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WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday-5 PM Sunday-8 & 10:30 AM

RECONCILATION

Saturday 4-4:45 PM

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SCHOOL

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WEBSITE

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PARISH STAFF

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VANDERBURGH COUNTY EVANSVILLE, INDIANA ESTABLISHED IN 1841

AUGUST 31, 2025 TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Dear friends,

Our scripture readings today speak a lot about humility. "Conduct your affairs with humility" we hear in the Book of Sirach. Jesus tells us in the gospel "whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

I think humility has a lot to do with allowing things to be in life rather than forcing them to go the way I want them to go. The Buddhist monk and teacher Thich Nhat Hanh calls it being able to live simple and sanely,

content with just a few possessions.

Sr. Jose Hobday, a member of the Franciscan Sisters and an elder in the native American Seneca community speaks about simple living

Simple living is not about elegant frugality. It is not really about deprivation of whatever is useful and helpful for our life. It is not about harsh rules and stringent regulations. To live simply, one has to consider all of these and they may be included to some degree, but simple living is about freedom. It's about a freedom to choose space rather than clutter, to choose open and generous living rather than a secure and sheltered way.

Freedom is about choices: Freedom to choose less rather than more. It's about choosing time for people and ideas and self-growth rather than for maintenance and guarding and possessing and cleaning. Simple living is about moving through life rather lightly, delighting in the plain and the subtle. It is about poetry and dance, song and art, music and grace. It is about optimism and humor, gratitude and appreciation. It is about embracing life with wide -open arms. It's about living and giving with no strings attached. \dots

Simple living is as close as the land on which we stand. It is as far-reaching as the universe that makes us gasp. Simple living is a relaxed grasp on money, things, and even friends. Simplicity cherishes ideas and relationships. They are treasured more because simplicity doesn't cling nor try to possess things or people or relationships. Simplicity frees us within, but it frees others, too. . . .

Simple living is a statement of presence. The real me. This simplicity makes us welcome among the wealthy and the poor alike. . . .

We will not be happy living selfishly in a small world. We must live in awareness and in association with the whole real world. Our universe. Our cosmos. Our environment. Our earth. Our air. Our water supply. Our country. Our neighbor. Our car. Our homes. All are part of simple living.

Leaning into the journey of life,

Fr. Gene Schroeder

P.S. I continue to be grateful for the work that our lawn mowing crews do week in and week out. Special thanks to our "weeding angels" who worked hard getting our landscape areas in good shape.

And I am grateful too for your generous response to all the special collections we have had recently and to your support for our brothers and sisters in Haiti through our student sponsorship programs.



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

OF THE EMPIRE

Live simply

so that

others may

We will be known as a culture that feared death and adored power, that tried to vanquish insecurity for the few and cared little for the penury of the many. We will be known as a culture that taught and rewarded the amassing of things, that spoke little if at all about the quality of life for people (other people), for dogs, for rivers. All the world, in our eyes, they will say, was a commodity. And they will say that this structure was held together politically, which it was, and they will say also that our politics was no more than an apparatus to accommodate the feelings of the heart, and that the heart, in those days

was small, and hard, and full of meanness.

Mary Oliver

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30 TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM MASS: Elmer Goedde, Elisabeth (1024) & Louis Happe, Charles (1980) & Waters, Sr. Venantia O.S.F.

(Catherine Mayer) (1945), Merl (1985) & Delores Hoefling (1985), Margaret (2003) & Everett Baylor, Bub & Charlie Baylor, Carolyn Seib, Erna Stradlemann, For the needs of all the people in our parish

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM MASS: Dave Fehrenbacher, Candy & David Knight, Dottie Happe, Basil, Marie, Allie, Luke & Dennis Mehringer

10:30 AM MASS: Leroy, Cecelia, Sr. Mary "Anisia" OSB, Sister Mary Leah OSB, Vincent, Daniel, Stephen & Shirley Baehl, Melvin Goedde, Norma Goedde William Tuley, Katharin (1995) & Joseph Schenk, Edwin (1965) & Mary Englert, Cindi Conaway (2022)

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 1 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (LABOR DAY)

7:30 AM MASS (in the rectory): Catharina Wangler (1891), Maria Wolf (1900), Joseph Woods Jr. (1952)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: Anthony Werstdorfer (1873), Louis Riedford (1919), Clarence Budde Sr. (1974), Jaxson Loehr (2020)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

7:30 AM MASS: Adam Reising (1861), Viola (1985) & Jerome Dunn, Frank Luigs (1996)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NO MASS: Michael Wolf (1857), Sophia Beckerle (1867), Edward Weiss (1969), Theresa (1979) & Frank Maurer, Dorothy Schneider (1999), Thomas (2004) & Ruth Rice, Marlene (2016) & Paul Hasselbrinck

