

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.

"TO ONE WHO HAS FAITH, NO EXPLANATION IS NECESSARY.
TO ONE WITHOUT FAITH, NO EXPLANATION IS POSSIBLE."
-St. Thomas Aquinas

PARISH STAFF

Pastor
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 HouseLinda Brey
13th & Kentucky <u>lbrey525@gmail.com</u>
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

SIMON PARISH CENTER

Mailing Address 1229 Vermont St., Lawrence, KS 66044 Phone 785-843-0109
Office Hours (CLOSED TO PUBLIC) Please call. Monday—Friday
Weekday Masses (CANCELLED until further notice) Monday-Friday
Sacrament of Reconciliation In the Padre Pio Chapel (inside the north church entrance) Wednesday11:00 am-12:00 pm, 6:00-8:00 pm Saturday3:00-4:00 pm(and by appointment)
Adoration

Bulletin Deadline

Submit info by **noon on Thursday** to **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

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

School Council

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

A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC



The ancient fresco of Madonna del Soccorso (Our Lady of Help) in St. Peter's Basilica was restored with the support of the Knights of Columbus to mark the Year of Faith (2012-2013). Photo courtesy of Fabbrica di San Pietro/M. Falcioni.

O Mary,

you always brighten our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain
while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
the Divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill,
for those who are vulnerable,
and for those who have died.
Intercede also for those charged with
protecting the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows, so as to lead us, through the Cross, to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

and seeking a cure.

Under thy protection we seek refuge,
O Holy Mother of God.
In our needs, despise not our petitions,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis



SAINT JOHN SCHOOL

SAINT JOHN

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 or Chris Reffett 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: <a href="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Jessica+Dunn&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Chelsea+Solomon&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Michael+Kennedy&Salutation="Karen Dixon, Technology: <a href="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Dixon&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Dixon&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/webpages?Teacher=Karen+Rinke&Salutation="https://saint-johns.eduk12.net/



Eight graders taking tours of high schools. It won't be long before they will be leaving us and moving on to new adventures.

VACANT POSITIONS AT ST. JOHN SCHOOL

3rd grade positions

Interested applicants should complete the teacher application process at: www.archkckcs.org.

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.

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. Please complete and return to St. John Parish office by April 13.

FOCUS ON THE WORD

Understanding Scripture

ven though we say that we believe, there is a part of us that doesn't. There are many times in our lives when we experience death, whether it be the physical death of someone we love, a failed relationship, the loss of a job, or a broken dream. As we are going through these death experiences, we can easily find ourselves reaching out to God to make it better and fix it! We think that the proper order of life is to maintain the things of this world, especially those things that are essential to our sense of well-being and security. We do not like change. The grieving that comes from our death experiences can keep us stuck and in despair. If we have lost something or someone of great value, the very meaning and essence of life is lost with them. We need gentle companions to lift us from despair and that is precisely who God desires to be in our life as well.

God calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, "Come out!" He desperately wants to show us the path to hope and the new life that is possible after loss and death. But our faith can be weak, and we still prefer to cling to the memory of what we had rather than the joyful possibilities of tomorrow. We sometimes live as if God is not real and that the transformative power of His resurrected presence is a story found in the Bible rather than a narrative unfolding in our lives.

God is the God of surprises, not our demise. God opens new possibilities, begins new chapters, creates new verses, and brings us to new heights! We spend so much time and energy ruminating over what we left behind yesterday that we are far too tired to see what can unfold tomorrow. Loving someone new doesn't negate our past loves. Embracing the love of a person, God, or life itself tomorrow doesn't diminish the love of yesterday. Each of our loves is different, and one cannot be replaced by another. They don't cancel each other out. God truly has tended to every detail of our lives, and if we listen to each detail, we find that they all lead us back to Him. Jesus wants us to come out of our closed-up tombs. Are we going to listen this time?

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Committed

remember Jim Valvano, Jimmy V to many, saying the iconic words, "Don't give up; you can never give up." The former coach of the NC State men's basketball team was dying of cancer, yet he refused to throw in the towel and give in to his disease. His words exemplified the best of the human spirit we all share. Sometimes, living out those words seem much more difficult than saying them.

These words are also important for our faith life. The life Jesus calls us to is not easy. When working toward a life of greater generosity and surrender of all to God, we are prone to fall flat on our face many times. We are not called to this life only when we are strong. It is how we respond when times are the most difficult that truly defines us as disciples and stewards. The world may think we are down for the count, but rising again gives testimony that in Christ we are stronger.

