

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Third Sunday of Advent – Dec. 17, 2017

St. Joseph of the Valley: 31151 207th Street, (Rural) Leavenworth, KS 66048

St. Lawrence: 211 West Riley, Easton, KS 66020

Parish Mailing Address: P.O. Box 129, Easton, KS 66020

Father Mathew Francis, Pastor
 Pastor's Email: fmathew62@yahoo.com
 Easton Rectory Phone: 913-773-5712
 Father's Cell Phone: 913-547-3300

Website: www.sjslparish.org
 St. Joseph of the Valley Hall: 913-758-9225
 St. Lawrence Hall & Fax: 913-773-8401
 “LIKE” us on Facebook for new announcements

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

TUES	Dec. 19	06:00 pm	STL	Parishioners of SJV-STL
<i>Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m.</i>				
WED	Dec. 20	06:30 am	STL	Tony Wagner†
THUR	Dec. 21	09:00 am	ENH	Country Care Residents Easton Nursing Home
FRI	Dec. 22	07:30 am	SVJ	Rick Coffey†
SAT	Dec. 23	05:00 pm	SVJ	Ernie DeMaranville †
SUN	Dec. 24	09:00 am	STL	Arch Griffiee †
SUN	Dec. 24	05:00 pm	SVJ	Kathleen Schmader †
SUN	Dec. 24	10:00 pm	STL	Mary Gwartney †

Please pray for the sick, especially: Phil Bell, Doris Blockburger, Ellen Boudreaux, Joe Brose, Carl Davidson, Georgia Dean, Carolyn DeMaranville, Vince Eimer, Marty Eisler, Tom 8Flack, Tina Gaspard, Ronnie Gast, Pete Gwartney, Alan Halstead, Marly Heim, Frank Heintzelman, Jim Heintzelman, Lydia Heintzelman, Nancy Heintzelman, Melanie Herken, Jon Highfill, Trista Highfill, Tracy Howard, Mark Hund, Arlene Jennings, Michael Jones, Margie Kramer, Phillip Leon, Kelly Long, Mary Meinert, Jeni Mettelstedt, Kay Nocktonick, Adam Pineau, Mike Pursel, Mary M. Ruhlman, Irene Schmidling, Tanner Siebenmorgen, Julie Simonis, Jim (Poly) Sloan, Gary Stafford, Merlin Wagner, and Nick Yuska.

Prayer List for Our Soldiers: ARMY: 2LT Daniel Broaddus, Pvt. David Crook, Lexi (Skaggs) Hargis, Major Bryan Herken, PFC Colby Seifert, 1st Sgt. Allen Serrano, William Stradley, Daniel Winkler. AIRFORCE: E-4 Robert W. Herken, TSGT Scott Loecher, E-1 Connor Schuler, AB Noah Tattershall. NAVY: ADDA Jason P. Herken, YN2-SS Kevin Lansing. MARINES: PFC Blake Hadley.

Prayer for Vocations: Brother Seelos (Tyler Lunsford).

LITURGICAL MINISTERS – DEC 23rd and 24th

			EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	LECTORS	OFFERTORY	SERVERS
SAT	SVJ	5:00 pm	Ted & Dawn Staver, Vince Eimer	Dawn Staver	Bre'Ella DeMaranville and family	Tm 5
SUN	STL	9:00 am	Sharon Wagner, Mary Ray, Geri Wilburn, Sue Griffiee	Rita Oatney	Kevin Adelaine and family	Tm 3
SUN	SVJ	5:00 pm	Tracy Heim, Vince Eimer, Robert Jardon, Carol Kroll	Kris Beying	Mr. and Mrs. Tim Beying & family	Tm 6
SUN	STL	10:00 pm	Ted & Dawn Staver, Sharon Wagner, Sue Griffiee	Ted Staver	Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rogers	Tm 1

OUR PARISH NEWS

COLLECTION: Thank you for your gifts to our parish! We received \$1,752.35 and \$633 for the Religious Retirement, and last week's on-line collection of \$179.63. Thank you for your generosity. Visit our website OR Facebook page to click on the link to donate on-line!

