

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

E-mail gschroeder@evdio.org

Julie Kempf—Secretary

E-mail jkempf@evdio.org

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Director of Liturgy

E-mail kgilles@evdio.org

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Coordinator of

Religious Education

E-mail jreckelhoff@evdio.org

Nathan Winstead—Principal

E-mail nwinstead@evdio.org

Mary Gries—School Secretary

E-mail mgries@evdio.org



APRIL 30, 2023 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Dear friends,

Today we welcome twelve of our young parishioners who are joining us for the first time at the table of the Lord to receive their First Communion. What a great day this is for them and for us. And what a great day for their parents. They have been and continue to be the first teachers of their children in the

ways of faith.

Sometimes we make religion so heady and full of grand terms that one wonders whether even God knows what we are talking about. Jesus actually made things very simple. And he didn't do a lot of explaining either. He was big into eating. The gospel tells the story of feeding the five thousand with a few fish and some loaves of bread. And he seemed to take endless opportunities to feed the disciples, culminating in the Last Supper. What he did was simple. He took a very ordinary human action—eating and drinking—and he took some very ordinary food—bread and wine—and gave it to the disciples to eat. But he took these simple human gestures and simple items of food and then said something pretty remarkable. In effect he said to the disciples, "I'm using these ordinary gestures and ordinary things to remind you that I am in everyone and everything. So when you take this and eat and drink it, it is a way of reminding you that I am in everything and I am present everywhere. Now go and remember that as you go about your day to day life.

We call this "believing in the real presence"—that Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine we consume when we come to communion. But it doesn't stop with just the bread and wine. To believe in the real presence is to believe that God is everywhere—in the beatify of the nature, in the simple gesture of sitting with someone who is dying, in the group of kids who are playing a baseball game, in the person who takes my food order at McDonald's, in the neighbor across the street, and in the person I have to work with that tends to see the world in a whole different way than I do and, because of this, continues to baffle my mind! And the list goes on and on. Can we see it? And if we can see it, can we respond to it with kindness and compassion?

All in all, pretty heady stuff! So today, let's just celebrate with our young children. Let's make beautiful memories together. Let's join in congratulating and celebrating with our young first communicants today. Then, let's come together again and again, to be fed at the Table of the Lord. When we do so, the way of life we proclaim through these beliefs will become second nature to us and to them as well.



Out of something that appears to be tragic can come many kinds of blessings. We're learning that over and over again as we deal with the aftermath of our church roof being torn off. Here's the latest example. This week a young man named Jackson Nguyen came to tell us how he has helped us. Jackson is the son of Carrie (Schnautz) and Jon Nguyen. He is a student at Resurrection School. As an assignment he was given \$5 with the instructions to use it to do something for others. Jackson wanted to do something to help put a new roof on our church.

So, he started invited people to join him in making contributions. Soon that \$5 turned into \$1,000. With the help of his dad, he was able to match this money with an additional \$750. Thank you Jackson! We are blessed indeed!!

Leaning into the journey of life

Fr. Gene Schroeder

P.S. Thanks to Lillian Traylor and Terry Drone who helped with our blood drive last Sunday. And thanks to our faithful mowing crews who work so hard each week. Thanks also to Jerry Happe for keeping all our equipment in such great shape!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS

Mikayla Bates

Lizzie Carlisle

Rylan Dick

Jace Eickhoff

Ruth Harper

Logan Kassenbrock

Logan Kissel

Ella Paul

Gabe Reffett

Henry Schuble

Braxton TenBarge

Libby Weber



THE DOOR

Go and open the door.

maybe outside there's

a tree, or a wood,

a garden,

or a magic city.

Go and open the door.

Maybe the dog's rummaging.

Maybe you'll see a face,

or an eye,

or the picture

of a picture.

Go and open the door.

If there's a fog

it will clear.

Go and open the door.

Even if there's only

the darkness ticking,

even if there's only

the hollow wind,

even if nothing is there,

go and open the door.

At least

there'll be

a draft.

--Miroslav Holub

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, APRIL 29
THE FOURTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER

5:00 PM MASS: Eric Seib,
Maria Schili (1888), Bertha
(1955) & Frank Gerteisen

SUNDAY, APRIL 30
THE FOURTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER

8:00 AM MASS: Robert & Margie Harpenau, Dean
Trowbridge, Paul Kroeger, Marlon & Ella Mae Kroeger, Ernest
& Cecelia Kroeger Ed & Carrie Helfrich, Joe & Eleanor
Lasher, Lee & Ollie Aders, Philip Lasher, Russel, Bernard,
Joe, Kenny, Murl & Gerald Aders, Ruth Werne and Joyce Mur-
phy.

