For June of the Year of the Pandemic 2020

Mass Schedule Saturday: 4:30 pm Sunday: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm Spanish, 5:00 pm Mass sign up required for each weekend: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49AEA82BA1FA7-stjohn4</u>

> Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday: 3:00-4:00 pm Wednesday: 11:00-noon, 7:00-8:00 pm

> > *Stay tuned for July of the Year of the Pandemic 2020*



Photo by Zoe Milburn

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.

"DO NOT PUT OFF TILL TOMORROW THE GOOD YOU CAN DO TODAY. YOU MAY NOT HAVE A TOMORROW." ~ST. JOHN BOSCO

PARISH STAFF

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

- St. John Catholic School...... Mr. Chris Reffett, Principal 1208 Kentucky St. 785-843-9511 www.sjevangelist.com/school
- Catholic Charities Abigail Chikanda 1525 W. 6th, Suite A 785-856-2694 achikanda@catholiccharitiesks.org
- Rummage House..... Linda Brey lbrey525@gmail.com 13th & Kentucky Shopping Hours:.....Open (if staff is available) Wednesday - 11:00 am-3:00 pm; Saturday - 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Centro Hispano.....Lydia Diebolt 204 W. 13th St. 785-843-2039 centrohispano.lydia@gmail.com

SIMON PARISH CENTER

Tailing Address 1229 Vermont St., Lawrence, KS 66044		
hone 785-843-0109		
ummer Office HoursCLOSED TO PUBLIC, please call		
1onday—Thursday		
riday 8:30 am—Noon		
Veekend Masses		
aturday 4:30 pm		
unday7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am,		
1:00 pm (Spanish), 5:00 pm		
Mass sign up required for each weekend:		
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ttps://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49AEA82BA1FA7-stjohn4 lasses to be livestreamed at:		

Bulletin Deadline

Submit info by noon on Thursday to bulletin@sievangelist.com ten (10) days prior to the bulletin you wish info to appear.

.....(and by appointment)

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: dwolfe@4LPI.com

800-950-9952 x5833

Pastoral Council

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, Terry Gunselman **Michael Burrichter**

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

SAINT JOHN SCHOOL



DISCOVER ST. JOHN AND SCHEDULE YOUR VISIT

Visit online at: <u>sjevangelist.com/school</u>, call **785- 843-9511** or email Mr. Chris Reffett, Principal, at: <u>creffett@sjeagles.com</u> for more information and to schedule a tour for you and your student! St. John Catholic School has classes from pre-school through eighth grade.



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PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

TWO VOLUNTEER POSITIONS OPEN

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS OF MT. CALVARY CEMETERY OPERATIONS

TO ASSIST THE DIRECTOR WHEN HE IS UNAVAILABLE

- SHOW AVAILABILITY OF PLOTS TO THOSE SEEKING TO PURCHASE THEM
- NOTIFY THE PARISH OFFICE OF LOT NUMBER AND LOCATION OF PLOTS WHEN THEY WISH TO PURCHASE
- WHEN PLOTS ARE PURCHASED, MARK THEIR NAME IN THE CEMETERY BOOK, ON THE MAP, AND THE CARDEX FILE
- WHEN PLOTS ARE TO BE USED, MARK LOCATION AND SIZE FOR GRAVE OPENING AND RECORD ON CARDEX THE DATE WHEN THE PERSON WAS BURIED
- WHEN MARKERS/MEMORIALS ARE TO BE SET, MARK THE SIZE AND MEASUREMENT SIZE OF BASE

Positions are open until filled.

If interested, please call the parish office or Fr. John at 785-843-0109.

PARISH JOB OPENING DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION:

St. John Parish in Lawrence, KS is seeking a full-time Director of Faith Formation. This person would develop, articulate, and administer a vision and direction for parish faith formation programs. He/she would oversee all faith formation programs and evaluate their effectiveness, and develop/



implement ideas and programs that would be available for parishioners from womb to tomb. Ideal candidate will be a bilingual (English/Spanish) practicing Catholic who holds a degree in Catechesis or Theology and/or has equivalent work experience relating to faith formation. This person would also have strong knowledge of Catholicism, intercultural competence in ministry, strong interpersonal skills, proven organizational and leadership skills and computer/technology competencies. 2-4 years of parish ministry experience preferred.

