

# WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus

Fourth Sunday of Lent– March 14, 2021

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

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](http://www.sjslparish.org)  
“LIKE” us on Facebook for new announcements

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

TUES	Mar. 16	06:00 pm	STL	Parishioners of SJ-SL
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	Mar. 18	05:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
FRI	Mar. 19	06:30 pm	STL	Stations of the Cross and Mass Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	Mar. 20	05:00 pm	SJV	Richard Heim†
SUN	Mar. 21	09:00 am	STL	Donald Gwartney†

Confessions: SAT-4:30 pm at SJV; SUN-8:30 at STL

## 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, Jim (Poly) Sloan, Gary Stafford, Aaron Welch, Louise Wistuba and Nick Yuska.

**Prayer List for Our Soldiers:** ARMY: CPT 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 unavailable. Last week's on-line collection was \$303.86. Thank you for your generosity.

**CALL TO SHARE:** How's your Lent going? Still hanging on? Well, hopefully you noticed the pink vestments at Mass today. They're an indication that today is "Laetare Sunday," a moment to stop, rejoice, and remember that the difficulties of Lent lead us to the joy of Easter. Today is a reminder that we don't practice penance and self-denial so that we can "earn" or be rewarded with Easter. Instead, it's our confidence that the Easter victory has already been won that allows us to joyfully embrace this penitential season as an opportunity to grow closer to God.

Something similar happens in today's Gospel: Christ reminds us that God has given his only Son; that the light has come into the world; that the victory has already been won! We can live joyfully and love selflessly, even in the midst of life's hardships and uncertainties, because God's love has conquered all. Confidence in this truth has been a source of Christian charity throughout the ages, from the heroic sacrifices of the early martyrs to the selfless service of modern-day saints like Mother Teresa. And it needs to animate our lives today, too.

How might we love others if we were truly and completely convinced that God's love is supreme—that it wipes away our sins, our failings, and even the sting of death? What would we be free to give that we currently hold back, out of fear or self-preservation? Opportunities to love selflessly, as Christ and the saints did, surround us—from reaching out to an elderly relative experiencing loneliness, to giving generously to our archdiocese's *Archbishop's Call to Share* appeal. Let's ask God for the grace to be more confident in his love, so that we might love others more fully.

To pledge/give online — this video explains how: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bblinkid=248371396&bbemailid=28868032&bbeid=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 **March 19<sup>th</sup>, and March 26<sup>th</sup>.**

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

**EASTER SCHEDULE:** We hope you can join us!

Palm Sunday	March 27	SJV	5:00 pm
	March 28	STL	9:00 am
Palms will be handed to parishioners as they enter the church — no procession			
Holy Thursday	April 1	STL	7:00 pm
Good Friday	April 2	STL	7:00 pm
Reading of the Passion and Veneration of the Cross			
Easter Vigil (Saturday)	April 3	STL	7:00 pm
Mass of Light, Word and Eucharist			
Easter (Sunday)	April 4	STL	9:00 am

**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: [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).

**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](mailto:angela.broaddus@gmail.com) to request the link. LINK: <https://forms.gle/TZprrU6dvCQ9wa9n7>

## OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

**COVID VACCINE:** The Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine recently approved for use in the U.S. was developed, tested and is produced with abortion-derived cell lines. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has judged that 'when ethically irreproachable Covid-19 vaccines are not available ... it is morally acceptable to receive Covid-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process.' However, if one can choose among equally safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortion-derived cell lines should be chosen. Therefore, if one has the ability to choose a vaccine, Pfizer or Moderna's vaccines should be chosen over Johnson & Johnson's. For the full statement from the Bishops, moral considerations regarding the other vaccines, and a sample letter template to advocate for ethical vaccine research, production and testing, visit [www.archcck.org/vaccines](http://www.archcck.org/vaccines).

**ABORTION ATROCITIES MIRROR ISIS:** We are all aware that ISIS is a real danger to all people every-where. They plot mass murders, kill with abandon anyone who gets in their way and behead their captives whether they are men, women or children. But now I ask — are we any better than them? In 1973 our Supreme Court legalized abortion. Since then, over 62 million babies in the womb have been brutally murdered here in the United States alone. Their tiny arms and legs are ripped out by the abortionist and baby parts are sold for research. How in the world have we ever let this atrocity continue? As the saying goes, evil happens when good people do nothing. With the upcoming election I pray we vote wisely for candidates who are really and truly Pro-Life in words and actions, and can bring this evil to an end. All life is precious.

