

THE CARPENTER

NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOSEPH PARISH

6202 W. ST. JOSEPH ROAD EVANSVILLE, IN 47720

CELEBRATING OUR 182ND YEAR

AUGUST 2023

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END OF THE YEAR REPORT TO THE PARISH JULY 1, 2022—JUNE 31, 2023

Fr. Gene Schroeder
PASTOR

We have come to the end of our 182nd year as a parish. In many ways the life of our parish this past year was filled with ordinary events—gathering at prayer each week, taking care of our buildings, providing formation opportunities to grow in our faith. But for most of us, this year will be remembered as the year the tornado tore the roof off of our church. As I write this, we are in the midst of rebuilding our church and all the details that this involves. But while this has dominated our efforts these past few months, the life of our parish continued.



All that we have done in our parish this past year has centered on our common prayer. Each week we have come together for Mass to be nourished with the life of Jesus. We have gathered for Eucharistic Adoration praying for the sick and those in need and praying for vocations. We celebrated four weddings, eight baptisms, and twelve funerals. We renewed our baptismal commitment as we welcomed four people into the church at Easter. We celebrated with seventeen children as they received their First Communion, and we celebrated the gift of the Holy Spirit with twelve young men and women through Confirmation. These efforts, under the guidance of Kristan Gilles, our Director of Liturgy, have been blessed by the sharing of many people as Ministers of Communion, Lectors, Cantors, Greeters, and Ushers. We have been blessed with Ministers of Communion who have faithfully brought the Eucharist to our homebound parishioners and those in hospitals and nursing homes.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Under the leadership of Jessica Reckelhoff, our DRE, we

continued to gather each Sunday for our Family Religious Education program. This program allows students and parents to spend time reflecting together on a different aspect of our Catholic Faith. In addition to classes, parents and stu-

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READY TO BEGIN A NEW YEAR

Mrs. Kelsey Meier
PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that we are almost ready to the start of the 2023-2024 school year. The teachers and staff have been working hard to prepare for a wonderful year ahead. We are so excited to welcome back our

returning students, families, and staff, as well as the new students, families, and staff members joining us. This summer the school is undergoing a deep cleaning of the floors and several classrooms are getting a new coat of paint.

One of the other projects that we hope will be finished by the beginning of the school year is the installation of security gates on the playground area south of the school. I know that making this area safe when our children are using this area for recess has been a big concern. As with everything that is new, it will take a little bit of adjustment on everyone's part in the coming weeks to make sure this works out the way we would like it to. The money to pay for this improvement comes from a school safety grant from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Our PTO has also contributed a \$7,000 matching fund for this project. They have also provided some money to help do some touch up painting in the cafeteria as well. We are truly thankful for their efforts as well as the many volunteers who have made this possible.

I am happy to tell you that we will also have some new faces among our teaching staff this year. Mrs. Jessica Kuester has accepted the position of Art and PE teacher. Mrs. Mallory Hoefling, who taught Art and PE last year was offered a similar position at Holy Cross. It was hard for her to turn that job offer down as it would mean she was just a few minutes away from where she lives. Mrs. Hoefling has been a great blessing to the St. Joe School community and while we understand her reasons for leaving, we will miss her. So, as we give thanks for the gift she has been for us and will surely be for the school community of Holy Cross, we also are excited to welcome Mrs. Kuester and the gifts she will bring in her role with us. Jessica comes to us from Westside Catholic School with several years of teaching experience. Before she joined Westside Catholic two years ago, she spent several years in the EVSC at Stockwell and Glenwood.

We're also happy to welcome Mrs. Candance McNabb as a resource teacher. She is taking the place of Mrs. Stephanie Tanner who will be teaching second grade. Candance previously worked in the EVSC school system and also worked at Riley Hospital.

As we get ready to kick off the new year, we want to let you know about our Back to School Bash will be held on Monday, August 7th from 5:00-7:00 PM. Students may drop off supplies during the Bash. Before the Bash begins, please join us for Registration from 4:00-5:00 to take care of any paperwork, payments, or needs for the start of the school year.

Although I have only been a part of the Saint Joe community for a short time, I have truly witnessed the generosity, love, and servantship that this community is made of. Thank you all for making me feel so welcomed! We can't wait to see everyone soon!

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Living the Faith, Together A year of Faith Filled Opportunities for the Whole Family

SUNDAY MORNING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday Morning Religious Education or "Family Class" will begin on August 20th at 9:00 am. We will meet two Sundays a month for instruction and quarterly for a service opportunity. Classes are for students in grades K-12 and for adult parents. Contact Jessica Reckelhoff to register. Registration will take place on Sunday, August 6th after the 8:00 and 10:30 am Masses.

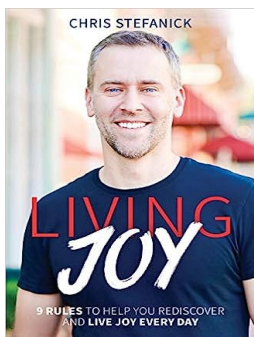


WOMENS RETREAT

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 for information and/or to register.



