



ST JOHN
THE EVANGELIST
CATHOLIC CHURCH

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS SUNDAY!

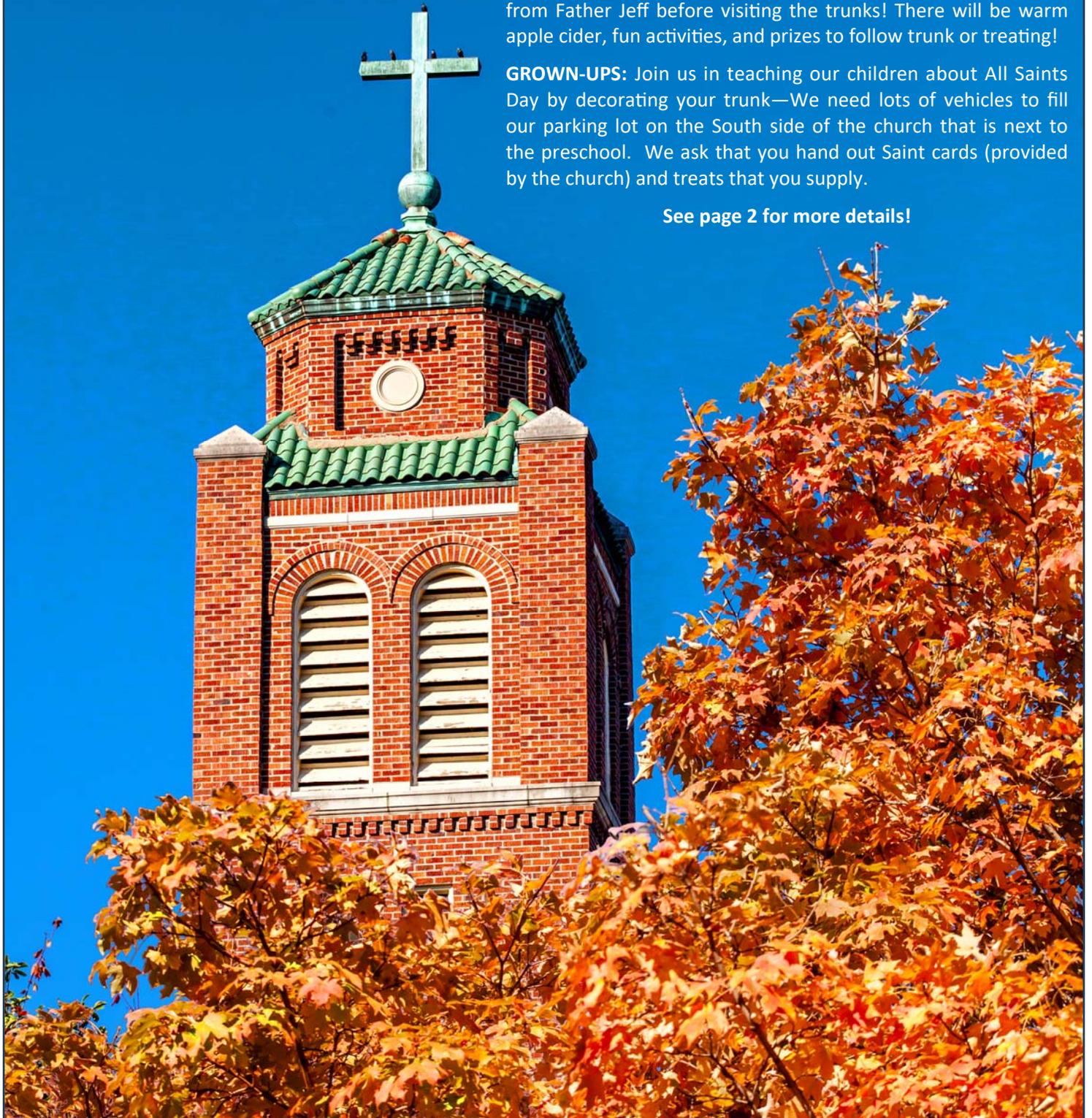
TRUNK OR TREAT AT ST. JOHN

Come! Kids of all ages, be a part of St. John's celebration of All Saints Day on October 30th from 3:30-4:30pm in the parking lot next to the preschool/playground!

KIDS: Join us in full costume in the church at 3:30 for a blessing from Father Jeff before visiting the trunks! There will be warm apple cider, fun activities, and prizes to follow trunk or treating!

GROWN-UPS: Join us in teaching our children about All Saints Day by decorating your trunk—We need lots of vehicles to fill our parking lot on the South side of the church that is next to the preschool. We ask that you hand out Saint cards (provided by the church) and treats that you supply.

See page 2 for more details!



