

22nd Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

“Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile.” - Mk 7:15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

“Let no one ever come to you without leaving better & happier.

Be the living expression of God’s kindness:

Kindness in your face.
Kindness in your eyes.

Kindness in your smile.”

-Blessed Mother Teresa



MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Masses May28-September 6:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 7:30 am

*Tuesday Masses are available at:
Corpus Christi at 8:15 am,
St. Lawrence Center at 12:10 pm,
Holy Family, Eudora at 9:00 am,
Sacred Heart, Tonganoxie at 7:30 am.

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4:30 pm;

Sunday: 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am,
1:00 pm Spanish, 5:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Wednesday: 11:00 am – Noon;

Saturday: 3:00-4:00 pm;

Other: 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.

MASKS

Masks are recommended & encouraged inside the church buildings.
Per Lawrence/Douglas County Health Department
as of August 10. This is subject to change.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor.....Fr. John Cousins x319
Associate PastorFr. Jason Moore x313
Principal, St. John School..... Mr. Chris Reffett x211
Administrative AssistantMeg Milburn x310
Business Manager.....x311
Catecismo en español.....María Mota x316
DatabasePatty Guadian x116
Director of Faith FormationShelly Bole x315
Director of Liturgy & Music Lisa Roush x326
High School Youth Director.....Allison Loecker x111
Maintenance.....Jeff Jenicke
Multimedia Communication CoordinatorJacinta Hoyt x115
Parish CoordinatorReid Bissen x333

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 - 8:30 am-12:30 pm

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

SIMON PARISH CENTER

Mailing Address 1229 Vermont St., Lawrence, KS 66044
Phone.....785-843-0109
Office Hours.....**PLEASE WEAR A MASK**
Monday-Friday8:30 am - 4:00 pm
After 2:30 pm please call staff members direct extension.
Thank you.

Weekend Masses

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

Weekday Mass Schedule May 28-September 6

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 7:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

In the Padre Pio Chapel (inside the north church entrance)
Wednesday 11:00 am-12:00 pm
Saturday 3:00 pm-4:00 pm
Other 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,
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Maria Monroy, Bria Phipps

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David Ehrlich, Jeannette Mercier,
Michael Burrichter, Kristen Toner,
Janice Andes, Sofia Galarza-Liu,
Adrian Marquez,

School Advisory Council

Laura Mosconi - President
Josh Stephenson - Secretary
Jordan Bass, Cherry Jordan
Kim Green, Laura Elder
Larry Koster - Parish Council Rep.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

JOB OPENING DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT (DEVELOPMENT & STEWARDSHIP)

St. John Church and School in Lawrence, KS seeks a full-time Director of Advancement (Development & Stewardship). The Director will develop and administer development plans to ensure the long-term viability of the Church and School. The Director will oversee all advancement activities necessary by building relationships with a broad range of parishioners, parents, alumni, volunteers and community members. Candidates with three to five years of fundraising experience and bilingual (English and Spanish) are preferred. Please see full job description and requirements at: www.sjevangelist.com. This position is eligible for an Archdiocesan benefits package. Position will be open until filled. Please send cover letter and resume to Fr. John Cousins at: frjohn@sjevangelist.com or mail to 1229 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS 66044.

JOB OPENING BUSINESS MANAGER

St. John Church and School in Lawrence, KS seeks a full time Business Manager. The Manager will administer the finances of the parish and school, maintain accuracy of all financial operations, and serve as HR officer. Applicants need computer/new technologies competencies. Candidates with a degree in Business/Accounting with 1-3 years of experience or its equivalency, and bilingual (English and Spanish) are preferred. Please see full job description and requirements at: www.sjevangelist.com. This position is eligible for an archdiocesan benefits package. Position open till filled. Send cover letter and resume to Fr. John Cousins at: frjohn@sjevangelist.com or mail to 1229 Vermont St., Lawrence, KS 66044.



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE



All Spanish-speaking and international women who need to learn English. Small World, a program for women will begin enrollment for the fall semester on **Tuesday, September 7**. Classes meet on Tuesday & Thursday
*Note the new time: **1:00 pm-2:30 pm**.

