## ST. JOSEPH PARJSH

 Celebrating 181 Years 1841-2022 Vanderburgh County www.stjoeco.orgA 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.

## $f$

Like us on Facebook "St. Joseph Vanderburgh County"

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 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
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



DECEMBER 10, 2023 THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Dear friends,

Well the carpet we want to install in church is no longer stuck in a port in Turkey. It has made it all the way to the Panama Canal where it is now delayed. The delay is caused by the drought in Panama which has cause the water level in the canal to drop too low. So there is a big bottleneck of ships trying to make their way through the canal. They are telling us it might arrive here by mid January. I guess it will be here when it gets here,

In the meantime, it is just good to be in church. Special thanks to the folks from Kraft Nursery for freshening up the landscape areas around the church and rectory and the south side of the school. Thanks Brian and Greg and all the crew.

Thanks to Tom Strupp for taking the old handrails and other materials to the recycle center. Thanks to Cindy Schmitt for getting a new toilet and bathroom fixtures for the church bathroom. Thanks to Bud and Andy Jarboe for installing it. Thanks also to Francis Gilles (sister of Kristan Gilles) for the beautiful work she did adding gold tinting to the borders around the stations of the cross.

Thanks for your generous support to our Catholic Ministries Appeal (CPC). Just 7\% more and we'll reach our goal. We've heard from 60\% of our parish families. My hope is that the other $40 \%$ of our parish families will help us get over the finish line.

Finally, come and join us this week at our Advent Penance Services, Wednesday at 7 pm and Friday at 11 am . It is a good time for each of us to ask forgiveness for our individual sins. And, especially now, it is good to come together to ask forgiveness for the sins of our whole world.

Leaning into the journey of life Fr. Gene Schroeder


This weekend you can pick up your copy of our yearly calendar. You can find them at the church doors. The calendars have been made available to us through the generosity of Pierre Funeral. Thanks Jim, Gary and all the other folks for doing this.

## ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES THIS WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY DECEMBER 13 \& 15

As we prepare for Christmas, we will have two Communal Penance Services this coming 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.

Fr. Gene Schroeder

## MASS SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 23 \& 24

Saturday, December 235 pm Sunday December 248 am

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY DECEMBER 24 4 PM MASS WITH CHILDREN 9 PM CHRISTMAS MASS AT NIGHT

CHRISTMAS DAY MONDAY DECEMBER 25 MASS AT 9:00 AM

## MASS SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 30-31

Saturday, December 305 pm Sunday, December $318 \& 10: 30$ am

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS MONDAY, JANUARY 18 AM


## AN ADVENT PRAYER



Dear Lord, give me eyes to see and ears to hear. I know there is light in the darkness that makes everything new. I know there is new life in suffering that opens a new earth for me. I know there is a joy beyond sorrow that rejuvenates my heart. Yes, Lord, I know that you are, that you act, that you love, that you indeed are Light, Life, and Truth. People, work, plans, projects, ideas, meetings, buildings, paintings, music, and literature all can only give me real joy and peace when I can see and hear them as reflections of your presence, your glory, your kingdom.

Let me then see and hear. Let me be so taken by what you show me and by what you say to me that your vision and hearing become my guide in life and impart meaning to all my concerns.

Let me see and hear what is really real, and let me have the courage to keep unmasking the endless unrealities, which disturb my life every day. Now I see only in a mirror, but one day, O Lord, I hope to see you face to face. Amen. Fr. Henri Nouwen

## CELEBRATION OF

## THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
5:00 PM MASS: For all the people in our parish, Tony \& Cecilia Stricker, Jack \& Jean Lannert, Nick Lannert, Walter Reherman (1989), Donald (2003) \& Charlotte Titzer (2003)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM MASS: Aloys \& Marie Elpers, Jeanne, Harry, Rosie, Kenny \& Bert Elpers, Jeannette \& Orville Hall, Wilma \& Joe Gumbel, Jorhdan Woods, Killian \& Irene, Peggy Baehl, Christina Jenkins Family
10:30 AM MASS: Leroy \& Freddie Weiss, Arnetta Straub, Charlotte Weiss, Florian Schenk, Jr., Elisabeth Stoeckle (1862), Lillian Hillenbrand (1938), Paul (1942) \& Maria Kissel , Kenneth Maurer (2013), Cyril (2015) \& Wilma Ubelhor

```
MONDAY, DECEMBER }1
    ADVENT WEEKDAY
```

