



SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

VANDEBURGH COUNTY EVANSVILLE, INDIANA ESTABLISHED IN 1841

APRIL 12, 2026 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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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812-963-3273

SCHOOL

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Dear friends,

I want to thank all of you for your kind notes and all the Easter goodies you left me. Even the Easter Bunny stopped by my house early Sunday morning. From the note he left me, he was on his way to breakfast. Apparently IHOP is his favorite place to go for breakfast!

A week has past since Easter and a little of newness and freshness of the day is past—the gatherings with people and the special dinners and treats that were shared. Now it is back to the daily routine of life. Some of these same things can be happening as well to all those who were baptized and received into the church. "After the ecstasy, laundry!" That's how one spiritual writer described it. All the new excitement and energy of being baptized gives way to the ordinariness of life. And part of that ordinariness is going to involve disappointment and discouragement.

I found myself thinking about the life of one of our local saints, Mother Theodora Guérin of the Sisters of Providence in Terre Haute. Her father was murdered when she was fifteen. At the age of twenty-three she joined the Sisters of Providence. In 1840, at the invitation Bishop Brute of Vincennes, she and five sisters came to this area to teach and to serve the poor. They arrived in Vincennes and then travelled by horse and wagon to a desolate place in the wilderness west of present day Terre Haute. Here is how she described this trip. "We continued to advance into the thick woods till suddenly Father Buteux stopped the carriage and said, 'Come down, Sisters, we have arrived.' What was our astonishment to find ourselves still in the midst of the forest, no village, not even a house in sight. Our guide having given orders to the driver, led us down into a ravine, whence we beheld through the trees on the other side a frame house with a stable and some sheds. 'There,' he said, 'is the house where the postulants have a room, and where you will lodge until your house is ready'"



*Saint Mother
Theodora Guérin*

Saint Theodora Guérin and her community persevered despite fires, crop failures, prejudice against Catholic women religious, misunderstandings, and separation from their original religious congregation. She once told her sisters, "Have confidence in the Providence that so far has never failed us. The way is not yet clear. Grope along slowly. Do not press matters; be patient, be trustful." Another time she asked, "With Jesus, what shall we have to fear?"

One of the "misunderstandings" she suffered through was her relationship with Bishop Hailandière, the second bishop of Vincennes. The "misunderstandings" was a severe, seven-year "time of trials" (1840-1847) that involved power struggles over the governance of the newly founded Sisters of Providence, financial disagreements, and the bishop's erratic, authoritarian behavior. At one point the Bishop brought her to his residence at the present day Old Cathedral Rectory in Vincennes. After failing to come to an understanding, he locked her in a room in the rectory, dismissed her from her vows as a nun, excommunicated her and told her she was to leave Indiana.

In the wonderfully mysterious ways of the church, shortly after this event, a letter arrived from Rome accepting a resignation request the bishop had submitted two years prior. The new Bishop, John Stephen Bazin, restored peace, approved the community's rules, and confirmed Mother Theodore as the rightful leader of the community. She continued to lead the community until her death in May 14, 1856. On Oct. 15, 2006 Pope Benedict XVI canonized Mother Theodore Guérin a saint in recognition of the holiness of her life and the good works that she and the members of the Sisters of Providence have done and continue to do today.

So, to all those who have recently been baptized and received into the church....if the road ahead seems difficult at times, if you get discouraged by the example of other people who call themselves Catholic, do not be discouraged. It is a part of everyone's faith journey. What's more, it is the difficulties in life that can lead us to a deeper faith. Remember the words of Saint Mother Theodora "be patient, be trustful. With Jesus, what shall we have to fear?"
Leaning into the journey of life Fr. Gene Schroeder



CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, APRIL 11
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00 PM MASS: Fran Happe, Albert Voelker (1891), Anton Hoefling (1892), August (1938) & Victoria Theyry

SUNDAY, APRIL 12
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 AM MASS: Ray & Esther Will, Ravah & Jim Wicks, Curtis Will, Jim & Dolores Niemeier, Rob Martin

10:30 AM MASS: Jeff Schneider, Jack & Kate Siemers, Henry Frank (1881), Angela Kempf (1960), Loraine Meyer (1993)

MONDAY, APRIL 13
EASTER WEEKDAY

6:30 PM MASS: Harold Recker, Joe Fickas, Michael Schnautz (1883), Henry Helfrich (1904)

TUESDAY, APRIL 14
EASTER WEEKDAY

7:30 AM MASS: Infant Kissel (1867), Robert (2006) & Marie Gentry

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
EASTER WEEKDAY

7:30 AM MASS: Maria Bergwitz (1877), John (1934) & Rosina Rexing, Fr. Edward Bauer (15th Pastor of St. Joe) (1970), Alvina Welch (1991), Brenda (2021) & John Bergwitz

