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Celebrating 183 Vears 1841-2024

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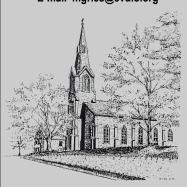
**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE** Saturday—5 PM Sunday-8 & 10:30 AM **SACRAMENT OF** RECONCILATION SATURDAY 4-4:30 PM

**PARISH OFFICE** 6202 W. Saint Joseph Road Evansville, IN 47720 SCHOOL 6130 W. Saint Joseph Road

Parish Office: (812) 963-3273 School: (812) 963-3335 School Fax: (812) 963-3335 Prayer Requests: (812) 963-3149

Evansville IN 47720

**Parish Staff** Fr. Gene Schroeder—Pastor E-mail gschroeder@evdio.org Julie Kempf—Secretary E-mail jkempf@evdio.org Kristan Gilles **Director of Liturgy** E-mail kgilles@evdio.org Jessica Reckelhoff Coordinator of **Religious Education** E-mail jreckelhoff@evdio.org Kelsey Meier—Principal E-mail kmeier@evdio.org Mary Gries—School Secretary E-mail mgries@evdio.org



## JANUARY 14, 2024 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear friends,

By now you should have received your invitation to join us for our Super Sunday, Day of Celebration on Sunday, February 11. begin our day with a special mass of thanksgiving at 9 am. (No mass at 8 or 10:30). After Mass we are inviting you to join us in the school gym for an informal reception followed by a catered lunch at

11 am Your only job is to come, enjoy some good food and good company, and join us in giving thanks for all the work that has happened in rebuilding our church.

This is a no-charge affair and we hope to have as **RSVP BY JANUARY 20** many parishioners attending as possible. In order to have enough food for everyone, we need to get a count to our caterer to ensure we have enough food for everyone. We need to hear from you by January 20th. So, fill out the card and get it back to us. I look forward to celebrating with you.

This week we begin the Liturgical season of Ordinary Time. During these weeks we will be hearing Jesus teach us about what it means to a disciple. Today we encounter the young Samuel who is eager to follow the Lord. "Here I am, you called me." That is sentiment that lies in the heart of most people. I guess that is why one of the most popular songs that hear in church is the Dan Shutte song: Here I am Lord. We want to do follow the way of the Lord. We want to say yes as Mary did. But Samuel gets it a bit wrong at first. He think it is the temple preist

Eli who is calling him. Eli, as a wise elder, begins to understand that it is the Lord who is calling the young Samuel. He helps him to understand what is stirring in his heart and he tells him to respond "Speak Lord, for your servant is listening."

In the gospel we encounter two of the disciples who are intrigued by Jesus. They ask him. "Where are you staying." They really weren't asking for an address as if they might come over after dinner and visit. What they were really asking is "What makes you do what you do and act the way you act." They saw something in Jesus.



There hearts were touched by what he said and the way he acted and they wanted to know more. Jesus' response? "Come and see," he tells them. And they came to "stay" with him. And because they have found someone that speaks truth to them, they quickly go to their friends to share their good news. They go to Peter and tell him, "We have found the Messiah. They too have been searching for some-

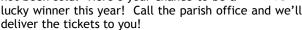
thing and someone to give meaning to their life. And they come to "stay" with Jesus as well.

This is really a description of our faith journey. Our hearts need to be touched even broken open. Then we need the courage to ask "what will give meaning to my life now?" And when we discover something or someone who speaks to this question, we naturally want to go to the people who are important to us and share with them what makes sense to us. And that is the beginning of evangelization. Leaning into the journey of life

Fr. Gene Schroeder

# IT'S LOTTERY TIME Got Your Ticket?

WE'RE WRAPPING UP OUR SALES FOR THE 2024 ST. JOE LOTTERY. We have had a few tickets returned to us that have not been sold. Here's your chance to be a



MATER DEI/MEMORIAL TREASURE THE TRADITION LOTTERY TICKETS are also Available. Call Margie Hartmann (812-453-6826) or the parish office (812-963-3273).

### THE CHANCE OF HUMMING

We're going to

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS

FOR OUR SUPER SUNDAY

DAY OF CLEBRATION

Sunday, February 11

Mass 9 AM

Reception 10 AM

Catered Lunch 11 AM

A man standing on two logs in a river might do all right floating with the current while humming in the now. Though if one log is tied to a camel, who is also heading south along the bank at the same pace all could still be well with the world unless the camel thinks he forgot something and, abruptly turns upstream, then uo-oh.

Most minds do not live in the present and can stick to a reasonable plan; most minds abruptly turn and undermine the chance of humming.