Mrs. Jessica Reckelhoff
Religious Education Coordinator
email jreckelhoff@evdio.org
812-598-1151 CELL
812-963-3273 OFFICE



WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY GROUP

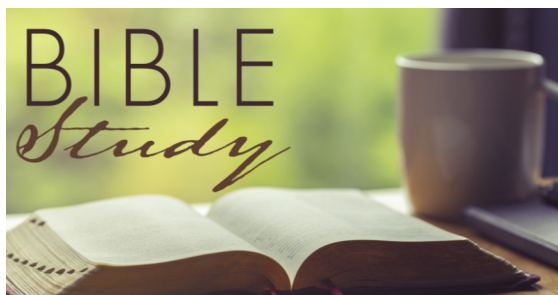
Women's Book Study: three discussion gatherings at St. Joe Inn. October 24th, November 30th, and December 14th; all at 6:00 pm. We will be reading *Living Joy* by Chris Stefanick. Contact Jessica Reckelhoff to reserve a copy. If you aren't interested in the meetings, but still want the book, just let me know and I can save one for you!

THAT MAN IS YOU

Men, mark your calendars. *That Man Is You!* begins on Wednesday evenings this September. *That Man Is You!* combines scripture, solid secular research, and a little fun to address the pressures and temptations facing men in our modern culture. It seeks to form authentic leaders who will be capable of transforming homes and society. See the parish bulletin for more information in the coming weeks, or contact Rodney Baehl, Steve Jung, or Andy Reckelhoff if you are interested in being part of the planning and leading team!



BIBLE STUDY GATHERING



the school meeting room, and the group will be led by Paula Baehl. Stay tuned to the bulletin for study materials and start date.

Our yearly Bible Study will begin this September 2023. The group will meet on Wednesdays from 6:45-7:45 pm in



INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

These sessions, also known as RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) are open to those who want to learn more about our Catholic Faith tradition. They are also open to folks who are already catholic but would like to learn more about our faith tradition

What am I looking for?

How can I become part

of something bigger than myself?

What is the meaning of my life?

How can I be a better person?

Does God have something to say to me?

What is the right path for me in life?

How can I make a difference in this world?

What can I do about the loneliness I feel?

How can I come to know God's love?

If you are asking these questions or questions like them, or think you may be interested... join us. We will begin on Sunday, September 17th at 9:00 in the school meeting room. If you want to just come and inquire, please feel free to join us on the 17th to see what RCIA is all about. Contact Fr. Gene Schroeder, (812-499-9074), Tom Blythe (812 440-3563), Sr. Bridget Arnold, or Jessica Reckelhoff for more information.

JOIN US FOR SOULCORE: PRAYER and EXERCISE

Soul Core Rosary one Saturday a month beginning in January at 8:00 am. January 13th, February 10th, March 23rd, April 13th, and May 11th. Core strengthening exercise alongside the rosary! Bring an exercise mat



and a bottle of water. Meet on the school playground, or, if the weather is unfavorable, we will be in the school gym. Contact Jessica Reckelhoff if you are interested.

PRAYING THE ROSARY

We have a long standing tradition of praying the rosary before the 8:00 Sunday morning Mass...expanding on this during the months of October and May, we will pray the rosary before each Weekend Mass; for the 5:00 Saturday Mass rosary will begin at 4:40, for the 8:00 am Sunday Mass, rosary will begin at 7:40, and for the 10:30 am Sunday Mass, rosary will begin at 10:10. If you would like to lead one of the rosaries before Mass, contact Jessica Reckelhoff!



Among them are St. Meinrad Archabbey (www.saintmeinrad.org/re retreats); Sisters of St Benedict at Ferdinand (www.thedome.org/spiritual-enrichment); the St. Louis Jesuit Retreat Center (www.whretreat.org) and the Sisters of Providence in Terre Haute (spsmw.org/spirituality-prayer). Check out any of these websites for more information.

ON-LINE RESOURCES

st.joeco.org/on-line resources

Our parish website contains an incredible amount of information for people to access. You can, of course, access our parish website through your desktop or laptop computer. But more and more, people access information from websites through their smart phone. And our website is designed to work well with smart phones. Here are some things you can find our parish website.

You can find information about Pope Francis. A simple click on our website and you can listen to the sermons he gives each morning. You can also access the official website of the Vatican where you can read the talks and letters Pope Francis gives including his weekly audiences. You can also be a part of Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network.



What's Happening with Pope Francis

You can pray the rosary, have access to reflections on the readings at Mass each Sunday through the Word Among Us and First Impressions from Fr. Jude Siciliano.

theWORD among us®
The Spirit of Catholic Living

You can also access **FOR YOUR MARRIAGE** where you will find information about dating and being engaged, married life and family life and parenting.

FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

You also have the chance to access Franciscan Media. There you will find daily meditations, saint of the day reflections as well as resources for children and family.

Franciscan MEDIA
Live in love. Grow in faith.

You can also find reflections from Fr. Ron Rohlheiser, Philip Gulley, Sr. Joan Chittister, and Fr. Richard Rohr. Through such invitations as "Monasteries of the Heart," an online movement sharing Benedictine Spirituality with contemporary people, and the Center for Action and Contemplation With each of these you will have the access to weekly and daily meditations, reflections on scripture readings, various online retreats, study groups, and seminars and various podcasts on different subjects relating to our spiritual journey.



Center for Action and Contemplation



Monasteries of the Heart

All this is a kind of spiritual smorgasbord. We are all at different places on our spiritual journey. There are things listed here that will appeal to some folks and not to others. But there is sure to be something for everyone here. Check it out: stjoeco.org/on-line resources

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation: Students entering their sophomore year of high school can begin attending Confirmation Classes leading up to the Rite of Confirmation on April 11, 2024. There will be a parent meeting on Sunday, August 13th from 9:00-9:45 in the St. Joe School meeting room. Class information will be discussed at this meeting. Please contact Jessica Reckelhoff



if you have any questions.

