



ST JOHN

THE EVANGELIST
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA4A82DA0FDCE9-mass3>

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-4:00 pm

Wednesday: 11:00-noon, 7:00-8:00 pm

WELCOME TO SAINT JOHN

Saint 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 BEGIN IS *EASY*; TO PERSEVERE IS *SANCTITY*.”
~ST. JOSEMARIA ESCRIVA

PARISH STAFF

Pastor.....Fr. John Cousins
Associate Pastor.....Fr. Donald Rank
Principal, St. John School..... Mr. Chris Reffett
Director of Liturgy & Music..... Lisa Roush
Director of Faith Formation.....Shelly Bole
Catecismo en español.....Maria Mota
High School Youth Director..... Anastasia Pine
RCIA.....Michael Podrebarac
Business Manager..... Cris Denning
Assistant Administrator.....Meg Milburn
Parish Coordinator.....Ellen Sickinger
Database.....Patty Guadian
Multimedia Communication Coordinator.....Jacinta Hoyt
Maintenance.....Jeff Jenicke

Saint 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
13th & Kentucky lbrey525@gmail.com

Shopping Hours:.....**Open (if staff is available)**
Wednesday - 11:00 am-3:00 pm; Saturday - 8:30am-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.....**PLEASE WEAR A MASK**

Monday—Friday 8:30 am—4:00 pm

Weekend Masses

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:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA4A82DA0FDCE9-mass3>

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

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

.....(and by appointment)

Bulletin Deadline

Submit info by **noon on Thursday** to bulletin@sjevangelist.com

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

Christine Wenger - Chair,

Susan Tabor - Vice Chair,

Lisa Leroux-Smith - Secretary,

Brent Crandon, George Diepenbrock,

Connie Ehrlich, Luis Gonzalez,

Larry Koster, Jason Tanking

Finance Council

Brian Green, David Ehrlich,

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

Larry Koster

SAINT JOHN SCHOOL



St. John Parish Catholic School Night Custodian

The position will entail nightly cleaning of the school building. Disinfecting, vacuuming, and general cleaning of classrooms and hallways will be done on a normal schedule. The job would also entail summer projects such as shampooing carpets and waxing floors. If interested, please call or email Chris Reffett at **785-843-9511** or creffett@sjeagles.com

God bless,
Mr. Reffett

2020 School Year Wish List



As we have been working on our plans for this coming year, the staff has been developing safety protocols and a list of needed materials. Some of the materials on this list are part of our daily routines and some are precautions. I have created a Amazon Wish List if parents or extended family members would like to help the school. Any item you purchase will ship directly to the school to help with coordination. Any help that you may be able to provide would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to share the link with friends and family if they would also like to help. Here is the link for the Wish List: <https://a.co/1OK4BEi>

God bless,
Mr. Reffett

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Beginning September 8

Monday—Friday: 8:30 am—4:00 pm

***Please wear a mask and use hand sanitizer when you enter the parish office. Thank you!**



OKTOBERFEST 2020 SPECIAL EDITION BOOT MUG

The Oktoberfest Committee is selling a Special Edition Commemorative Oktoberfest 2020 Boot Mug...yes, a BOOT mug...that portrays our desire to "Kick COVID Aside" and invites you to "Drink, Eat, Pray!! Mugs are \$10 each (sorry, no beer this year) and will be available on Saturday, September 26. Also that day, don't forget that instead of the Oktoberfest, there will be **Bierock Sales on Saturday, September 26, from 1:00-5:00 pm at the Church.**



The bierocks will be sold in quantities of three...3 for \$15, 6 for \$30, 12 for \$60. **Pre-order your mugs and bierocks by September 23.** CALL or TEXT Angie at **785-550-0411** to order with EXACT cash or a check made out to St. John's Oktoberfest. Or push the easy button and order via PayPal at: cdenning@saint-johns.net, please note your purchase is for Oktoberfest. Or via **PushPay** (pushpay.com/pay/sjevangelist, please select Oktoberfest Fund).

STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING

WEEKLY PARISH GIVING

Our fiscal year is July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Below reflects donations received July 1, 2020 through August 30, 2020.

Budgeted weekly collection amount	\$30,254.80
Average weekly collection amount.....	\$23,096.79
Budgeted collection fiscal YTD.....	\$241,768.40
Actual collection fiscal YTD.....	\$207,871.15
Net Shortage.....	\$33,897.25

Visit: www.sjevangelist.com/giving for 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.

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



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

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.

Andrew Bouchard
Susan Guenther Brown
Curtis Burns
Donna Callaghan
Ricky Dalton
Hank Desch
Garrett Dreiling
Linda Erp
Joanne Feist
Colette Fisher
Linda Flyer
Janet Fox
Rudy Fritz
Ed Garza
Bonnie Griggs
Tony Guadian
Buddy Hadl
Lonna Hamm
Peggy Harders
Newt Hasson
Christian Heady
Luke Henry
Charles Hermann
Kathy Higley
Tina Jinkens
Michele Johnson
Allen Kehde
Becky Kuhn
Patty Lyon
Diana Matthews
Leo Mauler
Russ McDonald
Jim McMurray
Ed Medrano
Jim Mercier
Zackary Messerly

Linden Morgan
Lisa Morrow-Welsh
Augustus Nelson
Danny Nguyen
Theophilus Obiefule
Mike Owens
Julie Patterson
Josephine Ramirez
Mike Reilly
Eva Ricketts
Joel Rivera
Virginia Romero
Jon Rossillon
James Sandy
Alexander Ramirez Salazar
Jerry Scherer
Greg Schurer
Carole Scott
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
Leonard Vasquez
Marianne Vietti
Trent Wallace

Jeanette Walker
Susan Williams

Nancy Wright
Jon Yarnell

MASS INTENTIONS

SEPTEMBER 7 – SEPTEMBER 13

Mon.: 7:30 am	All Students & Teachers
Tues.: 7:30 am.....	All Loved Ones
Wed.: 7:30 am	Julie Patterson
Thurs.: 7:30 am	Carole Scott
Fri.: 7:30 am.....	In Memory of 9/11
Sat.: 4:30 pm	Linda Flyer
Sun.: 7:00 am	Parishioners of St. Johns
9:00am	Ed Garza
11:00 am.....	Ronald Foxt
1:00 pm (Sp.)	End To The Pandemic
5:00 pm.....	Russ McDonald



KIDS SHARING THE GOSPEL

SHARING THE GOSPEL

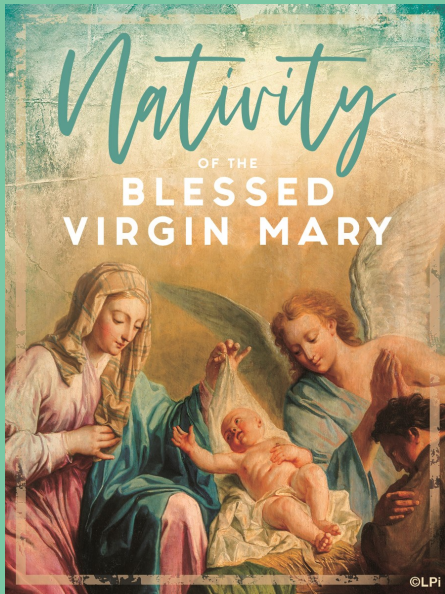
One day someone might sin against you. Friends may hurt your feelings. A neighbor may take your toy without asking. Remember what Jesus said. Remember that you sin, too. Talk it over quietly, just the two of you, and give your friend a chance to apologize.

PRAYER

Be with me, Jesus, when someone has hurt me. Help me to forgive. Amen.

