/communityrewards](http://www.dillons.com/communityrewards), register your Plus Shopper's Card number, and designate St. John School #29296.

**PLEASE PAY BY CHECK OR CASH. Credit cards will be accepted, but reduce our overall profit. Make checks out to "St. John School."**

**Submit the form below BEFORE Mass to expedite your order. Your order will be ready to pick up after Mass.**

Or Pre-Order Online: [www.saint-johns.net/grocery](http://www.saint-johns.net/grocery)

## PRE-ORDER FORM

Name:

Phone:

## GROCERY CARDS

Store	Amount	# of Cards
Hy-Vee	\$100	<input type="text"/>
Hy-Vee	\$50	<input type="text"/>
Checkers	\$100	<input type="text"/>
Checkers	\$50	<input type="text"/>
Checkers	\$10	<input type="text"/>
Merc	\$50	<input type="text"/>

Hy-Vee \$50 Coupon Book	Amount	# of Books
	\$5	<input type="text"/>

## TRASH BAGS

Color	Size	Bags/Roll	Amt.	# of Rolls
White	18 gal.	60	\$12	<input type="text"/>
Black	30 gal.	40	\$12	<input type="text"/>
Yellow	39 gal.	20	\$12	<input type="text"/>
Blue	55 gal.	15	\$12	<input type="text"/>

# LENTEN SCHEDULE

## LENTEN FISH FRY

Every Friday during Lent (except Good Friday)  
5:00pm Lenten Fish Fry  
hosted by the Knights of Columbus  
New menu items this year!

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent  
5:15pm Stations of the Cross  
(Except March 18, see below)

Friday, March 18  
6:00pm Stations of the Cross  
Taizé Service

## RECONCILIATION

Mondays  
11:00 am-1:00 pm

Wednesdays  
11:00 am-1:00 pm  
6:00-8:00pm

Fridays  
11:00 am-1:00 pm

Saturdays  
3:00-4:00 pm

Reconciliation available  
in the Padre Pio Chapel,  
inside the north entrance of the church.

# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Monday, March 21  
Mass at 7:30am

Tuesday, March 22  
Mass at 7:30am  
Seder Meal at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 23  
Mass at 7:30am  
Reconciliation from 11:00 am-1:00 pm  
and 6:00-8:00pm  
in the Padre Pio Chapel

Holy Thursday, March 24  
Morning Prayer at 7:30am  
Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:30pm

Good Friday, March 25  
Church Offices & School Closed  
Morning Prayer at 7:30am  
Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2:45pm  
Stations of the Cross at 3:00pm  
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion at 7:30pm

Holy Saturday, March 26  
Morning Prayer at 8:00am  
Help decorate the church for Easter at 8:30am  
Easter Vigil Mass at 8:30pm  
(No 4:30pm Mass)

Easter Sunday, March 27  
Mass Times:  
7:00am, 8:30am, 11:00am,  
2:00pm (Spanish), and 5:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration is also available during Lent, as it is year-round at St. John.  
Silent Adoration in the Padre Pio chapel is available 4 days a week from 6am-10pm.  
Reservoir Adoration will be held in the church on Wednesday, March 2, from 7-8pm.

Read more about Eucharistic Adoration on the next page!

# Pope Francis speaks about the importance of adoration and confession in his own life (and in ours)

## On Confession

"Confessing to a priest is a way of putting my life into the hands and heart of someone else, someone who in that moment acts in the name of Jesus. It's a way to be real and authentic: we face the facts by looking at another person and not in the mirror."

"It is important that I go to confession, that I sit in front of a priest who embodies Jesus, that I kneel before Mother Church, called to dispense the mercy of Christ," he said. "There is objectivity in this gesture of genuflection before the priest; it becomes the vehicle through which grace reaches and heals me."



*"This is the love of God.  
This is his overabundant mercy."*



## On Adoration

"Let us ask ourselves: how do I follow Jesus? Jesus speaks in silence in the Mystery of the Eucharist and every time reminds us that to follow Him means to come out of ourselves and make of our own lives, not a possession, but a gift to Him and to others."

"Jesus gives Himself to us in the Eucharist, shares our same journey – indeed, He becomes food, real food that sustains our life even at times when the going is rough, when obstacles slow down our steps. The Lord in the Eucharist makes us follow His path, that of service, of sharing, of giving – and what little we have, what little we are, if shared, becomes wealth, because the power of God, which is that of love, descends into our poverty to transform it."