MAKE A CURSILLO WEEKEND

Cursillo is a lay movement for spiritual life within the Church to make the world more Christ-like. The method of the movement is to form small groups of Christians who meet in a friendship group to share their lives as Christians. A four-day encounter is a part of the movement that prepares the Christian to live out his or her faith. There are two Cursillo weekends for Men and Women coming up.



MEN'S WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 7-10
WOMEN'S WEEKEND OCTOBER 26-29

St. Joseph is blessed to have a large number of individuals and married couples who have made a Cursillo weekend. They are happy to share their experiences with you. Call the Parish Office (812-963-3273) for more information.

TEC (TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST) WEEKEND



TEC weekends have begun again. TEC is a three-day retreat experience for High School Juniors through age 21. It is an opportunity to make new friends, experience your faith in a different way, and have some fun. Find out what everyone is talking about. Contact Jessica Reckelhoff or anyone who has made a TEC weekend.

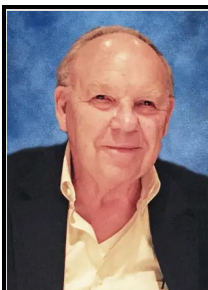
FAMILY FUN EVENTS

There will be many opportunities for Family Events this Year, beginning with a **Winter Family Potluck and Games Night** in the school cafeteria on December 9th after the 5:00 Mass.



RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

There are many occasions for individual and couples' retreats through the parish. Individuals coordinate some and others are coordinated through the Parish. There are several retreat centers in our area that schedule retreats for groups and individuals.



REMEMBERING
Leonard Angermeier
 December 2, 1935 - June 26, 2023

Leonard was born on December 2, 1935, one of eight children born to Oscar and Wilfrieda (Rexing) Angermeier. His siblings, Sr. Carol Ann, Lucille, Rita, Mary Lou, Br. Andrew and Hank preceded him in death. He has one brother, Walter who lives in Indianapolis.

Leonard's family were longtime members of St. Joseph Parish. Leonard attended grade school here and then graduated from Mater Dei High School in 1953, the first class to attend all four years of high school at the new Mater Dei High School. Leonard also attended the Mechanical Arts School (later to be known as North High School) where he learned the tool and die trade.

Leonard worked at Windsor Plastics for a time before starting his own company, Accurate Tool and Engineering which he operated for forty-five years.

The love of Leonard's life was his wife Susann. The first time he saw Susann, Leonard was smitten! "She was 14 at the time, and she was walking down the sidewalk in front of the convent on St. Joe Road. She was wearing a beautiful brown dress and I thought she was the prettiest girl I had ever seen." It would take another eight years, but Leonard was persistent and they were married at St. Benedict's Church on May 20, 1961. "She told me at the end of her life that she could not have found a better husband," Leonard remembered. And that pretty much summed up his feelings as well.

Leonard and Susann built a home on Neu Road close to where he had grown up. There they welcomed two children into their family, a daughter Cindy and a son Stan. Even with the demands of running a business, his children remember that he always had time to be part of their activities. "He was always our biggest supporter in all the endeavors we took part in.

When he wasn't working, Leonard enjoyed going fishing and sharing that passion with his children. Later in life, Leonard and Susann enjoyed traveling throughout the United States as well as trips to Venezuela and Spain.

One of the other passions in Leonard's life was his study of the sacred scriptures. For over twenty-five years, he faithfully attended Bible Study classes led by Fr. Don Dilger. Through the years he developed a good friendship with Fr. Dilger and he and Susann often shared meals together with him. Leonard always had questions to ask. We remember him as a person who held some pretty strong views and was not above sharing those views with others. Next to his love for Susann and his children was his love for his kitten. And his most ardent wish was that when he died he would join Susann and his kitten in heaven.

Through the years Leonard devoted much of his time to caring for Susann who faced many health challenges through the years. For Leonard, it was simply a labor of love.

In 2020 Leonard and Susann moved to Fishers, Indiana to be near their son, Stan. They lived in an assisted living community and Leonard was able to continue to care for Susann. Her death in September of 2022 left a big hole in Leonard's life. Leonard died very peacefully on June 26. Leonard's faith, which had always been a great consolation to him throughout his life, enable him to embrace this final journey with grace and dignity. We give thanks for the gift Leonard was to his family and to our parish. We pray now that he will now experience the fullness of life in the kingdom of heaven.

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dents also participated in special service opportunities at some of our local nursing homes and homeless shelters. Each Sunday we provided an opportunity for the young children of our parish to gather for Children's Liturgy of the Word. This gave them the chance to talk about the Sunday scripture readings at a level they could understand.

We provided formation sessions for our high school young men and women as they prepared to be confirmed by Bishop Siegel last January. We also provided formation sessions for the young children who celebrated First Reconciliation in February and First Communion in April. Throughout the year, members of our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) met with several individuals and led them as they were baptized and received into the Catholic Faith. This past June, we worked in conjunction with Resurrection Parish to provide an opportunity for the young children of our parish to participate in Vacation Bible School.

Members of the parish gathered for Bible Study Groups, "That Man is You" faith sharing group for men and book study groups. Members of the parish also took advantage of the opportunity for weekend retreats here locally and at other retreat centers in the tri-state area. Several members of the parish made a Cursillo Weekend and other members of the parish served as members of the team putting on the Cursillo Weekend. Likewise, other young members of the parish participated in a TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) weekend and the Source and Summit Retreat.

We continued to keep in touch with the 80+ members of our parish who are in college by providing a care package of assorted goodies for them to help them through semester exams. We continued to highlight the achievements of our high school seniors through our "Up Close and Personal" stories in our monthly newsletter.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION AT ST. JOSEPH GRADE SCHOOL AND MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL

Much of our money and human effort of our parish have been spent on providing a Catholic education for our students through St. Joseph School, an endeavor that has been going on in one form or another since the very beginning of our parish in 1841.

