



## Coming Home a Few at a Time

RESUMING PUBLIC WORSHIP IN TIME OF ONGOING PANDEMIC

The following are the guidelines for parishes in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas Archdiocese. These guidelines have been checked with the state and Douglas County Health Department. The full text of the guidelines and related videos are on the Archdiocesan Website at [archkck.org](http://archkck.org). Please review those materials.

The following are some of the highlights of the guidelines for attending Mass at St. John for the weekends of May. Please check before each weekend to see if there are any changes. In addition, two Masses will be [livestreamed](#) (11:00 am & 1:00 pm.) For those wishing to attend Mass (the obligation to do so is still lifted):

### Weekend Masses

Saturday Masses – 2:30 pm (Archbishop has given permission) and 4:30 pm

Sunday Masses – 7:00 am, 9:00 am, and 11:00 am,  
1:00 pm (Spanish), 3:00 pm (Spanish), and 5:00 pm

- 70 people per Mass. Length of Mass – no more than 45 minutes.
- Sign up required for each weekend.  
Go to: <https://signup.com/go/zrvweXA>
- 1:00 & 3:00 pm sign up, call Luis Gonzalez at 469-939-4467 or Maria Mota at 785-304-5509.
- Make sure you are checked in at the church (contact tracing).
  
- Everyone must bring and wear their own mask.
- Enter the church via the front doors (Kentucky St. ONLY).
- Sanitize hands before and after Mass (sanitizer available)
- Observe social distancing (6 feet) between family units or individuals.
- Receive Communion one pew at a time with 6 feet distancing.
- Leave church one pew at a time via doors (Kentucky St.).
- Every third pew may be occupied.



Persons with higher vulnerability to the virus, for personal safety reasons, are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the dispensation and refrain from attending public Mass.

The 11:00 am & 1:00 pm (Spanish), Masses will be livestreamed at: <https://youtu.be/lbI8-GJL4zM>

Out of charity and concern for the welfare of others, anyone with any kind of acute symptoms, a fever or recent exposure to an infected person should not attend religious services

### Weekday (Monday – Friday) Masses

7:30 am and 12:00 noon

### Confessions

Wednesdays: 11:00 am-12:00 pm, 7:00-8:00 pm and SATURDAYS: 11:00 am – 12:00 NOON

# 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.

“AND NOW, LORD, FOR WHAT DO I WAIT? YOU ARE MY ONLY HOPE.”  
~PSALM 39:8

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

Saturday.....2:30 pm and 4:30 pm  
Sunday .....7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am,  
..... 1:00 pm (Spanish), 3:00 pm (Spanish), 5:00 pm

**Sign up required for each weekend:** <https://signup.com/go/zrvweXA>

**Masses to be livestreamed at:** .....<https://youtu.be/lbl8-GJL4zM>  
Sunday ..... 11:00 am & 1:00 pm (Spanish)

### Weekday Masses

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

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

In the Padre Pio Chapel (inside the north church entrance)  
Wednesday..... 11:00 am-12:00 pm, 7:00-8:00 pm  
Saturday..... 11:00 am-12:00 pm  
.....(and by appointment)

### 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, 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

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



## MRS. LOIS MERSMANN HAS ANNOUNCED HER RETIREMENT

**RETIREMENT:** Mrs. Lois Mersmann has announced her retirement as Director of Religious Education here at St. John's effective June 30, 2020. She has been a dedicated essential part of the religious education efforts for 17 years, the last four of those years as director. She has been the backbone of the religious education programs who has unconditionally given of herself so that the children know Jesus. Fr. John has stated, "I personally appreciate Lois' sacrifice for our children and for delaying her retirement in order to make this year of transition period run smoothly." Please follow the bulletin in the month of June for more about Lois and her service to St. John's.

