

PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

MAILING ADDRESS: 7409 W. CLEARWATER AVE., KENNEWICK, WA 99336

PARISH OFFICE: 7411 W. CLEARWATER AVE., SUITE A, KENNEWICK

OFFICE: 509-735-8558

email: office@holyspiritkennewick.org

website: www.holyspiritkennewick.org

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritParishCommunity>

FR. MICHAEL BRZEZOWSKI

509-735-8558

pastor@holyspiritkennewick.org

DEACON KEN ELLIS

509-948-4355

deaconkenneth@charter.net

DEACON ERIC SHABER

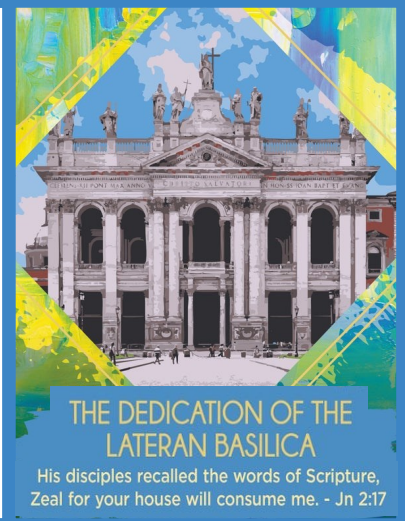
208-521-7846

ecshaber@gmail.com

DEACON MIKE GAULKE

509-551-7626

micaжере@msn.com



Parish Staff:

Secretary	Debbie Forgette	735-8558
Bookkeeper	Bianca Medina	735-8558

Parish Community Center (PCC) Coordinator
Presently Unstaffed

Faith Formation:

Pre-school to 5th Grade	Karen Gorham	735-8558
6th to 8th Grades/Edge	Danielle May	528-9780
9th to 12th Grades/Life Teen	Jennifer Moore	492-6209
	& Joe Bliss	216-402-3118
	email: lifeteenhs@gmail.com	

Confirmation	Deacon Mike & Carol Gaulke	551-7626
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults	Joe & Sherry Schroeder	405-2242

Ministers of Music:

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass	Julianne Barnaby	735-2163
9:30 a.m. Mass	Paula Bachelor	375-9019
5:00 p.m. Mass	Perry Kelly	735-8558
Children's Choir	Presently Unstaffed	735-8558

Ministries of Worship:

Scheduler for Liturgical Ministers	Trish Feeney	551-0486
Eucharistic Adoration	Liz Friedrich	783-6223
Prayer Line	Adele Ogryzek	627-0201
Altar Server Training	Zack Rinderer	582-2543

Parish Ministries:

Mary Martha Prayer Group	Camille Henneberry	735-4858
Welcoming Committee	Jan Beardemphl	948-3367
PCC Nursery	Wynona Vaz	222-8982
Ministry to Sick and Shut-Ins	Deacon Eric Shaber & Charlotte Shaber	208-521-7846

Bible Study	Judy Turner	438-7938
Women's Group	Linda Rego	221-1130
Weekend Mass Refreshments	Judy Urrutia	438-5039

Councils and Committees:

Parish Council	Jim Carey	627-0321
Finance Council	Jared Liebert	947-9386
Stewardship	Lenice & Pat Nagle	582-6893
Evangelization	Rob Privette	438-1222
Voice of the Spirit	Dieter Bohrmann	987-3158
Parish Library	Ann Stevens	396-2723

Charter Organizations:

Catholic Daughters	Linda Garner	627-2748
Knights of Columbus	Peter Dreisbach	205-2377
St. Vincent de Paul	Message Line	591-0632
Scout Troop #275	Teddy Herrera	778-0505
American Heritage Girls	Erin Leistritz	406-579-1891

Natural Family Planning:

Carol Gaulke	619-5464
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NOVEMBER 9, 2025

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses:

Monday: 9:00 a.m.
Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. (see inside)
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.
Thursday: 6:00 p.m. (see inside)
Friday: 9:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesday: 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.
or by appointment.

Please visit our Holy Spirit Facebook page to join livestream events:

<https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritParishCommunity>

Office Hours: Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Babies and young children are usually baptized during Mass on Saturday or Sunday, or on Saturday at 12:00 p.m. Call the parish office for a list of upcoming Baptism dates and to receive registration information for pre-Baptism classes. (735-8558)



On Being Married at Holy Spirit ... Engaged couples who wish to be married at Holy Spirit Parish are asked to contact the parish office at least nine months prior to their desired wedding date. The couple and the priest will then meet to begin the Marriage preparation program. (735-8558)



Deaths

What should I do when there is a death in my family?

