

# THE CARPENTER

NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOSEPH PARISH

6202 W. ST. JOSEPH ROAD

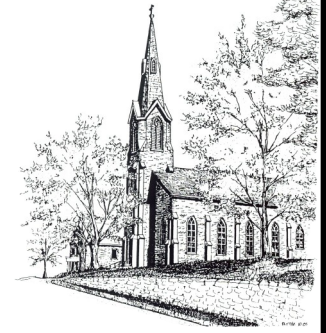
EVANSVILLE, IN 47720

JUNE 2023

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182nd Year  
1841-2023



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## CHURCH ROOF REPAIR UPDATE

Fr. Gene Schroeder  
PASTOR

As I have listened to people in the parish and sought their advice about repairing the damage to our church, two main concerns have emerged. The first is a desire to repair the church so that it looks like it did before the tornado came through and tore off the roof. Since this would involve some pretty extensive repair work, a second desire is to take this time to find out if there are any other issues that need to be addressed so that our church building will be in good shape for the years ahead.

This has been the focus of the work undertaken by our church roof committee. We've been working with folks dealing with our property insurance to determine the extent of work that will be covered through our property insurance. That has taken a little time, especially since our property is just one of the properties in our diocese that our insurance company is working with to take care of tornado damage to their properties.

We think we now have an understanding of what things need to be done in order to get our church building in good shape. Here is where things stand now.

Obviously the biggest issue is putting a new roof on the church, with all the related construction issues that go with it. We've called upon the folks from Hafer and Associates Architects to draw up the needed plans for the roof repair. Tom Blythe and Bob Gibson have been busy getting this work done. While we are installing a new roof, we also want to build a



*Up close view of some of the roof rafters used in the 1888 construction of the church*

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walkway which will be suspended above the new insulation. This walkway will allow us to access the hoist that lowers and raises the chandelier hanging above the altar. Currently we have been accessing this by walking along the rafters, which is not the best or safest way to do this.

It seems best that the new roof be the same kind of roof that was on the church. This standing seam roof was installed in 2013. As you know, the roof areas above the east and west sacris-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## HAIL AND.....

### SAY HELLO TO OUR NEW PRINCIPAL

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up." (1 Thessalonians 5: 11). That is a verse from scripture which is particularly meaningful to Kelsey (Mitsdorffer) Meier, our new school principal. Kelsey grew up in Holy Redeemer and is a 2006 graduate of Mater Dei High School. She went on to graduate from USI with a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education with a special focus on reading.

Kelsey has spent the last twelve years in the field of teaching and administration. She spent two years teaching at St. Matthew's School in Mt. Vernon and the next five years teaching second grade at Westside Catholic. She went back to USI to get her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. For the last five years she has served as Principal at Westside Catholic.

Kelsey is married to Joey Meier and they are the parents of three little girls: twins Lettie and McKinley who just completed second grade at St. Wendel, and one year old Emmylou.

Kelsey had this to say about the journey that led her to St. Joe. "I never imagined leaving WCS and truly felt at home there. When Nathan shared with me that he was moving to Holy Cross, I felt as if God kept bringing St. Joe to my mind. I prayed and discerned about it and after taking some time, I felt

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## ....FAREWELL

Nathan Winstead  
PRINCIPAL

Many say that teaching is the best way to create change and growth in others. This is something that isn't taken lightly to those that teach, and I am blessed to be in this profession and surrounded by amazing teachers in our St. Joe School community. When I was first hired as principal at St. Joe, they didn't hand me a book that laid out everything that needed to be done because that would just be too easy. I was reminded of this at this year's First Communion where the reading was from Matthew: "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

We are all called to walk this path and it is never easy. I have been blessed with five wonderful years at St. Joe and we have definitely been through some tough times whether it be COVID, our church roof, or the smaller pieces that just take time

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ties, as well as the sanctuary area of the church, are all intact. So, the intent is for the new standing seam roof to match what we already have in place as close as possible.

There will be some challenges to getting the roof work done as we are dealing with the original construction work that was done in 1888. The repair work will also involve a lot of brick repair and repair to the copper lined wooden gutters. Matt Bishop, from Empire Contractors has been putting a plan together to take care of all these repairs.

Looking at the interior of the church, there are several sections of the ceiling where bricks fell through, that need to be repaired. Since these areas are scattered throughout the church, it seems best that the entire interior of the church be repainted. We've talked to Mark Fehrenbacher, who did the painting of the church in 1990 for his advice. His expertise has been a big help to us.

The stenciling that separates the side wall from the ceiling and the gold leaf highlighted painting in the sanctuary as well as around the stations of the cross and the circular saint pictures along the side walls are all in good shape and do not need to be repainted. The areas around the stained glass windows will need to be recaulked as needed and then painted white as will the base boards and sacristy doors. We've noticed that some of the cracks that came about because of the earthquake damage in 2002 will also require additional work to repair them.

We believe that the other areas of the church should be painted with the same or similar color scheme as is presently being used so that it compliments the stenciling and gold leaf painting already in place. We've been working with some design professionals to give us some ideas about the best colors to use. Some people have asked about using entirely different colors for the interior of the church. While that could be done, it will be more expensive as it will require applying additional coats of paint as well as redoing any stencil work which is pretty labor intensive. We believe the most cost effective solution is to have a color scheme that matches what is already in place.

In order to paint the interior of the church, we need to remove the pews and install scaffolding to facilitate painting the interior.

This is a good time for us to repair any of the pews and kneelers that need it. And it is a good time for us to apply a conversion varnish to the pews. We did this on one pew already and we like the results. Our thinking is that we may be able to do this work while the pews are still in church since that is the cleanest environment we have. Once they are repaired and refinished, we



Up close view of the cut nails used in the 1888 construction



Window on the north side of the church steeple that needs repair

will store them in our storage building until they are ready to be reinstalled in the church.

