



SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

VANDEBURGH COUNTY EVANSVILLE, INDIANA ESTABLISHED IN 1841

MARCH 15, 2026 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

A community of joyful, active, faith-filled people who give thanks to God by generously sharing their individual gifts and talents to serve the needs of all.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday—5 PM

Sunday—8 & 10:30 AM

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4-4:45 PM

PARISH OFFICE

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Evansville, IN 47720

812-963-3273

SCHOOL

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Evansville IN 47720

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WEBSITE

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PRAYER REQUESTS

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Dear friends,

I want to begin by extending a big thanks to **Jessica Reckelhoff** and **Rachael Schnaus** for coordinating the Women's Retreat last weekend. It was a great weekend for the 90+ women who attended. I know there were a lot of other folks involved in planning the details and providing all the food for the weekend. Thanks to all of you for helping to create a prayerful and relaxing weekend for all those involved.



Thanks to all those who helped with the preparation work for our Fish Fry this past Friday. Not only is it great food but it is also prepared with such great efficiency. It is a marvel to see it all unfold.

This coming Friday, another group of folks led by **Danielle Weledge** have put together a Candlelight Concert which will begin at 7 pm in church. For all those who enjoy good worship music, this evening promises to be a peaceful, clam and reflective evening of prayer. Something truly special at St. Joe. I hope you can join us.

Also on the horizon, is a special evening of food and dancing that is being put together by our Haiti Ministry Group. They are calling it "Caribbean Nights" on Saturday, May 2. It will be an evening to celebrate the culture and people of the people who live in the Caribbean, including our brothers and sisters in Haiti. The evening will feature a whole hog roast with all the trimmings and a night of dancing. You'll also have the chance to bid on some special auction items. Proceeds will benefit our work with our brothers and sisters in Haiti, You'll find more information in the inside of the bulletin.



In the meantime we have some other folks putting plans together for our parish wide Easter Egg Hunt on, Saturday, April 4. And we have another group of folks getting ready for the mowing season. **Jerry Happe, Randy Tenbarge and Randy Fehrenbacher** have been working together to get all the moving equipment ready. We've decided to purchase a new zero turn mower for use in the cemetery. We think it will work a little bit better than the present riding mower we have. All this will require additional people to help out on each mowing crew. So once again we are appeal to you for help. Call the parish office (812-963-3273) or Randy Tenbarge (812-205-5139) to offer your help or for more information.

As all this goes on in our parish, we know too that many of our brothers and sisters, especially those in places like Gaza, Iran, and Ukraine are suffering because of the effects of war. We may feel a little hopeless in the face of such suffering and wonder what we can do to. Well, here is a way we can respond. During Lent we have two special collections—Catholic Relief Services and The Collection for the Holy Land. Both of these collections are providing food, medical aid and housing aid to people who are suffering in Gaza, Iran, Ukraine, Ethiopia, Sudan, Yemen, and so many other places where people's lives are being disrupted by war.

While this may be just a simple gesture, it reminds us that, even in the face of hopelessness and discontent, it is more worthwhile to do some good, however small, in response, than to fall into a sense of hopelessness.

Leaning into the journey of life,

Fr. Gene Schroeder

GOD WOULD KNEEL DOWN

I think God might be a little prejudiced.
For once He asked me to join him on a walk through this world, and we gazed into every heart on this earth, and I noticed that He lingered a bit longer before any face that was weeping, and before any eyes that were laughing.
And sometimes when we passed a soul in worship God too would kneel down.
I have to learn
God adores His creation





CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 PM MASS: Harry Woods, Mary Rexing, Bob McLean, Ray Hamner, Andy Schentrup, Lee Askins, Jan Hermann, George Brack (1880), Mary (1980) & Raymond Schmidt (1980), Kate (2009) & Al Schmitt

SUNDAY, MARCH 15
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 AM MASS: Robert & Margie Harpenau, Dean & Alex Trowbridge, Dave Ferenbsacner, Ron, Hartman, Clarence & Catherine Miller, Jim & Avila Fehrenbacher

10:30 AM MASS: Valentin Effinger (1875), Joseph Baumgart (1881), Anna Baumgart (1883), Henry Bender (1916), Harry Woods (2025)

MONDAY, MARCH 16
WEEKDAY OF LENT

6:30 PM MASS: Maria Fischer (1878), Anna Urich (1881), Herman (1960) & Willie Mae Tenhumberg, Pete Sauer (1995), June (2000) & Tony Weiss, Valada Pace (2001)

TUESDAY, MARCH 17
WEEKDAY OF LENT FEAST OF ST. PATRICK

7:30 AM MASS: Henry Happe (1873), Bernard Moutoux (1880), Thelma Schell (1972)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18
WEEKDAY OF LENT

7:30 AM MASS: Regina Ochsner (1879), Paul Buehner (1982), Mariana (2013) & Joe Elpers

