

1229 VERMONT ST, LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66044 | APRIL 12, 2020



ST JOHN  
THE EVANGELIST  
CATHOLIC CHURCH



# Easter Sunday

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All weekend, weekday Masses, Adoration are **CANCELLED** until further notice.  
Office hours: **CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**, please call 785-843-0109. Website: [www.sjevangelist.com](http://www.sjevangelist.com)  
Reconciliation: Wednesday 11:00 am-12:00 pm, 6:00-8:00 pm; Saturday 3:00-4:00 pm

# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN

St. John the Evangelist, a Catholic Capuchin Franciscan Parish, welcomes all who are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ and proclaims His Gospel through prayer, worship, His Word, and the sacraments. Members, inspired by the Holy Spirit through faith formation and spiritual renewal, witness to the Gospel in lives of justice and charity, build up families and children through education, hospitality and fellowship, and serve those in need with compassion.

“YOUR ARE THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE, THE LIGHT BY WHICH WE SEE.”  
~PSALM 36:9

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor ..... Fr. John Cousins  
Associate Pastor ..... Fr. Barnabas Eichor  
Principal, St. John School..... Mr. Chris Reffett  
Director of Liturgy & Music ..... Lisa Roush  
Religious Education Director.....Lois Mersmann  
Catecismo en español.....María Mota  
High School Youth Director..... Anastasia Pine  
Middle School Youth Director .....Abby Wagner  
RCIA..... Michael Podrebarac  
Business Manager..... Cris Denning  
Stewardship Director. ....Samantha Romero  
Assistant Administrator.....Meg Milburn  
Parish Coordinator ..... Ellen Sickinger  
Database .....Patty Guadian  
Multimedia Communication Coordinator .....Jacinta Hoyt  
Technology .....Karen Dixon  
Maintenance.....Jeff Jenicke

**St. John Catholic School**..... Mr. Chris Reffett, Principal  
1208 Kentucky St. 785-843-9511

[www.sjevangelist.com/school](http://www.sjevangelist.com/school)

**Catholic Charities** ..... Abigail Chikanda  
1525 W. 6th, Suite A 785-856-2694

[achikanda@catholiccharitiesks.org](mailto:achikanda@catholiccharitiesks.org)

**Rummage House**..... Linda Brey  
13th & Kentucky [lbrey525@gmail.com](mailto:lbrey525@gmail.com)

**Shopping Hours: (CLOSED until further noted)**

Wednesday — 11:00 am-3:00 pm; Thursday (first and last of month only) — 1:00 pm-4:00 pm; Saturday — 8:30 am-12:30 pm

**Centro Hispano**..... Lydia Diebolt  
204 W. 13th St. 785-843-2039

[centrohispano.lydia@gmail.com](mailto:centrohispano.lydia@gmail.com)

## SIMON PARISH CENTER

**Mailing Address** ..... 1229 Vermont St., Lawrence, KS 66044  
**Phone**.....785-843-0109

**Office Hours (CLOSED TO PUBLIC) Please call.**

Monday—Friday ..... 8:30 am—4:00 pm

**Weekend Masses (CANCELLED until further notice)**

Saturday..... 4:30 pm

Sunday ..... 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 11:00 am, 2:00 pm (Spanish), 5:00 pm

**Weekday Masses (CANCELLED until further notice)**

Monday-Friday..... 7:30 am

Saturday..... 8:00 am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

In the Padre Pio Chapel (inside the north church entrance)

Wednesday ..... 11:00 am-12:00 pm, 6:00-8:00 pm

Saturday ..... 3:00-4:00 pm

.....(and by appointment)

**Adoration** ..... **CANCELLED until further notice.**

..... Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 7:00 am—9:00 pm

..... in the Padre Pio Chapel

**Bulletin Deadline**

Submit info by **noon on Thursday** to [bulletin@saint-johns.net](mailto:bulletin@saint-johns.net)

ten (10) days prior to the bulletin you wish info to appear.

Please submit text electronically (via computer/email) as you would like it to appear in the bulletin.

**Advertise in the Bulletin**

Revenue from ads is what makes the bulletin possible at no cost to our parish. Please support your bulletin advertisers. For information call Doug Wolfe:

800-950-9952 x5833

[dwolfe@4LPI.com](mailto:dwolfe@4LPI.com)

### Pastoral Council

[parishcouncil@sjevangelist.com](mailto:parishcouncil@sjevangelist.com)

Connie Ehrlich-Chair,

Christine Wenger-Vice Chair,

Susan Tabor-Secretary,

Brent Crandon, George Diepenbrock,

Luis Gonzalez, Larry Koster,

Lisa Leroux-Smith, Jason Tanking

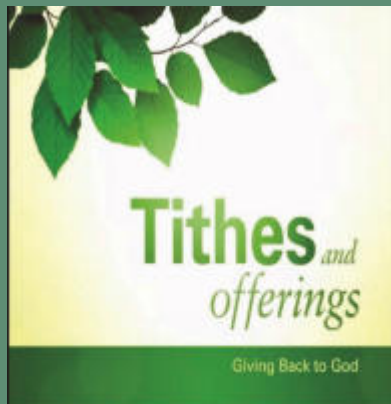
### Finance Council

Brian Green, David Ehrlich,  
Meredith Lang, Brent Crandon,  
Jeannette Mercier

### School Council

Mr. Chris Reffett,  
Mike McDonald—President  
Caroline Bennett—Vice President  
Jim McDonald—Secretary  
Hanon Misko, Emily Malin  
Lisa Leroux-Smith

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



## TITHING WHILE WE ARE AWAY ...

Thank you for your continued support of St. John Parish. Your support helps us to continue our mission during this time of change.