We are not planning to remove any of the pews from the church balcony. Removing them would be a very difficult task. There is enough room there to install scaffolding to do the painting of the church ceiling.

When the roof of the church was torn off, it caused some plaster to fall into the pipes of our church organ. These pipes are actually located in the interior of the bell tower. The pipes you see when you look up into the balcony of the church are actually decorative pipes. The debris needs to be removed from the organ pipes and then the pipes need to be cleaned. This is not the kind of work that any ordinary company can do. We've been in touch with folks who take care of church pipe organs and they have come up with a plan to do this work.

There are some structural issues with the floor joists along the west side of the church that need to be repaired. If you have ever walked down the west aisle of the church you may have noticed that it is a bit like walking up and down a valley. This is the area that needs attention. Since there is just a small crawl space underneath the floor and much of this is taken up with air conditioning ductwork, we'll have to access these floor joists from above.

Several folks have commented through the years that the carpet in the church needs to be replaced. This will be a good time to do that. The carpet that we have in church was installed in 1990. It has served us well. While some folks have talked about different kinds of flooring options, we think the best option is carpeting the church. It is quieter and less prone to cause people to slip and fall. But the biggest reason is that our church is 137 years old and old buildings tend to have uneven spots in the floor. You don't notice them with a carpet floor but you would notice them if you tried to install a tile, marble or wood floor. All things considered, it seems the best option is to install new carpeting in the church. We want to get a really good quality carpet in a color that compliments the color scheme in the church. Here also we are seeking the advice of design professionals to pick out the best quality and color of carpet that will match the color, pews and other furniture in the church.

Our thinking is that we would only carpet the main body of the church. We would not install new carpeting in the balcony of the church. Currently the carpeting in this area is not the same as the rest of the church. We believe it is still in good shape and does not need to be replaced.

There are also some minor electrical related issues that need



View of the lower and upper set of louvers in the steeple. You can see the south facing aluminum louver that needs to be replaced. You can also see the upper redwood louvers which are actually about six foot tall



our attention. First would be replacing the current circuit panel in the east sacristy. We've actually been using the circuit breakers to turn the lights on and off in church. That is really not the best thing to do. Over the years, since that circuit panel was installed, new fans were installed as was the new chandelier above the altar. The result of all this is that we have a hodgepodge of switches and controls. Installing a new circuit panel and dressing up all these electrical switches seems like a good idea. The exhaust fan by the vigil lights on the east side of the church also needs some repair.

As to the exterior of the church building, the biggest issue that needs to be taken care of is to tuck point the side walls of the church as well as the steeple. As you might imagine, the brick mortar joints have deteriorated over the years. We have, in the past, done some tuck pointing work on various areas of the exterior of our church. We believe this is a good time to make sure the mortar joints on the entire exterior of our church are repaired as needed. Once this work is done, the entire brick surface needs to be sealed to prevent moisture from getting into the church. This will be a major undertaking.

You may recall that the south louver in the bell tower was damaged by the tornado. Our plan is to replace this louver with another white aluminum louver. Since we are doing this, we think it is also a good time to replace the other three wood louvers with white aluminum louvers as well. We believe they will last for a long time and will require little if any maintenance.

Since we will need to have a mechanical lift to do this work, we think this will also be a good time to repaint the smaller redwood louvers near the top of the steeple. This is also a good time to regild the gold cross at the very top of the steeple.

One other area on the north side of the steeple needs attention as well. The wooden casements around the windows just above the statue of St. Joseph need some repair work. And we think that we ought to install a storm window over this window.

The last church exterior item that needs to be addressed is the west side door and handicapped ramp. The white door and door frame was damaged as a result of the tornado. We believe the best thing is to replace the door with a glass aluminum door. There has also been some damage to the handicapped ramp itself and the brick work around it. The ramp itself is also not quite long enough to comply with current handicapped codes. We believe that our best option is to rebuild this entire entrance. While we are doing that work, we want to make sure that there is no water leaking into the interior of the church from the planter box that is currently in place next to the handicapped ramp.

That is the scope of the work that addresses the two issues I spoke about in the beginning: restoring the church to the way it was before the tornado damage and addressing the issues that will keep our church building in good shape for years to come.



*Handicapped Ramp and West Entrance to the church that are in need of repair*

Now of course the big question is "How are we going to pay for all this?" Among the items we have outlined above, we know that our insurance policy will cover most, if not all the costs involved. We also know there are items we think are necessary to do which will not be covered by insurance.

Here are the items that we are being told will be covered (in part or in whole) by our insurance policy:

- Cleaning the debris and installing a temporary roof that was all done the week after the tornado.
- Installing a new roof with the related masonry work involved
- Cleaning the pipes of the church organ
- Repairing the holes in the plaster ceiling and painting the interior of the church
- Costs associated with installing scaffolding necessary for painting the interior of the church
- An allowance for removing the pews in the church
- Repairing the portion of the cemetery wall destroyed by the tornado
- Replacing one of the outdoor lights along the front sidewalk of the church that was destroyed by the tornado
- Replacing/restoring the west door and handicapped entrance ramp
- Replacing the south louver in the church steeple

Here are the things we do not believe will be covered by insurance

- Tuck pointing and sealing the brick exterior of the church
- New carpet in the church. (We believe that our insurance policy will give us an allowance for cleaning the carpet which we can use toward the purchase of a new carpet.)
- Costs associated with installing new aluminum louvers on the east, west and north sides of the steeple.
- Painting the four redwood louvers at the top of the steeple as well as regilding the gold cross at the very top of the steeple
- Updating the circuit panel in the east sacristy
- Shoring up the floor joists along the west wall of the church

So we know that we will have to have some sort of capital campaign to cover the costs of the work that will not be covered by insurance. In the past when we have done capital campaigns we have also asked the question: If we are going to do a capital campaign, are there other things in the parish that need to be taken care of as well? To this extent we have identified several issues to consider:

- **PARKING LOT:** Even before the tornado struck, we had been gathering information for repairing and restriping the parking lot. Obviously we only would do this work once the repairs on the church have been completed. After all we don't want trucks and other construction equipment causing damage to a newly repaired

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parking lot.

