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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

Fr. Gene Schroeder—Pastor gschroeder@evdio.org Julie Kempf—Secretary ikempf@evdio.org Kristan Gilles—Director of Liturgy kgilles@evdio.org **Iessica Reckelhoff**—Coordinator of Religious Education jreckelhoff@evdio.org Kelsey Meier—School Principal kmeier@evdio.org

Mary Gries—School Secretary



mgries@evdio.org

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SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 THE EXULTATION OF THE CROSS

Dear friends,

It's a curious thing—the exultation of the cross. In the time of the early Christian community, the cross was a means of execution, and a very brutal execution at that. It was the way the Roman government kept order and instilled fear in the people. It was a sign of oppression and dominance by the powerful over the powerless.

But here we are, in our churches, homes and schools, where crosses abound. Beautiful crosses, exquisitely handcrafted out of wood, glass and ceramics or forged lovingly out of metal. They are given as gifts to commerate special events and take places of honor in our homes. We're so far removed from the cross as



a means of execution that we don't always appreciate the irony of this. If we replaced our crosses with the electric chair, a firing squad, a gallows for hanging people, or a gurney which people are strapped to and injected with lethal drugs (our current means of executing people) we might appreciate the irony of displaying crosses everywhere.

But here we are, celebrating crosses on this feast we call the "exultation of the cross." The power of the cross is that we are taking one thing that is really the worst thing imaginable—the execution of a person—and proclaiming that this symbol is a sign of hope. What was once seen as a sign of domination by the powerful over the weak, is now a reminder that in powerlessness and vulnerability comes new life.

This message can get lost when we start focusing on beautiful images of the cross but it can also get lost when we think that our role is to praise Jesus for all the hard work he did dying on the cross. Simply put, the cross is not so much about Jesus as it is about us. Jesus

showed us the way so we could "take up our cross and follow him."



munities the cross was often de- ways we, as a diocepicted in the form of plus sign. san family, help CATHOLIC MINISTRIES For them, the cross was a re-build a culture of minder of the four elements that light and hope in are key to a journey of growth Southwestern Indiana. and transformation.

with four questions: how do we face change, people in the faith and form missionary how do we move through suffering, how do we disciples. receive joy, and how do you give your life in

So when people looked at the cross, it was gave to the Church. It's about extending not really something to remind them of what the love of Christ to our neighbors, includ-Jesus did, but a reminder of what they were ing the poor and lonely, the young, the supposed to do if they wanted to be Jesus' disciples. I shared a little about this early Christian perspective in the September issue of The Carpenter and will be sharing more in the Octo-Leaning into the journey of life ber issue.

Fr. Gene Schroeder

You have made us for yourself O Lord, and our hearts are restless, until they rest in you. St. Augustine

The Catholic Ministry Appeal is one of In the early Christian com- the most important



Your support The early makes it possible for the Church in our 12 Christians were tapping into some counties to serve those in need, nurture very ancient wisdom about what transformation vocations and strengthen parishes by help-Essentially, transformation deals ing them evangelize and educate their

This is not just about making a donation, it's about joining in the mission Jesus elderly and those searching for real meaning and truth in their lives.

By now you should have received an invitation through the mail to join in making your pledge. If you haven't received your pledge card, call the office (812-963-3273) and we will get a pledge card to

CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL (CPC)

PARISH GOAL \$131,040.00 PLEDGED TO DATE \$ 9,000.00 MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY AND SUPPORT OUR COMMON EFFORT!

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

5:00 PM MASS: Betty White, Henry Wernet (1871), Barbara Martin (1876), Alphons (1958) & Irma Baehl, Blondina Ritter (1968), Raymond Steckler (1977), Judith Jones (2002)



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

8:00 AM MASS: Bernard & Mary Drone, Robert & Margie Harpenau, Dean Trowbridge, Alex Trowbridge, Carlos Romero, Basil, Marie, Luke, Aliu and Dennis Mehringer

10:30 AM MASS: Anna Straub, Robrert & Paul Straub, Edward & Justian Weiss, Bob Jenkins, Tony & Violet Weiss, Sue Gries, Regina Frank (1900), Anton Baehl (1901), For the needs of all the people in the parish.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 OUR LADY OF SORROWS

6:30 PM MASS: Phil & Bobbie Hoy, Matthias Baehl (1877) Joan Urich (1898), Nancy Niemeier (1968), Ron Kempf (2021) TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

SAINTS CORNELIUS AND CYRIAN

7:30 AM MASS: Peter Ziliak (1858), Maria Lang (1862), Catharine Helferich (1870), Anton Rexing (1883), Maria Hartlein (1893), Virgil Brown (1947), Duane Quinlin (1994), Sharon (2020) & Bud Werner