—Rumi







# CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 **SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY** 

TIME

5:00 PM MASS: Fritz Martin, Phyllis & Darrell Hobgood, Arthur and Dorothy (Bradshaw) Kronemeyer, Roy Thornton (1931), Infant Wurth (1944)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

John Reckelhoff, Jerry Drone, Linda Elpers, 8:00 AM MASS: Cindy Seng

10:30 AM MASS: For the people of our parish, Alvina & Florian Schenk, Herman Schneider, Florentine Pfettscher, Cecelia (1986) & John Reising

> **MONDAY, JANUARY 15** WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6:30 PM MASS: Mary (1955) & Frank Kissel **TUESDAY, JANUARY 16** WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: Leonard Joest (1875), George Beckerle (1891), Frank (1957) & Mary Goebel, Josephine (200&) & John Schmitt, Mary (2013) & Eugene Butler, Antoinette (2016) & Earl Happe

> WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17 SAINT ANTHONY

7:30 AM MASS:

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 18 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NO MASS: John Herdink (1860), Elis Beckerle (1891), Geroge Beckerle (1891), Agatha Mayer (1895), Martin Frey (1899), Secunda Henning (1902), Doris Rohnbacher (1937), Mary Seib (1948), Joseph Englend (1984), Nadine (2004) & Clarence Macke, Walter (2018) & Evelyn Weis

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: Bernadette (2011) & Robert Jean (2011), Denny & Dickie Jean, Jeremy Clem (2016)

> SATURDAY, JANUARY 20 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM MASS: Jeremy Clem, Infant Rexing (1869), Fred Sauer (1883), Herman Joseph (1923), Amy Jo Fechtmeister (1979), Albert (1990) & Florentina Gries (1990), Helen (1993)

& Louis Keller (1993)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM MASS: Marcellus & Valeria **Elpers Family** 

10:30 AM MASS: For the people of our parish, Francis Helfrich (1905), Matilda Mayer (1936), Conrad Gries (1973), William Gries (1989), Albert (1989) & Verena Steckler (1989)



We are excited to welcome our St. I Joe prayer partners for a special day of mass on Wednesday, January 31st. Mass will begin promptly at 8 am Your prayer partner will meet you in

church and sit with you during Mass if you are able to at-

After Mass, you are invited to join us in the cafeteria for refreshments, coffee, and juice. Please call the school office (812-963-3335) by Monday, January 29th if you are able to attend. We can't wait to see you there!

#### STEWARDSHIP: The Lord's Way

John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom



they belong, how they live - the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards.'

January 7	\$	11,955.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$	14,650.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$	404,110.75
BUDGET TO DATE	\$	410,200.00
MAINTENACE COLLECTION	\$	60.00
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION	\$	4.00

Thanks to our young stewards: Beatrice, Peter, Paul, Bernadette & John Reckelhoff **OUTREACH MINISTRIES** 

HAITI COLLECTION	\$	1,330.00
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HAITI GIFTS OF COMPASSION -TO DATE	\$	6,605.00
HAITI SEWING HOPE	\$	25.00
VLADIVOSTOK MISSION	\$	15.00
ST. VINCENT'S FOOD PANTRY	\$	10.00

May we continue to be blessed by your faithful financial support to our parish and to our outreach ministries. Remember that you can SEND YOUR COLLECTION THROUGH THE MAIL:

St. Joseph Church 6202 W. St. Joseph Rd. Evansville, IN 47720

REBUILDING OUR CHURCH CAMPAIGN

TOTAL PLEDGED \$804,672 **RECEIVED TO DATE** \$481,775

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOMES

HERITAGE CENTER: Brenda Koester, Christine Settle PREMIER NURSING CENTER (NEW HARMONY) Betty Fischer THE RETREAT AT LEISURE LIVING: Margaret Kafel

CYPRUS REHABILITATION CENTER (NEWBURGH): Steve Hasselbrinck

NORTH PARK NURSING CENTER: Marie Gumbel, Carl Kempf ENVIVE HEALTHCARE: Doris Head

RIVER POINTE: Beverly Jones SOLARBRON TERRACE: Rose Weiss

EVANSVILLE PROTESTANT HOME: Mary Lou Davis NORTH RIVER HEALTH CAMPUS: George David

January 14: Mendy Dossett, Matthew Fleck,

Steve Frey, Dan Hartmann, Steve Lannert, Todd Lehman, Zackery Schneider, Vivi Spaetti, Jacob Weinzapfel



January 15: Grant Voelker

January 16: Dan Collins, Tom Folz, Savannah Grigsby,

Andrew McCauley, Carrie Reffett, Geralyn Ruminer

January 17: Earlene Elpers, Rhett Gambrel, Hadley Kendle, Sharon Moutoux, Emma Roemke, Beth Thompson, Doris Thornton, Allen Whitehouse

January 18: Amy Cody, Rodger Duncan, Delores Folz, Thomas Nisley

January 19: Tracy Adler

January 20: David Conaway,

Michele Luigs, Tammy Luigs,

Evan McDonald, Eliana Nisley, Marleen Voelker

January 15: Ryan & Stephanie Frey

January 16: Mike & Mary Loehrlein January 17: Chris & Jessica Wallace



## IT'S FISH FRY TIME FRIDAYS, FEBRUARY 23 & MARCH 8

SERVING 5-7 PM DRIVE THRU ONLY

need help prepar- ing all the ingredients for the potato salad and slaw, (tentative dates Wednesdays, Feb. 21 and March 6) as well as helping on the days of the fish fry.