## CHURCH ROOF REPIAR UPDATE (cont.)

- **RECTORY GARAGE UPDATES:** If you have looked at the garage roof lately, you've probably noticed more and more shingles have come off. We also need to eplace the four overhead doors and two service doors.

- **DITCH WORK ALONG ST JOE ROAD:** We want to install a culvert and fill in the ditch along the north end of the cemetery property along St. Joseph Road

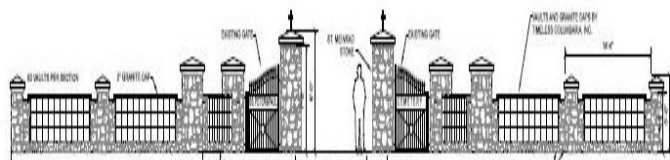
- **SCHOOL CLASSROOM STORAGE:** We have five classrooms that need additional classroom storage. Enabling this to happen would involve removing the old radiators in the classroom. These radiators are no longer in use. Removing them would allow us to build more storage space along the outside walls of each classroom. It would also involve reworking the storage units the students used in the past to hang their coats and other belongings. The students now have individual lockers located in the hallway for this purpose. These units could then be refitted for storage space.



View of the ditch  
along St. Joe Road

- **BUILDING A COLUMBARIUM FOR CREMATION BURIALS IN OUR CEMETERY** There has been a growing interest among parishioners for cremain burials. Additionally we are getting closer to filling up the spaces available in our current cemetery. While we have additional room for in-ground burials, we also think that building a structure which would contain spaces for above ground cremain

burials would extend the life of our current cemetery. What we are thinking about is building a brick wall along the east end of our



View of what a brick wall columbarium might look like

cemetery which would contain niches for cremain burials. This brick wall would be built to blend in with the brick in the church. Building this brick wall would also dress up this area and eliminate a lot of the issues involved with maintaining the landscape currently in place in this area.

- **PLAYGROUND SECURITY GATES** A growing concern voiced by parents and school staff is the importance of ensuring that the blacktop area of the campus south of the school is secure when the school children are using this area for recess. We have been investigating what it will take to install a system of gates that could be closed during school recess hours for playground safety. We believe there is grant money for school safety issues that can cover this cost.

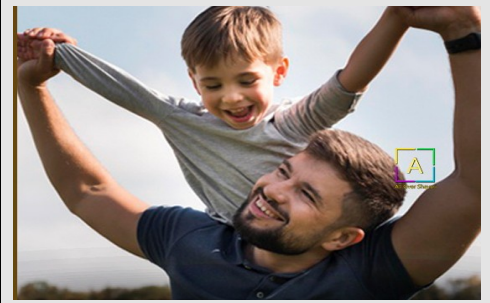
- **WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** We are beginning the lengthy process of determining the life expectancy of our current water treatment (septic) plant. We want to explore the possibility of installing a new septic system to replace our current treatment plant/sand trap method.

So where do we go from here? We have already spoken to many different contractors about the work that needs to be done. It is my hope that, by the time you are reading this, we will have gotten final word from our insurance folks about how much of the work will be covered by our insurance policy. Then we will have a good idea about how much money we will have to raise to complete all the work in church and the other related items that we want to take care of in the parish.

Once this is done, we will be able to conduct our capital campaign to raise the needed funds. My hope is that this campaign will be conducted this summer. I am hopeful as well that sometime this month we can begin to have the different contractors begin their work. What I am hearing is that work on both the outside and inside of the church can be done at the same time.

One thing that we need to remember is that there are a lot of different parts to our plan and no plan goes exactly as we hope it will. Given the fact that we are working on a building that is 134 years old, there are likely to be issues that come up that we have not foreseen. The key is being patient and flexible as the work unfolds. We want to get back into our church as soon as possible but we also want to ensure that everything we do is done well for years to come.

## A FATHER'S DAY PRAYER



*Let us praise those fathers who have striven to balance the demands of work, marriage, and children with an honest awareness of both joy and sacrifice.*

*Let us praise those fathers who, lacking a good model for a father, have worked to become a good father.*

*Let us praise those fathers who by their own account were not always there for their children, but who continue to offer those children, now grown, their love and support.*

*Let us pray for those fathers who have been wounded by the neglect and hostility of their children.*

*Let us praise those fathers who, despite divorce, have remained in their children's lives.*

*Let us praise those fathers whose children are adopted, and whose love and support has offered healing.*

*Let us praise those fathers who, as stepfathers, freely choose the obligation of fatherhood and earned their step children's love and respect.*

*Let us praise those fathers who have lost a child to death, and continue to hold the child in their heart.*

*Let us praise those men who have no children, but cherish the next generation as if they were their own.*

*Let us praise those men who have "fathered" us in their role as mentors and guides.*

*Let us praise those men who are about to become fathers; may they openly delight in their children.*

*And let us praise those fathers who have died, but live on in our memory and whose love continues to nurture us.*





## PARISH BUDGET FOR 2023-2024

For one hundred and eighty-two years, the people of our parish have come together to answer this question: "How is God calling us to be a community of Faith? What is God calling us to do?" The answer they came up with would demand from them their time, energy and resources.