If you have any questions, call Ligia: **785-749-3677** or visit our website: <http://smallworld.school.blog> or Email: swlawrence68@gmail.com

ST. JOHN BENEFIT YARD SALE

A yard sale on **Friday, September 10** from 8:00 am to noon; and **Saturday, September 11** from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm located at 705 Mississippi Street. This will benefit the St. John Church Building & Grounds Projects! Please sort through your belongings and set aside items to donate to this yard sale. Items can be dropped off on the front porch the day before the sale. (We cannot manage big furniture or truckloads of items). Leftover items will be handled thoughtfully. Call Nora Murphy at **785-331-0421**, or e-mail noramurphy777@gmail.com for more info or to volunteer to help with the sale.



ROOM RESERVATIONS

If you would like to make a room reservation please email Reid Bissen at: coordinator@sjevangelist.com or call Reid at **785-843-0109**.

THANK YOU

To the person who donated colored paper.

THE LEAVEN

Thanks to those who want to read The Leaven online <http://theleaven.org>. That is a \$21/ subscription savings for St. John. If you would like to cancel, please email: pquadian@sjevangelist.com or call Patty at **785-843-0109**.

BISHOPS EMERGENCY DISASTER FUND

A special collection to help assist recovery efforts in Haiti through the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund will be used for the humanitarian, long-term recovery and Church needs arising from the devastating earthquake and tropical storm that have ravaged Haiti. These funds will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Relief Services and the church in Haiti as they and local agencies respond to emergency needs, such as water, food, shelter and medical care, as well as aid in long-term recovery efforts and church needs arising from these disasters.

LIVING OUR FAITH

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

EMMAUS GROUPS FOR ADULTS ARE FORMING!

1. Emmaus Groups are also known as Small Faith Groups. Based upon the story from Luke 24, we know that Jesus appears to us on our journey and often we need others to help us "see" Him. As Catholics, we are Eucharistic people and experience a profound communion with Jesus through the Eucharist which we celebrate in community as a family of Faith. Emmaus groups are formed around similarities -- married, young married, young adult, single or mixed groups. Suzy Novotny helps each group form and assists leaders in finding resources to fulfill the needs of that particular group. We have had requests for groups of young mothers, retired people to meet during the day, and young adults/married or single. If you are intrigued about Emmaus groups, please reach out to the parish to learn more:

<https://form.jotform.com/211227054847151>

or snovotny47@gmail.com.

2. Children's and Youth Formation: We are exploring options for formation for children here at St John's. Please pray for us as we continue to discern how to best serve our families.

3. There are been several requests for adult formation opportunities for retired parishioners who can meet during the day. If there is a specific topic you would like to learn about OR you would like discuss possibly leading a session or topic, please contact Shelly at the parish office or sbole@sjevangelist.com.

MEN OF ST. JOHN

FALL 2021 ANNOUNCEMENT

After meeting virtually last year, we are excited for the return of the Men of St. John ministry.

All men in the parish and community are welcome to attend the morning sessions of fellowship, a video session about the faith and a small group discussion.

The program will begin **6:00 am, Wednesday, September 8, in the church basement**. Light breakfast and coffee will be provided. Each session wraps up at 7:25 am. We will meet every Wednesday morning through the fall semester aside from holiday breaks. We will follow public health guidelines strongly encouraging masks and social distancing.

This fall we will begin with the Metanoia video series, production of The Ministry of The Wild Goose hosted by Fr. Dave Pivonka.

Anyone with questions can contact Brian Walter at: walterpack@sunflower.com, 785-766-1569.

The series is filmed on location in the Holy Land, highlighting sacred places such as the Sea of Galilee, the River Jordan, the desert of Temptations, and many of the holy sites in Jerusalem.

Each of the 10 episodes explores areas of our life where conversion is so often necessary. Metanoia will examine topics such as who is Jesus, what must we do to inherit eternal life, and many other significant matters of faith. With preaching from Fr. Dave as well as personal testimonies from men and women, young and old, religious and lay, their stories will inspire you to seek to encounter Jesus and the new life he is constantly inviting us to.

SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

BOOKENDS

BEFORE/ AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Our Before and After School Care program is looking for staff members for our morning and afternoon shifts. Staff members will be responsible for the supervision of students. Staff members will need to be willing to help with homework, engage the students in fun activities, and provide consistent supervision. Before school hours are from 7:00 - 8:05 am and After school hours will be from 3:30-6:00 pm. We are looking for college students who might have flexible hours or someone who might want a part-time job and would love to have the opportunity to work with kids. If you are interested, please send your email pdasto@sjeagles.com.

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.



