WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH - ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

'Two Churches. One Parish' Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus Third Sunday of Lent- March 7, 2021

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

"LIKE" us on Facebook for new announcements

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:				
TUES	Mar. 9	06:00 pm	STL	Parishioners of SJ-SL
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m CANCELLED				
THUR	Mar. 11	05:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
FRI	Mar. 12	06:30	STL	Stations of the Cross and Mass Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	Mar. 13	05:00 pm	SJV	Donald Ernzen ₽
SUN	Mar. 14	09:00 am	STL	Ronnie Gast∜
Confessions: SAT-4:30 pm at S IV: SI IN-8:30 at STI				

PLEASE NOTE:

Attendance for Masses is limited. We will be seating every other pew. We must continue to practice social distancing (of at least 6 feet). Masks are required to be worn. We are 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. 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, 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, (Poly) Sloan, Gary Stafford, Aaron Welch, Louise Wistuba and Nick

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! Collection amount was a total of \$2,791, including \$230 for utilities. Last week's on-line collection was \$354.23. Thank you for your generosity.

CALL TO SHARE: There are many distractions in our lives: kids, sports, school, meetings, ministries, social media, cell phones, work, family, errands, driving, home repairs, shopping, and more! Where is God in all that? Do you take time to find Him? We are almost halfway through Lent. How is it going for you? Have you had to do a restart? Lots of us have. Take a moment to examine and assess the distractions in your life. What are the things you need to "take a whip to and drive from the temple"? If you have not already, please make the Archbishop's Call to Share appeal part of your Lenten almsgiving.

pledae/aive online this video explains https://www.youtube.com/watch?bblinkid=248371396&bbemailid=288 68032&bbejrid=1858333292&v=E7UbwuGawus&feature=youtu.be

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Stations of the Cross and Mass will be held on Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m. at St. Lawrence at 6:30 pm on March12th, March 19th, and March 26th.

SECOND COLLECTION: Will be held the weekend of March 14th for The Catholic Relief Services (formerly the American Bishop's Overseas Appeal)

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. 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. If you are interested please contact: Jason Nichols, phone: 913-683-2661 or email: inichols@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.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY: The Finance Council is happy to announce that the parish will be accepting applications for one or more scholarships for Catholic school (K-16) attendance during the 2021-2022 academic year or Catholic camp attendance during summer 2021. The scholarship is made possible by donations specified for Catholic Education. Interested applicants should fill out the application form, attach either a report card or transcript, and provide contact information for a reference. Applications are due by April 1, 2021. The link to the application form is available on the parish website and parish Facebook page. If you cannot access the application form one of these ways, send an email to angela.broaddus@gmail.com to request the link. LINK: https://forms.gle/TZprrU6dvCQ9wa9n7

● OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE



<u>WE ARE BLESSED TO BE AMERICANS:</u> We are blessed to be Americans! We are free because thousands of American soldiers went to war to keep us free. Sadly, a great many soldiers gave their lives and died on foreign soil to achieve this goal. The expression 'War is Hell' is so true. Behind all the evil in the world is the devil who comes from Hell. He enters people's minds and souls and unless they have God in their lives, he is able to lead them down a sinful path.

The saddest and most heinous war of all time is going on right now. It is called Abortion. Since 1973, we have actually killed over 62 million little Americans, more than soldiers who died in all the wars put together.

Granted, they are human babies still in the womb, but they are alive, they are our future. How did this happen in America? Are we so blind to this atrocity? We must not lose this war! Our soldiers fought for each and every one of us, from the babies in the womb to the elderly, to have life until natural death. God gave us the Ten Commandments and a free will to choose right from wrong. We will never have peace until our "Little Americans" have life. We are a country of a lot of good people who save animals' lives. Now let's save our children, including the unborn!

XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Xavier Catholic School's Ignite the Green and White 2021 is going virtual! We are bringing our biggest night of the year to you. Ignite the Green and White 2021 will be live-streamed on March 27th, 2021. This year we are honoring four outstanding educators Shannon Holcomb, Cristy Quinn, Cindi Thiele, and Janet Meyer. For more information or to purchase raffle tickets for the Stuff the Purse or 50/50 Raffle, sponsor a child, register for the silent auction, or purchase a meal to go from the Suburban or custom-made Xavier charcuterie board please https://leavenworthcatholicschools.org/give/ignite-the-greenwhite?fbclid=IwAR20hEuFgZnXX24IeMSuFg9d2-