Our school faculty and staff continue to work at providing an environment where our students can not only gain academic knowledge but learn how to live in this world by being centered on the values of the Gospel that Jesus challenges us to embrace. The school year was full of academic pursuits—math, science, history, English, music, art, I-Step and I-Read testing, spelling bee, geography bee, science fair, art fair, robotics competition, Young Authors, library week, Catholic schools week festivities, and the book fair.



Prayer time with our faculty and students is a central part of our education experience. Each week our students, faculty and staff gathered for Mass. We continued our special Holy Week services with children for Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter.

Flowing from this prayerful center were numerous efforts by the students to reach out to the world beyond the walls of the school. Throughout the year our students were involved in



a number of fundraisers to benefit Riley Children's Hospital, Santa Clothes Club, and the Evansville Rescue Mission Thanksgiving dinner for the community. In addition, students collected food items for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry and they helped support the children in Haiti by adopting students in school in Haiti. Groups from the school also worked with the residents of Jacob's Village and visited residents at local nursing homes.

Not only do we try to teach that caring for other people is important, but caring for the world around us is important as well. Throughout the year, we continued to challenge our students to develop a consciousness for recycling, by collecting cardboard, glass, plastic or paper, and recycling aluminum cans.

Throughout the year, students also had the chance to participate in various St. Joe Bobcat athletic competitions. The work of the school athletic committee has been invaluable in these efforts by providing the funds needed for equipment, uniforms, and fees, as well as providing coaches for the various sports: volleyball, football, soccer (boys and girls), basketball (boys and girls), wrestling, track, tennis, baseball, and archery. As the students move into middle school, they are invited to be part of feeder league teams for Mater Dei High School.



This past year we continued our support of Mater Dei High School. Our parish, as do all the other parishes in the Evansville area, provides financial support for the operation of Mater Dei and Memorial High School through our high school assessment. Our assessment this year was \$96,000. In addition, many of our parishioners have given financial support to Mater Dei through contributions to their capital campaign, the Friends and Alumni Annual Fund, the Catholic Education Foundation, and contributions to various endowments established to benefit Mater Dei. Untold hours of volunteer service have also been given by parishioners to various projects throughout the year.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Throughout our parish's history, different organizations have played a vital role and that continued to be true this past year. The Altar Society, Men's Club, PTO, Knights of St. John, Athletic Committee, not only provided opportunities for people to gather for food and fellowship, but also provided vital services for our parish.

The Altar Society continued its long standing role of providing money to pay for altar breads, missalettes, altar wine, candles and various other items we use at Mass. They used their baking skills to make and sell kitchens and cinnamon rolls to raise money for these efforts.

The Men's Club continued a long tradition of providing money for ongoing maintenance projects in the parish. One project they are looking at right now is repairing, sealing and restriping the parking lots on our parish campus. They have also



continued a long history of supporting athletic programs for the youth in our parish. Burgoo sales, homemade sausage and brauts and chicken dinners have been some of the ways they have raised money to support the work they are undertaking on behalf of the parish.

The school PTO continues to play a vital role in the functioning of school. Working with our school principal, teachers and staff, they have provided money for new textbooks, computer upgrades, playground security gates and school painting projects. In addition, they have provided money for numerous classroom and teacher needs, as well as providing countless number of volunteer hours as playground supervisors, class room aides and school office help. SCRIP sales, operating a booth at the Fall Festival and a dinner, dance and auction were some of the ways they raised money for the projects they undertook.

The Knights of St. John have always been a big supporter of the work of the Marian Day Program. This past year they provided money to advance the work our school teachers are undertaking to help students with special needs. To help fund their work, they operated their booth at the Fall Festival.

The school athletic committee continued their work of providing money for coaches, uniforms, supplies and entry fees for the twelve different team sports offered through the school. Operating a concession stand and basketball league are some of the ways they use to raise money.

PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRIES

This past year, members of our parish continued a long tradi-

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ST. JOE CEMETERY REPORT

The cemetery board had its annual meeting in January. A Financial Report for the period of January 1, 2022 thru December 31, 2022 showed an income of \$20,405 from the sale of grave lots and restricted donations. Expenses for the year, primarily related to lawn mowing expenses were \$6,421.39. As of December 31, 2022, the cemetery reserve fund had a balance of \$47,252.23.



Board members also affirmed the policy of asking people to put a tombstone on their lot within six months of the purchase of the grave lot. This policy is designed to give families additional assurances that the lot they purchased for their grave will be available when

the time comes for a burial on that lot.

Board members also established the costs for cemetery plots at \$1450 for a double plot and \$725 for a single plot. For non parishioners a double grave is \$2,900 and a single grave is \$1450.00

Board members also acknowledged the many years of service that Mark Schmitt gave to taking care of our lawn mowers. Jerry Happe agreed to coordinate the our lawn mowing crews and oversee the maintenance of our equipment.

Board members are also working to install a culvert along the north end of the new section of cemetery along St. Joseph Road. They are also beginning to investigate the costs for building a columbarium crypt for cremation burials along the east end of our current cemetery. Both of these projects are part of our Rebuilding our Church Campaign.

CARPENTER SOCIETY REPORT

From very humble beginnings in 1995 with the establishment of one endowment, we now have grown to 33 different endowments. These endowments are held in trust and managed by the Catholic Foundation of Southwestern Indiana. They are among the over six hundred endowments managed by the Catholic Foundation.