## RESERVOIR ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>

ST. JOHN CHURCH

*One priest will be available for confessions in the Padre Pio chapel beginning at 6pm. Additional priests will arrive at 7pm to hear confessions in other areas of the church.*

CONFESSIONS  
**6-8PM**

ADORATION & MUSIC  
**7-8PM**



### 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

The Holy Father has suggested that during the Jubilee Year the season of Lent should be "lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy."

In Lawrence, the St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center will be participating in the 24 Hours for the Lord initiative on the Friday and Saturday preceding the Fourth Sunday of Lent. This event will afford people an opportunity for intense prayer and enables "people to touch the grandeur of God's mercy."

To sign up for an hour (or more!) of adoration throughout this period that begins **Friday, March 4th**, with Mass at 12:10 p.m., visit the following url: [tinyurl.com/24hours4theLord](http://tinyurl.com/24hours4theLord)

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Come receive the sacrament of reconciliation in the Padre Pio chapel during any of the following times during Lent:

Mondays: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesdays: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Fridays: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Saturdays: 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Or by appointment - Call **(785) 843-0109** to schedule one, or email:

[frjeff@saint-johns.net](mailto:frjeff@saint-johns.net) or [frbarnabas@saint-johns.net](mailto:frbarnabas@saint-johns.net)

## DAILY ADORATION IN THE PADRE PIO CHAPEL

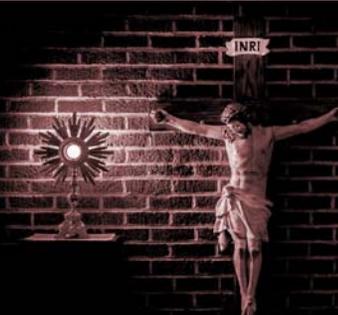
MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY: 6AM—10PM

*Note: There will be no adoration from 11am—1pm on Mondays and Fridays during Lent.*

The Padre Pio Chapel is located inside the north entrance of St. John Church.

It is open for anybody to come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament during these hours.

If you can schedule a weekly hour, please email Brandon Volz at: [mrbrandonvolz@gmail.com](mailto:mrbrandonvolz@gmail.com)



## PRAYER LIST

The "Prayer List" includes the most recent information that the Simon Parish Center has about a parishioner and/or their family member. Contact the Simon Parish Center to request someone for the "Prayer List" and be sure to update the Parish Center monthly regarding their condition or the name will be removed.

**Matthew Arellano**  
**Samantha Bell**  
**Mariele Berthold**  
**Remi Brown**  
**Dale Brueggeman**, husband of Debbie Filkins  
**Martha Cares**  
**Don Erker**  
**Terry Hadl**  
**Pamela Heath**  
**Jenny Hernandez**  
**Jean Hogan**  
**Bob Holek**  
**Nancy Hubble**, wife of Tom Kellogg  
**Susan Jones**, sister of Patti Fisher  
**Marianne Fabac Means**  
**Dee Myers**  
**Julie Patterson**, niece of Norb & Jeanette Otter  
**Max Polson**  
**Dorothy Purdy**  
**Marlene Richard**  
**Tony Romero**  
**Eli Rohrbaugh**  
**Mark Salamans**  
**Michael Schurer**, son of Mick Schurer  
**Mary Kay Seidl**  
**Ruth Theising**

## SEDER MEAL

Please join us for a St. John Seder Meal on **March 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**

All are welcome. Please bring a can or two of food for a donation.

There will be a treasure hunt for the kids.

Please call the office (785) 843-0109 to make your reservation!

## MINISTERS: MARCH 5-6

### Lectors

**Saturday**  
 4:30pm ..... L1: P Graves; L2: A Sellet

**Sunday**  
 7am ..... L1: B Kish; L2: C Zebas  
 8:30am ..... L1: L Leroux-Smith; L2: W Smith  
 11:00am ..... L1: J Gripka; L2: C Ehrlich  
 5pm ..... L1: R Bunner; L2: A Hill