pdRhi_jbBwpS72uV8hCx5nlluAmT4_VZw or contact Lisa Forge at 913-

PALM SUNDAY RETREAT WITH THE SHROUD OF TURIN: Peace House of Prayer 22131 Meager Road - Easton, KS Friday, March 26th at 5:30pm - Sunday, March 28th at 4:30pm Join us over Palm Sunday weekend as we prepare our hearts for the end of the Lenten season and look toward the Resurrection of the Lord through study and contemplation of the Shroud of Turin and the mystery hidden within. There will be conferences, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, Confession Stations of the Cross and time for private prayer, reflection and walking. The suggested donation is \$170/Single or \$250/Couples for the Cabins and Courtyard Rooms or \$100 for the Single Guest Rooms (Meals Included). To attend, sign-up at christspeace.com, send an email to: info@christspeace.com or call 913.773.8255.

DIVINE MERCY - THE FATHER'S LOVE: Christ's Peace House of Prayer 22131 Meager Road - Easton, KS Friday, April 9th at 5:30pm - Sunday, April 11th at 4:30pm Join us over Divine Mercy Sunday Weekend as we contemplate the Father's Love through his gift of mercy. Don't forget to start the Divine Mercy Novena on Good Friday. There will be conferences, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, Confession Stations of the Cross and time for private prayer, reflection and walking. The suggested donation is \$170/Single or \$250/Couples for the Cabins and Courtyard Rooms or \$100 for the Single Guest Rooms (Meals Included). To attend, sign-up at christspeace.com, send an email to: info@christspeace.com or call 913.773.8255.

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Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus March 7, 2021

PAGE 2 - bulletin (FOR POSTING ON THE CHURCH INTERNET SITE)

CHRIST'S PEACE HOUSE OF PRAYER has adjusted many of the ways we operate in order to create a safe environment for our retreatants. The layout of our facility naturally lends itself to social distancing with separate guest cabins and rooms each with private entrances and self-contained kitchen and shower areas. We have altered many of our operating procedures including how we clean, serve food and interact in the public spaces together so as to eliminate the spread of the virus. The transform CDC pandemic guidelines are carefully followed. We want our guests to be safe and know that they can trust the steps we have taken to make that possible. It is a privilege to serve each of you in these challenging times. Schedule a time for a personal retreat, organize a group retreat or join one of our monthly preached retreats. Send an email to: info@christspeace.com or call 913.773.8255 to schedule a retreat. Visit us at christspeace.com.

2021 RETREAT SCHEDULE FOR CHRIST'S PEACE:

March 26-28: Palm Sunday with the Shroud of Turin April 9-11: Divine Mercy - The Father's Love May 15: St. Isidore Mass - Blessing of Seeds and Soil

May 21-23: Freedom in the Spirit

June 25-27: St. Joseph - With a Father's Heart

July 9-11: Theology of the Body w/ Fr. Thomas Loya

August 13-15: Consecration to Mary September 17-19: Living in the Present Moment October 15-17: Discovering the Wisdom of Saint Pope JPII

November 19-21: Unlocking Difficult Scripture

December 3-5: Advent Silent Retreat January 7-9: New Year Spiritual Reflection and Planning

LENTEN RETREAT - We invite you to schedule a Lenten Retreat to "renew your faith, draw from the living waters of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God." Christ's Peace House of Prayer is an Archdiocesan retreat center located on 120 acres of rolling pastures and timberland about 14 miles west of Leavenworth and one hour from Kansas City, Topeka and Lawrence. We have eight cabins in our wooded area, three courtyard rooms and six guest rooms in the retreat center to welcome guests. Contact us to schedule Private, Guided, Group or Sabbatical Retreats. 913-773-8255 or info@christspeace.com Cabin/Courtyard: \$85/night or Guest Room/Hermitage: \$50/night. See our website for additional pricing guidelines and information - www.christspeace.com

ARCHBISHOP NAUMANN LENTEN REFLECTIONS: Join Archbishop Naumann in reading and reflecting on the Sunday Gospels through Lent! Each audio/podcast segment includes the Gospel reading, Archbishop's reflection and a personal witness of faith from a lay person in the Archdiocese -- all in less than 30 minutes. A guide for individual reflection and group discussion each week is also available. Each Monday of Lent, the upcoming Sunday reflection/guide will be posted on the Enflame website at: http://archkcks.org/ (scroll down). You can also access past Sunday (and Ash Wednesday) reflections/guides on the website.