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

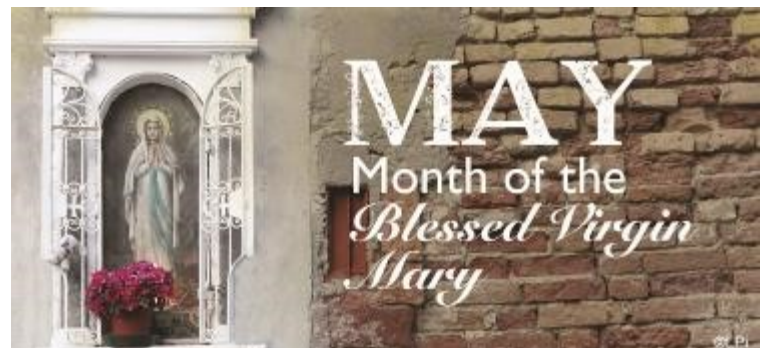
Please send cover letter and resume to Fr. John at: [frjohn@saint-johns.net](mailto:frjohn@saint-johns.net) (use DFF on subject line) or 1229 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS 66044.

## ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,  
I believe that  
You are present  
in the Most  
Holy  
Sacrament.



I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.  
Amen.



## ARCHDIOCESAN 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Annual 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass celebrated by Archbishop Naumann, that was scheduled for June 8 at Nativity Parish, has been **rescheduled to August 23 at Nativity Parish at 2:00 pm**. Please continue to send in the names of couples from your parish to receive an invitation to the Mass via fax, mail, or email. Email to: [flifsec@archkck.org](mailto:flifsec@archkck.org)

# PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

## ST. JOHN MEXICAN FIESTA ANNOUNCEMENT

We are sad to announce that we have decided to postpone the 40th Annual St. John's Mexican Fiesta until next year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. While our summer Fiesta would bring much joy and togetherness that we all need right now, we feel that we cannot risk the well-being of our volunteers and guests. This has been a difficult decision for our Fiesta committee, but necessary to protect all involved. We ask you to join us in prayer for all who have been affected by this crisis and for the end of this world-wide pandemic so we can soon come together to celebrate community, friends and family.



## 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 tithe via a check or cash you can drop your tithe in the secure lock box inside the back porch of the parish office 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!

### FORMED

Discover the impact 1-2 minutes can have on your faith life with FORMED Daily

Improve your day with clips from the most dynamic and trusted figures in the Church today, sent right to your inbox!

[Sign up at formed.org/daily](http://formed.org/daily)



POWERED BY THE BAKKING INSTITUTE



## SAINT JOHN SCHOOL



### TECHNOLOGY NEEDS

If you are continuing to have problems with technology or are needing to borrow a Chromebook please email Ms. Dixon at: [dixon@saint-johns.net](mailto:dixon@saint-johns.net). If you are unable to continue to have internet service due to loss of income, please contact Chris Reffett at: [reffett@saint-johns.net](mailto:reffett@saint-johns.net) for more information. Midco has created a program that will help.

### OPPORTUNITIES TO GET OUTSIDE

Several of our garden areas and preschool playground areas are in need of some cleaning up. Because we are not in school, our green team has not been able to keep some of our garden areas from over growing. We also have a preschool play area that tends to get overgrown when school is not in session. If you would like to volunteer your time to get outside and help us out, please email me at: [reffett@saint-johns.net](mailto:reffett@saint-johns.net) to schedule a time.

### 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.

# 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**  
**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 Urich  
**Charles Hermann**  
**Kathy Higley**  
**Bob Holek**  
**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**  
**Mike Owens**  
**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**  
**Linda Snyder**, aunt of Dan Taylor  
**Joseph Soza**  
**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**

**IN MEMORIAM - ALAN HEATH AND PAULA DOHERTY**



### "The Leaven" is on Audio Reader

Did you know "The Leaven", the Archdiocesan newspaper, 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 May 10, 2020.