Two new endowments were established this past year: The Herman & Catherine Schmitt Parish Endowment and the Herman & Catherine Schmitt School Endowment. A total of \$114,390 was contributed to the thirty-three endowments in the Carpenter Society.

While 2022 was not a particularly good year in the stock market, the Catholic Foundation still made available \$47,859 in distributions from our endowments. This amount has been added to previous years' available distributions for each endowment.



As of December 31, 2022, we had a total of \$332,132 in available distributions from our endowments. Right now, this money is being kept in unrestricted accounts for each endowment. The wisest move for us, in terms of money management, is to continue to allow the Catholic Foundation to manage these funds.

We were also able to use some of the distributions from each of our endowments for various projects in our parish. Here are just a few of the ways money generated from our endowments is being used: helping needy families in school to pay for book and supply fees and day care fees; paying for the upkeep on our cemetery and parish property; providing money to help the communication efforts of our school alumni association; providing

money so that we can respond to requests for assistance with rent and utility payments from folks in our area; and providing money for our friends in Haiti so that they can have food to eat and schools to attend.

Individual Endowments can be established with an initial donation of \$5,000. Gifts to the Carpenter Society can be made in a number of ways

- Naming the Parish in your will
- Naming the Parish as a full or partial beneficiary of a life insurance policy
- Naming the Parish as a beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust
 - Naming the Parish as the owner of personal property subject to the requirements of the donor's life estate
 - Establishing a Charitable Gift Annuity

For information regarding establishing an endowment or contributing to an endowment, contact Fr. Gene Schroeder at the Parish Office (812-963-3273). You can also contact the Catholic Foundation Office for the Diocese of Evansville (812-424-5536)

CURRENT PARISH ENDOWMENT

St. Joseph Parish Endowment	Family Cemetery Endowment	James & Ida Greenwell
St. Joseph School Endowment	Urban and Betty Will Parish	Parish Endowment
St. Joseph Cemetery Endowment	Landscaping Endowment	James & Ida Greenwell
Father Fred Niehaus Endowment	Frances Miller	Haiti Student Endowment
Estelle and Jerome Schneider	Parish Endowment	Fred and Mary Happe
Haiti Endowment	Jim and Delores Niemeier	Parish Endowment
George and Bette	Parish Maintenance Endowment	Rose and Leroy Weiss
Duncan Endowment	Mother Teresa People	Cemetery Endowment
Joe And Winie Schu	in Need Endowment	Norbert and Verena Schroeder
School Kitchen Endowment	Joe and Kathy Weber	Worship Endowment
Dossett-Horak	St. Joseph School Endowment	Haiti Higher Education
Liturgy Endowment	Tony Stricker Physical	Endowment
Theresa Baehl Youth	Education Endowment	Fr. Gene Schroeder
Ministry Endowment	for St. Joseph School	Liturgy Endowment
Leroy & Marilyn Jochum	Madeline and Carl Rexing	Sean Whitsoe Parish Endowment
Haiti Student Endowment	St. Joseph School Endowment	Wilbur & Marian Fehrenbacher
SPRED Endowment	Butch and Linda Feulner	Cemetery Endowment
for Religious Education	Charitable Fund	Herman & Catherine Schmitt
Bob and Mark Kay Fehrenbacher	Sr. Bridget Arnold OSF	Parish Endowment
Family Charitable Endowment	School Endowment	Herman & Catherine Schmitt
Clarence and Catherine Miller		School Endowment

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YEAR END REVIEW (cont.)

tion of reaching out to our brothers and sisters in need. Through efforts, large and small, these efforts touched lives locally and throughout the world. Here are a few examples: One of the most unseen, but still important efforts is through our participation in a wide variety of special collections that were taken up throughout the year.

Each week we collected food which was delivered to the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry. In addition, several members of the parish worked at the food pantry answering calls for help and putting together food packages for families and individuals in need. Our school students and religious education students also provided food items for the Food Pantry through their various programs throughout the year.

Working with the St. Vincent DePaul Coordinator's Office and through parishioners' contributions to our Parish Needy Fund, we also helped provide money for food, utilities and other necessities for individual families located within our parish boundaries.

(Continued on page 7)



I would like to extend a HUGE thank you to our wonderful Vacation Bible School Volunteers! We couldn't have done it without you! Teaching and leading 130 children in 4 days, WOW! Marcia Frey, Michele Knight, Allison Knight, Rachael Schnaus, Hayden Schnaus, Addy Wilkinson, Alice Wilkinson, Debbie Collins, Brooklyn Helmer, Heidi Forcum, Beatrice Reckelhoff, Ashley Jung, Mary Kay Elpers, Krystallyn Rowe, Katherine Roemke. Thank you all!

Thanks to all those who contributed to the Baby Bottle Coin collection. \$515.78 was raised to benefit the Project Gabriel Families.

~Jessica Reckelhoff



In conjunction with our Men's Club yearly sausage sale, parishioners provided the money to give 500 lbs of sausage to the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry and some of our local homeless shelters. We also conducted our annual Diaper Bag Express through which we provided items for newborn infants. They were given to our local Birthright group for distribution to young unwed fathers and mothers for their new born children. In addition, several members of the parish also work at the local Birthright organization.

Three times during this past year, we invited parishioners to give blood at our blood drives. These drives were held in conjunction with our local Red Cross organization. Parishioners also had the opportunity to contribute money for our local Catholic Build for Habitat. Several members of our parish also helped out as members of the weekly building crews for Habitat homes. We continued our support the work of Mary, Mother of God Parish in Vladivostok, Russia through our quarterly special collections.