It would be great to think that there was unanimous agreement among the people in each generation on just what to do. A little bit like we hear in the Acts of the Apostles when we are told that "the community was of one mind and one heart and there was no one in need." We smile when we hear these words and say "yeah, I bet it was like that." Truth be told, it's hard to get any group of people to agree completely on anything. It's more likely that in every generation we had some of the folks who agreed wholehearted with the things that parish did, some of the folks who agree with most of what was done, some who agreed with a little bit of what was done and some who didn't agree with anything.

While there was never a total "buy in" by everyone, there has been a consensus for what should be done. That consensus is reflected in the attitude that says "while I may not agree with everything, I will offer my support because I am a member of the parish and I am willing to do my part."

This sense of pulling together for the common good that has been a hallmark of our parish. It is rooted in the basic belief that when each of us is willing to do our part, to offer what we can, God takes these efforts, large and small, and does great things with them. St Paul reminds us of this in the words from the letter to the Ephesians: "We give thanks to God whose power now at work in your lives can do far more than you can ask or even imagine."

And it is this shared conviction that guides us in planning our parish budget. Here are the assumptions that were used to put this budget together.

- We want our church to continue to be here as a place to come together to pray at Mass and to celebrate the special events in our lives.
- We want to continue to operate our grade school as a place to help train our children in the ways of faith
- We want to continue to support Mater Dei High School as we have done since we have had Catholic high schools in Evansville



### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MEMBERS

### OF OUR FIRST COMMUNION CLASS OF 2023

Mikayla Bates, Lizzie Carlisle, Rylan Dick, Jace Eickhoff,  
Ruth Harper, Logan Kassenbrock, Logan Kissel,  
Ella Paul, Gabe Reffett, Henry Schuble,  
Braxton TenBarge, Libby Weber

### PROPOSED PARISH BUDGET (Summary)

July 1, 2023—June 30, 2024

	PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-2024	CURRENT BUDGET 2022-2023
<b>INCOME</b>		
Stewardship		
Offerings/Grade	\$967,434.00	\$1,024,000.00
School Tuition		
Other Parish	\$117,300.00	\$123,884.00
Income		
Religious Education	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Income		
School Income	\$744,191.00	\$604,440.00
<b>TOTAL PARISH INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,830,925.00</b>	<b>\$1,754,324.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Parish Salaries	\$229,100.00	\$218,100.00
and Benefits		
Church and	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Worship		
Parish Office	\$67,400.00	\$65,691.00
Parish Buildings	\$48,300.00	\$45,850.00
and Grounds		
Mater Dei Expense	\$98,000.00	\$98,000.00
Total Grade	\$1,309,385.00	\$1,248,843.00
School Expenses		
Religious	\$68,740.00	\$67,840.00
Education		
<b>TOTAL PARISH EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1,830,925.00</b>	<b>\$1,754,324.00</b>

- We want to care for all the buildings and property that make up our parish campus.
- We want to continue to offer Religious Education and Sacramental preparation programs for the children and adults of our parish
- We want to continue to operate as a part of the Catholic Diocese of Evansville.

As we put together specific budget figures, we tried to put budget income items on the conservative side and the expense items on the liberal side. Always better to underestimate income and overestimate expenses.

Using these assumptions, we put together the budget for next year. Here you will find a summary of that budget. These budget figures represent our ordinary income and expense items. They do not reflect any money we have spent or will likely spend on repair the damage to our church. Those items will be reflected in extraordinary income and expense.

If you would like a more detailed budget report, call us at the office and I'll be glad to share one with you.

While I'm sure not everyone is 100% on board with everything that is represented in this budget, I do believe they reflect the will of the majority of folks. Raising the \$1.831 million dollars necessary to make this budget a reality will take everyone's support. I'm sure the seven families that gathered together in 1841 to start this parish could scarcely comprehend such numbers. But, like them, all we need to do is to offer the very best we can and when we do, God will do great things with it. *Fr. Gene Schroeder*

## EVERYONE ON BOARD FOR OUR SUMMER SOCIAL--JULY 30

Britt and Patrick and Chip and Megan will be leading our efforts again this year. With the huge success we had last two years we believe it is in our Parish's best interest **TO DO WHAT WE DID LAST YEAR. WE DID IT BEFORE AND WE CAN DO IT AGAIN!**

We're going to have our big grand raffle with \$15,000 in prizes to be given away. Last year, 73% of our parish families helped to raise almost \$90,000 through our raffle. Imagine what we could do if we had the support of 80% or 90% of our parish families.

So, once again we are asking each family to buy/sell a packet of 10 raffle tickets. We think this \$200 worth of raffle tickets is equivalent to the amount of money you might otherwise have spent at our social, had we been doing it the way we did it in the past. By the time you read this, you should have already received your packet of tickets which included a stamped, return envelope which you can use to return your tickets. Of course, if you can sell more than 10 tickets, all the better. Just let us know and we'll get tickets to you.

The second thing we are focusing on for our social is to have our famous chicken dinner. People always enjoy eating and our chicken dinner has been very popular. Last year we sold 2500 dinners, a record. We think we can do that again. As we did last year, we will be offering our chicken dinner on a carry out basis only. Because of food price increases, we will be slightly raising our dinner prices. The price this year will be \$14/dinner.

To ensure the success of our din-

ners, we are going to sell tickets beforehand. To get us started, we will be sending each of our parish families four tickets for the dinner which they can buy or sell. We'll include a stamped envelope that you can use to send us the money and the ticket stubs back to us. The last day to order dinner tickets is July 22nd.

