

# WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus  
Fifth Sunday of Lent– March 21, 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. 23	06:00 pm	STL	Parishioners of SJ-SL
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m.- CANCELLED				
THUR	Mar. 25	05:00 pm	SJV	Parishioners of SJ-SL
FRI	Mar. 26	06:30 pm	STL	Stations of the Cross and Mass Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	Mar. 27	05:00 pm	SJV	Sam Erzen <sup>†</sup>
SUN	Mar. 28	09:00 am	STL	Wendi Johnston

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 for the past 2 weeks is \$2081.16, including \$40 for The Catholic Relief Services. Last week's on-line collection was \$254.23. Thank you for your generosity.

**CALL TO SHARE:** What images come to mind when you hear the word "glory?" An American flag flying high as fighter jets streak across the sky? Confetti falling on the winning team as they hoist another trophy? Or perhaps a celebrity all decked out as they accept an award? These are all pretty reasonable representations of glory, on a human level. So when Jesus speaks about glorifying the Father, we might expect him to paint a similar kind of picture: one of power, grandeur, and awe. Instead, the clearest image Christ gives us in today's Gospel is of a grain of wheat falling to the ground and dying. Hm. Not exactly what most of us have in mind when we think "glorious."

In typical fashion, though, Jesus is showing us that the ways of God are not the ways of men. While God's glory does include His power and awesomeness and majesty and might, it also includes something else that we might find a little surprising: the giving of Himself for another, so that they might have life. This is why Christ's Self-Gift on the Cross—perhaps even more so than the Resurrection or the Ascension—is highlighted in John's Gospel as the place of His Glory. And it's why the Cross has been called Christ's Royal Throne throughout Christian history.

We are called to glorify God, too. And we can't do better than by imitating Jesus, offering generous, fruitful sacrifices in union with Christ. This Lenten season is the perfect time to do so. We can take part in many opportunities for almsgiving. We can also contribute to our *Archbishop's Call to Share* appeal, allowing a grain of our wealth to bear much fruit in our parish community. As we go forward this week, let's ask God to show us how we can glorify His name by giving generously in imitation of Christ.

To pledge/give online – this video explains how: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?bblinkid=248371396&bbemailid=28868032&bbemailid=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 26<sup>th</sup>**.

**SECOND COLLECTION** will be held **April 2<sup>nd</sup>** for the Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land.

**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/TZprU6dvCQ9wa9n7>

**ATTENTION! COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN 2021** Archdiocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration **June 13, 2021**, 2:00 pm, Church of the Nativity/Leawood To receive your invitation from Archbishop Naumann, please call Sue Griffiee at 913-773-8342 and give her your name, address, phone number and date of your wedding. Please do this as soon as possible so she can send the request to Deacon Zimmerman, who is the coordinator.

## OTHER NEWS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE

**DIVINE MERCY NOVENA:** The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday, April 2nd, and concludes Saturday, April 10th. In private revelations to St. Faustina, Jesus asked that the Feast of Divine Mercy be preceded by a novena praying for nine intentions with the Divine Mercy Chaplet. The novena can be accessed online at [www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena.php](http://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena.php)

**CALLING ALL COUPLES:** Please join the Greater Kansas City Community for a virtual Lenten family gathering and Stations of the Cross on Sunday, March 28, 2021 at 4:00 CT. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85233126570?pwd=VmdvOXVMY2p6TmlCYVd3YnFqQUE4QT09> Meeting ID: 852 3312 6570, Passcode: 665031

**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://leavenworthcatholicschools.org/give/ignite-the-green-white?fbclid=IwAR20hEuFgZnXX24leMSuFg9d2-pdRhi\\_jbBwpS72uV8hCx5nlluAmT4\\_VZw](https://leavenworthcatholicschools.org/give/ignite-the-green-white?fbclid=IwAR20hEuFgZnXX24leMSuFg9d2-pdRhi_jbBwpS72uV8hCx5nlluAmT4_VZw) or contact Lisa Forge at 913-682-7801.