THURSDAY, APRIL 16
EASTER WEEKDAY

NO MASS: Joseph Goebel (1872), Margaret(1929) & Fred Goebel, Ray (1975) & Esther Will, Curtis Will, Ravah & John Wicks, Dennis Delgman (2006)

FRIDAY, APRIL 17
EASTER WEEKDAY

7:30 AM MASS: Wendel Egler (1859), Cynthia Buerger (1947), Edward Arnold (1972) Mac (2012) & Ann Glaser

SATURDAY, APRIL 18
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

5:00 PM MASS: Les Askins, Bud & Sharon Werner, Theresa Schenk, Margaret Helfrich (1880), Elisabeth Schili (1881), Louis (1979) & Helen Keller, Leroy (2013) & Marilyn Jochum, Bubba Jochum

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 AM MASS: Eddie Lagunzad, Donald & Margaret Kafel, Sylvester & Margaret Will, Wilfred & Eileen Will, Urban & Betty Will

10:30 AM MASS: Fran Happe, Darlene U DonBaumgart Brent Glaser, Francis Ziegler (1886), JoAnn (2019) & Tom Muensterman, Charlie (2025) & Joan Niemeier



Please remember in your prayers *Ravah Wicks*, the sister of Fr. Lowell Will and cousin of Chris Will, and *Brent Glaser* the father of Rachel Schnaus, who died last week. May God's peace be with all the members of their families.

Pick up your copy of our **Easter Reflection Book**. It contains daily Reflections for the Easter Season

ADDITIONAL EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL NAMES:
Dorothy & Walter Knapp, Bea & Harold Hall,
Connie Goedde



Jesus meets the need of each disciple. To the fearful in the upper room, He speaks words of peace. To doubting Thomas, He Provides the tangible proof of His resurrection. What do I need to become His disciple? What do I have to share that might meet someone else's need?



STEWARDSHIP: *The Lord's Way*

APRIL 5, 2026	\$ 12,993.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$ 15,350.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$ 585,732.78
BUDGET TO DATE	\$ 614,000.00
CHILDREN'S COLLECTION	\$ 3.00
MAINTENANCE	\$ 60.00
OUTREACH MINISTRIES	
HAITI	\$ 380.00
ST. VINCENT DePAUL	\$ 5.00
HOLY LAND & HOME MISSIONS	\$ 305.00
HAITI FOOD	\$ 20.00
HAITI EDUCATION FUND	\$ 400.00

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 RETIREMNT 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*

APRIL 12: Jim Gries, Diane Matt
 APRIL 13: Tim Kempf, Brad Ruminer
 APRIL 14: Connie Coomes, Steve Elliott,
 Avery Frankenberger, Jenna Phelps, Michel Stewart
 APRIL 15: Caleb Drennan, Larry Keil, Marilyn Mossberger,
 Anthony Ritter, Catherine Schneider,
 Aubrey Williamms, Georgianne Wilkinson
 APRIL 16: Lily Fehrenbacher, Stu Gibbs, Jerri Kempf
 APRIL 17: Debra Baumgart, Mary Happe,
 Ben Niemeier, Arabella Solo, Matt Ubelhor
 APRIL 18: Lorrie Blandford, Hazel Harpenau, Claire Kassenbrock
 APRIL 14: Chip & Katie Schwartz
 APRIL 15: Danny & Carol Gries, Brian & Julie Holtz
 APRIL 17: Tom & Karen Angermeier,
 Mike & Julie Frocum
 APRIL 18: Tom & Delores Folz (67 Years),
 Steve & Debbie Scheller



COMING THIS WEEK St. Anne Altar Society will be meeting this coming Thursday, April 9 at 6:30 pm in the school meeting room. Come join them as they welcome speakers who will speak on living healthy lives and look for and paying attention to the warnings and symptoms of strokes.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: The Altar Society will be making their delicious kuchens on Saturday, April 18 beginning at 7:30 am.

St. Joe Senior Citizens will be meeting this coming Friday, April 10 at 1 pm in the school meeting room. Join them for entertainment, food and fellowship.



CHILDREN (age 4 thru 2nd grade) ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR THE LITURGY OF THE WORD AT THE 10:30 AM MASS EACH SUNDAY



THIS WEEK'S MOWING CREW: TEAM 5



POPE LEO'S URBI ET ORBI BLESSING--EASTER SUNDAY

"Urbī et Orbī" is a Latin phrase that translates literally to "to the city [of Rome] and to the world".

It refers to the most solemn form of apostolic blessing and address given by the Pope

Brothers and sisters, Christ is risen! Happy Easter! Easter is the victory of life over death, of light over darkness, of love over hatred. It is a victory that came at a very high price: Christ, the Son of the living God had to die – and die on a cross – after suffering an unjust condemnation, being mocked and tortured, and shedding all his blood. As the true immolated Lamb, he took upon himself the sin of the world and thus freed us all – and with us, all creation – from the dominion of evil.