Our work with our sister parish, St. James, in Plaine du Nord, Haiti, also continued this past year. This past year that work has been especially difficult given the political and economic turmoil that is going on throughout the country of Haiti. Despite this, we continued our strong focus on providing education on the grade school and high school levels by sponsoring over 300 students. We continued to expand our efforts to provide the financial resources for students to attend college and trade schools where they can learn a trade that will give them a chance to have a better life. We continued to provide the financial resources to provide a hot meal for the 600 children in our grade school and high school. With all the political turmoil going on in Haiti, it has been difficult for schools to be in session as they normally would. This is especially sad because when school is not in session as it would normally be, many of the children lose out on the chance to have at least one meal a day.

One of the big focuses this past year has been working with the parish to build a computer lab/school addition for the parish high school. Despite the enormous logistical and material challenges involved with this project, we can report that much of the work on the computer lab has been completed.

Another area is to redouble our efforts to operate a sewing school through which we hope to provide members of the Haitian community with the skills to make clothes which can be sold to the community. This is one of several micro finance projects we are involved in. We had several small groups of folks travel to Haiti for mission trips as well. We have been blessed to have many people from our sister parishes in the diocese as well as other folks in the Evansville area join other us in supporting our work with our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

MAINTENANCE OF OUR PARISH

If you have buildings, as any homeowner knows, you are going to have on going maintenance issues to deal with. And so it is true in our parish. We have a long history of being good stewards of the buildings and property of St. Joseph Parish. We are blessed with lots of folks who are skilled in various trades who have offered their expertise to keep our buildings in good shape. This past year was no exception.

In the course of the year there were all manner of plumbing issues, heating and air-conditioning issues, electrical issues, and all manner of lights that needed to be changed, PA systems to be maintained, painting various areas of buildings, installing new doors, ad-



LITURGICAL MINISTERS August 19, 2023--September 17, 2023

DATE	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTOR
Saturday August 19, 2023 5 PM	Butch and Linda Feulner Diane Woods	Toni Askins
Sunday August 20, 2023 8 AM	Kylie & Stephanie Frey Lisa Cook	Chick Duncan
Sunday August 20, 2023 10:30 AM	Becky Doshier Jena Wessel Steve Jung	Julie Forcum
Saturday August 26, 2023 5 pm	Eric Reffett Peter and Jodi Fehrenbacher	Sis Jarboe
Sunday August 27, 2023 8 AM	Tom and Dolores Folz Jalane Weber	Tom Folz
Sunday, August 27, 2023 10:30 AM	Angie Will Diane Bassemier Darlene Appler	Mandy Elpers
Saturday September 2, 2023 5 PM	Mary Loehrlein Carolyn Hutchinson Lee Askins	Mike Reffett
Sunday September 3, 2023 8 AM	Brian and Ann Craney Marcia Frey	Tom Blythe
Sunday, September 3, 2023 10:30 AM	Danielle Weledge Doris Taylor Cecelia Koch	Shane Wessel
Saturday, September 9, 2023 5 PM	Donald & Brandon Werner Mary Kay Fehrenbacher	Toni Askins
Sunday, September 10,, 2023 8 AM	Terry Drone Kylie & Stephanie Frey	Josh Baehl
Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:30 AM	Kitty Deig Sally Kempf Paul Hillenbrand	Jessica Reckelhoff
Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023 5 PM	Donna Niemeier Eric and Karen McDonald	Sis Jarboe
Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023 8 AM	Dave and Betty Fehrenbacher Joan Inkenbrandt	Terry Drone
Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023 10:30 AM	Amy Cody Jena Wessel Rachael Schnaus	Jane Scheller

justing panic hardware on doors, annual and ongoing maintenance of our water treatment plant, all of which got taken care of, many of them in which the labor costs were donated by parishioners. Most of these go on without anyone even knowing that they are being taken care of. But these efforts resulted in thousands of dollars saved had we been forced to have outside firms do this work.

Perhaps the one area where people notice the efforts of volunteers is the work done by our lawn mowing crews. It's a lot of work to mow the lawn and trim around all the tombstones in our cemetery. We are grateful, as well, for the work that Jerry Happe has done in keeping all our mowers and weed eating equipment in good order.

Painting different areas of the school and installing security gates were two of the main things that we focused

(Continued on page 12)

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT: JULY 1, 2022--JUNE 30, 2023

ORDINARY INCOME	
COLLECTION and GRADE SCHOOL TUITION	\$742,587.33
OTHER ORDINARY INCOME Rummage Sale, Bulletin/Newsletter Ads, Summer Social, Fish Fry, Interest Income, Lottery, Rental, & Miscellaneous	\$239,769.73
SCHOOL INCOME Parishioner Tuition, Book Fees, Technology Fees, Non Parish Tuition, Pre-School Fees, After School Care Fees, WSNC grants, Tuition Vouchers, Lunch Program and other miscellaneous income	\$958,701.53
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INCOME	\$1,608.70
TOTAL ORDINARY INCOME	\$1,942,667.29
ORDINARY EXPENSES	
PARISH STAFF SALARIES AND BENEFITS	\$217,494.24
CHURCH AND WORSHIP	\$8,917.64
PARISH OFFICE AND RELATED EXPENSES	\$63,514.95
PARISH BUILDING AND GROUND MAINTENANCE	\$45,615.86
MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL	\$95,590.56
ST. JOE SCHOOL EXPENSES Salaries and Benefits, Classroom/Curriculum, Pre-School, School Lunch Program, Day Care, Building Maintenance	\$1,393,475.77
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	\$47,280.24
TOTAL ORDINARY EXPENSES	\$1,871,889.26