### Cantors

**Saturday**  
 4:30pm .....

**Sunday**  
 7am ..... M Steichen  
 8:30am ..... A Koster

### Eucharistic Ministers

**Saturday**  
 4:30pm ..... D Depenbusch, D Guth, K Guth  
 ..... J Halderman, L Heiserman, A Hewitt

**Sunday**  
 7:00am ..... S&J Grzymala-Busse, B Harmon  
 8:30am ..... M Ice, S Jahn, C Johnson  
 ..... T Kempf, B Kessler, K Kohnke  
 ..... K Ostrander  
 11:00am ..... C Buchheister, B DeWitt  
 ..... C&D Ehrlich, J Evers  
 ..... T Gabrielson, S Goodwin  
 5:00pm ..... L Brey, S File, N Jones  
 ..... M LeGresley, C Malone, A McCabe

### Altar Servers

Contact: Sue Ohlmacher  
[skohlmac@sunflower.com](mailto:skohlmac@sunflower.com)

## MASSES: FEB 29-MARCH 6

**Monday**  
 7:30am ..... Shirley Tapia†

**Tuesday**  
 7:30am ..... Moses Emerson Toole Sr.†

**Wednesday**  
 7:30am ..... Vocations

**Thursday**  
 7:30am ..... Osborne-O'Connor Family†

**Friday**  
 7:30am ..... Sally Rowell†

**Saturday**  
 8:00am ..... Mary James†  
 4:30pm ..... Lidia Raczek†

**Sunday**  
 7:00am ..... Dan Menke†  
 8:30am ..... Ron Willis†  
 11:00am ..... Janice Wal†  
 2:00pm (Spanish) ..... St. John Parish  
 5:00pm ..... Dorothy Purdy†

## WEEKLY GIVING

Our fiscal year is July 1, 2015  
 through June 30, 2016

Information below  
 reflects donations received  
 July 1, 2015 through February 21, 2016.

Budgeted weekly amount ..... \$30,692.31  
 Average weekly amount ..... **\$28,434.22**  
 Budgeted YTD ..... \$1,012,846.23  
 Actual YTD ..... **\$938,329.30**  
 Net Shortage ..... \$74,516.93

## ALTAR SERVERS

If you are an altar server who has been trained by Father Jeff and/or Yvonne Ruder after November 1, 2015 and has not yet been assigned to serve at a weekend Mass but would like to do so, please send your contact information (child's name, preferred mass time, parent's name, email address, and phone number) to Sue Ohlmacher at [skohlmac@sunflower.com](mailto:skohlmac@sunflower.com) so that your name can be added to the list of weekend altar servers at St. John. Thank you.

## MEALS FOR THE FRIARS

The Capuchins are looking for volunteers who can cook meals for the six friars in Lawrence. If interested, please contact Veronica Hamer at (785) 843-0109. Meals needed for Weds. in March!

Bring meals to the Simon Parish Center at St. John by 4:00pm. Fr. Jeff will take the dinner home to the friary.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

The next Knights of Columbus Meeting will be Thursday, March 10. Social and dinner, provided by the Knights, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. Location is the basement of St. John Church. Our council meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month.

**Anybody interested in becoming a Knight should contact Grand Knight Kevin Oneslager at (785) 840-9406.**

On the first Friday of each month, the Knights host a rosary in St. John Church at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to attend! The Knights are also currently hosting a pro-life baby shower in the north entrance of the church. Please bring donations of baby items to help families in need!



"But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" Who wants to repent? Who wants to change habits, make sacrifices, or chart a more challenging course? Repentance isn't the easy road. Few of us are naturally drawn towards it. Perhaps that's why Jesus had to speak with such boldness in today's Gospel. Repent, or perish. Change, or suffer and die. Not what we like to hear. Not what we like to do. But we would be foolish not to listen.

The entire Gospel message is certainly one of mercy and compassion. Jesus was the first to show forgiveness to sinners, and he always called others to do the same. He suffered and died so that WE wouldn't have to suffer eternal death. But the fact remains that we can still CHOOSE to "perish." We can choose to stay rooted in our favorite sins and to cling tightly to the comfortable vices that stifle a virtuous life. When we won't let go of them, then we don't truly repent. But Jesus urges us to change so that we can enjoy the eternal benefits of his mercy. He doesn't want us to perish! As we hear in today's psalm, "He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion." Repenting--turning back to God--puts us in the right position for this spiritual coronation.

Lent is a time especially built for repentance. It is a season that calls us not only to recognize where we need to change, but to actually set those changes into motion. Lent isn't just a pious liturgical ritual. These forty days are a response to Christ's stern warning that we need to repent in order to save our souls. Let's not pretend to be exempt from the message. Lent is meant for ALL of us.

