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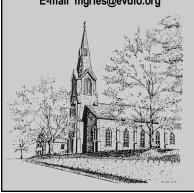
WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE Saturday—5 PM Sunday-8 & 10:30 AM **SACRAMENT OF** RECONCILATION SATURDAY 4-4:30 PM

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Evansville IN 47720

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



FEBRUARY 11, 2024 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear friends,



In 1968, the crew of Apollo 8 made history by becoming the first people to travel to the moon and see that planet up close. But the most amazing picture they took was not of the moon but rather a picture of the earth. They journeyed to the moon and, almost by accident, discovered

Today we are celebrating all that we have done to rebuild our church. There were many things that we eagerly anticipated being completed, but the thing that we didn't anticipate, when we took down all the tress, was how great our church would look setting tall and strong on the hill. More than one person has said: "Wow, when you drive up to the church it really stands out."

All that made me think of the passage from the Gospel of Matthew. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden." I think we can take inspiration from this. From the very beginning I have said that the easiest part was to rebuild the church. Francis of Assisi thought his work would be done when he rebuilt the little chapel called San Damiano. But what God was really asking was to "rebuild" the people so that they can be a light to the world.

As beautiful as our church is, (and it is very beautiful), the greatest gift we can give is not a building, but people who show others how to live with confidence and joy in the world. That means recognizing all the pain and suffering that is going on in so many parts of the

world and living our lives in such a way that the light of our life is not determined by the darkness around us. That kind of example stands tall and true. It is noticed and gives light to all. And it is the kind of presence that is so needed in our world today.

Learning how to be a light to the world is a lifelong process. This week we begin the season of Lent a time for us to renew our commitment to being a light to the world. Lent, with all of its customs of prayer, fasting and works of charity are ways of making that commitment real in our lives.







So today, let us celebrate all that we have been able to accomplish in rebuilding our church. And then, this Wednesday, let us come together again and celebrate our commitment to live our lives us in such a way that others see goodness in our acts and give praise to God. Along the way we may encountered some unexpected surprises!

> Leaning into the journey of life Fr. Gene Schroeder

January Lottery Winners: St. Joe: \$750-Anna Mae Gutsell, \$300-Donald & Holly Maurer, \$200-Rockie Wolfe, \$100-Larry Happe. Mater Dei Tradition: \$10,000-Jimmy Alldredge, \$1,500 - Anonymous, \$1,000- Anonymous, \$500- Jon Orth





LENT BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 14



Ash Wednesday February 14 Mass at 7:30 am with distribution of Ashes Penance Service with distribution of Ashes

11:00 am and 7:00 pm This year, we will be following a much

older Catholic tradition of having ashes sprinkled on our heads.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

One of the ancient and traditional prayers during the season of Lent is The Stations of the Cross, also know as Via Crucis-The Way of the Cross. This prayer calls us to remember Jesus' Passion Death and Resurrection and to reflect on what it means for us to "take up our

cross and follow Jesus."

Each Tuesday during Lent, we will gather for Family Stations of the Cross from 6:00-6:30 at St. Joe Church. Bring the whole family to pray and reflect on Jesus' passion.

LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE Wednesday, March 20 at 7 pm Friday, March 22 at 11 am



Thanks....to all the folks who came to donate blood at our Blood Drive last Sunday. We collected 28 units of blood. Thanks to Imogene Bahel, Terry drove, Jenny & Jeff Puckett, and Donna Blankenberger for helping to coordinate this

event. Future parish blood drives are scheduled for April 14, August 7, and October 27.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM MASS: Joe Herr, Doug Schapker, Rosa Kissel (1903), Helen Buehner (1984), Patricia Koch (2011) Paulette Blaylock, Willard & Lillian Ennis Bob Ennis Carol & Marge Ennis, Betty Jo Alvey, Sam Mamula