Commitment takes a willingness to do the things needed to get stronger and build our spiritual muscles. We cannot expect to find success in the spiritual life unless we continue to work on our resolve and grow in our knowledge of the faith. A marathon runner would never be able to make it to the finish line unless they have trained and prepared in advance. We must work hard to stay the course and prepare for the race at hand. No matter what this life may have in store for us, we are called to not give up. God will never give up on us.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

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5世 SUNDAY OF LENT





OBSERVING LENT AT ST. JOHN'S PARISH

Stewardship Spotlight

Did you know the three traditional Lenten practices have a special connection with stewardship?

Temperance (or fasting) means doing with less and connecting with those who always have less.

Generosity (or almsgiving) means sharing with the poor.

Prayer means opening our mind and heart to the God who loves all of God's creation.

We wish you a very fruitful Lent, and as always, we are grateful for your generosity to St. John!



Knights of Columbus Friday Fish Fry has been *CANCELED* due to health concerns.

"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.



Fifth Week of Lent

What are your hopes and dreams for the future? What will you need to do to accomplish those dreams?

Jesus calls each of us to use our gifts and talents in the service of others. What gifts and talents have you been blessed with? How might you use your gifts to help other people?

Visit crsricebowl.org for more information.

Get a rice bowl at the back of the church.

OBSERVING LENT AT ST. JOHN'S 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: <u>facebook.com/achbishipnaumann</u>

The Capuchins Franciscan of Denver will live stream Mass every Sunday from the St. Francis of Assis Friary Chapel. Mass will begin at 8:55 am. Capuchin Franciscans: capuchins.org/mass

Father Mitchell Zimmeman 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

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

*Each Mass will be preceded by an hour of 'virtual' adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and include the rosary and Liturgy of the Hours.

Other Resources

Additional resources for prayer and reflection:

Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas: archkek.org

The Vatican:

http://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html

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

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 prav.

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 Holek

Tina Jinkens

Michele Johnson

Allen Kehde

Diana Matthews

Leo Mauler, son of

Al & Marcy Mauler

Russ McDonáld

Jim McMurray

Ed Medrano

Zackary Messerly, nephew of Debra Bradley

Linden Morgan Lisa Morrow-Welsh, daughter of

Linda Brev

Augustus Nelson

Danny Nguyen Diane Nichols, sister of Phyllis Stone

Theophilus Obiefule

Josephine Ramirez

Kathy Rennells Eva Ricketts, mother of Ingrid Hartman

Joel Rivera Virginia Romero

Jon Rossillon James Sandy

Alexander Kamirez 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

Colsor

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 29

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59 Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42 **Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-5



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 22, 2020.

Budgeted weekly collection amount\$29,807.69 Budgeted collection fiscal YTD......\$1,132,692.22 Actual collection fiscal YTD......\$1,104,118.36

Net Shortage......\$28,573.86

Visit: www.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.

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: sievangelist.com

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

5º Domingo de la Cuaresma 29 de marzo de 2020

La semana pasada, el ciego de nacimiento nos ilumino a creer en Jesús y postrarnos ante el para adorarlo. Ahora, la Liturgia, nos presenta otro gran milagro y las amigas de Jesús lo afirman de manera diferente al ciego. El dialogo es diferente pero la pregunta es la misma: ¿Crees tú esto? Es decir, que Jesús es la resurrección y la vida. La respuesta es afirmativa: "Si, Señor. Creo firmemente que tú eres el Mesías, el Hijo de Dios, el que tenía que venir al mundo." (Juan 11:27) Para que el milagro sucediera, Jesús se tardó a propósito dos días en llegar, como nos lo relata el Evangelio. Tiempo muy largo para las hermanas. Era demasiado retraso; cuatro días tenía ya su hermano en el sepulcro. Sin embargo, para tener fe el tiempo no cuenta. Ellas tenían fe y el Señor las pone a prueba. Salieron triunfantes; Marta y María son modelo para todas las generaciones.

Estamos por terminar el camino en el desierto; la Cuaresma pronto llagara a su fin. El próximo Domingo celebraremos el Domingo de Ramos. A estas alturas, ya debe la fe rebozar en el corazón de cada creyente. Tal como las amigas de Jesús: "Marta y María, protagonistas del Evangelio de hoy, nos enseñan cómo debe vivirse la vida del cristiano, 'el enamorado' del Señor... 'Contemplación y servicio': éste es el camino de nuestra vida. Cada uno de nosotros piense: ¿Cuánto tiempo al día dedico a contemplar el misterio de Jesús? Y después: ¿Cómo trabajo? Trabajo tanto ¿que parece una alienación, o trabajo de modo coherente con mi fe?... Nos hará bien pensar esto". (Papa Francisco)

©LPi



Jesús le dijo: "Yo soy la resurrección y la vida. El que cree en mí, aunque haya muerto, vivirá; y todo aquel que está vivo y cree en mí, no morirá para siempre. ¿Crees tú esto?" Ella le contestó: "Sí, Señor. Creo firmemente que tú eres el Mesías, el Hijo de Dios, el que tenía que venir al mundo".

