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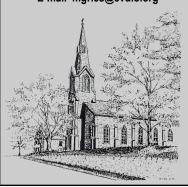
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WEEKEND MASS
SCHEDULE
Saturday—5 PM
Sunday—8 & 10:30 AM
SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILATION
SATURDAY 4-4:30 PM

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 ireckelhoff@evdio.org Nathan Winstead—Principal E-mail nwinstead@evdio.org Mary Gries—School Secretary E-mail mgries@evdio.org



MARCH 26, 2023 THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Dear friends,



So, there I was, sitting in the dentist chair for my twice yearly teeth cleaning. I had a wonderfully competent dental hygienist who took care of me. "Have you been flossing?" Ugh! Caught again! "You seem a bit anxious." Well, truth be told, I get that way when people take sharp and pointy objects and stick them in my mouth. I never quite understood why people always tell you not to scrape your teeth with sharp objects because it will ruin the enamel on your teeth. And then you go to the dentist and they use sharp objects to scrap the plague off your teeth! Oh well, another

mystery in life. When she finished, my dentist came it to do his exam. He knew about all the excitement happening in our parish with the roof being torn off our church. So he asks me, "What do you think God is trying to tell us?"

I have found that when most people ask this kind of question they think the answer is likely to have some negative overtones. A little bit like God telling us that this event is a warning and we had better get our act together or we're going to be in big trouble. I'm not sure why we think God acts this way. Maybe it is because, if we were God, we would respond this way.

Truth be told, I think God speaks to us in all sorts of ways and in all kinds of events. And while much of what God says can be challenging, I think God's words to us are always centered in mercy and compassion. "Do not be afraid." "I have called you as my own." "Before you were born, I knew you and held you in the palm of my hand." "I have come so that you might have life and have it in abundance."

Somehow this image of God often gets lost, and the demanding, judgmental image of God appears front and center. And one of the worst places is comes out is when we make judgments about ourselves. It seems the most important thing we can do for each other is to help them see themselves as God sees them. And God sees us as his beloved sons and daughters.

Here's something I came across recently. Western culture places great emphasis on being kind and compassionate to our friends, family and neighbors who are struggling...but not so when it comes to ourselves. When we make a mistake or fail in some way, we are more likely to hit ourselves over the head with a club than put a supportive arm around our own shoulder. Most likely, even the thought of comforting ourselves in this way seems absurd. And even when our problems stem from forces beyond our control, self-kindness/compassion is not a culturally valued response. Somewhere along the line, we get the message that strong individuals should be stoic and silent toward their own suffering...like John Wayne in a western.

Part of self-compassion means that we stop the constant self-judgment and disparaging internal commentary that most of us have come to see as normal. Self-kindness/compassion requires us to UNDERSTAND our foibles and failures instead of condemning them.

But self-kindness/compassion involves more than merely stopping self-judgment. It involves ACTIVELY comforting ourselves...responding just as we would to a dear friend in need. It means we allow ourselves to be emotionally moved by our own pain, stopping to say, "This is really difficult right now...how can I care for and comfort myself in this moment?" With self-kindness, we soothe and calm our troubled minds. We make a peace offering of warmth,

gentleness and compassion FROM ourselves to ourselves, so that true healing can occur.

Self-compassion is an incredibly powerful tool for dealing with difficult emotions...it can enhance our well-being. One of the most robust and consistent findings in the research literature is that people who are more self-compassionate tend to be less anxious and depressed.

Leaning into the journey of life Fr. Gene Schroeder

LENTEN COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

Wednesday March 29 at 7 pm Friday, March 31 at 11:00 am

As we prepare for the celebration of Holy Week, you are invited to come and join us for our Lenten Communal Penance Services this coming Wednesday at 7 pm and Friday at 11 am.

We will gather in our school gym for these services. During these services we will use share a reflection on the Stations of the Cross as our examination of conscience.

I am also available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation individually as well. Call me (812-499-9074) and we will arrange a time that is convenient

FIRST HE LOOKED CONFUSED

I could not lie anymore
so I started
to call my dog "God."
First, he looked
confused,
then he started smiling,
then he even danced.
I kept at it.
Now he doesn't
even bite.
I am wondering if this
might work on
people?