If you would prefer to give your weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly tithes via a check or cash you can drop your tithes in the secure lock box outside of the parish office porch on the SOUTH side of the church office. You can also mail your check to 1229 Vermont Street Lawrence, KS 66044.

If electronic giving is your preferred method you can give via our electronic giving method **PushPay**. This can be a one time or recurring gift. Simply visit our website: [www.sjevangelist.com](http://www.sjevangelist.com) and click on the Online Giving Link on the home page. Or text "stjohncc" to 77977 to give via your mobile device.

Thank you for your continued generosity to St. John Parish!

## Mass Opportunities

While our sanctuaries are closed in effort to contain the spread of the virus, there are several opportunities to "virtually" attend Mass on a daily and weekly basis.

Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas  
Archbishop Joseph Naumann is broadcasting daily Mass at 8:30 am each day on his Facebook page at: [facebook.com/achbishopnaumann](https://www.facebook.com/achbishopnaumann)

The Capuchins Franciscan of Denver will live stream Mass every Sunday from the St. Francis of Assisi Friary Chapel. Mass will begin at 8:55 am.  
Capuchin Franciscans: [capuchins.org/mass](https://www.capuchins.org/mass)

Father Mitchell Zimmerman and the St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center at the University of Kansas are offering several online opportunities throughout the week.

Holy Mass, Adoration and Holy Hour

St. Lawrence will stream private Masses on its KU Catholic Facebook Page according to the following schedule, effective immediately.

[facebook.com/kucatholic](https://www.facebook.com/kucatholic)

MONDAY - THURSDAY: 5:15 pm  
FRIDAY - SATURDAY: 12:10 pm  
SUNDAY: 11:00 am

## Other Resources

Additional resources for prayer and reflection:

Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas:  
[archkck.org](https://www.archkck.org)

The Vatican:  
<http://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops:  
<http://www.usccb.org/>



## ARCHDIOCESAN 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas is hosting a special Mass and reception for couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. The event will be held from **2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Sunday, June 7 at the Church of the Nativity in Leawood**. To receive an invitation from Archbishop Naumann please call Mary Anne Kierl at the Marriage and Family Life Office at **913-647-0345**.



*Easter Week*  
Please hold on to your rice bowls for now.

# SAINT JOHN SCHOOL



## COVID-19 UPDATE FOR ENROLLMENT IN ST. JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL



If you are a new family who is enrolling for the first time or a returning St. John family...

- Simply complete the [enrollment form and submit online](#)
- Paying Enrollment Fee? You can mail a check or pay using our [Pushpay online giving](#) platform

We care about you and your family! Families undergoing financial stress due to the Coronavirus are able to delay their enrollment fees or pay in installments until August 1, 2020. Please complete the enrollment form and we will work with you on how to proceed with your enrollment fee. Please contact Cris Denning at **785-843-0109** to discuss your particular situation.

## STUDENT RESOURCES WITH SCHOOL CLOSED

Because of the ongoing concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus, St. John School is closed until further notice. Teachers and staff have placed resources on student Google Classroom pages so that students may stay current with their studies. Additional staff links are posted below for other subject areas. Our plan is to provide educational resources as a way to keep the learning going. We don't want to overwhelm everyone, but wanted to make sure we stay connected to our students. Teachers are available by email, so feel free to ask questions if needed.

Karen Dixon is going to be coordinating technology needs. Here is a note from her: "In order to provide educational activities for your student(s) during the school closure, the St. John staff is posting suggested activities on their websites. Many of these activities require devices with internet access. If you need a laptop for your child(ren), and have internet at home, please contact Ms. Dixon [kdixon@sjeagles.com](mailto:kdixon@sjeagles.com) or Chris Reffett [reffett@saint-johns.net](mailto:reffett@saint-johns.net). We will arrange a pickup time at school. By signing out a laptop, you will be accepting financial responsibility for any damages. Please only check one out if you absolutely need it, but we want to make sure it is accessible if needed. All teacher websites are located here: <https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/facultyinfo>." Paper packets of materials can be made available if needed.

