

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord – April 12, 2020

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 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
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	April 14	06:00 pm	STL	CANCELLED
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Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED

WED	April 15	06:30 am	STL	CANCELLED
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FRI	April 17	07:30 am	SJV	CANCELLED
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SAT	April 18	05:00 pm	SJV	CANCELLED
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SUN	April 19	09:00 am	STL	CANCELLED
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Confessions: SAT-4:30 pm at SJV; SUN-8:30 at STL- CANCELLED

PLEASE NOTE: Archbishop Naumann has cancelled all public celebrations of the Holy Mass effective March 17th and until further notice. Please pray for the health and protection of our entire community and nation, and for an end to this crisis.

Please pray for the sick, especially: Phil Bell, Deacon Guy Berry, 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, Richard Heim, Rita Sachse Heim, Frank Heintzelman, Jim Heintzelman, Lydia Heintzelman, Melanie Herken, Jon Highfill, Trista Highfill, Mark Hund, Arlene Jennings, Wendi Johnston, Michael Jones, Elmer Karczewski, Phillip Leon, Kelly Long, Joyce Lowe, Mary Meinert, Jeni Mettelstedt, Don Navinsky, Kay Nocktonick, Dannie Phillips, Adam Pineau, Mike Pursel, Mary M. Ruhlman, Kim Sachse, Tanner Siebenmorgen, Julie Simonis, Jim (Poly) Sloan, Gary Stafford, Aaron Welch, 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).

OUR PARISH NEWS

REMINDER: Father would like to encourage everyone to pray for the health and protection of our entire community and nation, for all our brothers and sisters who are ill, for their caretakers, doctors, nurses, medical and emergency preparedness personnel and elected officials. Should you have an emergency and need to speak with Father, you are encouraged to call him at 913-773-5712 or 913-235-6837.

Please call Father to make an appointment for Confession, if desired. We are also encouraged to go to the Church for private prayers and adoration (but no more than 10 people at a time, and observing the social distancing of 6 ft apart). St. Joseph of the Valley and St. Lawrence Church will be open and available for private visits and prayers from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday starting on Monday, March 30th. At no time shall there be more than ten persons present in the church at one time. Each person should keep proper social distance (minimum of 6 feet) from one another.

Father has also provided us his Reflection on Holy Week as well as his sermon for Easter Sunday. They are attached to this bulletin.

PRAYER FOR A PANDEMIC

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake. May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable. May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent. May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options. May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go. May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all. May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home. As fear grips our country, let us choose love. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen.

A SUGGESTED PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

Jesus, really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar, since I cannot now receive thee under the sacramental veil, I beseech thee, with a heart full of love and longing, to come spiritually into my soul through the Immaculate Heart of thy most Holy Mother, and to abide with me, thou in me, and I in thee, in time and in eternity. Amen

COLLECTION: Thank you for your gifts to our parish! Collections received from April 3-8 totaled \$690.00. Last week's on-line collection was \$132.80. Thank you for your generosity.

DO YOU WANT TO DONATE and not sure how during this time?

In Father's letter of March 24th, he wrote "I know many families are going through hard times this period. I would still like to encourage everyone to continue giving your weekly donations for the upkeep of the parish through online or mail services. God loves a cheerful giver."

Any donations during this difficult time will be greatly appreciated. You can mail in your donations to: St. Joseph-St. Lawrence, P.O. Box 129, Easton, KS 66020 or deposit online by visiting our website at <https://www.sjslparish.org/home/donations> to click on the link to donate on-line! Thank you! We wish everyone good health. Blessings to all!

THANK YOU! The Archbishop's Call To Share Campaign has unofficially ended. Our Parish's assessment was \$11,381.00. 50 donors contributed \$8,004.00 which was 70% of our goal. This was attained with 28% participation of the parishioners. Thank you for your contributions.

PLEASE NOTE: The Collection for the Holy Land (scheduled for Easter weekend) has been moved to Sunday, Sept. 13th due to the COVID-19 crisis.

BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER: Elmer Karczewski will be celebrating his 90th Birthday on April 15th with his immediate family. If you would like to honor him on this occasion, please send him a birthday card, letter, photos, and other good wishes, to 22068 Millwood Road, Easton, KS 66020. Happy Birthday Mr. Karczewski!

OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

PRAYER FROM POPE FRANCIS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us. He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN 2020:

The Archdiocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration has been rescheduled to Sunday, August 23rd, at 2:00 pm, at the 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.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FAMILY

Pope Benedict XVI called John Paul II, "the Pope of the family". He pointed out that John Paul II always emphasized that "the future of humanity passes by way of the family." Today, we often hear in the media about environmental destruction. But as John Paul II pointed out:

"... we must also mention the more serious destruction of the human environment...The first and fundamental structure for "human ecology" is the family, in which man receives his first formative ideas about truth and goodness, and learns what it means to love and to be loved, and thus what it actually means to be a person. Here we mean the family founded on marriage, in which the mutual gift of self by husband and wife creates an environment in which children can be born and develop their potentialities..."

Pornography, abortion and euthanasia place the family under enormous pressure in our culture. This in turn causes society to ignore and undermine the importance of marriage. Just days after the misguided California Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage, Pope Benedict spoke out on this subject: "The union of love, based on matrimony between a man and a woman, which makes up the family, represents a good for all society that cannot be substituted by, confused with, or compared to other types of unions."

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.

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)

CAMP KATERI TEKAKWITHA combines demanding outdoor activities with powerful, spiritual instruction bringing about a unique encounter with God. Although our adventure activities are memorable, often the love that campers experience through prayer is what kids remember most. Take advantage of this amazing opportunity for your kids. For more information and to register, please visit <https://www.archkck.org/camp>

“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.

FAMILY DAY AT PRAIRIE STAR RANCH

Prairie Star Ranch is offering you the chance to step away and enter into a day of prayer, adventure, outdoor activities, and time to reconnect. Families, friends, and communities are invited to join us on **May 3rd** from 9am to 5pm! Opportunities include Horseback Riding, Canoeing, Ropes Activities, and time for prayer. The experience will culminate with the celebration of the Holy Mass in our beautiful St. Kateri Chapel. Let us journey together on this day of Christ-centered adventure! Register online now or contact the Team at Prairie Star Ranch. www.archkck.org/ranch -- 785-746-5693 -- psrministry@archkck.org

CREATING FINANCIAL SECURITY FOR A LOVED ONE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Tuesday, **May 5**, 2020, St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 11822

Homes Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64131

- Establishing a Special Needs Trust
- Guardianship

• The Achieving Better Life Experiences Act of 2013 (ABLE) which allows for tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities. RSVP to Tom Racunas at tracunas@archkck.org or call 913.647.3054. Sponsored by the Special Needs Ministries of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas and the Diocese of Kansas City—St. Joseph Missouri

AMAZING PARISH: Registration is filling fast for the upcoming Amazing Parish Conference hosted by our Archdiocese on **Oct. 19-21st** at the Overland Park Convention Center. Parish teams from around the country have already signed up to take part in this valuable training! Register Here: <https://amazingparish.org/>

What does an Amazing Parish look like? If you're ready to build an effective leadership team and improve the organizational health of your parish, we hope you'll join us. Amazing Parish gives busy pastors and their teams the tools they need to transform their parishes - moving from maintenance mode to mission communities that are truly alive! For more information : Parish Journey – A Pastor's First Steps, <https://amazingparish.org/get-started/#firststeps> or call the Office of Evangelization at 913-721-1570

FAITH-BUILDING AND EVANGELIZATION OPPORTUNITIES

Benedictine College is pleased to offer a number of opportunities for faith-building and evangelization:

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.

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>.