THURSDAY, MARCH 19
FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH

NO MASS: Agatha Ziegler (1872), Henry Angermeyer (1920), Joseph (1986) & Josephine Goebel, Cecilia (1988) & John Reising, Olen (1994) & Betty Metz

FRIDAY, MARCH 20
WEEKDAY OF LENT

7:30 AM (Children's Celebration of Palm Sunday) Victims of war in Iran, Gaza and Ukraine.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 PM MASS Ron Sorg, Tim Blandford, Infant Beckerle (1869), Anna Oshsner (1880), Maria Werner (1882), Maria (1907) & Paul Kissel, For all the people of our parish

SUNDAY, MARCH 22
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 AM MASS: Margaret & Donald Kafel, August and Mary Seibert, Kevin Frey, John Reckelhoff, Bob and Mildred Weber, Clarence, Clem and Charlie Weber, Mary Seib, Kathryn Altstadt

10:30 AM MASS: Laurentius Denninger (1865), Caspar (1934) & Magdalena Hiltenbrand (1934), George (1983) & Betty Duncan, Clarence (2000) & Reinildis Botzum (2000)



EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS.... we are inviting you to remember your loved ones at Easter. Please send your contribution along with the names of the people you want to remember to the parish office (through the collection or through the mail) by March 25th. Names will be published in the Easter Bulletin.



The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His Message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the man born blind or the Pharisees?



STEWARDSHIP: *The Lord's Way*

MARCH 8, 2026	\$ 18,162.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$ 15,350.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$ 520,876.96
BUDGET TO DATE	\$ 552,600.00
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION	\$ 5.00
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	\$ 15.00

Saluting our young stewards, Beatrice, Peter, Paul, John, & Bernadette Reckelhoff

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

ST. VINCENT DePAUL	\$ 5.00
HAITI STUDENTS	\$ 350.00
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES	\$ 30.00

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

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

HERITAGE: Brenda Koester, Jack Fleeger
HOLIDAY RETIREMENT VILLAGE: Anna Mae Gries, Jim Geiser
CYPRUS REHABILITATION CENTER (NEWBURGH): Steve Hasselbrinck
RIVERWALK COMMUNITY: Carl Kempf
RIVER POINTE: Beverly Jones
HAMILTON POINTE: Carolyn Pfaffman
EVANSVILLE PROTESTANT HOME: Mary Lou Davis

MARCH 15: Cecelia Costlow, Sophia Costlow, Lea Elliott, HAPPY BIRTHDAY Brad Elpers, Tate Kelly, Scotty Kirt, Ella Weber
MARCH 16: Barbara Angermeier, Tom Angermeier, Carol Fechtmeister, Reigns Straus, Sterling Straus
MARCH 17: Josh Clem, Karen Hellenberg, Shane Wessel
MARCH 18: Chase Christie, Katelyn Mochau, Rachel Refenes, Charlie Voelker
MARCH 19: Matt Bishop, Don Kiesel, Jane Scheller, Emily Townsend
MARCH 20: Lindsey Mehringer
MARCH 21: Shari Kempf, Kate Raben, Lesa Raben, Monica Voelker

COLLEGE CARE-PACKAGES

Join us as we support our college students by preparing a care package for them as they prepare for semester exams. College Care Packages are available in church today. Please return the care packages no later than Sunday, March 29. Thank you for your continued support of this project.

LENTEN COMMUNAL Penance SERVICES

Wednesday, March 25th at 7 pm

Friday, March 27th - 11:00 am

Come join us in prayer at these special Penance Services. We will be using reflections on the Stations of the cross as our examination of conscience.

Remember too, that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is also celebrated each Saturday from 4:00-4:40 pm Also anytime upon request. Call Fr. Gene (812-499-9074) to arrange a time that is convenient.



Please remember in your prayers *Tim Blandford* the nephew of Lori Blandford, *Ron Sorg* the uncle of Lisa Cook, and *Bob Weber*, the uncle of Joanna Eglar and brother-in-law of Frank Hertel who died last week May God's peace be with all the members of their families.

GIVE BLOOD DRIVE COMING MARCH 29
BLOOD 8 AM --NOON IN THE GYM

Liturgical Ministers

LECTOR (L) EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (EM)

WEEKEND OF MARCH 14-15: 5 PM (L) Sis Jarboe (EM) Peter & Jodi Fehrenbacher, Donald & Brandon Werner 8 AM (L) Josh Baehl (EM) Tom & Delores Folz, Imogene Baehl Michael Elpers 10:30 AM (L) Chad Martin (EM) Diane Bassemier, Danielle Weledge, Doris Taylor Debra Baumgart

WEEKEND OF MARCH 21-22: 5 PM (L) Jim Hermann (EM) Diane Woods, Eric Reffett, Mary Loehrlein, Carolyn Hutchinson 8 AM (L) Josh Baehl (EM) Brian and Ann Craney, Marcia Frey, Terry Drone 10:30 AM (L) Shane Wessel (EM) Sally Kempf, Cecelia Koch, Kitty Deig Paul Hillenbrand

COMING THIS WEEK.....