Jessica Dunn, Art: <https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Jessica+Dunn&Salutation=>

Chelsea Solomon, Music: <https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Chelsea+Solomon&Salutation=>

Michael Kennedy, Physical Education: <https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Michael+Kennedy&Salutation=>

Karen Dixon, Technology: <https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Dixon&Salutation=>

Karen Rinke, Library: <https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation=>

## VACANT POSITIONS AT ST. JOHN SCHOOL

### 4th/5th Grade Science/ Social Studies

Seeking a 4th/5th grade teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. Duties will include the development of classroom plans for the development of science and social studies. Interested applicants should complete the teacher application process at: [www.archkckcs.org](http://www.archkckcs.org).

## 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 **785-766-5723** or [ramirezmarj@hotmail.com](mailto:ramirezmarj@hotmail.com). Please **complete and return to St. John Parish office by April 13.**



# 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 Center to request someone for the "Prayer List."

Thank you on behalf of the families of those individuals for whom we pray.

**Nicole Allensworth**  
**Andrew Bouchard**, son of Steve & Patti Fisher  
**Susan Guenther Brown**, friend of Craig Fincham  
**Curtis Burns**, friend of Joe & Bev Mater  
**Roger Caldwell**, brother of Leila Soper  
**Hank Desch**  
**Garrett Dreiling**  
**Linda Erp**, mother of Emily Vigne  
**Joanne Feist**, friend of Ginny Short  
**Colette Fisher**  
**Linda Flyer**, friend of Le Marie Gilbert  
**Janet Fox**, family of Norb & Jeanette Otter  
**Rudy Fritz**  
**Ed Garza**  
**Marianne Gowen**  
**Bonnie Griggs**  
**Tony Guadian**  
**Buddy Hadl**, brother of Shirley Steffen  
**Michael Hamer**  
**Lonna Hamm**, daughter of Larry & Martha Hamm  
**Mary Hane**  
**Peggy Harders**, niece of Norb & Jeanette Otter

**Newt Hasson**  
**Dustin Harper-Head**, great-nephew of Mary Head  
**Lori Haynes**, friend of Fleda Umscheid  
**Luke Henry**, nephew of Galen & Beth Uhrich  
**Kathy Higley**  
**Dianne Hofmann**  
**Bob Holec**  
**Tina Jinkens**  
**Michele Johnson**  
**Allen Kehde**  
**Diana Matthews**  
**Leo Mauler**, son of Al & Marcy Mauler  
**Russ McDonald**  
**Jim McMurray**  
**Ed Medrano**  
**Zackary Messerly**, nephew of Debra Bradley  
**Linden Morgan**  
**Lisa Morrow-Welsh**, daughter of Linda Brey  
**Augustus Nelson**  
**Danny Nguyen**  
**Diane Nichols**, sister of Phyllis Stone  
**Theophilus Obiefule**  
**Josephine Ramirez**  
**Eva Ricketts**, mother of Ingrid Hartman  
**Joel Rivera**

**Virginia Romero**  
**Jon Rossillon**  
**James Sandy**  
**Alexander Ramirez Salazar**  
**Jerry Scherer**  
**Greg Schurer**, brother of Mick Schurer  
**Mary Kay Seidl**, sister of Loretta Seidl  
**Pete Sethatut**, father of Paula Higbie  
**Christine Shipley**  
**Gerald Simon**  
**Brett Smith**  
**Meyer Sneed**, son of Taylor & Melissa Sneed  
**Linda Snyder**, aunt of Dan Taylor  
**Cameron Stupansky**, friend of Kathy Colson  
**Jack Taylor**, brother of Daniel Taylor  
**Deloris Tharp**  
**Amelia Tinio**  
**Enriqueta Valverde**  
**Mary Vannicola**  
**Cindy Vasquez**, sister of Gina Hodges  
**Trent Wallace**  
**Jeanette Walker**  
**Ted Walker**  
**Susan Williams**  
**Nancy Wright**  
**Jon Yarnell**



### "The Leaven" is on Audio Reader

If you or someone you know would benefit from an audio version of "The Leaven", the Archdiocesan newspaper, one is available! It is available through Audio-Reader here in Lawrence. All you need is to be able to have someone certify that you have an impairment that impairs your ability to hold or to read printed material. To receive the service, please call Audio-Reader at 785-864-4600.

## STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING

### WEEKLY PARISH GIVING

Our fiscal year is July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020

Information below reflects donations received July 1, 2019 through March 29, 2020.

Budgeted weekly collection amount .....	\$29,807.69
Average weekly collection amount .....	\$28,704.66
Budgeted collection fiscal YTD.....	\$1,162,499.91
Actual collection fiscal YTD.....	\$1,119,481.76
<b>Net Shortage.....</b>	<b>\$43,018.15</b>

Visit: [www.sjevangelist.com/giving](http://www.sjevangelist.com/giving) for more information or to set up and manage your account today!

Contact Cris Denning at: [cdenning@saint-johns.net](mailto:cdenning@saint-johns.net) or by phone at 785-843-0109 if you have any

Until weekend Masses resume and the parish office reopens, parishioners may send their tithe in the mail.