Tukaram





CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 PM MASS: Doug Schapker, Infant Fischer (1860), Marian Romati (1870), Catharine Trunk (1878), Philip Titzer (1919), Gertrude Smith (1955), Herman (1967) & Esther Hartweck, Mary (1972) & George Reising, Fr. Fred Niehaus (16th Pastor of St. Joe, 1992), Mildred (2019) & Clarence Rexing

SUNDAY, MARCH 26 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 AM MASS: Jeanette Jarboe, John Reckelhoff, Luke, Basil, Marie, Dennis & Alli Mehringer, Frank Will, Andy & Viola Will, Teresa Will, Rita Camp, Dolores Will, Kenneth, Brother Vincent CSC, Andrew, Jerry, Aloysius, & Neil Will 10:30 AM MASS: Anthony and Elizabeth Kempf, Virgil and Rosemary Spaetti, Florence and Charlie Osterman, Margaret and Cletus Wannemuehler, Art Kempf, Greg Kempf, Edgar Hartz, Sophia Drewis (1916), Infant Tepool (1916), Joseph Feudenberg (1931), Rosina (1939) & John Rexing

MONDAY, MARCH 27 **LENTEN WEEKDAY**

6:30 PM MASS: Joseph Weiss (1887), Anton (1913) & Elizabeth Schili, Rose (1950) & John Schmitt

TUESDAY, MARCH 28 **LENTEN WEEKDAY**

7:30 AM MASS: Catharine Hillenbrand (1902), Henry Rumade (1908), Lena (1957) & Valentine Schenk

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29 **LENTEN WEEKDAY**

7:30 AM MASS: Lambert Rexing (1873), Bernard Tepoehle (1888), Mary Briel (1996)

THURSDAY, MARCH 30 LENTEN WEEKDAY

NO MASS: Rosina Scholau (1868), Joan Will (1869), Infant Salzmann (1874), Leo Bender (1891), Rose (1955) & John, Carl Elpers (1967), Jeanette (2001) & Orville Hall

FRIDAY, MARCH 31 LENTEN WEEKDAY

NO MASS: Caroline (1950) & Frank Goebel, Mary (1965) & Charles Alsop, John (1993) & Leota (1993) Effing,

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 5:00 PM MASS: Darlene Martin, Don Barfield, Henry Hoefling (1889), Josephina Adler (1904), Josephine (1974) & Henry Niemeier. Patricia (1974) & John Kissel, Francis Kormeling

(1982), Janice (2017) & Bilkl Kempf, Albert (2012) & Aletha Vollman

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

8:00 AM MASS: Harry & Rosalie Elpers, Wilma & Joe Gumbel, Jeanette & Orville Hall, Jeannie Elpers, Kenneth & Bert Elpers, Aloys & Marie Elpers, Killian & Irene Baehl, Peggy Baehl, Joe & Dolores Elpers

10:30 AM MASS: Joe Straub, Ignatius Straub, Ada Straub, Rick Dile, Otilla (1964) & Henry Baehl, Leo (1975) & Alice Hillenbrand, Nancy (2019) and Lawrence Gumbel



STEWARDSHIP: The Lord's Way

In the first reading, Isaiah urges us in the name 🕻 of the Lord to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and clothe the naked. If we do so, he assures us, the Lord will hear and answer our cries for help in time of need.



HAPPY

March 19, 2023	\$ 16,060.32
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$ 19,692.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$ 688,692.23
BUDGET TO DATE	\$ 748,296.00
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	\$ 5.00
CHILDRENS COLLECTION	\$ 4.00

Thanks to our young stewards: Jarrett & Daxton Brown, Max & Ouinn Lavman **OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

HAITI COLLECTION HAITI STUDENTS/HIGHER EDUCATION	\$ 19.00
	\$ 720.00
HAITI FOOD FUND	\$ 260.00
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION	\$ 50.00

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

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

HERITAGE CENTER: Brenda Koester, Mary Lou Davis PREMIER NURSING CENTER (NEW HARMONY) Betty Fischer THE RETREAT AT LIESURE LIVING: Margaret Kafel

CYPRUS REHABILITATION CENTER (NEWBURGH): Steve Hasselbrinck

NORTH PARK NURSING CENTER: Marie Gumbel, Carl Kempf

GOOD SAMARTIAN: Doris Head RIVER POINTE: Keith & Beverly Jones

March 26: Shelly Collins, Jenny Wiley

March 27: Jenny Elpers, Hailey Jones, Ashley Jung, BIRTHDAY Hannah Kissel, Lisa Lannert, Andy Reckelhoff

March 28: Eric Douglas, Jon Locklar,

March 30: Mary Lou Davis, Weslee Dick, Ellyson Fehrenbacher,

Linda Kempf, Ellie Luigs, Paul Murray March 31: Bridget Arnold, Bruce Woodward

April 1: Jack Dalrymple, Kevin Pennington, Morris Schiff



EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS Once again we are inviting you to remember your loved ones at Easter. Send your contribution along with the names of the people you want to remember to the parish office (through the collection or through the mail) by April 3rd. The names will be published in the Easter Bulletin.

UNTIL WE ARE READY ONCE AGAIN TO RETURN TO OUR CHURCH, OUR WEEKDAY DAY MASS AND MONDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION will be held in our "new" rectory chapel. Enter through the front door. WEEKEND MASSES WILL CONTINUE TO BE IN THE GYM. COME HELP US SET UP FOR MASS...Friday at 3 pm. Come and join us. Many hands make the work guick and easy for all of us.

