

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Third Sunday of Easter– April 26, 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 28	06:00 pm	STL	CANCELLED
------	----------	----------	-----	-----------

Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED

WED	April 29	06:30 am	STL	CANCELLED
-----	----------	----------	-----	-----------

FRI	May 1	07:30 am	SJV	CANCELLED
-----	-------	----------	-----	-----------

SAT	May 2	05:00 pm	SJV	CANCELLED
-----	-------	----------	-----	-----------

SUN	May 3	09:00 am	STL	CANCELLED
-----	-------	----------	-----	-----------

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 Erzen, 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 his Homily for this Sunday. It is attached to this bulletin.

COLLECTION: Thank you for your gifts to our parish! Collections received this week totaled \$1416.00. Last week's on-line collection was \$563.91. 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!

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/Leewood. 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.

ROE V. WADE...RIGHT TO PRIVACY

In Roe vs. Wade, our Supreme Court held that women have a constitutional right to privacy, and that includes abortion. The word "abortion" is not found anywhere in the Constitution. Interestingly, the word "privacy" is also totally absent. Yet, the court said that a constitutional right to privacy is found "emanating from a penumbra" of the liberty clause of the Constitution. This is pure nonsense and these verbal gymnastics are a perfect example of "judicial activism" which simply means that the Supreme Court started with the political conclusion it wanted and blatantly twisted the Constitution to make it fit. In short, the majority of judges who decided the case had a political agenda and manipulated our Constitution.

Notwithstanding the lack of legal justification for the decision in Roe vs. Wade, one has to ask why should any right to privacy allow an expectant mother to abort her baby. Indeed, all rights under the Constitution have limits and there are many things which occur in private that the law does not allow. Before society can say that someone's right to participate in a certain activity is derived from his or her right to privacy, it must first answer the question, "The privacy to do what?"

In the case of abortion, the question is whether a woman's right to privacy supersedes her child's right to life. To say that it does is to contend that every right expressed in the Constitution has limits, except the one which is not expressed, but had to be contrived "emanating from a penumbra". The only legitimate view is that when one person's "choice" will cost another human being his or her life, that "choice" cannot be considered a matter of privacy.

WALKING WITH MOMS DURING THE PANDEMIC: Divine Mercy Sunday's message contained the theme "Jesus I Trust in You." This is an important message as we all navigate the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is especially important to expectant mothers as they are bringing life into a world gripped by anxiety, and many have heightened fears due to being isolated from sources of support. Unfortunately, we know that Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry are using these fears to prey on vulnerable women, telling them the responsible thing to do is to abort their children instead of bringing them into the world at this time. Sadly, this message must be resonating as we have seen reports of increased abortions around the country. The Walking With Moms in Need initiative is incredibly important right now! Our Gabriel Project Ministry is ready to help any woman in need. Gabriel Project Ministry <https://www.gabrielprojectkc.com>, 24/7 Free, Confidential assistance: 913-602-0306

Please also know that all of the pregnancy centers within the Archdiocese are still working to help women in need. Some are keeping their clinics open, limiting staff and hours and implementing CDC recommendations, while others are answering calls and doing phone counseling. Many centers report that they are receiving increased calls. Please keep these pregnancy centers in your prayers and you are encouraged to continue helping them with financial and material (diapers/formula) support. It is most needed at this time!

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.

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH
“Two Churches, One Parish”
Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
April 26, 2020

PAGE 2 – bulletin
(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>

NOTE: MESSAGE ABOUT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Archdiocese is closely monitoring the unfolding COVID-19 situation. At this time no decisions have been made about summer programs of Camp Tekakwitha, Totus Tuus or Prayer/Action. We will keep you updated as we explore all possible options for safely conducting summer programs in 2020.

“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.

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.

Homily for the 3rd Sunday after Easter, Year A (4/19/2020)

Texts. First Reading-Acts.2:14,22-33

Second Reading-1Pt.1:17-21

Third Reading-Lk.24:13-35

Theme: Alleluiah! The risen Christ is with Us.

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

Introduction:

All of us have taken a trip at one time or another in our lives. We take trips for business purposes, for pleasure, or for other reasons. A trip might even consist of merely going across town to shop or to visit people we love and care about.

Message:

Today's Gospel is a story about two disciples who are on a journey. Cleopas and another unnamed person are taking a trip from Jerusalem to Emmaus about seven miles. Of course they were walking.

They were hoping that Jesus of Nazareth, the prophet who had been powerful in word and deed, the one who had been condemned to death and crucified, is the one who will free the Jews from Roman domination.

There has been a story, too, that Jesus is alive. But these two do not believe such a rumor. In the early evening, they picked up a hitchhiker and together they discussed the Old Testament.

When it comes to time for dinner, they invited the stranger walking with them to join them. The man accepts. And when he breaks bread with them their eyes are opened to the fact their guest is Jesus.

Our Lord assured his disciples that though he must leave them, He would not leave them comfortless or without enablement. He promised them that he would come to them through the ministry and work of the Holy Spirit for fellowship, guidance, comfort, and strength. He also promised that by abiding in Him they would experience His life to become fruitful disciples, men with a mission and purpose in life, (Jn.16:12-13).

Included with these promises, He also gave them specific revelation regarding His death and resurrection, both of which are essential to these promises. Yet after His death we find the disciples sad, gloomy, fearful, perplexed, scattered, defeated, and running in retreat with no sense of mission or purpose. They were men in desperate need of the Savior's touch; they needed his comfort and direction. The two disciples travel from doubt to despair to faith in the Resurrection of Jesus.

We, too, are on a trip. We spend our lives travelling not only on business, for pleasure, or to visit family and friends, but also from doubt and despair to faith in the Resurrection of Jesus.

We do not go on the same physical road taken by the two disciples but we travel the same road of faith. As we do, we find that we are sojourning in what appears to be a strange land. We doubt and despair in times of sickness or when we find out that someone we know and love has cancer or

AIDS, coronavirus infection, or some terminal disease. That's when we travel the road of doubt asking why this would happen to such a person. If there is god, why does he permit such things to happen?

Then somehow, sooner or later, God breaks through into our lives. We come to accept our human limitations, learn how to share in suffering, toss aside our anger with God, and see how God is at work in our lives through this sickness.

We travel the road of doubt and despair to belief like those disciples of old. We also travel this same road when we experience a death in the family. The death of a love one brings on doubt and despair. Why do we have to die? Why does God take people? What will happen to me now that my spouse is gone. These questions clearly bespeak doubt and despair. If death occurred as a result of an accident or suicide, the feeling of doubt and despair is even greater.

As death is dealt with and accepted, and as people work through their grief, they gradually the come to life again. They travel the road from doubt and despair to belief as did those two disciples walking to Emmaus.

We spend our whole lives making this trip over and over again. Each of us knows this road very well. We are constantly taking this trip from doubt and despair to faith. Along the way, we experience the Resurrection of Jesus. We discover Jesus alive and with us. Sometimes we are so caught up in our doubt and despair that we cannot see Jesus as he travels with us.

The two disciples are also blinded by their doubt and despair. They cannot see that the hitchhiker who make their hearts burn is Jesus with them.

New Life:

The very moments of doubt and despair are themselves a sign of God at work in our lives. God works through us just as he did with Jesus. Doubt and despair, while not pleasant experiences, can be the Signs and wonders that reveal to us the God who raised Jesus from the dead. These are our credentials showing that God is with us as we travel through life.

God often chooses strange signs to move us from doubt and despair to faith. He chose his Son's Crucifixion and death's bitter pangs to reveal the fullness of a life of faith.

Likewise, God chooses the everyday doubts and despair in our lives as we make our sojourn – our life's trip-to enable us to experience faith.

If we feel our hearts burning within us in our moments of doubt and despair, then sooner or later our eyes will be opened and we recognize Jesus with us ,whereupon he will vanish from our sight, waiting for another opportunity to travel with us and bring us to faith once again in his Resurrection. He is with us throughout our lifetime trial.

In this time of despair, confusion, stress, and doubt with Covid 19 disease pandemic, Lord we invite you to journey with us. Lead us to the way forward. Lead us through these troubled days. With you everything is possible.

AMEN.

Fr. Bakyor Francis