6:30 PM MASS: Bernard Heerdink (1863), Christian Deichelbohor (1863), Joseph Bernhardt (1863), Infant Trunk (1863), Infant Sheiner (1863), Infant Steinmetz (1863), Infant Kohl (1871), Mary Kissel (1942), Elmer Debes (1982), Eric Wrinkles (2009), Val Pfaffmann (2011), Dolores(2013) \& Joe Elpers, Gus (2018) \& Verena Bender

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 <br> ADVENT WEEKDAY

7:30 AM MASS: Jason and Dan Fonner, Fred Goebel (1947), Jewell (2008) \& Betty Stevens

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

7:30 AM MASS: Margaret Adler (1888), Maria Rexing (1898), William Wolf (1918), Raymond (1958) \& Francis Kraft), Avila (2010) \& Jim Fehrenbacher, Darrell (2015) \& Loretta Whelan, Helen Kissel (2016), Carl Stewart (2021)

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 <br> SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

NO MASS: Joseph Steinmetz (1882), Eva Wolf (1892), Sebastian (1956) \& Frances Weiss), Elizabeth (1962) \& Samuel Eichenberger, Blake Perkins (1979), Emma (2001) \& Norbert Yellig, David Kissel (2008)

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 ADVENT WEEKDAY

7:30 AM MASS: Johann Seib (1886), Shelley Bock (1999), Orville (2000) \& Jeanette Hall

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 PM MASS: Doug Schapker, Bill \& Lula Townsend, Joseph Schili (1901), Martin (1959) \& Matilda Ritter, Jean Johnson (2020)

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM MASS: James \& Mabel Blythe, Alice Keil, Bill \& Marian Elpers, Robert \& Margie Harpenau, Dean Trowbridge, Joe \& Dolores Elpers, Robert Angermeier, John Reckelhoff, Luke Mehringer, Ali Mehringer, Basil and Marie Mehringer, Dennis Mehringer
10:30 AM MASS: Rose Castrale, Dennis Heathcott, Lisa Ziliak, For the people in our parish, Francisca Goebel (1869), Mary Hovals (1913), August (1935) \& Pauline Recker, Felix Preske (1978), Marion (2000) \& John Tieken

STEWARDSHIP: 7he Lard' 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 are to live-the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards."

December 3, 2023
WEEKLY BUDGET
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE
BUDGET TO DATE
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION
$\$ 19,257.00$
$\$ 14,650.00$
\$ 322,719.91
\$ 336,950.00
\$ 13.00
Thanks to our young stewards: Avery Frankenberger \& CJ Martin OUTREACH MINISTRIES

| HAITI COLLECTION | $1,790.00$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| HAITI STUDENTS/HIGHER EDUCATION | $\$ 2,300.00$ |  |
| HAITI SEWING PROGRAM | $\$$ | 365.00 |
| HAITI GIFTS OF COMPASSION (TO DATE) | $\$$ | 550.00 |
| RETIRED RELIGIOUS COLLECTION | $\$$ | 5.00 |

