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#### **WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday—5 PM Sunday—8 & 10:30 AM

#### RECONCILATION

Saturday 4-4:45 PM

#### **PARISH OFFICE**

6202 W. Saint Joseph Road Evansville, IN 47720 812-963-3273

#### **SCHOOL**

6130 W. Saint Joseph Road Evansville IN 47720 812-963-3335

#### WEBSITE

www.stjoeco.org

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

(812) 963-3149

#### **PARISH STAFF**

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f

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# SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

VANDERBURGH COUNTY EVANSVILLE, INDIANA ESTABLISHED IN 1841

## **NOVEMBER 23, 2025 THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING**



Dear friends,

Thanksgiving day is coming once again this week. For most of us the day will involve gathering with family and friends to share some time together and to share a meal together. These are such important times for us as we gathering with family and renew the ties that bind us. With all the great cooks we have in the parish, I have



no doubt that the food at these Thanksgiving meals will not only be tasty and scrumptious, but will be abundant as well.

As I have come to know and love you these past twenty-five years, I know there would always be a place for me as well at your thanksgiving meal. And because I know your spirit of generosity, I know you would extend that invitation to other people who might be with me. "Of course, Father, bring them along, there will be more than enough for everyone." And when I got ready to leave, you would be quick to add, "Can I fix you something to take home?" What a great spirit of hospitality!

Well, I have some people to bring to Thanksgiving Dinner this year. I'm thinking of our school children at our sister parish in Haiti—St. James. We have about 960 students and staff in our grade school and high school. Now, I can't really bring them to your house for a meal on Thanksgiving, but I'd like to appeal to help us bring some food to them, not just on Thanksgiving but each day of the school year. These meals are pretty simple—rice and beans, with maybe some dried peas and perhaps some fish. The menu doesn't change much from day to day but for so many of the children, it is the only meal they will eat.

Even this simple meal costs money—about \$.45 per meal. And even this can get to be expensive when you are trying to provide food for 960 kids and staff for each day of school. We figure it costs about \$2.25 per week to feed one child, about \$9 to feed one child per month and about \$80 to feed a child for the whole year. Trying to do this for all the students and teachers can be a pretty big undertaking.



For the past several years at Christmas, we have invited people to give money to help provide food for our school children. We've called this "Haiti Gifts of Compassion. We've invited people to give money for food in honor of a loved one at Christmas. Once again we have set up a special kiosk in church where you will find gift cards that you can send your loved ones to tell them that you have honored them at Christmas by giving money for food in their name.

So I'm hoping you will join me in this effort. While the task before us may seem insurmountable, and what we can offer may

be small, I think of the words St. Paul told the people of Ephesus, that God's power, working

in our lives, can do for more than we can ask or even imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)

You can use the gift cards at the special "Haiti Gifts of Compassion" kiosk in church, or simple put your donation for food in the collection or send it to us at the parish office. I thank you, in advance, for loving our sisters and brothers in Haiti and honoring with the gift of food.

Leaning into the journey of life Fr. Gene Schroeder

P.S. Thanks to the efforts of 56% of our parishioners, we are now within 4% of reaching our CMA goal! Surely the other 44% of our parish families can help us reach our goal. So make your pledge today. Your gift benefits thousands of people in our diocese.

#### CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL (CPC)

PARISH GOAL \$131,040.00

PLEDGED TO DATE \$126,385.00 96%

NUMBER OF PLEDGES 288 56%

AVERAGE PLEDGE \$438.84

Our stewardship goal is to give 1% of our gross income to the CMA. Thanks to the following people who have returned their pledge card.

Justin & Lena Greubel Michael & Kearstyn Weber Bill & Diane Layman Dave & Donna Dippel Victor & Jane Aydt Tim & Judy Bishop

Leonard Elpers



Shane & Jenna Wessel Keith & Carrie Fehrenbacher

MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY AND SUPPORT OUR COMMON EFFORTI

### CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2025 CHRIST THE KING

5:00 PM MASS: John Hartlein (1872), John Rockemeyer (1878), Joseph Kercher (1891), Caecilia Ritter (1902), Dorethea Goebel (1926), John (1994) & Mary Effinger



#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2025 CHRIST THE KING

**8:00 AM MASS:** Mary Jane Hochgesang, John Reckelhoff, Helen Klueh, For all the people in our parish

10:30 AM MASS: Anthony and Elizabeth Kempf, Virgil and Rosemary Spaetti, Florence and Charlie Osterman, Margaret and Cletus Wannemuehler, Art Kempf, Greg Kempf, Edgar Hartz

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025 ANDREW DUNG-LAC and COMPANIONS

**6:30 PM MASS:** Don Ennis, Ernest Brormann (1898), Henry Helfrich (1915), Janice Scheller (1969), Leo (1975) & Dorothy Vollman (1975), Dolores (1986) & Lew Montgomery

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2025 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: John (1965) & Anna Voelker, Elvera (1989) & George Hillenbrand, Sophia (1993) & Thomas Kelle