Please call the parish office and speak with the office staff and the pastor before making arrangements with the funeral home, to ensure that the church is available at the desired date and time. (735-8558)

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, November 9, 2025

Calendar for the Week: (Note: PCC = Parish Community Center)

Sunday, November 9:

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Mass in the church at 9:30 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Sacrament of Reconciliation, PCC room 9, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Mass in the church at 5:00 p.m.

No Edge

No Life Teen



Monday, November 10:

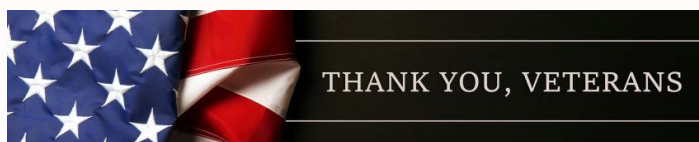
Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Tuesday, November 11:

Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
IN OBSERVANCE OF VETERANS DAY.**



Holy Spirit Mommy and Me, PCC nursery, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

No Religious Education

Sacrament of Reconciliation, CHURCH, 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

NO 5:30 PM MASS. Instead ...

Mass for the deceased Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters of the Americas, 6:00 p.m. in the church.

Wednesday, November 12:

Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Bible Study, *Matthew: The King and His Kingdom*, PCC room 6/8, 10:00 a.m.

Mary Martha Prayer Group, PCC room 5, 1:30 p.m.

Parish Council, PCC room 7, 6:00 p.m.

Amazing Grace Choir, church, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 13:

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

NO 9:00 AM MASS. Instead ...

Mass for the deceased of our parish at 6:00 p.m. in the church. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#). Reception to follow in the vestibule.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), PCC rooms 6/8, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, November 14:

Weekday

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., in the vestibule. Concludes with *Prayers for Priestly Vocations* and *Prayers for Peace* at 4:30 p.m. and the *Rite of Benediction* at 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, November 15:

Weekday

Saint Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Blessed Virgin Mary

Catholic Daughters, PCC room 5, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Vigil Mass in the church at 4:00 p.m.

Holy Land olive wood religious articles available for purchase in vestibule following Mass.

Sunday, November 16:

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass in the church at 9:30 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Holy Land olive wood religious articles available for purchase in vestibule following Mass.

Confirmation Super Sunday, PCC hall and rooms 3 and 5, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation, PCC room 9, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Mass in the church at 5:00 p.m.

Holy Land olive wood religious articles available for purchase in vestibule following Mass.

Edge (Middle School), PCC rooms 5 and 6/8, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Life Teen (High School), PCC hall, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Build the One Body of Christ

ACA GOAL

\$2.0 Million

2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal

DIOCESE OF YAKIMA

www.yakimadiocese.net (509) 965-7117

Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) for 2026

This is Pledge Weekend for the Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal. Our parish goal, as always, is 100% participation. Can you imagine the additional good works that can be accomplished in the Diocese of Yakima with just a 10% increase in donors? To achieve this goal, each of us is asked to prayerfully open our hearts to the needs of our diocese and make a gift as our circumstances allow. If you want to donate online, please visit www.yakimadiocese.org or scan the QR code on the pledge card. Donation envelopes with pledge cards are available in the vestibule.

PARISH ONLINE GIVING UPDATE

We wanted to let you know that the software that the Parish of the Holy Spirit uses for our online giving platform (ParishSoft Giving) is going to be updated soon. In preparation for this update, please ...

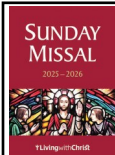


Make sure that you have your current login password written down somewhere, since the password will not autofill the first time you login after **Wednesday, November 12**. The software update is scheduled to occur on November 13, 2025, so please be sure to have your login information written down somewhere BEFORE then.

If you are not able to find or remember your password, you may visit the website at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/holy7409270> before November 12, change your password, and write the new password down somewhere.