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: Mary Stratman, Valentine Schmitt (1864) Infant Schluter (1864), Mattaeus Hartlein (1871)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NO MASS: George (1957) & Hermina Folz, Lorena Koch (1994)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 WEEKDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30 AM MASS: Rosa Brack (1870), Augustin Herman (1870), Guilielmus Rexing (1901), Lorine Walsh (1932), Frank (19540 7 MARY Kissel, Dennis Weis (1964)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 PM MASS: Nicholas, Jack & Jean Lannert, Bob, Ron & Fran Happe, Darlene Baumgart, Joan Schoenstein, Ron Kempf Sr. Donnie Evans, Bill & Leoda Kempf, Tom & Bill Kempf Jr., Elisabeth Scheich (1864), Infant Wolf (1864), Infant Haberbach (1864), Magdaline Ochsner (1895), John (1938) & Mary Hartlein, Sr. Raymunda O.S.F. (Rose Ochsner) (1949), Bud (2020) & Sharon Werner, For the needs of all the people in our parish



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM MASS: Pam Hedges, Glenn Fehrenbacher (2005), Jim & Avila Fehrenbacher, Anna (1945) & John Voelker, Ray & Wilma Voelker,

10:30 AM MASS: Janice & Richard Wittgen, Michael Wittgen, Henrietta & Herman Mallory, Anthony Rexing (1899), Julitta Steckler OFM (2012), Priscilla Kramer, Sr. Dorothy Steckler OFM, Mary Like



ST. JOE MEN'S CLUB MEETING Monday. September 15 at 7 pm but to direct them upwards and make them masterpieces.

STEWARDSHIP: The Lord's Way

Even though the Lord led them out of Egypt and provided for their every need, the people in Today;s frist reading wre complaining and ungrateful. Does my stewardsjhip of God's gifts show that I know from whom they came and am grateful?

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 13,395.00 WEEKLY BUDGET 15,350.00 TOTAL INCOME TO DATE 108,315.55 **BUDGET TO DATE** 153,500.00 MAINTENANCE COLLECTION 70.00 CHILDREN'S COLLECTION 5.00

> Thanks to our young stewards: Beatrice, Paul, Peter, Bernadette, John & Agnes

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SPECIAL COLLECTION (GAZA) TO DATE	\$	1,769.00
SPECIAL MISSION APPEAL TO DATE	\$	2,672.86
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY	\$	15.00

REBUILDING OUR CHURCH CAMPAIGN

TOTAL PLEDGED \$805,572.00 **RECEIVED TO DATE** \$ 806,434.23

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, 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

SEPT. 14: Adalyn Backas, Phyliss Brinegar (95!), Hanna Rodriguez, Astoria Ruder, Kearstyn Weber

SEPT. 15: Ian Bonds-Keever, Rylan Dick,

Mike Forcum, Andrew McCauley SEPT. 16: Lee Askins, Nick Couch, Lauren Grossman,

Judi Raben, Matthew Kremer, Curt Lannert, James Ruedlinger

SEPT. 17: Isaac Daza, Brenda Koester. Oroc Singer SEPT. 18: David Altstadt, Nolan Brosmer, Kacie Gambrel

SEPT. 19: Kristan Arnold, Olivia Fritch, Malorie Hobbs,

Isaac Schneider, Bob Singer, Millie Wiiliams, Shawn Willis

SEPT. 20: Paul Angermeier, Autumn Dick, Jordan Dick,

Jill Happe, Sis Jarboe SEPT. 14: Lavne & Taylor Koester

SEPT. 17: Andy & Jessica Reckelhoff SEPT. 18: Andy & Andrea Jarboe

SEPT. 19: Glenn & Kristi Givens, Matt & Missy Singer ANNIVERSARY

Harry & Madonna Lincoln, Bryan & Shelia McGeehee,

SEPT. 20: Jim & Carol Fechtmeister



On Sunday, September 7, Pope Leo declared Giorgio Frassati (1901-1925) and Carlos Acutis (1991-2014) to be saints. In the homily at the mass of canonization he said "they saying are an invitation to all of us, especially young people, not to squander our lives,



HAPPY

BIRTHDAY



WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 13-14: 5 PM

Reffett, Peter and Jodi Fehrenbacher 8 AM LECTOR (L) EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (EM) hrenbacher, Chick & Jean Duncan 10:30

AM (L) Chad Martin (EM) Debra Baumgart Diane Bassemier, Danielle Weledge Doris Taylor

WEEKEND OF SPETEMBER 20-21: 5 PM (L) Susie Schapker, (EM) Diane Woods Eric Reffett, Peter and Jodi Fehrenbacher, 8 AM (L) Jalene Weber, (EM) Chick Duncan, Brian and Ann Craney, Marcia Frey 10:30 AM (L) Jane Scheller, (EM) Debra Baumgart Diane Bassemier, Danielle Weledge Doris Taylor



Especially during this Jubilee Year of 2025, we are called to be Pilgrims of Hope. As a concrete way of fulfilling this Jubilee imperative, our Diocese is participating in a partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Evansville to build a home for a family in need.

