

ST. JOSEPH

PARISH

Celebrating 181 Years

1841-2022

Vanderburgh County

www.stjoeco.org

A community of joyful, active, faith-filled people who give thanks to God by generously sharing their individual gifts and talents to serve the needs of all.



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"St. Joseph
Vanderburgh County"

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday—5 PM

Sunday—8 & 10:30 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY 4-4:30 PM

PARISH OFFICE

**6202 W. Saint Joseph Road
Evansville, IN 47720**

SCHOOL

**6130 W. Saint Joseph Road
Evansville IN 47720**

Parish Office: (812) 963-3273

School: (812) 963-3335

School Fax: (812) 963-3335

Prayer Requests: (812) 963-3149

Parish Staff

Fr. Gene Schroeder—Pastor

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Coordinator of

Religious Education

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Kelsey Meier—Principal

E-mail kmeier@evdio.org

Mary Gries—School Secretary

E-mail mgries@evdio.org



NOVEMBER 26, 2023 FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING



Dear friends,

After almost nine months, we are mostly back in church. Thanks to all the folks who helped on Monday evening to set up chairs in church and bring all the other altar furnishings back to church. My hope is that our carpet installers will have been able to install all the carpet they can this week. (I am writing this on Monday). They tell us that our other specialty carpet is scheduled to be delivered on December 15. We shall see!

Special thanks to **Clay Alison** for installing our temporary handrails for our handicapped entrance on the west side of our church. The new door for this entrance is supposed to be in the first week of December and they will install it as soon as it arrives. We have contracted with a company to fabricate new handrails for this handicapped entrance. They will look like the railings that are currently installed at the front entrance of the church. Thanks to **Paul Steward** for painting the handrails at the east and west sacristy entrances.



Special thanks to **Tom Strupp** who helped to remove some of the old shrubs along the east end of the cemetery. Our friends from **Kraft Nursery** will be coming soon to freshen up the landscaping areas around church. We've had a number of folks who have helped clean the windows, statues and the flooring in the sanctuary. Thanks to all of you.

I am grateful as well to **Frank and Dave Hertel** and **Jim Fehmeister** for reinstalling the cameras in church and for getting our PA system up and running again. They are so good and so patient doing this work. Electronic equipment does not really like dirty, dusty environments and all the wires and connections that are involved in a PA system and digital cameras can easily get messed up with so many people working in church.

In cleaning out the closets in the sacristies so that they could be painted, we discovered the original altar stone that was installed in the first altar in 1888. **Bob Fehrenbacher** was able to take this altar stone and install it in our current altar. It's like the icing on the cake!

Leaning into the journey of life

Fr. Gene Schroeder

P.S. Apparently the computer scammers have been at it again this week. I've heard from a number of people who got a text message from me asking them to buy gift cards. It's a scam. Just know, I have not, and will not ask people to buy gift cards. Ignore these requests. Technology can be wonderfully, and then there are these examples. So sad.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES DECEMBER 13th and 15th



It is good for us to come together as a community to celebrate the forgiveness and peace that God alone can bring. It is important that we pray with each other and for each other. To help us do this, we will have two Communal Penance Services during the Season of Advent—Wednesday, December 13th at 7:00 pm and Friday, December 15th at 11:00 am.

I will also be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation privately each Saturday from 4-4:45 for those who wish to avail themselves of this opportunity. If these times are not convenient, please call/text (812.499.9074) and I will make a time available to you that is convenient.



A PRAYER FOR THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

Oh, God, we are one with You.

You have made us one with You.

You have taught us that if we are open to one another, You dwell in us.

Help us to preserve this openness and to fight for it with all our hearts.

Help us to realize that there can be no understanding where there is mutual rejection. Oh God, in accepting one another wholeheartedly, fully, completely, we accept You, and we thank You, and we adore You, and we love You with our whole being, because our being is in Your being, our spirit is rooted in Your spirit.

Fill us then with love, and let us be bound together with love as we go our diverse ways, united in this one spirit which makes You present in the world, and which makes You witness to the ultimate reality that is love.