STEWARDSHIP OF GIVING

WEEKLY PARISH GIVING

Our fiscal year is July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

Below reflects donations received July 1, 2021 through August 8, 2021.

Budgeted weekly collection amount	\$28,365.38
Average weekly collection amount.....	\$26,270.19
Budgeted collection fiscal YTD.....	\$170,192.28
Actual collection fiscal YTD.....	\$157,621.15
NET SHORTAGE.....	\$12,571.13
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 Church office at: 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.

Steven Avila
 Mariele Berthold
 Chris Besler
 Jenn Bole
 Andrew Bouchard
 Susan Guenther Brown
 Donna Callaghan
 Bob Carlson
 Ricky Dalton
 Hank Desch
 Linda Erp
 Sharron F.
 Noni Fallaria
 Joanne Feist
 Colette Fisher
 Lori Fleming
 Linda Flyer
 Danielle Foote
 Mark Fortun
 Janet Fox
 Rudy Fritz
 Ed Garza
 Michael Jay Gomez
 Tom Gorges
 Bonnie Griggs
 Tony Guadian
 Lonna Hamm
 Caeson Hatch
 Christian Heady
 Luke Henry
 Patsy Heptig
 Charles Hermann
 Kathy Higley
 Maureen Hirt
 Janet Ikenberry

Michele Johnson
 Joani Kampschroeder
 Allen Kehde
 Gretchen Kehde
 Becky Kuhn
 Diana Matthews
 Leo Mauler
 Russ McDonald
 Ellen Mesa
 Vickie Mesa
 Zackary Messerly
 Paul Milburn
 Linden Morgan
 Augustus Nelson
 John Nelson
 Mary Beth Nelson
 Danny Nguyen
 Theophilus Obiefule
 Lupe Otero
 Kathy Otter
 Julie Patterson
 Mike Reilly
 Joel Rivera
 Virginia Romero
 Jon Rossillon
 Greg Schurer
 Carole Scott
 Mary Kay Seidl
 Pete Sethatut
 Christine Shipley
 Gerald Simon
 Brett Smith
 Scott Smith
 Linda Snyder
 Joseph Soza

Cameron Stupansky
 Jack Taylor
 Deloris Tharp
 Amelia Tinio
 Fleda Umscheid
 Oren Van Wallegghem
 Cindy Vasquez
 Lou Volpe
 Marilyn Wagnitz

Jeanette Walker
 Ted Walker
 Susan Williams
 Jon Yarnell
 Dena Yepa

IN MEMORIAM
 -LYDIA OWEN



AUGUST 30 – SEPTEMBER 5

Mon.:	7:30 am.....	Michael James Brittent
Tues.:	7:30 am.....	NO MASS
Wed.:	7:30 am.....	Gloria Garcia
	5:10 pm (Sp.).....	NO MASS
Thurs.:	7:30 am	Osborne-O'Connor Family
	12:10 pm	NO MASS
Fri.:	7:30 am.....	Stefania Chmielt
	12:10 pm	NO MASS
Sat.:	8:00 am	NO MASS
	4:30 pm	Rosie Young Dominguez
Sun.:	7:00 am	Deceased members of the Murray Family
	9:00am	Maria Herzog
	11:00am	Suzie Mercer
	1:00 pm (Sp.).....	Parishioners of St. John
	5:00 pm	Living & Deceased Members of the Monroe Family

INGLÉS COMO SEGUNDO LENGUAJE



Todas las mujeres de habla hispana o internacionales que necesiten aprender ingles. Small World empezara a matricular para el semestre de otono **el martes 7 de setiembre**. Las clases se imparten los martes y los jueves
*Note el nuevo horario: **1:00 pm - 2:30 pm**.

- Si tiene preguntas puede llamar a Ligia: **785-749-3677** o visitar nuestro website: <http://smallworld.school.blog>
- Email: swlawrence68@gmail.com

THE LEAVEN

Gracias a quienes quieran leer la levadura en línea <http://theleaven.org>. A St. John le costó \$ 21 por familia recibirla. Si desea cancelar, envíe un correo electrónico a: pquadian@sjevangelist.com o llame a Patty al **785-843-0109** ¡Gracias!

