



Photo by: Jay Soldner/The Leaven



SUBFLOORING/CARPET PROJECT

At a meeting on Monday, April 12 at 10:00 a.m. we were informed that the subflooring/carpet project began Monday, April 19. Therefore, the following will also begin that day:

1. The front doors of the church will be locked Monday through Friday and on Saturday until 2:00 p.m.
2. Saturday confessions and the 4:30 p.m. Mass and Sunday Masses will continue in the church with the normal Saturday afternoon and Sunday door opening.
3. Daily Masses will take place in the church social hall/basement. Please enter by the North Tower door.
4. Wednesday morning confessions at 11:00 a.m. will be suspended until the end of the project.
5. Saturday afternoon 3:00 p.m. confessions will continue with the normal entry and exit door.

Thank you. We continue to pray for patience as we undergo another time of inconvenience on top of the COVID 19 protocols. May the Lord grant our petition.

“He asked me if I loved Him. I wept, for you know, Father, whom I have loved more than Jesus, I have loved myself, and often time creatures and pleasures. What could I answer to Jesus?

I wept for a long time, and that was my reply. It is Jesus alone whom I should love, and I have never loved Him as I should.”

-St. Gemma Galgani



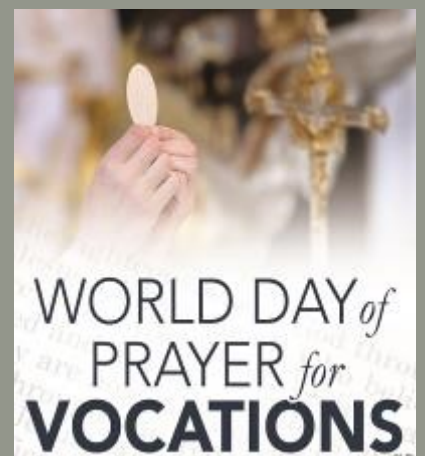
Weekend Mass Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA4A82DA0FDCE9-april3>

Daily Masses: Monday – Tuesday: 7:30 am, Wednesdays: 7:30 am & 5:10 pm Spanish, Thursdays: 7:30 am & 12:10 pm, Friday: 7:30 am & 12:10 pm

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 8:00 am & 4:30 pm; Sunday: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm Spanish, 5:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday: 3:00-4:00 pm; and by appointment



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 HAVE COURAGE FOR WHATEVER COMES IN LIFE,
EVERYTHING LIES IN THAT .”

-ST. TERESA OF AVILA

PARISH STAFF

Pastor.....Fr. John Cousins
Associate PastorFr. Donald Rank
Principal, St. John School..... Mr. Chris Reffett
Director of Liturgy & Music Lisa Roush
Director of Faith FormationShelly Bole
Catecísimo en español.....María Mota
High School Youth Director..... Anastasia Pine
RCIA..... Michael Podrebarac
Business Manager..... Cris Denning
Assistant Administrator.....Meg Milburn
Parish Coordinator Ellen Sickinger
DatabasePatty Guadian
Multimedia Communication CoordinatorJacinta 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..... 8:00am 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/10COD4DA4A82DA0FDCE9-april3>

Masses to be livestreamed at: <https://sjevangelist.com/live/>

Sunday 11:00 am & 1:00 pm (Spanish)

Weekday Masses

Monday – Tuesday: 7:30 am, Wednesdays: 7:30 am & 5:10 pm (Spanish),

Thursdays: 7:30 am & 12:10 pm, Friday: 7:30 am & 12:10 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Wednesday 11:00 am-12:00 pm & 6:00-7:00 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,
David Ehrlich-Finance Council Liaison

Finance Council

Brian Green-Chair, David Ehrlich,
Jeannette Mercier, Terry Gunselman,
Michael Burrichter, Kristen Toner,
Janice Andes, Sofia Galarza-Liu,
Adrian Marquez,
Jason Tanking-Pastoral Council Liaison

School Advisory Council

Hanon Misko-Chair, Emily Malin,
Cherry Jordon, Jordan Bass,
Kim Green, Laura Mosconi,
Larry Koster-Pastoral Council Liaison

SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SCHOOL MISSION

Faith-Knowledge-Service-Growth

All St. John Catholic School students will be challenged to grow in their faith and knowledge, learn to show respect and compassion for themselves and others, and live their beliefs through service in their community and the world.



