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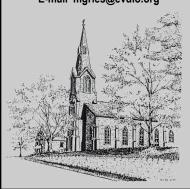
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WEEKEND MASS
SCHEDULE
Saturday—5 PM
Sunday—8 & 10:30 AM
SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILATION
SATURDAY 4-4:30 PM

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Evansville, IN 47720
SCHOOL
6130 W. Saint Joseph Road
Evansville IN 47720

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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 28, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear friends,

There is much happening in people's lives these days. In the midst of all this it is important that we learn how to center ourselves. This is not a new idea. All te great spiritual fathers and mothers have spoken about how im-

portant this is. It's actually the whole basis for the practice of morning and evening prayer.

The form that morning prayer takes can vary among people. The "form" of our prayer is not nearly as important as taking the time to center ourselves each day. My morning routine involves driving to Starbucks for my daily cup of coffee. With my faithful companion, Cody, riding shotgun, I

A LIFE OF FAITH.....

living somewhere between

"O LORD" and

"THANK YOU. JESUS"

drive through different neighbors in our parish and say a special prayer for all the people along the way.

Along with this, I ready my daily meditation. This year, the focus of these meditations is resiliancy. It is just another way of talking about living a life of faith. "Living a life of faith" is another one of those religious terms that is tossed around quite a bit in church circles. No one really disagrees with it. But, on the other hand, just what does it mean? I came across this definition from one of my daily reflections. It's like living somewhere between "O Lord!" and "Thank You Jesus." As they say, "that will preach!"

For many of us, what happens in our lives can seem very chaotic. And when we are faced with chaos, we want to do almost anything to avoid it, ignore it, or try to control it. In one daily meditation, Dr. Otis Moss III considers difficulties we face as individuals and in community:

A true crisis—a threat to yourself or someone you love—can sometimes do wonders to focus the mind. In the moment, if we have spiritual practices in place or we are blessed with inspiration, the noise and confusion may recede for a little while, and we may see again what matters. But ... you don't get that kind of clarity every time your blood pressure rises....In our darkest times, when the storm anxiety, worry, and chaos sweeps over an entire community, such feelings are everywhere. People who have children or elders worry they can't keep them safe. Those blessed with jobs worry about losing them. Even following the news can be too much to take. People with mental health issues feel even more intensely challenged. People who self-medicate do it more and more. Activists who work in their communities start saying to themselves, "The more I do to fight back, the more the pressure builds. The dam is cracking, and every time I plug a hole with my finger, ten more holes show up." The question haunts us: When will this end? ...

Struggling in all that confusion, uncertainty, and violence, we become spiritually worn down. It's too hard to keep believing. We get tired. We think: My road is too hard. The powerful will never treat people right. I've tried everything, there's nothing to be done. It's no use. Moss believes faith can sustain us in chaos:

In the storm of chaos, lost in confusion and disorder, ... the question is whether there might be some way to use the harsh, unpredictable winds and the relentless currents of our lives to get us moving to where we actually want to go. Do we have the spiritual audacity and the practical means to turn chaotic energy to our own purposes?

When you take on the confusion and the violence and you refine them, purify them into something new, you are doing what in the vocabulary of faith we call consecrating your chaos. To consecrate is to make holy, to put it into service for good. In consecrating chaos, you engage it, tame it, name it, take what seemed out of control and charge it with a duty.

The model here is the creation itself. We read in Genesis [1:2] that in the beginning, "The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep." Scripture begins with a whole world of chaos. Then God begins to find the possibilities of design in that formless void, separating light from darkness, water from land.... God consecrates the chaos, giving it form. It is presented to us as an act of creativity and of choice. God works in the chaotic void until there is order and light, and it is good. The Genesis story reminds us that the void is not as empty as we think. Chaos is never as chaotic as we fear.

Leaning into the journey of life Fr. Gene Schroeder

JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY (FEB. 4) AFTER THE 8 AM MASS. The Altar Society will be hosting Donuts and Coffee in the Cafeteria Looking forward seeing you there!







CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM MASS: Doug, Stan, Charlotte & Elmer Schapker, Joe Herr, Joseph Weidner (1870), Maria Hartlein (1880), Joseph Weiss (1887), Agnes Daugherty (1990), Earl (2007)

& Millie Hoefling (2007), Eddie Lagunzad (2021)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM MASS: Eddie Lagunzad, Art & Mary Joe Werner, Larry Werner, Carolyn Werner, Terri Werner, Arthur & Mildred Werner, Richard & Gertrude Emge, David, Charles, Riochard, Wlater, Melvin & Wayne Emge, Sr. Judith Emge, OSB, Mary Pat Smead

10:30 AM MASS: For the people of our parish, Ralph & Florence Seib, Jim Seib, Catharine Beckele (1858), Genoveve Sebastian (1904)

MONDAY, JANUARY 29 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6:30 PM MASS: Delores (1997) & Merl Hoefling, Kay Beshears (2006), Ron Hartmann (2017), Bernie, Jerome & Joan Schroeder, Leo, Hilda, Chuck & Florence Beckman

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: Christina Zuber (1877), Elisabeth Buchart (1881), Pauline (1936) & August Recker, Nannie (2013) & Joe Schmitt, Wayne Render Srs. Mary George & Mary Margaret Kissel, OSB

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31 SAINT JOHN BOSCO

8:00 AM MASS with Prayer Partners: Mary Seiler (1888), George (1957) & Mary Reising, Joan (2013) & Charles Roberts

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NO MASS: Catharina Fischer (1872), Samuel Fischer (1889), Henry Schorlau (1894), Joseph Urich (1931), Louis (1945) & Elizabeth Happe, Leo (1958) & Olivia Schapker, Phyllis Mangold (1974), Veronica Mayer (1981), Chester (1993) & Donna Fenwick, Albion Inkenbrandt (2012), Kevin Glaser (2012), Alan Gaisser (2020)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

7:30 AM MASS: Maria Trunk (1889), Don (2016) & Darlene Baumgart

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3
FIFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM MASS: Paul Hillenbrand (1922), Walter Schneider (1965), Albert (1977) & Thelma Scheu, Mary Preske (1984), Elnora Wolter

(1986), Kaysie McGehee (1991), Esther (2003) & Ray Will

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM MASS: Aloys & Marie Elpers, Jeanne, Harry, Rosie, Kenny & Bert Elpers, Jeanette & Orville Hall, Wilma & Joe Gumbel, Jorhdan Wood, Killian & Irene & Peggy Baehl, Dorothy & William Martin, Delores Strupp

10:30 AM MASS: Regina Forler, John & Mary A (Seibert) Koch, Edward J. Rumage, Robert A Wise, Robert M. Cantner, Mason Heckel, Alfred Koch Sr, Dolores Goebel, Alfred, & Elmer M. Koch, For the people of our parish, Joseph Sohmer (1861), Eva Weiss (1883), Edwin Bender (1949)

STEWARDSHIP: The Lord's Way

Moses told the people, "A prophet like me will the Lord, your God, raise up for you from among your own kinsmen." God still provides among His people the gifts and talents necessary to continue the

he Stewardship ur ohe WORK

 work of His Church. What gifts are yours to share?

 January 21, 2024
 \$ 21,461.25

 WEEKLY BUDGET
 \$ 14,650.00

 TOTAL INCOME TO DATE
 \$ 454,638.00

 BUDGET TO DATE
 \$ 439,500.00

 CHILDREN'S COLLECTION
 \$ 4.00

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HAITI SEWING HOPE	\$ 165.00
ST. VINCENT'S FOOD PANTRY	\$ 35.00

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:

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TOTAL PLEDGED \$806,372
RECEIVED TO DATE \$493,223

Your monthly packet of collection envelopes now includes a "Rebuilding our Church Campaign" envelope which you can use to make your pledge contributions.

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

January 28: Ann Carlisle, Kurt Denning, Carolyn Pfaffmann

January 29: Bob Loehrlein, Betty Polk, Derek Williams

January 30: Chip Altstadt, Ella Dalrymple, Amy Deig, Jean Duncan, Norma Duncan, Oakley Kendle, Cari Raben

January 31: Brooke Barkley, Julie Forcum, Stephanie Frey,

Tom Goedde, Dave Market, Paige Shanks, Amy Smith-Mullins

February 2: Christy Atherton, Amy Brown, Ben Gries,

Logan Kassenbrock, Grayson Luigs, Trey Schulze, Jena Wessel February 3: Amy Back, Joe Back, Bob Baehl, Parker Baumeyer,

Neil Kassenbrock, Joe Mayer, Zak Tanner, Eric Waninger

January 29: Tony & Mary Stratman
January 31: Mike & Michelle Reffett
January 25: Jacob & Sam Weinzapfel



HAPPY

BIRTHDAY



Please remember in your prayers *David Emge*, the brother of Barb Rexing, *Regina (Jean) (Xoch) For-ler* the aunt of Alma Scheller and John Koch, and *Bernie Schroeder*, the cousin of Fr. Gene Schroeder who died last week. May God grant them eternal rest and may His peace be with their family and friends.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION STATMENTS for 2023 are now avail- able f o r you to pick up. Be sure to check your statement over carefully. If we have made any mistakes, be sure to let us know so that we can make the necessary corrections.