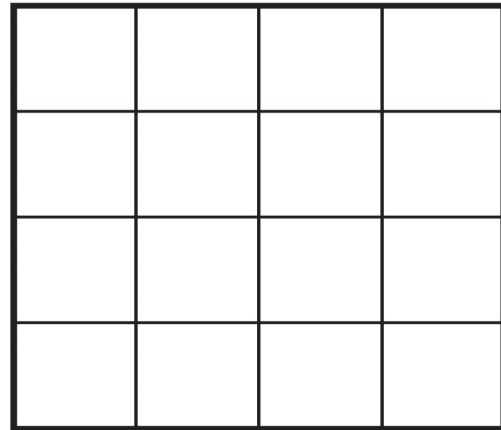
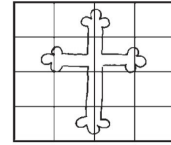
MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Pray for your friends who get stuck in sin. Help them out if you can.



PUZZLE

Enlarge the picture square by square.

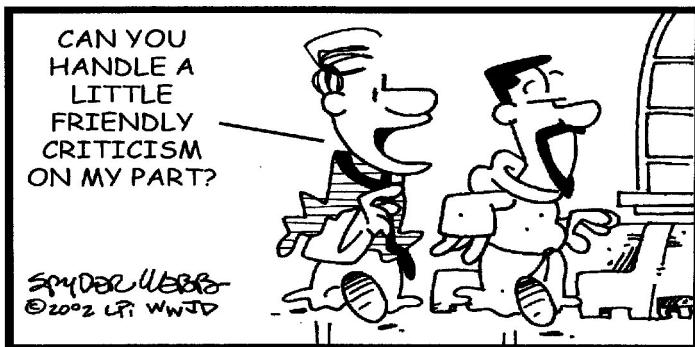


MISSION

Pray for your friends who get stuck in sin. Help them out if you can.

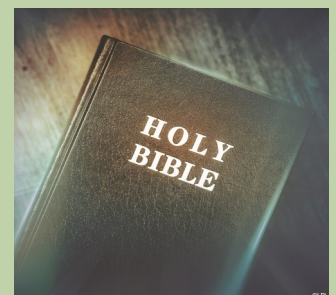


23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



DAILY READINGS

- Sunday:** Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20
- Monday:** 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Lk 6:6-11
- Tuesday:** Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
- Wednesday:** 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17 [11]/Lk 6:20-26
- Thursday:** 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 [24b]/Lk 6:27-38
- Friday:** 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12 [2]/Lk 6:39-42
- Saturday:** 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 [17]/Lk 6:43-49
- Next Sunday:** Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8]/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-352



MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO

“Pues donde están dos o tres reunidos en mi nombre, allí estoy yo, en medio de ellos”. (Mateo 18:20). Reunirnos dos o tres o muchos más en la asamblea dominical o en oraciones en los grupos de la comunidad es garantía segura de que Jesús se hace presente. Allí, es donde puede surgir la corrección fraterna de la que también habla el Evangelio de hoy. Cuando se corrige se abre el paso a la comunión y al diálogo, abriendo el camino a la eficacia de la oración comunitaria. El pasaje del Evangelio lo expresa así. “Si tu hermano ha pecado, vete a hablar con él a solas para reprochárselo. Si te escucha, has ganado a tu hermano. (Mateo 18:15)

Mateo, es protagonista de la caridad pastoral. Sabe que la Iglesia está formada por santos y pecadores y se preocupa de que se haga justicia en la comunidad. Todos necesitamos del Pastor que busca a la oveja descarriada. La misericordia y el perdón de Dios van de la mano, libera de la esclavitud del pecado y prepara al ser humano a vivir en libertad. ¡Ah! Cuanto necesita el mundo para saber convivir y gozar de la belleza de la verdad de las obras de misericordia espirituales. Sencillas y fáciles de practicar en el vivir de cada día. Dar buen consejo al que lo necesita; corregir al que está en un error; perdonar al que ofende; pedir por los vivos y difuntos. ¿Podrías atreverte a llevar a cabo alguna de estas obras en tu familia y comunidad? ¡Eso es amar sin límite! ©LPI



“Yo les aseguro también que si dos de ustedes se ponen de acuerdo para pedir algo, sea lo que fuere, mi Padre celestial se lo concederá; pues donde dos o tres se reúnen en mi nombre, ahí estoy you en medio de ellos”. -Mt 18, 19-20

Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.