Diner tickets will also be available at the parish office for folks to buy. Go the extra mile and extend a little "St. Joe Hospitality" at the same time. Here are some ideas:

- buy a dinner for the neighbor who can't get out
- take orders from your family and friends (we'll get you as many tickets as you need)
- Get with some friends and provide the money for dinners for the people at The Ozanam Family Shelter. House of Bread and Peace, or the United Caring Shelter. We will be glad to work with you to get these dinners delivered

### WE NEED HELP PREPARING THE MEALS

We'll need help making dumplings for the social on Monday, July 17. We'll also need people to help prepare all the things for meals on Friday and Saturday before the social day, July 28 & 29 as we have in the past. We'll begin working at 7 am on Friday, July 28. We'll also need help setting up for the drive thru on Saturday, July 29.

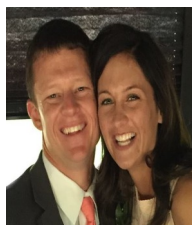
And we will need folks to prepare all the food on Sunday morning. Our plan is to serve the carryout dinners from 10 am to 1 pm. We're going to need a lot of folks to make this happen. Then we'll need folks to help clean up.

After everything is cleaned up, our plan is have a little post social party and then have the drawing for the grand raffle prizes around 3 pm.

As always it's going to take a lot of good will and presumption of good intentions on everyone's part. We've had a great tradition of people working together to ensure the success of our social in the past. We're counting on this great support again to ensure our social a great success again. We've done it before, and we can do it again!



**Britt and Patrick  
Fehrenbacher  
812-480-970**



**Megan and Chip  
Altstadt  
812-204-4091**



**\$15,000 in prizes**  
**1st Prize \$10,000**  
**2nd Prize \$2,500**  
**3rd -- 6th Prizes**  
**\$500 Each**  
**Preliminary**  
**Drawing**  
**June 30 \$500**  
**TICKETS \$25**  
**5 /-\$100**

**CARRYOUT ONLY**  
**PICKUP JULY 30**  
**10 AM TO 1 PM**  
**CHICKEN DINNER**  
**TICKETS \$14 / DINNER**  
**PURCHASED BY JULY 22**

## Up Close and Personal INTRODUCING OUR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

### *Kenzie Hartz*



St. Paul tells us in the letter to the Romans that the life and death of each of us has its influence on others. Those words are certainly true about Kenzie Hartz, the daughter of Kevin and Keri Hartz and the younger sister of Karson Hartz. She is a senior at Reitz, completing their special needs education program this year. We knew that Kenzie would be a special person even before she came on the scene in 2002. At the time, the fact that she would be dealing with Downs Syndrome was the least of the concerns that her family dealt with. For the first three months of her life, she spent most of her time at Riley Children's Hospital dealing with a number of health issues. Kenzie survived and soon became well known fixture in our parish.

Kenzie attended a special needs education program at Highland Elementary School and then transitioned to Helfrich Park where she also was part of a self-contained classroom. Finally, she moved on to a special needs class at Reitz high School where she became fast friends with her classmates. The teachers and especially the teachers' aides all became like beloved aunts and grandmas.

Over the years Kenzie has participated in the Riding Hope Program, which utilizes horseback riding to develop muscle coordination and balance. From the time she was eight years old, Kenzie was part of Spirit Cheerleading Team. With her teammates, she performed at many U of E and USI basketball games and the local Jam Fest. According to all those who knew her, Kenzie always knew how to work the crowd at all these events. She has also been part of the "Ace Buddies," an exercise class at U of E.

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 1)

**WELCOMING OUR NEW PRINCIPAL (cont.)**

that St. Joe was where I was meant to be. So, I took a leap of faith that landed me with all of you."

Over the last few weeks Kelsey has had the opportunity to visit our school and to work with Nathan Winstead to ensure a smooth transition. "I know that the St. Joe community is faith filled, loving, hard working, and an amazing community to be a part of. I cannot express how highly everyone has talked about the school and the teachers and staff. I can feel the positive energy, love for students and passion to share that love for the Lord radiate throughout the school each time I have visited. That is powerful and inspiring!"

When Kelsey is not busy being a principal, you'll find her enjoying spending time with her family and friends enjoying the outdoors. And you may find her rooting for the St. Louis Cardinals, and the Indianapolis Colts, or cheering for IU, but only in basketball. In football, it's Bama and Roll Tide! And if you want to treat her with something special, you can stop by Starbucks and get her a Mango Dragon Fruit Refresher with lemonade!

We're looking forward to having Kelsey be a part of the leadership team here at St. Joe. You have already made her feel welcome in the few times she has already been here. Thank you, Kelsey, for agreeing to be part of our faith family. We look forward to journeying together with you. Together may we give out children the root to grow and the wings to fly.

(Continued from page 1)

**FAREWELL NATHAN WINSTEAD (cont)**

to work through. Regardless, we have come through these challenges stronger as a community of faith.

At the end of this school year, I will be transitioning as principal to a new school at Holy Cross Parish. This decision was one of the most challenging that I have had to make up to this point in my life. My grandpa always said that if a decision doesn't make you stop and think and feel upset, then you weren't happy in the first place. The decision to step away from St. Joe was just this, an emotional and trying choice that took weeks for me to make.

I have loved my time here in this community and feel blessed to have called this home for the past five years. Father Gene has been a great support and has become a close friend throughout our years together. He brings a point of view to helping those around him that focuses on what we truly need to grow and not just taking the easiest path. The parish staff and school staff have been an incredible team to work with and I know combined with Father Gene and the staff, this is the reason that St. Joe has been in place since 1874. The strength of this community and its drive to be servant leaders is the direct reason of why we are successful.