JOB OPENING: BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE DIRECTOR



St. John is currently looking for a Director for our Before and After School program for the 2021-2022 school year. The Director will be in charge of managing the hiring, scheduling, and administration of the Before and After School program for the students of St. John Catholic School. If interested in this position, please contact Chris Reffett at: creffett@sjcagles.com.



JOB OPENING: TEACHER POSITION AVAILABLE

St. John is currently seeking a teacher for 5th grade Religion and 4th and 5th grade Math. If you are interested in this position please send your resume and cover letter to Chris Reffett at: creffett@sjcagles.com.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH Group

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

High school youth group is now meeting weekly on Sunday from 6:30 - 7:30 pm in the church basement! For more information contact: sjyouth@sjevangelist.com.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS

Ten choices of flowering baskets will be on sale online in advance of Mother's Day at St. John the Evangelist Church Spring Plant Sale! - Vinland Valley Nursery. In addition, we will have flowers and garden plants after all Masses the weekend of May 8 and 9. All purchases will support our goal of beautifying the North entryway of our church. Thank you!



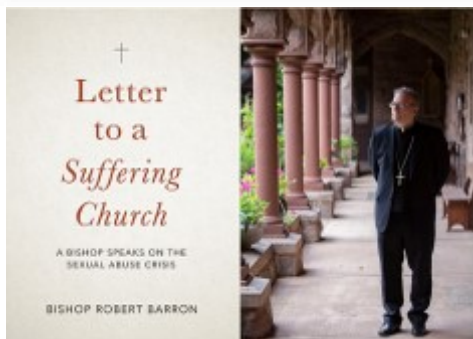
Treat yourself to
a donut or cookie
after all Masses
Saturday, May 1,
or Sunday, May 2.



As we slowly return back to St. John, we invite all parishioners to stop by the tables located outside the church for a treat. If you attend the Sunday morning Masses donuts will be available. If you plan to attend the **4:30 Saturday** evening Mass, or the **Sunday 1:00 or 5:00 p.m.** Mass cookies will be available.

Arranged by St. John Social Life Committee

As vaccinations increase, please continue to exercise caution and stay vigilant.

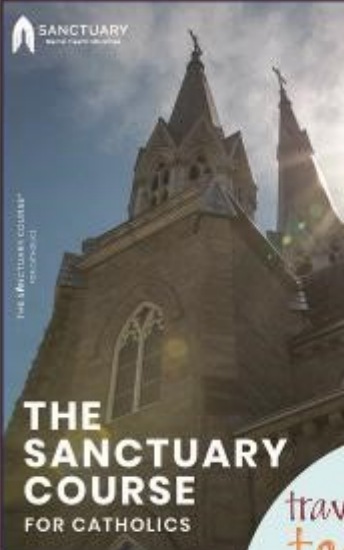


As mentioned in Fr. Don's homily on the Third Sunday of Lent ([click here to watch](#)), Letter to a Suffering Church by Bishop Robert Barron addresses the sexual abuse crisis. Stop by to pick up a copy at the parish office.

COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN 2021

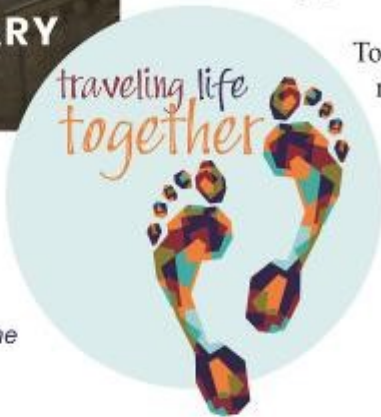
Archdiocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration **June 13, 2:00 pm**, Church of the Nativity/Leawood. To receive your invitation from Archbishop Naumann, please call the parish office and give us your name, address, phone number and date of your wedding. Please do this as soon as possible.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



WOULD YOU VALUE JOINING OTHERS IN A CONVERSATION ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH? WOULD YOU LIKE TO DISCOVER WHAT GOD, SCRIPTURE, AND CHURCH HAVE TO SAY IN LIGHT OF THE EXPERIENCES OF MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES?

If so, sign up for The Sanctuary Course for Catholics. This eight-part course is designed to raise awareness and start conversations regarding mental health. It was created in collaboration with Catholic mental health professionals, theologians, and clergy, and offers the opportunity to learn about mental health and grow in our ability to support our fellow parishioners living with mental health challenges.



PRESENTED BY:

traveling life together

is a ministry for St. John parishioners and affiliated with the Lawrence ministry Interfaith Mental Health Outreach

Topics include: mental health and mental illness, stigma, recovery, companionship, self-care, and community.

Thursday evenings, April 29 - June 17, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Zoom sessions or in-person (small groups socially distanced)

[CLICK THIS LINK TO RSVP](#)

For more information please contact:

- Shelly Bole 785.843.0109 - sbole@sjevangelist.com
- Susan Tabor 785.841.3875 - souljourner@sbcglobal.net
- Pam Kaufman 785.218.7437 - pambkaufman@gmail.com
- Brad Phipps 785.766.2647 - reelmanmd@gmail.com



COVID VACCINES

Available at Douglas Co. Fairgrounds for **FREE**

Vaccine appointments are available at Douglas County Fairgrounds for anyone 16 and older. Enter the code for the date you select at: [LDHealth.org/getmyvaccine](https://ldchealth.org/getmyvaccine). All of the vaccine clinics are Pfizer vaccines. Please note that all Dose 1 codes are in green and begin with a "1" and Dose 2 codes are in orange and begin with a "2." **Note:** You should schedule your second dose at a minimum 21 days after your first dose. For more information: <https://ldchealth.org/460/COVID-19-Vaccine>

| Date: | Dose 1 code: | Dose 2 code: |
|-------|--------------|--------------|
| 4/27 | 1042721 | 2042721 |
| 4/28 | 1042821 | 2042821 |

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 April 18, 2021.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Budgeted weekly collection amount | \$30,254.80 |
| Average weekly collection amount..... | \$29,678.38 |
| Budgeted collection fiscal YTD | \$1,270,701.60 |
| Actual collection fiscal YTD..... | \$1,120,492.37 |
| NET SHORTAGE | \$150,209.23 |
| FY 2020/2021 Current Net Deficit | \$257,811.13 |
| FY 2019/2020 Total Deficit | \$267,486.68 |

Visit: sjevangelist.com/giving for more information or to set up and manage your account today!

Contact Cris Denning at: cdenning@sjevangelist.com or phone 785-843-0109 if you have any questions.

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

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.

Leslee Adams
 Mariele Berthold
 Chris Besler
 Jenn Bole
 Andrew Bouchard
 Susan Guenther Brown
 Donna Callaghan
 Bob Carlson
 Ricky Dalton
 Hank Desch
 Christopher Erickson
 Linda Erp
 Noni Fallaria
 Joanne Feist
 Colette Fisher
 Linda Flyer
 Janet Fox
 Rudy Fritz
 Ed Garza
 Wendy Glick
 Michael Jay Gomez
 Bonnie Griggs
 Tony Guadian
 Buddy Hadl
 Lonna Hamm
 Christian Heady
 Luke Henry
 Patsy Heptig
 Charles Hermann
 Kathy Higley
 Janet Ikenberry
 Michele Johnson
 Joani Kampschroeder
 Allen Kehde
 Gretchen Kehde
 Becky Kuhn
 Diana Matthews
 Leo Mauler
 Russ McDonald
 Ellen Mesa
 Vickie Mesa
 Zackary Messerly

