

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Solemnity of Pentecost Sunday– May 31, 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
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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	June 2	07:00 pm	STL	Jack Rogers †
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	June 4	07:00 pm	SJV	Edward & Rose Hand †
SAT	June 6	05:00 pm	SJV	Shirley Karczewski † Jamie Karczewski †
SUN	June 7	09:00 am	STL	Mary Gwartney †

Confessions: SAT-4:30 pm at SJV; SUN-8:30 at STL

PLEASE NOTE:

Attendance for Masses - limited to 25% of the building's seating capacity— 30-75 at St. Lawrence and 15-30 at St. Joseph of the Valley. We will be offering four Masses per week. Please do not feel obligated to attend weekend Masses — weekday Masses will work just fine if it fits into your family's schedule. You may sign-up for Masses online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4AA9AB2AA1FA7-stjosephst>. Please see online info for restrictions and guidance.

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, 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

COLLECTION: Thank you for your gifts to our parish! Collections received this week totaled \$905.00. Last week's on-line collection was \$529.47. 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! Fr. Francis and the Parishioners received the following note from Alaine Sloan. "I am extremely blessed and thankful that you chose to support me in my Catholic education at Benedictine College with the scholarship donation. The support that our parish has given me throughout my life brings me so much joy. God bless and Thank You."

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.

HOW DO WE CHANGE OUR CULTURE OF DEATH?

Pope John Paul II noted that the structure of man's sin is characterized or manifest on a universal scale in our Culture of Death. He pointed out that the powerful are easily able to manhandle the weak (e.g. abortion and euthanasia). The culture of death is not the result of philosophy or decrepit ethics, or political theory. The culture of death is a result of sin committed freely by persons.

This is fundamentally a personal problem, not a political one. So, the battle will not be won solely by a political action or movement, because the battle is not against human beings or arid philosophies, but is a battle against sin: "For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens" (Eph. 6:12). Therefore, first and foremost, we must first recognize God's saving action and saving mission, and then participate in it. This has always been, and will always be the Church's role. We love because He loved us first (1 Jn. 4:19), and we spread that love through our testimony to the nations (Acts 1:8). We must try to influence our culture with our words and deeds, realizing that the purpose of evangelization is always to introduce man to the Person

of Christ, and the Person of Christ to man, that man might enter into His mystical body, the Church.

Thus, through grace attained by turning to Him, the culture of death can indeed be transformed, simply because the Gospel always has the power to transform the hearts of men...even when the culture seems most evil, hopeless and perverse.

A RETREAT ON SOCIAL JUSTICE WITH DOROTHY DAY: To be held at Christ's Peace on Friday, **June 12, 2020** 5:30 PM - Sunday, **June 14, 2020** 4:30 PM. Please join us as we delve into the teachings of Dorothy Day and her deep conviction for Social Justice. Come be inspired by the dynamic way in which this journalist's conversion propelled her to found the Catholic Worker movement and advocate for the poor. There will be conferences, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, Confession and time for private prayer, reflection and walking. Cabins/Courtyard Rooms: \$170 Single/\$250 Couple or Single Guest Rooms: \$100 (Meals Included). To attend, send an email to: info@christspeace.com or call 913.773.8255.

CHRIST'S PEACE UPCOMING RETREAT SCHEDULE:

June 12th- 14th

Dorothy Day - Social Justice

July 12th

Consecration to Mary - Initial Meeting

July 17th – 19th

Katheryn Doherty – A Poustinia Desert Weekend

August 14th - 16th

St. Louis de Montfort - Consecration to Mary

September 11th – 13th

St. Benedict – Work and Holiness

November 6th – 8th

St. Louis and Zelig Martin – Family Sanctity

December – 4th – 6th

St. John the Baptist – An Advent Silent Retreat

January 8th – 10th

Spiritual Reflection and Planning

UNFAILING MERCY RETREAT: PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, compassionate help is available. Our next Unfailing Mercy retreat for help after abortion will be held on **June 12-14**. This is a weekend of focused, intensive time wherein God often brings about profound healing. To register please call Ann Marie Alvey at (913) 621-2199 or email at projectrachelkc@archkck.org.

