

# 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. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

St. Joseph of the Valley: 31151 207<sup>th</sup> Street, (Rural) Leavenworth, KS 66048  
 St. Lawrence: 211 West Riley, Easton, KS 66020  
 Parish Mailing Address: P.O. Box 129, Easton, KS 66020

Father Francis Bakyor, Pastor  
 Easton Rectory Phone: 913-773-5712  
 Father's cell: 913-235-6837  
 Father's Email: francis.bakyor@yahoo.com

Website: [www.sjslparish.org](http://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. 17	06:00 pm	STL	Eugene (Bud) Wagner †
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m.				
WED	Dec. 18	06:30 am	STL	Parishioners of SJ-SL
THUR	Dec. 19	09:30 am	ENH	Country Care Residents
FRI	Dec. 20	07:30 am	SJV	Doris Blockburger †
SAT	Dec. 21	05:00 pm	SJV	Shirley Karczewski † Jamie Karczewski †
SUN	Dec. 22	09:00 am	STL	Edith “Sam” Ermen †
Confessions: SAT-4:30 pm at SJV; SUN-8:30 am at STL				

**Please pray for the sick, especially:** Phil Bell, Susie Beying, Joe Brose, Jennifer Brushwood, Glenn Coffey, Carl Davidson, George Dean, Carolyn DeMaranville, Vince Eimer, Donald Ernzen, Tom Flack, Tina Gaspard, Ronnie Gast, Alan Halstead, Marly Heim, Rita Sachse Heim, Frank Heintzelman, Jim Heintzelman, Lydia Heintzelman, Melanie Herken, Jon Highfill, Trista Highfill, Mark Hund, Arlene Jennings, Wendi Johnston, Michael Jones, Phillip Leon, Kelly Long, Mary Meinert, Jeni Mettelstedt, Kay Nocktonick, Dannie Phillips, Adam Pineau, Mike Pursel, Mary M. Ruhlman, Tanner Siebenmorgen, Julie Simonis, Jim (Poly) Sloan, Gary Stafford, Louise Wistuba and Nick Yuska.

**Prayer List for Our Soldiers:** ARMY: 1LT Daniel Broaddus, Pvt. David Crook, Lexi (Skaggs) Hargis, Major Bryan Herken, SPC Derrick Hunt, SGT Colby Seifert, William Stradley. AIRFORCE: E-4 Robert W. Herken, TSGT Scott Loecher, E-3 Connor Schuler, A1C Noah Tattershall. NAVY: ADDA Jason P. Herken, YNS1 (SS) Kevin Lansing.

**Prayer for Vocations:** Brother Seelos (Tyler Lunsford).

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS: Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

			EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	LECTORS	OFFERTORY
SAT	SJV	5:00 pm	Robert Jardon, Carol Kroll, Rita Herken	Rita Herken	CCD Students
SUN	STL	9:00 am	Ted & Dawn Staver, Mary Ray	Dawn Staver	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Class

### OUR PARISH NEWS

**COLLECTION:** Thank you for your gifts to our parish! We received \$2,299.10 to include \$70 for utilities, \$30 for mass stipends, \$366.70 for the Retirement Collection and \$55 for the Immaculate Conception. Last week's on-line collection was \$154.63. Thank you for your generosity.

**2020 COLLECTION CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES** are available in the back of each church for parishioners wanting to use them during the upcoming year.

**ANGEL TREES:** We received one more family today and they will be put on tree. Please attach the angel to the outside of the package for Family identification and return the gifts to the church by Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>. If anyone has extra groceries to donate we will be fixing them some food baskets.

Also there are lots of children coming to the Primary School very hungry and although they are fed Breakfast, sometimes it's not enough. So there's a great need for snacks for some children as in the past. Things they could use in individual servings are PB or Cheese Crackers, Goldfish, Fruit Cups, Pretzels, Graham Crackers, Teddy Grahams, Animal Crackers, Pudding Cups, Applesauce, Cheez-its, Cereal Bars, Granola Bars, Nutri Grain Bars, Raisins or Yogurt Covered Raisins. Thank you all for your generosity and may you all have a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

**THANK YOU!** Catholic Charities have sent our parish a Thank You note for our donation of 58 lbs. of food to their organization. These donations help to serve 1335 individuals. Thank you for your continued support and contributions.

