

# WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus  
Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 18, 2020

St. Joseph of the Valley: 31151 207<sup>th</sup> 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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Website: [www.sjslparish.org](http://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 20	07:00 pm	STL	The End of Abortion
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	Oct 22	07:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	Oct 24	05:00 pm	SJV	Irene Schmidling †
SUN	Oct 18	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-stjosephst>. 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 was \$1,372.10, including \$250 for each cemetery, \$5 missions, \$35 for utilities and \$50 for Memorial. Last week's on-line collection was \$233.86. Thank you for your generosity.

**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](mailto:jnichols@dfamilk.com) OR Sharon Wagner, phone: 913-683-4495 or email: [w5cattle@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:w5cattle@aol.com).

**SECOND COLLECTION** will be held this weekend of Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> for World Mission Sunday. We appreciate your generosity.

## OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

**ALL LIFE IS PRECIOUS:** We are all aware that 'ISIS' is a real danger to all people everywhere. They plot mass murders and kill with abandon anyone who gets in their way, beheading their captives whether they are men, women or children. But now I ask you. Are we any better than them? In 1973, our U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion. Since then, more than 62 million babies in the womb have been brutally murdered here in the United States alone. How in the world have we ever let this atrocity continue? As the saying goes, 'evil happens when good people do nothing.'

We are now nearing the election of a new president. I pray we vote wisely for a candidate who is really and truly pro-life in words and action and can bring this evil to an end. All life is precious!

**2020 ELECTION NOVENA** – The USCCB is offering an Election Novena to help Catholics prepare for the upcoming election. For nine consecutive days, **Monday, October 26 through Tuesday, November 3**, participants will be encouraged to pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the day's intention. A closing prayer for elected leaders will be offered on day 10, Wednesday, November 4. To sign up to receive the Novena daily be email, please visit <https://www.usccb.org/2020-election-novena> and scroll to the bottom of the page.

**OPEN GATE SERIES AT PRAIRIE STAR RANCH** Take advantage of the beautiful fall weather and join us on Saturday, **October 24th**, from 10am to 5pm for a casual day of open-air fun. Show off those Halloween costumes and bring along your candy-collecting buckets! You don't have to miss out on trick-or-treating this year; our contactless scavenger hunt will guide you around property and you may collect candy along the way! Additionally, pack a picnic, enjoy the fall foliage, bring your fishing gear, and more! Trail rides (for riders aged 9 and up) and corral rides (for riders aged 8 and under) will be offered for a small fee. Otherwise, the event is free, and donations are welcome. No registration is required. For a full schedule of events, COVID-19 precautions, and more, visit our website at [archkck.org/ranch](http://archkck.org/ranch)

**XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL:** Are you still searching for the right school environment for the 2020-21 school year? Xavier Catholic School is operating 5 days a week in person. We have limited openings in our preschool, 1st grade, and grades 3-8. Please call 913-682-7801 to schedule a tour.

**SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LOW-INCOME STUDENTS:** Join us for our virtual Gaudeamus gala on Saturday, **October 24th!** The Catholic Education Foundation's Gaudeamus event provides access for 1,600+ low-income students to attend a Catholic school in our Archdiocese. The need has never been greater, and 100% of your Gaudeamus donation will go to scholarships and be matched! You can also register to watch Gaudeamus for free. Register at [cefgala.org](http://cefgala.org), or call (913) 647-0344. Pre-registration is required.

## ORA ET LABORA RETREAT FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Christ's Peace House of Prayer has openings for applicants to participate in an Ora et Labora Retreat. These retreats are designed for high school and college students who are looking for a fun and unique way to fulfill community service hours or simply make a new experience. Start the day with prayer, work on a variety of projects suitable for all ages and skill levels, break for lunch and good conversation and end the day with evening prayers or the rosary down by the pond. Learn new skills. Enjoy the beauty of God's creation. Practice being present to God. In appreciation for the group's work, there is no charge for this retreat. Please note that masks and social distancing are implemented at this time. Invite friends and schedule a date for a prayer and working retreat designed to your needs! Contact us if interested: 913.773.8255 or [info@christspeace.com](mailto:info@christspeace.com)

