

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 4, 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
Father's Email: francis.bakyor@yahoo.com

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	Oct 6	07:00 pm	STL	For the Sick (May they heal quickly)
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Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED

THUR	Oct 8	07:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
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SAT	Oct 10	05:00 pm	SJV	Mass of Thanksgiving Donald Erzen †
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SUN	Oct 11	09:00 am	STL	Jack Rogers †
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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, Susie Beying, Jennifer Brushwood, Carl Davidson, George Dean, Carolyn DeMaranville, Vince Eimer, Tom Flack, Tina Gaspard, Ronnie Gast, Alan Halstead, Marly 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 included rents \$500, special collection for utility of \$350, memorials of \$200, special collection of \$20, and the regular collection of \$1460, for a total of \$2,530. Last week's on-line collection was \$184.23. Thank you for your generosity.

THANK YOU! We received our One Faith Capital Campaign Rebate in September for pledge payments received during January 2020- June 2020 in the amount of \$1356.96

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: We are soliciting volunteers who would like to serve as our Parish Director of Religious Education (DRE), leading the effort to teach our children about their Catholic faith. The DRE performs a number of crucial functions: coordinating CCD enrollment and the necessary paperwork, developing the CCD calendar, recruiting and assisting teachers and other volunteers, working with the Archdiocese and teachers in curriculum development and resource procurement, communicating with parents and the parish council, and ensuring all teachers are Virtus trained. Please prayerfully consider this incredibly fulfilling role within our parish. We are also open to co-DREs if that is an approach that works for you. The parish council does not anticipate starting CCD classes before October, allowing the new DRE time to prepare. If you are interested please contact: Jason Nichols, phone: 913-683-2661 or email: jnichols@dfamilk.com OR Sharon Wagner, phone: 913-683-4495 or email: w5cattle@aol.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: We are searching for a volunteer to clean the rectory twice a month. POC is Sharon Wagner, phone: 913-683-4495 or email: w5cattle@aol.com.

SECOND COLLECTION: Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the charitable works of Pope Francis. Funds from this collection help victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a witness of charity to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today. For more information, visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence.

SECOND COLLECTION will be held the weekend of Oct. 18th for World Mission Sunday. We appreciate your generosity.

OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

THE ELECTIONS AND VOTING: Would you like to save a child's life? On Election Day you will be given that chance. The candidates running for office have starkly different positions on the most fundamental issue: abortion. Babies will live and die based on how you vote. The children are counting on you. Please do not let them down.

VOTER REGISTRATION FOR THE 2020 ELECTION

Election Day is Tuesday, **November 3rd 2020**. In order to be able to vote, you must be registered. The deadline to register to vote is Tuesday, **October 13th**. You can register at www.kdor.ks.gov/Apps/VoterReg. It is important to register especially if you recently turned 18, recently moved or had a name change, have not voted in recent elections, or if you are unsure if you have registered.

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. Please see Archbishop Naumann's statement on the moral responsibility of voting, at www.archkck.org/prolife. The USCCB's Forming Consciences for

Faithful Citizenship can be found at: <https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-peace-human-development/forming-consciences-faithful-citizenship>

WHAT IS "VALUE THEM BOTH?" VALUE THEM BOTH is the proposed state constitutional amendment for life supported by the Catholic Bishops of Kansas. The amendment is crucial because the Kansas Supreme Court recently created a nearly unlimited "right" to abortion, including taxpayer-funded abortion, teens seeking an abortion without parental knowledge or consent and late-term abortions. Once passed, the VALUE THEM BOTH will help protect mothers and their unborn babies from the abortion industry. Please pray for passage of VALUE THEM BOTH.

FAMILY PICNIC: Knights of Columbus Immaculata Council #900 is planning a family picnic on Sunday, **Oct. 11th** at the KofC Hall, 11:30 am to 4 pm. Serving burgers, shrimp, fries, beverages, Noon to 1 pm. Bring your favorite side dish to share. KC Chiefs game will be showing and there will be games/door prizes. Door prizes drawn during halftime.

SACRED HEART-ST. CASIMIR FALL FEST: On Saturday, **October 17th** from 5:30 pm- 7 pm at Sacred Heart Church, 1401 2nd Avenue, Leavenworth, we will have Trunk or Treating for the kids (all costumed kids will get a free pumpkin), and we will be selling pumpkins, hamburgers/brats/hotdog sack lunch meals for \$6/\$5, and doing a silent auction and cash raffle. Sunday, **October 18th**, from 9:45 am until 1 pm, we will have free coffee & donuts and continue the pumpkin sales & raffles.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: Working in collaboration and solidarity we can confront the structural issues that cause and perpetuate human trafficking. U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking. **VISIT >>** (www.sistersagainstrafficking.org) USCSAHT is a 501© 3 org. 2039 N Geyer Road, St. Louis, MO 63131

OPEN GATE SERIES AT PRAIRIE STAR RANCH Did you know that Prairie Star Ranch, home of Camp Tekakwitha, is open year-round? Are you looking for opportunities to get out of the house and enjoy some COVID-friendly time together as a family? On select Saturdays in the months of September and October, the gates of Prairie Star Ranch will be open for families to enjoy some casual, open-air fun. Come fish (bring your own poles!), picnic, hike, and more! On each Open Gate day, a different staff-facilitated camp activity will be offered for a small fee. Otherwise, the experience is free, and donations are welcome. Gates will be open from 10am to 4pm, and no registration is required. Upcoming Open Gate Days include **Oct. 10th and 24th**. For a full schedule of event dates, the staff-facilitated activity for each weekend, our COVID-19 precautions and more, visit our website at archkck.org/ranch.