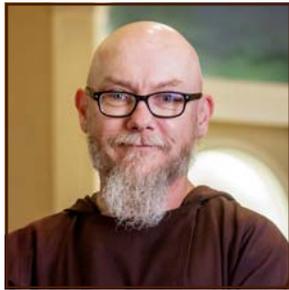
Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday 4:30pm; Sunday 7:00am, 8:30am, 11:00am, 2:00pm (Spanish Mass), 5:00pm. **Website:** www.sjevangelist.com

Weekday Mass Schedule: Monday-Friday 7:30am; Saturday 8:00am. **Reconciliation:** Wednesday 11:00am-12:00pm, 7:00-8:00pm; Saturday 3:00-4:00pm

There will be Anointing of the Sick in the church after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, November 5, and after all Masses on Sunday, November 6.



BREAD TO OFFER



GOD IS LOVE

By Fr. Barnabas Eichor, OFM, Cap.

On the 18th of January 2006 Pope Benedict XVI issued the encyclical letter, "God is Love." The Pope issued the letter because he saw that we live in a world where the name of God is sometimes associated with vengeance or even a duty of hatred and violence which is inconsistent with the Christian understanding of God. His letter is intended "to clarify some essential facts concerning the love which God mysteriously and gratuitously offers to man, together with the intrinsic link between that love and the reality of human love." ("God Is Love," #1)

The Pope begins by reminding us of John's summation of what the Lord revealed to us about the nature of God. In quoting the first letter of John the Pope writes: "God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him." These words from the first letter of John express with remarkable clarity the heart of the Christian faith. These words remind us that God is three divine persons. First there is the Father that begets the Son, and the Son is everything that God is; the Son is completely and fully God and a separate person.

The same is true of the Holy Spirit in that the Father begets the Holy Spirit through the Son and the Holy Spirit is also everything that the Father is—completely and fully God. Sounds like polytheism does it not? It is not, because God is outside of time and so there was never a time in which the Son or Holy Spirit were not. This means that God is, was, and always will be a single community of the three persons. God is this loving community of three persons which created us and our universe out of love.

This one God is a personal God which loves with a personal love. God's love, moreover, is an elective love; among all nations he chooses Israel and loves her, and he does so precisely with a view towards healing the whole human race. The Pope points out that this love is bestowed in a completely gratuitous manner, without any previous merit, and that it is a love that also forgives. In Jesus Christ, it is God himself who goes in search of the stray sheep, a lost and suffering humanity...His death on the Cross is the culmination of that turning of God against himself in which he gives himself in order to raise man up and save him. This is love in its most radical form. By contemplating the pierced side of Christ, we can understand the starting-point of this Encyclical Letter: "God is Love". It is there that this truth can be contemplated. It is there that our definition of love must begin. (#9-10,12)

It is in prayer and contemplation that we discover the love of God and discover that love is the making of the needs of others our own. Love of God and love of neighbor are thus inseparable, they form a single commandment. But both live from the love of God who loved us first. The Pope writes, "no longer is it a question then of a new 'commandment' imposed from without and calling for the impossible, but rather of a freely bestowed experience of love from within, a love which by its very nature must then be shared with others. Love grows through love. Love is Divine because it comes from God and unites us to God." (#18) The Holy Father then points out that it is only in and through a personal relationship with God and an abandonment to his will, that man is prevented from being demeaned and saves him from falling prey to the teaching of fanaticism and violence.

—Fr. Barnabas

PARENTS, WE NEED YOU AND YOUR TRUNK!

WHEN: This Sunday, October 30th, arrive around 3:15 p.m. to set up your Trunk prior to the event which will be from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Decorate your trunk, come in costume, bring some candy, and hand out provided Saint cards to the kids during our All Saints Day Trunk or Treat event! Park your car in the parking lot next to the preschool, located on the South side of the church.

We encourage Saint-themed costumes and trunks, but normal Halloween costumes and decorations (kid friendly, of course) are welcome! Contact Samantha Romero at sromero@saint-johns.net with any questions.



ALL SAINTS DAY MASSES

Masses for the Solemnity of All Saints at St. John will be:

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

7:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 1, is the feast of All Saints, a holy day of obligation in the Church. The Gospel reading from Matthew is Jesus' gift of the beatitudes. They are gifts because the word beatitude means happiness or blessedness. In detailing those who would receive such a gift, Jesus is revealing who really are saints among us: the poor in spirit, the sad, the meek, the hungry and thirsty, the merciful, the pure of heart, the peacemakers, and the persecuted. Each of these saints desires joy and happiness for all they encounter. In all needs, we find blessedness in Jesus Christ. On this day we recognize and give thanks for those who have gone before us preserving and promoting Christianity, some having paid the ultimate sacrifice for their beliefs. We are called to be saints for today. Will we answer?

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ST. JOHN BENEFIT AUCTION



**SAINT JOHN
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Benefit Auction

Family Fun Night returns, Friday, November 4, 5:30-7:30pm!