Linden Morgan
 Augustus Nelson
 Mary Beth Nelson
 Danny Nguyen
 Theophilus Obiefule
 Kathy Otter
 Lydia Owen
 Mike Owens
 Julie Patterson
 Mary Polfer
 Mike Reilly
 Joel Rivera
 Virginia Romero
 Jon Rossillon
 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
 Amelia Tinio
 Lily Van Giezen
 Wendy Van Giezen
 Cindy Vasquez
 Marianne Vietti
 Lou Volpe
 Trent Wallace
 Jeanette Walker
 Ted Walker
 Susan Williams
 Jeannine Wyatt
 Jon Yarnell
 Dena Yepa
 IN MEMORIAM
 -JOSEPHINE RAMIREZ

MINISTERS MAY 1-MAY 2 LECTORS

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Saturday | |
| 4:30pm | R Entwistle |
| Sunday | |
| 7:00am | S Goodwin |
| 9:00am | J Wyatt |
| 11:00am | J Gripka |
| 5:00pm | D Carlin |



APRIL 26 - MAY 2

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Mon.: | 7:30 am..... | Josephine Ramirez† |
| Tues.: | 7:30 am | Harriett Kearl† |
| Wed.: | 7:30 am..... | Bill & Karen Dunn |
| | 5:10 pm (Sp.)..... | Mardoniot |
| Thurs.: | 7:30 am | Jerome Florot |
| | 12:10 pm..... | .Priest's Intention |
| Fri.: | 7:30 am..... | Joyce & Monty Mace |
| | 12:10 pm..... | .Priest's Intention |
| Sat.: | 8:00 am..... | Joe Alden & Family |
| | 4:30 pm | Alan Heath† |
| Sun.: | 7:00 am | Kent Beisnert |
| | 9:00am..... | Michael Jay Gomez |
| | 11:00 am | Parishioners of St. John |
| | 1:00 pm (Sp.)..... | Luis Rivas Salguerot |
| | 5:00 pm..... | Alta Kampschroedert |

FOCUS ON THE WORD

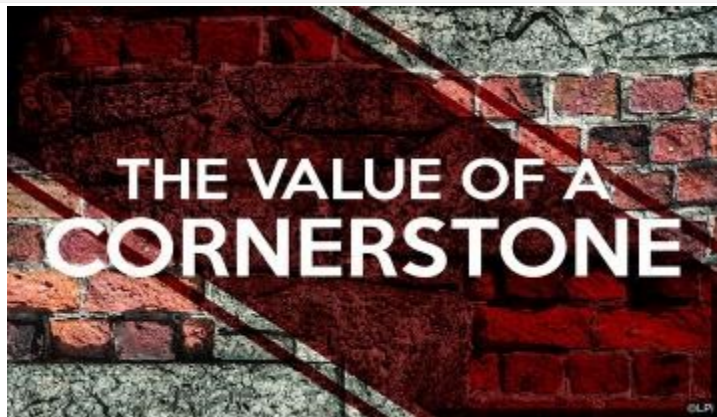
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

4th Sunday of Easter

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused. Just because a person chooses to do no harm and love others does not mean that they are living in truth and properly anchored to the real cornerstone.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shepherd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is



properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures. ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Confidence in Princes

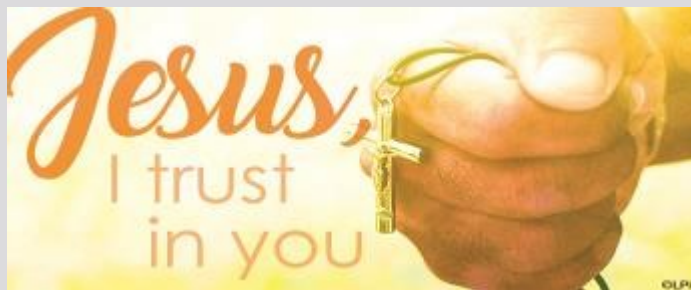
Have you ever confided your problems to a friend, only to get the answer, "have you prayed about it as much as you've talked about it?"