Leccionario I © 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 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 29 DE MARZO

Domingo: Ez 37, 12-14/Sal 130, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8 [7]/Rom 8, 8

-11/Jn 11, 1-45 o 11, 3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

Lunes: Dn 13, 1-9. 15-17. 19-30. 33-62 o 13, 41-62/Sal 23, 1-3.

3-4. 5. 6 [4]/Jn 8, 1-11

Martes: Nm 21, 4-9/Sal 102, 2-3. 16-18. 19-21/Jn 8, 21-30 **Miércoles:** Dn 3, 14-20. 91-92. 95/Dn 3, 52. 53. 54. 55. 56/Jn

8, 31-42

Jueves: Gn 17, 3-9/Sal 105, 4-5. 6-7. 8-9 [8]/Jn 8, 51-59 **Viernes:** Jr 20, 10-13/Sal 18, 2-3. 3-4. 5-6. 7 [cfr. 7]/Jn 10, 31-42

Sábado: Ez 37, 21-28/Jr 31, 10. 11-12. 13 [cfr. 10]/Jn 11, 45-56 **Domingo siguiente:** Mt 21, 1-11/ls 50, 4-7/Sal 22, 8-9. 17-18. 19-20. 23-24 [2]/Flp 2, 6-11/Mt 26, 14—27, 66 o 27, 11-54

SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL ACTION

remper in Your Pri

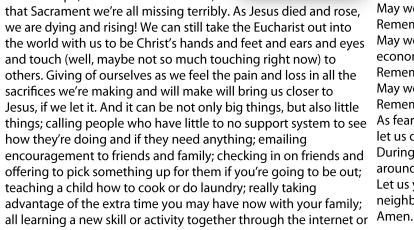
Bv Susan Tabor Social Concerns for Peace and Justice Committee

e are experiencing an extraordinary time in our country's history; indeed, in the history of the world. The novel coronavirus pandemic has brought life almost to a standstill: Social distancing, mitigation and virus containment are becoming part of our regular vocabulary. Our abilities to be creative and efficient with our time and resources are being

challenged in new ways. Mass and other meaningful church functions have been cancelled until further notice!

And though alternatives are popping up out there (virtual Mass, for instance), it's just not quite the same. But I find myself being grateful for them in a new, awe-driven sort of way.

Despite all the challenges facing us, there is hope, and it's in the Eucharist,



through a book; taking extra food or personal care items to the homeless shelter or the drop-in center; spending extra time in prayer; writing letters... And the list goes on and on.

And there's a prayer we can all share together. You may have already seen it. It's popped up from a number of sources this week. May God help us stand with each other as a church, a country, a world! Holy Mary Blessed Mother, pray for us! Angels and saints, pray for us!

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home

Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close

Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips

Remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market

Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home

Remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country,

let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,

Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

Justice Matters – an interfaith network working for justice

nusual circumstances call for unusual measures: Nehemiah Action Assembly 2020 is cancelled. Action will continue with community support in weeks to come. Please read this statement from our Co-Presidents regarding the COVID-19 virus:

Justice Matters Community,

It is with heavy hearts and deep love for our community that we will be cancelling this year's Nehemiah Action Assembly, scheduled for April 20, due to the COVID-19 virus. As an organization it is our mission to better the lives of everyone in our community, particularly those people who are the most vulnerable or pushed to the margins. It is for that same reason that we are choosing to cancel—not postpone—the Nehemiah Assembly; we do not know how long this public health crisis will last, and we do not want to run the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus. The stories our members shared in house

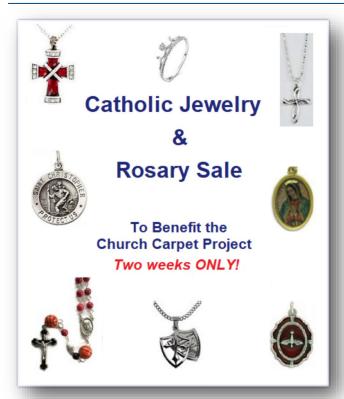
meetings, as well as those we've heard throughout our research process, have shown us that the need for justice in our community is great. We've heard stories about the hundreds of people in Douglas County who are experiencing homelessness. We've heard stories about black and brown students in our community being suspended from school just for acting like kids. We've heard stories about people who are unjustly locked up in our county jail even though they may be pre-conviction, unable to afford the low bail set for them, and/or not a threat to public safety or a flight

COVID-19 is simply highlighting what we already know: our systems are stacked against the most vulnerable in our community. And it is those on the margins of our community

See Justice Matters page 11

risk.