MUSICA, CORO, MUSICA

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

CADA LUNES EN TODO EL AÑO

A las 8 de la noche rezamos el Santo Rosario, para pedir por nuestras necesidades y por los que amamos; también si alguno de sus parientes fallece podemos hacer el novenario, nos vemos los lunes en LA CAPILLA DEL PADRE PIO, frente a las veladoras.

PLATICAS PARA BAUTIZAR

Cada primer sábado del mes de **6:00 a 9:00 de la noche**, sin niños, llamar antes para anotar su asistencia.

RECICLAGE

Trae tus latas de aluminio y ayuda a tu Parróquia, por un mundo mas limpio, déjalas atrás de la oficina y ponle para María Mota. Gracias.

LA FE SE PUEDE ALIMENTAR

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

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

Adultos que necesitan los sacramentos de confirmación y primera comunión.

CATECISMO EN ESPAÑOL

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

CONFESIONES

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

LAS LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA DEL 6 DE SEPTIEMBRE

Domingo: Ez 33, 7-9/Sal 95, 1-2. 6-7. 8-9 [8]/Rom 13, 8-10/Mt 18, 15-20

Lunes: 1 Cor 5, 1-8/Sal 5, 5-6. 7. 12 [9]/Sal 5, 5-6. 7. 12 [9]/Lc 6, 6-11

Martes: Mi 5, 1-4 o Rom 8, 28-30/Sal 13, 6 [Is 61, 10]/Mt 1, 1-16. 18-23 o 1, 18-23

Miércoles: 1 Cor 7, 25-31/Sal 45, 11-12. 14-15. 16-17 [11]/Lc 6, 20-26

Jueves: 1 Cor 8, 1-7. 11-13/Sal 139, 1-3. 13-14. 23-24 [24]/Lc 6, 27-38

Viernes: 1 Cor 9, 16-19. 22-27/Sal 84, 3. 4. 5-6. 12 [2]/Lc 6, 39-42

Sábado: 1 Cor 10, 14-22/Sal 116, 12-13. 17-18 [17]/Lc 6, 43-49

Domingo siguiente: Eclo 27, 30—28, 7/Sal 103, 1-2. 3-4. 9-10. 11-12 [8]/Rom 14, 7-9/Mt 18, 21-35

SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL ACTION

By Scott Anderson,
Social Concerns for Peace and Justice Committee,

Some believe that the Church is hostile to science, that there is a conflict between Catholicism and the work of scientists. This is not borne out by the teachings and statements of the Church or the work of scientists who themselves were Catholic. The list of Catholic scientists, who were scientific pioneers is impressive. Rene Descartes discovered analytical geometry; Blaise Pascal invented the mathematical theory of probabilities. Gregor Mendel founded modern genetics while Louis Pasteur founded microbiology and created the first vaccine for rabies and anthrax. Georges Lemaitre, a Catholic priest, used Einstein's equations to deduce the Big Bang theory. Our very calendar was commissioned by Pope Gregory and formulated by Jesuit priests. Small wonder that scientific popularizer Neil deGrasse Tyson agrees that our Church and our religion are indeed science-friendly.

The relationship between faith and science is not either-or, it is one in which both contribute to the other. As the Catechism teaches, "...there can never be any real discrepancy between faith and reason. Since the same God who reveals mysteries and infuses faith has bestowed the light of reason on the human mind, God cannot deny himself, nor can truth ever contradict truth...The humble and persevering investigator of the secrets of nature is being led, as it were, by the hand of God in spite of himself, for it is God, the conserver of all things, who made them what they are."