Please see full job description and requirements at: <u>www.sjevangelist.com</u>. This is a full-time position and eligible for the Archdiocesan benefits package with start date of July 20. The position will be open until filled. Please send cover letter and resume to Fr. John at: <u>frjohn@sjevangelist.com</u> (use DFF on subject line) or 1229

Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS 66044.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NECESSITIES COLLECTION

Knights of Columbus will have tubs out on the Kentucky Street entrance of the church collecting for catholic charities: asking for: tooth brushes, toothpaste, soap, and feminine hygiene products. We will be collecting the next three weekends. They are also asking for volunteer workers, if you are able to volunteer to work, please contact Norb Otter at **785-633-9071**.



COVID-19 Message From The Health Department

If you do not have a primary care provider and feel you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, you can call the Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health Coronavirus hotline, **785-856-4343**. We have nurses online to provide initial screening and if needed, directions on how to get tested.

Always call first before showing up at a provider.



BEGINNING JULY 1

Monday—Thursday: 8:30 am—3:00 pm Friday: 8:30 am—Noon *Please wear a mask and use hand sanitizer when you enter the parish office. Thank you!



Prayer to Overcome Racism

MARY, FRIEND AND MOTHER TO ALL, through your Son, God has found a way to unite himself to every human being, called to be one people, sisters and brothers to each other.

We ask for your help in calling on your Son, seeking forgiveness for the times when we have failed to love and respect one another.

We ask for your help in obtaining from your Son the grace we need to overcome the evil of racism and to build a just society.

We ask for your help in following your Son, so that prejudice and animosity will no longer infect our minds or hearts but will be replaced with a love that respects the dignity of each person.

Mother of the Church, the Spirit of your Son Jesus warms our hearts: pray for us.

Amen.



Oración para superar el racismo

María, AMIGA Y MADRE DE TODOS, a través de tu Hijo Dios ha encontrado un camino para unirse a todos los seres humanos, llamados a ser un solo pueblo, hermanas y hermanos entre sí.

Pedimos tu ayuda al recurrir a tu Hijo, buscando el perdón por las veces en que hemos fallado en amarnos y respetarnos.

Pedimos tu ayuda para obtener de tu Hijo

la gracia que necesitamos para vencer el mal del racismo y construir una sociedad justa.

Pedimos tu ayuda para seguir a tu Hijo, para que el prejuicio y la animosidad no infecten ya nuestras mentes o corazones

sino que sean reemplazados por el amor que respeta la dignidad de cada persona.

Madre de la Iglesia, el Espíritu de tu Hijo Jesús alienta nuestros corazones: Ruega por nosotros.

Amén.



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www.usccb.org/racism

SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL ACTION

Bv Susan Tabor Social Concerns for Peace and Justice Committee

wo weeks ago, I provided a column about my journey and racism from a white woman's perspective. Here are some actions we all can prayerfully consider to help decry racism in our country.

Google whether your local police department currently outfits all on-duty police officers with a body-worn camera and requires that the body-worn camera be turned on immediately when officers respond to a police call. If they don't, write to your city or town government representative and police chief to advocate for it. The racial make-up of your town doesn't matter — This needs to be standard everywhere. Multiply your voice by soliciting others to advocate as well, writing on social media about it, writing op-eds, etc.

Google whether your city or town currently employs evidencebased police de-escalation trainings. The racial make-up of your town doesn't matter — This needs to be standard everywhere. Write to your city or town government representative and police chief and advocate for it. Multiply your voice by soliciting others to advocate as well, writing on social media about it,

writing op-eds, etc.