But how was Jesus able to be victorious? What is the strength with which he defeated once and for all the ancient adversary, the prince of this world? What is the power with which he rose from the dead, not returning to his former life, but entering into eternal life and thus opening in his own flesh the passage from this world to the Father?

This strength, this power, is God himself for he is Love who creates and generates, Love who is faithful to the end and Love who forgives and redeems. Christ, our "victorious King," fought and won his battle through trusting abandonment to the Father's will, to his plan of salvation. Thus he walked the path of dialogue to the very end, not in words but in deeds: to find us who were lost, he became flesh; to free us who were slaves, he became a slave; to give life to us mortals, he allowed himself to be killed on the cross.

The power with which Christ rose is entirely nonviolent. It is like that of a grain of wheat which, having rotted in the earth, grows, breaks through the clods, sprouts, and becomes a golden ear of wheat. It is even more like that of a human heart which, wounded by an offense, rejects the instinct for revenge and, filled with compassion, prays for the one who has committed the offense.

Brothers and sisters, this is the true strength that brings peace to humanity, because it fosters respectful relationships at every level: among individuals, families, social groups, and nations. It does not seek private interests, but the common good; it does not seek to impose its own plan, but to help design and carry out a plan together with others.

Yes, Christ's resurrection is the beginning of a new humanity; it is the entrance into the true promised land, where justice, freedom, and peace reign, where all recognize one another as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father who is Love, Life, and Light.

Brothers and sisters, through his resurrection, the Lord confronts us even more powerfully with the dramatic reality of our freedom. Before the empty tomb, we can be filled with hope and wonder, like the disciples, or with fear like the guards and the Pharisees, forced to resort to lies and subterfuge rather than acknowledge that the one who had been condemned is truly risen!

In the light of Easter, let us allow ourselves to be amazed by Christ! Let us allow our hearts to be transformed by his immense love for us! Let those who have weapons lay them down! Let those who have the power to unleash wars choose peace! Not a peace imposed by force, but through dialogue! Not with the desire to dominate others, but to encounter them!

We are growing accustomed to violence, resigning ourselves to it, and becoming indifferent. Indifferent to the deaths of thousands of people. Indifferent to the repercussions of hatred and division that conflicts sow. Indifferent to the economic and social consequences they produce, which we all feel. There is an ever-increasing "globalization of indifference," to borrow an expression dear to Pope Francis, who one year ago from this loggia addressed his final words to the world, reminding us: "What a great thirst for death, for killing, we witness each day in the many conflicts raging in different parts of the world!"

The cross of Christ always reminds us of the suffering and pain that surround death and the agony it entails. We are all afraid of death, and out of fear we turn away, preferring not to look. We cannot continue to be indifferent! And we cannot resign ourselves to evil! Saint Augustine teaches: "If you fear death, love the resurrection!" Let us too love the resurrection, which reminds us that evil is not the last word, because it has been defeated by the Risen One.

He passed through death to give us life and peace: "I leave you peace; I give you my peace. Not as the world gives it, I give it to you" (Jn 14:27). The peace that Jesus gives us is not merely the silence of weapons, but the peace that touches and transforms the heart of each one of us! Let us allow ourselves to be transformed by the peace of Christ! Let us make heard the cry for peace that springs from our hearts! For this reason, I invite everyone to join me in a prayer vigil for peace that we will celebrate here in Saint Peter's Basilica next Saturday, April 11.

On this day of celebration, let us abandon every desire for conflict, domination, and power, and implore the Lord to grant his peace to a world ravaged by wars and marked by a hatred and indifference that make us feel powerless in the face of evil. To the Lord we entrust all hearts that suffer and await the true peace that only he can give. Let us entrust ourselves to him and open our hearts to him! He is the only one who makes all things new. Happy Easter!

Liturgical Ministers

WEEKEND OF APRIL 11-12
5 PM (L) Sis Jarboe (EM) Peter and Jodi Fehrenbacher, Donald & Brandon Werner
8 AM (L) Terry Drone (EM) Tom & Delores Folz, Imogene Baehl, Michael Elpers
10:30 AM (L) Shane Wessel (EM) Diane Bassemier, Danielle Weledge, Doris Taylor Debra Baumgart

WEEKEND OF APRIL 18-19
5 PM (L) Toni Askins, (EM) Diane Woods, Eric Reffett, Mary Loehrlein, Carolyn Hutchinson
8 AM (L) Chick Duncan (EM) Brian and Ann Craney, Marcia Frey, Terry Drone
10:30 AM (L) Chad Martin (EM) Sally Kempf, Cecelia Koch, Kitty Deig Paul Hillenbrand

Join us for **CARIBBEAN NIGHTS** celebrating the culture and people of our sisters and brothers in Haiti. The evening includes a whole hog roast dinner 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 **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.

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FRIDAY JUNE 5 **SATURDAY JUNE 6**

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