

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 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

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St. Lawrence Hall & Fax: 913-773-8401
“LIKE” us on Facebook for new announcements

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

TUES	July 28	07:00 pm	STL	For the Sick
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	July 30	07:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	Aug. 1	05:00 pm	SJV	Steve Payeur †
SUN	Aug. 2	09:00 am	STL	Jack Rogers †

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-stiosephst>. 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 \$1415, including \$20 for Memorial and \$50 for the Leaven. Last week's on-line collection was \$375.22. 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!

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!

XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Enrollment is open for preschool through eighth grade. It is our plan to return to on-campus learning. Check our website for more information.

Kindergarten Experience Night - Wednesday, July 29, 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Xavier Catholic School invites all future kindergarten students to visit the school and meet the teacher and principal. Please note that COVID restrictions will be in place. Please RSVP by calling 913-682-7801.

We are looking for *substitute teachers* for the fall semester. If you are interested in working with exceptional children and talented staff at our Xavier K - 8 campus, please contact the school office at 913-682-3135. We are also looking for a *part-time Spanish/art teacher* to assist with grades K,1,2. If you have a gift in this area and are interested in working with children 10 hours a week, please contact Janelle Hartegan at janelle.hartegan@leavenworthcatholicschools.org or call 913-682-3135.

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.

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.sistersagainsttrafficking.org) USCSAHT is a 501© 3 organization. 2039 N Geyer Road, St. Louis, MO 63131

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=mJ1XtrlShPQ>

PLEASE VOTE PRO-LIFE: Catholics (and Christians generally) have a duty to inform themselves about where their political candidates stand on the issue. This evaluation starts, of course, with where they stand on violence against human beings, because if public servants cannot tell the difference between serving the public and killing the public, they do not belong in public office. What if a candidate supported terrorism? Would a God-fearing Catholic say, "Well, I disagree with you on terrorism, but what's your health care plan? Maybe we can work together on some social programs. After all, terrorism is not the only issue."

The parallel, of course, is abortion. "Typically, the skull is brought out in fragments rather than as a unified piece" (Abortionist Martin Haskell, in 1999 Court testimony in Wisconsin, regarding legal abortion). How can anyone make the case that this skull-cracking, which is still legal, is less violent than terrorism----particularly as this occurs 3,500 times every day in the U.S? How can anyone make the case that we can tolerate it while we work with the candidate on "social" programs?

The heart of what is "social" is that it respects the other person ---- and that means not cracking their skull. We fight terrorism, and rightly so. But when we allow abortion and vote for pro-abortion politicians at the same time, the evil we fight becomes merely a reflection of the evil we do.

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)

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 July 28th via Zoom. Deacon Ken Billinger is our speaker for the evening. For more information and the Zoom invitation link, contact Deacon Ken Billinger at 913-634-4210 or email kbillinger@archkck.org

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.wmme4youandme.org, or call/email Tony & Barb Zimmerman at 816-741-4066, tonybarbz@prodigy.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/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.

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

RESOURCES

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.

“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.

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

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.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM - ADULT TRAINING (VIRTUS)

Effective Immediately In light of the current health conditions, one prudent and preventative measure we are taking is to make the VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults training available Online as an option. Effective immediately, due to COVID-19, the Archdiocesan requirement for attending a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults workshop live session will be suspended and the option of the online version of the module can be offered in lieu of live training. This is a temporary safety precaution, and parishes may still offer the live training session available as an option if they prefer as long as the local county and state ordinances in effect at the time of the event are followed. Please note, the training must still be completed prior to participants working around youth, but the requirement may now temporarily be met by completing the online Protecting God's Children module. Individuals needing to attend a session will be offered the option of the online module at the time of registration. They will still need to follow the background screening and policy completion process at the time of registration. Individuals who are already currently registered for an upcoming live session, may log back into their account and change to the online module. These procedures will be reviewed and updated periodically as needed and are in place to protect you, those you work with, and your family. Please stay safe and healthy and continue to pray for all our brothers and sisters in Christ! We are praying for all of you and your families. If you have questions, please contact Sandy Vielhauer at svielhauer@archkck.org or Jenifer Valenti at jvalenti@archkck.org. May God bless you and keep you safe.

17th Sunday in ordinary time, Year A, (7/26/2020)

Texts: First Reading, 1Kings.3:5,7-12

Second Reading, Romans.8:28-30

Third Reading, Matt. 13:44-48

Them: "He sells everything he owns and buys it"

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

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I wish all of you and your loved ones well and continue to stay safe. Today is another day of the Lord. We celebrate the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time of the Year. We are again invited to the banquet table of the lord to listen to his word of wisdom and share in the Eucharistic meal.

I, Daily life:

We all have things we look for as treasures in our life that we are ready to sacrifice other things for, such as a car of your dream, a beautiful house, a nice shirt, and so on.