More and more stories of people of color encountering racism are being documented and shared through social media whether it's at a hotel, with the police, in a coffee shop, at a school, etc. When you see such a post, call the organization, company, or institution involved to tell them how upset you are. Then share the post along with the institution's contact information, spreading the word about what happened and encouraging others to contact the institution as well. Whether the company initiated the event or failed to protect a POC during an onslaught by a third party, they need to hear from us.

Intentionally diversify your social network. Make a point of getting to know people of color with whom you come into contact at work, at social gatherings, at meetings, at church. And listen, really listen to them, and ask questions to inform yourself as you would ask of a good friend. Learn what life is like for them.

Educate yourself. Read books and articles by people of color. Read with a heart, mind and spirit open to what you're reading. And remember, racism is a Respect Life issue! We are called to respect and treat with dignity all life.

What the Catholic Church in the United States has to say about racism

The document Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love - A Pastoral Letter Against Racism was developed by the Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was approved by the full body of bishops as a formal statement of the same at its November 2018 General Meeting and has been authorized for publication by the undersigned. For more information, go to: http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-anddignity/racism/index.cfm

Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield, General Secretary, USCCB

DAILY READINGS

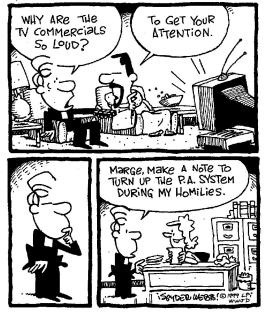
Sunday: 2 Kqs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

Monday: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19 Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8 [9a]/Mt 8:23-27 Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17 [23b]/Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10cd]/Mt 9:1-8 Friday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 20:24-29 Saturday: Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 9:14-17 Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 [cf. 1]/Rom 8:9, 11-13/ Mt 11:25-3



13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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 these individuals for whom we pray

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

Andrew Bouchard Susan Guenther Brown **Curtis Burns** Hank Desch **Garrett Dreiling** Linda Erp Joanne Feist **Colette Fisher** Linda Flyer Janet Fox **Rudy Fritz** Ed Garza **Bonnie Griggs Tony Guadian Buddy Hadl** Michael Hamer Lonna Hamm **Peggy Harders** Newt Hasson Lori Haynes Christian Heady Luke Henry Kathy Higley **Bob Holek Tina Jinkens Michele Johnson** Allen Kehde **Becky Kuhn** Diana Matthews Leo Mauler **Russ McDonald** Jim McMurray **Ed Medrano** Zackary Messerly Linden Morgan

Lisa Morrow-Welsh **Augustus Nelson Danny Nguyen** Theophilus Obiefule Mike Owens **Josephine Ramirez Mike Reilly Eva Ricketts** Joel Rivera Virginia Romero Jon Rossillon **James Sandy** Alexander Ramirez Salazar **Jerry Scherer Greg Schurer** Mary Kay Seidl Pete Sethatut **Christine Shipley Gerald Simon Brett Smith** Linda Snyder Joseph Soza **Cameron Stupansky Jack Taylor Deloris** Tharp Oscar Tharp, Jr. Amelia Tinio **Enriqueta Valverde** Mary Vannicola Cindy Vasquez Trent Wallace **Jeanette Walker Ted Walker** Susan Williams **Nancy Wright**

Jeannine Wyatt Jon Yarnell In Memoriam-Francis Weigel and Bob Walrafen

MASS INTENTIONS

June 29 - July 5

Mon.: 7:30 am	Alan Heath†
Tues.: 7:30 am	End To The Pandemic
Wed.: 7:30 am	Mike Reilly
Thurs.: 7:30 am	Osborne-O'Connor Family
Fri.: 7:30 am	Christian Heady
Sat.: 4:30 pm	Trent Wallace
Sun.: 7:00 am	Bob Walrafen†
9:00am	Francis Weigel †
11:00 am	Jerry Scherer
1:00 pm (Sp.)	Parishioners of St. Johns
5:00 pm	Susan Williams

Turn your worries

o promers.

PHIL 4:6

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 June 21, 2020.