ENFLAME OUR HOMES: March's theme is Joyful families REST. Sometimes we think that Lent is about what we DO, about the prayer, the fasting and the almsgiving. Of course, these things are important, but it's also the perfect time to step back and REST-- in God's love, and in the love of our families. Find and download all this month's resources at: archkcks.org/rest

NOVENA: All are invited to join the St. Joseph Adoption Novena March 10-18 as we pray for all those who travel upon the path of adoption. Visit usccb.org/adoption-novena.

MY PEACE I GIVE YOU WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: On March 12-14, join Chloe Langr, Lisa Brenninkmeyer, Sister Miriam James Heidland, and many more at the annual National Catholic Women's Conference which will take place virtually. This year the Conference will help women to enter into Christ's words, "Peace I give to you." You will have the opportunity to "learn how prayer enhances your vocations, experience how God multiplies our time and energy when we make prayer a priority, and meet women just like you." You can register for free, or purchase a premium pass. The free pass gives access to the conference recorded presentations from 12 pm ET on March 12 through midnight ET on March 14, 2021 (Friday through Sunday). Premium Pass holders have access throughout 2021. To get more and register, https://go.virtualcatholicconference.com/NCWC2021

PROJECT RACHEL RETREAT: Need healing after an abortion? We offer Compassionate, Confidential and Free services. Our next Saturday retreat is on **March 13th** from 8:30am - 5:00pm, in KC, MO. Lunch and snacks provided. Please contact Ann Marie Alvey @ 913-621-2199 for further

RETREAT WITH THE HEART OF ST. JOSEPH Come and retreat with the heart of St. Joseph. On Saturday, March 20th, you are invited to encounter the overflowing love of the Father's heart as you reflect on the life of Saint Joseph. Take a day to step away from your pandemic routine, pressures, and worries. Take a day to enter into the Year of St. Joseph. Prairie Star Ranch is offering a one-day guided retreat entitled Cor: Retreat with the heart of St. Joseph. With options for both in-person retreatants as well as live-stream participation, we hope all can take advantage of this special event. The retreat includes a vigil Mass, powerful and dynamic meditations offered by the Holy Family School of Faith, lunch, and perhaps most importantly, time for greater prayer. To find our more, register, and review our COVID-19 precautions, visit our website at archick org/ranch our COVID-19 precautions, visit our website at archkck.org/ranch

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH RALLY: The Jr. High Rally will be held Sun March 21st at the KofC Hall in Seneca, KS. The rally will run from 9:30- 3:15pm each day. PSR will feature Mikey Needleman Band, Mike Debus & Dcn Jody Madden as our keynote speaker. Mass will be with Archbishop Naumann. March 21st will feature Mikey Needleman, Mike Debus and Dcn Jody Madden as our keynote speaker and Mass with Fr Zarse. For more information click here JHR Due to COVID restrictions PSR will be limited to 180 and KofC Hall 275.

BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS AT ANNUNCIATION VIGIL MASS with Archbishop Naumann Expectant parents are invited to receive a special blessing for their unborn children in celebration of the Solemnity of the Annunciation. This solemnity commemorates the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to inform her that she was to be the mother of our Savior. It calls us to reflect on the blessing of new life and how we are to care for, protect, and welcome new life, as the Blessed Mother did for the Christ child. All are invited! Solemnity of the Annunciation Vigil Mass with Archbishop Naumann Wednesday, **March 24th**, 7:00 pm Prince of Peace Church 16000 W 143rd St., Olathe.

The Annunciation Vigil Mass will be Live-streamed on the Prince of Peace Facebook page which can be found by searching for 'Prince of Peace Catholic Church Olathe', or by going to their parish website at www.popolathe.org and clicking on the Facebook icon. This link will take you directly to the Facebook page. You do not need a Facebook account view order to the livestream.

RURAL CATHOLIC YOUTH CONFERENCE MARCH 27-28, 2021: It's not too late to register your high school youth and adult leaders for the Rural Catholic Youth Conference! Join Archbishop Naumann, Fr. Bruce, Fr. Dan, Ennie Hickman, the Mikey Needleman Band, Mike Debus, Smokin' Gs BBQ, NEKRYC, the ranch staff, and loving volunteers for a spectacular, distanced weekend at Prairie Star Ranch March 27-28th. We encourage every rural parish to bring at least 1 adult and 2 youth for this weekend to revive your youth ministry and become inspired with new ideas to connect your parish youth and families with the Lord. The conference is open to all parishes, but we are limited on numbers due to social distancing and current safety guidelines, so register ASAP! Please see the flyer that follows and go to www.archkck.org/rural-outreach for more information

MINISTRY FOR PARENTS WHO HAVE LOST A CHILD: The next Project Chrysalis meeting will be on Tuesday March 30 from 7:00-8:15 p.m., and will be presented via Zoom. Our guests will be Bob and Kelly Specht talking about mental health awareness and what we can do to better understand the importance of good mental health. 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. For more information and the Zoom link, contact Deacon Ken Billinger at 913-634-4210 or email kbillinger@archkck.org. The group is open to parents or grandparents who have lost a child.