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 **WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

7:30 AM MASS: Matilda (1965) & Martin Ritter, Ida Dewig (1980), Lamar Montgomery (1995)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM MASS: Domino Wolf (1868), Ana Brorman (1870), John Erbacher (1879), Anna Rexing (1891)

GOD is

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

refug 8:00 AM MASS: Joe Shown, Joe & Win-Strengt nie Schu, Martin & Susan Hasenour,
A VERY
PRESENT Margaret Will, Donald & Donnie Will,
help
Doris Schroering, For the needs of all help Doris Schroering, For t in trouble, the people in our parish

-PSALM 46:110:30 AM MASS: Delores & Donald Schroeder, Bill Helfrich, Chris Hillenbrand, Francis & Dorothy, Patrick & Joseph Hillenbrand, Robert Witting (1884), Leo Helfrich (1894), Paula Koch (1973), Evelyn (2000) & Walter Weis, Norma Maurer (2012), Susan Smith-Tyring (2019)

PLEASE NOTE LABOR DAY: Since Monday is Labor Day, mass will be at 7:30 am in the rectory. We will not have a formal Eucharistic Adoration, but, as always, our church remains open each day so you are welcome to come by anytime to spend some guiet time in prayer.



STEWARDSHIP: The Lord's Way

In the Gospel today, Jesus warns us not to give in hopes of repayment, but to give open-handedly to the poor and needy. That sort of giving mirrors the bountiful giving of God, and Jesus assures us

it is blessed indeed!

AUGUST 24, 2025	\$	10,448.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$	15,350.00
TOTAL INCOME TO DATE	\$	86,495.55
BUDGET TO DATE	\$	122,800.00
MAINTENANCE COLLECTION	\$	25.00
OUTREACH MINISTRIES		
HAITI STUDENTS SPONSORSHIPS	\$	20,930.00
HAITE SEWING SPONSORSHIPS	\$	965.00
ST. VINCENT DEPAUL	\$	5.00

SPECIAL COLLECTION (GAZA & UKRAINE) 1,404.00 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 \$ 805,569,23 **RECEIVED TO DATE**

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

VLADIVOSTOK MISSION

HAMILTON POINTE: Carolyn Pfaffman

EVANSVILLE PROTESTANT HOME: Mary Lou Davis

AUGUST 31: Tom Downs, Joan Hillenbrand September 1: Evan Collins, Betty Fehrenbacher,

Reid Hoffman SEPTEMBER 2: Brian Denning, Kristi Givens

SEPTEMBER 3: Denise Allison, Josh Elfreich, Karson Hartz, Matthew Taylor

SEPTEBER 4: Jason Kinnaman, Glenda Love, Beth Spaetti

SEPTEMBER 5: Josh Henderson, Steve Jung, Jodie Kissel SEPTEMBER 6: Tom Barron, Don Baumgart,

Mike Elpers, Peter Fehrenbacher

AUGUST 31: Ken & Cynthia Massberg

SEPTEMBER 4: Fred & Mary Happe (60 years!),

Allen & Barb Rexing (55 years!)

HAPPY **BIRTHDAY**

20.00



BLOOD DRIVE THANKS

Thanks to the 29 people who donated blood last Sunday at our quarterly blood drive. Thanks as well to Imogene Baehl, Jeff & Jenny Puckett, Debbie Seibert and Donna Blankenberger for Thank yo hosting this event.



Each Monday we invite people to come to pray before the Blessed Sacrament from 7 am to 6:30 pm. We always looking for new people to take the place of those who can no longer come for an hour of adora-





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WEEKEND OF AUGUST 30-3. S. ... (-)
Susie Schapker, (EM) Donald & Brandon WEEKEND OF AUGUST 30-31 5PM (L) Werner, Mary Kay Fehrenbacher, Donna

LECTOR (L) EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (EM) Appler Jalane Weber, Kylie & Stephanie Frey 10:30 AM (L) Jane Scheller (EM) Amy Cody Jena Wessel, Rachael Schanus, Becky Dosher

WEEKEND OF SPETEMBR 6-7 5 PM (L) Toni Askins, (EM) Eric and Karen McDonald, Butch and Linda Feulner, 8 AM (L) Tom Blythe (EM) Tom and Dolores Folz, Imogene Baehl Michael Elpers 10:30 AM (L) Shane Wessel, (EM) Jena Wessel Steve Jung, Al Debes Angie Will



INFO & RSVP 5:30 pm Gather for Mass with Bishop Siegel 6:30 pm Dinner & Door Prizes 7:30 pm Yard Games & Social 8:30 pm Night Prayer

BOOT CAMP CALLOUT

Come join us Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 5:00 am. Just the thing to get the blood flowing, and the mind in shape for the day!