Like all good advice, it can really irritate the recipient at first. Here I am, vulnerable and wounded, unloading my problems, and this joker tries to load them right back up and ship them off to Someone with a higher pay grade.

But again, like all good and irritating advice, it rings true if you sit and think about it.

Sure, venting is helpful. We all need that friend or family member who can listen to our problems. But if we ever start to think that person can solve them, it's a good sign that we're losing perspective.

Are you looking to the world for an answer? Are you looking in the mirror, expecting to find a solution to your problems? Are



you expecting happiness, peace, contentment or justice to come from any place other than God?

"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put confidence in princes," the Psalms tell us. Well, I've never put much confidence in princes. But when it comes to problems, I often find myself telling God to take a step back — "I've got this."

It's tough to pray about any problem as much as you talk about it. We want so badly to tackle the issue ourselves. But I'll let you in on a secret: it doesn't matter what the question is, we don't have the answer. Take it to the One who does.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO

El cuarto Domingo de Pascua siempre nos recuerda la belleza del Señor Jesús como Buen Pastor. En el Evangelio, Jesús describe cómo es el trabajo de un pastor. Nos dice que, lo primero es dar la vida por sus ovejas. Segundo, cuidarlas y protegerlas de todo peligro. Y tercero, un buen pastor no cobra un salario, no trabaja a sueldo. Más, sin embargo, da la vida por su propio rebaño. Existe una acción permanente entre pastor y oveja. El Papa Francisco explicó lo que hace un Buen Pastor: "El Buen Pastor, Jesús, está atento a cada uno de nosotros, nos busca y nos ama, dirigiéndonos su Palabra, conociendo en profundidad nuestro corazón, nuestros deseos y nuestras esperanzas, como también nuestros errores y nuestras decepciones". Y el continuó diciendo: "Nos acoge y nos ama como somos, con nuestros méritos y nuestros defectos. Por cada uno de nosotros Él da la vida eterna: nos ofrece la posibilidad de vivir una vida plena, sin fin. También nos custodia y nos guía con amor, ayudándonos a atravesar los senderos inaccesibles y las rutas a veces peligrosas que se nos presentan en el camino de la vida" (Noticias Vaticano 12 de mayo 2019). No tengamos miedo, continuemos firmes en este tiempo de prueba, el Señor es nuestro auténtico Pastor que camina con nosotros y es fiel a sus promesas. "Yo Soy el Buen Pastor y conozco a los míos como los míos me conocen a mí, lo mismo que el Padre me conoce a mí y yo conozco al Padre. Y yo doy la vida por las ovejas" (Juan 10:14-15). ¿Dónde, cómo y cuándo ha sido Jesús nuestro Pastor en este tiempo? ©LPi



"Tengo además otras ovejas que no son de este redil y es necesario que las traiga también a ellas; escucharán mi voz y habrá un solo rebaño y un solo pastor. El Padre me ama porque doy mi vida para volverla a tomar".

- Jn 10, 16-17

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 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 María Mota.

CONFESIONES

Sábado de 3:00 pm a 4:00 pm y Miercoles de 11:00 am a 12:00 pm Habrá confesiones en español para quien lo necesite, y pueda recibir este sacramento.