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

**LETS FACE THE FACTS AND TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT ABORTION**

**(PART I):** "Don't look for applause, but look to obey the truth. Speaking just to find applause or to tell people what they want to hear .... is like prostitution". - Pope Benedict XVI

The truth about abortion is repugnant and abhorrent. It is therefore not easy and requires courage to speak out about abortion. However, as Catholics, We must boldly speak the truth and contradict the untruths and misleading rhetoric which surrounds the issue.

Some of the myths are discussed below:

\* "The government should not interfere with someone's personal choice." This is neither practical" desirable or correct. If there is only one legitimate function of government, it is the protection of innocent human life and to prevent one individual victimizing another. The word "choice" might sound good, but the reality is that some "choices" are crimes and all crimes are "choices".

\* Abortion advocates try to use smokescreen language to conceal the truth about abortion. A good example is the term "women's reproductive rights". The biological reality is that when a woman is pregnant, reproduction has already occurred. If that were not true, there would be nothing for the abortionist to abort.

\* Another deliberately misleading term is "woman's access to healthcare". Healthcare relates to the treatment of diseases, injuries or illnesses. Since pregnancy is none of these, abortion is definitely not "healthcare".

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

**GOOD FRIDAY "WAY OF THE CROSS"** at Planned Parenthood abortion clinic. Through His Holy Passion, Our Lord united Himself with all the victims of suffering in this life. None suffer more innocently than children in the womb whose lives are taken by abortion. None suffer more deeply than their mothers, who carry a burden of regret and pain. On Good Friday we remember all the victims of abortion—the children lost, the mothers wounded, the communities blighted—in a solemn, ecumenical prayer service: Way of the Cross for Victims of Abortion, Friday, **April 2** 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Planned Parenthood abortion clinic, 4401 W. 109th St, Overland Park, Ks 66211 Join us as we pray for healing for the victims of abortion and for an end to this injustice in our land. For more information, please contact Ron Kelsey, Planned Parenthood Exposed, at [ronkelsey10@gmail.com](mailto:ronkelsey10@gmail.com).

**PALM SUNDAY RETREAT WITH THE SHROUD OF TURIN:** Christ's 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](http://christspeace.com), send an email to: [info@christspeace.com](mailto:info@christspeace.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@christspeace.com](mailto:info@christspeace.com) or call 913.773.8255 to schedule a retreat. Visit us at [christspeace.com](http://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 JP II  
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](mailto: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](http://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](http://archkcks.org/rest)

**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.

**EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR FOR DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY** with Archbishop Naumann Each year on the Second Sunday of Easter, the Church celebrates Divine Mercy Sunday. All are encouraged to join together in prayer and adoration seeking God's mercy for ourselves and for our nation. Please join Archbishop Naumann in a Eucharistic Holy Hour either in-person or via livestream. Sunday, April 11, 2021, 3:00 pm Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 2203 Parallel Ave, Kansas City KS In-person or Livestream link: <https://www.facebook.com/BlessedSacramentkck>

**ATTENTION! COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN 2021** Archdiocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration **June 13**, 2021, 2:00 pm, Church of the Nativity/Leawood To receive your invitation from Archbishop Naumann, please call the parish office and give us your name, address, phone number and date of your wedding. Please do this as soon as possible.

**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://ghrwea.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](mailto:Sjslparish@Gmail.Com). Mass intentions may be scheduled with Kim as well. MUST SUBMIT BY 9 pm TUES FOR INCLUSION.



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.

PRAYER & PEOPLE	CONNECTION (SAFELY)	SPECIFICS
<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>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>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.</p> <p>Adventurers discount for those who wish to stay in single tents (no shower access) = \$90 total</p>

**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: 785.722.2694 [prairiestar@archkck.org](mailto:prairiestar@archkck.org) [www.archkck.org/prairie-star-kck](http://www.archkck.org/prairie-star-kck)

Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas

**50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

Sunday, June 13th, 2:00 pm  
Church of the Nativity

*To receive your invitation, see details below:*



If you are celebrating your 50th Wedding Anniversary in the year 2021 and would like to take part in the **Archdiocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration, please call the parish office.**

Please give us your name, address, phone number and wedding date **as soon as possible.**

The Archdiocesan Marriage & Family Life Office will send each couple a formal invitation from Archbishop Naumann.