10:30 AM FIRST COMMUNION MASS: Rick Dile, Joe & Mag
Eickhoff, Harvey Klenck, Joel Eickhoff, Andrew Dick, Wilma &
Gene Sunderman

MONDAY, MAY 1
EASTER WEEKDAY

6:30 PM MASS: John Goebel (1936), Marcia Adcock (1972),
Elizabeth (1994) & Joseph Woods, Patricia Fleeger (1997),
Benjamin Mossberger (1997), William Knight (2014)

TUESDAY, MAY 2
SAINT ATHANASIUS

7:30 AM MASS: Herman & Veronica Behnen, Beth Hoefling
(1955), Joseph (1981) & Agnes Scheller, Dale Titzer (1982)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3
SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES

7:30 AM MASS: Charlie & Carole Reising, Joseph Frank
(1880), Fr. John Urlich (1939), Susan Gardner (2009)

THURSDAY, MAY 4
EASTER WEEKDAY

NO MASS: Rose Strott (1936), Joseph (1964) & Barbara
Botzum

FRIDAY, MAY 5
EASTER WEEKDAY

8:15 AM SCHOOL MASS WITH CHILDREN & GRANDPARENTS:
Infant Seibert (1862), Eva Freppon (1867), Infant Freppon
(1867), Martha Gumble (1931), Robert (1986) & Rita (Wells)
Englert, Mark Folz (2015)

SATURDAY, MAY 6
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00 PM MASS: Darlene Martin, Don Barfield, August Kraft
(1988), Gilbert (2000) & Albert Fehrenbacher (2000), Goef-
frey David, Denny Fehrenbacher, Jim & Avila Fehrenbacher,
Wilbur & Marian Fehrenbacher, Catherine & Clarence Miller,
Bernard Ray, Peter & Josephine Fehrenbacher, Mildred &
Tommy Wallis, Marlon & Eljean Solomon, June & Rex Rexing,
Bud & Eileen Bengert

SUNDAY, MAY 7
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 AM MASS: Doug Schapker, Joe James, Dolores Elpers,
Louise & James Wedding, Stephen & Golda Mae Wood,
James Wedding, Jr., RD Wedding Jr. Pat Wedding, Michael
Brown

10:30 AM MASS: Eric Seib, Anna
Straub, Leroy & Freddie Weiss,
Shelli Adams, Ray Straub, James
Emge, Rick Dile, Buddy Parkin-
son, Jerry Parkinson, Rosa Brack
(1896), Pat Effinger (1945), Tho-
mas (1980) & Sophia Kelle, Re-
becca Rose Scheller (2015)



STEWARDSHIP: *The Lord's Way*

Jesus says, "I came that they may have life, and
have it to the full." Good stewards are grateful
for the gift of life and joyfully share their abun-
dance with others.



April 23, 2023	\$ 9,216.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$ 19,692.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$ 773,527.18
BUDGET TO DATE	\$ 846,756.00
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	\$ 55.00
CHILDRENS COLLECTION	\$ 4.00

Thanks to our young stewards: Jarrett & Daxton Brown,
Max & Quinn Layman

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

HAITI COLLECTION	\$ 225.00
HAITI STUDENTS/HIGHER EDUCATION	\$ 380.01
HAITI FOOD FUND	\$ 20.00
VLADIVOSTOK MISSION	\$ 170.00
ST. VINCENT'S FOOD PANTRY	\$ 35.00
HOME MISSIONS COLLECTION	\$ 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:

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,
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

GOOD SAMARTIAN: Doris Head

RIVER POINTE: Beverly Jones

Congratulations to Morgan and Hailey (Craig) Jones
on the birth of their son, Crew

May 1: James Ambrose, Sophie Fehrenbacher,
Taylor Kempf, Sonja Luigs, Gail Maurer

May 2: Abby Elpers

May 3: Allyson Angermeier, Emma Brown,
Margaret Coomes, Kristie Elsner, Danielle Welage

May 4: Brian Elpers, Lee Kissel, Austin Polk, Olivia Polk,
Kimber Thacker, Schelly Weidner, Brett Willis

May 5: Reese Grossman, Michelle Kirk, Erin Macke, Patti Wittgen

May 6: Robert Angermeier, Harrison Manger, Joshua Price,
Matt Singer

April 30: Terry & Julie Fehrenbacher, Joe & Julie Greubel,
Dave & Charlotte Schlichting, Matthew & Mercedes Gumbel,

May 1: Clarence & Julie Keller, Mark & Nancy Schmitt

May 4: Larry & Henrietta Happe

May 5: Brad & Autumn Dick

May 6: Zach & Jennifer Fehrenbacher,
Vince & Judy Werner, John & Bonnie Bittner

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



Please remember in your prayers *Louise Wedding*,
the grandmother of Amy & Carrie Brown, *Eleanor*
Lasher, the mother of Dan Lasher, *Buddy Parkin-*
son, the father of Megan Altstadt and Becky Ra-
ben, and the mother of Fr. Alaine Prophet, the for-
mer Pastor of our sister parish in Haiti, St. James.
who died last week. May God grant them eternal rest and may
His peace be with all the members of their families.