Even though I am leaving St. Joe, this community will always be a part of the life journey that God has set for me. I look forward to seeing the continued success of this parish and school in the future because I know the foundation that it stands on is solid. You will all be in my prayers and I ask for your prayers in turn as we all work to enter the narrow gate.

## Saluting our Graduates of the classes of 2023

**ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL**

*Harper  
Atherton  
Maggie Black  
Jackson Brown*

*Laney Fehrenbacher*

*Heidi Forcum*

*Ashley Jung*

*Sadie Kassenbrock*

*Cloey Lamble*

*Silas Nisley*

*Ima Ntewo*

*Chase Waninger*

*Elijah Wargel*

*Kurt Denning  
Brendan Elpers  
Finley Fehrenbacher  
Sophia Fehrenbacher*

*Tess Freeman*

*Chase Gerteisen*

*Kayla Gerth*

*Katelyn Happe*

*Ethan Kissel*

*Ethan Messal*

*Jacob Scheller*

*Isaac Schneider*

*Lauren Voelker*

*Conner Wiley*

**HELFRICH PARK**

*Ella Anderson  
Brock Jones*

**NORTH  
POSEY  
HIGH SCHOOL**

*Ansley Singer*

**MATER DEI  
HIGH SCHOOL**

*Mitch Adler  
Ian Bonds-*

*Keever  
Nick Couch*

**REITZ HIGH  
SCHOOL**

*Kurt Forcum  
Taylor Vogt  
Tyler Weinzapfel  
Ian Simmons  
Kenzie Hartz*

**COLLEGE GRADUATES**

*Macey Adler:*  
BS in Health and Kinesiology  
from Purdue

*Sarah Duncan*  
Psychology Major, Minor in  
Criminal Justice from USI

*We have been very blessed by Nathan's leadership in our school. Nathan hit the ground running when he came five years ago. Nathan possessed a great deal of confidence which made it easy to forget that this was the first time he served as a principal. He quickly gained the confidence and trust of the teachers, staff, parents and students.*

*Nathan worked very hard to continue the development of our technology efforts and other improvements to the school infrastructure. And he was not above pitching in to fix a door, sweep a floor or whatever else was necessary to ensure the day to day running of the school. Nathan's leadership was invaluable as we navigated our way through the covid pandemic and all the challenges it presented.*

*On a selfish note, we would have wanted Nathan to stay with us as principal. But life is about celebrating the gifts we have but not holding on to them too tightly. As Nathan moves forward, we give thanks for the gift that he has been for us. We welcome our new principal and all the blessings and gifts she will bring, and we also celebrate the gift Nathan will be as he moves forward on his journey at Holy Cross.*

*Fr. Gene Schroeder*

**Ayden Elpers**

Precision Machine Technology  
from Vincennes University

**Gabe Gries**

Mechanical Engineering from the  
University of Evansville

**Karson Hartz**

Law Degree from the Indiana  
School of Law IU

*Sarah Goepfrich Wiley*  
Masters in Psychology Special  
Education from USI

**Isaiah Nisley**

BS in Aeronautical and  
Astronautical Engineering  
(AAE) from Purdue

**Abby Shane**

BA in Media Advertising from  
Indiana University IU

**Danielle Weledge**

Masters in Education  
from WGU

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



## RECEIVING THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.....BECOMING A MINISTER OF COMMUNION....ALL PART OF KNOWING WHAT THE REAL PRESENCE OF JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST IS ALL ABOUT

This month, we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi. That's Latin for "The Body of Christ." Understandably, during our recent covid pandemic, offering people the opportunity to receive from the cup was suspended. But now, once again people will have the opportunity to receive both the body and blood of Christ at Mass.

Over the years, we have had a number of people who served as Eucharistic Ministers. For one reason or another, some of them are no longer in a position to serve our community in this manner. So now is a good time to extend an invitation to people to consider being a minister of communion.

Being a minister of communion is not just a matter of making things flow more smoothly and quickly at Mass. I think there is something powerful that happens when we take on the simple act of feeding one another. We use ordinary acts like eating and drinking to help us understand something much deeper. Jesus used these actions to tell his

disciples that they were being fed not by ordinary food, but his life, his courage, his perseverance in the face of difficulties. And he reminded them that each time they remembered what he had done by gathering to

share a simple meal, they were feeding each other not with ordinary food but with His life. This is the idea we are trying to get at when we talk about believing in the real presence. The fact that eating and drinking are such ordinary events that we engage in everyday, is a reminder, too, that the real presence of Jesus is to be found in all the ordinary, even mundane experiences of life.

One of the real challenges in speaking about things like the "real presence," is that we tend to look at the symbol as the end rather than to where the symbol is pointing. So when we speak of the real presence we often think that this means the bread and wine that is consecrated at Mass or the consecrated bread that is kept in the tabernacle in church.

The challenge facing us is to see what these ordinary things are pointing to. And what they are pointing to is that the real presence of Jesus is everywhere and in all created things. So to honor the real presence is to honor that presence in all things. This is why we have such a profound respect for the unborn—because that is the real presence of Jesus. But it can't stop there. The real presence is also in the death row inmate, the person who finds themselves in our country without legal status, the people we consider our enemies, and the millions of people who have been left homeless throughout the world because of war, famine and violence. We hold them as sacred because they too are the real presence of Jesus. Beyond this we hold sacred the created world around us because it too is the real presence of Jesus. And this is why Pope Francis has called upon all of us to care for our common home.

So there is a lot going on when we come together to re-

ceiving communion at Mass. The "amen" we say when the minister says "The Body of Christ," and "The Blood of Christ" has some pretty profound implications. We feed each other. We strengthen each other with our courage and perseverance. And what can be more profound than having to give communion to someone I may not like or someone I don't see eye to eye with? What greater invitation is there to see the face of Christ in others?