Budgeted weekly collection amount .....	\$29,807.69
Average weekly collection amount.....	\$28,583.54
Budgeted collection fiscal YTD.....	\$1,341,346.05
Actual collection fiscal YTD.....	\$1,286,259.47
<b>Net Shortage.....</b>	<b>.....\$55,086.58</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 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 **PushPay** for auto bank withdraws at: [sjevangelist.com](http://sjevangelist.com)

## DIRECTOR DE FORMACIÓN DE LA FE

**D**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 estaría 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 Catequisis 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 tecnológica 2-4 años de experiencia en el ministerio parroquial. Consulte la descripción completa del trabajo y los requisitos en [www.sjevangelist.com](http://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 hasta que se cubra. Por favor envía una carta de presentación y curriculum vitae al padre John [frjohn@saint-johns.net](mailto:frjohn@saint-johns.net) Use DFF en la línea de asunto o envíe a 1229 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS 66044.



“En aquel día entenderán que yo estoy en mi Padre, ustedes en mí y yo en ustedes. El que acepta mis mandamientos y los cumple, ése me ama. Al que me ama a mí, lo amará mi Padre, yo también lo amaré y me manifestaré a él”.

~Jn 14, 20-21



## 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 17 DE MAYO

**Domingo:** Hch 8, 5-8. 14-17/Sal 66, 1-3. 4-5. 6-7. 16. 20 [1]/1 Pe 3, 15-18/Jn 14, 15-21

**Lunes:** Hch 16, 11-15/Sal 149, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6 y 9 [cfr. 4]/Jn 15, 26—16, 4

**Martes:** Hch 16, 22-34/Sal 138, 1-2. 2-3. 7-8 [7]/Jn 16, 5-11

**Miércoles:** Hch 17, 15-16. 22—18, 1/Sal 148, 1-2. 11-12. 13. 14/Jn 16, 12-15

**Jueves:** Hch 18, 1-8/Sal 98, 1. 2-3. 3-4 [cfr. 2]/Jn 16, 16-20

**Ascensión:** Hch 1, 1-11/Sal 47, 2-3. 6-7. 8-9 [6]/Ef 1, 17-23/Mt 28, 16-20

**Viernes:** Hch 18, 9-18/Sal 47, 2-3. 4-5. 6-7 [8]/Jn 16, 20-23

**Sábado:** Hch 18, 23-28/Sal 47, 2-3. 8-9. 10 [8]/Jn 16, 23-28

**Domingo siguiente: Ascensión:** Hch 1, 1-11/Sal 47, 2-3. 6-7. 8-9 [6]/Ef 1, 17-23/Mt 28, 16-20

**7° Domingo de Pascua:** Hch 1, 12-14/Sal 27, 1. 4. 7-8 [13]/1 Pe 4, 13-16/Jn 17, 1-11

# SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL ACTION

By Susan Tabor

Social Concerns for Peace and Justice  
Committee

**M**ay is Mental Health Awareness Month. This month we remember in a special way those who live with mental health struggles every day, their families and those people, e.g., psychotherapists, case managers and other helpers, and their friends, and we lift them up to God for comfort and healing. We also thank God for all we learn from our friends who live with mental health issues and their struggles. I am thanking God for what I learn about perseverance, persistence, and in many cases, patience. I also thank God for gifts I receive such as the gift of humor, the gift of empathy, of gentleness, of compassion.

As we also lift others up to God, let us lift ourselves up as well and ask God to help us pay better attention to practices of good self-care as we work on strengthening our own mental health, as this can be very

difficult, albeit important, work. As we move through the rest of this month, may we also be more mindful of and attentive through the advocacy needs of our mental health system and of those who receive help from it. Funds for mental health services in this country have been systematically decreased over the last several years, both nationally and statewide. More funds are needed in the mental health system to provide more services that are desperately needed in our communities as we struggle with a lack of mental health services. Let us work and pray for more funding so that more and better services can be provided.

And finally, I want to post here what I hope will be my final sharing of a Covid19-related reflection for a while. But seriously, this one is really good! I pray it blesses you as it did me.

