

WELCOME TO ST. JOSEPH – ST. LAWRENCE PARISH

“Two Churches, One Parish”

Growing as Disciples of Jesus; Making Disciples for Jesus
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord– March 28, 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. 30	06:00 pm	STL	Parishioners of SJ-SL
Adoration will follow Mass until 7:30 p.m. - CANCELLED				
THUR	Apr. 1	07:00 pm	STL	Holy Thursday Parishioners of SJ-SL
FRI	Apr. 2	07:00 pm	STL	Good Friday Parishioners of SJ-SL
SAT	Apr. 3	07:00 pm	STL	Jack Rogers †
SUN	Apr. 4	09:00 am	STL	Wendi Johnston

Confessions: 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 \$1808, including \$375 for utilities and \$100 for rent. Last week's on-line collection was unavailable. Thank you for your generosity.

CALL TO SHARE: Palm Sunday is never just "Palm Sunday." It also always includes the Lord's Passion. By juxtaposing both of these Gospel scenes in the same Mass, the Church is forcing us to consider a hard truth: we are a fickle people. Just as the people of Jerusalem praised Jesus, only to turn on Him a few days later, we too might claim Jesus as our Lord, but constantly turn from Him through our sins and self-centeredness. For many of us, we get a heavy dose of our weakness during Lent, when we begin with bold resolutions but so often come up short.

But our shortcomings aren't the focus of the readings today. Instead, the focus is on the steadfast love and constancy of Jesus Christ. Jesus knows we are fickle. Just like He knew that by coming into Jerusalem, despite the people's praises, He was handing Himself over to death. And yet, in the words of the Prophet Isaiah, he set his face "like flint" and was obedient to His mission of self-giving love. He knew that so many would abandon Him, and yet He chose at every moment to persist, all the way to Calvary. Jesus also knows that you and I fail. That we turn our backs on Him in ways little and small. And yet He continues to make His love available to us today, holding back nothing.

As we enter into Holy Week, let this be our focus: that no matter how many times we've failed this Lent, and no matter how often we turn away from Christ, His Love for us is as constant and pure as it was when He first took up the Cross. During these days leading up to Good Friday, let's experience contrition for our sins, remorse for our mistakes, but also incredible gratitude for Christ's saving Love. And let's show our gratitude by picking up our Cross and following Him in the way of self-giving love. One way we can do so, as Lent comes to a close, is to consider supporting the Archbishop's Call to Share appeal as a final act of Lenten almsgiving.

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>

SECOND COLLECTION will be held **April 2nd** for the Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land. This collection helps Christians in the Holy Land. Through this collection, you stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land as a witness of peace, supporting Catholics there in parishes and schools, maintaining Christian shrines and caring for refugees in the Holy Land. Please be generous.

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 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/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

ENFLAME OUR HOMES APRIL: Joyful Homes CELEBRATE! What we choose to celebrate and how speaks volumes to our kids about what is important to our family. Who knew that family celebrations could be one of the most effective (and fun!) ways to pass on the Faith? Here's this month's page: archkcks.org/celebrate

YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH WEBSITE: We just celebrated the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19. St. Joseph is widely honored as the foster father of Jesus, husband to the Virgin Mary and protector of the Catholic Church. As we continue our Lenten journey to Easter, we can all be encouraged to consider the individual virtues that strengthened St. Joseph in his roles. Through his model, we can find ways to strengthen our commitments in our lives. To help you find ways to pray with and learn from St. Joseph, please visit <https://archkck.org/yearofstjoseph/> to find great resources for individuals, families, parishes, and schools to grow during this year through the guidance of St. Joseph.

LET'S FACE THE FACTS AND TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT ABORTION (PART II)

* We are told that we should not tell a woman when to have a child. Abortion is not about children who might come into the world, but it is about children who are already in the world, living and growing~ in the mother's womb. When a woman is pregnant she already has the child. The only thing to be decided is whether she will have a live or a dead baby.

* We are also told that we should not interfere with a woman's "relationship" with her doctor. The fact is that in the vast majority of abortions, the expectant mother meets the abortionist for the first time about five minutes before the abortion. There is no relationship!

* Abortion is not about "a woman making a decision about her own body". The child in the mother's womb is a separate, human being with its own heartbeat, DNA, blood type and finger prints. About 50% of the time; the child is not even the same gender!

* The vast majority of abortions are done as a form of birth control because the baby is "inconvenient", "too expensive" or a "burden", Very few abortions have anything to do with the health of the mother and less than 1 % is performed as a result of rape or incest.

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.

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(FOR POSTING ON THE CHURCH INTERNET SITE)

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.