**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 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 visit: [https://leavenworthcatholicsschools.org/give/ignite-the-green-white?fbclid=IwAR20hEuFgZnXX24leMSuFg9d2-pdRhi\\_jbBwpS72uV8hCx5nlluAmT4\\_VZw](https://leavenworthcatholicsschools.org/give/ignite-the-green-white?fbclid=IwAR20hEuFgZnXX24leMSuFg9d2-pdRhi_jbBwpS72uV8hCx5nlluAmT4_VZw) or contact Lisa Forge at 913-682-7801.

**PALM SUNDAY RETREAT WITH THE SHROUD OF TURIN:** Christ's Peace House of Prayer 22131 Meager Road - Easton, KS Friday, **March 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm – Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** 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 [christspce.com](http://christspce.com), send an email to: [info@christspce.com](mailto:info@christspce.com) or call 913.773.8255.

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**(FOR POSTING ON THE CHURCH INTERNET SITE)**

**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 [christsppeace.com](http://christsppeace.com), send an email to: [info@christsppeace.com](mailto:info@christsppeace.com) or call 913.773.8255.

**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@christsppeace.com](mailto:info@christsppeace.com) or call 913.773.8255 to schedule a retreat. Visit us at [christsppeace.com](http://christsppeace.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@christsppeace.com](mailto:info@christsppeace.com) Cabin/Courtyard: \$85/night or Guest Room/Hermitage: \$50/night. See our website for additional pricing guidelines and information - [www.christsppeace.com](http://www.christsppeace.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](http://archkcks.org/rest)

**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 [archkck.org/ranch](http://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](http://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 in order to view 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](http://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](mailto: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 or concerns, please contact 913-602-7717 or [ivalenti@archkck.org](mailto:ivalenti@archkck.org)

**CAMP KATERI TEKAKWITHA:** There is still time to take advantage of a week of faith, fun, and friends happening down at Camp Kateri Tekakwitha this summer! We can’t wait to spend that time with your (grand)kids and family. Camp Kateri Tekakwitha has always been a place of adventure activities combined with powerful, spiritual, and unique encounters with God. As with every summer, we continue to enhance our property to allow for a safe place for kids and families to develop life-changing memories. This summer we are offering both day camps and overnight camp options. The day camps are a great way for kids to have the opportunity to experience camp, but allow them to return home in the evenings. We look forward to spending the summer with you. Visit [www.archkck.org/camp](http://www.archkck.org/camp) for more information about Camp Kateri Tekakwitha. To see the available camp spots visit <https://archkck.org/camp/camps/camp-session-dates-cost-availability/>.

## **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.

**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:
  - Church of the Ascension, Overland Park - Sunday Masses at 8:15am, 10:00am, 11:45am & 5:00pm - <https://kcascension.org/>
  - 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**

- 1. **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.
- 2. **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*.

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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.





**COR**

RETREAT WITH THE HEART OF ST. JOSEPH

**MARCH 20 2021**

**PRAIRIE STAR RANCH**

Both in-person and virtual options available

REGISTER @ [ARCHKCK.ORG/RANCH](https://ARCHKCK.ORG/RANCH) 785.746.5693



**RYMO ARCHKCK**

**"FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS"**

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.

 <p><b>PRAYER &amp; PEOPLE</b></p> <p>Opening Mass with Archbishop Naumann</p> <p>Sunday Mass with Fr. Dan Morris</p> <p>Adoration and prayer</p> <p>+ NEKRYC, Ennie Hickman, Fr. Bruce, Mikey Needleman Band, Mike Debus &amp; more!</p>	 <p><b>CONNECTION (SAFELY)</b></p> <p>We've missed each other! We need each other! We'll gather safely following all ranch protocols.</p> <p>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 &amp; social.</p>	 <p><b>SPECIFICS</b></p> <p>Parish Registration opens Feb. 11</p> <p>Individual Registration available Feb. 18</p> <p>\$50 non-refundable deposits due Mar. 1</p> <p>Total fee (\$100) due Mar 15 and includes full conference access, meals, dorms, &amp; shirt. Adventurers discount for those who wish to stay in single tents (no shower access) = \$90 total</p>
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**ADDITIONAL INFO**

We feel the benefit of this in-person event is worth the effort to create and will adhere to appropriate social distancing and mask protocols. Each family must assess their own level of risk, but please consider this opportunity fairly as you would participation in another school, social, or sport event. If we say yes to those, let's say yes to Mass and other opportunities to grow in holiness.

GET IN TOUCH: [info@rymo-archkck.org](mailto:info@rymo-archkck.org) [www.rymo-archkck.org](https://www.rymo-archkck.org)



**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 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>
- March 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>
- April 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>
- June 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>
- July 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>
- September 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>
- October 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>

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://kansas.catholicengagedencounter.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  
[kansas@kansas.catholicengagedencounter.com](mailto:kansas@kansas.catholicengagedencounter.com)

Local Coordinators:  
Jake & Jessica Dallas (816) 804-1022  
[kansas@kansas.catholicengagedencounter.com](mailto:kansas@kansas.catholicengagedencounter.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.