APRIL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH Child Abuse Prevention Month is an annual observance in the United States dedicated to raising awareness and preventing child abuse. April has been designated Child Abuse Prevention Month in the United States since 1983. The Archdiocese encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making our communities a safe place for children and families. By ensuring that parents and mentors have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to care for their children, we can help prevent child abuse and neglect. In April, we highlight these prevention efforts. Unfortunately during the COVID-19 crisis, children may face an increased risk of abuse and neglect. While many schools may still be closed and families are staying home, more abuse cases could go unreported and unnoticed. It is of particular import we continue to be vigilant and work together to prevent abuse. If you have any questions ٥r concerns, please contact 913-602-7717 ivalenti@archkck.org

CAMP KATERI TEKAKWITHA 2021 DATES We are excited to announce the dates for Camp Kateri Tekakwitha for the summer of 2021, Camp Kateri Tekakwitha combines demanding outdoor activities with powerful, spiritual instruction bringing about a unique encounter with God. Although our adventure activities are memorable, often the love that campers experience through prayer is what they remember most. We look forward to spending the summer with you. Visit www.archkck.org/camp for more information.

This summer we will be offering a couple of day camp options in addition to our overnight camps.

Sr High is for campers entering 9th-12th Grade Fall 2021. Online registration begins Monday March 1, 2021: HS Max \$440 June 21-26 (Overnight Camp)

HS Extreme \$510 July 23-31 (Overnight Camp)

Jr High is for campers entering 7th/8th Grade Fall of 2021. Online registration begins Tuesday March 2, 2021

J-high 1 \$360 June 8-10 (Day Camp) J-high 2 \$435 June 11-16 (Overnight Camp) J-high 3 \$435 July 12-17 (Overnight Camp)

Kateri is for campers entering 5th/6th Grade Fall of 2021. Online registration

begins Wednesday March 3, 2021 Kateri Session 1 \$240 June 6-7 (Day Camp)

Kateri Session 2 \$280 June 28-30 (Overnight Camp)

Kateri Session 3 \$280 July 19-21 (Overnight Camp)

FAMILY CAMPS. Registration begins on March 1, 2021 by Email to camptekreg@gmail.com with each campers' name and DOB.

Cost - \$140 per camper 2yrs of age and older/\$ 0 under 2yrs

Family Camp June 18-20

Special Needs Family Camp July 9-11





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.

ONLINE MASSES: For those who may not be able to attend our parish masses, here are some of the masses that are available to watch on line or on television:

- For regular TV Channel 38 airs Sunday morning Mass at 7:00am each week.
- For Dish and DirecTV EWTN airs Sunday Mass a few times throughout the day.
- For livestream here are some you may wish to look up:

 Ohurch of the Ascension, Overland Park Sunday Masses at 8:15am, 10:00am, 11:45am & 5:00pm - https://kcascension.org/
 O Queen of the Holy Rosary, Wea - Sunday Mass at 8:30am - https://qhrwea.church/watch-daily-mass

 - St. Michael the Archangel, Leawood Sunday Mass at 9:00am - https://stmichaelcp.org/ecatholic-live

Here you can find links to Holy Masses online from different parishes all around the world. There is a link to see the calendar with the Catholic Holy Masses live online. Click on the chosen hour when you want to see the Holy Mass online. https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online

PLANNED GIVING BRIEF: CARES ACT - TAX BENEFITS FOR CHARITABLE GIVING EXTENDED THROUGH 2021

- Increase in tax deduction for cash gifts: For donors that itemize their tax return, before the new legislation, the annual income limit was capped at 60% for cash gifts. The new legislation allows for charitable donations up to 100% of a donor's annual income.
- New deduction: If you do not itemize when filing your tax return, to reduce your tax liability, you will be allowed to take a special tax deduction of up to \$300 for charitable donations. For more information visit the Archdiocesan website, CatholicPlannedGiving.com.

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.





