

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 9, 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	Aug. 11	07:00 pm	STL	Jack Rogers
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	Aug. 13	07:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	Aug. 15	05:00 pm	STL	John Bromell †
SUN	Aug. 16	09:00 am	STL	Catherine (Abel) Aragon †

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 \$894. Last week's on-line collection will be reported next week. 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!

NOTE: MASS LOCATION CHANGE for AUG. 15th and 22nd: Typically Saturday night masses are held at SJV but for those dates only – we will celebrate them at St. Lawrence. Please join us as our second graders receive their First Holy Communion.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Our 2nd graders are finally getting to receive their First Holy Communion. They will receive the Eucharist in small groups on **August 15, 16, 22 & 23rd**. All the masses will be celebrated at St. Lawrence. Our first group on Saturday **August 15** will include: Lane Coppinger, John Paul Peltzer, Addalee Shoemaker & Kohen Urban. The following children will receive First Communion on Sunday, **August 16**: Gunnar Pohl, Abe Heim & Broxton Navinsky. Please pray for them on this important occasion.

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.

WHO REMEMBERS THE ABORTED CHILDREN

In 1999, I was deeply moved by the Memorial Day concert shown on TV from Washington D.C. honoring the men and women who fought and died for their country so we could all be free. They fought for all of us - the elderly, the middle aged, the young and all the babies. Yes, I am proud of my country but I'm ashamed of the law that allows the killing of babies in the womb of their mothers and the laws that forbids mentioning God in public schools and buildings.

Charles Durning, an American Movie Star, gave an impassioned speech and his moving words could well be applied to the aborted babies of our country. "We grieve for each and everyone. You are precious in our eyes.

We wonder what great heights you could have achieved had your life not been taken." I couldn't help but wonder if some day we might hold a national memorial for the over 62 million babies killed, not by an enemy from a distant land, but by our own laws and by their own mothers.

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.

ATTEND THE FOSTER MINISTRY FAIR

to help vulnerable children and the families who care for them! We all have heard how the Kansas foster care system is overwhelmed. There are currently 7,500 children in care and only approximately 2,000 foster families. Unfortunately, the need is expected to grow due to effects of the pandemic and as vulnerable children come back into the public eye when schools open again this fall. The Church is the solution to this crisis! We are confident our Catholic community will respond once we all become aware of the need and the many ways to help. Join parish leaders and members to learn more about the resources available to make a difference in the lives of so many children in our communities. **Foster Care Ministry Fair:** Thursday, **August 27**, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Offered via Zoom AND in-person at: Savior Pastoral Center, Keleher Conference Room, 12601 Parallel Pkwy, KCK. Zoom registrants will receive a link before the event. Registration is required for both in-person and virtual participation: <https://archkck18.wufoo.com/forms/r18111q0mpkg57/>. Please visit our new website at www.archkcks.com/foster to learn more and see the resources available. Contact Debra Niesen at dniesen@archkck.org with any questions.

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 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)

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.

ST. BENEDICT WORK AND HOLINESS RETREAT: Conferences about the rule and life of St. Benedict, Sept. 11th -13th. There will be conferences, time to work on various projects around the retreat center, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, Confession and time for private prayer, reflection and walking. Cabins/courtyard rooms, \$170 single; \$250 couple or single guest rooms \$100 (meals included). To attend, send an email to info@christsppeace.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 (**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.wyme4youandme.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/3k6mfS27atq>

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.

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.

19th Sunday in ordinary Time, Year A (8/9/2020)

Texts:

First Reading. 1 Kings. 19:11-13

Second Reading. Romans 9:1-5

Third Reading. Matt. 14:22-33

Theme: He Can Help Others, but Will He Help Me?

Congregation: St. Joseph- St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Easton/ Kansas

Dear brothers and sisters,

Warm greetings once again. I am sure you are all still staying safe and well. Today the Lord invites us again to his banquet table on this 19th Sunday in the ordinary Time. The question he invites us to ask ourselves is: He can help others, but will he help me?

Do you believe everything you read? There was a time that we would pick up a newspaper and be confident that what we were reading was actually the facts and didn't slant one way or other. There was a time we could pick up a biography and not worry whether it was the official or unofficial telling of the person's life. There was a time that we could trust what we read.

But today, we read with more skepticism. We are skeptical when we read the email that says we millionaires. We are skeptical when the internet headline says that there is an amazing medical breakthrough. We are skeptical that the newspaper is actually providing an accurate account of the facts.

We have this skepticism because there have been many times when these outlets have proven less than trustworthy. We have believed them one time too many. Maybe we have believed something only to have people laugh at us because they know it is a hoax. Maybe we have clicked on those headlines only to find it is not as big of a breakthrough as they said. Maybe we read the newspaper and found out later that the story was not nearly as accurate or truthful as it claims to be.

As we look at our sermon text this morning, we see more than just skepticism, we see doubt. We see Jesus allowing Peter to do something that no one else has ever done, but even in the midst of that amazing miracle Peter still doubts the power of his Savior. The question in Peter's mind was the same one in the hearts of the disciples who faced the storm, it's the same question of doubt and fear that is often in our hearts and minds, "He can help others, but will he help me?"