NEW END-OF-LIFE RESOURCE GUIDE IS NOW AVAILABLE

The Ethics Council that serves Archbishop Naumann has produced a comprehensive resource for end-of-life planning titled “Catholic Guide For End-Of Life and Establishing of Advance Directives”. The purpose of the guide is to assist the faithful in making wise decisions about complex treatments in grave illness or as life's end approaches in accordance with the teachings of our Catholic faith. It also includes two Appendices for a Durable Power of Attorney and an Advance Directive form. For a free digital copy of the Guide, visit www.archkck.org/prolife-end-of-life-care.

Reflection on Holy Week and Easter (2020)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm greetings to everyone. I hope you are all keeping well and safe. My prayers are with you all at these hard, difficult, stressed, and trying times. With the help of the lord we shall overcome this situation in due time.

The Coronavirus pandemic has driven everything out of gear in our Holy Week and Easter Liturgical celebrations. This year we shall miss the traditional celebrations of the Holy Week-Great Week, particularly Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil mass) and Easter Sunday. We are forced by circumstances to confine ourselves in our homes and pray silently to celebrate these events. Some of us will have the chance to view these celebrations on the social media, live streams provided by some of the parishes around us. It is never the same when you are physically present in the celebration.

Holy Week:

In Christianity, Holy Week (Great Week) is the week immediately preceding Easter. It is the last week of Lent, in the West, - Palm Sunday, Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday, (Spy Wednesday), Maundy Thursday, (Holy Thursday), Good Friday (holy Friday), and Holy Saturday-all are included. Easter Day, which begins the season of Eastertide, is not.

Holy Week liturgies attract the biggest crowds of the year. Many Christian cultures have different traditions like church attendance, floats, sculptures of Christ life, arrest and burial and contributing to the Great Feasts, to echo the theme of resurrection. Today, in the Western Christian Church, among Lutherans, Anglicans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Catholics, the liturgies used for HOLY Week are nearly identical.

Maundy Thursday:

Maundy Thursday (also known as Holy Thursday) commemorate the Last Supper, where Christ lays out the model for the Eucharist or Holy Communion. During the meal, Jesus predicted the events that would immediately follow, including his betrayal, the Denial of Peter, and his death and resurrection. Events of the last supper play varying roles in commemoration liturgies depending on the denomination.

In the Catholic church, on this day the private celebration of Mass is forbidden. Thus, apart from the Chrism Mass for the blessing of the Holy Oils that the diocesan Bishop may celebrate on the morning of holy Thursday, but also on some other day close to Easter, the only Mass on this day is the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, which inaugurates the period of three days known as the Easter Triduum, that includes Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday.

Good Friday:

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his subsequent death. Commemorations of often solemn and mournful, many denominations use Good Friday to perform the Stations of the Cross, or other commemorations of the Passion, either as a self-guided time of reflection and veneration or as a procession of statues or images of the stations.

For Catholics, Methodists, Lutherans, Reformed and Anglican Christians, Good Friday is widely observed as a fast day.

It is the day that the congregation prays for the church, the Pope, the Jews, the non-Christians, unbelievers and others.

Veneration Of the Cross:

A crucifix is solemnly unveiled before the congregation. The people venerate it on their knees. After the veneration the Holy communion is distributed to the congregation with the Eucharist consecrated on holy Thursday evening. The Good Friday liturgy is not a Mass. Mass is forbidden in the Catholic Church on Good Friday.

Holy Saturday:

Holy Saturday is the day between the crucifixion of Jesus and his resurrection. In the Catholic tradition, Mass is not celebrated on what is liturgically Holy Saturday. The celebration of Easter begins after sundown on what, though still Saturday in the civil calendar, is liturgically Easter Sunday.

On Holy Saturday the Church waits at the lord's tomb in prayer, meditation on his passion and death and on his Descent into Hell, and waiting his resurrection.

Homily for Easter Sunday, (4/12/2020)

Texts: First Reading, Acts. 10: 34a-37-43

Second reading, Col. 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor. 5: 6b-8

Third Reading, John. 20: 1-9

Theme: Halleluiah, Praise the Lord!