**NATIVITY PLAY:** Please join us for the Nativity Play right after the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. The AOC will be serving refreshments.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Fr. Francis would like to have music at the Saturday evening masses at St. Joseph of the Valley Church. If you would like to play or lead the parish in music, or know someone who would be interested, please contact Sue Griffiee @ 913-773-8342.

**CHRISTMAS 2<sup>nd</sup> COLLECTION:** Since 1956, Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas has provided help and created hope for those who are most vulnerable and most in need throughout the 21 counties of Northeast Kansas. Open your hands and hearts to embrace the poor through a gift to the Christmas 2nd Collection to support Catholic Charities.

**Advent 2019 Family Rosary Challenge:** Thank you for joining the Parish in praying collectively 1,500 rosaries as a gift to the Blessed Mother for her "Fiat" which led to the birth of Christianity. So far, our parish has prayed ninety rosaries.

Don't forget to write down the number of rosaries your family prayed this week on the slip of paper in the pew and place it in the collection basket. As a clarification: The number written on the slip are the **total number of rosaries the family prayed**, for example, if 5 members of the family prayed 5 rosaries, the total number of rosaries is 25 and if mom prayed 3 by herself in the car then the total number of rosaries increases to 28. If you miscalculated, please correct the number in this week's collection.

Thank you for joining us in reviving this beautiful tradition and working together as a parish to offer something beautiful to Jesus at Christmas!

### OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

#### **DO NOT CONFORM YOURSELF TO THIS AGE**

St Paul tells us, "Do not conform yourself to this age but ...discern...what is good and pleasing..."

Since Roe v. Wade, around 60 million innocent children have lost their God-given right to live. An entire class of persons, children in the womb, have been relegated to the status of "chattel", personal property, who can be disposed of by those more powerful than they. They have no power to resist. They are subject to abuse and destruction by those with more power, namely the power of the State. They have no voice that can be heard except our own. Without doubt, the killing of innocent children in the womb is the pre-eminent moral evil of our age.

It is for this reason that we must "not conform" to this grave injustice. As St Paul tells us, we must instead stand on the side of truth and justice and "what is good and pleasing to God". We must recognize what both medical science and natural justice tell us: children in the womb are human persons with an inalienable right to life. Undoubtedly, the most important human rights issue of our age is to protect our "first neighbors" ----children in the womb. The womb is the "first home" of the whole human race and standing up for them is a matter of solidarity with our neighbor and love for the poor. We should not stand by while thousands of children every day are evicted and killed! Our call (as St Paul reminds us) is to replace the current culture of death with a new culture of life and a civilization of love.

#### **MARRIAGE MINUTE:** It's all about joy!

This week of Advent is all about joy. Not a sugar-coated "holiday feeling," but a deep trust and peace that comes from God and often "surpasses all understanding." When asked how to get this joy, John the Baptist told people to live their current situation well. In other words, focus your efforts on the vocation God has called you to.

Consider these options to increase your joy:

- Pray that God would help you see your spouse as God sees him or her.
- Affirm your husband's or wife's strength or beauty.
- Tell him or her why they are a great dad or mom.

As we lean into our vocation, joy is released. Consider a marriage retreat in the New Year: [www.archkck.org/livinginlove](http://www.archkck.org/livinginlove).

**IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER:** Many people this time of the year are looking for ways to give. Planned giving can help with gifts for today, also. Any parishioner 70.5 years and over with a balance in their IRA is required to distribute a percentage of their IRA assets to themselves or a charity, by the end of the year. If you'd like to choose our parish, have your IRA Plan Administrator write the check directly to your parish or the Archdiocese, so they will not incur any tax. For some of your parishioners, this will save them from pushing their income into a higher tax bracket and help them find the money to make a gift to the One Faith campaign or other parish need.

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> page to this bulletin.