OUR HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

DEC 23 (SAT)	SVJ	5:00 PM
DEC 24 (SUN)	STL	9:00 AM
DEC 24 (SUN)	SVJ	5:00 PM
DEC 24 (SUN)	STL	10:00 PM
DEC 25 (MON)	STL	10:00 AM
DEC 30 (SAT)	SVJ	5:00 PM
DEC 31 (SUN)	STL	9:00 AM
DEC 31 (SUN)	SVJ	5:00 PM
JAN 1 (MON)	STL	9:00 AM

WEEKLY CHURCH DONATION ENVELOPES are now available to be picked up in the back of each church for those parishioners who choose to use them for their weekly donations.

ANGEL TREE: Thanks to your generosity, the angels on our trees are taken and the gifts are showing up under the trees. Today is the deadline, but if you are late, please let Mary Ray or Virginia Mowery know and we can work out getting your gifts. Your donations for everything on the wish list, especially the stove, have been overwhelming. God bless you, every one!

NATIVITY PLAY: The K-5 CCD annual nativity play will be held on Saturday **Dec. 16th** following the 5 o'clock mass at St. Joseph of the Valley. We hope to see everyone there!

THANK YOU! Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas wish to thank the parishioners of St. Joseph-St Lawrence for their generous donation of 63 lbs. of food in November. It helped serve 510 households/1224 individuals. **Please continue to donate** food products to help the less fortunate during the winter months. St. Joseph-St. Lawrence Parish would also like to thank Jack and Donna Rogers who generously transport our donations to the Catholic Charity in Leavenworth.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: The second collection held on Christmas Day, Dec. 25th will be for Catholic Charities, for the work of reaching out to the poor and needy of our nation and the world. Please be generous and may God bless you as you give.

CONGRATULATIONS! The St. Joseph-St. Lawrence Parishioners would like to congratulate Richard and Linda Heim on the upcoming celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary. The mass at 5:00 p.m. on Dec. 30th, at St. Joseph of the Valley Church will be offered in their honor for many more blessed years together.

LIONS CLUB COMMITTEE-Jan 4th - Tracy Wagner Chairman-Lisa Crook, Sue Barnes and Virginia Mowery

OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

BLOOD DRIVE: This holiday season, give the gift of life! The Easton Lions club is hosting a Blood Dive to be held Wed., **Dec. 20th**, 2 pm to 6:30 pm at St. Lawrence Hall in Easton. Be a Hero. Give the gift of life. Give Blood.

QUO VADIS RETREAT FOR MEN - “St. Peter – Called, Formed, and Sent” Single men ages 18-35 are invited to discern their vocation. This free retreat is at Savior Pastoral Center **Dec. 21- 23**. Discover God's deepest desire for you. No obligation just opportunity, so come even if you cannot stay for the entire retreat. Learn more and register by Dec. 18 at kckvocations.com or email vocation@archkck.org.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A healthy relationship does not include belittling comments, threats, intimidation, social isolation, economic control, pushing or hitting. If you're not sure if you are in an abusive situation, go to archkck.org/domestic-violence. If you or a family member or friend needs help now, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-7233 (24 hours); 800-787-3224 (TTY); www.ndvh.org. If you're in immediate danger, call 911.

SLS18 - LIFELONG MISSION TRACK INSPIRE & EQUIP CHICAGO - Jan. 2-6 Learn practical skills alongside fellow leaders of the Church, and receive the real-to-life tools you need to bring Christ to others, no matter what stage of life you're in. SLS18 Lifelong Mission Track is a leadership conference that welcomes leaders from parishes, dioceses, communities and beyond to engage in mission. Register Today WWW.SLS18.COM

“EVERY DAY IN LOVE” MARRIAGE WORKSHOP is an upbeat series of three-hour sessions which offer positive and affirming insights and fun couple exercises to help couples love smarter not harder. Two new series begin in January, one in Overland Park and one in Burlington (**Saturday, Jan 13** at Holy Spirit at 5:30p, and Sunday, **Jan 14** at 1pm at St. Francis) Cost: \$25 /couple per session. Child Care is included on Limited basis. This empowering series is a featured offering of the Joyful Marriage Project. Register and see more details at www.archkck.org/everyday. Questions: email Brad, bdupont@archkck.org.