LAS LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA DEL 25 DE ABRIL

Domingo: Hch 4, 8-12/Sal 117, 1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28. 29 [22]/1 Jn 3, 1-2/Jn 10, 11-18

Lunes: Hch 11, 1-18/Sal 41, 2-3; 43, 3. 4 [cfr. 3]/Jn 10, 1-10

Martes: Hch 11, 19-26/Sal 86, 1-3.4-5.6-7 [117, 1]/Jn 10, 22-30

Miércoles: Hch 12, 24—13, 5/Sal 66, 2-3.5.6 y 8[4]/Jn 12, 44-50

Jueves: Hch 13, 13-25/Sal 88, 2-3. 21-22.25 y 27 [2]/Jn 13, 16-20

Viernes: Hch 13, 26-33/Sal 2, 6-7. 8-9. 10-11 [7]/Jn 14, 1-6

Sábado: Hch 13, 44-52/Sal 97, 1. 2-3. 3-4 [3]/Jn 14, 7-14

Domingo siguiente: Hch 9, 26-31/Sal 21, 26-27. 28. 30. 31-32 [26]/1 Jn 3, 18-24/Jn 15, 1-8

ARCHDIOCESE THOUGHTS

IT'S SO SIMPLE A CHILD CAN DO IT

APRIL 16, 2021

Incredibly, this Friday will be 136. At the end of the month, the total will climb to 465.

Those numbers refer to items that I've tossed, or will toss, out of my home. The concept is simple: On the first day of the month, toss out one item; on the second, two items; and on the third, three. Continue like that until the end of the month.

I started this project on a very auspicious date: April 1 (no foolin'). That was Holy Thursday, and I've been tossing ever since. It's both humbling and jarring to realize that there are that many individual things in my home that I don't need, use or love. And "tossing" doesn't necessarily mean throwing it in the trash. I have boxes and plastic bags holding things to be donated to charity.

If I, as a single person, have accumulated so much, I can't imagine what it would be like for families. And the consequence of all this stuff is seen in this little story: A man went searching for the meaning of life. After several years and many miles, he came to the hut of a holy hermit and asked for enlightenment. The holy woman invited the visitor into her humble dwelling and began to serve him tea. She filled the pilgrim's cup and then kept on pouring so that the tea was soon dripping onto the floor. The visitor watched the overflow until he could no



Fr. Mark Goldasich

longer restrain himself. "Stop!" he cried. "It's full! No more will go in."

"Like this cup," said the hermit, "you are full of your own opinions, perceptions, ideas and possessions. How can I teach you unless you first empty your cup?" (Story adapted from one in Paul J. Wharton's "Stories and Parables for Preachers and Teachers.")

This is probably what the early Christians experienced in the Acts of the Apostles: "No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own. . . . There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale and put them at the feet of the Apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need" (4:32; 34-35).

My tossing project has definitely been fun, freeing . . . and a bit scary. If you're doubtful you could find such a large number of "tossable" possessions in your

home, start by emptying your junk drawer. (Don't be ashamed; we all have them.) When I did, two questions constantly emerged: "What the heck is this thing?" and "Why am I holding on to it?"

I bid goodbye to small packets of ketchup, mustard and sauces from fast-food joints. (Each of those counted for one item tossed!) I recycled carryout menus (you can easily find those online now) and instructions for equipment I no longer own.

There were dead batteries, Velcro strips, extension cords, tools and a whole host of other things. Some items just needed to go to their proper home; most others found their way to another home.

And if you add in expired food in your refrigerator or pantry, books and magazines that you've read or never will, dried up pens and markers, you can see how easily you can get rid of hundreds of items in your home.

It honestly is freeing. There's more room, more time for important things, less to dust and less to store. And it's a great way to pray. When I'm tempted to give up or skip a day, I ponder this little poem from an unknown author:

"Go give to the needy sweet charity's bread./ For giving is living," the angel said./ "And must I be giving again and again?"/ My peevish, petulant answer ran./ "Oh, no," said the angel, piercing me through./ "Just give till the Master stops giving to you."

Message received, loud and clear!