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9 AM MASS: Ivan & Lila Simon, John & Theresia Simon Family, Wayne Frey, Ray Fischer, Dorothy Niemeier, John & Veronica (Koch) Hertel, Lillian Hertel, Mary Rose Engler, Margaret Jung, Mildred Weber, Bill & Joe Hertel, Anna Straub, James B. Straub, Esther Will, Mike Schaefer, Basil Mehringer, Bill Bennett, Don Burkham, For the people of our parish, Agatha Angermeier (1890), Cheryl Gries (1985), Mark Fleeger (2021)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6:30 PM MASS: Joseph Lenentz (1858), Dorthea Broermann (1880), William Rexing (1942)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: George (1946) & Katherine Hoefling, John (2015) & Brenda Bergwitz, Mary (2020) & William Kissel



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 **ASH WEDNESDAY**

7:30 AM SCHOOL MASS WITH DISTRIash Wednesday BUTION OF ASHES: Infant Schili (1889), Henry Grawe (1890), Anthony Reising (1925), Margory Thornton (1934), Joyce Riedford (1934), Blanch Harting (1949)

11:00 AM AND 7:00 PM PENANCE SERVICE—DISTRIBUTION **OF ASHES**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15 THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

NO MASS: Regina Urich (1861), Maria Lunkenheimer (1888)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

7:30 AM MASS: John Nau (1869), Anna (1954) & John Steckler, Clarence(1974) & Clara Baumgart, Matthew Kares (1978), Frank (1955) & Luella Jones, Sr. Mary Martha Baumgart (Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart, 2003), Theresa (2011) & Frank Arnold

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 PM MASS: Cyrilla Reker, Nicholas Bauer (1865), Christina Effinger (1899), Sr. Ildephonsa OSF (Anna Wolf, 1942), Edward Whiting (1958), Frank (1960) & Theresa Maurer, Jim (2011) & Dolores Niemeier



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 AM MASS: Matthew Kares Linda Elpers, Ray Fischer, John Reckelhoff, Jim & Dolores Niemeier, Mike Schaeffer, Bill Bennett, Don Burkam, Basil, Marie, Ali, Luke & Dennis Mehringer

10:30 AM MASS: Michael & Dick Wittgen, For the people of our par-

ish, Rosina Effinger (1886), Margaret Hillenbrandt (1902), Judy Barnett (1953), Donald Flick (2013)

STEWARDSHIP: The Lord's Way

In today's second reading, St. Paul urges the Corinthians to "do all for the glory of God." If we follow that advice in everything we do, we cannot help but be good stewards!



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Avery Frankenberger, CJ Martin, Beatrice, Peter, Paul, Bernadette & John Reckelhoff **OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

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HAITI STUDENTS/HIGHER EDUCATION	\$	1,200.00
HAITI FOOD FUND	\$	60.00
HAITI SEWING PROGRAM	\$	50.00
ST. VINCENT'S FOOD PANTRY	\$	5.00
PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH COLLECTION	\$	25.00
BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS COLLECTION	\$	30.00
FASTERN FUROPE COLLECTION	Ś	30.00

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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REBUILDING OUR CHURCH CAMPAIGN

TOTAL PLEDGED \$ 806,372 **RECEIVED TO DATE** \$ 534,885

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: Rose Weiss, Mandy Elpers (Rehabilitation Unit)

EVANSVILLE PROTESTANT HOME: Mary Lou Davis

PARKVIEW: Gene Ritter

Congratulations to Nicole & Dustin Paul on the birth of their daughter Delany Grace Paul

February 11: John Luigs

February 12: Brian Coomes, Craig Elpers, Waylon Frazier, Ray Hamner, Wil Harl, Samara McQuay, Kylie Mitchell,

Steve Scheller, Elli Wagner

February 13: Ann Craney, Kevin Luigs, Scott Marts, Sam Moore

February 14: Jane Aydt February 15: Mary Mayer

February 16: Emily Daugherty, Mia Link, **Hunter Stephens**

February 17: Brian Bates, Debra Clem, Jake Lannert, Blake Weidner

February 11: Rodney & Paula Baehl February 17: James & Shelly Ruedlinger

HAPPY



Please remember in your prayers Michael Wittgen, the brother of Jeff Wittgen who died recently. May God grant him eternal rest and may His peace be with his family and friends.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR HAITI....On Monday, February 26, join us for a day of prayer for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. That is our regular day for Eucharistic Adoration, so join us anytime from 7 am to 6:30 pm to spend some time in prayer in church. We will conclude the day with mass at 6:30 pm.