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

© 2016 Liturgical Publications Inc



Kids: Sharing the Gospel



Sharing the Gospel

I sin. You sin. Everybody sins. God knows that we cannot be perfect like God. But God wants you to love him and talk to him. God wants you to be sorry for your sins, learn from your mistakes, and grow closer to him every day.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to grow closer to you with every day you give me.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself walking next to Jesus in your school.

Mission for the Week

When you get into trouble, ask God to help you change so that you do not do it again.

© 2016 Liturgical Publications Inc

JUSTICE MATTERS: AN INTERFAITH NETWORK WORKING FOR JUSTICE IN LAWRENCE

This is an update on one of our three issues being addressed at this year's Nehemiah Assembly. For background on this issue and updates on the affordable housing trust fund and the childhood trauma issues visit the Justice Matters website [www.justicemattersinkansas.org](http://www.justicemattersinkansas.org)

**The Mental Health Crisis Center is good, but what about a bigger jail?**

That's the question the Justice Matters research committee has been trying to answer.

For those who may not know it, the Douglas County Commissioners are expected to tie the decision to create a Mental Health Crisis Center to an expansion of the county jail as one up/down item on a ballot for voters to decide during an election later this year.

Public support for the creation of a Mental Health Crisis Center is overwhelming. The jail expansion on the other hand has been more controversial given national attention on the financial and human costs of mass incarceration. Our research into this issue has included attendance at every town hall meeting the County has conducted on the topic (total of 5), reviews of every annual report published by the Sheriff, a tour of the jail, several meetings with Commissioners and staff, plus, outside opinions offered by the Vera Institute of Justice, National GAINS Center, and Policy Research Associates.

**Our Position: Separation or Study**

After much consideration, the clergy of Justice Matters have decided that the ideal outcome would be to have these two projects separated for voters to decide based on their individual merit. But if County Commissioners insist they must be combined, then we believe a complete study of alternatives to incarceration to lower the jail population is the prudent next step. These studies have become common in many cities facing growing jail expansions. Professionals call this type of study a "systems-map process". It brings together police, attorneys, judges, probation officers, and others together to discuss policies, practice, and procedures that may wind up placing the wrong people in jail or using the jail for longer periods of time than necessary.

This became an urgent discussion earlier this month when staff from the County suggested the combined Crisis Center/Jail Expansion decision may be put to the voters as soon as July. So clergy from Justice Matters have met several times with County Commissioner Mike Gaughan to discuss separating the choices or conducting a study of alternatives first. On Monday, February 15th, 15 of our clergy and leaders met with Commissioner Mike Gaughan. We asked for his leadership in studying alternatives to incarceration before moving forward with an expansion of the jail. He believes there is already a great deal being done in Lawrence to minimize unwanted incarceration. But he also agrees that a study is warranted and will seek to bring the responsible parties together to get it done. If you wish to thank him/encourage his leadership, you may email him at: [mgaughan@douglas-county.com](mailto:mgaughan@douglas-county.com). He has been central to other collaborative work around mental health and we eagerly await to see the outcome of his leadership on this issue.

**Important dates to mark on your calendar:** Solutions Briefing on March 31 and Nehemiah Action Assembly on April 13.



©LPI

## PRÓXIMO RETIRO DE CONVALIDACIÓN

Marzo 5-6, 2016 en el Ministerio Hispano. Por favor registrar las parejas con la forma apropiada en español y pagar los \$60 una semana antes del retiro.

## RECICLAGE

Trae tus latas de aluminio y ayuda a tu Parroquia, por un mundo mas limpio, déjalas atrás de la oficina y ponle para María Mota. Gracias.

## MUSICA, CORO, MUSICA

¿Te gusta cantar? ¿Tocas algún instrumento musical, o te gustaría aprender? Ven a practicar con nosotros, comunícate al **(785) 218-1511**.

## CADA LUNES EN TODO EL AÑO

A las 8 de la noche rezamos el Santo Rosario, para pedir por nuestras necesidades y por los que amamos; también si alguno de sus parientes fallece podemos hacer el novenario, nos vemos los lunes en LA CAPILLA DEL PADRE PIO, frente a las veladoras.

## PLATICAS PARA BAUTIZAR

Cada primer sábado del mes de 6:00 a 9:00 de la noche, sin niños, llamar antes para anotar su asistencia.

RECICLAGE. Trae tus latas de aluminio y ayuda a tu Parroquia, por un mundo mas limpio, déjalas atrás de la oficina y ponle para María Mota.