JOIN US EACH SUNDAY
AT THE 10:30 MASS

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.



When we talk about "sustainable use" we must always introduce a consideration on the regeneration capacity of each ecosystem in its various sectors and aspects. It should be remembered that ecosystems intervene in the sequestration of carbon dioxide, in the purification of water, in the fight against diseases and infestations, in the composition of the soil, in the decomposition of waste and in many other services that we forget or ignore. When they realize this, many people become aware again of the fact that we live and act starting from a reality that has been previously given to us, which is prior to our abilities and our existence.



On the other hand, economic growth tends to lead us to do things without thinking much about the consequences. For this, an economic ecology is necessary, capable of inducing us to consider reality in a broader way. Indeed, environmental protection must be an integral part of the development process and cannot be considered in isolation.

Today the analysis of environmental problems is inseparable from the analysis of human, family, work, urban contexts, and from the relationship of each person with himself, which generates a certain way of relating to others and to the environment.

There is an interaction between ecosystems and between the different worlds of social reference, and thus it is once again demonstrated that the whole is superior to the part.

If everything is related, even the state of health of the institutions of a society has consequences for the environment and for the quality of human life: Every injury to solidarity and civic friendship causes environmental damage. In this sense, social ecology is necessarily institutional and progressively reaches different dimensions ranging from the primary social group, the family, to international life, passing through the local community and the nation. Within each social level and between them, the institutions that regulate human relations develop.

Anything that harms them has harmful effects, such as loss of freedom, injustice and violence. Several countries are governed by a precarious institutional system, at the cost of the suffering of the population and for the benefit of those who profit from this state of affairs. Both within the administration of the state and in the various expressions of civil society, or in the relations of the inhabitants with each other, illegal behaviors are recorded with excessive frequency. Laws may be drafted correctly, but they often remain a dead letter.

Is it therefore possible to hope that legislation and regulations relating to the environment are really effective? We know, for example, that countries with clear legislation for the protection of forests continue to remain silent witnesses of its frequent violation. Furthermore, what happens in one region directly or indirectly influences other regions.

Thus, for example, the consumption of drugs in affluent societies causes a constant or increasing demand for products that come from impoverished regions, where behavior is corrupted, lives are destroyed and the environment is degraded.

TO BE CONTINUED



THE MONTH OF MAY IS TRADITIONALLY KNOWN AS THE MONTH OF MARY.

Here are some special ways to celebrate this month.

- Join us in praying the rosary twenty minutes before each of the weekend masses. We will begin at 4:40 pm on Saturday and 7:40 am and 10:10 am.
- Attend a pilgrimage to the Monte Casino Shrine at St. Meinrad which are held each Sunday in May beginning at 1 pm (2 pm CST). The pilgrimages begin with an opening hymn and a short sermon, followed by a rosary procession. The service ends with the Litany of the Blessed Virgin and a hymn.
- Join in a family rosary with the members of the "That Man Is You" faith sharing group. They will be held on the first Wednesday of Month (May thru August) at 5:30 pm in the school meeting room.



ALTAR SOCIETY SPRING PIZZA

PARTY THURSDAY MAY 11

The Altar Society is inviting you to join them for their informal Spring Dinner Pizza Party on Thursday, May 11th at 6:00 pm in the Meeting Room. Come and learn about the work of the Altar Society, enjoy some great food and meet some wonderful people. **Make your reservation by May 8th.** Call Susie Schapker at 812-483-4799 or Donna Dippel at 812-963-5911.

COME ENJOY A GREAT FRIED CHICKEN DINNER



THURSDAY, MAY 25
DRIVE THRU
CARRYOUT ONLY
5 – 6:30 PM

PRE-SOLD TICKETS ONLY AVAILABLE
FROM BASEBALL PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS
PROCEEDS BENEFIT ST JOE COMMUNITY BASEBALL PROGRAM

COMING OUR WAY....

RUMMAGE
SALE

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
JUNE 9 & 10

JUNE 19-22
8:30 -- 11:30



We will be gathering at Resurrection School. Children entering Preschool-4th Grade are welcome to attend, and students entering 5th grade-college are welcome to help. Contact **essica Reckelhoff** (812)-598-1151 or jreckelhoff@evdio.org to register and for information.

HOLIDAY WORLD TRIP--JUNE 7

Incoming 6th-outgoing 8th Graders
Contact **Jessica** to register
812-598-1151 jreckelhoff@evdio.org



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