FREE TICKETS TO THE JUSTICE MATTERS ACTION ASSEMBLY

Monday, May 3 at 6:30 pm

The annual Justice Matters Action Assembly (formerly called the Nehemiah event) will take place in the comfort of your car this year, at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Parked at the Fairgrounds, you will turn on the car radio to hear the Justice Matters call for action. Carpooling with people in your "pod" is

encouraged. St. John Church has been an active supporter of this Justice Matters event since 2015, and we need all of our parishioners to pack the house!

Please print out a (free!) ticket for each person in your car. Printer problems? Pick up tickets after all Masses May 1 and 2, or contact Nora at: nora7@sbcglobal.net, or 785-331-0421. Get organized to build a movement of people to do justice at the Justice Matters Action Assembly on May 3.



The Justice Matters
ACTION ASSEMBLY

Please Fully Complete Ticket in Advance
for everyone in your vehicle

From the safety of your car let's call for:
Ending Homelessness
Sensible Criminal Justice Reform
Restorative School Policies

DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
Monday, May 3, 2021 - 6:30 - 8 pm

ADMIT ONE

Name _____

Congregation _____

Who Invited You _____

ADMIT ONE
0001

SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL ACTION

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

The harvest of justice is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace. James 3:18

An article on the Pax Christi website by Kathy Kelly discusses a raid that took place several years ago in Yemen where the United States was supporting the Saudi Arabian intervention in that country's civil war. The operation, which was designed to capture an Al Qaeda leader, ended tragically. One of the Navy Seals was killed at the start. "In the ensuing battle, the U.S. forces called for air support. U.S. helicopter gunships arrived and...started indiscriminately firing missiles into huts." At least 15 civilians were killed in the raid according to Mwatana, a Yemeni human rights group.

The Church has been constant in Her calls for the international community to bring the conflict to an end through pressure and withdrawal of support for the competing factions. In 2018, Most Rev. Timothy P. Broglio, Archbishop for the Military Services USA, wrote in a letter to Congress, "The international community seems to be in agreement that this conflict, 'made by men,' can also be resolved by a concerted effort on the part of people of good will everywhere. Allowing this purposeless

struggle to continue would represent an abdication of the responsibility to be peace makers."

The United States Bishops Conference of Catholic Bishops has made explicit that peacemaking is a life issue: "Part of the legacy of The Challenge of Peace (1983) is the call to strengthen peacemaking as an essential dimension of our faith, reminding us that Jesus called us to be peacemakers. Our biblical heritage and our body of tradition make the vocation of peacemaking mandatory."

The story of one small raid, carried out with one clearly defined objective, shows how easily warfare can spin out of control and impact so many lives unnecessarily. However honorable and well trained the soldiers, however worthy the intentions, once unleashed, war takes on a life of its own. As individual citizens and Christians, we are called on to advocate for peace, to learn more about the impediments to peace, and to challenge our elected leaders of either party to be serious about making peace. It is easy to ignore conflicts far from home but the Bishops are clear about our responsibilities:

"In a world where 40,000 children die every day from hunger and its consequences; where ethnic cleansing and systematic rape are used as weapons of war; and where people are still denied life, dignity and fundamental rights, we cannot remain silent or indifferent."

JUSTICE MATTERS


Justice Matters -- an interfaith network working for justice

JOIN IN GIVING YOUR SUPPORT BY ATTENDING THE **MAY 3 JUSTICE MATTERS ACTION ASSEMBLY -- A DRIVE-IN EVENT AT THE DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS -- FREE TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM JUSTICE MATTERS MEMBER**

Billions of Federal Dollars for Homelessness & Local Initiatives Report on research from the Justice Matters Homelessness Research to Action Group

This week, we met with policy experts from the National Coalition to End Homelessness and the Center for Community Change to understand COVID-19 Relief and Stimulus funding in the pipeline. We learned there is an unprecedented opportunity to end homelessness, if we seize it.