Please join our school families for this free evening of family activities in conjunction with the School Benefit Auction. This year we are exploring the wonders of Asia with kids crafts and activities in the school. A scavenger hunt fills the hallways as you make your way to the gym where a silent auction has all your holiday shopping needs! No RSVP needed for this fun, family event!

St. John School Benefit Auction, Saturday, November 5, 5:30pm!

We are looking forward to a wonderful celebration at this year's auction. Thank you to all for your support of this event. Remember you can still purchase surprise box raffle tickets and Caribbean cruise raffle tickets. Just call the church office to reserve your chance. And if you still want to be a part of the auction, we can use volunteers on Saturday! Please let us know if you can help.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be an hour of Reservoir Adoration this Wednesday, November 2, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the church.

Come and join your hearts in song and prayer during this hour before the Blessed Sacrament.

Reconciliation will also be available.

Silent adoration is also available in the Padre Pio chapel from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of each week. We invite you to come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament.

You may come adore at any time (you do not have to sign up for a time slot ahead of time), but scheduling an hour a week helps us insure that someone is present in the chapel at all times. If you have questions, want to sign up for an hour, or would like to sign up as a substitute, please contact Brandon Volz: mrbrandonvolz@gmail.com

We are all encouraged to spend time in adoration, but we are not always certain how to go about making a holy hour. See www.sjevangelist.com for suggestions!



SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL ACTION

By Susan Tabor, Social Concerns Committee

Someone has suggested to me that I might want to address the differences between Justice Matters and the parish's social concerns committee. Who are we? How are we different? And can people do both? The answer to this question is a resounding Yes; some of us on the social concerns committee also serve through Justice Matters and other church and community apostolates.

Justice Matters is one of the many social apostolates that the social concerns committee supports in our community. We support Justice Matters and other peace, social service and social justice groups and parish social ministries by sharing information about what these groups do but also giving you information about how you might participate in them should you feel you are being called by God to do so.

The social concerns committee has evolved over several years. In addition to passing along information about worthwhile service opportunities, we also work to pass along information about the social teaching in the Gospels and of our Church. The Catholic Church has acquired a plethora of good social teaching over the years and we want to share it with you. This teaching provides additional information that can inform your decisions about serving in our Church and community.

The social concerns committee also sees to the needs in our parish and broader community, particularly at holiday times when people who live with poverty may wish to have help so they can celebrate with their families. We also provide information about specific contemporary social issues that the Church wants us to learn more about: e.g., the death penalty, immigration, nonviolence, racism and others.

Justice Matters is a relatively new ministry in our community. It is 3 or 4 years old. It is an exciting ministry as it is an interfaith advocacy collaboration guided by principles of faith and justice. It seeks to create a more just and equitable community through targeted and discerned systems advocacy. The house meetings take concerns of the people to work groups who gather information and develop solutions which are shared with those in the Justice Matters network at periodic gatherings at which decisions are made concerning how to proceed with further action.

You may have heard by now that a ministry fair will take place after all Masses on the weekend of November 19-20. The ministry fair will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about what opportunities exist in which you may invest your time and talent. There is something out there for everyone and all of us work together in whatever way we are called to make our parish and community and world a more peaceful and just place for all of us.

FAITH FORMATION

WOMEN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

A Class with Fr. Barnabas

Fr. Barnabas is now offering a series of classes on the women in the New Testament. It is an opportunity to learn more about several important characters in the New Testament who often get overlooked: the women who were with the Lord during his earthly ministry.

We will look at the lives of Mary and other women who served as powerful examples of Christ in the New Testament. Classes meet Tuesday evenings in the church basement from 7:00—8:30pm, and all are welcome to join at any time!

THAT MAN IS YOU!

That Man Is You (TMIY) has just started another wonderful year of meeting on Wednesday mornings. This year's program is The Spirit of Nazareth and is designed for those wishing to take the next step on how to discern God's will in their lives and grow their spiritual life closer to what God intends.

We are currently meeting from 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. in the church basement. Please give strong consideration to joining a great group of men every Wednesday morning for fellowship and reflection.

We look forward to another great year!

RCIA AT ST. JOHN

RCIA classes are now meeting on Monday nights at 7:00p.m. in the church basement. We are looking for parishioners who are willing to be sponsors and parish mentors. Minimum time commitment would be attending Monday evening classes and attending Mass with a person seeking to join the Catholic Church.

Contact Michael Podrebarac, RCIA Coordinator, for more information at liturgy@archkck.org or (913) 647-0330.

ST. JOHN CAFÉ: THIS SUNDAY!

Join us **every Sunday from 9:30 until 10:30 a.m.** in the St. Bosco Room, located on the lower level of St. John School.



