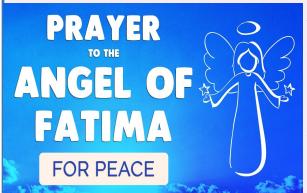
NEWSLETTER UPDATES Friday, October 13, 2023



PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

The Synod on Synodality enters its second week. Catholics around the world are encouraged to pray that the love of God may animate the deliberations, and that hardened hearts may be converted through the Spirit's inspiration. The Mother of God warned long ago about the loss of faith among some church leader, which we are unfortunately witnessing. Fr. Jo asks us to pray thus for the delegates: "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You! I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love You!"



PRAY AGAINST WARS AND RUMORS OF WAR

As bombs fly over the cities of the world, especially Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine, we are all invited to pray for peace; and pray we must. We cannot join the camp that promotes retaliation and war, nor can we be part of those who rejoice over people's pains. We can say this simple prayer: "Dear Angel of Peace, thank you for blessing my world and the universe so that we can remember the most important lesson: that only love is real. I feel so blessed to know this truth! Amen."



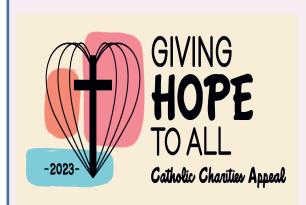
STAINED-GLASS REPAIR WORK

The project to repair our stained-glass windows is in progress. The technicians will repair cracks, strengthen the base and siding of each window, and replace the outside plexiglass protection on the windows, to let in more light. The project is expected to last between eight to nine weeks. Expect to see parts of the church cordoned off and some entrances, particularly the back west entrance, closed during this period. We are grateful to the Catholic Foundation for Eastern Oklahoma that provided the major fund, and donors from our parish who stepped in with their invaluable support.



FAITH ENRICHMENT/PARISH MISSION

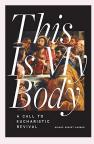
Thursday Faith Enrichment will hold this Thursday, October 19th as parish mission with Karlo Broussard. The venue will be inside the Church. We start at 6:30pm. Every member of the parish is invited to attend.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES ANNUAL SUPPORT

Catholic Charities of Tulsa and Eastern Oklahoma continues to call on us to support the annual campaign through which the agency brings God's love in a tangible manner to the poor in our area. Please use the envelops provided in the pews for making your annual contribution. Here at St. John's, we have a robust Catholic Charities office, namely, the St. Jude's Helping Center, which we support weekly or even daily through our gifts and volunteer service. This week's appeal will help Catholic Charities extend our generosity to other communities in need.

"THIS IS MY BODY" by Bishop Robert Barron



A generous parish family has purchased copies of the book, *This is My Body*, by Bishop Robert Barron to help us with our spiritual journey during this *Eucharistic Revival*. The book provides practical guides for us to enhance our devotion to the Eucharist as well as invite others to the Eucharistic banquet. Please feel free to take a copy at the back of the Church (one for each family). We pray God's blessings on this benefactor.

WHY DO YOU NOT RECEIVE THE EUCHARISTIC?



Eucharistic Revival as currently espoused involves welcoming parishioners who for reason(s) of irregular marriage or other conditions are unable to partake of the Eucharistic. We encourage all who currently are not partaking of the Eucharist to visit with Fr. Jo to discuss ways to remedy the situation. No condition is irredeemable. You may be surprised how easily some of the situations can be resolved. If you know of anyone who has stopped coming to Mass due to inability to share in the Eucharist, please invite them to talk to the parish priest about that. No member of Christ's body should be deprived of this saving food.

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. 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.

PARISH MISSION THESE COMING WEEKS



For three consecutive Thursdays: October 19th, 26th, and November 2nd, 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm, **Karlo Broussard**, apologist and speaker with *Catholic Answers*, will be presenting a three-part series on the Eucharist entitled, *Face to Face with Jesus: The Catholic Doctrine of the Eucharist*. In this series of talks, Karlo provides the definitive answer to all those who doubt Christ's real presence in the Eucharist. He breaks down the common objections to the Catholic doctrine and builds a powerful case—from Scripture and the teaching and practices of the early Christians as well as the evidence for Eucharistic miracles—for taking Jesus at his word when he said: "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh" (John 6:51). Karlo will be at all Masses this weekend to personally invite everyone.

UPDATE ON HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE, October 2024



Due to the ongoing war in Israel and Palestine, we have put on hold plans for pilgrimage to the Holy Land next year, as we assess the security situation. We will be informed in due course about our next possible option: visit to another pilgrimage site, or entirely cancel the idea.