## THE UPCOMING KANSAS ELECTION MATTERS!

This past Legislative Session, the Kansas Constitutional VALUE THEM BOTH amendment passed the Senate, but came four agonizing votes short in the House. Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry cheered. The Catholic Bishops of the United States have declared abortion to be the preeminent moral issue of our day. The Catholic Bishops of Kansas call VALUE THEM BOTH their #1 legislative priority. What is VALUE THEM BOTH? VTB is the proposed state constitutional amendment that will “undo” the recent Kansas Supreme Court ruling that recently created a nearly unlimited “right” to abortion. Because of this ruling, all of our current abortion laws including the parental notification law and bans on taxpayer-funded and late-term abortions are now presumed unconstitutional. We need VTB to protect women and their unborn babies from the abortion industry. Before casting your vote this election, become informed about this and other issues. Then exercise your responsibility of faithful citizenship and VOTE. More information can be found at [www.archkck.org/prolife-ks-constitutional-amendment](http://www.archkck.org/prolife-ks-constitutional-amendment)

## MONTHLY LIVESTREAM ROSARY FOR HEALING AND PROTECTION

The Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas invites you to support our brothers and sisters in Christ who have been wounded by sexual abuse in the Church by praying, in solidarity, for their healing and for the protection of all who are vulnerable. This rosary lifts up our collective prayers to God through Mary's loving intercession. We will pray the Rosary on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:45 AM. The next livestream will be on **October 21st** with the recording posted to the site for later viewing. Please join us at: <https://livestream.com/archkck/healingrosary>

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> page to this bulletin.

Bulletin Items: Contact Kim Sachse, 913-775-0690 Or Email [Sjslparish@gmail.com](mailto:Sjslparish@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)**

**AMAZING PARISH:** Registration is filling fast for the upcoming Amazing Parish Conference hosted by our Archdiocese on **Oct. 19-21<sup>st</sup>** 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

**PROJECT CHRYSALIS** is a ministry offering hope through Sacred Scripture and community to parents or 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 will be held on Tuesday **October 27<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00-8:15p.m. - both in person and online via Zoom. Our guest will be Jerry Anselmo who lost his son Brian and began the BMA Foundation. We will meet in the St. Mark room in the lower level of Church of the Ascension, 9510 W. 127<sup>th</sup> St. in Overland Park. For more information and the Zoom invitation link, contact Deacon Ken Billinger at 913-634-4210 or email [kbillinger@archkck.org](mailto:kbillinger@archkck.org). The group is open to parents who have lost a child or grandparents who have lost a grandchild.

**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE** ~ Grief Support Weekend Beginning Experience is offering a healing weekend **November 6-8, 2020**, at Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kansas. This invitation is open to men and women of all ages who have suffered the loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation. It is a time to heal and a time to begin anew. Reservations are required. For more information visit: [www.beginningexperiencekc.org](http://www.beginningexperiencekc.org) email: [register.bekc@gmail.com](mailto:register.bekc@gmail.com) or contact Laura 308-530-1873

**UPCOMING RETREATS AT CHRIST'S PEACE HOUSE OF PRAYER:**  
Save the date(s)!

**Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>:** LOUIS AND ZELIE MARTIN FAMILY SANCTITY RETREAT: reflects on the importance of Family Sanctity. Retreat info: <https://www.archkck.org/cpp/christs-peace-house-of-prayer-calendar?cid=38&ceid=3376&cerid=0&cdt=11%2f6%2f2020>

**Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>,** Advent Silent Retreat. Retreat info: <https://www.archkck.org/cpp/christs-peace-house-of-prayer-calendar?cid=38&ceid=3378&cerid=0&cdt=12%2f4%2f2020>

**Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021:** Spiritual Reflection & Planning Retreat. Retreat info: <https://www.archkck.org/cpp/christs-peace-house-of-prayer-calendar?cid=38&ceid=3377&cerid=0&cdt=1%2f8%2f2021>

For more information, contact [info@christspeace.com](mailto:info@christspeace.com) or 913-773-8255.

## **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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:svielhauer@archkck.org) or Jenifer Valenti at [jvalenti@archkck.org](mailto: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](http://CatholicPlannedGiving.org) to learn how to accept this invitation.

29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A (10/18/2020).