Now may also be a good time to consider changing from the online giving option with ParishSoft to utilizing a bill pay option from your bank or financial institution. Why? Because Holy Spirit Parish is currently being charged a 6% fee for every transaction made through ParishSoft Giving. For example, a \$25 donation made through ParishSoft Giving turns out to be an actual donation of \$23.50, with \$1.50 going to the software company as a service charge.

We are always grateful for your donations, no matter how you choose to make them in support of our parish. Thank you!



2025-2026 **Sunday Missals** will be available for purchase (\$5.00) in the vestibule after all Masses this weekend and in the parish office during office hours.

FATHER-DAUGHTER SNOWFLAKE BALL

Dads, Grandpas, Uncles! Give the special young lady or ladies in your life an evening that will spark wonderful memories for years to come. Bring her to the **26th Annual Father-Daughter Snowflake Ball** on Saturday, December 6, at the St. Frances X. Cabrini Catholic Church Social Hall in Benton City. This social event of the year is open to young ladies ages toddler to 18. The event includes corsages, souvenirs, door prizes, music, and a picture for each young lady. For reservations and pre-payments call Lynda at 588-4235 today! Space is limited and we do sell out.

Fall Clean Up Day for Holy Spirit! Come Join Your Parish Family!

Saturday, November 15, work begins at 9:00 a.m.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the PCC hall for coffee and donuts.
Many hands make for lighter work!
Families encouraged!

Join fellow volunteers for a light lunch after the work is done.

Sign up after Mass today or call Robin Rego at 253-370-9899 or Anita Fabré at 509-308-6462 to offer your services.

Please bring gloves, lawn and landscape rakes, shovels, leaf blowers, wheelbarrows and brooms. There will be plenty of leaves to rake. We will also be adding landscape materials around the church and PCC which will require wheelbarrows. Thank you for any help you can give your parish! Hope to see you there!



Plan to donate blood at the Holy Spirit Council of the Knights of Columbus sponsored **Blood Drive** from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on **Friday, November 21** in the PCC hall.

Sign up in the vestibule this weekend and next weekend. Sign up online anytime at www.redcrossblood.org/, and click on "Holy Spirit Kennewick" on the sign up page.



A big thank you to all who participated in the **Fall Catholic Education Series!** We had a fabulous turnout and everyone learned new things about our Catholic faith! Based on all the positive feedback, stay tuned for new classes in the spring. If you are interested in helping with refreshments or the upcoming sessions, please reach out to the parish office.

Knights of Columbus 2025 Christmas Card Sales



Keep Christ in Christmas with the Knights of Columbus Christmas cards. The cards will be available for purchase in the vestibule before and after Masses beginning next weekend, November 15-16. As always, shop early for the greatest selection!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

All dates are tentative.

Monday	November 10	Lillian Para RIP
Wednesday	November 12	Camille Henneberry
Friday	November 14	Mary Joy
Saturday	November 15, 4:00 p.m.	Steve Johnson
Sunday	November 16, 5:00 p.m.	Tim Mello RIP

The Sunday morning Mass is normally offered for the people of the parish.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of
Roger Ellig and Mary Jane Royack.
May they rest in peace with the risen Lord.

To have your need added to our parish prayer phone chain,
please call Adele Ogryzek at 627-0201.

To have your need added to the list which is published in the bulletin
once each month, please call the parish office.

STEWARDSHIP: As good stewards, do we deal honestly with others in our financial matters, understanding that every material possession is God's gift to us?

Thanks for your giving of time, talent, and treasure.

For online giving, visit:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/holy7409270>

Thank you for maintaining your financial support of our parish as you are able. If you'd prefer to mail an offering, please send it to **Parish of the Holy Spirit, 7409 W. Clearwater Ave., Kennewick, WA 99336**. If you are currently using offering envelopes and would like to switch to online giving (or bill-payer from your bank), please call the parish office so we can discontinue your envelope mailings with our printing service. Thank you.



Please stop by the booklet display case in the vestibule and pick up free copies of *Heaven Speaks to Those Who Fear Purgatory* and *Heaven Speaks to Those Who Fear Death*. Experience Our Lord's beautiful and calming words about these realities that await all of us.

It's time once again to think about our **Christmas Adopt-a-Family** program. This parish program assists families who, due to economic circumstances, need food and gifts at Christmas time. We have been asked to pair our parish sponsors with recipient families by mid-November this year. If you are able to sponsor a family, please contact Vonnie Bliss at 509-586-3745 as soon as possible.



PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER: FOR OUR SICK: B.J. Bacon (relative of Troy and Emma Bacon), Carmel O'Shea (relative of Fr. O'Shea), Kathleen Zimbehl (parishioner), Lorraine Ramirez (niece of Dru Squires), Fran Rombaugh (parishioner), Marlin Friedrich (parishioner), Debbie Tavernaro (parishioner), James Ellis (son of Deacon Ken and Cindy Ellis), Spenser Heaton (nephew-in-law of Fr. Michael), Laurie Brzezowski-Greenberg (sister of Fr. Michael), Fr. Michael Brzezowski, Tyler Stevens (grandson of Rose Stevens), Brad Nelson (brother of Brett Nelson), Brian and Amanda Hollenberg (son and daughter-in-law of Glenn and Karen Hollenberg), Sr. Mary (parishioner), Jim Berkman (son-in-law of Allan and Merilynn Erhart), Fr. O'Shea, Amanda Parry (parishioner), Kathy Bealer (relative of Deacon Ken Ellis), Jim Young (parishioner), Don Malisani (father of Paul Malisani), Harry and Jana Barnes (parishioners), John Jurgilewicz (parishioner), Larry Harris (relative of Deacon Ken Ellis), Lorraine Damon (daughter of Edith Perez), Eric Zimbehl (son of Kathleen Zimbehl), Margaret Liedigk (parishioner), Kevin Gilliam (parishioner), Richard Dennis (uncle of Deacon Ken and Cindy Ellis), Rachel Courson (parishioner) and girls, George J. Konzek, Sr. (father of David Konzek), Camille Henneberry (parishioner), Rob Privette (parishioner), Addison Wessels (grandniece of Mike and Pam Thurman), Nikki Hensyel (sister of Terri Larson), John Schneider (relative of Gloria Ziegler), Chuck and Kate Wilson (relatives of Debbi Fisler), Judy Cleary (parishioner), Jeneane Conway (daughter of Julie Waddoups), Linda Ziegler (daughter-in-law of Gloria Ziegler), Rose Stevens (parishioner), Deborah Rowley (parishioner), Natalie Schaeffer (parishioner), Isaac Schmidt (grandson of Sharee Kline), Diana Murawski (parishioner), Steve Sakry (family member of Mike and Pam Thurman), Deby Ziegler (daughter of Gloria Ziegler), Christina Squires (daughter of Dru Squires), Jason Dietz (grandson of David and Denise Konzek), and Tom Collins (son-in-law of George and Marlene Fox).

If you wish to add a prayer need to this list, please call the parish office at 735-8558.

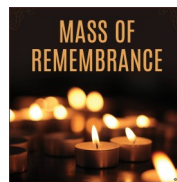
Throughout this month, parishioners are welcome to bring pictures of their deceased loved ones and place them on the table near the tabernacle. We will pray for their eternal rest throughout the month of November.

Remembrance envelopes for All Souls' Day are available on the table in the vestibule. Envelopes may be turned in at any time (either in the offering baskets at weekend Masses or at the parish office), and the names of the faithful departed listed on them will be remembered at all Masses throughout the month of November.



All are invited to the **Mass for the Deceased Knights of Columbus and Catholic Daughters of the Americas** of our parish on **Tuesday, November 11**. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. (rather than at 5:30 p.m.) that night.

Please join us to honor their memory, to celebrate their lives, and to pray for their eternal rest.



All are invited to the **Mass for the Deceased of Our Parish** on **Thursday, November 13**. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. with a short reception to follow in the vestibule. There will NOT be a 9:00 a.m. Mass on that day.

Please join our parish family in praying for the repose of the souls of those who have died in the past year. There will be time after Mass to gather to remember those who have graced our lives and gone before us to be with the Lord. Our prayers and gratitude go with them for all they have done for us and for our parish.



All are invited to a **Mass for the Deceased Clergy of the Diocese of Yakima** to be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18 at St. Paul Cathedral in Yakima.

HAND CARVED OLIVE WOOD ARTICLES MADE BY BETHLEHEM FAMILY ARTISANS

NEXT WEEKEND
November 15-16, 2025



These beautiful and unique art pieces will be available for purchase after all Masses **Saturday, November 15 and Sunday, November 16.** Items including nativities, ornaments, crucifixes, rosaries, and statues. They make wonderful gifts.