EXTRAORDINARY INCOME 2022-2023	
INITIAL INCOME FROM REBUILDING OUR CHURCH CAMPAIGN	\$103,063.58
INITIAL INSURANCE PAYMENT FOR REBUILDING OUR CHURCH	\$3,143.69

CATHOLIC PARISHES CAMPAIGN (CPC) 2022	
CPC GOAL	\$125,270.00
TOTAL PLEDGED	\$124,197.00
NUMBER OF PLEDGES	364
AVERAGE PLEDGE	\$341.20

MISSION OUTREACH DISTRIBUTIONS 2022-2023	
Fund for the Needy and Other Special Collections	\$6,046.00
Vladivostok Missions	\$1,974.00
Haiti Monthly Support	\$13,460.00
Haiti School Education	\$128,387.00
Haiti Special Projects	\$4,100.00
Haiti Water Project	\$800.00
Haiti Food Expenses	\$15,425.00
Haiti Sewing Hope	\$7,978.38
Haiti Fish Farm	\$4,320.00
Monthly Personnel Stipends	\$10,950.00
Money spent on our Haiti Ministry comes from contributions of parishioners as well as our friends of Haiti outside our parish.	

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES 2022-2023	
INITIAL EXPENSE FOR REBUILDING OUR CHURCH	\$4,143.69
SCHOOL PAINTING	\$11,103.73
NEW SCHOOL BOILER	\$16,162.68
GYM CLEANING	\$9,932.92

ENDOWMENT INCOME 2022-2023	
ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	\$114,890.00
ENDOWMENT FUNDS TRANSFERRED TO CATHOLIC FOUNDATION	\$114,890.00

The above report is a condensed version of our financial report. If you would like to review a more detailed financial report, call the parish office and we will make a copy of the complete report available for you.

HAVING CONSIDERED ALL THE FACTS, BE JOYFUL!

MISSION OUTREACH



Be an island of mercy in
a sea of indifference.

Pope Francis

Not all of us can do great things,
but we can do small things with great
love. *Mother Teresa of Calcutta*



**NEXT PARISH
BLOOD DRIVE
SUNDAY, AUG. 20
8 am--Noon
in the school gym**



WE'RE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SPONSOR A CHILD'S EDUCATION IN HAITI



Each year our Haiti Outreach Committee seeks new sponsors to join our group of generous people who are sponsoring a child's education in Haiti. As often happens, some of our previous sponsors have died, while others have found they cannot continue to give at the level they did in the past. So we are always looking for new people to match up with the children in St. James Parish in Haiti.

Each year Fr. Dubois gives us a list of the children who are in most financial need and we try to match a sponsor with them, to give them the help they need to attend school.

We will be happy to share with you a short bio and picture of students who need sponsors. We invite you to let your heart be changed by reaching out to sponsor your special student.

A person or family can sponsor a student for an annual cost of \$360, or just \$30 per month. This fee helps pay for their tuition, provide a stipend for uniforms and books, helps fund the daily food program and allows the students to have access to the parish clinic. With your help and the help of many of our other friends in the community, we currently sponsor approximately 200 students at St. Jacques elementary and high school. Their sponsorships help their sponsored child receive an education and provide their student a daily lunch at school (for some it may be the only meal for the day).

If you would like more information, you can contact Eric Reffett, the coordinator of our student sponsorship program. (812-618-5945) or email him at ereffett@sbcgobl.net



**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER. 23 9 AM
EVANSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL GROUNDS**

DID YOU KNOW?

Last year, the Evansville District of the St. Vincent DePaul Society partnered with YMCA, Ozanam Family Shelter and other agencies to provide clothing at minimal cost to people in need.

They provided \$650,000 to over 12,000 individuals to cover rent, utilities and other essentials.

Distributed over 427,000 pounds of food to families in need.

Had over 36,500 hours of service volunteered at the Food Pantry, Thrift Store and through the different conferences in each parish with nearly 50,000 miles driven to visit those in need

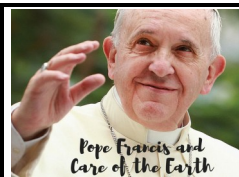
- Register for the walk online, www.svdpevansville.org/register-form/
- You can also register the morning of the walk.
- Collect donations of personal care items for all ethnic groups, as well as laundry goods. These items will help us to create donation packages for those in need in our community that are distributed at our Food Pantry
- Bring your registration form along with donations collected from family, friends, and fellow parishioners to the registration table at the Walk. Make sure to note your Parish on your registration form so that the money you raised can be donated back to your conference.
- Snap a selfie while walking to SHARE with us on [Facebook!](https://www.facebook.com/svdpevansville)



Thank You....so much for your faithful

support of the St. Vincent dePaul Food Pantry! Each week Terry Drone, Martha Baehl, Ruth Burk and Delores Folz bring multiple bags of groceries from your weekend food collection when they come to volunteer. We also received several donations of cash many of whom send donations on a regular basis. We are very grateful for your generosity and care for others. The number of those coming for food assistance has soared these past weeks due to various factors—high food & gas prices, decrease in the amount of SNAP benefits being given, kids being out of school and eating more meals at home, etc. We are blessed to have so many dedicated partners in this SVDP Food Pantry ministry. Without donations, food collections and volunteers, this ministry simply would not happen. Someone said “Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.” Thank you for seizing these small opportunities each day to partner with us in our SVDP Food pantry ministry.