"EVERY DAY IN LOVE" "These skills were a lifesaver for our marriage during this pandemic!" These past few months have been so stressful. Do you and your spouse have the skills to continue to navigate these challenging times? Join Brad and Libby DuPont for 7 Thursday nights (live, online) **starting October 8th**. We'll discover practical ways to: * Pray together * Reconcile hurts * Deal with and share feelings * Communicate * Make decisions * Achieve deeper intimacy * Tap into the grace of our sacrament. To register, go to: www.archkck.org/everyday or email Brad at bdupont@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 Sisiparish@gmail.com. Mass intentions may be scheduled with Kim as well. MUST SUBMIT BY 9 pm TUES FOR INCLUSION.

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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.

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(FOR POSTING ON THE CHURCH INTERNET SITE)

2020 RED MASS

Each year the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, and the Kansas City Lawyer's Guild arrange for the celebration of the Red Mass, where judges, lawyers, law students, law faculty, law enforcement, court personnel, and their families and friends gather together, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we strengthen our resolve to face the challenges of our times. Please mark your calendars for the 2020 Red Mass that will be at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, **October 11, 2020** at the Cathedral of St Peter the Apostle. Msgr. Stuart Swetland, President, Donnelly College, is the celebrant, homilist. You may attend in person or virtually via livestream link. Please see the below invitation. If you have questions, please email The Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas at cfnek@archkck.org or call 913-647-3062. RSVP at www.cfnek.org/redmass

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,

OPEN GATE SERIES

@ *Prairie Star Ranch*



AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY SOME OPEN-AIR FUN

With nearly 300 acres to spread out, come enjoy a free, covid-friendly day of leisure and outdoor adventure.

Pack a picnic, catch a fish (bring your own pole), go on a hike, complete our scavenger hunt, and more!

If you would like to make the day extra special, a different staff-facilitated camp activity will be offered each week for a small fee.

785-746-5693

OCT 10

HORSES

\$20 / Trail Ride (Age 9 and Up)
\$20 / Corral Ride (Under 9)

OCT 24

ACTIVITY TBD

Pricing TBD

10 AM TO 4 PM EACH WEEK

Call our office or check out our website for updates and for more information!



ARCHKCK.ORG/RANCH

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year A (10/4/2020)

Texts:

First Reading- Isaiah 5:1-7

Second Reading- Philippians 4:6-9

Third Reading- Matthew 12:33-43

Theme: Be faithful tenants.

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

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you again. Once more the lord has invited us again to the great banquet table to listen to his word and be fed with the Eucharist, our spiritual food for our spiritual journey. Let us open our ears and listen attentively to his word today.

The scripture texts today are very challenging. They have been used to foster an image of a vengeful God and the gospel has been one of the texts that down through the Christian era has been used to justify Anti- Semitism. So, it is important for us to that the Church offers them to us as an opportunity and motivation to reflect on our lives and our world in the twenty-first century.

The vineyard appears throughout the Hebrew Scripture as a metaphor for God's people. The Jewish people looked on themselves as the Vineyard of the Lord, God's chosen People. This image is seen today in our scripture readings from Isaiah, Psalm 80 and Matthew. In today's first Reading, God speaks to his people in great pain because they have proven to be so ungrateful. Jesus makes use of it in his condemnation of the leaders of the Jewish people who were looking for ways to discredit him and his message.

Isaiah portrays the Kingdom of Israel as a vineyard and God as its owner whose efforts to form Israel into a people of righteousness and justice have faltered. Instead of acting justly, the powerful of the land oppressed the poor, who cried aloud for help. Psalm 80 imposes the same charges against Israel and voices hope that its soon to be king will lead the people into renewed obedience to God and to peace.

"What could I have done for vineyard that I have not done?"

I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?"

Jesus' parable about the wretched vineyard tenants present the same theme as Isaiah and Psalm 80. It is part of his ongoing dispute with the chief priests and the elders, who have forsaken their roles as leaders whose duty is to guide their people in the observance of God's law.

The parable portrays Israel's leaders as the vineyards tenant's, given a sacred trust to see that it bears fruit for its owner. Instead they killed what is most precious to him. Matthew, in addition to condemning Israel's leadership is saying that the destruction of Jerusalem is God's

punishment for Israel failure to heed Jesus and his message. Matthew places this story of the vineyard at a critical juncture in his Gospel. Jesus has just entered Jerusalem in triumph and cleansed the temple. His criticism of the leaders is the last straw, and the next day they begin to plot his death.

Overall, the readings speak of the rejection that our Heavenly Father experienced from chosen people.

What meaning does these texts have for us in the twenty-first century? From where we stand, the vineyard is the Reign of God ushered in by Jesus Christ. All creation, the whole web of life, is part of creation that god has given to us to tend. We do not have kings who are responsible for our behavior. It is our responsibility to live out our faith by caring for our common home. We can live out our faith by caring for the poor who cry out because they are most severely affected by pollution, environmental destruction, and climate change. Indeed, it is worth nothing that God did not destroy the vineyard describe in the passage from Isaiah or in Psalm 80; the neglect of the community led to its ruin.

The biblical communities were burdened by corrupt leadership which were powerless to change. We have a chance at influencing our leaders by the way we vote, protest, participate in civil society, and take part in the political process. We also make choices in what we buy and how we live our lives, and these choices can promote the well-being of God's wonderful creation. Of course, if our choices are countercultural, we will encounter criticism and opposition, but in standing up for what is right we have Jesus as our model. And in the end, we will bear fruit for God, our fellow humans and our common home.

Today's readings remind me and you to ask what kind of fruit am I producing?

Does god and the things of God come first in my life?

Am I aware of God's constant love and kindness towards me?

Do I return God's love by the love I have for others?

Do I show them the same kind of love, forgiveness and compassion that God reaches out to me, again and again?

Fr. Francis Bakyor.