The handicrafts trade in the Holy Land has evolved as a cultural tradition over many centuries and has become an industry of significance to the local economy in Bethlehem. The proceeds from these sales are a major source of income for 75 Catholic families who hand carve these pieces. In the past two decades, the Christian population in the Holy Land has dropped from 22% to 2%. Your purchase of these religious articles helps to support the ability of these Christian families to continue to live in the Holy Land.

Thank you for your support.





The Body of Christ on Parade

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Singing together during the distribution of holy Communion is one way of expressing the reality that we are one in the Eucharist, the Body of Christ. I once was taught to pray quietly during this time. If I'm honest, however, what I find myself doing after I return to my pew is watching others process past as they return from receiving Communion. They are a parade of holiness on the way. They are the longtime parishioners who have been making their way back to their pews in this way for decades—some now using walkers or canes, others with a bit of a slow hobble. There are teenagers, too. Some, from the expressions on their faces, look like their parents made them come, while others look

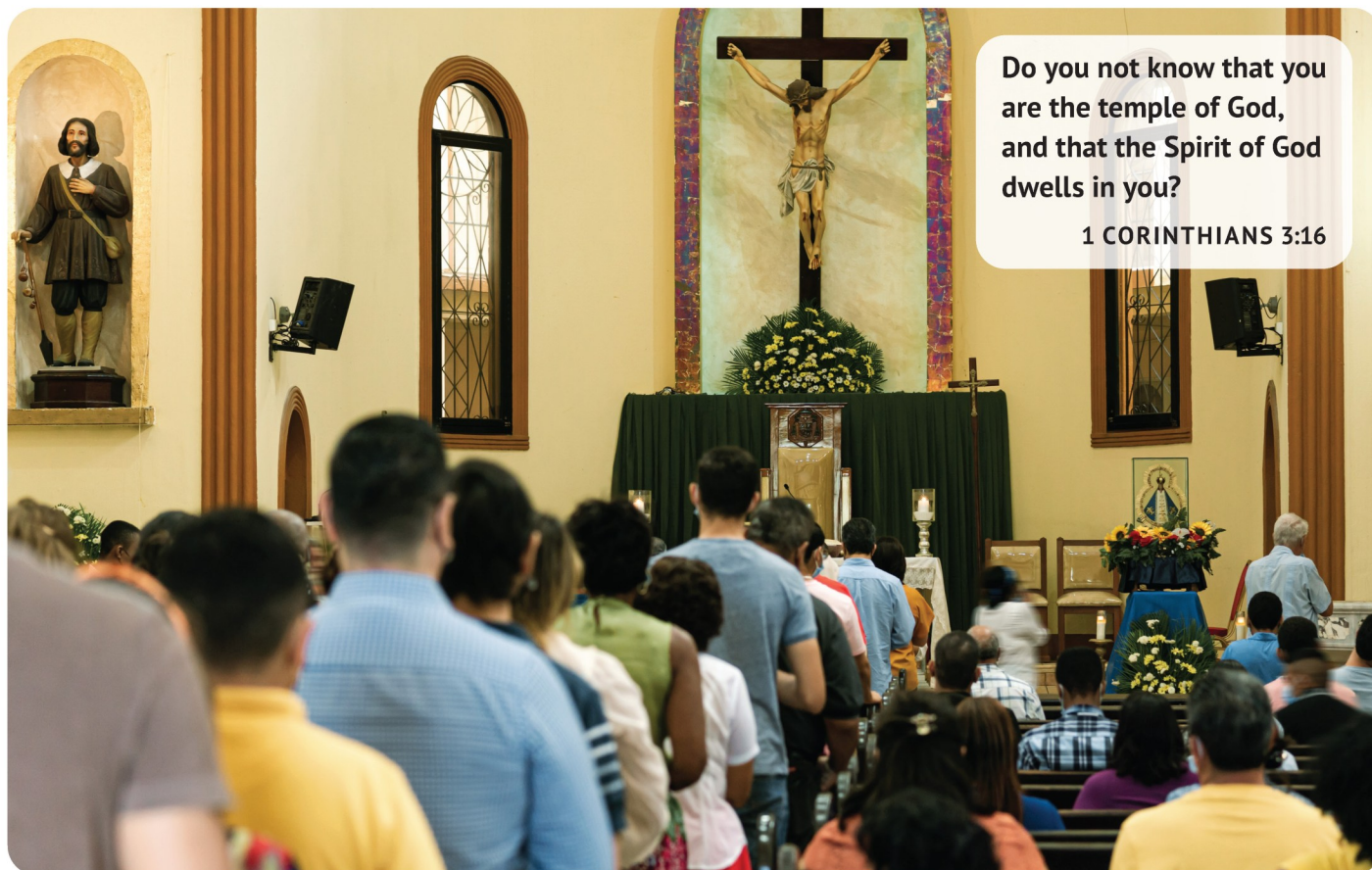
impressively prayerful. Young parents, too, caring for a new baby in their arms, and another couple holding a two-year-old's hand as he tugs to escape and be free. And middle-aged single people, now halfway through this life's journey. Young couples, as well, those just married or engaged and so obviously in love, but also widows and widowers longing for the love they once knew. All of these are the body of Christ, the very temple of God built upon the foundation that is Christ Jesus, as Paul notes so well. This is why I watch them processing back to their pews. This, too, is prayer. ●