PLEASE NOTE – There are a large number of other Archdiocesan announcements that could not fit in the space available. They will be posted on our church website listed above as a 2nd page to this bulletin.

- Coping With Life Alone/Beginning Experience – Beg 1/14*
- “Living In Love” Retreat: 1/20-21*
- Healing Family Breakdown 1/27*
- March for Life, 1/17-21*
- Ignite Pro Life Youth Rally, 1/22*
- Support Our Seminarians 1/26/2018*
- Healing Family Breakdown Workshop 1/27*
- Special Needs Ministry Respite Care Program: 1/27,*
- Calling All Artists! 2/8*
- The Gender Matters: Fighting for A New Generation 2/10*
- Humanae Vitae Symposium (Benedictine) 3/23-24*
- World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend, 04/20-22*
- Day of Reflection 4/21/18*
- Amazing Parish Conference, 4/25-27*
- Marriage Minute*
- Year-End Gifts And Stock Gifts*
- Donor Advised Funds*

Bulletin Items: Contact Kim Sachse, 913-775-0690 Or Email Sjslparish@gmail.com. Mass intentions may be scheduled with Kim as well. MUST SUBMIT BY 9 pm TUES FOR INCLUSION.

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(FOR POSTING ON THE CHURCH INTERNET SITE)

“LIVING IN LOVE” RETREAT: “We felt like we did when we were first married!” See why over 700 couples in the Archdiocese have experienced the “Living in Love” retreat. Sign up now for the next “Living in Love” retreat held at St. John the Evangelist, Lawrence, **Jan 20-21**. Register online at www.archkck.org/LivingInLove or contact Mary Anne Kierl at the Archdiocese at 913-647-0345 for information.

COPING WITH LIFE ALONE/BEGINNING EXPERIENCE - Peer - To-Peer Grief Support is a Beginning Experience® grief support program that meets each week for 7 weeks. The program helps those who have lost a love relationship due to death, divorce or separation, move through the experience of grief and loss into a future with renewed hope. Upcoming program dates and location: Kansas City, MO – Sundays, **January 14 through February 25**, at St John Francis Regis Church, 8941 James A. Reed Road, KCMO. Contact Donna at (816-305-3760), for information and registration. Sessions will be from 1:30-3:30pm.

HEALING FAMILY BREAKDOWN Every family in America has been affected by Family Breakdown. You are not alone. Are you tired of the drama and insecurity and lovelessness, and wonder how you can feel better? Are you heartbroken, wondering what you can do to help your family, including your kids or grandkids? Do you wonder how we got into such a mess and how we can recover? Come to the Ruth Institute's "Healing Family Breakdown" Spiritual Workshop, at Ascension Parish, Saturday, **Jan. 27th** from 9:00am - 12:30pm. Come, regain hope! Put into practice the practical family building virtues of mercy, empathy, and togetherness. Go to <http://www.ruthinstitute.org/events/healing-family-breakdown> for details and registration information.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2018: Registration is now open for both Archdiocesan sponsored March for Life Pilgrimages, for Youth and for Young Adults. We would love to have you join us! **January 17-21**. Please go to www.archkck.org/march4life to get all the details!