St. John Café is an opportunity to have time in fellowship with your fellow parishioners in a relaxed environment with good coffee, pastries, and engaging conversation on the Catholic faith moderated by one of the parish priests.

You can ask all those burning questions!

And mark your calendars for Friday, November 18, the next St. John On Tap from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the St. Bosco Room!

PARISH INFORMATION

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

Wednesdays: 11:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. — 8:00 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 frbarnabas@saint-johns.net

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

The next Knights of Columbus Meeting will be Thurs, November 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 second Thursday of each month. Anybody interested in becoming a Knight should contact Grand Knight Darin Denning at (785) 760-0788.

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!

ST. JOHN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastoral Council

Frank Lemus, chair	Sarah Hartsig	Chris Wenger
Mary Menendez	Sean Smith	Nancy Albrecht
Brian Walter	Lily Romero	Bob Trepinski

Finance Council

Brad Finkeldei, chair	Teresa Kempf	Brian Green
Vince Romero	Meredith Lang	Chris Wenger

ST. JOHN ON TAP

Want to know more about the Catholic Faith and not sure where to start? Looking for something to do Friday's after work? Have a friend who wants to know more about our Catholic Faith? Don't go home... Come to St. John!

St. John on Tap will be the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month from 5:00-7:00pm. Enjoy good beer/wine, munchies and conversation. Ask any question about the Catholic Faith to a priest or just sit and enjoy.

Our next St. John on Tap will be Friday, November 18 at 5:00pm.
See you there! **Must be 21 or older*

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

On November 8th the voters of Kansas will be making very important decisions. Among them is the decision to retain our current state Supreme Court judges. This decision holds more weight now than ever before.

In January, the Kansas Court of Appeals decreed a new (and never before recognized) right to unregulated abortion in the Kansas Constitution. The Kansas Supreme Court will soon decide whether the brutal practice of dismemberment abortion will continue in Kansas. As such, all Kansas pro-life laws are at risk. Fortunately, our system allows voters to decide which judges should remain on the bench through retention elections. That is why it is very important that this decision be made with an informed conscience and knowledge of where our Supreme Court judges stand on fundamental issues like abortion.

Please take the time to learn who these judges are and what their position is on moral issues. We recommend Better Judges for Kansas and their website: www.betterjudgesforkansas.org as a great resource.

MINISTERS NOVEMBER 5-6

LECTORS

Saturday
4:30pm L1: M Mauler; L2: J Snyder

Sunday
7:00am..... L1: C Winkelbauer; L2: T Dowd-Kelne
8:30am..... L1: J Robinson; L2: D Carlin
11:00am..... L1: C Ehrlich; L2: C Dominguez
5:00pm L1: B Walter; L2: MJ Hobbs

ALTAR SERVERS

Contact: Sue Ohlmacher
skohlmac@sunflower.com

CANTORS

4:30pm...A Mauler 7:00am...K Colson 8:30am...K Gibb

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday
4:30pm L Reimond, MA Roesner, L Seidl, D Weigel, L Arnold, B Brill

Sunday
7:00am B Harmon, M Heath, B Menke
8:30am L Scott, M Steichen, B Volz, J Dvorske, D Foster,
..... E Grob-Creasey, S Galarza Liu
11:00am B Bermudez, C Bial, D Bradley, A Brill, C Buchheister,
..... B DeWitt, J Evers
5:00pm D&E Schmidt, J Weeks, D Wulf-Walter, N Albrecht, L Brey

Quilting Donations Needed

We are looking for some supplies for our quilting elective class next semester.

We need large or small pieces of cotton material, large pieces of solid color cotton material (for the backing of the quilts), batting for inside the quilts, large rotary cutters, cutting boards, and 3 or 4 portable sewing machines (easy for kids to use).

If you have any donations, please take them to the school office or contact Patty Hill (hill@saint-johns.net). Thank you!

Family Fun Night & St. John Benefit Auction

Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5

See the notice on page 3 of the bulletin, and visit sjevangelist.com/auction for more information on how to support this year's auction and St. John School!

Host Family Needed for Student from Japan

From Principal Pat Newton:

I am excited to announce that the two 7th grade students from Japan, Hana and Shane, who visited St. John in August, are returning to our school. They will be here February 20—May 23. The students are twins (boy and girl). We have a host family for Hana. Now we need of a host family for Shane. The host family will need to provide a home for three months.

The students are placed here by Guardian Edu., International Educational Company, who provides overall supervision, guardianship, support, and insurance. Guardian Edu. provides a monthly stipend for the host family. Please contact me if you are interested or if you need further information.

Visit online at sjevangelist.com/school, call (785) 843-9511 or email Mrs. Pat Newton, Principal, at newton@saint-johns.net for more information and to schedule a tour for you and your student!



SAINT JOHN YOUTH

High School

October 30: Discipleship groups meet this week!