Texts:

*First Reading. Isaiah 45:4-6*

*Second Reading. 1Thessalonians 1:1-5*

*Third Reading. Matthew 22:15-21.*

Theme: *Give back to God what belongs to God.*

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

My dear brothers and sisters, good evening/ good morning and welcome to our worship. The Lord again invites us to his banquet table. The word of God invites us to "give What belongs and what belongs to Caesar".

In these final weeks of the Church's year, our readings from Matthew's gospel point towards what lies ahead. Today's gospel and that of next Sunday tell of the growing confrontation with the nation's leaders that will lead to Jesus' death. And in our last three readings from Matthew's gospel Jesus warns his hearers that the end is approaching.

The exchange recorded in today's gospel is well known. Matthew brief account tells us a great deal about the situation that was developing in the last days of Jesus' life.

The Jewish people bitterly resented the Roman occupation of their country; now those who have turned against Jesus exploited this explosive situation to discredit him. The dilemma that Jesus is placed in by the question put to him about the paying of the Roman tax is brought out in Matthew's account by the composition of the group putting the question- Pharisee and Herodians.

The pharisees represented Jews who have a real problem of conscience paying the tax. Strick Pharisees would have considered the inscription on the denarius handed to Jesus – which certainly read; "Tiberius Caesar, son of the divine Augustus, great high priest" - to be blasphemous. This influential group, dedicated to upholding the tradition of God's people, would have asked themselves whether they were compromising their principles by paying their tax with this coin. If they encouraged the paying of the tax, he would not only offend the Pharisees, but also antagonize the common people who resented the Roman rule.

The Herodians, they derived their name as followers of King Herod. Unlike the Pharisees, who sought to restore the Kingdom of David, the Herodians wished to restore a member of the Herodian dynasty to the throne in Judea. Like the Pharisees the Herodians wanted political independence from the Jewish people. The Herodians, followers of Herod- the puppet ruler in league with the Romans- had no scruples concerning the tax. If Jesus condemned the paying of the tax, he could be denounced for subversion-(undermining of the power and authority of an established system or institution).

The famous reply of Jesus, "To Caesar what belongs to Caesar; and to God what belongs to God" is not a clever evasion, as we may be led to think. With this reply, he turns the question back on his interrogators- taking the discussion beyond the level of the partisanship they are trying to exploit, he tells them that they are faced by a decision of conscience.

As is so often the case- think of our own times- involvement in the political life of the nation not a straightforward matter. The Romans had originally occupied Palestine at the invitation of Jewish leaders, bringing a relative stability, that replaced a situation of continuing anarchy. The contemporaries of Jesus must ask themselves whether the presence the romans was the lesser of two evils.

Today's first reading the later Isaiah writings is well chosen. Cyrus- who does not know the God of Israel- is called by the prophet, God's anointed, as he fulfilled God's design, sending the Jewish exiles back from captivity after his defeat of the Babylonians. God is Lord of all, certainly, Jesus telling his listeners; but Jewish conscience must judge whether the Romans presence is providential, preventing a worse situation. We should note that Jesus invites the people to make their own judgment of conscience; he does not make it for them.

We would misunderstand the reply of Jesus if we thought it was meant to instruct us about the relationship that should exist between Church and State. His reply concerns, not the order of politics, but the order of moral responsibility- the individual's duty to participate in the life of the nation in a way that best promotes the common good of justice and peace. At a later date, when the Romans state became a demonic force intent on destroying the Church, defiance of the authorities was called for, and produced the martyrs who were the glory of the early Church.

Today in many countries, civil governments are beginning to make laws that will make Christians have to live against the law. In the areas of sexuality, sexual identity, marriage, abortion, and euthanasia, the civil governments are moving in directions completely against the teachings of our lord. And there is very little civil discourse about these matters. Societies are being polarized and Christians who want to be faithful are being seen as old fashioned, out of date and against others. We can give to Caesar what is Caesar's, but we cannot give to Caesar that which belongs to God.

So, we are called today to prepare ourselves for conflict and for being judged badly and for being seen as old fashion. In fact, we might even have to suffer for our beliefs. Let us trust that God will always give us the strength to be faithful to the Lord Jesus and His Church.

Fr. Francis Bakyor