For nearly an hour now, Waziri was walking in the forest. Suddenly, he saw a man ahead of him with a bow and arrows. Waziri saw him take an arrow and aim into some bushes. Then he shot the arrow. Nothing happened. Then the man picked another arrow and did the same thing, but again nothing happened. A third time he aimed into another patch of high grass, still nothing! Waziri was becoming more and more curious. coming closer, he called to the man:

-Good evening friend! Any luck yet?

-No, no luck, but I'll get something yet.

- is this a good place for wild animals, asked Waziri.

- Oh, I don't know... maybe.

- But you are hunting here, surely you know something about this place.

- No, I know nothing.

- But...I see you shooting your arrows here and there. What do you see?

- Oh, I don't see anything, but maybe there is something there, and...if there is, then maybe I'll kill it...maybe one day.

2, God's Message:

Perhaps we smile at the foolishness of this hunter. We can hardly call him a hunter, can we? A man who knew nothing about the place, and who shot his arrow without seeing anything! He had really nothing to aim at.

We may laugh and yet, perhaps many of us, in our own, are something very much like what he was doing. Oh, we are not hunting wild animals, but all of us are searching for something. All of us are aiming at one important thing: Happiness. And as we do, our way is often that of this hunter.

Many of us go through life running here, rushing there, doing this and that, not knowing where or how to find this precious thing we try to aim at; "Happiness".

Many people look for it in money. They try to get more and more of it, no matter he means, yet they do not feel much happier. Others think that a good name among people will bring happiness. They do all kinds of things to be praised by people around, but they too are disappointed. Still others believe that having many children will, of itself, make them happy. Their children bring them joy, but often also more problems, and they still look for happiness.

If today, instead of seeing me before you, your eyes could see Jesus Himself telling you: "Ask what you would like me to give you". What would be your answer to Him? Just think for a moment. What would you want Him to give so you may be happy? (cars, houses, shoes, food, money, power, children, good job).

In the first reading today, we have heard God speaking those very words to the young King Solomon. And what was his answer? Let us hear it again: On the contrary Solomon asked for wisdom for the benefit of both his kingdom and God's kingdom. He begged God to give him understanding: "Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern (to separate) good and evil.

The Lord was pleased with his request and said to him: "I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you"

What Solomon was really asking for is wisdom. He did not ask for the usual things people ask for: "Long life, or riches, or success over enemies". No, he asked God for what is really important and what can bring true happiness.

You may ask: "But what is wisdom?" We could say, it is to know how to live life. Wisdom does not come from much learning in school; one with many diplomas is not always wise. It is not the ability to speak well and be listened to by people. It does not even always come with age. It can be found in older people, but also in younger ones, as young King Solomon.

Wisdom is a gift from God which helps me to put first things first in my life. It shows me what is most important and what is less important. It gives the right direction to my life. It makes me able to aim at the right things, the things that are of true value. And what is this? The Gospel today answers this question.

The man we meet in today's Gospel was a wise man. He knew how to choose between – not only the good and bad- but even between the good and the best. It is the simple story of someone who found a treasure hidden in a field. He is so happy. What does he do? He makes up his mind. He sees the value of what he has found.

"He hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owes and buys the field."

He sells everything. Everything has gone, but he has the field and the treasure is there. He was a wise man and now he is a happy man.

What does Jesus' story teach us? What is this treasure that is so precious that we should sell everything in order to get it? Jesus calls it "The Kingdom of Heaven", in other words, God's friendship. This is what we should treasure more than anything else, even the things that are most precious to us. This is what we should put before and above all things. God's friendship is what we should value and put it first in our life.

Putting God's friendship first in our life may mean that, sometimes, I will have to sacrifice, or to let go other things. Is it not what the man in Jesus' story did? We are told that he sold "everything he owned". We might not be asked to give up everything we have to remain friends with God. But there might be some things that we need to take out of our life so that the friendship between Him and us may grow. Things like unfaithfulness to my wife/husband, cheating, stealing, taking a bribe, fighting, thinking evil of someone, all these cannot be side by side in my life with God.

Even good things, like the love of my children and relatives, the friendship of my friends and neighbors, success in my work, even those should not come between God and me. They should not be placed before God. Not only should we be ready to give up certain things to remain friends with God, but we should be happy to do so. Jesus tells us that the man who had found the treasure "go off happy". He is happy to have found the treasure, yes, and happy also to give everything away in order to get that treasure. And so, it should with us. We should be so happy that God Himself wants us to share in his life, His friendship, that we are happy as well to let go of some other things.

3, New life:

Tonight, as you sit by yourself, perhaps watching the TV, why not make a list of all things that are precious to you. Then, beside

each of those things you value, put God's friendship and ask yourself what comes really first in your life.