As part of our workout, we are looking for dumbells ranging from 15-35 pounds. Got any unused dumbbells (no, not the human kind!) laying around your house? We'd love to make use of them. Contact Jennifer

Muensterman, Sarah Frazier, or Jessica Reckelhoff.



With sincere gratitude, the family of Fran Happe would like to extend heartfelt thanks to all who helped make his burial mass a beautiful celebration of his life.

We are deeply grateful to Fr. Gene for the reverent and uplifting mass, and to Kristan Gilles, Debbie Collins, and Cindy Schmitt for the beautiful music that filled the church with peace and

A special thank you to the **Funeral Committee** for the delicious luncheon and the warm hospitality that brought comfort to all who gathered.

Your kindness, prayers, and presence have meant so much to us during this time of loss. We are truly touched by the love and support shown by our parish community. Fran was deeply loved, and it brings us peace to know he was honored with such grace.

The Fran Happe Family

Thank you for the joyful Mass, the beautiful music, and the delicious meal. Mom loved her parish family, especially when she took Communion to the homebound.

The family of Delores Helfrich Schroeder

AUGUST LOTTERY WINNERS: ST JOE: \$750-Cindy Smyth, \$300-Hait Food Fund, \$200-Tom Strupp, \$100-Ron Angermeier MATER DEI TRADITION:\$10,000 - Domenica Bouseman, \$1,500- Randy and Linda Becker, \$1,000 - Tom Schmitt, \$500 - Keith Sermersheim

COME JOIN THE FUN AT THESE SUMMER SOCIALS

St. Wendel-September 6 & 7 St. Mary (Ireland)—September 7

THE LOVE OF THE HEART OF JESUS

We continue reading from Pope Francis' recent letter to the church "On the Love of the Heart of Jesus Christ." Integrity and Harmony

The sacrifices and sufferings required by these acts of love of neighbor unite us to the passion of Christ. In this way, by that mystic crucifixion of which the Apostle speaks, we shall receive the abundant fruits of its propitiation and expiation, for ourselves and for

others. Christ alone saves us by his offering on the cross: he alone redeems us, for "there is one God: there is also one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all" (1 Tim 2:5-6).

The reparation that we offer is a freely accepted participation in his redeeming love and his one sacrifice. We thus complete in our flesh "what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the Church" (Col 1:24); and Christ him-



self prolongs through us the effects of his complete and loving selfoblation.

Often, our sufferings have to do with our own wounded ego. The humility of the heart of Christ points us towards the path of abasement. God chose to come to us in condescension and littleness. The Old Testament had already shown us, with a variety of metaphors, a God who enters into the heart of history and allows himself to be rejected by his people.

Christ's love was shown amid the daily life of his people, begging, as it were, for a response, as if asking permission to manifest his glory. Yet perhaps only once did the Lord Jesus refer to his own heart, in his own words. And he stresses this sole feature: 'gentleness and lowliness', as if to say that only in this way does he wish to win us to himself. When he said, "Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart" (Mt 11:29), he showed us that to make himself known, he needs our littleness, our self-abasement.

In what we have said, it is important to note several inseparable aspects. Acts of love of neighbor, with the renunciation, self-denial, suffering and effort that they entail, can only be such when they are nourished by Christ's own love. He enables us to love as he loved, and in this way he loves and serves others through us. He humbles himself to show his love through our actions, yet even in our slightest works of mercy, his heart is glorified and displays all its grandeur.

Once our hearts welcome the love of Christ in complete trust, and enable its fire to spread in our lives, we become capable of loving others as Christ did, in humility and closeness to all. In this way, Christ satisfies his thirst and gloriously spreads the flames of his ardent and gracious love in us and through us. How can we fail to see the magnificent harmony present in all this?

Finally, in order to appreciate this devotion in all of its richness, it is necessary to add, in the light of what we have said about its Trinitarian dimension, that the reparation made by Christ in his humanity is offered to the Father through the working of the Holy Spirit in each of us. Consequently, the reparation we offer to the heart of Christ is directed ultimately to the Father, who is pleased to see us united to Christ whenever we offer ourselves through him, with him and in him.

The Christian message is attractive when experienced and expressed in its totality: not simply as a refuge for pious thoughts or an occasion for impressive ceremonies. What kind of worship would we give to Christ if we were to rest content with an individual relationship with him and show no interest in relieving the sufferings of others or helping them to live a better life? Would it please the heart that so loved us, if we were to bask in a private religious experience while ignoring its implications for the society in which we live? Let us be honest and accept the word of God in its fullness.

TO BE CONTINUED

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