## When this is over

When this is over,  
may we never again

take for granted  
A handshake with a stranger  
Full shelves at the store  
Conversations with neighbors  
A crowded theater  
Friday night out  
The taste of communion  
A routine checkup  
The school rush each morning  
Coffee with a friend  
The stadium roaring  
Each deep breath  
A boring Tuesday  
Life itself.

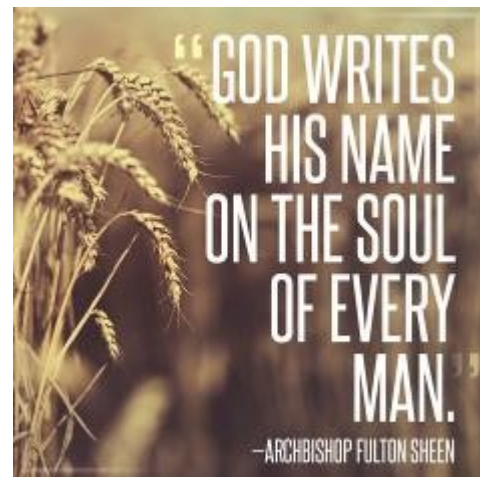
When this ends  
may we find  
that we have become  
more like the people  
we wanted to be  
we were called to be  
we hoped to be  
and may we stay  
that way—better  
for each other  
because of the worst.  
~by Laura Kelly Fanucci

## RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### Calculating Love

Have you ever Googled the word "love"? If you did, you may have come across something called the Love Calculator. It is a website where you can supply two names, and the percentage chance of a successful relationship is calculated. Curious, I entered my name and my wife's. Twenty percent! I hope my wife doesn't read this! I then decided to add my name and God. A whopping thirteen percent! Then for the last attempt, I put in my name and Jesus. A very disappointing zero percent! Am I that unlovable? Of course, then I read the small print at the bottom of the page: "Please note that this site has no

serious intention whatsoever." Shocking! The truth is, the modern world increasingly seems to have no real idea what love is or how to determine when love is real. That makes the seemingly simple words of Jesus about loving God and your neighbor very complex indeed. How can you love God with your all your heart, soul, and mind when you have no idea what the act of loving means? And then, what constitutes loving a neighbor? To make it more complicated, Jesus commands you to love them like you love yourself. I bet you can agree with me that there are a lot of people out there who do not even come close to loving themselves. Knowing what love is in modern times is just not that easy. How is a well-meaning person able to find out the true meaning of love? You don't know



what true love is? I think you do. Turn your eyes to that crucifix hanging in your church, home, or office. The answer was given over 2,000 years ago, and the image remains for the entire world to see.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS©LPi

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him. But you know him, because he remains with you, and will be in you." - Jn 14:15-17

# ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

## ZOOM PRESENTATIONS ON PROTECTING KIDS & TEENS IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Sam and Beth Meier are available for Zoom presentations on protecting kids & teens in a digital world.

Presentations are for parent groups, schools, parishes, school staff, parish staff, etc. With COVID-19, pornography sites are reporting 13-22% increases in site traffic. Our kids and teens are dealing with increased levels of temptation. We'll share practical tips, research, cool videos from college students <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOS4ROC3Kz0> and hopeful stories.

To set up a presentation, contact Sam at **913-952-2267** or [smeier@archkck.org](mailto:smeier@archkck.org).

Sam and Beth Meier are passionate about protecting families from pornography and

our hyper-sexualized culture. They have given numerous local and national presentations, and have been interviewed by EWTN's *Life on the Rock*, *Our Sunday Visitor* and the *National Catholic Register*.

Beth Meier, MA - 7th and 8th grade Science & Religion teacher at Prince



of Peace Catholic School in Olathe. BS Biology - University of Dallas, MA Education - University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, MA Theology - Maryvale Institute / John Paul II Institute in Rome.