Or you may sign up for PushPay for auto bank withdraws at: [sjevangelist.com](http://sjevangelist.com)

## MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGÉLIO – ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

12 de abril de 2020  
Domingo de Pascua

Hoy no se necesitan muchas palabras para entender lo sucedido. El contenido que se desea comunicar ya lo sabemos todos; "Jesús ha resucitado como lo había prometido." "El Ángel dijo a las mujeres: 'Ustedes no tienen por qué temer, yo sé que buscan a Jesús, que fue crucificado. No está aquí, pues ha resucitado, tal como lo había anunciado.'" (Mateo 28:5-6). Más adelante, se narra lo siguiente: "Ellas se fueron al instante del sepulcro, con temor, pero con una alegría inmensa a la vez, y corrieron a llevar la noticia a los discípulos." (Mateo 28:8). Cada año la Liturgia de este día nos invita a gozar de esa inmensa alegría, de ese gozo eterno que se anida en el corazón del ser humano que conoce al Señor y no lo deja, sino que por el contrario lo anuncia corriendo a sus hermanos.

Dios se revela de diferentes maneras, y en esta ocasión de la resurrección les da una misión a las mujeres; que vayan a Galilea a anunciar a los demás que lo habían visto. Ahora, en este tiempo, todos los bautizados tenemos la misma misión de ir a donde el nos espera: en la familia, comunidad y sociedad. La promesa de Jesús en sus palabras de "Allí me verán" (Mateo 28:10) tiene un sentido de responsabilidad de cumplir el plan de Dios que sigue resonando aun en este 2020. La Pascua que iniciamos hoy, es fuerza que empuja a ir a seguir luchando por el bien común y por la paz. ¿Qué tipo de gozo te deja este Domingo de Resurrección?

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**"N**o teman. Ya sé que buscan a Jesús, el crucificado. No está aquí; ha resucitado, como lo había dicho. Vengan a ver el lugar donde lo habían puesto. Y ahora, vayan de prisa a decir a sus discípulos: 'Ha resucitado de entre los muertos e irá delante de ustedes a Galilea; allí lo verán'. Eso es todo". — Mt 28, 5-7

Leccionario | © 1976 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral  
Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.

## MUSICA, CORO, MUSICA

¿Te gusta cantar? ¿Tocas algún instrumento musical, o te gustaría aprender? Ven a practicar con nosotros, comunícate al **785-304-5509**.

## 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 Parróquia, por un mundo mas 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.

Preparación al matrimonio por la Iglesia Católica, solo para parejas que viven juntos y tienen niños.

Adultos que necesitan los sacramentos de confirmación y primera comunión.

## CATECISMO EN ESPAÑOL

Las Inscripciones son en agosto. Por favor para mas información llamar a Maria Mota.

## CONFESIONES

De **1:00 pm a 1:45 pm** Habrá confesiones en español para quien lo necesite, y pueda recibir este sacramento.

## LAS LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA DEL 12 DE ABRIL

**Domingo:** Hch 10, 34. 37-43/Sal 118, 1-2. 16-17. 22-23 [24]/ Col 3, 1-4 o 1 Cor 5, 6-8/Jn 20, 1-9 o Mt 28, 1-10

**Lunes:** Hch 2, 14. 22-33/Sal 16, 1-2 y 5. 7-8. 9-10. 11 [1]/Mt 28, 8-15

**Martes:** Hch 2, 36-41/Sal 33, 4-5. 18-19. 20 y 22 [5]/Jn 20, 11-18

**Miércoles:** Hch 3, 1-10/Sal 105, 1-2. 3-4. 6-7. 8-9 [3]/Lc 24, 13-35

**Jueves:** Hch 3, 11-26/Sal 8, 2 y 5. 6-7. 8-9 [2]/Lc 24, 35-48

**Viernes:** Hch 4, 1-12/Sal 118, 1-2 y 4. 22-24. 25-27 [22]/Jn 21, 1-14

**Sábado:** Hch 4, 13-21/Sal 118, 1 y 14-15. 16-18. 19-21 [21]/ Mc 16, 9-15

**Domingo siguiente:** Hch 2, 42-47/Sal 118, 2-4. 13-15. 22-24 [1]/1 Pe 1, 3-9/Jn 20, 19-3

# SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL ACTION

By Susan Tabor  
Social Concerns for Peace and Justice Committee

**H**appy Easter! Christ has risen once again in our lives! We will never be the same. I believe that what we have recently experienced together as a world and a nation has changed us. But how? What are some of the changes that you have experienced internally and spiritually that you feel will have an impact on who you are in the world? Let me share some that have happened in my world:

First who knew that the rest of the world would be experiencing a Lenten kind of experience alongside those of us who embark upon the Lenten journey together each year?

The air smells so fresh now when I go outside during the day! It makes me want to take in a really deep, prayerful breath of thanksgiving to God for this universe and all of its inhabitants! And the birds sound so happy this year! They are so full of joyful song! I am so thankful for their music of praise!