Congregation: St. Joseph- St Lawrence Parish, Easton.

A certain kindergarten teacher was telling her children the story of Jesus. In her class was a little boy who came from a non-Christian family. He was paying very close attention to the story because it was all new to him. As the teacher told Jesus was condemned and nailed to the cross to die the boy's countenance fell and he murmured, "No! That's too bad" The teacher then went on to tell how on the third day Jesus rose from the dead and came back to life. The boy's eyes lit up with delight and he exclaimed, "Totally awesome!" On Good Friday we heard the story of the suffering and death of Jesus. Like the little boy many of us felt like "No! That's too bad". Today we hear the rest of the story and again with the little boy we can now exclaim "Yes! Totally awesome!" Today we can again sing "Halleluiah" that we have not sung all through Lent. This the Day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad (Psalm 118:24)

Why do we rejoice today? We rejoice because our faith in Christ has been vindicated, truth has triumphed over falsity, justice over injustice and tragedy has turned into comedy. It is like watching one of the episodes of Batman. First you see an innocent and helpless victim being attacked, robbed, kidnapped, assaulted and tortured by a wicked assailant. And we feel so bad seeing the triumph of the bad guy. Then, almost at the point where the victim has given up hope and is at the point of death down from the skies comes Batman to the rescue. He battles and defeat the bad guy and rescues the innocent victim. And we feel happy inside at the triumph of justice.

The suffering and the death of Jesus on Good Friday is the story of the triumph of falsity over truth, of injustice over justice, of evil over goodness. Jesus was falsely charged of crimes he did not commit, and unjustly sentenced to a death he not deserve. His good friend betrayed him, his trusted companions deserted him and his number one man denied him. The people he loved demanded his crucifixion and chose to have the bandit Barabbas released in his place. It is a story of betrayal and lies, dishonesty and meanness, unfaithfulness and wicked violence directed against an innocent and apparently helpless victim. All this come to a head on Good Friday when we see Jesus scourged, mocked led on the death march, nailed to the cross where he dies after a few hours and hastily buried in tom. If that were the end of the story that would be a bad story, a tragedy. But glory be to god it is not.

Death is not the end of the story. There is one more chapter. This is the most important chapter because, as the saying goes, they who laughs last laughs best. And in the last chapter of the story we see Jesus rise from the dead in all glory and majesty. He is vindicated. His enemies are shamed and confused. Jesus regains his eternal glory with the Father. He is the Lord who will prevail over all humankind, his enemies included. For us his embattled followers this is good news.

It is good news to know that truth is immortal. We can suppress Truth, accuse it of being a lie, condemn it, torture it, kill it, bury it in the grave but on the third day Truth will rise again. Remember this and do not give up on Truth even when everybody seems to give up on it. Do not give up on Truth, do not give up on justice. Do not give up on doing what is right. True will always be true. Just will always be just. Right will always be right even when the world around you would have it otherwise. We must learn to believe in the sun even when it is not shining, knowing that by and by it will shine again. It is the end story that counts. That is why the Church asks us to rejoice and be glad. Even when we are going through very difficult times: as we are experiencing now with the Coronavirus pandemic, through betrayal from good friends, unjust discrimination, lies, misrepresentations, even when the enemy seems to be winning the battle in our lives. Today Christ has won. And we know that in Christ we shall overcome. Halleluiah, Praise the Lord.

The Resurrection of Christ from death brings hope to those who have died in living their faith in the Lord. At death life is not ended but change. For those who are still alive and living their faith in the Lord will also rise with him when we die. Let us at these hard and trying period pray for all those who have lost their lives through this pandemic, that the lord will open the gate of heaven for them. We pray for comfort, healing, and consolation of their families, friends and loved ones. We pray also for all those in the frontline and risking their lives to save those infected by the deadly virus, the doctors, nurses, medical assistance, the governors, mayors and the government officials, that the Lord would protect them daily in their world.

May the risen Lord Bless you ALL

Fr. Bakyor Francis