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO

Estamos viviendo un contexto social muy difícil, muchas personas, a estas alturas del año, todavía no tienen trabajo y su salud es muy precaria. Las injusticias están a la orden del día. Gracias a la Palabra de Dios que nos guía, nuestro corazón se fortalece en la esperanza. Litúrgicamente, hoy regresamos al Evangelio de Marcos, ciclo B, después de haber escuchado el capítulo 6 de San Juan, donde se da el discurso del Pan de Vida. Iniciamos la lectura de Santiago, después de haber escuchado la de los Efesios. Hoy las lecturas apuntan a una misma dirección. ¡Hacia la coherencia en la propia vida! Hacer y vivir lo que decimos es una tarea de todos los días. Seguir los mandamientos con fidelidad es lo que pide el Señor. La enseñanza de Dios de vivir moralmente es el objetivo desde la creación del mundo.

"Y ahora, Israel, escucha las normas y los mandamientos que yo te enseñé, para que los pongas en práctica" (Deuteronomio 4:1). La Carta de Santiago lo describe de la siguiente forma: "Hermanos muy queridos, no se equivoquen: son las cosas buenas y los dones perfectos los que proceden de lo alto" (Santiago 1:16). Y en el Evangelio, Jesús lo pone más claro todavía explicando la manera de ser coherentes: "Ninguna cosa que de fuera entra en la persona puede hacerla impura; lo que hace impura a una persona es lo que sale de ella" (Marcos 7:15-16). Jesús habla un lenguaje desconocido para la gente de su tiempo, muchos de ellos eran muy apegados a la ley. Por lo tanto, no pod

©LPi

MUSICA, CORO, MUSICA

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

CADA LUNES EN TODO EL AÑO

A las 8 de la noche rezamos el Santo Rosario, para pedir 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

Sábado de 3:00 pm a 4:00 pm y Miércoles 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 29 DE AGOSTO

Domingo: Dt 4, 1-2. 6-8/Sal 14, 2-3. 3-4. 4-5 [1]/Sant 1, 17-18. 21-22. 27/Mc 7, 1-8. 14-15. 21-23

Lunes: 1 Tes 4, 13-18/Sal 95, 1 y 3. 4-5. 11-12. 13 [13]/Lc 4, 16-30

Martes: 1 Tes 5, 1-6. 9-11/Sal 26, 1. 4. 13-14 [13]/Lc 4, 31-37

Miércoles: Col 1, 1-8/Sal 51, 10. 11 [10]/Lc 4, 38-44

Jueves: Col 1, 9-14/Sal 97, 2-3. 3-4. 5-6 [2]/Lc 5, 1-11

Viernes: Col 1, 15-20/Sal 99, 1-2. 3. 4. 5 [2]/Lc 5, 33-39

Sábado: Col 1, 21-23/Sal 53, 3-4. 6 y 8 [6]/Lc 6, 1-5

Domingo siguiente: Is 35, 4-7/Sal 145, 7. 8-9. 9-10 [1]/Sant 2, 1-5/Mc 7, 31-37

KIDS SHARING THE GOSPEL

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Wash your hands before you eat! Did you know that rule came from God, so that we would stay healthy? In today's Gospel, the Pharisees liked to wash their hands and follow God's rules, only because they liked to show off. Don't be like those Pharisees. When you follow God's rules, do the right thing out of love for God.

PRAYER

Dear God, help me to keep my heart clean, full of love for you and other people.

SOMETHING TO DRAW

Draw a picture of yourself cleaning up the dishes after a meal.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

The next time you wash your hands, thank God that he made rules to keep us all safe, healthy and happy.



 **PUZZLE**
Find the matching pair.











ANSWER: three and six

 **MISSION**

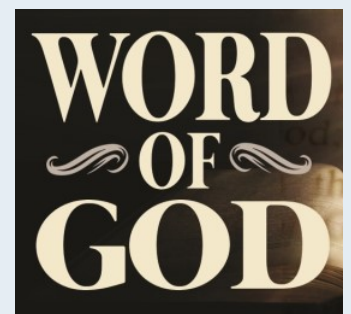
The next time you wash your hands, thank God that he made rules to keep us all safe, healthy and happy.