My contacts with others, by phone, by internet or in person, have become so much more sacred! I really feel God's presence in and through the gift of the other! This brings me in touch with a whole new and deepened appreciation for life and the dignity of the human person.

My appreciation for my family has deepened. My heart has also been touched by concern for families who struggle with anger issues and with other issues that exacerbate anger. Living with domestic violence during this time of greater isolation would be



particularly difficult; my heart is heavy for and my prayers go out to these families.

\* I've read reports of how much the haze and fog and smog have cleared throughout the world. What a creative way of getting our attention, God, to give us a new opportunity to become better stewards of your creation, if it hadn't occurred to us in a significant way before!

**A word about touch:** I've missed hugs! I really hadn't realized how much they mean to me! And even wanting to touch someone's hand when they're sharing something with me, or—well, I hadn't really thought much about how much information I can get about a person through a handshake. This one is really hard to express with words. My prayers feel like they are coming from a deeper part of my soul. I don't know how else to express it. Maybe I'm more open to the process of actually praying them and what that feels like. I'm also more aware of the connections between my prayers and the feelings that

provoke them and/or are evoked by them. I have a greater, stronger sense of awareness in general. I have begun thinking about how these lessons will change who I am. They have moved me more deeply into being from doing, which I know I need sometimes in order to balance myself. My prayer is that through these lessons in combination with my consciousness of our Lord's resurrection in my life, that my compassion for and action on behalf of others will be enriched and strengthened. And lastly, since Easter reminds me of Christ's resurrection, it also reminds me that God is bigger than Covid-19 and all of the resulting fallout. Let us rejoice and be glad!

## JUSTICE MATTERS

*Justice Matters – an interfaith network working for justice*

**O**n March 23, Justice Matters held our first--and prayerfully our last--virtual Solutions Briefing. For those of you who missed you can still see the video and get caught up and learn what you can do right now, from your home, to ensure that justice for the most vulnerable in our community is not forgotten during the coronavirus. (You can also see our calls to action listed below.) For those of you who did attend, please share widely with your friends, family, and anyone else in your social network.

- YouTube: <https://youtu.be/Kvsc0GBWcLs>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/1580455205581813/posts/2262590487368278/>

### **Calls to action that you can do safely from your home**

**1.** We want all Douglas County residents to have an opportunity to vote on jail expansion. If you want the community to vote on expanding our jail, text **DEMOCRACY** to **33777**.

**2.** We want all Douglas County residents who are unsheltered, or who are living in homeless shelters, to be quickly rehoused into long-term housing. If you are a landlord and you'd like to help out, please text **LANDLORD** to **202-410-4202**

### **Upcoming events**

**NEHEMIAH ASSEMBLY** (scheduled for April 20, 6:30pm, Lied Center of Kansas) - **Cancelled due to coronavirus**

**JUBILEE CELEBRATION (June 8, 6:30pm, First United Methodist Church)** - West Campus) - Join us as we lift up our wins for the year!

Check out the Justice Matters' website for additional information on events and issues being addressed [www.justicemattersinkansas.org](http://www.justicemattersinkansas.org)



# LIFE WILL BE VICTORIOUS

by Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann

**O**ne week ago, March 27, Pope Francis led the world in a eucharistic Holy Hour and gave his "urbi et orbi" ("For the city (Rome) and the world") blessing.

The Holy Father gave an insightful and powerful meditation on the account in the Fourth Chapter of the Gospel of Mark (Verses 35-41), when the disciples are caught in a terrifying storm while Jesus is asleep in the boat.

Pope Francis used the moment to give a poignant description of what the entire world is experiencing as a result of the coronavirus: "For weeks now, it has been evening. Thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void. . . . We find ourselves afraid and lost. Like the disciples in the Gospel, we were caught off-guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm."

"The storm exposes our vulnerability and uncovers those false and superfluous certainties around which we have constructed our daily schedule, our projects, our habits and priorities. It shows us how we have allowed to become dull and feeble the very things that nourish, sustain and strengthen our lives and our communities. The tempest lays bare all our prepackaged ideas and forgetfulness of what nourishes our people's souls; all those attempts that anesthetize us with ways of thinking and acting that supposedly save us, but instead prove incapable of putting us in touch with our roots and keeping alive the memory of those who have gone before us. We deprive ourselves of the antibodies we need to confront adversity."

Mark contrasts the terror of the disciples, many of whom were experienced fishermen that were used to the squalls of the sea, to the absolute calm of Jesus who is asleep in the stern of the boat. During this violent and terrifying storm, Jesus is completely at peace, sleeping serenely while his disciples are in a panic. The Holy Father points out that this is the only time in all four Gospels that Jesus is depicted sleeping.

The disciples wake Jesus and accuse him of not caring that they are about to perish. Many of us can identify with the disciples. With the coronavirus in just a few months spreading rapidly and lethally throughout the world, Christians everywhere have petitioned Our Lord to put a miraculous end to this pandemic. No doubt some of us wonder if Our Lord is asleep — if he does not care that so many are perishing.