WHY GIVE UP TUFF FOR LENT?

Life, we come to understand, is not only about joy. It is about the power to endure what is not joyful as well. I remember quite clearly the day in grade school when my teacher put a large box on the corner of her desk and posters of starving children around the room. Lent was coming, she explained to us. We should give up candy and put the candy money we saved in the box for the missions. These were the poster

children we should be sacrificing to save.

It was a child's catechetical exercise, yes, but it carried with it spiritual messages enough to last for a lifetime. Clearly, we were being put on notice. There were things in life, other people in life, for which each of us was responsible, however young we were and whether we had any association with them or not. There were things in life so important, it seemed, that we would need to give up some things for ourselves in order to take care of the needs of others. And it all had something to do with God.

When you're young, the act of giving something up for Lent is an epochal moment. It involves a complete re-evaluation of what it means to be human. If life is not about permanent and continual self-satisfaction, what is it about? And why? How is it that the notion of bri-

dling the self can be as important as satisfying the self?

What becomes even clearer as the years go by is that this understanding of penance and sacrifice as part of what it means to be a spiritual person is one of

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the most ancient traditions in religious history. It is common to all religions; it is thousands of years old.

The ascetic is the person who sets out to subject the body to the spirit. Athletes do it to achieve physical development and somatic control. They give up food and time and physical comfort to conquer mountains and swim channels and win athletic competitions. Spiritual seekers do the same things, but they do them for a different reason. Their goal is to conquer themselves and develop their souls.

There is nothing passive about asceticism. It is the active giving of the self—physical and spiritual—in order to concentrate the soul, vise-like, on the center of life rather than on its peripherals. The ascetic knows that to become what we can become spiritually, some things—even good things, perhaps—must be forgone. It is not that good things must be forsaken; it is that they must be indulged in with balance. The Talmud says that "If a person has the opportunity to taste a new fruit and refuses to do so, he will have to account for that in the next world." The ascetic lives with the spiritual awareness that choosing between the good and the better is the discipline that makes us the best of what we set out to be. Asceticism is not about giving things up for their own sake. It is as much about achieving more life—another kind of life—as it is about giving it up.

-from The Liturgical Year by Joan Chittister (Thomas Nelson)

Coming Soon....

Learn the Fox Trot and Jitterbug Great Exercise Meet new friends Classes designed for beginners.

March 4, 11 & 18 6:30 - 8 pm in the gym Cost: \$30 donation with proceeds going

to St. Joe Church Ministries. Register and pay the first night of class in person, or register at https://forms.gle/eED3nexTRs3KwQ1V9. You may send your check to St. Joe (please mark Dance Class) or pay the first night.) Questions? Call Kathy Weber (812-449-0745)



L: (Lector) EM: (Eucharistic Ministers) WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 10-11 5 PM MASS: L: Toni Askins EM: Donald & Brandon Werner, Mary Kay Fehrenbacher,

Donna Niemeier

9 AM MASS SPECIAL MINISTERS
WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 17-18
5 PM MASS: L: Mike Reffett EM: Donald & Brandon Werner.

Mary Kay Fehrenbacher, Donna Niemeier

8 AM MASS: L: Josh Baehl EM: Kylie Frey, Stephanie Frey, Tom

Folz, Dolores Folz

10:30 AM MASS: L: Shane Wessel EM: Angie Will, Jane Scheller, Diane Bassemier, Danielle Welage



WOMEN'S RETREAT

REGISTER

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

That Man Is You —Wednesday 5:30—6:45 pm.

Bible Study Group, viewing episodes of The Chosen.

Wednesday 6:45 pm — 8 pm

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



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 be making the slaw on the Thursdays before the fish fry. 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.

VOTIVE LIGHT DONATIONS We now have a white box located near our votive candle stand where you can deposit your donations for lighting a votive candle. You no longer have to use the envelopes provided in the past. Suggested donation is \$5/candle.



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. Contact Jessica Reckelhoff for the podcast information.



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