

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time – June 21, 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 23	07:00 pm	STL	Jack Rogers †
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	June 25	07:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	June 27	05:00 pm	SJV	Steve Payeur †
SUN	June 28	09:00 am	STL	Pete & 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, 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 were \$1,311 and \$275 for memorials and \$130 for mass stipends. Last week's on-line collection was \$567.96. 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!

SECOND COLLECTION will be the week of June 28th for Peter's Pence (Collection for the Holy Father). We appreciate your continued generosity!

OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

A SPECIAL ONLINE SYMPOSIUM ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

The Social Justice & Pro-Life Offices are sponsoring a Catholic Symposium for Religious Freedom on Monday, **June 22nd**, 7-8:30 pm titled, "Religious Freedom in the Time of COVID." This is an online event and requires registration to receive the link. Registration is free and can be done at www.archkck.org/ReligiousFreedom.

XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, **June 23** - 6 PM; Thursday, **July 23** - 6 PM. Join Xavier Catholic School for an online open house via Zoom. 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 at Xavier Catholic School following the Virtual Open House will receive \$100 credit towards enrollment fees! Must be a registered attendee to receive fee credit. RSVP at www.leavenworthcatholicsschools.org.

POUSTINIA DESERT WEEKEND will be held **July 17th** at 5:30 pm through **July 19th** at 4:30 pm at Christ's Peace House of Prayer. Join us for this special "Poustinia" weekend. We will start the weekend off with a teaching about what a Poustinia is and how to enter into it though the words of Catherine de Hueck Doherty. Saturday will be a "Poustinia" day of prayer and fasting alone. The group will come together on Sunday for Mass and to share the fruit of their experience and what they will take back with them into the world. Cabins/Courtyard Rooms: \$170 or Guest Rooms: \$100. To attend, send an email to: info@christspeace.com or call 913.773.8255.

CHRIST'S PEACE PRAYER GROUP: WEDNESDAY'S AT 6:30 PM

This is a special announcement for St. Joseph/St. Lawrence Parishioners: The Lord wants to speak to you. Do you know how to listen to his voice? Join us this summer on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm as we prayerfully read the gospel for the upcoming Sunday and learn to listen to the Lord. The meetings will take place at Christ's Peace House of Prayer, 22131 Meagher Rd, Easton, KS 66020. RSVP 913-773-8255.

CONSECRATION TO MARY SMALL GROUP RETREAT will be held

Sunday, **July 12th** from 1pm-4:30pm - Introduction and Orientation Meeting Sunday's (**July 19 - August 16**) from 6:30pm - 8pm - Weekly Group Meetings at Christ's Peace House of Prayer. You are invited to sign-up for this special 33-day preparation for Marian Consecration on the Feast of the

Assumption using Fr. Michael Gaitley's 33 Days to Morning Glory. For six weeks, we'll individually read about and reflect on four great Marian giants: St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Blessed Mother Teresa, and Pope John Paul II. They'll teach us the secrets to drawing closer to the Heart of Jesus through the Heart of Mary. In our weekly meetings, we'll share our insights within our small group and then watch a 30-minute video. If you're looking for a simple way to be spiritually renewed, develop a deeper relationship with Our Merciful Savior, and grow in holiness, join us for 33 Days to Morning Glory Small Group Retreat. To attend, send an email to: info@christspeace.com or call 913.773.8255 (prior to June 26th to be included in the book order). Cost: \$20-\$30 for books.

CONSECRATION TO MARY CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION

RETREAT will be held Friday, **August 14th** at 5:30pm - Sunday, **August 16th** at 4:30pm at Christ's Peace House of Prayer. Come spend a weekend dedicated to Mary and make/renew your Marian Consecration on the Feast of the Assumption! Don't forget to start your 33 day renewal preparation on July 13th or join our small group. There will be Marian conferences, a special Consecration to Mary Ceremony and Celebration, 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). Day Guests are also welcome for the Ceremony and Celebration. To attend, send an email to: info@christspeace.com or call 913.773.8255.

PLANNED GIVING BRIEF: The Catholic Church is made up of all races; families and singles, sinners and saints. In these times of disruption and uncertainty, it is good to know that through our parishes, as members of the Catholic Church, we have unity. The Office of Stewardship and Development invites you to make a grateful response to God for the gift of your parish by designating it, by name, as a beneficiary of a retirement asset, annuity, or life insurance policy. James 1:17. CatholicPlannedGiving.org.

CAN WE CHANGE PEOPLES' MINDS?

Some people (including many Catholics) feel like it is futile to continue to have a debate over the issue of abortion because people feel too strongly about it and have already made up their minds as to what they think. *This is wrong.*

People throughout history *have* changed their minds on vital social issues. When the United States was new, there was no suffrage or equal rights for women and racial minorities. Almost universally in the United States today, the general populace recognizes that this was wrong and that women and non-whites are entitled to their basic rights as human beings, and the law recognizes it too. It took many years and decades of intense struggle involving emotions just as fierce if not more fierce than those surrounding the *Pro-Life Movement* in the 21st century. But victories for freedom were won and people certainly did change their minds. That is how change happens. Education is vital so that more people understand the struggle to protect innocent life in the womb and then stand ready to defend the rights of all living people, including the unborn.

Change *can* happen, and change *will* happen, providing we do our part to work tirelessly to advocate change for a freer, better world where the weak and vulnerable are protected and not exploited and/or victimized.

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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PAGE 2 – bulletin
(FOR POSTING ON THE CHURCH INTERNET SITE)

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.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Religious Freedom Week takes place from **June 22-29** each year. The USCCB has chosen the theme “For the Good of All.” Religious freedom is both an American value and an important part of Catholic teaching on human dignity. When we promote religious freedom, we promote the common good and thus strengthen the life of our nation and the community of nations. Religious freedom means that all people have the space to flourish. Religious freedom is both an American value and an important part of Catholic teaching on human dignity. When we promote religious freedom, we promote the common good and thus strengthen the life of our nation and the community of nations. Learn more at www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek!

PROJECT CHRYSALIS is a ministry offering hope through Sacred Scripture and community to parents/grandparents who have lost a child or grandchild. While this ministry is not a bereavement group, our mission is to offer support and hope through scripture in a time of transformation. Our next meeting is on Tuesday **June 30** from 7:00-8:15 p.m. in the St. Mark Room at Church of the Ascension, 9500 W. 127th St. in Overland Park. Fr. Scott Wallisch is our guest speaker. For more information, contact Ken Billinger at 913-634-4210 or email kbillinger@archkck.org. The group is open to parents who have lost a child or grandparents who have lost a grandchild. *Please note that this meeting is subject to postponement pending any changes to the Johnson County reopening plan.*

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/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.

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>

CAMP TEKAWITHA IS OPEN

Faith, Fun and Friends. Camp Tekakwitha is Open; Sign Up at ARCHKCK.ORG. Kids need fresh air, friendly smiles, fun activities and to talk about the big ideas in their heart, mind and soul. That is Camp Tekakwitha!! We are operating in correspondence with social distance guidelines, CDC and ACA guidelines.

“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. 19-21st** 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.

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (6/21/2020)

Texts: First Reading, Jer.20:10-13

Second Reading, Rom. 5:12-15

Third Reading, Mt.10:26-33

Theme: Christ our Lord is with us. Fear no one

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters: Warm greetings again to you all. I hope you are all still keeping safe from the virus and doing well. May the Lord keep us safe from all fears and worries of the Corvid 19 pandemic disease. Let us listen to what the word of the Lord has for us on fear and worry.

On this twelfth Sunday of ordinary time, we celebrate Christ our lord who is always with us. He continues to deliver us from all that threatens, and make life difficult for us. This includes persecution, and death.

We live in a world where is a circle of fear and worry. We often hear this joke about the web of fear and worry, which says: Cockroaches fear Rats, Rats fear Cats, Cats fear Dogs, Dogs fear Men, Women Fear Men, Men fear Women, Women fear Cockroaches. Th people who live in the days of the prophet Jeremiah suffered from Alethophobia, which is the fear of truth. The wanted to get rid of truth by eliminating Jeremiah the messenger of truth. They made every effort to intimate him and so he exclaimed, "Terror on every side" (Jer.20:10). In their lack of wisdom, the people forgot that they can only kill the messenger of truth, but cannot kill the truth.

Jeremiah loved to live a peaceful and unperturbed life before God entrusted him with a difficult mission, which brought him into conflict with the authorities -the kings, priests, and false prophets. He was given the task of challenging the people to keep the covenant they made with God or face the wrath of God. He emphasized the need for a deep personal relationship with God instead of the superficial religion, which the people practice. His message was too hard for the people and they saw him as a prophet of doom. They shouted, "Let us denounce him" (Jr.20:10).

Obviously, Jeremiah was persecuted, threatened, and opposed for speaking the truth to the powerful kings and to the people. He watched his friends turned into being his enemies. He cried out in pain: "All those who use to be my friends watched for my downfall" (Jr.20:10). Despite this grim situation, Jeremiah refused to be intimidated by the opposing forces. He was deeply convinced that since God was on his side, no enemy could defeat him. Jeremiah was confident in God's protective care and said: "But the Lord is with me like a mighty champion: my persecutors will stumble. They will not prevail. In their failure they would be put to shame, to lasting unforgettable confusion" (Jr. 20:11).

Jesus warned his disciples ahead of time to know that the world will oppose, mistreat, persecute, suspect, and intimidate them. But he told them to be courageous, bold, and fear no one (Mt. 10:26). He told them, "In the world you will face persecution, but take courage, I have conquered the world" (Jn. 16:33). So many good people face all kinds of persecution toady. Today there is wave of religious persecution. Many people face persecution in their homes, workplaces,

and schools because of their religious beliefs and for doing what is right. In principle many countries have constitutions that uphold religious liberty, but in practice, wherever one religion is dominant, it seeks to persecute and exterminate the other.

Religious persecution comes in different ways through structural injustices and violent attacks. Structural injustices consist of policies of government that covertly or overtly favor one religion over the other. This form of injustice is displayed through discrimination in the method of job employment, promotion at workplaces, admission into schools and departments, denial of places of worship, political marginalization and formulation of lopsided policies.

On the other hand, persecution by violent attacks comes also in different forms such as destruction of places of worship, vandalization, confiscation of religious institutions, abduction of children, false accusations for blasphemy leading to death of victims, innocent children are indoctrinated to go for suicide bombing. In recent years we have witnessed and of these things in our world.

In the midst of all the persecution, we must hold on to our conviction of the Gospel message. Jesus emboldened his disciples to be fearless: "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body, but cannot kill the soul" (Mt.10:28) Those who seek to kill the body, destroy the externals, such as buildings and property, but cannot destroy the soul that gave rise to those externals structures which is the faith deep within. They cannot destroy the soul which is the intrinsic value that people of faith hold tenaciously.

We live in constant fear of people who threaten us with sorrow and death. We live in a dangerous world, where we are harassed and intimidated. Jesus encourages his followers to respect and love everyone irrespective of his race, tribe or religion. At the same time, He encourages his disciples to fear no one. He knows that we are often frozen in fear, believing that our enemies, detractors and those who wish us harm would eliminate us. The story of fearless Jeremiah is a reminder of Emperor Caesar. When the famous Emperor Caesar was warned to be conscious of his personal security and always to carry his weapon of self-defense, he answered, "He who lives in the fear of death, every moment feels its tortures, I will die but once, "More importantly, these words of assurance from the scriptures are a booster to our courage, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you or forsake you" Dt.31:6)

Finally, all we need to do to merit the protection Christ promised us today, is simply to be on his side by trusting him. This, calls for being just and innocent in our ways and actions. It means being true Christians. Of course, it also means submitting completely to Christ.

Fr. Bakyor Francis.