After calming the wind and the sea, Jesus asks the disciples: "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?"

With our fear of the ability of the coronavirus to spread a rapid pathway of suffering and death, Jesus might pose the same questions to us: Why are we so terrified? Do we not yet have faith?

In this past Sunday's Gospel in which Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, Our Lord is accused by some of not caring enough to prevent the death of his friend Lazarus. When Jesus first learned of Lazarus' serious sickness, he tells his disciples: "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God."

In the Gospel for the previous week, describing Our Lord's healing of the man who was blind from birth, the disciples asked Jesus if



the man was blind because of his own sin or the sin of his parents. Jesus replied: "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so the works of God might be made visible through him."

In the Gospels, especially John, Our Lord speaks frequently of his hour. What is this "hour" of Jesus? The hour of Jesus comes on Good Friday, when he demonstrates his absolute fidelity to the will of his Father by submitting himself even to death, death on a cross.

Jesus reverses the disobedience of our first parents with his great act of surrender to the will of his Father on Calvary. The manifestation of God's glory will be completed on Easter with Our Lord vanquishing both sin and death with his resurrection.

Jesus does not promise to protect us from all illness, adversity and death. After all, Lazarus had to die twice. However, Our Lord does make available the antibodies that can preserve us from fear.

What are these antibodies? First, Jesus revealed God's unique and personal love for each of us. We are never alone. Jesus is always in the boat with his disciples, no matter how fierce the storms surrounding us.

Secondly, through the waters of baptism, we have been given the assurance of eternal life. We have been given a share in Our Lord's risen life. We have a destiny to live with Our Lord and the saints forever! If we have faith in Jesus and his Gospel, then fear has no power over us.

At the same time, Christian charity also requires that we exercise prudence. We need to observe Governor Kelly's executive order. We have an obligation in charity to do those prudent steps (remaining at home except for essential tasks, social distancing, washing our hands, not gathering in large groups, etc.) that not only protect us, but also protect others by preventing the continued spread of this vicious virus.

I am grateful that Governor Kelly's executive order acknowledged the constitutional right to perform or attend religious or faith-based services or activities. Some of the orders issued by counties and local municipalities had prohibited religious activities, in some cases even specifying the prohibition of funerals and marriages.

These were clearly unconstitutional. Government cannot permit liquor stores, pet stores and dry cleaners to continue to operate and not allow religious activities.

See **LIFE WILL BE VICTORIOUS** on page 9



# LIFE WILL BE VICTORIOUS

Continued from page 8

At the same time, for the good of the public health of our communities, our churches are rightly obligated to observe the same limitations — e.g., the number of people who can assemble or the social distancing that is required of other organizations and enterprises.

During a recent Zoom virtual meeting, I bemoaned that some local governments considered religious activities as nonessential while permitting liquor stores to continue to operate.

One of the other participants suggested that if I was working from home while attempting to supervise the education of four grade-school-age children, I might be more sympathetic to the

necessity of a glass of wine in the evening!

Finally, you are all invited to join me virtually for Palm Sunday Mass and the Triduum liturgies. I hope we will be able to livestream them from the Cathedral of St. Peter.

Though Holy Week this year promises to be quite unusual, I am confident that Our Lord will make it a grace-filled time for all of us.

I pray you experience a blessed Holy Week. May these days increase our longing to receive Our Lord in the Eucharist and to be reunited in our churches with our parish families.

Together, we will make it through this current adversity. We have the antibodies against panic, fear and discouragement!

Be not afraid!

## KIDS SHARING THE GOSPEL

### SHARING THE GOSPEL

It was very early in the morning on Sunday. The tomb stone was rolled away. Jesus was gone. All that was left inside were the strips of linen cloth. When John and Peter saw it, they were amazed. They did not understand all the promises the prophets wrote about Jesus yet. However, they knew he was alive. He had risen from the dead!

### PRAYER

God, I thank you for bringing Jesus back to life. Amen

### MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Bake Resurrection Cookies with your family tonight or anytime during this stay-at-home period.



©LPI

### EASTER



# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 12, 2020

- SUN 4/12** Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10
- MON 4/13** Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Mt 28:8-15
- TUE 4/14** Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22 [5b]/Jn 20:11-18
- WED 4/15** Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [3b]/Lk 24:13-35
- THR 4/16** Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48
- FRI 4/17** Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118: 1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a [22]/Jn 21:1-14
- SAT 4/18** Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21 [21a]/Mk 16:9-15
- SUN 4/19** Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 12, 2020

- Sunday:** Easter Sunday
- Monday:** Monday within the Octave of Easter
- Tuesday:** Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
- Wednesday:** Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
- Thursday:** Thursday within the Octave of Easter
- Friday:** Friday within the Octave of Easter
- Saturday:** Saturday within the Octave of Easter
- Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday

## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Our world wants us to believe that life is only what we make of it. Today, we realize how untrue that is. Life is ultimately about what God makes of it, and the resurrection of Jesus reveals this. Alleluia, Christ is risen! Who do you understand yourself to be? What we did yesterday, are doing today, and may do tomorrow pretty much determine how we perceive ourselves. We even perceive Jesus this way in limiting our vision of him

to his earthly accomplishments. But, we know through today's triumphant celebration that Christ is much more than his earthly legacy. The transfigured and resurrected Christ is the beginning, the end, and the fulfillment of all things and every person. All that Jesus did stands in second place to who we now know him to be. Do we realize that this will be our journey too? Christ is risen. Alleluia, alleluia!



SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020 | EASTER SUNDAY



# WORSHIP & MEDITATION



## FIRST READING

"He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead." (Acts 10:42)

## PSALM

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. (Ps 118) or Alleluia

## SECOND READING

When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory. (Col 3:4)

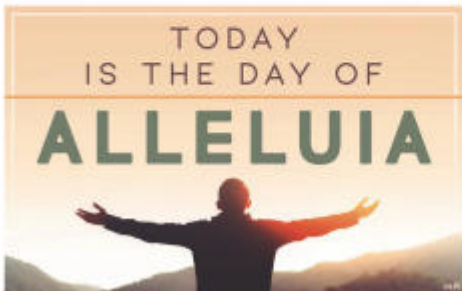
## GOSPEL

Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. (Jn 20:8)

## ALTERNATE SECOND READING

1 Cor 5:6b-8

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## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When we awoke this morning, we found ourselves blessed with another day. It is Easter Sunday. As that thought crossed our minds, did we find ourselves saying "so what" or "alleluia"? For many, today is truly a day of alleluia. For others, it is just another day of "so what." Faith makes a huge difference. It not only makes a difference in how we understand today and the significance of what we celebrate, it also makes a huge difference in terms of how we understand ourselves.

Succeed, live well, be productive, find your niche, follow your dreams, make money, protect your social status, be politically correct, and keep your preferences to yourself are pretty good examples of the messages our secular life wants us to hear. In and of themselves, they don't sound all that harmful. But when really examined, they are. The life of resurrection embodied in the Gospel tells us a much different story.

Life keeps us busy. We are always connected, distracted, occupied, and working. For many of us, an agenda awaits us before we even start our day, and unfinished stuff is brought with us when we retire at night. Make the best of life and "find your own road to happiness are messages we all too easily believe. The "so what" response to the new life of resurrection is often the result of believing that life is only what I make it. What God has to say isn't important to me securing my next raise.

Sadly, we live as if the grave is the end. While we may give the wonder of heaven a blink now and then, its glory really doesn't impress us or matter all that much. It's all about the here and now and what I need to do today to get where I want to be tomorrow. We tend to put off considering the one significant "tomorrow" that will come the millisecond after we take our last breath. When that happens, will we want to be thinking "so what?" or "alleluia"?

There is only one Jesus, one mission, and one resurrection. There is also only one of us. Have you ever pondered what one solitary, humble human life can do? Faith, not our world, tells us how special we are. We are not robots. We are not replaceable. We have one shot. There are no do-overs. Love is at our core and unites us together as one with the God of love who so desperately wants us to be with Him forever. This may not match our secular agenda, but it ought to make our true inner agenda leap for joy. There doesn't need to be an end. I can live forever. Alleluia!

**SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020 | EASTER SUNDAY**

# LITURGICAL LIFE

## TIME • TALENT • TREASURE

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Come to Christ

Life is perhaps God's greatest gift to each of us. Without life, we would be unable to experience all the wonder of this world, the love of family and friends, and the joy that comes from using our talents and skills. Life itself is more profound a gift than we can even truly contemplate.

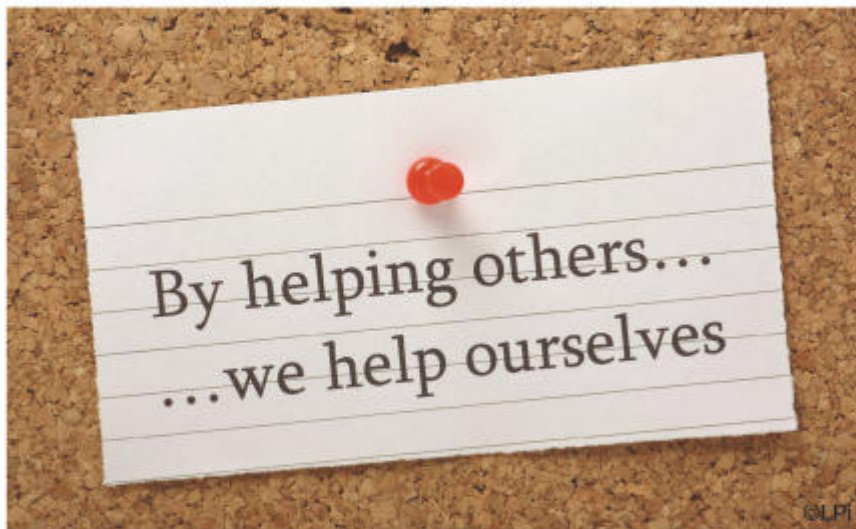
On Easter, we celebrate life. For on this day, Jesus Christ conquered death and gave to us the chance for a life eternal. The wonder, love, and joy of this world does not have to end. Through a life in Jesus Christ, these emotions are heightened, and we find even greater fulfillment in this world.