Students, your small groups will begin meeting this week—get in touch with your group leader to find out when and where you will be meeting, and get ready to dive into a new year of fun, learning, and discipleship!

November 2: Bible Study & Reservoir Adoration

Meet in the library of the school at 6:15 pm to study the Bible, pray, and eat some good food. Then, head over to church at 7:00pm an hour of Reservoir Adoration — bring any prayer resources you might want, bring prayer journals, bring an open heart, and come prepared to bring your prayers to Jesus, made present to you in the Blessed Sacrament!

November 6: Handling Peer Pressure

What challenges are you facing? What choices are you presented with daily? How do you manage staying true to yourself in the face of so many things (both good and bad) battling for your attention? Come discuss and learn some techniques of confronting peer pressure. Pizza provided!

Middle School

November 2: Building a Relationship with Jesus & Reservoir Adoration

Tonight, come together to enjoy some Pizza Shuttle and get specific about how Jesus wants to be the Lord of our lives. He is calling you to something great and amazing, and wants to be with you through it all. Come experience His love and amazing promises!

November 9: Light the Fire: A Campfire Night!

S'mores, campfire stories, camping games! Come to have a great night of fun around the bonfire and remember that Jesus is calling us all to be light to the world!

November 16: Actions=Words: On Integrity

Tonight, gather around an ice cream bar and discuss the bigger questions of life: what is truly right or wrong? How can we be people of honesty, love, and grace? As Christians, what is our moral code and how do we live our lives according to the life of Jesus Christ?

Learn more about St. John youth and our upcoming events: sjevangelist.com/youth

STEWARDSHIP OF GENEROSITY

WEEKLY PARISH GIVING

Our fiscal year is July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

Information below reflects donations received
July 1, 2015 through October 9, 2016.

Budgeted weekly amount	\$27,403.84
Average weekly amount	\$25,955.34
Budgeted YTD	\$438,461.44
Actual YTD.....	\$415,285.55
Net Shortage	\$23,175.89

ONLINE GIVING

We are grateful for your support of St. John Parish. Our online giving program allows you to make contributions to St. John without writing checks or worrying about cash donations. You may set up automatic contributions and change the timing or the amount of your gift at any time. You may also make pledges and manage your contributions to the pledge amount, and you may make one-time donations to special causes. Visit sjevangelist.com/giving for more information or to set up and manage your account today!

Contact Cris Denning at cdenning@saint-johns.net or by phone at **(785) 843-0109** if you have any questions.

“SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS” BENEFIT DINNER

The 24th annual “SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS” Benefit Dinner is dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima. It is scheduled for Friday, January 27, 2017. This event benefits seminarians from the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas, the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, and Conception Seminary College. It promises to be an evening filled with fun and laughter, celebrating our Catholic faith, dining on wonderful food, and socializing with our priests and seminarians! We have two wonderful speakers this year, Fr. Richard Storey, who is currently the pastor of Cure of Ars Parish in Leawood, Kansas and Cruz Gallegos, who is a senior at Conception Seminary College. SOS will be held at Union Station, 30 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri.

The reservation price is \$175.00 per person with ten seats per table. To reserve your place, or an entire table, or donate to the marketplace or VIP silent auction, contact: Martha Hodes **(913) 207-9893** or mmmhsos512@gmail.com. Check out our new website: www.supportourseminarians.com.

JUSTICE MATTERS

An interfaith network of 23 faith groups working for justice in Lawrence and Douglas County

The concerns raised at the approximately 70 house meetings all over Lawrence and in Douglas County have been compiled. That list was narrowed by an email/mail poll of all network members and was further refined by team leaders at a Team Leader Assembly on October 26 during a preparatory meeting for the upcoming assembly. The top 2 or 3 concerns will be presented to the membership and a vote taken for the top priority at our annual Community Problems Assembly on November 2, 2016 at Abe and Jake’s Landing. The Assembly is for Justice Matters’ members and their guests only. Doors open at 5:30 pm and the program begins at 6 pm.

Following the assembly there will be a county commissioner candidate forum which is open to the public. Doors for the public forum open at 7:30 and the forum begins at 7:45 pm and concludes at 8:30 pm.

For more information about Justice Matters or on how to become involved without having attended a house meeting, please contact Joe Synder (785-550-6421 or joesnyder42@gmail.com) or Pat Lechtenberg (785-842-1992 or plek10berg@aol.com). Also, check out the Justice Matters’ new website www.justicemattersinkansas.org for information about the organization and updated information on the 4 issues we are currently working on: Mental Health Crisis Center, Affordable Housing, Early Childhood Trauma and Alternatives to Incarceration.