Reflect

How do I pray after I've received holy Communion?

Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

1 CORINTHIANS 3:16





ROOTED IN FAITH, GROWING IN EXCELLENCE

Dear Grandparents,

Thank you for joining us today. Your presence is a beautiful reminder of the roots of faith, wisdom, and love that shape our students' lives every day. At St. Joseph Catholic School, we are filled with gratitude — for your families, for your grandchildren, and for the legacy of support that makes our mission possible.

WHAT WE'RE CELEBRATING & WORKING ON

This year, we are joyfully continuing to grow — in faith, learning, and service. Here are just a few of the exciting things happening at St. Joseph:

CARING FOR OUR HISTORIC CAMPUS

We are working hard to maintain and improve our beloved, historic school building — ensuring a safe, welcoming space for all students.

EXPANDING ARTS, MUSIC & CLUBS

New musical instruments, art supplies, and club opportunities are helping students explore their God-given talents.

PRIORITIZING STUDENT SAFETY

We are implementing thoughtful upgrades to keep our campus secure and peaceful for every child.

LEGACY IN THE MAKING

Our mission isn't just for today — it's for tomorrow, and for years to come. We are joyfully working to grow our **Endowment Fund**, which provides long-term stability and helps keep tuition accessible for all families. Every gift to the endowment helps secure the future of Catholic education here at St. Joseph. Please find more information about this Endowment fund on our school's website:

www.sjske.org/alumniandfriends

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Art & Wine 2026

Our largest and most festive fundraiser of the year — an evening of celebration, community, and creativity.

Save the Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026

St. Joseph Golf Tournament

A joyful tradition of fun and fundraising.

Save the Date: Saturday, May 16, 2026



FAITH IN ACTION: JOIN US!

We love welcoming grandparents and extended family to experience the joy of our faith-filled school. The following dates are when you can find our St. Joseph students and families host our school and parish masses by signing in the choir, say the readings, usher, etc. Students attend the Sunday mass in their school uniform. You're invited to join us for some of our upcoming mass dates. We are also looking for school family lectors, ushers EMHS to help us with these masses:

Student-Hosted Masses at St. Joseph Parish

- November 21st at 8:30am & 23rd at 11am
- December 19th at 8:30am
- January 23rd at 8:30am & 25th at 11am

INSPIRED TO LEARN MORE?

If anything you've heard today inspires you to get more involved — through volunteering, sponsorships, or legacy giving — we would love to talk more. Your love and support are powerful seeds for the future.

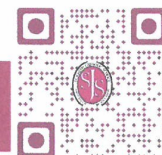
"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." – Proverbs 22:6

Thank you for all the ways you love, support, and pray for your grandchildren and our school.

With gratitude,

St. Joseph Catholic School

Scan the QR code to join our Alumni & Friends of SJS Newsletter!
www.sjske.org/alumniandfriends





YOU'RE INVITED

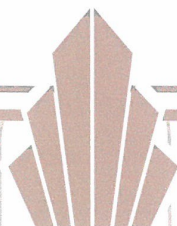
February 7th, 2026



St. Joseph's
Dillon Hall

Get in on the glitz

Scan the QR code to visit the event's website





Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

November 2025

Parish of the Holy Spirit

One Minute Meditations

St. Albert the Great

Possibly one of the Church's greatest intellectuals, St. Albert was the eldest son of a powerful German military official. Despite opposition from his family, he joined the Dominican Order. Being well educated, St. Albert desired to make all the learning of the East available to the Latin-speaking West. He earned his doctorate at the University of Paris in 1245 and taught at Paris and Cologne. He is best known as the master of St. Thomas Aquinas.