Budgeted weekly collection amount	\$29,807.69
Average weekly collection amount	
Budgeted collection fiscal YTD	\$1,520,192.19
Actual collection fiscal YTD	
Net Shortage	\$73,498.69

Visit: <u>www.sjevangelist.com/giving</u> for more information or to set up and manage your account today! Contact Cris Denning at: cdenning@sjevangelist.com or by phone at 785-843-0109 if you have any questions.

Photo by: Jay Soldner/The Leaven

Until weekend Masses resume and the parish office reopens, parishioners may send their tithe in the mail. Or you may sign up for <u>PushPay</u> for auto bank withdraws at: <u>sjevangelist.com</u>

AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

CATHOLIC CHARITIES FAMILY SUPPORT CENTERS

Our food pantries are on a roll-out plan to begin operating four days a week over the next month. See below for the roll-out plan for each pantry, by week. This will continue to be a drive-thru service. Please let individuals who are experiencing difficulties know of this resource. It is free and open to all regardless of income, faith or background. The addresses for all our offices are listed below:

Week of July 6

Lawrence Family Support Center, 1525 West 6th Street **Days: Monday – Thursday**

Times: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

All of our Family Support Centers have added direct financial assistance and case management back into their active scope of services. For direct financial assistance – appointments are required. To schedule an appointment, individuals must call their local Family Support Center. Our guidelines, safety produces and required documentation needed for scheduled appointments can be found here: https://catholiccharitiesks.org/fsc-covid-19-details.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are excited to welcome volunteers back to our ministries - as they feel comfortable. They are vital to the success of Catholic Charities. We continue to have openings in our Family Support Centers and at TurnStyles. If you want to sign on as a



recurring volunteer - contact Cari Olberding at: colberding@catholiccharitiesks.org.

ARCHDIOCESAN 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The Archdiocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration has been rescheduled to Sunday, August 23, 2:00 pm, Church of the Nativity in Leawood. If you would like to receive an invitation from Archbishop Naumann and have not yet submitted your information, please call Mary Anne Kierl at the Archdiocese 913-647-0345 or flifesec@archkck.org

MONTHLY LIVESTREAM ROSARY FOR HEALING AND PROTECTION

The Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas invites you to support our brothers and sisters in Christ who have been wounded by sexual abuse in the Church by praying, in solidarity, for their healing and for the protection of all who are vulnerable. This rosary lifts up our collective prayers to God through Mary's loving intercession. The first Healing Rosary will be on Wednesday, June 17 at 7:45 am and will continue at the same time on the 3rd Wednesday of each month thereafter. Rosaries are also recorded for access anytime throughout the month. Please join us at: https://livestream.com/archkck/healingrosary

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

June 2020 - July 2020 Behold, I make all things new! ... Has all of that "togetherness" from weeks of unplanned stay-at-home orders exposed some rough edges in your relationship? Have you discovered that your communication skills aren't as good as you thought they were? Are the two of you adrift in the uncertainty of the future? Be not afraid, for our Lord has promised to make all things new! Join us on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, July 31 - August 2, at the Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kansas. The weekend is a perfect way to renew your love and commitment to each other and to learn the tools that will carry you forward to live more intimately and responsibly together, no matter the circumstances of the life. For more information, or to apply for a weekend, visit: www.wwme4youandme.org, or call/email Tony & Barb Zimmerman at 816-

741-4066, tonybarbz@prodigy.net

For more information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter and how our ministry can support the couples in your parish you can contact us at the following: Local Area Leadership Couple: Rich & Wendy Lorenz, 815-761-6591, wendyteach3@yahoo.com Local Area Leadership Priest: Fr. Ron Will, 816-390-7950, rlwill2@juno.com Weekend Application Couple: Tony & Barb Zimmerman, 816-741-4066, tonybarbz@prodigy.net Inviting Resource Couple: Ralph & Jan Lewis, 913-909-1028, encounteredcouple@gmail.com

FERTILITY CARE **CENTER CLASS**

Fertility Care Center is FertilityCare Center planning to hold their next Creighton Model Education Class in August (EPI) & March (EPII). They will provide the class over two extended weekends to help accommodate every-one's busy



Of Kansas Citv

schedules. THE DATES ARE: Education Phase One: August 21-24 & August 28-31, 2020 Education Phase Two: March 6-8 & March 13-15, 2021 The link to their website with all the information needed to apply is: http://www.fertilitycarekc.com/ fertilitycare-practitioner-training.html Questions can be referred to: admin@fertilitycarekc.com or pwhite@fertilitycarekc.com.