Tell everyone you know:
faith and democracy
will be *on the move* at the
Justice Matters
Community Problems Assembly &
County Commissioner Forum
Wednesday, Nov. 2nd at Abe & Jakes

STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE

ST. JOHN MINISTRY FAIR

November 19 & 20

We will be having our Stewardship Renewal Weekend on November 19-20, 2016. This year as part of the renewal weekend we will have a Ministry Fair to help promote and inform our parish family about all of the great opportunities to serve at St. John!

If you are in charge of a ministry at St. John please contact Samantha Romero by email at sromero@saint-johns.net or Ellen Sickinger at sickinger@saint-johns.net to reserve a table. You may also call the parish office at **(785) 843-0109**.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

We are looking for people to help with a new Hospitality Committee. The mission of the St. John Hospitality Committee is to make every new and current parishioner feel that they are part of a warm, supportive and hospitable community where "all are welcome."

The Hospitality ministry will help coordinate fellowship events, welcome new people to the parish, welcome new Catholics to the faith, greet people as they come into Mass, and also to help with St. John Café on Sunday mornings. If interested please contact Samantha Romero at: sromero@saint-johns.net or **(785) 843-0109**.

HIS HANDS MINISTRY

Are you an older parishioner or a parishioner who lives with a disability who could use some assistance? Do you know of someone in the parish who is elderly and/or who lives with a disability and could use some assistance? If so, His Hands can help.

We have volunteers who can provide transportation, respite care, light housekeeping, mending, cooking after surgery or other medical situation that would limit someone temporarily and handyman help. His Hands can also provide information and referral services if they are needed, or if other services in the community would be able to help as well. For help and further information, please contact the His Hands service coordinator, Susan Tabor. She may be reached via her cell phone at **(785) 865-9949**.

We look forward to serving you!

HIS HANDS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

His Hands, the ministry to our parishioners who are elderly or who live with disability, is in great need of people to help with housework. If you have some time and would be willing to help an elderly parishioner with housework, please contact Susan Tabor, His Hands service coordinator at **(785) 865-9949** or via email at souljourner@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for your generosity!

MEALS FOR THE FRIARS

The Capuchins are looking for volunteers who can cook meals for the six friars in Lawrence. If interested, please contact the parish office at **(785) 843-0109**. Meals needed for Wednesdays in November and December! Bring meals to the Simon Parish Center at St. John by 4:00pm. Fr. Jeff will take the dinner home to the friary.

MENTOR MINISTRY

Are you looking for a way to build connections at St. John? Feel like you are being prompted to get involved? How about mentoring a New Parishioner? This is a great way to meet new people and share your gift of hospitality with someone who is new to our community. We are looking for individuals and families who would like to help us out! Contact Samantha Romero for more information at sromero@saint-johns.net or **(785) 843-0109**.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

St. John is starting a new ministry called the Marriage and Family Life Ministry. We are looking for people to serve in a helping capacity on three sub-committees. Your commitment can be as little as helping with the various events or you can actually be someone who helps to organize and facilitate.

Please contact Samantha Romero with any questions at sromero@saint-johns.net or **(785) 843-0109**. Thank you for your prayerful discernment if you can contribute your gifts of service to this new ministry!

ST. JOHN RUMMAGE HOUSE

The Saint John Rummage House is run by volunteers from the Saint John Community and is in need of new volunteers to help keep the ministry thriving. Volunteers work both during store hours and behind the scenes when the store is closed.

Sorting crews work Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. The store is open Wednesdays from 11-3, the first and last Thursday of the month from 1-4, and Saturdays from 8:30-12:30. We could use volunteers to fill any of these positions, but are especially in need of volunteers for Thursday afternoons, one or two Thursdays per month.

If you are interested in helping the parish with this ministry, email Linda Brey (lbrey525@gmail.com) for more info.

MARRIAGE MINUTE

What is keeping you from the marriage of your dreams? Every marriage launches with an incredible dream for happiness, but all too often, hardships come, and we lose the zeal to think we can have anything other than a mediocre marriage. We say to ourselves, "I guess this is all there is to marriage."

In this week's Gospel, Zachaeus, had the courage and ingenuity to overcome his obstacle to happiness by climbing a tree to see His Lord. For Zachaeus, his height was an obstacle, but for many of us, it is not a matter of physical stature, but a stature of attitude. We lack the courage and humility to rise above pettiness, busyness, wounded pride, comfort, and sometimes simple planning to actualize the marriage we dreamed of in the beginning.

Consider marriage enrichment activities to be the tree you climb to overcome any obstacles in your way of increased joy in your marriage. Check out www.joyfulmarriageproject.com for suggestions.

STEWARDSHIP OF PRAYER

PARISH 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.