Here's a quick breakdown of the funds available by purpose:



ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS (explicitly)
\$1,641,383 dedicated to Lawrence directly
\$22,929,650 more at state discretion
DIRECT RENTAL ASSISTANCE (including those experiencing homelessness)
\$46 BILLION nationally (local & state amounts TBD)
EXPAND VOUCHERS for LONG-TERM HOUSING
\$5 BILLION nationally (local & state amounts TBD)
LOCAL PRIORITIES (discretionary spending)
\$18.91 million dedicated to Lawrence
\$23.71 million dedicated to Douglas County
HUD BALANCE on CARES ACT (discretionary spending for housing)
Estimated at ½ Billion in leftover funding for Kansas

AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

"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 apply and to receive the service, please call Audio-Reader at **785-864-4600**.

ST. JOSEPH WEBSITE

As we continue our journey, we can all be encouraged to consider the individual virtues that strengthened St. Joseph in his roles. Through his model, we can find ways to strengthen our commitments in our lives. To help you find ways to pray with and learn from St. Joseph, please visit: <https://archkck.org/yearofstjoseph/>.

AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

TRULY OUR SISTER: MARY IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Tuesday Evenings, May 4, 11, 18 & 25 ~ 7:00-9:00 pm

Repeated on Wednesday Mornings, May 5, 12, 19, 26, ~ 10:00 am-Noon

Who is Mary and what do we know about her from the various Biblical passages that pertain to her? Women theologians and biblical scholars have helped us come to a deeper understanding of Mary as a woman and mother in the first century male dominated Jewish world controlled by the Romans.

- Mary struggles like you and I to discern and make sense of where God is leading her
- Mary experiences what it is like to leave home, be an immigrant and refugee from oppressive and unjust powers, while trying to keep her family together and safe

These four Zoom sessions explore these and other aspects of Mary's life as understood through the cultural and historical unpacking of various biblical passages pertaining to her. The sessions will be facilitated by Biagio Mazza, Pastoral Associate at St. Sabina Catholic Church in Belton, MO. To register, email Biagio at: biagio@stsabinaparish.org and please indicate your day preference.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Come! . . . Arise my love, my beautiful one, and come! For see the winter is past, the rains are over and gone. During the this joyful Easter Season, as we celebrate the risen Christ and the promise of new life, come away and tend to the garden of your marriage. The next in-person Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend Experiences, will be April 30 - May 2, and July 16-18, at Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kansas. For more information, visit our website at: www.wwme4youandme.org, and follow us on Facebook. To apply for the weekend call/email Deacon Tony & Barb Zimmerman at 816-741-4066, tonybarbz@prodigy.net



TOTUS TUUS FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Totus Tuus Team will offer an adapted Totus Tuus program for people between the ages of 6 and adult with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The program will be held July 19-July 23 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Prince of Peace in Olathe. Fee is \$40 per person. Enrollment is limited. Register at www.archkck.org/special-needs by Monday, July 5. For questions, contact tracunas@archkck.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILY CAMP

Camp Tekakwitha and the Special Needs Ministry offers a family camp designed especially for families who have a child with a disability. Enjoy a weekend away to spend quality time with the family you and God have created. Each participant with a disability will have a camp buddy to accompany them and be of assistance to the family throughout the weekend. All Covid-19 protocols will be followed. Register by emailing: camptekreg@gmail.com. For questions or scholarship information, contact tracunas@archkck.org.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

World Day of Prayer will be observed on **Sunday, April 25**, also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.

DISABILITY RESOURCE SERIES

The Special Needs Ministry and EMBRACE are offering a series of Thursday evening Zoom workshops on a variety of topics related to providing for a child with special needs. Qualified professionals will explain Kancare/Medicaid benefits, transition planning, Working Healthy and much more. Review all the session topics and register at: www.archkck.org/special-needs.



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