Nonetheless, some religious people are dismissive and skeptical of science when it comes to critical issues of the day, whether it be the pandemic or climate change. As the Bishops say in their statement *Global Climate Change A Plea for Dialogue Prudence and the Common Good*, "Much of the debate on global climate change seems polarized and partisan...Various interests use the airwaves and political process to minimize or exaggerate the challenges we face." The Bishops warn against automatically accepting one side or the other in the debate. Rather, they urge prudence. "Prudence is intelligence applied to our actions...(it) is not, as popularly thought, simply a cautious and safe approach to decisions. Rather it is a thoughtful, deliberate, and reasoned basis for taking or avoiding action to achieve a moral good."

Acknowledging that many factors surrounding the issue are unknown, the Bishops assert, "Significant levels of scientific consensus—even in a situation with less than full certainty, where the consequences of not acting are serious, justifies, indeed can obligate, our taking action intended to avert potential dangers." We are obligated, therefore, by God's gift of reason, to take an honest and unfiltered look at the evidence of climate change minus the blinders of ideology or inertia. The Bishops write that the impacts of climate change always fall most heavily on those least able to bear it, both in our domestic communities and in underdeveloped countries abroad. To refrain from action to improve the Universal Common Good is contrary to Catholic Social Teaching. In the words of Saint John Paul II, "there is an order in the universe which must be respected and...the human person...has a grave responsibility to preserve this order for the well-being of future generations."

JUSTICE MATTERS

Justice Matters – an interfaith network doing justice

Hello to all! My name is Sarah Balzer, a new organizer with Justice Matters. Pat Lechtenberg and the Justice Matters team at St. John's invited me to share a little bit about why I choose to do this work.

I have a background in social work, and I really appreciate all the work that my peers are doing for our communities. However, most of the time, the jobs available to social workers only address community problems from one angle. We do a good job of helping people who have already experienced a huge disruption in their life, but for the most part, we don't really work on preventing those problems in the first place. Justice ministry calls us to "think outside the box" a bit, and figure out how to get to the root of these issues.

One time when I saw the need for justice ministry was when I was volunteering at a transitional shelter for families experiencing homelessness in Colorado Springs. My job there was to answer all the calls and do initial interviews with any

family who wanted to apply for services. People were struggling for many different reasons, but the main problem was that there was just no affordable housing in the area. Many families had at least one adult working, yet, because there was such a high demand for housing, landlords had raised rent to a level that was unaffordable for even those who were making well above minimum wage. We were able to provide shelter for a lot of families, but there were probably 10 times as many families that we weren't able to help- we simply didn't have the resources. Now, I look back on that experience and wonder how many more people's lives we could've improved by looking to the root of the problem, building power, and then demanding our city provide more affordable housing.

I've met with a few parishioners already, and have begun to learn about the exciting work already being done by the St. John's justice ministry team. I look forward to meeting many more of you soon, and working alongside you to help build justice in the Lawrence community.



AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD, AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO PRESERVE HISTORY

In 2006, a historian from Watkins Museum interviewed several St. John parishioners who had grown up in La Yarda, the Mexican-American community located in East Lawrence during the first half of the 20th century. The interviews were recorded on cassette tape and VHS tape. Recently, St. John's was awarded a generous grant to digitize these tapes and transcribe them. The grant was awarded to us by the Douglas County Natural & Cultural Heritage Grant Program, through the Douglas County Heritage Conservation Council. This grant program strives to "secure the benefits of our heritage for present and future generations." This month, the tapes were professionally digitized, and today a certified transcriptionist has begun making written copies of the interviews. Eventually, the transcriptions will need to be proofread, hopefully by someone who is familiar with the La Yarda families.

Our grant money budgets for proofreaders to read through the transcripts as they become available, and make corrections. This is an excellent opportunity for a parishioner who is familiar with the La Yarda families and who can make corrections on a printed copy while listening to a tape recording.