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## FOR BULLETIN DISTRIBUTION

**TO:** ALL CLERGY AND BULLETIN EDITORS  
**FROM:** PRO-LIFE OFFICE  
**SUBJECT:** THE USE OF THE JOHNSON & JOHNSON COVID-19 VACCINE

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*Dear Clergy & Bulletin Editors ~ Below is a USCCB memo and a suggested bulletin announcement regarding the use of the new J&J Covid-19 vaccine. Thank you for sharing this important information with your parishioners.*

WASHINGTON— On March 2, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Doctrine, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City in Kansas, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, issued a statement on the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine recently approved for use in the U.S.

"The approval of Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine for use in the United States again raises questions about the moral permissibility of using vaccines developed, tested, and/or produced with the help of abortion-derived cell lines.

"Pfizer and Moderna's vaccines raised concerns because an abortion-derived cell line was used for testing them, but not in their production. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine, however, was developed, tested and is produced with abortion-derived cell lines raising additional moral concerns. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has judged that 'when ethically irreproachable Covid-19 vaccines are not available ... it is morally acceptable to receive Covid-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process.'<sup>41</sup> However, if one can choose among equally safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortion-derived cell lines should be chosen. Therefore, if one has the ability to choose a vaccine, Pfizer or Moderna's vaccines should be chosen over Johnson & Johnson's.

"While we should continue to insist that pharmaceutical companies stop using abortion-derived cell lines, given the world-wide suffering that this pandemic is causing, we affirm again that being vaccinated can be an act of charity that serves the common good."

For further details, we refer people to our earlier [December 2020 statement](#), to our [Answers to Key Ethical Questions About COVID-19 Vaccines](#), to the [Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith's Note](#), and to the [statement of the Vatican Covid-19 Commission in collaboration with the Pontifical Academy for Life](#).

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**TO:** ALL CLERGY AND BULLETIN EDITORS  
**FROM:** PRO-LIFE OFFICE  
**SUBJECT:** ADVOCATING FOR ETHICAL VACCINES

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*Dear Bulletin Editors ~ Thank you for sharing this important information with your parishioners. If possible, please run this announcement several times.*

### Advocate for Ethical Vaccines

In the document *Moral Considerations Regarding the New Covid-19 Vaccines*, the U.S. bishops addressed the moral concerns raised by the fact that all the vaccines have a connection, some more remotely than others, to cell lines that originated with tissue taken from abortions. Though they concluded receiving a COVID-19 vaccine "is morally permissible and can be an act of self-love and charity toward others" given the gravity of the current pandemic and the lack of availability of alternative vaccines, they also warned that Catholics "must be on guard so that the new COVID-19 vaccines do not desensitize us or weaken our determination to oppose the evil of abortion itself and the subsequent use of fetal cells in research."

Therefore, the bishops believe it is the responsibility of Catholics and all people of good will to advocate to pharmaceutical companies and the government for the ethical development, production, testing and distribution of all vaccines and medicines. To assist with this advocacy, the Archdiocese is providing a sample letter for people to use as a template to send to pharmaceutical companies. Visit [www.archkek.org/vaccines](http://www.archkek.org/vaccines) for the template and to learn more.

Please read the original USCCB document ([www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines](http://www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines)) for a detailed explanation of the moral permissibility of taking the vaccines and to learn why the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are preferred over the other currently available vaccines.

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## PIP MEMO

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### FOR PRIESTS' INFORMATION

**TO:** ALL PRIESTS  
**FROM:** PRO-LIFE OFFICE  
**SUBJECT:** LETTER TO ADVOCATE FOR ETHICAL VACCINES

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Dear Priests ~

Included in this PIP is a Bulletin Announcement that we are encouraging you to share regarding the advocacy for the ethical development of vaccines to pharmaceutical companies. Below is a sample letter that parishioners can use as a template in their communication to the pharmaceutical companies. The letter was written using information from the Catholic Medical Association letter and Fr. Tad Pacholczyk. It, along with contact information for the major pharma companies, can be accessed on the Archdiocesan website at [www.archdioc.org/vaccines](http://www.archdioc.org/vaccines).

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

I/we are writing to thank you for the outstanding work your company has done in vaccine research and development. I/we appreciate and support your ongoing efforts to develop effective, safe and widely available vaccines against serious, potentially fatal infectious diseases.