In this year of Eucharistic Renewal, we continue reading Pope Francis's teaching letter (encyclical) entitled Laudato Si—Caring for Our Common Home SACRAMENTAL SIGNS



AND THE CELEBRATIVE REST

The universe develops in God, who fills it all. So there is a mystery to be contemplated in a leaf, in a path, in the dew, in the face of a poor person. The ideal is to meet God in all things. Saint John of the Cross taught that all that is good in the things and experiences of the world is found eminently in God in an infinite way or, to put it better, He is each of these greatnesses that are preached. It is not because the limited things of the world are truly divine, but because the mystic experiences the intimate bond that exists between God and all beings, and thus feels that God is all things for him.

If we admires the greatness of a mountain, we cannot separate it from God. This interior admiration that we experiences must settle in the Lord. Mountains have peaks, they are high, imposing, beautiful, graceful, flowery and fragrant. Like those mountains he is the Beloved



to me. The solitary valleys are quiet, pleasant, cool, shady, full of sweet waters. For the variety of their trees and for the sweet song of the birds they recreate and greatly delight the sense and in their solitude and in their silence they offer refreshment and rest: these valleys are my Beloved for me.

The Sacraments are a privileged way in which nature is assumed by God and transformed into the mediation of supernatural life. Through worship we are invited to embrace the world on a different level. Water, oil, fire and colors are as-

sumed with all their symbolic force and are incorporated into praise.

The hand that blesses is an instrument of God's love and a reflection of the closeness of Christ who came to accompany us on the journey of life. The water that is poured on the body of the child who is baptized is a sign of new life. We do not flee from the world nor deny nature when we want to meet God.

This can be perceived especially in the spirituality of the Christian East: For the Christian experience, all creatures of the material universe find their true meaning in the Incarnate Word, because the Son of God incorporated in his person part of the material universe, where he introduced a germ of definitive transformation.

Christianity does not reject matter, corporeality; on the contrary, it makes full use of it in the liturgical act, in which the human body shows its own intimate nature as a temple of the Spirit and comes to unite itself with the Lord Jesus, who was also made a body for the salvation of the world.

TO BE CONTINUED

ST JOE COMMUNITY BASEBALL/SOFTBALL NEWS

Sign Up now, for the 2024 St Joe Community Baseball & Softball teams. http://www.leaguelineup.com/stjbaseball. Questions? Call Jon Eickhoff at 812-455-3361





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Liturgical Ministers

L: (Lector) EM: (Eucharistic Ministers) WEEKEND OF JANUARY 27-28
5 PM MASS: L: Sis Jarboe
EM: Eric and Karen McDonald,
Butch & Linda Feulner

8 AM MASS: L: Chick Duncan EM:

Imogene Baehl, Michael Elpers, Rodney & Paula Baehl 10:30 AM MASS: L: Terri Drone EM: Paul Hillenbrand Amy Cody, Jena & Shane Wessel

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 3-4

5 PM MASS: L: Toni Askins EM: Donald & Brandon Werner, Eric & Karen McDonald

8 AM MASS: L: Tom Blythe EM: Joan Inkenbrandt, Michael Elpers, Randy & Kathy Fehrenbacher

10:30 AM MASS: L: Julie Forcum EM: Rachel Schnaus, Becky Dosher, Shane Wessel, Steve Jung

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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REGISTE NOW

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

JOIN US FOR THESE FAITH SHARING OPPORTUNITIES

Soul Core Thursday, January 18 & 25 at 7 pm and Saturday, February 10 at 8 am

That Man Is You -Wednesday 5:30-6:45 pm. Bible Study Group, viewing episodes of The Chosen. Wednesday 6:45 pm - 8 pm

COME AND SEE



what our school has to offer to you Thursday, Feb. 1 5-7- pm

Kindergarten RoundUp FEB. 1 6:30 PM

IT'S FISH FRY TIME

FRIDAYS, FEBRUARY 23 & MARCH 8 SERVING 5-7 PM DRIVE THRU ONLY

We'll need help preparing all the ingredients for the potato salad and slaw on the Wednesdays before the fish fry, Feb.

21 and March 6). We will also need help making cornbread and frying the fish on Fridays as well as helping to package the meals and get them to the carryout.



ICE SKATING AT SWONDER SATURDAY, FEB. 24 4-6 PM

Open to middle school students Grades 6-8. \$10/person. Contact Jessica Contact Jessica Reckelhoff (812-598-1151) or jreckelhoff@evdio.org for more information.

POTLUCK DINNER & PODCAST DISCUSSION

February 17th after the 5 pm Mass We will meet in the St. Joe Meeting room after the 5:00 Mass. Please contact Jessica Reckelhoff for the podcast information.



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