Please contact Nora Murphy for more information about the project, and to inquire about the proofreading job.

Email noramurphy777@gmail.com or phone 785-331-0421.



Greater Kansas City Worldwide Marriage Encounter

SERVING NORTHEAST KANSAS, NORTHWEST MISSOURI, SPRINGFIELD & BRANSON

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, September 18 - 20**. This will be a traditional, in-person, experience at the Savior

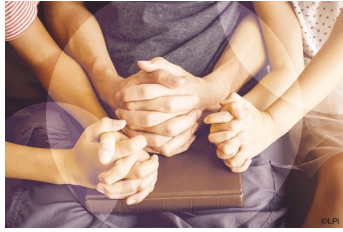
Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kansas. The option for a **Virtual Weekend Experience, November 13 - 15**, will be offered in conjunction with the scheduled traditional, in-person weekend. For more information, or to apply for a weekend, visit

www.wwme4youandme.org, or call/email Deacon Tony & Barb Zimmerman at 816-741-4066, tonybarbz@prodigy.net

AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR RACIAL HEALING

As members of the Mystical Body of Christ we proclaim the power of prayer and fasting to transform our world and cast out the demonic influences that divide our communities and destroy its peace. As our country continues to contend with the historically traumatic issue of racism, we realize along with our bishops the need "to beg God to heal our deeply broken view of each other, as well as our deeply broken society." (Open Wide Our Hearts, pastoral letter against racism) Consequently, **Archbishop Naumann invites and encourages all Catholics in the archdiocese to join him for a day of prayer and fasting on Wednesday, September 9**, the memorial of St. Peter Claver, to bring about racial healing in our communities. We fast to atone for the sins of racism that violate the sacredness of human life, and we pray for the healing of racial divisions that persist in our nation and our cities. We look to St. Peter Claver for his example and intercession in our prayers. St. Peter Claver, was a 17th century Spanish, Jesuit priest who heroically ministered in Columbia, South America to Africans kidnapped into slavery and fought to end the practice; he is patron saint of slaves, and ministry to African Americans. For ideas and resources on how your household and your parish can come together in prayer for racial healing please visit: www.archkck.org/socialjustice



SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM - ADULT TRAINING (VIRTUS) EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

In light of the current health conditions, one prudent and preventative measure we are taking is to make the VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults training available Online as an option. Effective immediately, due to COVID-19, the Archdiocesan requirement for attending a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults workshop live session will be suspended and the option of the online version of the module can be offered in lieu of live training. This is a temporary safety precaution, and parishes may still offer the live training session available as an option if they prefer as long as the local county and state ordinances in effect at the time of the event are followed. Please note, the training must still be completed prior to participants working around youth, but the requirement may now temporarily be met by completing the online Protecting God's Children module. Individuals needing to attend a session will be offered the option of the online module at the time of registration. They will still need to follow the background screening and policy completion process at the time of registration. Individuals who are already currently registered for an upcoming live session, may log back into their account and change to the online module. These procedures will be reviewed and updated periodically as needed and are in place to protect you, those you work with, and your family. Please stay safe and healthy and continue to pray for all our brothers and sisters in Christ! We are praying for all of you and your families. If you have questions, please contact Sandy Vielhauer at: svielhauer@archkck.org or Jenifer Valenti at: jvalenti@archkck.org. May God bless you and keep you safe.