However, I/we -- along with many Americans -- must also strenuously object to the unethical and unnecessary use of tissue, cells, or cell lines derived from voluntary abortions or human embryos in vaccine design, development or production. While many will consent to receiving such morally tainted vaccines for the common good, we do so under duress due to their association with the exploitation of innocent human life, no matter how remote.

As Americans, we must all work to restore the fundamental principle that the dignity of every human life must be defended from its inception to natural death. This duty is particularly significant for the pharmaceutical industry, whose mission is to safeguard human life and health without compromising fundamental ethical standards.

I/we implore you to work expeditiously toward the goal of developing safe and effective vaccines for the welfare of all without human exploitation and thereby avoid placing anyone in the position of having to choose between being vaccinated against a serious disease or violating his or her conscience. It is important for all of us to show our respect for the remains of those children whose lives were taken prematurely, and one way we can do this is by avoiding these cell lines in scientific research and pharmaceutical development.

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, ( 3/14/2021 ).

Texts:

*First reading. 2Chr 36:14-23.*

*Second Reading. Eph 2:4-10.*

*Third Reading. Jn 3:14-21.*

Theme: Rejoice in the Lord!

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

Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Lent is a forty- day season of fasting, abstinence and penance. It is a season that is stricter, in this sense, than the rest of the year. But it is precisely the austerity that typifies Lent that is interrupted today as the church celebrates "Laetare" Sunday. "Laetare" is a Latin word that means "Rejoice". And it is the first word of the Entrance Antiphon of the Holy mass that we celebrate today.

This Sunday is more joyful than the rest of the Sundays of Lent because we are celebrating the fact that we are half way along our yearly pilgrimage to Easter Sunday. But, in reality, good Christians should always feel joyful, even when they are fasting or doing acts of penance. "The joy of Our Lord is our strength. Go in Peace". That is one of the ways that the dismissal at the end of Mass can be phrased. In these two sentences the true meaning of our faith is summarized and underlined. The joy we feel as we recognize that we faithful followers of the Lord, the joy in recognizing that the lord wants us to be happy, should strengthen us during the rest of the week. It should give us the strength we need to carry the crosses that will come up during our daily life. We rejoice because the Lord continues to call us His people and to draw us to Himself. We rejoice because we know that Jesus came in the flesh for us, died for us and raised from the dead for us.

Today, as I said, the Church celebrates the joy of knowing that we have reached the beginning of the last few weeks of Lent. To celebrate this event, The Church allows us to place on the altar, something that is not allowed during the rest of the Lenten Season. The priest and deacon dress in rose vestments, a color that signifies the joy better than violet- colored vestments, the normal color for Lent. In this way we do what our Lord always asks us to do, even through the days of penance, since we don't allow sadness and sorrow to rule our lives. We radiate happiness.

In the Gospel reading today, Saint John explains to us the true cause of so much sadness and sin in the world. He tells us that even though Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Light of the World, came to the world, humanity preferred the darkness instead of the light. Even today, many people are afraid of the light, they turn their backs on God, they sin and act as if God did not



exist. And, of course, these people, since they live spiritually in a dark and sick world, are afraid of the light. They prefer the darkness.

The Holy Mass is the summit of our faith. Even so, there are people who say that it does not interest them. Some even say it bores them. Coming to Mass is waste of time. The problem is that many of these same people, since they live in darkness, cannot see, cannot understand, that during the Holy Eucharist, Our Lord becomes really present among us. During the Holy Mass, the Light of the World, shines out again in the darkness to show us the road we should follow towards Him so that we can receive that Light in our souls and in our hearts.

A good Christian should show to the world the Light received in the Holy Mass. The light should shine in him or her so brightly that they should be the image of Christ for others. In a Christian like this we see the happiness that surges out into the world from a pure heart, from a person who does not fear the Light of Christ, who tries by every means possible to ensure that the light received is transformed into good works that show his or love for God.

Lent, even though it is a time for austerity, is also a time for authenticity. We know that there are many people in the world who will try to lure us away from our faith. Frequently, we have to make sacrifices when we are tempted to exchange our love of God for love of earthly things such as illicit pleasures, ill-gained success or power. These days of Lent place before us a dilemma. We have to choose between the light and darkness, between good and evil, between love of God and love of those earthly things that separate us from the true road to Christ.

If we choose good, If we decided to follow Jesus, sacrificing those other things, we will win out in the long run. We will realize that all of those other things only end up separating us from God and doing us harm. Without a doubt, when we change our lives and choose good, we become better persons. It could even be possible that when we show others, through our good works, that we live a joyful and pure life completely dedicated to doing good that we will influence family members and maybe even the rest of the community to do the same.

Fr. Francis Bakyor

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