IGNITE PRO LIFE YOUTH RALLY Join us for the first ever YOUTH Pro Life Youth Rally in Topeka KS on **Jan. 22nd!** Join other high school and middle school students from the state of Kansas for live music, a testimony from Melissa Ohden and mass with Archbishop Naumann and Bishop Kemme. For more information and to get tickets visit: www.archkck.org/ignite

SOS “SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS” TICKETS ON SALE How can you support the priesthood and seminarians while having an enjoyable evening? Attend the 25th annual “Support Our Seminarians” benefit dinner at beautiful Union Station. It is Friday, **Jan. 26, 2018**, and will include speakers Archbishop Emeritus James Kelleher, Fr. Jerry Arano-Ponce, and a seminarian. There is a marketplace, delicious Conception baked goods, and wonderful meal. Tickets are \$175 each and can be purchased at www.supportourseminarians.com or by emailing Martha Hodes at mmmhsos512@gmail.com. Proceeds go to each diocese's seminarian education fund, and to fund scholarships at Conception Seminary College.

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SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY RESPITE CARE PROGRAM: Sat., Jan. 27th, 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Holy Cross Catholic School, 8101 West 95th Street, Overland Park, Kansas. Respite Care provides the gift of time away from caregiving for families who have a child with a disability. The program is designed for children between the ages of 6 and 18. For exceptions to the age range, please contact Tom Racunas, Archdiocese Lead Coordinator of the Special Needs Ministry, at 913-647-3054 or by email at tracunas@archkck.org. If you have any questions regarding the program please contact Tom, or Audrey Amor, Archdiocese Respite Care Coordinator at 816.739.1197 or via email at aamor@sjakeepingfaith.org. Volunteers are needed to be a respite buddy to a child with a disability. To register a child for the program or to volunteer please go to www.archkck.org/special-needs and complete the on-line form.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS! THE Catholic Education Foundation's Futures' Committee is hosting their annual art event Thursday, **Feb. 8th**, at the Boulevard Brewery. The CEF Art Event offers an exciting evening of music, food and drink as well as the opportunity to view and bid on professional art along with featured CEF student art. All proceeds from this event go to support the CEF Guardian Angel Fund which provides emergency scholarships for families whose children attend designated Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. These scholarships help families who have experienced unexpected personal hardships (medical bills, job loss, etc.) that might impact a family's ability to pay their child's Catholic school tuition. If you are an artist, have a connection to an artist or have art you would like to donate, we encourage you to contact us. We accept all forms of art medium (pottery, painting, jewelry, etc.) For additional information, please contact Janet Rethman at jrethman@archkck.org or 913-721-1574. Additional event details are at www.cefks.org.

GENDER MATTERS: FIGHTING FOR A NEW GENERATION: Please join Andrew Comiskey of Desert Stream Ministries at this event on **Feb. 10, 2018** from 9am-4pm at Christ Church Anglican, 5500 W 91st St., Overland

Park to discover the compassion and clarity of Jesus towards persons facing gender and sexual identity issues. We want to ignite the Church with a Spirit-filled, truthful hope so that she might shine brightly and clearly in this confusing hour. Cost is \$20 and registration is available online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gendermatters-fighting-for-a-new-generation-registration-35243516306>

HUMANAE VITAE 50 YEARS LATER—A SYMPOSIUM AT BENEDICTINE COLLEGE The theme for the Seventh Annual Symposium on Advancing the New Evangelization at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, “Humanae Vitae 50 Years Later: A Call to Self-Gift,” is a call to reflect on and analyze the significance of Pope Paul VI's encyclical and subsequent Catholic thought on issues of marriage and family life. While Humanae Vitae is most famous for its teaching on the use of contraception, the Symposium hopes to address that issue within the context of the vocation to imitate Christ in making a “sincere gift of self.” To this end we invite proposals from scholars and professionals in all disciplines that address contraception as well as broader questions related to marriage, family, children, and society.

The Symposium is meant to cultivate reflection and dialogue on issues of great urgency to the New Evangelization. Few events in the modern Church have caused as much controversy and division as the publication of Humanae Vitae. While many have found its teachings to be a great challenge, many have also found them to be a great blessing. For this reason, we issue a “Call for Abstracts” to scholars and professionals, graduate students, lay leaders, and consecrated religious to give serious reflection upon the teachings of Humanae Vitae and the ways in which its teachings are communicated to the contemporary world.