#### In this year of Eucharistic Renewal, we continue reading Pope Francis's teaching letter (encyclical) entitled Laudato Si-Caring for Our Common Home CIVIC AND POLITICAL LOVE



Caring for nature is part of a lifestyle that im-

plies the ability to live together and communion. Jesus reminded us that we have God as our common Father and that this makes us brothers and sister. Learning to love one another can only be free, it can never be a reward for what another accomplishes, nor an advance for what we hope he will do. This is why it is possible to love enemies. This same gratuitousness leads us to love and accept the wind, the sun or the clouds, although they do not submit to our control. For this we can speak of a universal fraternity.

We need to feel once again that we need each other, that we have a responsibility towards others and towards the world, that it is worthwhile to be good and honest. For too long we have been in moral degradation, making fun of ethics, goodness, faith, honesty. The time has come to recognize that this cheerful superficiality has been of little use to us. This destruction of every foundation of social life ends up pitting us



against each other to defend our interests, provokes the emergence of new forms of violence and cruelty and prevents the development of a true culture of care for the environment.

The example of St. Therese of Lisieux invites us to practice the little way of love, not to miss the opportunity for a kind word, a smile, any small gesture that sows peace and friendship. An integral ecology is also made up of simple daily gestures in which we break the logic of violence, exploitation, selfishness. Conversely, the world

of exasperated consumption is at the same time the world of the mistreatment of life in all its forms.

Love, full of small gestures of mutual care, is also civil and political, and is manifested in all actions that seek to build a better world. Love for society and commitment to the common good are an eminent form of charity, which concerns not only relations between individuals, but also "macro-relations, social, economic, political relations".

For this reason the Church has proposed to the world the ideal of a "civilization of love". Social love is the key to authentic development: "To make society more human, more worthy of the person, it is necessary to re-evaluate love in social life - at the political, economic, cultural level - making it the constant norm and supreme action.

In this context, together with the importance of small daily gestures, social love pushes us to think of great strategies that effectively stop environmental degradation and encourage a culture of care that permeates the whole of society. When someone recognizes God's vocation to intervene together with others in these social dynamics, he must remember that this is part of his spirituality, that it is an exercise of charity, and that in this way it matures and becomes sanctified.

Not everyone is called to work directly in politics, but an innumerable variety of associations flourish within society that intervene in favor of the common good, defending the natural and urban environment. For example, they care about a public place (a building, a fountain, an abandoned monument, a landscape, a square), to protect, restore, improve or beautify something that belongs to everyone. Around them, bonds develop or recover and a new local social fabric arises. Thus a community frees itself from consumerist indifference.

This also means cultivating a common identity, a history that is preserved and transmitted. In this way we take care of the world and the quality of life of the poorest, with a sense of solidarity which is at the same time awareness of living in a common home that God has entrusted to us. These community actions, when they express self-giving love, can turn into intense spiritual experiences. TO BE CONTINUED

#### CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CPC)

PARISH GOAL \$130,270.00 PLEDGED TO DATE \$126,006.00 97%

NUMBER OF PLEDGES 330 64% \$ 381.84 AVERAGE PLEDGE

Our stewardship goal is to give 1% of our gross income to the Catholic Ministries Appeal (CPC). Thanks to the following people who have returned



their pledge card: Brad & Susie Traylor MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY AND SUPPORT OUR COMMON EFFORT!

heart and mind this Lent 2024 with an inspira-

tional Women's R e treat. Beginning Saturday, March



2 from 8:30 am-10:00pm and ending on Sunday, March 3rd with 8:00 am Mass. Adoration, guest speakers, live reflective music, rosary, a spa hour, confession, and Mass. What a great way to enter into the busy Lenten season. You are welcome to come and pray for as long as you can. Contact Jes-Reckelhoff (812-598-1151 hoff@evdio.org) for information and/or to register.

#### JOIN US FOR THESE FAITH SHARING OPPORTUNITIES

strengthening Core exercise alongside the rosary! Join us Thursday, January 11, 18 & 25 at

7 pm and Saturday, February 10 at 8 am

That Man Is You -Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:45 pm.





Bible Study Group, viewing episodes of The Chosen. Wednesday evenings from 6:45 pm - 8 pm

Contact Jessica Reckelhoff (812-598-1151) or jreckelhoff@evdio.org for more information.



Saint Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology have a long history of service to the Diocese of Evansville. You can be a part of this important work. The monks of Saint Meinrad Archabbey encourage you to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

This week you will also receive an invitation from St. Meinrad humbly asking for your financial support and partnership to help continue their work of serving the needs of the church.

7:30-10:30 am Adult \$10 Child \$5 Jan. 21: Breakfast at St. James

Jan. 28: Chicken Dinner at Sts. Peter & Paul 10:30 am-1 pm, dine in or carry out, Adults \$14, children \$7 Feb. 1-28: Holy Cross Half Pot Raffle tickets on sale now-\$20 per ticket or 6 or \$100, license #001286 Feb. 11: Breakfast at St. Wendel 7:30-11 am, Adults

\$8, children (5-12) \$4

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