

# WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus  
Fifth Sunday of Easter– May 10, 2020

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	May 12	06:00 pm	STL	CANCELLED
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Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED

WED	May 13	06:30 am	STL	CANCELLED
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FRI	May 15	07:30 am	SJV	CANCELLED
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SAT	May 16	05:00 pm	SJV	CANCELLED
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SUN	May 17	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 17<sup>th</sup> and until further notice. Please pray for the health and protection of our entire community and nation, and for an end to this crisis.**

**STAY TUNED TO FACEBOOK FOR ANY CHANGES IN OUR SCHEDULE!**

***Please pray for the sick, especially:*** Phil Bell, Deacon Guy Berry, Susie Beyer, 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 30<sup>th</sup>. 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 \$480.00. Last week's on-line collection was \$165. Thank you for your generosity.

**DO YOU WANT TO DONATE and not sure how during this time?** In Father's letter of March 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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.

**MOTHERHOOD:** Mothers are a gift from God. God knew what He was doing when He created women with the ability to nurture life. Mother's Day honors all our mothers and their enormous sacrifices. Mother's Day encompasses more than just the honoring of those who have borne children. It is the celebration of motherhood---the divine nature of women. May we all feel a deeper appreciation for the great blessing of motherhood, not just when we celebrate Mother's Day, but everyday! Our culture of death undermines both motherhood and the God-given gift and blessing of children. May we also help the next generation reclaim and respect this incredible gift of MOTHERHOOD!

**UPDATES ON UPCOMING ORDINATIONS:** After considering various options, it has been decided to go forward with the ordinations to the priesthood and transitional diaconate on the original dates. The ordinations will be restricted to a very small number of attendees, and unfortunately will not be public events. The transitional diaconate ordination will be on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am. The priesthood ordination will be on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30am. Both ordinations will be held at the Cathedral and will be live-streamed on the Archdiocesan site of [livestream.com/archkck.org](http://livestream.com/archkck.org) which can also be found on the [archkck.org](http://archkck.org) website. Please keep the men to be ordained in your prayers. Please keep our ordinandi in your prayers. Let us rejoice that the Lord continues to call men to the blessed service of the priesthood.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY: TEACHER** -Xavier Catholic School in Leavenworth, KS is seeking full-time elementary and part-time PE teachers for the 2020-2021 school year. Interested candidates please send an email to: [principal.xavier@leavenworthcatholicschools.org](mailto:principal.xavier@leavenworthcatholicschools.org) for more information.

**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 [Sis/parish@gmail.com](mailto:Sis/parish@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>

**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.

**AMAZING PARISH:** Registration is filling fast for the upcoming Amazing Parish Conference hosted by our Archdiocese on **Oct. 19-21<sup>st</sup>** 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

**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](http://www.archkck.org/prolife-end-of-life-care) .

Homily for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year A (5/10/2020)

Texts. First Reading: Acts 6:1-7.

Second Reading: 1Peter 2:4-9.

Third Reading: John 14:1-12.

Theme. Believe in God, and also believe in me.

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

Warm greetings to you all again brothers and sisters in Christ. I am sure you are all staying safe. My prayers are with you all. May you all find safety in the protecting power of the Risen Lord. We continue to pray for each other in this time of uncertainty and confusion. Have faith in God and everything is possible. Let us now turn our ears to listen to what the word of God tells us today.

Five-year old Johnny is in the kitchen with his mother who is preparing supper. She asks him to go to the basement and fetch her a can of tomato soup. "It's dark in there and I'm scared" replies Johnny. The mother tries to convince him it is safe to go alone to the basement but without much success. Finally, she says: "It's all right Johnny, Jesus will be in there with you. Johnny walks hesitantly to the door and slowly opens it. He peeps inside, to see that it is still dark in there, and start to go back. Then, suddenly he gets an idea. He opens the basement door a little and yells: "Jesus, if you're in there, would you hand me a can of tomato soup, please?"

Johnny's fear is similar to the fear of the disciples as the time draws near for Jesus to leave them. They are afraid to face the world alone. In today's gospel reading Jesus does pretty much what Johnny's mother tried to do, namely, convince the disciples that there is no need to be afraid, even when he is not there with them.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled" (Jn.14:1a). The Greek text shows that the disciples are already afraid and Jesus is asking them here to master their fears. What reason does Jesus give them? It is both simple and profound: "You believe in God, also believe in me" (Jn.14:1b). It is easy to believe in God, a spiritual being that we cannot see. The challenge is to believe in ordinary, flesh-and blood human beings whom we know all too well already. The challenge is to believe in the incarnation, that the all-knowing, all-loving, and all-powerful God is present and active in ordinary human beings who are often lacking in knowledge, in love, and in moral strength.

You believe in God (that is the easy part), believe also in me, a presumably frail human being (that is the hard part). The disciples see God in Jesus, so long as he is around, there is no fear. But they do not see God in their fellow disciples. They are just human subjects to the shortcomings and weaknesses of ordinary mortals. The disciples set Jesus apart. They put him on a different platform from themselves.

It is interesting to note that all the reasoning that Jesus offers to persuade them not to fear is pitched on the exact opposite camp. Jesus is trying to convince them that if God could work through him, Jesus, then God could as well work through any other human being. Jesus places himself on the same platform with them so as to make them believe that God can use them and work through them in spite of their human deficiencies. In fact, in order to drive home the point, Jesus even goes as far as

placing the disciples on a higher platform than himself as people through who God can work "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do greater work than these, because I am going to the Father ( Jn.14:12).

Today, many of us are like Philip; our prayer is: "Lord show us the Father, and we will be satisfied (Jn 14:8). Show us that God is with us in the Church. Show us that God is actively involved in events in our world today. What does Jesus answer? "How can you say, "Show us the Father?" (Jn 14:9) when God is so deeply involved in the events and crises of the Church and of the world.

You see, the incarnation (God becoming flesh) has removed the wall of division between the divine and the human. The history of God and the history of humanity have become inextricably intertwined. The story of the kingdom of god , which Jesus came to inaugurate cannot be told apart from the story of the Church in the world.

God took a risk when God decided to become human. Whether the divine risk will issue in success or failure is up to us. When we see things happening in the Church or in our world the way they should not, it is the time to blame for abandoning us to our own whims and caprices. No, God is always with us. It is rather a time for serious soul searching, a time for us as individuals and as a Church to ask ourselves:

Where do we miss it? How can we get back on God's track? What is god saying to us in these events and crises? We should not let our hearts be troubled. We believe in God, let us believe in men and women made in the image and likeness of God.

In this time of great stress, confusion and trial, in the world , let us hear the consoling message Jesus had for the disciples in today's scripture:"" Do not let your hearts be troubled" (Jn.14:1a)" Believe in God, believe also in me (Jn.14:1b)". Let us put our trust and confidence in God he will find a way out for us during these hard times.

Fr. Bakyor Francis.