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 29

- Sunday:** Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
- Monday:** 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Lk 4:16-30
- Tuesday:** 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 4:31-37
- Wednesday:** Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11 [10]/Lk 4:38-44
- Thursday:** Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2]/Lk 5:1-11
- Friday:** Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2b]/Lk 5:33-39
- Saturday:** Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8 [6]/Lk 6:1-5
- Next Sunday:** Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37



FOCUS ON THE WORD

GOSPEL MEDITATION

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Albert Einstein said that the “true measure of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination.” Being a disciple of Jesus Christ requires a great deal of imagination. It is not enough to simply attend to facts, rules and rituals and consider the job done. Quite contrarily, the Gospels demands creativity, of trying to discern how to put flesh on the Beatitudes and properly serve God’s children. Jesus never doled out a top down agenda. Not once did he ever demand conformity over conversion or sacrifice over mercy. The Gospel is always about putting people in touch with their compassionate, forgiving, and unconditionally loving God and meeting them where they are.

For Jesus, it often meant breaking a few rules. Well respected and time-honored traditions had to be set aside in order to attend to what really mattered. God’s compassion, mercy and true conversion were always the trump cards. The story of the Good Samaritan, healing on the Sabbath, and bypassing of purification rituals all display this theme. Human beings can get too hung up on protocol and tradition. This is so much so that often preserving all of these things is of greater concern than the beggar knocking on our door or the sinner looking for mercy. It is no wonder, then, that we can easily become hypocritical. Many can see us on our knees in prayer while our true heart and actions, rooted in judgment and self-preservation, are hidden from others. It is a trap into which we can easily fall. Who cares how we live our lives as long as our



hands are properly washed!

Here enters the need for imagination and the distinction of truly being a wise and intelligent person. It takes a good measure of creativity and a lot of guts to really be a doer of God’s word and not merely a hearer. Being a person who doesn’t just tell people about God but shows people God requires courage and ingenuity. That’s why people like St. Francis of Assisi and St. Teresa of Calcutta are timeless. Their genuineness speaks volumes generation to generation. It’s risky business taking the step to allow God into our hearts. Permitting God to release us from the grip of our evil thoughts, infidelity, greed, malice, sexual improprieties, licentiousness, envy, arrogance, folly, and the like takes courage. That’s why we prefer to spend our energy rearranging the future rather than take measures to secure a foundation that is most certainly crumbling. ©LPi

EVERYDAY REFLECTION

Give it all Back

Pop culture has given us a unique idea of the term justice. Justice, we often think, is about taking. Taking what’s owed. Taking revenge. Taking what we deserve. This worldview tends to make mincemeat of our Catholic social teachings. Seeking the good of the poor, a call to community and participation, solidarity — on the face of it, in a society where everything must be earned and we are encouraged to hoard for ourselves whatever success we can achieve, these principles look a lot like highway robbery.

But when you remember the presence of an omnipotent, all-loving and all-merciful God, it turns our gunslinging sense of justice on its head. For how does justice inhabit the same universe as a God who is so quick to give and indeed to forgive?

Well, very easily, when we remember Who exactly is the source of every good and perfect thing in this world. There is no law that cannot be traced back to the Word. And the Word saves our souls.

Is that justice? No, that is a gift. It is the reckless, indulgent gift of a father whose love is greater than His anger. What is justice in the Biblical sense?

The answer is simple. Look at your life. See the hours in your day? See your spouse, your kids, your grandkids? See the house they live in, the money in your wallet, the food in your fridge, the breath in your lungs?

Calling it all your own, refusing to share any of it — that’s robbery. Giving it all back to the One who gave it to you — that’s justice.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

SOCIAL JUSTICE SOCIAL ACTION

By The Social Concerns for Peace and Justice Committee

In addition to Family Promise, which was discussed here last weekend, some other related ministries are in need of your creative energy and want to be considered.

The social concerns for peace and justice committee itself wants new members! This is the committee through which other peace and justice ministries flow. We offer them time and technical assistance as needed. If interested, please contact Scott Anderson at: Gr8scottusa2@gmail.com or Susan Tabor at souljourner@sbcglobal.net.

We are in need of someone to coordinate volunteers to work

with Habitat for Humanity on housing projects. If interested, please contact Susan Tabor at her email address listed above.

Lately we have heard sobering news about the condition of our home, our earth. If earth care interests you, please contact Tony Schmidt at: tschmidt@eaglecom.net or Susan Tabor.

Also, annual listening sessions for Justice Matters will begin soon, so know that you will likely be hearing from someone concerning this opportunity for input into the identification and solutions for social issues in our local community.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

ARCHDIOCESE THOUGHTS

WHO DO YOU SAY THAT JESUS IS? TO YOURSELF? TO YOUR KIDS? MAY 21, 2021

Can you hear, feel, see or sense Jesus? Can your children hear, feel, see or sense Jesus?

Jesus asked in Scripture: "Who do you say that I am?" He asks each one of us: "Who do you say that I am?"

Other ways of approaching that question might be: Who or what is your God? What do you seek or where is your trust?

Our Creator has longed for honest, deep, personal relationship with us since the garden, throughout the Old Testament, was born as a man, walked with us, died for us and left us his Holy Spirit and the Eucharist to guide our every step and care for us from conception through eternity. Jesus asks: "Who do you say that I am?"

Receiving all of the sacraments, going to Mass faithfully and having a strong devotional life helps you develop a relationship with Jesus. But for some, it takes longer to make the jump from obligation to loving relationship with Jesus.

We read in the Gospel of John: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and



by Deacon Dana Nearmyer

they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand" (10:27-28).

Nurturing our senses and soul to hear, feel, see, sense and recognize his presence, Jesus opens the door to having a meaningful relationship with him. Being aware of his presence is something that is equally important to foster in our children and grandchildren.

Adults and children are invited by the Holy Spirit into a deep relationship with Jesus Christ, but building a meaningful relationship with Our Lord takes openness and time.

The Ash Wednesday Gospel says: "But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you" (Mt 6:6).

This simple instruction to go alone before

your God, listening and discussing is a fast track to beautifully answering the question: "Who do you say that I am?"

Oftentimes, we desire to be guided in our quest for a deep relationship with Jesus. Here are several guided approaches:

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a wonderful approach to building deep conversations with Jesus that start as early as 3 years old. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd approach uses quiet Scripture reflection, hands-on discovery learning and open questioning to create a fertile environment for spiritual growth. The formation for the instructors is really powerful.

Older kids from 5th-12th grade can dive into outdoor adventure and deeper relationships with Jesus at Camp Tekakwitha.

Prayer, Scripture reflection and testimony are integrated with zip lines, horses, canoeing and many other adventures. Two family camps are also available — one offering extensive services for family members with special needs.

Moreover, Alpha For Catholics, Christ Renews His Parish/Discover Christ, Called and Gifted and Teams of Our Lady are all great opportunities for parishes to offer adults the opportunity to lead parishioners into confidence in answering the question: "Who do you say that I am?"

AREA NEWS AND EVENTS

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VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults training is available Online as an option. 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. Parishes may still offer the live training session available as an option if they prefer as long as the local county and state health regulations in effect at the time of the event are followed. Please note, the training must still be completed prior to participants working around youth. 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. 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.

ONE-DAY LADIES' RETREAT WITH SONJA CORBITT

Mother Teresa Catholic Church in Topeka, will be hosting a one-day ladies retreat on **Saturday, September 25** with Sonja Corbitt, the Bible Study Evangelista! We will gather at 8:30 am to pray the rosary. The retreat will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at approximately 3:00 pm with plenty of time between talks for fellowship. Beverages, light snacks, and lunch will be provided. There is no cost to attend but a free-will offering will be accepted. To assure we have enough food, registration is required. Please register online at: www.mtcctopeka.org. Additionally, here is a link to our Facebook event: <https://fb.me/e/16dnRWIxU>

THE CRISIS OF SUICIDE EVENING OF HEALING AND HOPE

Join us for an evening of healing and hope. Kelly & Bob Specht, founders of Carl's Cause, will tell their story, and a teen breakout session will be offered. Professional counselors will offer resources and give concrete ways to foster mental wellness. Recommended for teens and up. **Tuesday, August 31 at 7:00 pm at St. Ann Catholic Church, 7231 Mission Rd, Prairie Village, KS 66208.** For more info visit: www.carlscause.org and www.archkck.org/family/caresupport/catholic-counselors/

LIVING IN THE PRESENT MOMENT RETREAT

Christ's Peace House of Prayer 22131 Meager Road - Easton, KS Friday, September 17 at 5:30 pm – Sunday, September 19 at 4:30 pm. Develop the tools needed to find peace and contentment in your life by learning to live in the present moment and studying de Caussade's spiritual teaching of self-abandonment to Divine Providence. There will be conferences, workshops, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, Confession and time for private prayer, reflection and walking. The suggested donation is \$170/Single or \$250/Couples for the Cabins and Courtyard Rooms or \$100 for the Single Guest Rooms (meals included). To attend, sign-up at christspeace.com, send an email to: info@christspeace.com or call **913-773-8255**.

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