XAVIER OPEN HOUSE: You can now visit Xavier Catholic School from anywhere! Join Xavier Catholic School for an online open house via Zoom. Open house will be held Tuesday, **June 23rd** and Thursday, **July 23rd**, 6-7 pm CST. During this interactive experience, you will have an opportunity to meet with admissions and financial aid staff, the principal, several teachers, and Xavier parents and students. We are excited to share what it means to be part of the Raider family! All new families who enroll following the Virtual Open House will receive \$100 credit towards enrollment fees. You must be registered to receive the credit. Register at <https://leavenworthcatholicsschools.org/ad.../enrollment-events>

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 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)

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING: Fertility Care Center is planning to hold their next Creighton Model Education Class in August (EPI) & March (EPII). They will provide the class over two extended weekends to help accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

The dates are:

Education Phase One: **August 21-24 & August 28-31, 2020**

Education Phase Two: **March 6-8 & March 13-15, 2021**

The link to their website with all the information needed to apply is

<http://www.fertilitycarekc.com/fertilitycare-practitioner-training.html>

Questions can be referred to admin@fertilitycarekc.com or pwhite@fertilitycarekc.com.

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.

VIRTUAL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN: Wyandotte and Olathe Pregnancy Centers are taking their Baby Bottle Campaign virtual this year! During this time of the Covid 19 crisis, your prayers and financial support are needed more than ever to assist them in carrying out their mission of supporting women and families facing unplanned pregnancies. Visit: <https://secure.ministrysync.com/ministrysync/event/website/home/?e=20149> or donate through your parish link. Together, we can continue to share God's truth while showing His Love to men and women in our community facing unplanned pregnancies.

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.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: Join us for the next Weekend, **July 31-Aug 2nd** at Savior Pastoral Center in KCK. It's the perfect way to renew your love and commitment to each other and to learn the tools that will carry you forward to live more intimately and responsibly together, no matter the circumstances of the life. For more info, visit: www.wme4youandme.org, or call/email Tony & Barb Zimmerman at 816-741-4066, tonybarbz@prodigy.net.

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

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.

Pentecost Sunday, Year A- (5/31/2020)

Texts: First Reading: Acts.2: 1-11

Second Reading: 1Cor.12:3-7,12-13

Third Reading: John.20:19-23

Theme: "Come Holy Spirit! Fill the hearts of thy faithful!"

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

Today is "Pentecost Sunday", the fiftieth day after the Resurrection. On this day, we solemnly commemorate that great event when Christ fulfills his promise of sending the Holy Spirit upon his timid disciples, who gathered behind the close doors of the Cenacle in Jerusalem. The feast of Pentecost is the culmination of the Paschal mystery and it marks the end of the Easter season. The Easter candle, which is always left burning since to remind us of the light that has come into the world, will be set aside and used only if there is a baptism. Next week we continue what is called 'Ordinary Time' which simply means that the joyous feasts have ended, and we go back to the Gospel of St. Luke and continue to read the story of Jesus, focusing primarily on his teachings and miracles.

Although today is the end of the Easter Season, it is also a reminder of starting something new, for Pentecost is considered to be the birthday of the Church. Have you ever asked, why do we celebrate Eucharist on Sundays? Sunday is usually deemed to be the first day of the week; Sunday is the day that God began creation we are told in the Genesis story. The Spirit of God moved on the waters on the first day! For the Jews, Spirit is a feminine gender word which also means breath or wind. Like God, the Jews rested on the seventh day, Saturday, and early Christians, too, used to go the synagogue on Saturdays. With the advent of Pentecost, however, which is 50 days after Easter, itself a Sunday, the Church has traditionally also celebrated its birthday and the weekly 'Lord's day' on a Sunday. We celebrate Eucharist on Sunday, then, as a reminder of the first creation and of the second creation. The Holy Spirit that stirred the waters of creation returned to us on Pentecost making us a new creation, her Church, and making us new creatures because of the Resurrection. This is what we are all about today. And every Sunday!