Divine Mercy Sunday's message contained the theme "Jesus I Trust in You." This is an important message as we all navigate the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is especially important to expectant mothers as they are bringing life into a world gripped by anxiety, and many have heightened fears due to being isolated from sources of support. Unfortunately, we know that Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry are using these fears to prey on vulnerable women, telling them the responsible thing to do is to abort their children instead of bringing them into the world at this time. Sadly, this message must be resonating as we have seen reports of increased abortions around the country. The Walking With Moms in Need initiative is incredibly important right now! Our Gabriel Project Ministry is ready to help any woman in need. Please promote this ministry through your digital media and communications. Gabriel



Project Ministry <https://www.gabrielprojectkc.com/> 24/7 Free, Confidential assistance: **913-602-0306**. Please also know that all of the pregnancy centers within the Archdiocese are still working to help women in need. Some are keeping their clinics open, limiting staff and hours and implementing CDC recommendations, while others are answering calls and doing phone counseling. Many centers report that they are receiving increased calls. Please keep these pregnancy centers in your prayers and encourage your parishioners to continue their financial and material (diapers/formula) support. It is most needed at this time! Finally, with COVID-19, chemical abortions are also increasing. For women who regret their decision, it is important to know that it may be possible to reverse the effects and save a pregnancy. Please help us share this important resource: Abortion Pill Reversal Hotline - AbortionPillReversal.com / **877-558-0333**. Thank you for your continued prayers for all life.

FOCUS ON THE WORD

UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

It's all about reconciliation and conversion, not punishment. Relationships are not static adventures but wonderful gifts that continue to develop, grow, change, and mature. We are meant to be social beings, so isolating ourselves from others is rarely helpful. But, because human beings are on the one hand tremendously gifted, talented, and blessed creations, they are on the other also flawed, broken, and sinful. We all need to humbly admit that we are works in progress and not only capable of enriching each other's lives but causing deep hurts and wounds as well. Hence, we always need to be reconciled. We are always growing, changing, and expanding our knowledge of who we are and how we are meant to share life together.

Because reconciliation and conversion are always part of the mix of life, honesty is crucial. Without honesty, we can easily find ourselves living a lie and causing more harm than good. Being able to freely share our feelings, especially those involving pain and hurt, is a charism necessary to pursue and an art to learn. When we are wronged or wrong someone else, we do not enjoy the confrontation that can and needs to come. We are taught to keep our feelings to ourselves,



especially when they are negative, and we tend to avoid difficult conversations. Hence, we never really learn how to confront another, successfully resolve conflict, find reconciliation, and welcome conversion. When we hurt or wrong someone, it does not mean that we are a bad or sinful person who deserves only punishment and excommunication. Quite the opposite! We are simply a human person who can make poor choices and sin and can be forgiven. We can restore and deepen the relationship that has been affected and find our way home again.

Jesus clearly wants to avoid shame because it has no purpose in achieving reconciliation and conversion. All broken relationships deserve a chance at reconciliation. Every person has room for growth and a need for conversion. We have to learn to be okay with honesty and not be afraid to hear and process what someone needs to say, even if it is difficult for us to hear. Severing a relationship, both personally or with the church community as a whole, ought to definitely be a last resort and only pursued when all else has failed.

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THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNITY

I have been blessed to be a member of my parish community for 28 years. For much of that time I was serving as a member of the parish staff, but it was still the community that I call home. I have been fortunate to be able to remain in that parish even as my life has encountered new chapters and callings. I am so grateful to God that I have been able to grow, be nourished, and find companionship in a parish for this long of a time.

It is a natural tendency for human beings to desire belonging to something bigger than themselves. Not everyone is fortunate enough to find the community, big or small, that fulfills that need. Unfortunately, that means that many

communities suffer from not having the benefit of the gifts, skills, and talents that any member can offer. Communities are in many ways living organisms that move and breathe based upon the individuals who form that body. A community is truly the sum of its parts.

Your parish community reflects you and everyone else in that community. The more each member gives to the community, the stronger that community finds itself. If you hold back, your community suffers, and you gain little. I know firsthand what being a part of a community can mean to a person. I would be no one at all – and you would not be reading this – if it weren't for the life I have had in my parish community.

– Tracy Earl Welliver

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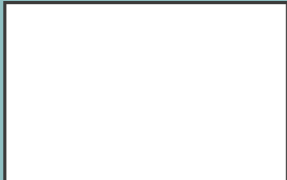
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