Bulletin Items: Contact Kim Sachse, 913-775-0690 Or Email [Sisparish@gmail.com](mailto:Sisparish@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)**

**THANKS** to your incredible generosity, the Catholic Education Foundation presented a check for more than \$2.44 million in scholarship funding this month to Archbishop Naumann and Dr. Vincent Cascone, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. The check represents the total scholarships that Catholic Education Foundation will fund this year, allowing more than 1,400 students with significant financial need to attend Catholic elementary and high schools throughout the archdiocese. On behalf of the students and families who will benefit from the scholarships, thank you for making Catholic education available to all students who seek it, regardless of their family's ability to pay. To learn more about Catholic Education Foundation scholarships, visit [www.cefks.org](http://www.cefks.org).

**“THE HISTORY & LEGACY OF IMMACULATA HIGH SCHOOL”** is now available for purchase from the publisher, Lulu.com. Access the link to order from Facebook pages “Forever Raiders”, “Immaculata High School Alumni” or “The History & Legacy of Immaculata High School”. Direct link is: <http://www.lulu.com/shop/mary-ann-sachse-brown-and-marti-sachse-judson/the-history-legacy-of-immaculata-catholic-high-school-in-the-first-city-of-kansas/hardcover/product-24157407.html>. This is a keepsake hardcover 120 page book with nearly 300 images. Available in color (best quality) or black and white.

**PRO-LIFE CHRISTMAS CAROLING** Saturday, Dec. 21; 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. In front of Planned Parenthood, 4401 W. 109th St., Overland Park. In the Christmas story, hope enters the world through the birth of a child, even in the midst of difficult circumstances. Join us as we share this Christmas hope where it is needed most. (event organized by Planned Parenthood Exposed. Contact Ron Kelsey for more information at 913.908.8290)

**HOPE FOR YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES AFTER DEATH BY SUICIDE.** Fully Alive is a new integrated mind-body-soul wellness program that will begin with a two week session on after suicide support using the book, After Suicide: There is hope for you and them by Fr. Chris Alar, MIC. The evening will begin with Mass, followed by small group discussion facilitated by Catholic counselors. The evening will end with prayer. The program will be held at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Shawnee on **January 14th and 21st** from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Adults and teens, accompanied by a parent, are welcome. Please RSVP with number attending to Tom Racunas, Special Needs Ministry, by calling 913.647.3054 or emailing [tracunas@archkck.org](mailto:tracunas@archkck.org). It is not necessary to give your name when you respond.

**2020 KANSAS MARCH FOR LIFE & IGNITE PRO-LIFE YOUTH RALLY** Join us in Topeka for a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children and to acknowledge the 47th year of the Roe vs Wade Supreme Court decision. On **January 22nd, 2020** at the Topeka Performing Arts Center. 9:00 a.m. IGNITE Pro-Life Youth Rally; 11:00 a.m. Mass with the Kansas Bishops and Priests; 12:30 pm March to the Capitol for the Kansas for Life Rally. Presented by the Pro-Life Office, Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. For more information, visit: [archkck.org/prolife](http://archkck.org/prolife). The event is free and open to all! Please register groups at [www.archkck.org/ignite](http://www.archkck.org/ignite)

**RCIA Retreat – Chosen in Christ**

The Office of Evangelization is offering a retreat day for catechumens, candidates, and sponsors to have an encounter with Christ rooted in the questions posed at the Rite of Election. Fr. Andrew Strobl and Mr. Curtis Keddy will again be leading the retreat. (Please note: Space is limited and registration details will be available in December).

Two retreat dates/locations are available:

- Saturday, **January 25, 2020**, at Mother Teresa Parish in Topeka, 9am – 3pm
- Saturday, **February 15, 2020**, at Holy Trinity Parish in Lenexa, 9am – 3pm

**SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE EVENTS**

- March for Life, **January 22-25, 2020**. Youth bus pilgrimage to Washington DC
  - March For Life: All high-schoolers are invited to join us on the March for Life Pilgrimage, **January 22-26, 2020**. Registration online by December 9th! <https://www.archkck.org/march4life>
  - J-High Rally, **February 23, 2020**, at Prairie Star Ranch
- Look for more information, including details on how to get registered, coming soon!