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25
FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

5:00 PM MASS: John (1965) & Anna Voelker, Elvera (1989) & George Hillenbrand, Sophia (1993) & Thomas Kelle, For all the people in our parish

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

8:00 AM MASS: William & Dorothy Martin, I.O. Moutoux & G.W. James Families, World Peace, Priests

10:30 AM MASS: William Kissel (1926), Fr. Bernard Reidford (1948), Sr. Avila, OSF (Theresa Relleke, 1966), John (1983) & Irene Kissel, Winnie (2006) & Joe Schu

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6:30 PM MASS: Carol Vogh (1865), Johannes Friehtaut (1870), John Happe (1894), Franciscus Hillenbrand (1912), Henry (1974) & Anna Hillenbrand

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: George Happe (1893), John Heimbucher (1899), Joseph (1966) & Emma Rexing, John (2013) & Patricia Kissel

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: Carol Lewis, Theodor Ulrich (1906), Josephine Hale (2001), Agnes (2004) & Joe Scheller

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

SAINT ANDREW

NO MASS: Anna Voelker (1892), Elisabeth Wolf (1923), Herbert (2004) & Jenny Langner, Donna Marie Fenwick Swanson (2021)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: John (1943) & Mary Hillenbrand

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 PM MASS: Doug Schapker, Stan Schapker, Elmer & Charlotte Schapker, Maria Ulrich (1859), Maria Baumgart (1876), Anna Eisterhold (1897), Mary Luekenheimer (1921), Mary Clary (1964)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM MASS: Joe James, Marcellus & Valeria Elpers Family, Ruth Miller Marcus, Bertha, Henry, Henrietta, Edgar, Brother Lawrence CSC, Francis, and Eugene Miller; Cornelia Beane, Anita Kleinberg.

10:30 AM MASS: For all the people in our parish, Henry Beckerle (1892), Mildred (2013) & Charles Lewis (2013)



Hope

ST ANNE ALTAR SOCIETY CHRISTMAS GATHERING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 CARRIAGE INN 5:30 PM

The St. Anne Altar Society invites the women in the parish to join them. Please call Susie Schapker at 812-483-4799 or Donna Dipel 812-963-5911 to make a reservation. Reservation deadline is November 28th.



RADA CUTLERY: St. Anne's Altar Society continues to have available an American made cutlery! "A Cut Above the Rest!" We have nice Starter Sets that make great Christmas Gifts! To order, call Imogene 812-963-5221.

STEWARDSHIP: *The Lord's Way*

When the Son of Man comes in glory, may we be among those who have fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, and clothed the naked. For Jesus tells us clearly that it is those who have demonstrated good stewardship by sharing their gifts with the less fortunate who will receive God's blessing and inherit the kingdom.



November 19, 2023	\$ 8,496.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$ 14,650.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$ 295,709.91
BUDGET TO DATE	\$ 307,650.00
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	\$ 15.00
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION	\$ 4.00

Thanks to our young stewards: Max & Quinn Layman,

Jarrett & Daxton Brown

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

HAITI	\$ 40.00
HAITI STUDENTS/HIGHER EDUCATION	\$ 3,400.00
ST. VINCENT'S FOOD PANTRY	\$ 510.00
CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	\$ 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:

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

REBUILDING OUR CHURCH CAMPAIGN

TOTAL PLEDGED	\$802,672
RECEIVED TO DATE	\$446,326

Thanks to the following people who have made their pledge to our campaign: Tony & Mary Stratman

Beginning in November, your monthly packet of collection envelopes will include 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

SOLARBROOK TERRACE: Rose Weiss

EVANSVILLE PROTESTANT HOME: Mary Lou Davis

NORTH RIVER HEALTH CAMPUS: Marilyn Mossberger

Congratulations to Kacie (Spaetti) & Brandon Gambrel on the birth of their son, Leo

November 26: John Bassemier, Jarred Kinnaman

November 27: Bonnie Bittner, Tim Mayer, Caden Thacker

November 28: Ella Carlisle, Brylee Delano, Jim Fechtmeister, Ansley Hendon, Lori Lamble, Ben Mehringer

November 29: Joe Hillenbrand, Rowan Koester, Emma Macke

November 30: Laura Gries

December 1: Penelope Coates, Grady Doshier,

Layne Koester, Kathy Seger, Joan Stewart

December 2: Bob Englert, Lena Greubel, Michelle Knight, Adam Nisley

November 27: Brent & Kelly Lyke,

Rick & Tracy Adler, Mike & Jossie Burk

November 28: Ron & Becky Mayer,

Tom & Bryanna Barron

December 1: John & Cheri King, Bob & Betty Singer

December 2: Jim & Amy Back

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

Join us Sunday
December 3
9 am -- Noon



CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME



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



Sobriety and humility have not enjoyed positive consideration in the last century. However, when the exercise of some virtue in personal and social life is generally weakened, this ends up causing multiple imbalances, including environmental ones. This is why it is no longer enough to talk only about the integrity of ecosystems. We must have the courage to speak of the integrity of human life, of the need to promote and combine all the great values.