PARISH AND ARCHDIOCSE EVENTS



Thoughtfully timed for Easter, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion. Photos of each item, descriptions, and prices are on the link below. Contact Nora to order what you need, and she will deliver to your door.

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**.

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED

Archbishop Joseph Naumann, as USSB Chairman of the Pro-Life Committee, announced this initiative in November 2019. Pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be "islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference." Everyone in the parish community should know where to refer a pregnant woman in need. The 25th anniversary year of Evangelium vitae gives us a wonderful opportunity to assess, expand, and communicate resources to pregnant moms and families in need. We are inviting parishes, through the support of their bishop and pastor, to join a nationwide effort from March 25, 2020 to March 25, 2021 entitled: "Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service." To learn more visit: www.walkingwithmoms.com

ENFLAME OUR HEARTS

Jesus is inviting you into the overflowing love of His merciful heart. His heart overflowing with love and mercy. You are an important part of our Catholic family and you are known and loved without condition. Wherever you are, this is your invitation. Enter into the abundance of a deep, life-changing relationship with Jesus. For more information and resources visit: www.archkcks.org

JUSTICE MATTERS

from page 10

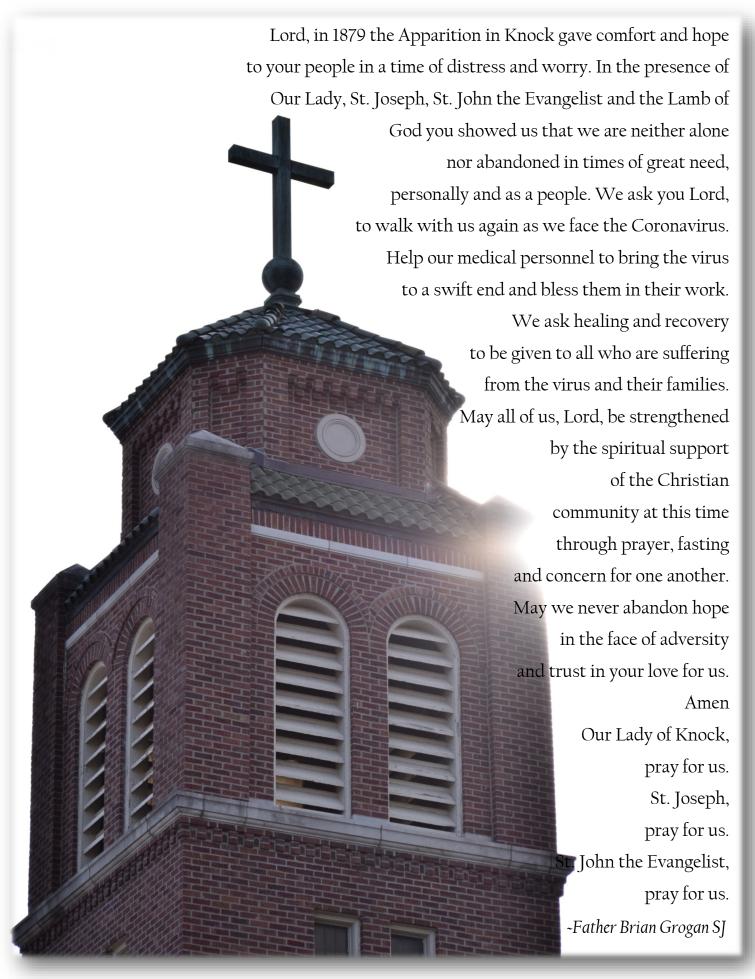
who will feel the effects of COVID-19 the most deeply. Hourly workers who see their wages decrease will be at an even greater risk of eviction and homelessness. Kids who rely on eating two meals a day at school will be hungry. The people locked up in our already-overcrowded jail won't be able to create the distance necessary to avoid the spread of the virus. We know that the need for justice in our community will only increase after the COVID-19 virus runs its course.

As an organization we will continue to listen and fight for systemic changes in our community. However, for the next few weeks, these important practices will look different than usual. As we announced last week, our March 23 Solutions Briefing will be held online. Your participation in this event is critical, as we will share actionable items you can do from your homes to advance justice in our community. All smaller meetings will also be moved to online platforms, and our staff is working from home for the foreseeable future. More details are forthcoming, so please keep an eye on your email and our Facebook page for ways to engage virtually with us and to stay updated on our issue work.

Throughout the Gospel Jesus reminds us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Right now, the best way we can care for ourselves and love our neighbors is to stay home. And for now, we are sending prayers for good health to you and yours.

Sincerely,

Aileen Ball & Brent Hoffmann Justice Matters Co-Presidents





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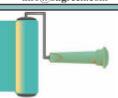
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