Sr. Donna Marie Herr Manager



*Pope Francis and
Care of the Earth*

Pope Francis challenges all of us to take care of our earth, our common home. That's a big challenge and the best way to do something practical in this regard is to think small. So here at St. Joe we are encouraging people to develop a “Recycling Consciousness.” We've encouraging people to develop a recycle consciousness at home. So the next time you are cleaning up after an event at your home, before you throw things in the trash, take an extra look and ask “Can any of the things I am throwing away be recycled?” Not only are we caring for our earth, we are saving money by hauling less trash to the landfill.

AUGUST 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Monday August 7 4 pm Monday August 7 5-7 pm 		1 7:30 am Mass School Faculty/Staff Meeting 9 –12:30	2 7:30 am Mass Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon	3 NO MASS	4 7:30 am MASS Communion to the Homebound	5 5 pm Mass HAITI & Food Pantry COLLECTION
6 8 & 10:30 Masses HAITI AND FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION  Religious Education Registrations after the 8 & 10:30 Masses		8 7:30 am Mass 		10 No Mass Pre- School Begins	11 7:30 Mass Communion to the Homebound Senior Citizens Mtg 1 PM	12 5 pm Mass Food Pantry Collection
13 8 & 10:30 Masses Food Pantry Collection Confirmation Parent-Student Mtg 9 am First Communion/Reconciliation Parent Meeting 11:30 am	14 7 am-7 pm Eucharistic Adoration 6:30 pm Mass 7 pm Knights of St. John	15 Mass 7:30 am  FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY	16 Mass 7:30 am Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon	17 NO MASS Haiti Ministry Meeting 6:30 pm	18 7:30 am School Mass Communion to the Homebound	19 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4pm 5 pm Mass Food Pantry Collection
20 8 & 10:30 Masses Food Pantry Collection BLOOD DRIVE 8-NOON 	21 7 am-7 pm Eucharistic Adoration School Board Meeting 6 pm 6:30 pm Mass 7 PM Men's Club	22 Mass 7:30 am DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TUESDAY 6 AM--WEDNESDAY 6AM	23 Mass 7:30 am Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon	24 NO MASS	25 7:30 am Mass Communion to the Homebound	26 5 pm Mass Food Pantry Collection SPECIAL MISSION APPEAL THIS WEEKEND
27 8 & 10:30 Masses Food Pantry Collection Family Religion Class 9 am SPECIAL MISSION APPEAL THIS WEEKEND	28 7 am-7 pm Eucharistic Adoration 6:30 pm Mass	29 Mass 7:30 am Prayer Service KN- 2 8:30 am  Check out these on line resources for nourishing your faith life www.stjoeco.org/On-Line-Resources	30 Mass 7:30 am Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon	31 NO MASS  RENEW YOUR HAITI STUDENT SPONSORSHIP BECOME A HAITI STUDENT SPONSOR		

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WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 5 PM

SUNDAY 8 AM & 10:30 AM

Fr. Gene Schroeder—Pastor

E-mail gschroeder@evdio.org

Ms. Kristan Gilles—Director of Liturgy

E-mail kgilles@evdio.org

Mrs. Kelsey Meier—Principal

E-mail kmeier@evdio.org

Mrs. Julie Kempf—Secretary

E-mail jkempf@evdio.org

Mrs. Jessica Reckelhoff

E-mail jreckelhoff@evdio.org

Religious Education Coordinator



St. Joseph Vanderburgh County

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(Continued from page 7)

on this past year. For the last several months of the year we have been focusing on repairing the tornado damage to our church. Along with this we have also begun to take care of other areas of the church that needed attention.

YEAR END FINANCIAL REPORT

It takes a great deal of commitment from a lot of people who take seriously our obligation to provide the money needed to do the work we do in our parish. Over the years we have been blessed by their financial generosity. Because of that, we can report that the state of finances in our parish is very sound. You can see a summary of our financial report on page 8. If you would like a more detailed report, call the parish office and we'll make a copy available to you.

A look at our financial report reveals that 70% of our money is spent on salaries and benefits for our teachers, and parish staff, less than 1% is spent on worship related expenses, about 2% is spent on various aspects of running the parish office, about 9% is spent on building maintenance, utilities and insurance, .002% is spent on Religious Education Programs, 6% is spent in

support of Mater Dei High School and 12% is spent on expenses related to the operation of our school program, beyond the cost of salaries and benefits for teachers and staff.

We were blessed again this year with so many people helping on parish fundraising projects—our summer social, rummage sale, fish fry, and

catered dinners. We are blessed as well by the in-kind contributions from so many people. It's difficult to calculate the total dollar value of such services but it is in the thousands of dollars. Their help is also one of the reasons we have a positive financial report.

We are able to operate our parish in the black financially in large part because we have a very dedicated parish and school staff that has learned how to get the most from the money we receive. Our staff is pretty bare bones and most of these people wear several different hats when it comes to job descriptions. It is these efforts that have enabled our parish to break even each year.

Our year end report tells us a lot about the thing we "did." To a large extent, we are a "doing" parish. Like most parishes we find it easier to do the "hands on" tasks that make up the life of our parish. All that is important, of course, but even more important is who we "are." Buildings and programs help us, but ultimately what matters is whether we are becoming people who allow our hearts and minds to be shaped by the teachings of Jesus. This job does not have a lot to do with success but it has a lot to do with faithfulness. And when we are willing to be a part of that journey, than all the things that we do, all the programs and events that we are part of, will all take their proper place. And when we do so, we will continue to be a joyful, active, faith-filled people who give thanks to God by generously sharing their individual gifts and talents to serve the needs of all.