HAITI COLLECTION \$ 1,790.00
HAITI SEWING PROGRAM
HAITI GIFTS OF COMPASSION (TO DATE)
$\$ \quad 5.00$
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 \$454,806Your 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
NORTH RIVER HEALTH CAMPUS: Marilyn Mossberger
December 10: Bill Duncan, Sophie Lamble, Lucas Macke, Diane Wunderlich HAPPY December 11: Julie Conley, Betty Hartz, Jon Straus December 12: Victor Austin, Andy Deweese, Landon Glaser, Nikki Mayer, Michael Weber
December 13: Sherry Genet, Cole Happe, Paul Hillenbrand, Eric Reffett, Mihret Whitehouse
December 14: Ryan Frey, Cindi Klueh, Mary Loehrlein, Sylvia Reckelhoff, Tennille Schell, Jerry Spaetti, Diane Werner, Kathy Wingert
December 15: Esther Kelley
December 16: Annalise Biffert, Nola Fehrenbacher, Joe Fritch
December 10: Jeffrey \& Cynthia Meyer
December 14: Alan \& Joan Inkenbrandt


HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
 Please remember in your prayers Lisa Zíliak, the cousin of Kenin Luigs, Pauline Elpers, John \& Eddie Luigs, Mry Ruth asher and Susie Schapker who died last week. May God grant her eternal rest and may His peace be with her family and friends.

## 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


## YOU. THE 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 man. The ideal is not only to pass from the exterior to the interior in order to discover the action of God in the soul, but also to come to meet him in all things, as Saint Bonaventure taught: "Contemplation is as much higher as the more man feels in himself the effect of divine grace or the more he knows how to recognize God in other creatures ".

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 us.

If we admire the greatness of a mountain, we cannot separate it from God, and we perceives that this interior admiration that weexperience must come from God. 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 media-
tion of supernatural
life. Through worship we are invited to embrace the world on a different level. Water, oil, fire and colors are assumed 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, 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.

Creation finds its greatest elevation in the Eucharist. Grace, which tends to manifest itself in a sensitive way, reaches a marvelous expression when God himself, made man, gets to be eaten by his creature.

TO BE CONTINUED

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL (CPC)

PARISH GOAL
PLEDGED TO DATE NUMBER OF PLEDGES AVERAGE PLEDGE Our stewardship goal is to give $1 \%$ of our gross income to the Catholic Ministries APE $\$ 130,270.00$ \$120,311.00 93\% 310 60\% $\$ 388.10$ Appeal (CPC). Thanks to the following people who have returned their pledge card (partial list):

Jordan \& Kelly Wilkinson Greg \& Susie Head Michael \& Becky Raben Mike \& Eran Happe Larry Elfreich Peter $\&$ Jodi Fehrenbacher Pat \& Shari Kempf Kevin \& Kelly Pennington Lee $\&$ Brooke Barkley Michael \& Caroline Coughlin<br>MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY AND SUPPORT OUR COMMON EFFORTI

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


Mater Dei is now accepting new student applications for the 2024-25 school year! Go to materdeiwildcats.com and click the link to apply online. Want to schedule a visit to Mater Dei? Contact Jill Seiler at jseiler@evdio.org or 812-426-2258 for info.
THE 2024 ST. JOE LOTTERY TICKETS are now available. Cost is $\$ 75$. MATER DEI/MEMORIAL TREASURE THE TRADITION LOTTERY TICKETS are $\qquad$ also Available. Call Margie Hartman (812-453-6836) or the parish office (812-963-3273). NOVEMBER 2023 ST. JOE LOTTERY WINNERS: \$750-Rachel Schnaus, \$300-St. Joe Haiti Fund, \$200-Sandy Raben, \$100-Dan Ulrich

Each year we have invited peo- CHRISTMAS FLOWER ple to remember their loved ones at MEMORIALS
Christmas and use the money from these donations to buy the flowers for Christmas. This year, with all the work that we are doing to rebuild our church, things are a bit different. We are
 not planning to have any special decorations for Christmas, but we still wanted to give people the chance to remember their loved ones at Christmas. So, send the name or names of people you want to remember to the parish office by Dec. 18. The names will be printed in the Christmas bulletin.


CLEAN UP THE LEAVES-DECEMBER 14
Come join us this Thursday, December 14 as we clean up the leaves on our parish campus. We'll start at 8 am. Bring a leaf rake. If you have a leaf vacuum system, brink that too! Many hands make the work easier for everyone.