AVISOS EN ESPAÑOL

DIRECTOR DE FORMACIÓN DE LA FE

irector de formación de la Fe: La Parroquia de San Juan en Lawrence, KS. estabuscando un Director de Formación de Fe de tiempo completo. Esta persona estaria encargada de desarrollar, articular y administrar una visión y dirección para los programas de formación de fe Parroquial. El o Ella supervisara toda la información y programas de fe y evaluará su efectividad, desarrollará e implementará ideas y programas que estarían disponibles para los feligreses desde el nacimiento hasta la muerte. El candidato ideal será un Católico practicante bilingüe Inglés/Español. Que tenga un título en Categuesis o Teología y/o tenga una experiencia laboral equivalenterelacionada con la formación en la fe. Esta persona también tendría un gran conocimiento del Catolicismo, competencia Intercultural en el ministerio, fuertes habilidades interpersonales, organización y liderazgo comprobados, habilidades competentes en informática y tecnológica2-4 años de experiencia en el ministerio parroguial.

Consulte la descripción completa del trabajo y los requisitos en **www.sjevangelist.com.** Esta es una posición de tiempo completo y elegible para el paquete de beneficios Arquidiocesano con fecha de inicio del 20, de Julio del 2020, La posición estará abierta hastaQue se cubra.

Por favor envía una carta de presentación y curriculum vitae al padre John <u>frjohn@sjevangelist.com</u> Use DFF en la línea de asunto o envíe a 1229 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS 66044.

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO

Por experiencia sabemos que dar un regalo siempre implica alguien que lo recibe. Dar y recibir está relacionado, están a la par, al dar se extienden los brazos y al recibir el regalo es lo mismo, implica una acción de movimiento. Cuando Jesús es el centro de nuestra vida, el dar y recibir no se queda ahí, tiene por compromiso principalmente la acción. Al recibir, por ejemplo, la gracia de Dios no es para uno mismo, hay que darla a los que nos rodean. En este Evangelio existe una regla a seguir para comprender el juego de palabras. Hay palabras claves en el mensaje para obtener la respuesta que nos ayude a perseverar en la vida cristiana. Amar, cargar, vivir, recibir, recompensa, dar, discípulo, agua fresca, por mencionar algunas.

Sin embargo, ¿Qué es lo que te pide Jesús que hagas? ¿Al cumplirlo cuál es la promesa de Jesús? Cargar con su cruz y seguirlo para ser dignos de él. Recibir a Jesús como centro de nuestra vida implica de inmediato recibir a los que nos rodean. Es decir, en otras palabras, conversión radical, dar agua de vida que lleve a vivir mejor. El Papa Francisco nos da una pauta para reflexionar mejor en las lecturas de este domingo. "Es tanto el amor de Dios, es tan feo el pecado, que Él nos salva así, con esta identidad en la Cruz. No se puede entender a Jesucristo Redentor sin la Cruz. ¡No se puede entender! Podemos llegar a pensar que es un gran profeta, hace cosas buenas, es un santo, pero el Cristo Redentor sin la cruz no se puede entender". (Radio Vaticano | Septiembre 26, 2014). ©LPi

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 pos 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 Catolica, solo para parejas que viven juntos y tienen niños.

Adultos que necesitan los sacramentos de confirmación y primera comunión.