The disappearance of humility, in a human being excessively enthusiastic about the possibility of dominating everything without any limit, can only end up harming society and the environment. It is not easy to mature this healthy humility and a happy sobriety if we become autonomous, if we exclude God from our life and our ego takes his place,

On the other hand, no person can mature into a happy life if he is not at peace with himself. And part of a proper understanding of spirituality is to broaden our understanding of peace, which is much more than the absence of war. The inner peace of people is closely linked to the care of ecology and to the common good, because, authentically lived, it is reflected in a balanced lifestyle combined with a capacity for amazement that leads to the depth of life.

Nature is full of words of love, but how can we hear them in the midst of constant noise, permanent and anxious distraction, or the cult of appearing? Many people experience a profound imbalance that causes them to do things at full speed to feel busy, in a constant haste which in turn leads them to overwhelm everything around them. This affects the way the environment is treated. An integral ecology requires dedicating some time to recover serene harmony with creation, to reflect on our lifestyle and our ideals, to contemplate the Creator, who lives among us and in what surrounds us, and whose presence must not be constructed, but discovered and revealed.

We are talking about an attitude of the heart, which lives everything with serene attention, which knows how to remain fully present in front of someone without bothering to think about what comes after, which is delivered at every moment as a divine gift to be lived in fullness. Jesus taught us this attitude when he invited us to look at the lilies of the field and the birds of the sky, or when, in the presence of a man in search, "he fixed his gaze on him" and "loved him" (Mk 10:21) . He certainly knew how to be fully present in front of every human being and in front of every creature, and thus he showed us a way to overcome the sick anxiety that makes us superficial, aggressive and unbridled consumerists.

An expression of this attitude is stopping to thank God before and after meals. I propose to believers that they resume this precious habit and live it deeply. This moment of blessing, even if very brief, reminds us of our dependence on God for life, strengthens our sense of gratitude for the gifts of creation, is grateful to those who with their work provide these goods, and strengthens solidarity. with the most needy.

TO BE CONTINUED

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CPC)

PARISH GOAL	\$130,270.00
PLEGGED TO DATE	\$116,731.00 90%
NUMBER OF PLEDGES	293 57%
AVERAGE PLEDGE	\$ 398.40

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 (partial list):

Matt & Cari Raben	Tony & Mary Stratman
Bill & Amy Cody	Glenn & Kristi Givens
Bryan & Karen Trimbom	Kim Spaetti
Ron & Tennille Schell	Jim & Diane Werner
Michael & Donna Hiestand	

MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY AND SUPPORT OUR COMMON EFFORT!



LOOKING FOR A GIFT FOR THOSE "HARD TO BUY PERSONS" THIS CHRISTMAS?



Give the 'GIFT OF FOOD' to our brothers and sisters in Haiti. Gifts ranging in price from \$5-\$100. \$5 could feed one child for a month. \$60 could feed a child for a whole year. \$100 could feed the entire six hundred children in school for a day

Self-service station located in the front of church if you prefer mail order. Deadline December 16, 2022 Questions? Please email Alison Martin at alison@twc.com



COME JOIN US FOR A FAMILY POT LUCK and FUN NIGHT Saturday, December 9 6 pm

Come join us for a family pot luck dinner on Saturday, December 9 at 6 pm (after the 5 pm Mass). We'll share a meal, play games and pray a Chaplet of Divine Mercy together. Contact Jessica (812-598-1151) or email jreckelhoff@evdio.org to sign up to attend. Bring your favorite game and your favorite side dish to share.



IT'S LOTTERY TIME THE 2024 ST. JOE MONTHLY LOTTERY

TICKETS are now available. Only 500 tickets will be sold. Cost is \$75.



Grand Prize Each Month: \$10,000

THE 2024 MATER DEI/ MEMORIAL TREASURE THE TRADITION LOTTERY TICKETS are also no available. Tickets are \$100. Call Margie Hartman (812-453-6836) or the parish office (812-963-3273) to get your ticket.



Prepare your heart and mind this Lent 2024 with an inspirational Women's Retreat. 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 Jessica Reckelhoff (812-598-1151 jreckelhoff@evdio.org) for information and/or to register.



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