Frank Acinger, brother of Bernadette West
Grace Austin
Gayla Barnes
Remi Brown
Dale Brueggeman, husband of Debbie Filkins
John Carlos
Chris Crandon
Brock Edwards, son of Scott and Tara Edwards
Mary Kathleen Felton
Buddy Hadl
Terry Hadl
Judy Hill, mother of Marti Frost and Tim Hill
Jean Hogan
Bob Holek
Lily Hollister, niece of Tom Kellogg
Nancy Hubble, wife of Tom Kellogg
Barb Marden
Lou Musante
Leo Nau
Theophilus Obiefule
Julie Patterson, niece of Norb & Jeanette Otter
CB Riling
Mark Salaman
Michael Schurer, son of Mick Schurer
Julia Scott, friend of Monica Cordova
Mary Kay Seidl
Gerald Simon
Ruth Thesing
Chuck Umscheid
Angelica Villa
Greg Walker, brother of Ted Walker
Tasha Williams
John Woods

WEEKLY READINGS

Sunday: Wis 11:22--12:2/Ps 145: 1-2, 8-11, 13-14/
2 Thes 1:11--2:2/Lk 19:1-10
Monday: Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1-3/Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
Wednesday: Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-6/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/
Jn 6:37-40
Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-7/Lk 15:1-10
Friday: Phil 3:17--4:1/Ps 122:1-5/Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 8-9/Lk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15/
2 Thes 2:16--3:5/Lk 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38

MASS INTENTIONS: OCT. 31—NOV. 6

Monday: 7:30am Rudy Oberzant†
5:30pm For the intentions of Pope Francis
Tuesday: 7:00am..... Jim O'Toole†
12:10pm In thanksgiving for all saints of God
7:00pm For all the sick and suffering
Wednesday: 7:30am Howard Griffith†
Thursday: 7:30am..... Osborne-O'Connor Family†
Friday: 7:30am Karol Thomast
Saturday: 8:00am Paul Lee†
4:30pm..... Akbar Yazdi
Sunday: 7:00am Susan Gelvin†
8:30am Rudy Oberzant†
11:00am Children in Need of Adoptive Families
2:00pm (Spanish) St. John Parish
5:00pm Mary Kilkert†

ST. JOHN PRAYER CHAIN

The power of prayer is truly an amazing thing and something all parishioners at St. John can do to help those among us in need of God's divine mercy. Please join our prayer chain to lend your voices and thoughts for those in need. For more information contact Lois Mersmann at lmersmann@saint-johns.net.

QUEEN OF PEACE PRAYER GROUP

Meets every **Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.** in St. John's Church. The Queen of Peace Prayer Group is committed to responding to the Blessed Mother's call at Medjugorje to pray from the heart to bring about her plan for peace in the world.

The hour includes the rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Everyone welcome.

WOMEN'S PRAYER & REFLECTION GROUP

Women's Prayer and Reflection Group meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month to be prayerfully inspired by Biblical women and the third Tuesday of the month to be inspired by Women Saints.

Join us any time, no preparation necessary. We will meet in St John's school library. If interested contact: Beth Fox (785) 840-5561 or Sophia Compton (785) 727-5784.

ATTENTION WOMEN SINGERS

Threshold Choir is a national women's organization with a local chapter of women from several faiths here in Lawrence. We provide ease and comfort through singing to those on the threshold of living and dying. We seek to provide a calm, focused presence with gentle voices to various local senior homes and hospices. To join our simple practice sessions, contact Jean Drumm at (785) 841-6067.

ST. MONICA'S PRAYER GROUP

This prayer group meets every Monday at 12:00 noon in the Padre Pio Chapel to pray for our children and grandchildren. In addition to the prayers to St. Monica, we pray the rosary and other prayers for special intentions. Everyone is welcome!

NOTICIAS DE LA ARQUIDIÓCESIS El día 8 de noviembre los votantes de Kansas estarán tomando decisiones muy importantes. Entre ellas está la decisión de mantener nuestros jueces actuales en la Corte Suprema. Esta decisión es sumamente importante ahora más que nunca antes.

En enero, la Corte de Apelación de Kansas declaró un Nuevo derecho (nunca antes reconocido) de no regular el aborto en la Constitución de Kansas 'La Corte Suprema de Kansas pronto decidirá si la brutal práctica de desmembración del aborto continúe en Kansas.' Por esto, todas las leyes Pro-Vida están en riesgo. Afortunadamente, nuestro sistema de votar permite decidir que jueces deben permanecer en espera mientras la retención de elecciones. Es por esto que es muy importante que estas decisiones sean tomadas con conciencia y conocimiento de cuál es la posición de nuestros Jueces de Corte Suprema con referente a temas fundamentales como el aborto.

Por favor tome el tiempo de aprender quienes son estos jueces y cuál es su posición en los temas de aspecto moral. Les recomendamos visitar el sitio "Better Judges for Kansas" en este enlace: www.betterjudgesforkansas.org como un buen recurso de información.

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 más limpio, déjalas atrás de la oficina y ponle para María Mota. Gracias.