- Family Way of the Cross 5:30 pm
 - That Man is You Wednesday, at 5:30 pm
 - Foundations of Faith Wednesday at 6:30 pm
 - Women's Bible Study Friday 8:30-10 am
- For information contact Jessica Reckelhoff, 812-598-1151 or email jreckelhoff@evdio.org



Join us for **CARIBBEAN NIGHTS** celebrating the culture and people of our sisters and brothers in Haiti. The evening includes a whole hog roast and an evening of dancing and fellowship. Included with the evening is a chance to bid on some special items through a live and silent auction. **5:30 PM Social Hour 6:30 PM Dinner and Desserts 7:30-10:00 PM Dancing and Entertainment Live and Silent Auction Attire Island Casual \$50/person \$400/Table of 8 RSVP by April 18.** Tickets are limited and will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. Contact Eric (812) 618-5945 or Monie (812) 575-9167. Proceeds benefit our Haiti Ministry.



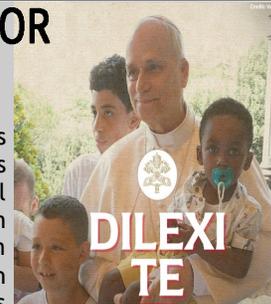
IT'S LAWN MOWING SEASON COME JOIN OUR CREWS!

It's time to start planning for the lawn mowing season in our parish. We're looking to add some more people who can join our existing lawn mowing crews. These crews mow the lawn around the rectory, church, school and convent and the cemetery. Call the parish office (812-963-3273) or Randy Tenbarge (812-205-5139) to offer your help or for more information.

Please remember to remove any decorations around your cemetery tombstones that might get in the way of our lawn mowing crews. Flowers and plaques must be attached securely to the tombstone or flower vases. Shepherd's crooks, statues, balloons, and the like are not permitted as they are a hazard to our mowing crews. Thanks for your help in keeping our cemetery a safe place for our lawn mowing crews.

ON THE LOVE FOR THE POOR

We are reading from the Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi Te* of Pope Leo to all Christians on the Love of the Poor



With Pope John Paul II, the Church's preferential relationship with the poor was consolidated, particularly from a doctrinal standpoint. His teaching saw in the option for the poor a special form of primacy in the exercise of Christian charity, to which the whole tradition of the Church bears witness. In his Encyclical *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, he went on to say: "Today, furthermore, given the worldwide dimension which the social question has assumed, this love of preference for the poor, and the decisions which it inspires in us, cannot but embrace the immense multitudes of the hungry, the needy, the homeless, those without medical care and, above all, those without hope of a better future. It is impossible not to take account of the existence of these realities. To ignore them would mean becoming like the 'rich man' who pretended not to know the beggar Lazarus lying at his gate (cf. Lk 16:19-31)."

Pope John Paul II's teaching on work is likewise important for our consideration of the active role that the poor ought to play in the renewal of the Church and society, thus leaving behind a certain "paternalism" that limited itself to satisfying only the immediate needs of the poor. In his Encyclical *Laborem Exercens*, he forthrightly stated that human work is a key, probably the essential key, to the whole social question.

Amid the multiple crises that marked the beginning of the third millennium, the teaching of Pope Benedict XVI took a more distinctly political turn. Hence, in the Encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, he affirms that the more we strive to secure a common good corresponding to the real needs of our neighbors, the more effectively we love them. He observed, moreover, that hunger is not so much dependent on lack of material things as on shortage of social resources, the most important of which are institutional. What is missing, in other words, is a network of economic institutions capable of guaranteeing regular access to sufficient food and water for nutritional needs, and also capable of addressing the primary needs and necessities ensuing from genuine food crises, whether due to natural causes or political irresponsibility, nationally and internationally.

Pope Francis recognized that in recent decades, alongside the teachings of the Bishops of Rome, national and regional Bishops' Conferences have increasingly spoken out. He could personally attest, for example, to the particular commitment of the Latin American episcopate to rethinking the Church's relationship with the poor. In the immediate post-conciliar period, in almost all Latin American countries, there was a strong sense of the Church's need to identify with the poor and to participate actively in securing their freedom. The Church was moved by the masses of the poor suffering from unemployment, underemployment, unjust wages and sub-standard living conditions. The martyrdom of Saint Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of San Salvador, was a powerful witness and an inspiration for the Church. He had made his own the plight of the vast majority of his flock and made them the center of his pastoral vision. The Conferences of the Latin American Bishops held in Medellin, Puebla, Santo Domingo and Aparecida were also significant events for the life of the Church as a whole. For my part, having served as a missionary in Peru for many years, I am greatly indebted to this process of ecclesial discernment, which Pope Francis wisely linked to that of other particular Churches, especially those in the global South. I would now like to take up two specific themes of this episcopal teaching.

TO BE CONTINUED



PARISH WIDE EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 4 at 9 am Rain or Shine

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