

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 2, 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	Aug. 4	07:00 pm	STL	For the Sick
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	Aug. 6	07:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	Aug. 8	05:00 pm	SJV	Shirley Karczewski † Jamie Karczewski †
SUN	Aug. 9	09:00 am	STL	Pete and 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 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-stjosephst>. Please see online info for restrictions and guidance.

Please pray for the sick, especially: Phil Bell, Deacon Guy Berry, Susie Beying, 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 \$1826 and \$71 for the Leaven. Last week's on-line collection was \$579.22. 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

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. 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.

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.

THE 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION & THE “VALUE THEM BOTH” AMENDMENT

Voting has begun 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 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 and to learn more about the “Value Them Both” Amendment, please visit www.archkck.org/prolife.

PROTESTERS SPEAK FOR THE SILENT

A woman recently wrote a letter to the editor to the protesters of abortions saying, “Don't you dare tell me what I can and can't do with my body.” We protesters will not say a word if she wants to cut off her own leg, her arm or her ear. (We may wonder why.) Yes, that is her body to do with what she pleases. But the baby she is carrying in her womb is an individual little human being with its own heart, arms, legs, mind and soul. This baby would ask “Why do you want to kill me?” But as yet can't speak for himself or herself. We are, therefore, speaking up for them.

When a woman has an abortion, she is not stopping her heart from beating or her lungs from breathing or her mind from thinking. Her body remains whole. Her baby's body does not. The baby is dead.

PLANNED GIVING BRIEF: Our Catholic Church has spanned the centuries and the globe and through all previous pandemics and disasters has been a source of charity to all through its parish priests and religious. We invite you to make a grateful response to God for these gifts by planning a deferred gift to your parish. Visit CatholicPlannedGiving.org to learn how to accept this invitation.

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.

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.wme4youandme.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>

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.

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

PLEASE – 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)

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.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (8/2/2020)

Texts: First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-3.

Second Reading: Romans 8:35,37-39.

Third Reading: Matthew 14:13-21.

Theme: "They all ate as much as they wanted"

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

1 Daily Life:

As we read the newspaper, it happens that we see there is a lack of rain this or that part of the country. It is said that, most probably, the people of that region will suffer from hunger during the coming dry season. Or, we read about a very serious famine in a neighboring country.

We all know what this means. We can somehow picture what will be for those people to go without food. To have to work and not have enough strength to do so. They had been farming and hoped to get a good harvest. Lack of rain, or too much sun, or an invasion of insects, have destroyed the fruit of their labor. Now they go hungry, growing thinner and weaker every day.

At such times, the parents feel especially worried. They want to give good food to their children, at all costs. But where to find it and where to get the money needed.

2 God's Message:

In the Bible readings of today, we meet Someone who has the power to give us food. He is a Father and shares the parents' concern to give food to their children. And He gives us the best food we are in need of. Let us hear again the invitation He speaks to us in the first reading:

"Come though you have no money, come!

Buy corn without money, and eat".

These words were spoken very long ago, many years even before Jesus came on this earth. He made these words come true. This is what we see in today's gospel. We see Him feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people. They had been following Him and listening to His teaching the whole day. Now it is evening time and he sees their need, their hunger. He feeds them.

And he is able to feed us as well. God's invitation is not only for people of the past. His power has not become smaller in our own time. If we make our need known to Him, he will help us.

And did you notice the words God spoke through His prophet? We read them just now. He said: "Though you have no money, come". And he repeats His invitation a second time. He says:

"Listen to me and you will have good things to eat, and rich food to enjoy"

God does not ask us to pay for the food he offers us. Again, if we look at today's gospel, what do we see? Jesus' friends, the Apostles, wanted him to send the people away. They would go and find their own food. But Jesus replied: "There is no need for them to go; give them something to eat yourselves"

Jesus knew well what He would do. He was the one who would feed them, and again without asking them to pay. This is God's way. Our God is a generous God, and he likes to give to us, His children, all that is good.

This is something we need to remind ourselves of. God is not only able to help us but he is ready to do so. The only thing He asks is that we become aware of our need for him. He is not only ready to help us, he is eager to come to our aid. Look at how he insists in inviting us. In the first reading, the word "Come" is repeated three times!

I have said that God is generous. Indeed, He is. He loves to give in plenty. What happened to the 5,000 people Jesus gave food to? We read: "They all ate as much as they wanted". It was a gift- God's gift-as great as their need. He filled not only their hunger, He filled also their desire- "as much as they wanted"

This is what is said in the Psalm we prayed after the first reading:

"You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live"

Is it not wonderful to hear this? Among us people, this does not happen very often. When we go to someone asking for something, what happens? Sometimes the person says: "I am sorry I cannot help you" Or someone else will say: "I am very busy at the moment, come back later". But we, know that later will turn out to be never. And even when we do get help, often it is too little, it is not as much as we need, let alone as much as we desire. But with God, it is different. He fills our needs fully and completely.

Our needs are many indeed and our hunger is of many kinds. We hunger for food yes, but for so many other things too, don't we? There is within each one of us the hunger for friendship with people; the hunger for peace of heart; for help in our difficulties; for comfort in our sorrow; and a hunger for happiness- a happiness that will not be finished after a few days. Yes, all this we hunger for.

Are we ready to trust the message we have read today from God Himself? Are we to allow Him to satisfy the hunger we feel? He is ready to give us food in plenty. Are we ready to receive it?

3 New life:

As we continue our celebration, and during this coming week, let us hear again God's invitation to us:

"Come listen to me; pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live"

And, whenever we do feel hungry, let us turn to Him, sure that we will receive as much as we need.

Let me end up this reflection with something I read while preparing the homily.

Two parish priests were discussing about how they shared the Sunday collection with their assistant priests. "That's easy". The younger priest said. "For me, I draw a big circle on the floor. I toss all the money offerings up in the air and what falls inside is mine; what falls outside goes to my assistant. With a big circle, obviously only a few fell outside!

"And you?" asked the younger one, "How do you share your collection?" "My system is simpler and more effective," bragged the older priest. "I simply toss up all the offerings in the air. What goes up is for my assistant, and what comes down is for me." Following the Law of Gravity, obviously the assistant gets nothing.

Fr. Francis Bakyor.