COLLEGE STUDENT



Join us as we support our college students by preparing a care package for them as they prepare for semester exams. College Care Packages are available in church this weekend for pick up. Please return the TIMETO ARTHE care packages no later that Sunday, April 16. Thank you for your continued support of this project. Let's

keep all of our college youth in prayer through their final exams.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE THIS WEEK WEDNESDAY AT 7 PM AND FRIDAY AT 22 AM

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 and seeing the real presence of God in all things.



And then we cannot think that political programs or the force of the law will be enough to avoid behaviors that affect the environment, because when it is the culture that is corrupted and no objective truth or universally valid principles is recognized anymore, the laws will be understood. only as arbitrary impositions and obstacles to be avoided.

THE NEED TO DFEND THE JOB

In any formulation of integral ecology, which does not exclude the human being, it is indispensable to integrate the value of work, so wisely developed by Saint John Paul II in his Encyclical <u>Laborem exercens</u>. We remember that, according to the biblical account of creation, God placed the human being in the newly created garden. Thus the workers and artisans "ensure eternal creation" In reality, human intervention that favors the prudent development of creation is the most adequate way to take care of it, because it implies acting as an instrument of God to help bring out the potential that he himself has inscribed in things: "The Lord has created medicines from the earth, the sensible man does not despise them "



If we try to think what are the adequate relationships of the human being with the world around him, the need arises for a correct conception of work, because, if we talk about the relationship of the human being with things, the question arises about the meaning and purpose of human action on reality. We are not just talking about manual work or land work, but about any activity that involves some transformation of the existing, from the elaboration of a social study

to the project of a technological development.

Any form of work presupposes an idea about the relationship that the human being can or must establish with the other by himself. Christian spirituality, together with the contemplative wonder for creatures that we find in St. Francis of Assisi, has also developed a rich and healthy understanding of work,

We also gather something from the long monastic tradition. At first it favored in a certain way the escape from the world, trying to get away from urban decay. For this reason the monks sought the desert, convinced that it was the right place to recognize the presence of God. Subsequently, St. Benedict of Nursia wanted his monks to live in community, combining prayer and study with manual work (*Ora et labora*). This introduction of manual labor imbued with spiritual meaning proved to be revolutionary. We learned to seek maturation and sanctification in the intertwining of recollection and work. This way of living work makes us more capable of caring and respecting the environment, it imbues our relationship with the world with healthy sobriety.

Human beings man is the author, the center and the goal of all economic and social life. Nonetheless, when people lose the ability to contemplate and respect, the conditions are created for the sense of work to be distorted.

TO BE CONTINUED



Our fish frys this year were a great success.
Once again we saw a great group of folks coming together last week to prepare and serve the meal for

our second fish fry. We sold about 1040 dinners last week. Combined with our first fish fry, we sold 2054 fish dinners. Our gross income for both fish frys was \$28,829. We were also able to give \$370 to our Haiti Food Fund from the sale of left over potato salad and slaw. Look for a complete report in our May newsletter.

HELP US GET OUR CEMETERY READY FOR THE LAWN MOWING SEASON

To help us get ready for our lawn mowing season, we ask that you remove any decorations around your cemetery tombstones that might get in the way of our lawn mowing crews. Remember that flowers and plaques must be at-



tached securely to the tombstone or flower vases. Shepherd's crooks, statues, balloons, and the like are not permitted as they are a hazard to our mowing crews.

We believe it is im-

portant for all those who are placing flowers on the graves of their loved ones to periodically check them. Thanks for your help in keeping our cemetery a place of honor and respect as well as a safe place for our lawn mowing crews.

WE NEED ADDITONAL HELP WITH OUR LAWN MOWING CREWS

We have five different crews. But in order for them to get the job done, they need 7-8 people per crew. Right now, several of our crew only have 5 people in the crew. We're hoping some people can step forward to offer their help. We provide all the equipment. We just need folks to help. Maybe you could be one of these people. Call the parish office (812-963-3273), or Randy Tenbarge (812-205-5139) to offer your help or for more information. You'll help our parish save money, and you'll help keep our grounds looking nice.

We are also looking for two additional people who would be willing to mow the area just west of cemetery and around the storage building, using our riding lawn mower. We plan on mowing these areas every two weeks. We have a regular group of volunteers who mow the ball fields and other areas of the campus using the riding lawn mower, but this takes 3-4 hours to complete. Having additional people to mow the area aron the storage building and west of the cemetery, will be a big help. Call the parish office (812-963-3273), or Randy Tenbarge (812-205-5139) to offer your help or for more information.

Special thanks to **Jerry Happe** who has offered his time to look after all of our mowing equipment and to **Randy Tenbarge** who has been helping to coordinate our mowing crews schedules.

EASTER EGG HUNT SATURDAY

APRIL 8 at 10 am Rain or Shine

Candy and a Special Appearance by the

Candy and a Special Appearance by the Easter Bunny. Open to children in 3rd grade and younger. Come join the fun!!



Having considered all the facts, be joyful!

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