Marriage & Family Life Office  
Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas  
12615 Parallel Parkway  
Kansas City, KS 66109  
913-647-0345  
E-mail: [flifecec@archkck.org](mailto:flifecec@archkck.org)

**Catholic Engaged Encounter Inc.**

A WEEKEND IN TIME, 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 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://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](mailto:kansascityregistration@engagedencounter.com)

Local Coordinators:  
Aime & Jessica Dallas (816) 854-1022  
[kansascity@engagedencounter.com](mailto: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.



5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Year B, (3/21/2012).

Texts:

*First Reading. Jer. 31:31-34*

*Second. Reading. Heb.5:20-30.*

*Third Reading. Jn. 12: 20-30.*

Theme: *Christ Is Ready To Offer Everything For Our Salvation.*

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today as we celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> of Sunday of Lent, we are drawing close to our destination and to the most important moments in our journey this season. This fact is reflected in all the reading of this Sunday. Christ is reading to offer everything for our salvation. So, we too must be willing all for him and for others.

The first reading of this Sunday is an assurance of god's presence with us. It also reminds us of the new thing that God is about to do in our midst: I will make a new covenant and never call their sin to mind...then, I will be their God and they will be my people." God is ready to set aside a relationship that was destroyed by infidelity. He wishes to restore a broken relationship.

On our part we must be ready to accept this new covenant with God. This new covenant offers us salvation and life. So, as we continue our walk this Lent, let us know that God is willing to fulfill his promise and nothing can stop him. All he demands from us is to be ready to accept this new covenant made in Jesus Christ.

The second reading of this Sunday reminds us of the Gethsemane experience of Jesus. It reminds of the great sacrifice of Christ. First, this was in order to fulfill the promise of his father. Second, it was in order to save us." He learnt to obey through suffering...he became for all who obey him the source of eternal life."

Christ is willing to pay this price this season in order to get us going in life. He will achieve it through his prayer and suffering for humanity. He will do all these in humility and **obedience, which are very important virtues we need in order excel**

**in life. Without these Christ would not be able to achieve the new covenant for our salvation.**

Today as we see Christ carrying out his priestly and intercessory role, we must find new courage to press on in the midst of trials, persecution, and even doubts. Also, we must learn from His experience, that suffering is necessary, and inevitable in life. This is because, just as Christ, we will be made perfect through it.

The gospel of this Sunday draws us to our destination. Christ himself tells us: "Now the hour has come for the son of man to be glorified." What glory is there in suffering? He is about to be arrested, punished, and killed, yet he talks about his glory. Jesus saw beyond the clouds of pains and difficulties in order to behold success and eternal life.

He knew that his suffering and death would restore life to many. So, rather than to be discouraged by the temporary situation of suffering, he was encouraged and motivated by the honest reward of eternal life. Hence, Christ offered his suffering and life in order to restore a broken covenant and eternal life for all who believe in him. Hence, He says: "Unless a grain of wheat dies it remains a single grain, but if it dies it yields a rich harvest".

Unfortunately, many of us do not want to follow or like this path. Jesus invites us to be strong along the path of life. He wants us to be where he is. So, we must be ready to endure as he did. We must be ready to die as a grain dies in order to regenerate. Practically speaking, we die every day when we stand up for justice, when we stand for the truth and when we say no to sin, corruption and immorality.

These "daily deaths" exhaust us physically, but they strengthen us spiritually. Therefore, as we continue our walk with Christ this season, the thought of his own suffering and death must strengthen us daily. Also, we must constantly remind ourselves that to suffer for others and for Christ is an honorable thing to do.

Fr. Francis Bakyor.