Praying for the dead

Catholics see Purgatory as an expression of God's mercy — a place where souls who die in His grace, but need further purification, are prepared for Heaven. This month, we pray for our departed loved ones, asking God to bring them quickly into His presence.

One tradition is to request a Mass on the anniversary of a loved one's death. If that soul is already in Heaven, the graces benefit others still in need. In God's mercy, nothing is ever wasted.

"Forgiveness comes...through the soul's desire to be united to me [i.e., to God], the infinite Good, according to the measure of love attained by the recipient's desire and prayer. A person receives as much of my goodness as he gives to me." St. Catherine of Siena, *The Dialogue*

Christ as King of our hearts

When we proclaim, "Christ is King," we're not making a poetic or symbolic statement. We're declaring a truth that shapes every part of our lives. To live under Christ's rule is to give Him authority over what we believe, how we worship, how we act, and how we spend our time.

What we believe: At the center of our faith is a relationship. Knowing Jesus personally — through the Gospels, through prayer, through the lives of the saints — transforms abstract belief into living faith. When someone asks, "Why are you Catholic?" our answer should come from experience, not just theology.

How we worship: Imagine a king hosting a free, lavish banquet every week for all his subjects. Every Sunday, we're invited to a banquet — not of food, but of grace. To say, "Christ is King" is to obey His words: "*Do this in remembrance of me*" (Luke 22:19). The

Mass is not just a weekly routine; it's a divine encounter.

How we act: Our actions, especially the small ones, speak volumes. Reverence, patience, honesty, integrity,

"You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth."
John 18:37

and generosity are everyday ways of making Christ visible through us. These aren't just virtues — they're signs of loyalty to our true King.

How we spend our time: Daily prayer proclaims that Christ reigns not only over Sunday, but over our entire lives. Whether prayer feels powerful or dry, it anchors us in Him. No time given to Christ is ever wasted.

To say "Christ is King" is to surrender everything to Him. It's a declaration that He reigns not just in Heaven, but here, now, in us.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

An indulgence is "the remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). This "temporal punishment" refers to the purification the soul undergoes before entering Heaven.

The power of indulgences flows from Christ's sacrifice and is applied through

Why does the Church offer indulgences?

the merits of the saints and prayers of the Church. Indulgences are not shortcuts to Heaven or "free passes"; they require repentance and conversion of heart.

To obtain an indulgence, conditions must be met: sacramental Confession, reception of Holy Communion, prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, and performance of the indulgenced act.

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21)

There's a common lesson in driver's education: "Your vehicle goes where your eyes go." Spiritually, the same is true — our lives follow what we focus on. What we treasure most lays claim to our hearts. The challenge is to set our hearts on what truly lasts.

"You cannot serve two masters" (Matthew 6:24). What treasure do you set your heart on? A desire for holiness requires us to examine how we live day to day. Are we cultivating trust in God, or grasping for control? Realignment often begins with small, intentional acts: spending time in prayer instead of mindless scrolling; reading the Gospel before the news; choosing simplicity over indulgence and

giving generously to those in need. These are daily decisions that reflect where our heart truly lies.

Trust instead of worrying. Jesus does not condemn wealth, hard work, or responsible planning. Instead, He calls us to live as sons and daughters of God. That means trusting His love, accepting His timing, and offering our lives in service to His Kingdom. Ask yourself: Do I invite God into my decisions, or do I act alone? Am I content to wait on His timing, or do I insist on my own?

When we prioritize the things of God, we invest in a treasure that does not fade — one that shapes who we are now, and endures into eternity.

from Scripture

Matthew 24:37-44, Preparing hearts for Christ's coming

In this Gospel reading, Jesus reminds us that we do not know the day or the hour when He will come for us. "*At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.*" His message is clear: live each day prepared to meet Him.

Next month, we celebrate His first coming at Christmas. But Christ will come again — at our death, and at the end of time. Advent invites us to ask: "What must I do to be ready?"