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2025 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**7:30 AM MASS:** William Kissel (1926), Fr. Bernard Reidford (1948), Sr. Avila O.S.F. (Theresa Relleke) (1966), John (1983) & Irene Kissel, Winnie (2006) & Joe Schu

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2025 THANSKGIVING DAY

**8:00 AM MASS (IN CHURCH):** Carol Vogh (1865), John Friehaut (1870), John Happe (1894), Francis Hillenbrand (1912), Henry (1974) & Anna Hillenbrand

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28. 2025 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NO MASS: George Happe (1893), John Heimbucher (1899), Joseph (1966) & Veronica Rexing (1966), John (2013) & Patrica Kissel (2013), Lorine Kissel

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2025 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

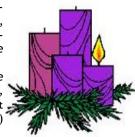
**5:00 PM MASS:** Theodor Urich (1906), Josephine Hale (2001), Agnes (2004) & Joe Scheller (2004)

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM MASS: William & Dorothy (Hertel) Niemeier, Carol

Lewis, John Reckelhoff, Paul, Mary, Larry & Betty Ann Spaulding, Margaret Poutain, Don & Neace Singleton, Cathy Luigs, Bob, Clara & Tom Buchhet, Herb, Anna, Steve, Russel, Mike & Donna Summers

10:30 AM MASS: For all the people in our parish, Anna Voelker (1892), Elisabeth Wolf (1923), Herb (2004) & Jenny Langner, Donna Marie (2021) & Chester Fenwick



**THANKS...**I want to thank Fr. Gene, Kristan Gilles, Cindy Schmitt and Debbie Collins for the beautiful funeral liturgy for Lee. Thanks as well to all the folks who prepared and served the dinner after the funeral. Your kindness was so much appreciated. *Toni Striker-Askins* 

#### STEWARDSHIP: The Lord's Way

Today we celebrate Christ the King and are reminded that all was created through Him and for Him. Does my stewardship of the blessing entrusted to me give evidence that Christ is Lord of my life?



NOVEMBER 17, 2025	\$ 29,923.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$ 15,350.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$ 257,999.76
RUDGET TO DATE	\$ 307 000 00

#### **OUTREACH MINISTRIES**

HAITI	<b>Ş</b> 1	,217.00
HAITI STUDENTS SPONSORSHIPS	\$ 2	,790.33
SAUSAGE FOR THE HOMELESS	\$	20.00
HAITI FOOD FUND	\$ 1	,100.00
HAITI SEWING SCHOLARSHIPS	\$	600.00
CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT	\$	50.00
ST. VINCENT DePAUL	\$	5.00

May we continue to be blessed by your faithful financial support. to our parish and to our outreach ministries. Remember that you can SEND YOUR COLLECTION THROUGH THE MAIL:

St. Joseph Church 6202 W. St. Joseph Rd. Evansville, IN 47720 REBUILDING OUR CHURCH CAMPAIGN

TOTAL PLEDGED \$ 805,572.00 RECEIVED TO DATE \$ 809,180.23

Your monthly packet of collection envelopes now includes a "Rebuilding our Church Campaign" envelope which you can use to make your pledge contributions.

# PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME

HERITAGE: Brenda Koester, Christine Settle, Jack Fleeger

HOLIDAY RETIREMNT VILLAGE: Anna Mae Gries

BETHEL MANOR: Margaret Kafel

CYPRUS REHABILITATION CENTER (NEWBURGH): Steve Hasselbrinck

NORTH PARK NURSING CENTER: Carl Kempf

RIVER POINTE: Beverly Jones

HAMILTON POINTE: Carolyn Pfaffman

EVANSVILLE PROTESTANT HOME: Mary Lou Davis

#### NOV. 23: Charlie Galt, Carrie Straus, Amy Will, Brooke Williams

NOV. 24: Joey Arnold, Jennifer Gibbs,

Jackie Gries, Dan Voelker

NOV. 25: Pat Ashby, Landon Elpers

NOV. 26: John Bassemier, Jarred Kinnaman

NOV. 27: Bonnie Bittner, Megan Brosmer, Tim Mayer

NOV. 28: Ella Carlisle, Brylee Delano, Lori Lamble, Jim Fechtmeister, Ansley Hendon, Ben Mehringer

NOV. 29: Rowan Koester, Emma Macke

NOV. 30: Laura Gries

NOV. 23: John & Diane Bassemier, Roger & Kathy Hall

NOV. 24: Bryan & Tori Ruder

NOV. 27: Brent & Kelly Lyke, Rick & Tracy Adler, Mike & Jossie Burk

NOV. 28: Ron & Becky Mayer, Tom & Bryan Barron



**HAPPY** 

**BIRTHDAY** 

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Please remember in your prayers **Bill Niemeier**, the brother-in-law of Frank and Sandy Hertel and the brother of the late Charlie Niemeier. Also as we remember Fr. Bill Dietsch, we want to remember as well

his cousins, Jane Luigs, Darlene Appler, Janet Herr, Julie Market and Becky Richter. May God's peace be with all of them.



SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF SEMINARIANS FOR MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH IN VLADIVOSTOK, RUSSIA



WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 22-23 5 PM (L) Susie Schapker (EM) Mary Loehrlein Carolyn Hutchinson, Sis & Katie Jarboe, 8 AM (L) Jalene Weber (EM) Bryan and Ann Craney, Marcia LECTOR () EXCHANSTIC MINISTERS (M) Frey Terry Drone 10:30 AM (L) Chad Martin (EM) Doris Taylor Sally Kempf, Cecelia Koch

Kitty Deig

WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 29-30 5 PM (L) Sis Jarboe (EM) Donald & Brandon Werner, Mary Kay Fehrenbacher, Donna Niemeier 8 AM (L) Jalene Weber, (EM) Brian and Ann Craney, Marcia Frey Terry Drone, 10:30 AM (L) Chad Martin (EM) Doris Taylor, Sally Kempf, Cecelia Koch Kitty Deig

## S LOTTERY TIME

**48 CHANCES TO WIN BIG BUCKS!! GET YOUR TICKET TODAY--\$75** By



now you should have received your invitation

in the mail to buy your lottery ticket. If we missed you, let M us know! THE 2026 MATER DEI TRADITION LOT-TERY TICKETS are also now available. Tickets (\$100) can be purchased at Mater Dei or by contacting the parish office (812-963-3273).



Parents Night Out is coming- Saturday December 13th from 6-9 pm. Children are welcome to come for a night IN while parents can enjoy a higt OUT!. We will have dinner,

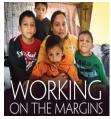
decorate Christmas cookies, play Christmas games, and watch a Christmas movie! Jr. High and High School students are welcome to help. (Receive a school free dress pass for helping.) If interested, contact Jessica Reckelhoff (812-598-1151) to register by Dec. 8th. \$10.00 per child.



Our St. Joe Senior Citizens Group invites all the senior citizens in the parish to their Christmas Pot Luck Dinner on Friday, **December 12 at noon.** Enjoy some good 陷 food and great company.

#### CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Our special collection this month supports the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Currently 38 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection funds programs that empower local communities to address



the challenges they face. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development supports those living in poverty across the country. It identifies and addresses the unique obstacles people face as they work to lift themselves out of poverty. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local anti -poverty projects. By supporting this

collection, you are giving those on the margins a hand up, not a handout. Please be generous.

#### **ALTAR SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY**

THURSDAY DECEMBER 11 at 6 PM All women of the parish are invited to come. Call Susie Schapker (812-483-4799) or Donna Dipple (812-963-6911) for reservations.

If you choose, you can bring a gift for a state hospital patient. This should be wrapped and marked for gender as well as size. No glass containers of any kind. The Altar Society is extending the invitation to bring gifts for state hospital patients to the entire parish. There will be a box at the front doors of the church in which you can place your gifts.

## ON THE LOVE FOR THE POOR

We are reading from the Apostolic Exortation Delexi Te of Pope Leo to all Christians on the Love of the Poor

In that time, the needy and the sick, lacking the necessities of life, frequently found themselves forced to beg. They thus bore the added burden of social shame, due to the belief that



sickness and poverty were somehow linked to personal sin. Jesus firmly countered this mentality by insisting that God "makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous" (Mt 5:45). Indeed, he completely overturned that notion, as we see from the ending of the parable of the rich man and Lazarus: "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony" (Lk 16:25).

It becomes clear, then, that our faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast, is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society's most neglected members. I often wonder, even though the teaching of Sacred Scripture is so clear about the poor, why many people continue to think that they can safely disregard the poor. For the moment, though, let us pursue our reflection on what the Scriptures have to tell us about our relationship with the poor and their essential place in the people of God.

#### MERCY TOWARDS THE POOR IN THE BIBLE

The Apostle John writes: "Those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen" (1 Jn 4:20). Similarly, in his reply to the scribe's question, Jesus quotes the two ancient commandments: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might" (Deut 6:5), and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Lev 19:18), uniting them in a single commandment. The Evangelist Mark reports Jesus' response in these terms: "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these" (12:29-31).

The passage from the Book of Leviticus teaches love for one's neighbor, while other texts call for respect — if not also love — even for one's enemy: "When you come upon your enemy's ox or donkey going astray, you shall bring it back. When you see the donkey of one who hates you lying under its burden and you would hold back from setting it free, you must help to set it free" (Ex 23:4-5). Here the intrinsic value of respect for others is expressly stated: anyone in need, even an enemy, always deserves our assistance.

Jesus' teaching on the primacy of love for God is clearly complemented by his insistence that one cannot love God without extending one's love to the poor. Love for our neighbor is tangible proof of the authenticity of our love for God, as the Apostle John attests: "No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us... God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them" (1 Jn 4:12,16). The two loves are distinct yet inseparable. Even in cases where there is no explicit reference to God, the Lord himself teaches that every act of love for one's neighbor is in some way a reflection of divine charity: "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt 25:40).

TO BE CONTINUED

Join us Sunday December 7 9 am --Noon



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