All of this gets me back to my original invitation to people to consider becoming a minister of communion at Mass. I really think everyone should be a minister of communion. This is not a call for "special people." Most often when I ask people to consider being a minister of communion the comment I get is "I'm not worthy to do that." Well the truth is, you are not worthy. But then again, no one is worthy enough. Truth is, this is not about worthiness.

The second thing I hear from people is "I'm might do something that really messes things up and would be a real embarrassment to me and to others." I guess a certain amount of uneasiness at doing something we don't normally do is to be expected. But what I also know is that we think people are paying more attention to what we do than they really are. And, having been through some embarrassing situations in public over the years, I can tell you that life continues. Nothing has ever happened that has stopped everything in its tracks.

So what is required to be a minister of communion? Quite simply, a willingness to serve. We're not looking for perfect people. And we are not looking to do things in a perfect way. We are ordinary people who are coming together to pray and when we do that, there is no way that we can do that wrong.

So take some time to think and pray about my invitation. Call (text) me (812-499-9074) and let me know. There will also be a sign up sheet at our weekend Masses that you can use.

Fr. Gene Schroeder



## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the contributions made to St. Joseph Parish in memory of these loved ones. Let us continue to remember the gift they have been in our lives

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH  
IN MEMORY OF  
*Delores Strupp*  
Ann Boeke

IN MEMORY OF  
*Anita P. Siscel*  
Rose Weiss

IN MEMORY OF  
*Keith Jones*  
Anonymous

URBAN & BETTY WILL  
LANDSCAPE ENDOWMENT  
IN MEMORY OF  
*James W. Gries*  
Chris & Patti Will  
Kathy Funke

IN MEMORY OF  
*Anita Siscel*  
Anonymous

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IN MEMORY OF  
*Gerald Parkinson, Jr.*  
Sr. Bridget Arnold

IN MEMORY OF  
*Bruce Woodward*  
Gail Maurer

LEROY & ROSE WEISS  
CEMETERY ENDOWMENT  
IN MEMORY OF  
*Rose Ellen Unfried*  
Rose Weiss

IN HONOR OF  
*Nathan Winstead*  
Sr. Bridget Arnold





## 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*



## GET ON BOARD THE DIAPER BAG EXPRESS

Once again, this year, from Mother's Day to Father's Day you are invited to join our parish effort to help Birthright. Get on board and help unwed mothers and fathers by bringing powder, lotion, ointment, bottles, wipes, etc. for newborn babies. Packages of diapers can also be donated. You can also make a cash donation to "Birthright." Put your contribution in an envelope marked "Birthright" and put it in the collection. If you have questions please contact Toni Askins at (812-457-1334).



## SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS MONTH: PETER'S PENCE

Pope Francis reminds us that those who are baptized create one family of believers who are never alone. The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and His works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters with promptness, love, and compassion, so God's people will not feel alone in their time of misfortune.

Today, the Peter's Pence Collection supports the Pope's philanthropy by giving the Holy Father the means to provide emergency assistance to those in need because of natural disaster, war, oppression, and disease.

**BE A SIGN  
OF MERCY**



Do you enjoy fresh, locally grown, chemical-free produce? If so, Seton Harvest, a community supported agriculture initiative sponsored by the Daughters of Charity, would like to invite you to become a shareholder in our Certified Naturally Grown vegetable farm. For more information contact Julie Dietz, Community Outreach Manager, 812.963.7692 or Julie.Dietz@dc.org. Learn more at [www.setonharvest.org](http://www.setonharvest.org)



## Food Pantry Needs

We are accepting donations each weekend for the St. Vincent dePaul Food Pantry. A box of cereal, a jar of peanut butter will go a long way to helping those in need.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS June 24, 2023--July 9, 2023

DATE	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS
Saturday June 24, 2023 5 PM	Mary Loehrlein Carolyn Hutchinson Lee Askins	Toni Askins
Sunday June 25, 2023 8 AM	Rodney and Paula Baehl Dave Fehrenbacher	Tom Blythe
Sunday June 25, 2023 10:30 AM	Kitty Deig Becky Doshier Steve Jung	Shane Wessel
Saturday July 1, 2023 5 pm	Donald & Brandon Werner Mary Kay Fehrenbacher	Sis Jarboe
Sunday July 2, 2023 8 AM	Dolores Folz Joan Inkenbrandt Lisa Cook	Terry Drone
Sunday July 2, 2023 10:30 AM	Doris Taylor Sally Kempf Cecelia Koch	Julie Forcum
Saturday July 8, 2023 5 PM	Donna Niemeier Eric and Karen McDonald	Mike Reffett
Sunday July 9, 2023 8 AM	Jalane Weber Imogene Baehl Michael Elpers	Donna Blankenberger
Sunday, July 9, 2023 10:30 AM	Amy Cody Jena Wessel Rachael Schnaus	Jane Scheller

## Prayer For Our Graduates

*People are unreasonable, illogical and self-centered:  
LOVE THEM ANYWAY.*

*If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives:  
DO GOOD ANYWAY.*

*If you are successful, you win false and true enemies: SUCCEED ANYWAY.*

*The good you do will be forgotten tomorrow:  
DO GOOD ANYWAY.*

*What you spent years building may be destroyed overnight: BUILD ANYWAY.*

*People really need help but may attack you if you help them:  
HELP PEOPLE ANYWAY.*

*Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth:  
GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST  
YOU'VE GOT ANYWAY.*








*Prayer found on the bedroom wall of  
Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta*