Begin by striving to remain in a state of grace. If you are aware of having committed mortal sin, seek God's mercy without delay through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Even if you are not conscious of serious sin,

aim to go to Confession regularly — every four to six weeks, if possible. Examine your conscience honestly, and choose one or two areas of sin to actively work on.

Attend Sunday Mass faithfully, make more time for prayer, and look for opportunities to serve others with love and humility. These practices not only prepare us to welcome Christ when we finally meet Him face-to-face, but they also draw us closer to Him now.

When Christmas arrives, may you greet the Lord not with fear, but with joy — knowing your heart is open, your hands are ready, and your soul is at peace.

Feasts & Celebrations

November 2 – All Souls Day. On this day we pray for the dead, especially our loved ones and the souls in Purgatory. Our prayers and sacrifices can help them get to Heaven faster.

November 4 – St. Charles Borromeo (1584). Born into a wealthy family in 1538 in Lombardy, Italy, St. Charles was chosen for the priesthood to follow in the footsteps of his uncle, Giovanni Angelo de Medici, the future Pope Pius IV. After earning doctorates in civil and canon law by the age of 21, Charles was named cardinal and bishop of Milan. He worked to reform his diocese of

corruption and cared for the poor and sick when a plague struck Milan.

November 23 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. God promised his people a king who would be triumphant over their enemies. Jesus is our King, who triumphed over the enemies of sin and death. In Baptism and Confirmation, we are brought under His kingship.

November 30 – 1st Sunday of Advent. During this four-week season, we anticipate the Messiah's birth, remembering the time when He was awaited. During Advent we also look forward to Christ's reign and His coming on the Last Day. We light candles in an Advent wreath each night of the season to signal the coming of the true light of Christ.

Q & A Do Catholics practice tithing?

Tithing is the practice of giving ten percent of your income to the Church. In fact, the word itself comes from an Old English word meaning, "one-tenth." It was based on Jewish tradition in the Old Testament and its first recorded practice was Abraham's offering of a tenth of all he had as a "thank offering" to God for his victory in battle (Genesis 14:18-20). It's still practiced by the Mormon Church.

The Catholic Church does not require tithing; there is no "fixed sum" that God requires of us. Catholics are, however, required to support the material needs of the Church (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2043). How much — or little — is between you and God and in light of the needs of your state in life.

Money isn't the only way to support your parish, diocese, or the Church. Giving of your time to volunteer in your parish, donating some of what you don't need to the poor, and even devoting prayers specifically for the needs of your parish priests are all praiseworthy ways to give back.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)

Dear Padre,

Should the pope get involved in American politics?

No, the pope should not get involved in the politics of any country. However, politics often intersects with religious concerns and particularly gospel values. When this occurs, the Holy Father has a responsibility to preach the gospel and defend the values the gospel teaches, even when it might sound political. He pronounces and teaches the values of the gospel, regardless of what nation or politician might feel confronted or challenged by what he teaches.

What often happens is, when politicians find themselves in conflict with the gospel values the pope is teaching, they choose to say, “The pope has no business in our politics,” instead of listening. Completely understandable, at least from one perspective, but probably also disingenuous from another perspective. Politicians are fully aware of what is being proclaimed and why it is being proclaimed but choose not to listen. That, too, is completely understandable, if regrettable. One has to think only of the scribes and the Pharisees, and more particularly the high priest, who said, “Consider that it is better for you that one man should die instead of the people, so that the whole nation may not perish” (John 11:50). ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



MARCO IACOBUCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
November 10	November 11	November 12	November 13	November 14	November 15	November 16
<i>St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church</i>	<i>St. Martin of Tours, Bishop</i>	<i>St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr</i>	<i>St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Wis 1:1-7	Wis 2:23-3:9	Wis 6:1-11	Wis 7:22b-8:1	Wis 13:1-9	Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9	Mal 3:19-20a
Lk 17:1-6	Lk 17:7-10	Lk 17:11-19	Lk 17:20-25	Lk 17:26-37	Lk 18:1-8	2 Thes 3:7-12
						Lk 21:5-19



COTTONERO / PEXELS

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Because of the Jewish roots of Christianity, all Christians have a special relationship with Judaism.... The theological dialogue between Christians and Jews remains ever important and close to my heart. Even in these difficult times, marked by conflicts and misunderstandings, it is necessary to continue the momentum of this precious dialogue of ours.

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 19, 2025

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