

### RURAL MARRIAGE CONFERENCE



The parish will be hosting this year's Diocese of Tulsa Rural Marriage Conference next Saturday, January 27th, 2024. The event will begin with a Mass at 9:00am celebrated with Bishop Konderla. Following Mass, there will be a light breakfast, and then the conference at the parish hall. Speakers are Robert and Diane Schwind, who are experts in marriage counseling. You are invited to join other couples in this engaging activity to strengthen Christian marriages and love between spouses.

### FAITH AND WORKS ANNUAL APPEAL



It is again that time of the year when the diocese calls on us to support the ministries of the diocese which aid in the growth of the faith in our area. This year's appeal will kick off on Friday, January 26th here at St. John's parish hall. Bishop Konderla will host a kick-off dinner to which you are invited. You will learn about the varied ministries that are supported with your gift. Our commitment weekend will be February 18. The goal for our parish this year is \$29,000.

### ASH WEDNESDAY 2024



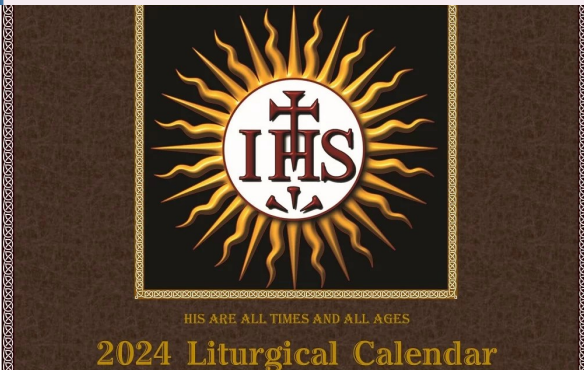
Ash Wednesday comes early this year—February 14th—marking the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent is a special season of penance leading to the feasts of our salvation—the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Christ. This year's Lent should be celebrated with more intensity, given the uncertainties and spread of unbelief around the world and in the Church. Let us pray and make reparations for the sins of the entire humanity redeemed by the Precious Blood of Christ.

### PICTORIAL HISTORY OF TULSA DIOCESE



To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the creation of the Diocese of Tulsa, the diocese has produced a pictorial history, detailing the processes of growth and maturation of the diocese up to our time. The parish has purchased copies for every family. Each family gets a copy as a form of gratitude for the support you have given to the parish and the diocese.

## IMPORTANT LITURGICAL DATES IN 2024



Note these important and liturgical dates of 2024.

Ash Wednesday — February 14

Palm Sunday — March 24

Easter Sunday — March 31

Annunciation of the Lord — April 8 (transferred from March 25)

Immaculate Conception — December 9 (transferred from December 8)

## RETRouvaille: STRENGTHENING CATHOLIC MARRIAGES



Retrouvaille, a Catholic peer ministry to heal marriages, no matter the size of the problems, will offer a program beginning March 15-17. Call 405-443-3541, email [2034@retrouvaille.org](mailto:2034@retrouvaille.org) or visit the website [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) for more information. The program focuses on the following:

- Helping couples restore their marriage and rebuild a loving relationship.
- Christian & Catholic in origin, for couples of all faiths or no faith at all.
- Improve communication, strengthen love, and help couples reconnect.
- Presenters are not trained marriage counselors; but rather couples sharing their personal stories of marital struggles and the tools they used to rediscover their love.

## ORDER YOUR PARISH SHIRT



We have parish sweatshirts remaining, which individuals or families can order for themselves or for family members elsewhere. You may order some for your children living out of town or for a friend or acquaintance. The shirt comes in two colors, gray and burgundy. The cost is \$25 for kids and youth, and \$30 for the adult sizes. Call the parish office to place your order. Those who haven't picked up their orders yet are encouraged to visit the office—Tuesday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm to request them.

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE PARISH



We wish to thank all parishioners who have supported the parish financially and otherwise all through 2023. It was quite a tough year financially with inflationary rise in the cost of running the parish as well as the projects we completed, or are underway. Yet, through your support we made it alright. We continue to request your support this year to continue the work of evangelization. The finance council will publish a summary of 2023 finances at the end of January 2024.



### THURSDAY FAITH ENRICHMENT MEETINGS

Our Thursday Faith Enrichment meeting will not hold this coming Thursday, January 25th. When we return on February 1, our discussion will turn to exploring several means to promote our Lenten observances and gain the full grace of the season. We meet at the parish hall between 6:30 and 8:30pm. Please join us.



### NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS, 2024

The National Eucharistic Congress taking place in Indianapolis, from July 17–21, 2024 will be a transformative moment for the Church in the USA. It will be the high point of the Eucharistic Revival. You can be part of this historic event, as Catholics from around the country gather for this weeklong grace-filled event. If you're interested in attending, call the office or talk to our parish point person, Kelly Drusen, for details.