Pentecost was the second of three great Jewish Feast; viz. the Passover, the Pentecost the Trumpets. The word "Pentecost comes from a Greek word which means 'fiftieth'-the fiftieth day after the Passover. The feast originated from a very ancient thanksgiving celebration in gratitude to God for the yearly harvest about to be reaped. Later on, another motive was added to the day's celebration with the remembrance of the covenant God made with their forebeers on mount Sinai-a covenant summed up very simply and yet very magnificently in that simple phrase: 'I am your God and you are my people'.

When the Temple was built, this festival was transformed into a pilgrimage and Jews of the first century, including Christians Jews, celebrated the great feast of Pentecost. Several decades after the death of Jesus, the early Christians reflected on their origins and chose this feast to mark the birth of God's new covenant with God's people. That is the reason for which the Acts of the Apostles in today's reading say that there were many people in Jerusalem. They came from as far as Persia and Egypt and Rome and spoke the languages of those nations. But that day, something special happened. The mysteries prefigured in that feast are fulfilled in the pouring out of the Spirit on Mary and the Apostles. The giving of the Spirit to the new people of God crowns the mighty acts of God the Father in salvation history.

Today in the Gospel we read that the disciples of Jesus were hiding. They were hiding in fear behind closed doors. They were shutting out the rest of the world which was hostile, persecuting and terrifying. They felt better huddled together, in isolation and planning what to do next, and where to go. And then, Surprise! In their isolation, Jesus comes. Through closed doors, He walks. Their reaction must have been one of big surprise, then joy as they realized who it was.

Jesus tells them to get out of their isolation and fear and go and announce the good news. You are bearers of the Gospel, the announcers of salvation and forgiveness. You must go you have a mission.

But they were scared and unsure, so Jesus promises them the Holy Spirit because the Spirit will enable them to do what they cannot do themselves. The same Holy Spirit who brooded over the waters when God made heaven and earth. The same Holy Spirit who spoke through the Old Testament prophets. The same Holy Spirit who overshadowed a young girl and made her the Mother of God. The same Spirit would descend upon the Apostles in tongues of fire and transform cowards into heroes.

The Spirit is full of surprises. We have to admit that secularism and affluence have muted the presence of God in our part of the world, but all is not lost. History has shown us that even in our worst moments Jesus' ever-present Spirit can break through and raise up saints who turn things around. They callus back to the Gospel and give us hope. The Ascension and Pentecost tells us that God is still present, still speaks, still sends out disciples to make a difference, and still calls.

What Jesus said at the Ascension still remains valid and indispensable: You be My witness. We are the Church, and what we do the Church does. And what we fail to do, the Church fails to do. Traditionally, we also speak of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, gifts that presumably were given to the Apostles in the upper room at Pentecost and are also given to each of us during confirmation-gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. As a matter of fact, we see many of these gifts acted out in the Pentecost story.

So what is Pentecost about? One of the major things it is about is, of course, the Holy Spirit. We often pray, "Come Holy Spirit Come! Fill the Hearts of Thy Faithful". As Christians, we are called to be prophets. This, by virtue of our baptism when we received the gift of faith and by our confirmation when, like the apostles at Pentecost, we too received the Holy Spirit. Now is the time of the Holy Spirit. He is at work in the world and in through us. Let us cooperate with Him by opening our minds and hearts to Him. Then we can speak out to others about the wonderful and mighty works God has done in and for us so that they, too will accept Jesus as Lord of their hearts.

Today let us ask God to send His Spirit into our hearts. Filled with that Spirit, we may each individually make our contribution to the community to which we belong. And, as a community, may we give clear and unmistakable witness to the Truth and Love of God, revealed to us in Jesus our Lord. And this the Good News of Today.

Fr. Bakyor Francis.