Sam Meier, MA, LPC - licensed professional counselor for the Archdiocese of KCK and Benedictine College. Sam co-leads the Valor and Virtue conference. He helps to lead an accountability group for 31 BC students. BA Psychology - University of Dallas, MA Counseling - University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

## End-Of-Life Planning Resources

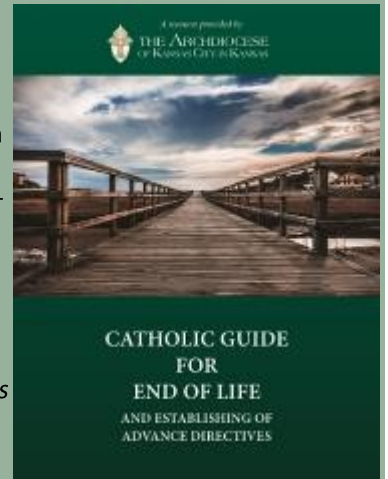
We are excited to share a new resource with you. The Ethics Council that serves Archbishop Naumann has produced a beautiful new booklet titled "Catholic Guide For End-Of Life and Establishing Of Advance Directives".

*In order to make wise decisions about complex treatments in grave illness or as life's end approaches, and to discern what kind of*

*advance medical directives to prepare, it is important that Catholics be familiar with what our faith reveals about human life; about its meaning and its destiny. (Catholic Guide for End of Life, pg. 2)*

This guide is a comprehensive resource for End of Life Planning in accordance with our Catholic Faith. It also includes two Appendices with a Durable Power of Attorney and an Advance Directive tear-out form.

A digital copy is available on the Pro-Life website at: <https://www.archkck.org/prolife-end-of-life-care> that can be downloaded for free or printed off for extra copies.



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## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

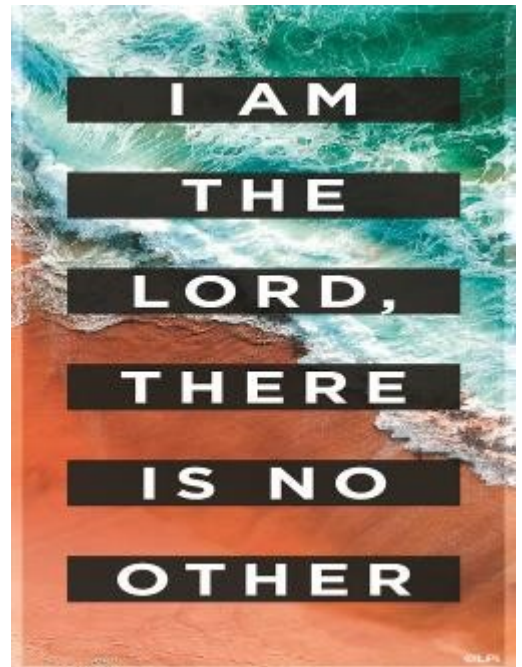
### Sign Before the Gospel

**Question:** I have been going to Mass for years and have always wondered: why do we make the three signs of the cross before the Gospel?

**Answer:** Certainly, many people go to Mass or other devotions, doing and saying things out of habit or reverence and not really understanding the reasons behind some of these things. But everything we do has a meaning or purpose that helps us to worship better, proclaim our beliefs, or focus the attention of the people on something that has a greater importance or significance. A review of the meaning of various gestures and practices can help us have a deeper appreciation for what we do. There is a little prayer that goes

with the three crosses before the Gospel: "May the words of the Holy Gospel be on my mind, on my lips and in my heart." In standing to hear the Gospel, we acknowledge that Jesus is present, and the words of the Gospel are addressed to us. All of the gestures and special postures we adopt before the Gospel are intended to help us prepare for hearing the Word as well as act on it. The incense, the Alleluia, the deacon or priest, and the special dialogue and announcement that introduces the Gospel help us focus our attention on the Good News we are about to hear. The three signs of the cross show our desire and good intention to hear and live the Gospel.