**CARING FOR OUR WORLD. MAKE RECYCLING A WAY OF LIFE.**  
*Did you know that 70% of the things we put into the trash can be recycled?*



# JUNE 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <b>GET ON BOARD THE DIAPER BAG EXPRESS</b>  <b>HELP SUPPORT BIRTHRIGHT</b> COLLECTING ITEMS THROUGH FATHER'S DAY JUNE 18				1 NO MASS   GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS \$25 5/--\$100	2 7:30 am Mass  SENIOR CITIZEN GATHERING 1:30 PM	3 Haiti and Food Pantry Collection Mass 5 pm  BRING YOUR RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS TODAY TO THE GYM
4 8 & 10:30 am Masses  Haiti and Food Pantry Collection BRING YOUR RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS TO THE GYM TODAY	5 7 am-6:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration  6:30 pm Mass  <b>RUMMAGE SALE PREPARATIONS 9 AM TO 7 PM MONDAY --FRIDAY BRING YOUR ITEMS FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE EACH DAY</b>	6 7:30 am Mass  Youth Trip to Holiday World 7 am – 7 pm	7 7:30 MASS  Last Day to bring items for the Rummage Sale	8 NO MASS	9 7:30 am Mass Making Kuchens Friday Noon Saturday 7 am   3 pm – 7 pm	10 Food Pantry Collection  5 pm Mass  7 am—Noon Bag Sale begins At 10 am
11 8 & 10:30 am Mass  Food Pantry Collection	12 7 am-6:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration  6:30 pm Mass Knights of St. John 7 pm	13 7:30 am Mass  	14 7:30 AM Mass  <b>\$15,000 in prizes</b> <b>1st Prize \$10,000</b> <b>2nd Prize \$2,500</b> <b>3rd -- 6th Prizes -- \$500 Each</b> <b>Preliminary Drawing June 30 \$500</b>	15 NO MASS 6:30 PM Haiti Mission Meeting	16 7:30 am MASS	17 Food Pantry Collection  Sacrament of Reconciliation 4-4:40 pm  Mass 5 pm
18 8 & 10:30 am Mass Peter's Pence Collection  <b>Happy Father's Day</b> 	19 7 am-6:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration  6:30 pm Mass  Men's Club Meeting 7 pm	20 7:30 AM MASS   <b>Vacation Bible School</b> <b>June 19-22 8:30 am--11:30 am</b>	21 7:30 AM MASS	22 NO MASS  <div> <b>My father didn't tell me how to live. He lived and let me watch him do it.</b> </div>	23 7:30 am MASS	24 Food Pantry Collection  5 pm Mass
25 8 & 10:30 am Mass  Food Pantry Collection	26 7 am-6:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration  6:30 pm Mass	27 7:30 AM MASS	28 7:30 am Mass	29 NO MASS	30 7:30 am Mass  Social Raffle Early Bird Drawing	1 Food Pantry Collection  5 pm Mass
<div> <b>COME SEE WHAT ST. JOE SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER TO YOUR CHILD</b>  <b>WE ARE ACCEPTING ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS FOR PRE-SCHOOL, PRE-K AND GRADES K- 8</b>  <b>CONTACT US 812-963-3335</b> </div> 						



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**Pray with us! We have family in**  
**Ukraine, Syria, Yemen, Ethiopia and.....**

(Continued from page 6)

**HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: KENZIE HARTZ (cont.)**

She is now part of the “Boogie Buddies,” a special dance class sponsored by Achieve Dance Academy. Ask her about her most recent exciting adventure, and she will tell you attending the prom this year at U of E which was sponsored by the Key Club of the University. Her favorite activity at home is riding around the neighborhood in her specially outfitted golf cart.

Kenzie is a person everyone knows in our parish. From the time she made her first communion and sat in the presider's chair, we all knew that Kenzie was a person to be paid attention to. Coming forward for communion was a chance for her to “say hello” to everyone—and if you didn't pay attention to her, she would quickly give you a nudge on your shoulder as if to say, “I'm here, say hello to me.”

Kenzie is not able to speak any words, but she can communicate with sign language and her quick and easy smile. Watch out though, if she flashes her pinkie finger at you, it's her way of, well, giving you the finger which she would never do being the sweet young lady she is! Who could imagine a pinkie finger could express so much!

**WORDS OF WISDOM:** Kenzie teaches about the value of each person. As her brother Karson says, “She has made me a lot more patient and understanding of people.” For the rest of us, she has opened up the world of people with disabilities. From the moment of her birth, she has changed the world of her parents. Their example of faithfulness in parenting continues to inspire all of us. When we think of Kenzie, we realize just how true are the words of the Prophet Isaiah: “The word of God goes out and does not return to me without carrying out my will and doing what it was sent out to do” (Isaiah 55)

Don't miss our incredible

## **RUMMAGE SALE**

**Friday, June 9 3-7 pm**

Friday night shoppers get the first chance at all the bargains.  
 (Shoppers pay DOUBLE PRICE)

**Saturday, June 10**

**7am – 12 Noon**

Bag Sale Begins at 10 am

**HAVE ITEMS TO DONATE?**

Bring items to the gym after all Masses on June 3-4 and 9am – 7 pm Monday—Wednesday—June 5, 6, & 7)

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7 IS THE LAST DAY TO BRING ITEMS FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE**

**CAN YOU HELP?**

Every day 9 am—7pm the week of the sale (COME FOR A DAY OR AN HOUR) and on sale days, June 9-10. At noon on Saturday after the sale—men and women, young and old are needed to help box and load what is left over.

**We will have kuchen  
 and cinnamon rolls for sale  
 during the Rummage Sale.  
 Come and help make them  
 on Friday and Saturday**