MARCH 27-28, 2021

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Join us at Prairie Star Ranch, 1124 California Rd, in Williamsburg
Kansas for a weekend of amazing prayer, people, food,
conversation, celebration, and activity as the young church of NE
Kansas rises to the occasion of their special calling to love the
Lord and their neighbors in 2021 and for a lifetime.



more!

PRAYER & PEOPLE
Opening Mass with
Archbishop Naumann
Sunday Mass with
Fr. Dan Morris
Adoration and prayer
+ NEKRYC, Ennie
Hickman, Fr. Bruce,
Mikey Needleman
Band, Mike Debus &
morel

CONNECTION (SAFELY)

We've missed each other!
We'l gather safely
tollowing all ranch
protocols.
Meet new friends.
Reflect personally through
journaling or share real
stuff in small groups.
We'll celebrate the
goodness of life with an
evening banquet & social.

SPECIFICS
Parish Registration opens
Feb. 11
Individual Registration
available Feb. 18
\$50 non-refundable
deposits due Mar. 1

Total fee (\$100) due Mar 15 and includes full conference access, meals, dorms, & shirt. Adventurers discount for those who wish to stay in single tents (no shower access) = \$90 total

ADDITIONAL INFO



A WEDDING IS A DAY A MARRIAGE IS A LIFETIME

What is Catholic Engaged Encounter (CEE)?

CEE is a weekend designed for couples who are preparing for a Sacramental Marriage in the Catholic Church. While it is spent with other engaged couples, the focus is on private time for the couples to build on a closer relationship. The weekend gives the couple time to discuss their future lives together. This includes their strengths, weaknesses, desires, ambitions, goals, as well as their attitudes about money, children, family, intimacy and their role in the church and society.

CEE is a Diocesan approved program.

However, you should consult with the priest supervising your marriage preparation to determine the exact requirements in your parish and diocese.

What happens on the weekend?

Through a series of presentations by two married couples and a priest, the engaged couple is encouraged to privately discuss all aspects of their forthcoming married life. Their discussion is always from the viewpoint of their own relationship. The couple's personal reflection and dialogue time becomes the focus of the weekend.

When is the weekend held?

Our 2021 Engaged Encounter Schedule is as follows:

February 13th-14th March 20th-21st April 24th-25th June 5th-6th July 17th-18th September 11th-12th October 16th-17th

We encourage you to make your reservations at least four months prior to your wedding date, as many weekends are filled quickly. The weekend begins Saturday morning and concludes Sunday afternoon, following mass. The couple must stay the entire time to derive the full benefit of the weekend and to receive a certificate of completion.

Where is the weekend held?

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 weekends will be held virtually through Zoom.

What is the cost?

The cost is \$85 per couple and it includes all supplies needed for the weekend.

How do you register for the weekend?

Registration can be completed through our website: https://kansascity.engagedencounter.com

Comments from Couples who have experienced CEE

"It was an unforgettable experience for both of us. We heard about marriage in a positive way."

"We became more certain of our decision to marry. We were able to concentrate on our relationship without everyday distractions."

"We've grown to love each other more, yet when we arrived on Friday night we hadn't thought that would be possible."

"We gained a better understanding and appreciation of the church's views on the sacrament of marriage." "We drew closer as we realized how important God was in our marriage."

"It brought out feelings we didn't know we had, and we benefited from hearing the team couples talk openly about their experiences."

Contact Information

Reservation Couple: Tom & Chris Carroll (816) 966-0947 kansascityregistration@engagedencounter.com

Local Coordinators: Jake & Jessica Dallas (816) 804-1022 Kansascity@engagedencounter.com





Xavier Catholic School's Ignite the Green and White 2021 is going virtual! We are bringing our biggest night of the year to you.

March 27, 2021 - 6:30 PM

Honoring - Shannon Holcomb, Cristy Quinn, Cindi Thiele, and Janet Meyer

The Difference is You!

All proceeds gifted to Ignite the Green and White's Sponsor a Child provide financial aid for students to attend Xavier Catholic School.



"Ignite at Home" Meal Options

Ignite the Green and White's "Ignite at Home" meal package features a meal catered by The Suburban. Meal packages include herb-roasted chicken piccata, pan-seared Atlantic salmon, with forked Yukon gold potatoes, bacon braised green beans, and blueberry cobbler with Chantilly cream and candied pecans. All meals will be served family-style and available to pick up the day of the event. Orders close March 15th.

Raider Raffles

Stuff the Purse Raffle - Win a Coach Hallie shoulder bag in black leather stuffed with up to \$500 in prizes. Tickets are \$20 each.