THE CALIX SOCIETY (www.calixsociety.org) is a national association of Catholics in 12-Step recovery (AA, NA, OA, AlAnon, etc.). The Calix Society usually meets the first Friday of each month at Church of the Ascension in Overland Park. Due to Good Friday on April 2, the next meeting will be Friday, **April 9th**. For specific information on time and meeting format, call Neil at 913-645-7244, or Mary at 913-747-5039.

ARCHBISHOP NAUMANN LENTEN REFLECTION: As the season of Lent nears the end, it is good to remember that there is still time. Whether you have not had a chance to spend time reflecting on this journey, you are still going strong since Ash Wednesday, or you are somewhere in between; Holy Week is a great time to focus on the sacrifices of Christ and how we can imitate that in our lives. Archbishop Naumann has been offering Lenten reflections each week beginning with Ash Wednesday. Each day of Holy Week, you can take a look back on the Lenten journey and walk with the Archbishop as he reflects on Lent. The 30-minute audio sessions include the Archbishop's reflection on the Gospel (Ash Wednesday/Sunday) and a short personal witness from a member of the Archdiocese. The last reflection focuses on Christ's life during Holy Week. To listen to the Lenten Reflections with Archbishop Naumann visit the Enflame website at <http://archkcks.org/foryou/lenen-journey-library>. They are also available as part of the Shepherd's Voice podcast at www.archkck.libsyn.com

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.

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.

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:

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

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>

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS World Day of Prayer will be observed on Sunday, **April 25, 2021** also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, and societies of apostolic life or secular institutes. Resources for promoting vocations can be found on the USCCB website.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE ~ Grief Support Weekend Beginning Experience is offering a healing weekend **April 30 – May 2, 2021**, at Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kansas. This invitation is open to men and women of all ages who have suffered the loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation. It is a time to heal and a time to begin anew. Reservations are required. For more information visit: www.beginningexperience.kc.org email: register.bekc@gmail.com or contact Laura 308-530-1873

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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 jvalenti@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 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://kccascension.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

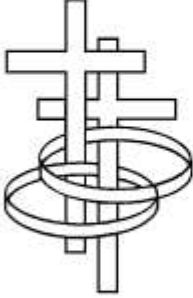
1. **Increase in tax deduction for cash gifts:** For donors that itemize their tax return, before the new legislation, the annual income limit was capped at 60% for cash gifts. The new legislation allows for charitable donations up to 100% of a donor's annual income.
2. **New deduction:** If you do not 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.

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: flifsec@archkek.org

Palm Sunday- Passion of the Lord, Year B (3/28/2021)

Texts:

First Reading. Isaiah 50:4-7.

Second Reading. Phil. 2:6-11.

Third Reading. Mk. 14:1-15,47.

Theme: Understanding Holy Week.

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters, warm greetings to you all.

We are now preparing for the most important days in the life of the Church. This is the Holy Week Celebration. It starts on Sunday, commonly known as Palm Sunday because of the palms branches that people waved at Jesus to welcome Him as He entered the city of Jerusalem. But more accurately, this is called Passion Sunday. This day marks the start of the passion and suffering of Jesus that will reach its climax at Calvary on Good Friday. The Gospel reading this Sunday is the passion of the Lord. This helps us put ourselves in the mood of the Holy Week as we pray and meditate on the passion and death of the Lord.

Holy Week must be holy. These are days which should be marked with holiness. We need to clarify our understanding of holiness. For many of us, we readily label persons who pray and go to Church as holy. But that is not true most of the time. The true concept of holiness has something to do with "wholeness". This means that the person is not divided, there is no discrepancy between orthodoxy and praxis. He should be a living witness to "orthopraxis". Orthodoxy means genuine teaching, particularly Christian teachings. Praxis means practice or actual life of a person. In short, to be holy means to be whole- a solid combination of teaching and practice, that is orthopraxis.

Holy Week is a special time to really examine our state of holiness or wholeness. So, we are encouraged to pray more assiduously, practice acts of penance and piety, examine our conscience, and be sorry for our sins, which destroy our wholeness as a person. Sins go against our true nature as God's children. Our inner conflict arises within us every time we are in sin. St. Paul expressed that: "Why is it that the good I want to do, I do not do, while the evil I do not want to do, I do!"

May these days lead us to the sacrament of Reconciliation. This sacrament reconciles (re-establishes relationship; reunites) us with God, with others and with ourselves. We become whole again. That is true holiness. Hopefully, this holiness attained during Holy Week continues throughout the year and all through our lives. After all, holiness is not just an activity, nor it is a seasonal affair only, but a lifetime struggle and goal of every Christian.

Reminders:

Good Friday is a Day of Fasting and Abstinence

Make sure to join in the celebration of the most important days of the year, the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday (esp. easter Vigil on Saturday night).

Fr. Francis Bakyor.