CATECISMO EN ESPANOL

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 28 DE JUNIO

Domingo: 2 Re 4, 8-11. 14-16/Sal 89, 2-3. 16-17. 18-19 [2]/ Rom 6, 3-4. 8-11/Mt 10, 37-42

Lunes: Hch 12, 1-11/Sal 34, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 [5]/2 Tim 4, 6-8. 17-18/Mt 16, 13-19

Martes: Am 3, 1-8; 4, 11-12/Sal 5, 4-6. 6-7. 8 [9]/Mt 8, 23-27 **Miércoles:** Am 5, 14-15. 21-24/Sal 50, 7. 8-9. 10-11. 12-13. 16-17 [23]/Mt 8, 28-34

Jueves: Am 7, 10-17/Sal 19, 8. 9. 10. 11 [10]/Mt 9, 1-8 **Viernes:** Ef 2, 19-22/Sal 117, 1. 2 [Mc 16, 15]/Jn 20, 24-29 **Sábado:** Am 9, 11-15/Sal 85, 9 y 10. 11-12. 13-14 [cfr. 9]/Mt 9, 14-17

Domingo siguiente: Zac 9, 9-10/Sal 145, 1-2. 8-9. 10-11. 13-14 [cfr. 1]/Rom 8, 9. 11-13/Mt 11, 25-30

FOCUS ON THE WORD

UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

When we were baptized, we were baptized into Christ's death. Take a moment to ponder these profound words. We were baptized into death. In every sense of the word, we are asked to die. This is not just about our final death but about daily deaths due to inconvenience, discomfort, pain, loss, or others' needs. This is an incredible epiphany given the way we very often approach our lives. We do everything to avoid death, let alone encounter it! Many avoid pain, discomfort, inconvenience, uneasiness, change, interference, and suffering of any kind. We put a lot of energy into finding the easiest and least inconvenient way through many things. Even holding the door open for a stranger or saying hello to someone in the store can be major undertakings.

We are called to die. One of the biggest wake-up calls we can have is realizing that life is not about us! There are millions of other people sharing life on this planet with whom I have a relationship. Does my life celebrate those relationships? The most distracting question we can ask is, "What do I want to do?" The more focused, faith-filled question is, "What

RECOGNIZE GOD In your ordinary Moments

God Is Love

I was recently at a Catholic conference and had a conversation with someone living in the thick of Hollywood culture. He was Catholic and spoke of how hard it was to live out his faith amid tremendous temptation and negativity toward religion. He spoke about how going to daily Mass helped to keep him centered and stay strong in his faith. He was a great witness to living out one's faith in the face of disbelief.

One thing that he told me stood out above all the rest. He spoke of his engagement to his fiancé and how important it was to him that God was a major part of their relationship and

HEARTS OVERFLOWING WITH JOY

do I need to do?" What I need to do may not be what I want to do. However, asking this question more frequently will teach us how to more purposefully and intentionally live so we can be a life giving vessel for others. When we learn to live more sacrificially, to put the needs of others before our own, and to not always seek our own self-interest, we become aware of what baptism into Christ's death is really all about. These are the roots of virtue and the seedbed for justice, tolerance, solidarity, love, and peace.

Learning how to accept all the "small

their lives as individuals as well. He told me he said something to her like, "If you don't love Jesus more than you love me, this is never going to work." What an amazing and truly moving witness!

Songs and books are written about the intense longing one human being can have for another. We can describe another as meaning everything to us. We speak of wanting to offer our complete selves to our beloved. However, true love is about more than wanting to be with that person. It is about wanting that person to know a love even greater than theirs: the love of God. No love can last without God. My Hollywood friend knew this to be the case. He showed his true love for his wife-to-be by sharing more than himself — he shared the very One who created love.

deaths" and sacrifices life calls us to teaches us how to approach our final death. All deaths ask us to empty ourselves into something or someone else. Whether we empty ourselves into the heart and soul of another human being or empty ourselves into God at the moment of our final death, new life is always received and nurtured. A heart that exclusively seeks its own interest is a heart that is closed to love. A heart that pours itself out to others and is content with being emptied is a heart that has been touched by and open to mercy. It is a heart that overflows with ©LPi joy.



— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi





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