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# KIDS SHARING THE GOSPEL

## SHARING THE GOSPEL

If you love Jesus, you will do what He asks. If someone hurts your feelings, Jesus asks you to forgive. If someone is hard to get along with, Jesus asks you to show love. If someone is sick, Jesus asks you to pray. Learn from Jesus. Follow His example. Love all people like God does.

## PRAYER

Jesus, help me to love you enough to do all that you ask.

## SOMETHING TO DRAW

Draw a picture of yourself forgiving someone who hurt your feelings.

## MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Make cards for the sick. Remind them how much Jesus loves them.



## Puzzle

Circle the pictures that show love.



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6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



## DAILY READINGS

- Sunday:** Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21
- Monday:** Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a
- Tuesday:** Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11
- Wednesday:** Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
- Thursday:** Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20
- Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20
- Friday:** Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23
- Saturday:** Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28
- Next Sunday: Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20
- 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter:** Acts 1:12-14/Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8 [13]/1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11a

## DAILY OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter
- Monday:** St. John I, Pope and Martyr
- Wednesday:** St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
- Thursday:** The Ascension of the Lord (holy day of obligation in some U.S. dioceses); St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
- Friday:** St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
- Next Sunday:** The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day

# FOCUS ON THE WORD

## UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

**W**e hope for many things: passing an exam, finding our true love, securing sustainable work, or surviving an illness. We often seek to have God be a part of what we hope for and desire, almost trying to convince Him that our agenda is what is ultimately important. While our particular hopes may appear to be what needs to be achieved in order for us to be happy, they really are not. Our lesser, more personal hopes can distract us from true hope. When God became a human being, a powerful message was sent: all that is authentically human is found in the divine. As the human Jesus lived and died in order to show us that he truly is the universal Christ, we have to keep our sight focused on our eternal truth and destiny and who we truly are. We have to be careful when we allow our earthly concerns to distract us. True hope is found when we place our trust in Christ's promises and don't rely on our own strength. True hope focuses on striving toward the fulfillment of God's promises and not simply on achieving what we think we need in this life. Hope always travels with two friends — faith



and love. In this trio of virtues, we find the very presence of God born in every human being. These are God's greatest gifts, and they lead us to the fullness of His presence. As with faith and love, we cannot see hope with just our human eyes. We don't carry this virtue within us to use solely for our own personal agenda. Hope is not something that simply comes with the human package. As with faith and love, hope is a gift that is given to us to draw us closer to our eternal truth. Faith, hope, and love

are signs that there is something far greater going on in us and something greater to persevere in obtaining. The true divine gift of hope is what will endure any hardship we encounter, especially those that will come from authentically living the Gospel. With all that is happening in our lives, in our church, and in our world, what is the reason for our hope? Ask God for the fortitude to see His eternal gift as the reason we get up in the morning and do the things we do. ©LPi

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

My children could never succeed without their mother and me. That isn't me thinking too much of ourselves, it is just a fact. No one can find success in life in total isolation. I could never have become who I am today without my parents, various teachers and mentors, and my wife. Truth be told, I probably owe a lot of who I am to my children as well. I can only imagine the fear and concern of the first disciples when it was apparent that Jesus was not going to be with them much longer. Some probably thought since Jesus had risen from the dead, He might just live with them in the same way forever. But Jesus tried to calm their fears by assuring them, "I will not leave you orphans." He said He would continue to come to them and that He would send the Spirit to be with them at all times.



They would not have to continue what He had started and preach the good news to the ends of the earth on their own. We may sometimes feel that we are alone. We may at times try to do too much or show others that we are independent and strong. However, without the help of others, without the help of God, true success will always elude us. Our actions and words can

become empty. The gifts we have received can either be cultivated in secret and in the shadows, or we can welcome the help that God provides in his Spirit, his community, and the sacraments he gave us. By working together the world will truly know the power of the risen Lord.

*Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*

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