Maybe this Easter you are finding yourself open to taking a next step in your relationship with Jesus. This could be the moment you decide to follow Him more closely and take seriously all that he has given you. If so, welcome to the journey, where there are many other disciples on that same path who can help show you the way and share their stories. If not, hopefully it doesn't take a whole year for this possibility to be considered again. Jesus is alive and waiting to get closer to you. May this Easter season find you and Our Lord getting to know one another in a whole new way. Happy Easter!

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



### WHY DO WE DO THAT?

Catholic Life Explained:  
*Confessing Sins*

#### Question:

If I go to the Sacrament of Penance and end up repeating the same sins, does that mean I do not have a strong enough intention to amend my life?

#### Answer:

There is a popular expression that says, "Be patient. God isn't finished with me yet!" Growing in faith and holiness is an ongoing, life-long project, and our struggle with sin is at the heart of it. As St. Paul says, the good he intends to do, he does not do. The evil he does not intend, he does! It is not always a lack of intention, but more often the allure of evil that makes it difficult to change.

When we confess our sins, we are to come with a fully contrite heart. You need to reflect on your true feelings toward your actions before approaching the sacrament. After confession, there are strategies you can make to avoid falling into the same traps of sin. First, pray for and seek out strength and perseverance through multiple sacraments, charitable work, and personal sacrifice. Second, avoid occasions of sin when you might fail or be sorely tempted. In doing these things, remind yourself daily that it is a spiritual war we wage, and with God's grace, we will succeed.



SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020 | EASTER SUNDAY



## DISCIPLES ON THE WAY

### Spiritual Support During the COVID-19 Outbreaks

#### MISSIONARY DISCIPLES: IDEAS FOR OUTREACH

With COVID-19 calling us to a different pace of life these next few weeks, one of the most beautiful ways to share our faith with others is through acts of love, generosity, and kindness. Here are some lovely ways to be Church in the world:

- **PRAYER:** Take some time each day to pray for those who are sick, isolated, and worried. Write the names of friends, family, classmates, and co-workers on slips of paper and place in a basket on your table or a prominent place in your home. At mealtime, draw from the basket and say a prayer together for each person.
- **CARE FOR THE VULNERABLE:** Several nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and places that care for the vulnerable have been closed off from visitors. Write cards to these residents, as well as the staff who try to keep everyone safe and healthy. Even if you don't know anyone in a care center just address the card or note to "Dear Friend." That alone will brighten a day and bring a spark of joy!
- **CARE FOR FAMILIES:** New parents, pregnant moms, and those with little ones at home could use some encouragement and help. If you are healthy and able, perhaps make a meal, share books/movies/toys that have been sanitized, offer to watch the little ones for a while so the parents can get out, run errands, and renew a bit! Gather some friends from church to reach out with support, love, and kindness!
- **YOUNG ADULTS:** Gather healthy young adults to run errands, deliver groceries, and anything in between. Create a space on social media where people can list what they might need help with and be creative. Find ways to make it happen!



- **FOOD:** If you know children or teens in your neighborhood who may need a lunch or snacks, offer to make and deliver them or bring them to a designated spot your schools may determine. An unexpected treat from the local parish will be amazing. Attach a little note for an added surprise!
- **THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY:** This can include yard work, meal creation and delivery, or collection of money to send a package of goodies to your local emergency room staff. Send thank you cards to all those in helping agencies or make a lawn poster campaign to bring hope and comfort to your neighborhoods!
- **CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT:** Organize a park clean-up in your neighborhood for people of all ages. It's good to be outside, but keep a distance by assigning tasks around the area. Have gloves and trash bags available. Serve a snack when finished. What a beautiful way to care for God's creation. Begin and end the event with prayer or a quote from Pope Francis' Laudato Si!
- **CARE PACKAGES:** Care packages with items such as hand sanitizer or toilet paper could be included for those who have compromised immune systems, those who are homebound. Share your abundance and plant seeds of hope.
- **CARE FOR OUR VISITORS:** Are there people in your community who may be new to the area or speak a different language? This may be a very uncertain time for them. Seek out resources for them in your neighborhood and reach out with this information, as well as a treat or care package from your parish!
- **HOPE AND JOY:** Finally, be a sign of hope and joy in your circle of influence at home, work, the store, appointments, and anywhere else you go. For those who are worried and a little panicked, we can be a source of peace, presence, calm, and faithfulness. It's the very best gift we can give our communities!

Be a joy-filled and generous disciple!  
God has sent us on mission!

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