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE:** The National Catholic Office for the Deaf (NCOD) will be hosting their national conference “Pastoral Week 2020: Bread of Life, Heart of Christ” in the Kansas City metro area for the first time, **January 9-13, 2020**. This is a wonderful opportunity for deaf and hard of hearing in the Mid-West region to have access to national speakers, so as to learn more about their Catholic faith, how to be active in the Church, and how to serve as missionary disciples to evangelize their deaf brothers and sisters in Christ. To register for the conference, email [info@ncod.org](mailto:info@ncod.org) or call: 301-577-1684, VP: 301-841-8209. (NCOD website: <https://www.ncod.org/>) All are also invited to Mass at St. Joseph, Shawnee, on Sunday, **January 12**, at 10:30 am. The National Catholic Office for the Deaf is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to Pastoral Ministry with Deaf and Hard of Hearing persons. NCOD serves 5.7 million Deaf and Hard of Hearing Catholics through its pastoral ministry and through its special advocacy to bishops, pastors and families with Deaf children.

**“SPRING BREAK”:** Advancing Christian Stewardship, Catholic Philanthropy, and Resource Development throughout the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., **March 26, 2020** at the Keleher Conference Center, Savior Pastoral Center, Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, 12615 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, Kansas. Half-Day Symposium on Best Practices in Stewardship and Development for Parishes, Schools, Ministries and Organizations. Free Lunch Included. Please contact Leslie Knop with any questions at (913) 647-0326, or email her at [knop@archkck.org](mailto:knop@archkck.org)

**SCOTT HAHN TALK—ALL ARE INVITED** Don't miss Scott Hahn and the St. Paul Center at St. Michael the Archangel Friday, **April 17, 2020**. Study Scripture from the heart of the Church with one of today's most respected scholars. Dr. Hahn will deliver two talks over the course of the evening. Join us in the Church to go deeper into the riches of our Catholic faith! This event is sponsored by the St. Paul Center. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online here: <https://stmichaelcp.org/scott-hahn>

6:30 p.m. — Welcome and talk by Scott Hahn  
7:15 p.m. — St. Paul Center Presentation  
7:30 p.m. — Break, books available for sale

7:45 p.m. — Talk by Scott Hahn

8:30 p.m. — Closing, books available for sale

**CAMP TEKAKWITHA WOMEN'S RETREAT**, scheduled for the weekend of **April 24-26, 2020**. Registration is now official open. Here you will find the space to relax, rejuvenate and reconnect. This is a retreat for women of all ages 21+. No matter your age, you will find speakers that inspire you, sacraments that draw you to the heart of Christ, and fellowship with other women. Reach out to friends and family, and invite them to come with you! Learn more and register at: <http://www.camptekakwitha-womensretreat.com/>

**FAITH-BUILDING AND EVANGELIZATION OPPORTUNITIES** Benedictine College is pleased to offer a number of opportunities for faith-building and evangelization:

**Symposium** – Register Now! Benedictine College's 9th Annual Symposium on Advancing the New Evangelization will be **March 20-21, 2020**. The theme is “Destroyer of the gods: Christian Culture vs. the Idols of Secularism” and the conference will feature the following keynote presenters: Ross Douthat, NewYork Times; Mary Rice Hasson, Ethics & Public Policy Center; Robert Louis Wilken, University of Virginia. Find more information and register at [www.benedictine.edu/symposium](http://www.benedictine.edu/symposium). College students and groups attend at a discounted rate; priests and religious attend for free.

**Study Abroad Experience:** Attention, Parents and Grandparents! Do you know a high school student who would benefit from a once-in-a-lifetime short-term study abroad experience with Benedictine College? Students earn 3 hours of college credit while traveling with a Benedictine College professor to Italy **June 26 – July 16, 2020**. Highlights include a general audience with Pope Francis, guided visits to Rome, Assisi, Florence, Padua, Ravenna, Verona, and Milan. Register by December 1 to save \$500! Learn more and submit an inquiry form at [www.benedictine.edu/journeywithdante](http://www.benedictine.edu/journeywithdante).