It will be held **March 23-24**. For more information, please visit: <https://www.benedictine.edu/faith-life/symposium/index>

MARRIED COUPLES – WANT TO GIVE A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING? Register for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend – it's the best gift you'll ever give to each other and your marriage! Make your reservation now! The next Weekend in Kansas City is April 20-22, 2018. For more information or to apply, please visit our website: www.wwme4youandme.org or call Tony & Barb Zimmerman, 816-741-4066 or email tonybarbz@prodiqy.net

DAY OF REFLECTION: HEALING FROM THE SCANDAL OF ABUSE OF CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND OTHERS IN AUTHORITY WITHIN THE CHURCH The Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas cordially invites you to join Teresa Hartnett for a day of reflection, exploring ways to move forward and heal from the scandal of abuse by clergy, religious and others in authority within the Church, Saturday, **April 21, 2018**, 9am to 3pm, Savior Pastoral Center. We encourage all Catholics to attend, including religious sisters and brothers, deacons, priests, lay ministers, as well as any Catholic grappling with the spiritual wounds we share as a Church. All survivors of abuse, their friends and family members will find this information helpful and edifying; anonymity will be protected. Teresa Hartnett is founder of Spirit Fire (SpiritFire.Live) and The Healing Voices Magazine (thehealingvoices.com). Additional information regarding this Day of Reflection will follow.

AMAZING PARISH CONFERENCE Registration is now open for our Dallas/Fort Worth conference this coming spring! Parish leadership teams that register by October 6 will save \$250 with the early-bird discount, so register today! Amazing Parish Conference - **April 25-27**, Hilton Anatole Dallas. The Amazing Parish conference is a practical and one-of-a-kind experience for parish leaders. You'll receive first-hand organizational health training from New York Times best-selling author, Patrick Lencioni, and you'll learn from dynamic and engaging presenters. The conference experience is also an opportunity for personal and spiritual renewal with daily Mass, confession and Eucharistic Adoration. Unlike other conferences, an Amazing Parish conference is a workshop-style format so pastors and parish leadership team members can work side-by-side to learn what a parish leadership team looks like, how it operates, and how it can best serve its parishioners. By the end of our time together, you'll have gained knowledge and insight, a clear vision of what leadership can look like at your parish, and how to implement it once you get home. <https://amazingparish.org/amazing-parish-conference-dallas-fort-worth/>

YEAR-END GIFTS AND STOCK GIFTS: Gifts mailed or delivered by December 31, will be acknowledged for tax purposes in the 2017 tax year. Using appreciated assets such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds to make year-end charitable gifts has tax advantages to those who itemize deductions. Simple instructions for making a stock gift to the parish or other charities within the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas are available at www.archkck.org/stock. Contact the Stewardship and Development Office, at 913-647-0325 or email steward@archkck.org for help with your gift.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS: If you are facing a large tax bill for 2017 because of the sale of appreciated assets like stock, real estate, or a business you may be interested in the benefits of a Donor Advised Fund through the Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas. More information is available at www.cfnek.org/daf or call 913-647-3062.

MARRIAGE MINUTE- Rejoice always! In these weeks before Christmas, we often hear the word “joy,” usually accompanied by a couple laughing as they share a blanket and sip cocoa by the fire. But what happens if our circumstances aren't “merry and bright?” What if our family is experiencing painful relationships, illness, death or serious financial strain? In these times, we can remember this weekend's readings which tell us, “Rejoice always.” Always?!

Yes! Joy recognizes that the coming of Jesus means:

- Forgiveness that sets us free, even if others don't change.
- Hope of eternal life.
- Strength to endure trials.
- Comfort knowing that Jesus became man to enter into our suffering.

Need some joy this week? Try one of our DIY Date Nights in the Resource section of www.joyfulmarriageproject.com

BULLETIN ITEMS: Contact Kim Sachse, 913-775-0690 or email sislparish@gmail.com. Mass intentions may be scheduled with Kim as well.: