

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 19, 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
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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	July 21	07:00 pm	STL	Jack Rogers †
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	July 23	07:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	July 25	05:00 pm	SJV	Irene Schmidling †
SUN	July 26	09:00 am	STL	Pete 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 30-45 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-sjosephst>. Please see online info for restrictions and guidance.

Please pray for the sick, especially: Phil Bell, Deacon Guy Berry, Susie Beyer, 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 \$887, including \$100 for Utilities and \$88 for the Leaven. Last week's on-line collection was \$179.22. 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: Dear Father Francis, Finance Council, and all parishioners of St. Joseph/St. Lawrence, I would like to thank all of the parishioners that donate to our church for the funding of the scholarships. Camp Kateri Tekakwitha is an annual camp for 5-12 grade boys and girls. There are four different age groups; Kateri 5-6 grade, Junior High 7-8 grade, Senior High Max 9-12 grade and Senior High extreme 9-12. I went to Junior High session. It is a 5-day camp, but due to Covid-19 it was shortened to a 2-day no stay camp. During the 2 days I learned a lot about the Catholic faith and advanced deeper into my faith. I encourage all that are able to go, to consider attending this camp. It will be the best thing that you can do for your children. They will return as people who have deepened their faith. Sincerely, Austin Green

THANK YOU: Fr. Francis and Scholarship Committee, I would like to express my Gratitude for the scholarship money that I received to help pay for my Catholic education this upcoming school year. I am beyond blessed to have a parish that is willing and able to support me as I continue to grow in my faith. Sincerely, Jake Heim

OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

BLOOD DRIVE: Monday, July 27th, 2:00 pm - 6 pm, at St. Lawrence Hall. Please join us and give the life-giving gift!

Quarterly K of C awards: Congratulations to the following: April 2020: Knight of the Month - John Nelson; Family of the Month - Keith Hustings. May 2020: Knight of the Month - Laszlo Taborosi; Family of the Month - Kevin Bidde. June 2020: Knight of the Month - Fr. David McEvoy; Family of the Month - Bill McNamee.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES LEAVENWORTH FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER is seeking volunteers Monday through Thursday to help with a variety of roles, including making food bags, stocking shelves and sorting groceries in the food pantry or assisting at the front desk answering phones, scheduling appointments and entering services into the database. Volunteers shifts are 9-12 or 1-3:30, and training will be provided. Please contact Cari Olberding at 913.433.2104 or colberding@catholiccharitiesks.org for additional information.

XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Now Enrolling for the 2020-21 School Year! Xavier Catholic School Virtual Open House Thursday, July 23 at 6 p.m. 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 <https://leavenworthcatholicsschools.org/admissions/enrollment-events> OR call 913-682-7801 to schedule an in-person tour.

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.

WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS - JUL 30

Let us commit ourselves to stop criminals from exploiting people for profit and help trafficking victims rebuild their lives. U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking. **VISIT LINK:** (www.sistersagainstrafficking.org) USCSAHT is a 501©3 organization. 2039 N Geyer Road, St. Louis, MO 63131

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 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 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION & THE "VALUE THEM BOTH"

AMENDMENT: Voting begins this Wednesday for many primary elections in Kansas. As Catholics, we are called not simply to vote, but to be well informed voters who in casting our ballots apply the moral principles and priorities of our Faith. The Catholic Church does not tell its members how to vote. At the same time, it is the responsibility of the Church to help form the consciences of her members to understand the principles and priorities that should guide their decisions as voters.

The Catholic Bishops have once again identified the protection of the unborn as the pre-eminent moral priority. Archbishop Naumann states, "The Value Them Both Constitutional Amendment needs to be adopted by the citizens of Kansas. We need elected officials who will take action to defend the innocent life of the unborn and their mothers." To see Archbishop's full statement on the moral responsibility of voting and to learn more about the "Value Them Both" Amendment, please visit www.archkck.org/prolife. The USCCB's Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship can be found at: <http://www.usccb.org/issues-andaction/faithful-citizenship/index.cfm>.

PRO-LIFE VIDEO that addresses the Value Them Both Amendment, featuring Dustin Colquitt (Chiefs Punter for 15 years.). The video is a little over 2 minutes. The Leaven has also featured it in a post. Here's the video link: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=mJ1XtrIShPQ>

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)

INFANTICIDE LOGICALLY FOLLOWS ABORTION IN OUR CULTURE OF DEATH:

In the February 2012 issue of the Journal of Medical Ethics an article flatly argues in favor of infanticide. In case you doubt that anyone would openly espouse the killing of babies after birth, let us quote from the article itself. “Merely being human is a reason for not in itself ascribing someone a right to life,” the authors assert. Killing a newborn “should be permissible in all the cases where abortion is, including cases where the newborn is not disabled.” The authors argue that newborns lack the “level of mental development” necessary to be considered human. In other words, say the authors, what a baby doesn't know — its impending death, in this case — can't hurt it.

A few short years ago no medical journal would have accepted an article purporting to justify infanticide. Now, after human life has been devalued by over 46 years of legalized abortion, such a proposition creates barely a stir. The Catholic Church has been continuously warning us for years about the ramifications of the culture of death. We must get involved in making a stand for innocent human life, otherwise our culture will only get worse!

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CAMPUS CENTER at the University of Kansas is going to do a parish take over at Christ the King in Topeka on **July 26th** at the 11:30am Mass and we would love to invite all KUCatholic Alums, parents and current/incoming students to join us! Our goal is to make sure incoming freshmen at KU know that we exist and we can meet them before they arrive on campus.

This event will be from 11:30am - 1:30pm and will have free food, raffle prizes, KUCatholic swap and more. It's an open invite for anyone associated with or interested in the St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center. You can get more information at kucatholic.org/kucatholicmass

NEW FOSTER CARE WEBSITE: You can make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children in Kansas! Sadly, every day in Kansas, children are removed from their homes by no fault of their own for a variety of reasons. Each of these children is a precious, unique gift from God who deserves a loving and safe environment where he or she can THRIVE! Because care of the orphan and works of mercy are part of the mission for all baptized Catholics, the Church is the solution to an overwhelmed Kansas foster system which is facing increased needs due to COVID-19.

Please visit the new Archdiocesan Foster Care Ministry Website at www.archkcks.com/foster to learn how you can help vulnerable children in our community and support the families who have answered the call to love and protect these children. If you are currently fostering or have adopted your child/ren from foster care, we want to connect with you to support you on your journey! Please join the Archdiocesan Foster Family by registering here: www.archkck.org/fostercaredatabase

VOTER REGISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENT One of key tenets of being a faithful Catholic is faithful citizenship. Every Kansas State Representative and State Senator office will be on the ballot in 2020. One of the most effective ways to ensure fair and just public policy (laws) is by electing people into office who share Catholic values and the ultimate goal of serving the common good. In order to participate in the upcoming August 4th Kansas State Primary Election, citizens must be registered to vote by July 14th. To register, please visit: www.kansascatholic.org. It is important to register especially if you recently turned 18, recently moved, have not voted in recent elections, or if you are unsure if you have registered in the past. Registering to vote ensures that you are able to vote and that you are voting at the correct polling location.

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.

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.

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.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: The future seems uncertain . . . But God has a plan for you and your marriage; a plan that is so much more than you could ever imagine. You are invited to attend an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend (**July 31-August 2** or **September 18-20**) and discover all the beauty and joy that God desires for you as a couple. For more information, or to apply for a weekend, visit www.wwme4youandme.org, or call/email Tony & Barb Zimmerman at 816-741-4066, tonybarbz@prodiqy.net. Check out this link for a video invitation - <https://youtu.be/3k6mfS27afg>

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.

“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.

16th Sunday of the Ordinary Time, Year A (7/19/2020).

Texts: First Reading-Wisdom: 12:13, 16-19

Second Reading- Rom. 8:26-27

Third Reading- Mt. 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

Theme: God is a patient and a forgiving Father.

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

Dear brothers and sister in Christ,

Greetings once again to you all and your loved ones. My hope is that you are all still keeping safe and well with virus. Let us still trust in the Lord. The Lord again invites us to his table on this 16th Sunday in ordinary time to listen to his word and nourished by Eucharist that is our spiritual food for our spiritual journey.

In today's Gospel together with the first reading, Jesus portrayed the Father as patient and forgiving. These are two complimentary attributes which are, ultimately, for our salvation. Jesus used the parable of the weeds among wheat to depict His message. Farmers are aware that weeds (and pests) are part of farming. Weeds grow with the wheat during the time of Jesus. As a result, the weeds compete with wheat for sustenance. Will they pull out the weeds now? Jesus told them they will not be weeded out. They will grow with the wheat, after harvest, they will be separated and be burned.

Just as the weeds will be separated from the wheat, the sheep from the goats, the repentant and the unrepentant will be separated. But the analogy is limited. Weeds remain weeds. Sinners and human beings who have the capacity to repent and change. Weeds will definitely be burned after harvest time. Sinners may become saints once they convert back to God. Here is where God's patience and forgiveness come in. God is willing to wait for us. God is not obsessed with punishing and then lose us. He will wait and render forgiveness.

It follows that we ought to be like the Father in being forgiving and patient. Our human instincts call and shout for justice and revenge. We are tempted to quash criminals, violators, immoral people, and other pests of society. But we should not forget that they are human beings like us. We have our own weaknesses. We do commit evil at times. We must be patient to be patient. In the end, we will see that we also benefit from this. God had been patient and forgiving of us. Is it not a great privilege not only to make an act of gratitude to God but also to share His patience and forgiveness to others?

"Throw them out! Throw them Out!"

The year was 1770, and in a small Italian Church, two altar boys prepared for benediction. Annibale Della Genga, and Francisco Castiglioni, entered the sacristy, put on their albs, and grabbed the heavy brass candlesticks. And then they began to bicker.

Arguing over who would stand on the priest's right for the procession, their quibble escalated into a shouting match. Alarmed parishioners turned their heads to the back of the Church to see the

commotion, and that's when it happened: Castiglioni cracked Della Genga over the head with his candlestick.

Blood dripped from Della Genga's injury, and both boys began shoving each other. Shocked parishioners screamed, "Throw them out! Throw them out!" So, the embarrassed priest grabbed the boys, led them to the door, and tossed them out the Church. Now fast-forward several decades to 1825. Half a million-people gathered in Rome for the great Jubilee celebration. The Jubilee occurred every 25 years, and its grand climax was the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica. Traditionally, the Pope would knock three times with a large silver hammer and sing, "Open unto me the gates of justice!" On the third knock, the door will swing open, and the Pope would lead his people through. The symbolism was rich: pilgrims from all over the world coming home to the Church, following their leader through the great porta fidei, the "door of Faith."

That Jubilee year, in front of thousands of pilgrims, Cardinal Della Genga made his way to the door. It was fifty-five years after the candlestick incident. Cardinal Della Genga who had become Pope Leo X11 neared the door. Turning to the Cardinal beside him- Cardinal Castiglioni, The Pope said, "Let me have the hammer." With a sly grin, Castiglioni replied, "Just like I gave you the candlestick?" Amazingly, four years later Castiglioni succeeded his friend and became Pope, taking the name Pius V111. Now if you told any of those pew sitters back in 1770 that they had two future Popes in the back of their Church, they'd have laugh you out the building: "Those two boys?" The ones shoving and whacking each other with candlesticks? Today's gospel gives us the good news that God can change "weeds" to wheat and that we should be patient.

Today's Gospel also teaches us that we are all a mixture of good and evil and hence how we should be patient and merciful with the evil ones in our families, parishes and society. Today's reading again tells us about a very patient and compassionate God who is hopeful that the so-called "weeds" among us will be converted. They warn us that we should not be in a hurry to eliminate such elements from the church or society or the family based on unwarranted and hasty judgement.

Finally, in the Gospel parable of the wheat and the weeds, Jesus presents a wise and patient God who allows good and the evil to coexist in the world and blesses the evil ones for the little good they may have done, so that they may come to conversion before their time ends. "Let the wheat and the weeds (darnel) grow together till the harvest time." In other words, God awaits repentant sinners, giving them the strength and good will to get reconciled with him. God calmly recognizes that there is evil in the world, but He sees that evil is no excuse for the good people not to do good with the power of god at their disposal. Through the parable of the wheat and the weeds in today's Gospel, Jesus calls us to be patient with those who fail to meet the high ethical standard expected of a Christian.

Let us patiently and lovingly treat the "weeds" in our society as our brothers and sister and do all in our power to put them back on the right road to Heaven, especially by our good example, encouragement and our fervent prayer for their conversion. Let us remember that most of us have been "weeds" in God's field more than once, and God has showed us mercy. God allows evil to exist also because he can turn it into good. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God can change even the ugliest thorn into a blossom of Faith.

In God's field, we have two responsibilities: 1, to grow in grace or Go's favor and to share His Word and love with others. 2, We need to grow up as healthy wheat in God's field, leaving the "weeds"

for God to take care of. The Good News is that growth and maturity are probably the most effective forms of weed control. Our transparent and exemplary Christian lives will be a compelling challenge and a forceful invitation to evildoers to repent their sinful lives and turn to a loving and forgiving God. Our acts of charity, kindness, mercy, encouragement, loving correction, and selfless service can prompt the "weeds" in our society to reassess their lives, modify them and become useful members of society. Let us continue to be each other keepers. Let us strive to grow together as brothers and sisters and children of God our Father. Let the weeds not over grow the wheat in us. AMEN!

Fr. Francis Bakyor