**Faith & Beauty in Italy** - You are invited to travel with Benedictine College to Italy **June 15 – 24, 2020** with Associate Professor of Theology Dr. Matt Ramage. Visit the most significant cultural sites in Rome and Florence. Walk in the footsteps of St. Benedict and St. Francis in Subiaco and Assisi. Meet current Benedictine College students at their summer villa in Florence. Learn more and submit an inquiry form at <http://www.benedictine.edu/ravendiscovery>.

**Opportunity for College Students and Adult Learners** – Benedictine College Professor of Theology Dr. Mark Zia will lead a two-week Holy Land Study Abroad Summer Program **May 31 – June 14, 2020**. Earn 3 credit hours while traveling to Bethlehem, Galilee, Jerusalem, and other sites. Learn more and submit an inquiry form at <http://www.benedictine.edu/holyland>.

**CALLING ALL MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER COUPLES** . . . Worldwide Marriage Encounter is offering an afternoon of enrichment, for any couple that has experienced a Marriage Encounter Weekend, on **Saturday, January 18, 2020** from 1:00 - 4:15pm at the Precious Blood Center, 2130 Saint Gaspar Way, Liberty, Missouri. Entitled “Lighting the Way Together - Castles to Lighthouses”, the afternoon will reinvigorate your communication and rekindle the love in your relationship. Mass will be celebrated at 4:30pm with a free willing offering to defray the program costs. For more information or to RSVP email Rich & Wendy Lorenz at [wendyteach3@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyteach3@yahoo.com) by January 10th.

For more information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter and how our ministry can support the couples in your parish you can contact us at the following: Local Area Leadership Couple: Rich & Wendy Lorenz, 815-761-6591, [wendyteach3@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyteach3@yahoo.com). Local Area Leadership Priest: Fr. Ron Will, 816-390-7950, [rlwill2@juno.com](mailto:rlwill2@juno.com). Weekend Application Couple: Tony & Barb Zimmerman, 816-741-4066, [tonybarbz@prodigy.net](mailto:tonybarbz@prodigy.net). Inviting Resource Couple: Ralph & Jan Lewis, 913-909-1028, [encounteredcouple@gmail.com](mailto:encounteredcouple@gmail.com). Behold, I make all things new! . . . The start of a new year brings with it the opportunity to begin anew in all aspects of our lives, including our relationships with God, our family and our friends. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is the perfect way to renew your love and commitment to each other. Grounded in the love of Jesus Christ, the weekend will provide you the tools and the time necessary to grow deeper love so that you can live more intimately and responsibly as a couple of God. The next weekend in the Kansas City area will be **Feb. 28 - Mar 1, 2020**. For more information, or to apply for a weekend, visit [www.wmme4youandme.org](http://www.wmme4youandme.org), or call/email Tony & Barb Zimmerman at 816-741-4066, [tonybarbz@prodigy.net](mailto:tonybarbz@prodigy.net)

**TOTUS TUUS MISSIONARIES NEEDED** Totus Tuus is now accepting applications for Summer 2020 Missionaries. In order to make Totus Tuus a success, awesome faith-filled missionaries are needed...both men and women! **JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Archdiocese Kansas City in Kansas is seeking 8 missionaries for the Totus Tuus 2020 team. Missionaries will travel to parishes in the archdiocese, spending a week at each and running programs for elementary aged children during the day and teens during the evening. Missionaries share in Christian community with the parishes they are visiting, participating in events and staying with host families. Throughout their time with the community, they seek to give witness to their love for Christ and his Church and share their enthusiasm. The team also strives to create an authentic Christian community with each other: praying, working, sharing, and spending many hours together to provide mutual support. This position is a temporary two-month commitment (May 25-August 7, 2020). This includes one week of training and a one week break for the 4th of July. This is a great summer job experience for anyone who wants to work in ministry, education or with children in any setting. Applicants must be 18 or older, have an authentic, dynamic Catholic faith and be actively living the teachings of the Catholic Church. One year of college/work is preferred, but willing to consider mature high school graduates. No major or area of study required. To apply, applicants need to complete TT Missionary Application which can be found on the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas website or at the following link: <https://forms.gle/DFWmWHY1rGkTq3fn7>. If you know of anyone who would make a great missionary, please encourage them to apply. For more info on TT: <https://www.archkck.org/ministries--offices/ecat-youth/youth16-totustuus>