### Las lecturas de la semana del 28 de febrero de 2016

Domingo: Ex 3, 1-8. 13-15/Sal 103, 1-4. 6-8. 11/1 Cor 10, 1-6. 10-12/ Lc 13, 1-9

Lunes: 2 Re 5, 1-15/Sal 42, 2-3; 43, 3-4/Lc 4, 24-30

Martes: Dn 3, 25. 34-43/Sal 25, 4-9/Mt 18, 21-35

Miércoles: Dt 4, 1. 5-9/Sal 147, 12-13. 15-16. 19-20/Mt 5, 17-19

Jueves: Jr 7, 23-28/Sal 95, 1-2. 6-9/Lc 11, 14-23

Viernes: Os 14, 2-10/Sal 81, 6-11. 14. 17/Mc 12, 28-34

Sábado: Os 6, 1-6/Sal 51, 3-4. 18-21/Lc 18, 9-14

Domingo siguiente: Jos 5, 9. 10-12/Sal 34, 2-7/2 Cor 5, 17-21/ Lc 15, 1-3. 11-32

28 de febrero de 2016

### 3er Domingo de Cuaresma

Este pasaje de la higuera tiene mucho para reflexionar y cuestionar nuestro comportamiento habitual de todos los días. Narra que algunos se acercaron a Jesús para contarle lo que sucedió acerca de una matanza que Pilato había hecho en el templo y los que murieron cuando la torre de Siloé se desplomó. Esas personas esperaban que Jesús les dijera que habían muerto porque lo merecían. Sin embargo, Jesús les llama la atención sobre lo que es importante y del cómo la violencia trae más violencia y subraya la importancia de la conversión, de la que responsablemente depende uno mismo. Luego Jesús añade la comparación de la higuera que no da higos y de la conversación con el viñador que la defiende.

¿Cómo va mi conversión en esta tercera semana de Cuaresma? ¿Soy consciente que Dios me ha dejado un año más para dar fruto? ¿Quién le pone abono a mi vida para florecer? Dios nos deja cada año un año más para trabajar en nosotros mismos para trabajar por la paz para dejar de alimentar sueños e ilusiones falsos. El Papa Francisco en su encíclica "Laudato Sí" nos dice: "Las predicciones catastróficas ya no pueden ser miradas con desprecio e ironía" (número 161). Todos somos responsables de todos y del cuidado de unos para con los otros. El viñador pide el cuidado de la higuera de parte de todos. El mundo espera la cooperación de todos, la responsabilidad es esencial en este caso: "El viñador le contestó: 'Señor, déjala todavía este año; voy a aflojar la tierra alrededor y a echarle abono, para ver si da fruto. Si no, el año que viene la cortaré.'" (Lc 13, 8-9).

### 3er Domingo de Cuaresma

A través de la temporada de Cuaresma las lecturas de la Sagrada Escritura enfatizan el arrepentimiento, conversión y el perdón de los pecados. Su mensaje nos ofrece consuelo y esperanza, que tanto necesitamos en las diferentes etapas de nuestra vida. Las lecturas de hoy nos indican el porqué son posibles el arrepentimiento, la conversión y el perdón: son posibles gracias a la compasión y la justicia revelados por Dios en la Biblia. Hoy vemos este amor de Dios a su pueblo mediante la presencia de Moisés y la zarza ardiendo. En resumen, Dios se revela como misericordia y bondad. Cuando escuchamos esta historia de amor de Dios, ¿qué es lo que pensamos? ¿Tenemos esta misma experiencia de Dios en nuestra vida?

El Evangelio de Lucas capta el doble mensaje que la Biblia nos brinda acerca de Dios y de nosotros. Por un lado, nos exige arrepentimiento y un inmediato cambio de vida. Y por el otro, nos muestra la paciencia de Dios al esperar nuestro arrepentimiento. Así pues, Jesús marca el punto clave sobre el arrepentimiento y pone de ejemplo dos incidentes: la muerte de los Galileos y los 18 que murieron en la torre de Siloé. En lugar de entrar en debate sobre el asunto, Jesús nos invita a arrepentirnos y cambiar nuestra vida ahora, pues después puede que sea muy tarde. Por eso enseguida hace la comparación sobre la higuera que no daba fruto. En tiempos de Jesús y hoy, ¿qué estamos haciendo en esta Cuaresma para cambiar nuestra vida? No olvidemos el dicho popular que dice, "Ahora o nunca".