LA FE SE PUEDE ALIMENTAR Hermano, a veces te sientes triste o con necesidad de Dios, ven yo te puedo acompañar a orar, nos podemos ver en la Iglesia o en la oficina. Estoy para ayudarte. Oro por todos, bendiciones María Mota.

Las lecturas de la semana del 30 de octubre de 2016

Domingo: Sab 11, 22--12, 2/Sal 145, 1-2. 8-11. 13-14/
2 Tes 1, 11--2, 2/Lc 19, 1-10
Lunes: Flp 2, 1-4/Sal 131, 1-3/Lc 14, 12-14
Martes: Ap 7, 2-4. 9-14/Sal 24, 1-6/1 Jn 3, 1-3/Mt 5, 1-12
Miércoles: Sab 3, 1-9/Sal 23, 1-6/Rom 5, 5-11 o Rom 6, 3-9/
Jn 6, 37-40
Jueves: Flp 3, 3-8/Sal 105, 2-7/Lc 15, 1-10
Viernes: Flp 3, 17--4, 1/Sal 122, 1-5/Lc 16, 1-8
Sábado: Flp 4, 10-19/Sal 112, 1-2. 5-6. 8-9/Lc 16, 9-15
Domingo siguiente: 2 Mac 7, 1-2. 9-14/Sal 17, 1. 5-6. 8. 15/
2 Tes 2, 16--3, 5/Lc 20, 27-38 o 20, 27. 34-38

30 de octubre de 2016

31er Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Hemos caminado juntos a lo largo del Año de la Misericordia, tiempo en que el Papa Francisco y los obispos de nuestras diócesis nos han invitado a ver, palpar y vivir la misericordia del Padre. Llamados a ser misericordiosos, la misericordia en la liturgia, las obras espirituales y corporales a merced del amor de Dios entre nosotros. Y aún no terminamos, nos faltan tres domingos más para concluir este Año Santo. Hemos escuchado cientos de veces que Dios perdona a todos, porque somos suyos, que Dios es misericordioso y perdonador. Pero, ahora, viene la pregunta que debe estar en nuestro corazón y meditarla siempre. ¿Somos nosotros de corazón misericordioso? ¿Se transformó durante este tiempo nuestra forma de vivir, de pensar y de hacer las cosas?

Les comento esto porque las lecturas de hoy son ricas en recuperar esa serenidad y confianza, que todos necesitamos. La abundancia de misericordia se percibe en el libro de la Sabiduría: "Por eso a los que caen, los vas corrigiendo poco a poco, los reprendes y les traes a la memoria sus pecados, para que se arrepientan de sus maldades y crean en ti, Señor" (Sab 12, 2). Ya desde allá la imagen de Jesús invitando a Zaqueo que baje del árbol porque se hospedaría en su casa se vislumbra. Jesús tiene palabras amables con el publicano Zaqueo, hombre visto como pecador en su tiempo. Jesús es el retrato de Dios que nos consuela en nuestras tribulaciones. Para alcanzar este consuelo de Dios habrá que ver en que hemos defraudado a los que nos rodean. Así podremos escuchar las palabras de Jesús muy dentro del corazón. "Hoy ha llegado la salvación a esta casa" (Lc 19, 9).

31er Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Ojalá que a lo largo de nuestra vida logremos tener un encuentro con Jesús que nos ayude a cambiar nuestra vida. Esto es lo que le pasó a Zaqueo, que buscaba ver a Jesús subiéndose a un árbol y quizás hasta arriesgando hacer el ridículo. Pero fue Jesús quien justamente levanta sus ojos y lo busca para hospedarse en su casa. Jesús cumple su misión hasta el extremo y es en este episodio de conversión que aparece en toda su plenitud la misión de Jesús. Las palabras "buscar" y "perder" son la clave para entender el Reino de Dios. "Buscar" es el verbo de la conversión para llegar a la salvación. "Perder" es la palabra que se opone a lo bueno y nos lleva al fracaso, perdiendo así la salvación y rechazándola totalmente.

Zaqueo buscó y encontró. Encontró al Señor para que éste se hospedara en su casa, quedándose de cierta manera para siempre. Es por eso que Zaqueo es llamado hijo de Abraham, pues comparte sus bienes usándolos para el servicio de la justicia y la caridad. ¿Qué podemos aprender de Zaqueo? Una de ellas es que al buscar a Jesús, es Jesús quien nos encuentra primero. Notemos que Zaqueo no es alabado por practicar ninguna virtud cristiana. Él nunca afirmó su fe en Jesús. Pero por su fidelidad a la alianza con Abraham y su fidelidad a las leyes judías es que logró su conversión al ver a Jesús. Esta historia ofrece buenas noticias para los ricos de ahora. Si ellos reciben a Jesús en sus hogares con alegría y trabajan por la justicia y la caridad, con seguridad la salvación llegará a sus hogares.