Imagine you are one of the disciples. Every single day you see Jesus healing the sick, driving out demons, and doing other miracles. Can you imagine yourself starting to take those for granted? Can you imagine that you are not as amazed at the miracles of Jesus as you were at first?

In the Bible, we see Jesus doing many, many miracles that benefitted other people, but we don't often see him doing a miracle that directly benefitted his disciples. For instance, Jesus healed many other people, but we are only given one instance where he healed a relative of a disciple. Jesus fed the 4000 and the 5000, but he did not miraculously bring food to his disciples every day. They had fish for meals.

and pay for food just as everyone else did. Jesus raised other people from the dead, but he did not raise a disciple from the dead.

It seems as if Jesus was always doing his miracles for someone else and not his disciples. It would have been easy for them to think that Jesus did miracles for other people, but not for them. There are two instances where Jesus performed miracles that directly benefitted his disciples. The Bible gives us two accounts of storms on the Sea of Galilee that Jesus' disciples were trapped in.

The first time, Jesus and his disciples were on a boat travelling across the Sea of Galilee when a storm came up. The disciples battled the storm with all they could muster, while Jesus slept. Finally, when they could not think of anything else to do, they ran to Jesus, woke him and asked him to save them. Jesus calmed the storm, but asked them, "Where is your faith?"

The second time is our sermon text for today. Jesus has sent his disciples on ahead of him to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. This time, Jesus did not go with them because he wanted some time alone to pray to his Father.

It wasn't long before a storm came upon the lake. It was a ferocious storm. They couldn't turn back because the waves were so big and they couldn't move forward because the wind was against them. They had battled the storm for hours. They were wet, afraid and tired. When towards morning they see something that they have never seen before. Someone walking to them on the water. They are afraid and think that it is a mirage or worse a ghost or demon.

Jesus calls out to calm them, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." Even though they know this voice, they still doubted. Peter calls out, "If is you tell me to come to you on the water".

What happens? Jesus allows a great miracle to occur. Peter steps out of the boat onto the water and he begins to walk on that water. But even in the middle of Jesus' amazing power, doubt still comes. As Peter takes his eyes off of Jesus, he sees the wind and the waves and he doubts that Jesus power can sustain him through the storm. This doubt gets in the way of Peter's faith and he begins to sink into the water. He calls out, "Lord save me".

Do you see the irony of Peter calling out, "Lord save me!?" There should have been no reason for him to be saved. He had been walking on water, safe in the power of Jesus, but his own doubts and fears and lack of faith got in the way of trusting that power of Jesus. It was his own doubts and fears that led him to be sinking and needing to be saved.

The Bible is filled with many amazing lessons that show us God's power in saving his faithful people. From the Old Testament lessons to the miracles of Jesus, God teaches us the amazing truth that we're safe in his power. These accounts that are written in the Bible are not just stories like a children's book which is read at story time or at bedtime. They are faith- building accounts of our God's grace, love, discipline and deliverance. They are true and deserve our highest honor and respect.

But sometimes, we treat them as just stories. We treat them with the same doubt, the same skepticism we read our newspaper with. Maybe we doubt that what God actually said happened, happened. We look for more logical solution. Or maybe we question the truth that God is trying to teach us, that he actually does care about us, watch over and save us. We are awed by what has done in these

stories of other people. But part of us doubts that they actually happened and part of us doubts that he would do this for us.

We never apply these lessons to ourselves personally. We have a hard time realizing and believing that the same God who delivered the Israelites from The Egyptians. The same God who allowed Peter to walk on water and calmed the storm, is the same God who promises that his power and mercy is also watching over us.

We may take these Bible lessons and be skeptical that what happened, happened. We think that God is saving someone else, but not us, but we shouldn't. Those doubts are sins against God. The First commandment tells us we should fear, love and trust in him above all things and when we don't do that we are not following him as we should.

Because of our lack of faith, we miss the small miracles that God provides every day. We miss the moments of peace and joy that we have. Instead, we dwell on the bad parts of the day. We miss the blessing of movement and life. Instead we focus on the pain and illnesses we have. We miss the blessing of work. Instead we focus on the low pay, or poor boss, or bad working conditions. We miss the blessing of a mind that is powerful, instead we dwell on the things we don't know and understand.

All these doubts get in the way of seeing our God and Savior really is. We miss the wonderful things that he gives us every day. While he watches over us now and takes care of us, he has also taken care of our future. By his own suffering and death, he has given us a future with him in heaven where there will be no storms, no reason to doubt and fear. He has given us a future we don't deserve. A future in the glory of heaven.

In His Word, God certainly shows how he has helped other people, but he is also showing us how he can help us. In the middle of the storm, Jesus came to the disciples, he didn't leave them alone. When Peter was drowning, he didn't let him flounder for a while, he lifted Peter up, and calmed the storm and all was well.

Jesus may not always stop every storm from coming into our life, but we can be sure that as we live with that storm that he will do the same thing for us that he has done in his Word countless times. He will be with us during that storm and struggle, he will lift us up during that storm, he will calm our storm in his way and in his time. In the end all will be well. The Lord therefore says to us today, "Call me if you need anything".

Fr. Francis Bakyor.