50/50 Raffle - One lucky winner will receive half the proceeds from this raffle, while the other half will go towards the Sponsor a Child Fund. Tickets are 1 for \$10 or 6 for \$50.

Silent Auction

Register for the silent auction opening on March 19th. Items include a trip to Branson, Kenny Chesney concert tickets, a Blackstone Grill with a side of beef, and more!



Xavier Catholic School 541 Muncie Road Leavenworth, KS 66048 913-682-3135 Please scan the QR Code using your smartphone camera for more information or to sponsor a child, purchase meals/raffle tickets, or to register for the silent auction.



Third Sunday of Lent, (3/7/2021)

Texts:

First Reading. Exodus 20:1-17. Second Reading. 1Cor.1:18, 22-25. Third Reading. John 2:13-25.

Theme: Cleanse your life for Christ.

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

Today in our gospel reading, we have the story of Jesus cleansing the temple in Jerusalem. It was said of Jesus, "Zeal for your house will consume me". Jesus had a tremendous zeal for his father's house, which was the temple in Jerusalem. Monet changers and those whose sold animals had made the temple a den of thieves.

Where did Jesus get such zeal for his Father's house? What drove Jesus to drive out the money changers and those who sold animals? In St. John's Gospel Chapter 14:10 Jesus says, "Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? Jesus, the Father and the Holy Spirit have a unique relationship in that they are one God. Jesus is the God-man and is one with the Father. Therefore, since he has his father's desires in his human nature, Jesus finds that the activity going on in the temple is unacceptable and he does something about it. Jesus said to the people at the Temple in Jerusalem, my house shall be a house of prayer but you're making it a den of thieves".

The people asked, "What sign can you show us for driving out the animals and overturning the money changers tables?" Jesus replied to the people, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up". The temple in Jerusalem had been under construction for 46 years. You will notice that Jesus did not say, "In three days I will rebuild this temple." Rather he said, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will RAISE it up, not rebuild it." He was talking about raising up his body, the temple of his body, after three days in the earth. After the resurrection, his disciples put two and two together and then understood that Jesus had been talking about his resurrection from the dead. He was speaking about the temple of His body when he said, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up".

What does all this have o do with me and you? In 1Cor. 6:19 it says, Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you're not longer your own? We've been purchased at a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body."

My dear Friends, just as Jesus had zeal for his Father's house, the temple in Jerusalem, we too are to have zeal for God's temple THIS ONE, ourselves. We were made the temple of God when we were baptized. God the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

During Lent, it is our duty to cleanse our temple of everything that does not belong there, just as Jesus drove out the money changers and the animals from his Father's temple. We must make a whip of cords, just as Jesus did. In our hearts we make a whip of cords by our fasting and our alms giving during Lent. How have we fasted so far? Are we abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent? How are we in alms giving so far this Lent? We will drive out the animals that do not belong in the temple of our body by going to confession. Have you gone to confession this Lent?

We all have seen a certain type of boy in our high school. He comes to class day after day, with the same T-shirt, dirty hands, dirt under the fingernails, shoes that have never been shined and hair disheveled. Although he seems to be a nice lad, we know him as one who does not take care of his external appearance. We see in the way he dresses and groom's himself that he just doesn't care he is presented to others. Then on a certain day, a marvelous thing happens. He comes to school with shows shined, a clean and nicely pressed shirt and even a tie. His hands are clean and his beard is clean shaven. His hair is neatly cut and groomed. And if we've not mistaken, he may have even used some cologne.

What happened to change the boy so dramatically in such a short time? The answer is he fell in love. He discovered that someone loves him very much. And this is what happens when we fall in love. Love transforms us. The same is true when we come to really understand how much God loves us. Just as the boy changes his appearance and grooms himself nicely for his beloved, so when we understand that God really loves us with all his heart, we are anxious to clean up our temple.

We will, like Jesus, be happy to make a whip of cords by our prayers, our fasting, our alms giving during Lent. Our love for Jesus will make us delight in trying to overcome our faults and in receiving his loving forgiveness in the sacrament of confession. We will want to clean up our temple, our soul, to make it a worthy place for God. We will find it a great joy to fast from anything that draws us away from Jesus. We will become like burning torchon fire with love for Jesus. Everything we do will be done for Him.

In this holy mass let us beg Jesus that we may fall in love with Him. Tell him that we want to love Him with our whole heart and with our whole being with the whole mind and with everything we have. Beg Him for a zeal like His that will help us clean up the temple of ourselves, so that we may become a fitting place for God to dwell in.

Fr. Francis Bakyor.