The Diocese has committed \$50,000 toward the cost of the home and is seeking to raise an additional \$50,000 through partnerships with parishes and Catholic groups and organizations in the Diocese. We invite members of every parish to consider making a financial gift to help us reach this goal. In addition to partnering with the Diocese on financial support, we invite you to join the diocesan office staff in a pledge of "sweat equity" toward the build.

As you know, providing shelter for those who are without proper housing is a corporal work of mercy, and this Jubilee Year initiative offers a powerful opportunity to fulfill that obligation together as the Church of Evansville.



Bishop Joseph Siegel

If you would like to make a financial contribution to this effort, send it to us through the collection or in the mail. Be sure to note on it that it is for our the Diocesan Habitat House. If you would like to offer your help on the build, contact Matt Miller at the Diocesan Office (812-424-5536).



Please remember in your prayers Janice Wittgen the mother of Jeff Wittgen who died this past week. May God grant her eternal rest and may His peace be with all the members of her family and friends.

We would like to extend our sincerest THANK YOU to the people of St. Joe, for showing their love and concern to us at the time of the loss of our sister Chris Hillenbrand. An especially heart felt thank you to the funeral dinner crew that made sure we had plenty to eat and took care of our every need. We appreciated that very much.

The family of Chris Hillenbrand

COME JOIN THE FUN AT THESE PARISH CELEBRATIONS

St. James Harvest Fest-September 13 St. Mary Picnic (Huntingburg)—September 21 Corpus Christi Harvest Fest September 27 & 28 Holy Cross (Ft. Branch) Chicken Dinner October 5

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 In communion of service

We should not think of this mission of sharing Christ as something only between Jesus and me. Mission is experienced in fellowship with our communities and with the whole Church. If we turn

aside from the community, we will be turning aside from Jesus. If we turn our back on the community, our friendship with Jesus will grow cold. This is a fact, and we must never forget it. Love for the brothers and sisters of our communities religious, parochial, diocesan and others - is a kind of fuel that feeds our friendship with Jesus. Our acts of love for our brothers and sisters in community may well be the best and, at times, the only way that we can witness to others our



love for Jesus Christ. He himself said, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (Jn 13:35).

This love then becomes service within the community. I never tire of repeating that Jesus told us this in the clearest terms possible: "Just as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt 25:40). He now asks you to meet him there, in every one of our brothers and sisters, and especially in the poor, the despised and the abandoned members of society. What a beautiful encounter that can be!

If we are concerned with helping others, this in no way means that we are turning away from Jesus. Rather, we are encountering him in another way. Whenever we try to help and care for another person, Jesus is at our side. We should never forget that, when he sent his disciples on mission, "the Lord worked with them" (Mk 16:20). He is always there, always at work, sharing our efforts to do good. In a mysterious way, his love becomes present through our service. He speaks to the world in a language that at times has no need of words.

TO BE CONTINUED

Each Monday we invite people to come to pray before the Blessed Sacrament from 7 am to 6:30 p. m. This coming Tuesday, we will have our twenty-four day of prayer for vocations beginning at 6 am Tuesday and concluding at 6 am on



Wednesday. You are welcome to come and join in this special prayer anytime during these period. And, as always, the church is open each day for you to come and pray,

HELP WANTED: Are you interested in helping care for a parishioner from 11 pm to 7 am? This is a paid position. Contact Eloise Hamner (812-455-0553) if you are interested or know of someone who might be interested.



CAN YOU HELP AT THE FALL FEST

The annual Fall Festival will soon be upon us again. This year the St. Joe Men;s Club will be staffing the booth formerly run by the Knights of St. John. The Men's Club and the PTO are reaching out to parishioners to offer their help in staffing their booths. It takes a great deal of effort from lots of people to make these fundraising effort a success. So, if you can offer you

Call the school office (812-963-3335) to help out with PTO booth. To offer your help with the Men's Club booth, contact Josh Elfreich (812) 746-2068).

time to help, know that it will be greatly appreciated.



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