## IT＇S GOOD TO DO BUSINESS WITH OUR ST．JOE ADVERTISERS


$\qquad$


CONTRACTORS
R12-430.3865

812－424－3865
812－424－1479

##  $\mathscr{F}_{\text {uneual }}$ ICome 812－4 <br> PIERRE 23－6471

 ST．JOE INN Plzza and Wings Weekend Specials \＆ Noon Plate Lunches CARRY OUT 812－963－9310 Heating or AC Repair This offer may not be combined with any other discounts and does not apply to previous service

## BAYLOR

 Have a Great Day！ 479－6338
－www．bassemiers．com


2345 W FRANKLINST 812－425－4364 1150 S GREENRIVERRD 812－962－350 3408 N FIRST AVENUE 812422－8255 Drive－Up Window
Perscriptions－Free Delivery 9500 BIG EVANSVIT 工E TN 47720


Woody＇s Septic Service
Martin Woodward，Owner
We Install Now Systems Pump Out and Repair Old Systems
Ph． $812=503-80260$ or $812-457-0527$

Save \＄35


812－425－8435

OFFICE 812－477－1515
EAST CHAPEL 800 S．HEBRON AVE NORTH CHAPEL 6300 FIRST AVE．
CENTRAL CHAPEL 626 FIRST AVE
AUTO WHEEL\＆RIM SERVICE COMPANY，I
TRUCK PARTS 812－423－3157
1208－1212 E．ast Morgan Avenue Evansville，IN 47711

812－963－5011 Fax 812－963－5052 14930 Bender Rd Evansville，IN 47720
MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY


German American Bank $\underset{\substack{\text { Banking } \\ \text { Untix }}}{ }$ Insurance｜Investments germanamerican．com Fin（8）（812）962－2265 JOIN THE
Carpenter Society Remember St．Joseph Parish in your will
 1033 Mt．Pleasant Road
Evansville，IN 47725 Randy Folz
$(812) 760-4120$
Olsen \＆White，LLP －Attomeys ai Law－ 123 Locust Street 812－423－3143

## Stranb

 PMOTOCRAPMY 12820 Cynthiana Rd •Evansville， $\mathbb{N} 47720$ 812．963．5014 SENIORS－CHILDREN－FAMLIES－WEDDINGS－PEIS www．straubphotography．com

BROUNERAL HING （812）425－2896
Donut delicious！

Jesus is Key jesusiskey．org sharikempr 812－480－8185 NISBET INN 6701 Niscef Station Road 1812 193639305 Owned by Jim \＆Bechy harl World＇s Coldest Beer \＆Finest Bar－B－Q GRACE MロTロRS 2131 W．Mill Road Evansville，IN 47720 812－454－4624

## Chris Moutoux

 WOOD SPECIALTIESFEHRENBACHIRR MOLDINGS－DOORS－STARS 8920 HIGHNAY $65 \quad 812-983-944$ EVANSVILE， $\mathbb{N}$ FAX $812.863-8978$ donsclaytons．com 2 TODD NIEMEIER，OD RACHEL REXING OD 2311 W．Franklin Street Evansville，IN 47712
（812）425－5131 Professional Eyecare Associates
Westside
Hospital 2701 Mesker Pakk Dr．Evanansille，IN 47720 （812）464－1086 Mark Messal DVM Jim Back，crpB


MARGARET KIMMEL，CFP ${ }^{\circ}$ Vice President，Investments Financial \＆Investment Planning 812－471－2318 RAYMONDJAMES
waweraymondiames com／margaret kimmol


REALTOR® Like a trusted friend． helping you buy or sell your house
812－459－6729

## Uebellior




tatte enecule！428－COOL

## STRRAUB

Toro－Ariens－Gravely－Stith－Sales \＆Service www．strauboutdoorpower．com
14101 Highway 65 （812）963－5024
Evansville，IN 47720 Fax（812）963－8381

