



THE CARPENTER

ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

VANDERBURGH COUNTY EVANSVILLE, INDIANA ESTABLISH IN 1841

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SEPTEMBER, 2026



DOING OUR PART TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF OUR DIOCESE

Fr. Gene Schroeder

PASTOR

This month we begin our Catholic Ministries Appeal Campaign. Most of you will remember this as our annual CPC (Catholic Parishes Campaign). For as long as we have been a parish, we have been called upon to help provide the financial support needed so that our diocese could continue. This contribution has been known as our "Diocesan Assessment."

Initially in 1841, that money was used to support the Diocese of Vincennes. Then, in 1898, the diocese was renamed the Diocese of Indianapolis and the offices of the diocese were moved from Vincennes to Indianapolis. From 1898 to 1944 our parish provided money each year to support the work of the Diocese of Indianapolis. In 1936, for example, our parish paid an "assessment of \$306.37

In 1946, the Diocese of Evansville was created and we paid an "assessment" of \$638.00 to fund the operation of the diocese. If you looked at our annual parish financial report you would have seen an amount listed for "Diocesan Assessment."

In 1986, in an effort to help people have more of a sense of ownership of the work of our Diocese, we began to raise the money needed to fund the work of our diocese through a special yearly campaign. This became the way for paying our "diocesan assessment." Initially that fund was known as "The Bishop's Fund." In 1986, our goal was \$26,690.00. Later the name was changed and it became known as the "Catholic Parishes Campaign." Most recently it has been known as the "Catholic Ministry Appeal."



we will be sending almost \$270,000 in health insurance premiums to the diocese for our employees.

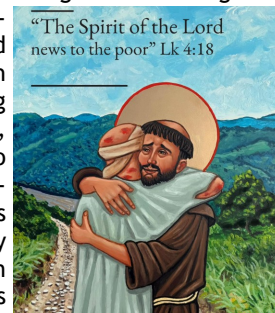
Another "company" oversees the property and liability insurance program which covers all different properties and buildings of parishes throughout the diocese. Here in our parish we certainly know how important property and liability coverage is. Next year we will paying almost \$50,000 in property and liability insurance premium.

Still another "company" oversees the pension plans for all the employees of each parish and school. This means they collect premiums and manage pension payments for all parish and school employees. Next year we will send almost \$55,000 to the diocese for pension plan premiums.

Finally, another "company" provides the personnel to implement and oversee the work we do collectively. The money we raise through our CMA appeal is used to fund this work. It includes things like providing training and support for teachers and staffs in all of our schools, working with students who are attending college at such places as USI, University of Evansville and Vincennes University, and working with the Religious Education and Faith Formation Programs. It also includes money to fund the work of Catholic Charities which includes such things as counseling services, outreach to people in need, and working with immigrants. It also includes training for new priests, deacons and catechists through various formation programs. The old rectory and convent at Sacred Heart Parish in Evansville are some of the places where this formation takes place. Maintaining these buildings and paying for the people in charge of these formation programs takes money which has to be paid for through our diocesan budget.

Some of this work may not be that visible—things like supporting the Catholic Church in the State of Indiana through the Indiana Catholic Conference; the Catholic Church in the United States through the National Catholic Conference of Bishops; and to the Church Universal at the Vatican to help Pope Leo pay the costs for running the Universal Church. While we may be unfamiliar with this work, it, too, is important.

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Now people may wonder just why the diocese needs money? To understand this, we might think of the diocese as several different companies. One company oversees the health insurance plan for all the employees of each parish in the diocese. That is nearly 2000 people. Overseeing this involves negotiating with different insurance companies to find the best rates, collecting health insurance premiums from each parish for their employees, and then overseeing the payment for these health insurance costs. Next year

MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY!

PARISH GOAL \$133,345.00
PLEDGED TO DATE \$ 9,000.00
NUMBER OF PLEDGES: 1
NOW MORE THAN EVER YOUR HELP IS
NEEDED IF WE ARE TO MEET OUR GOAL



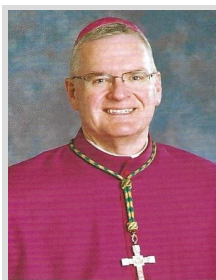
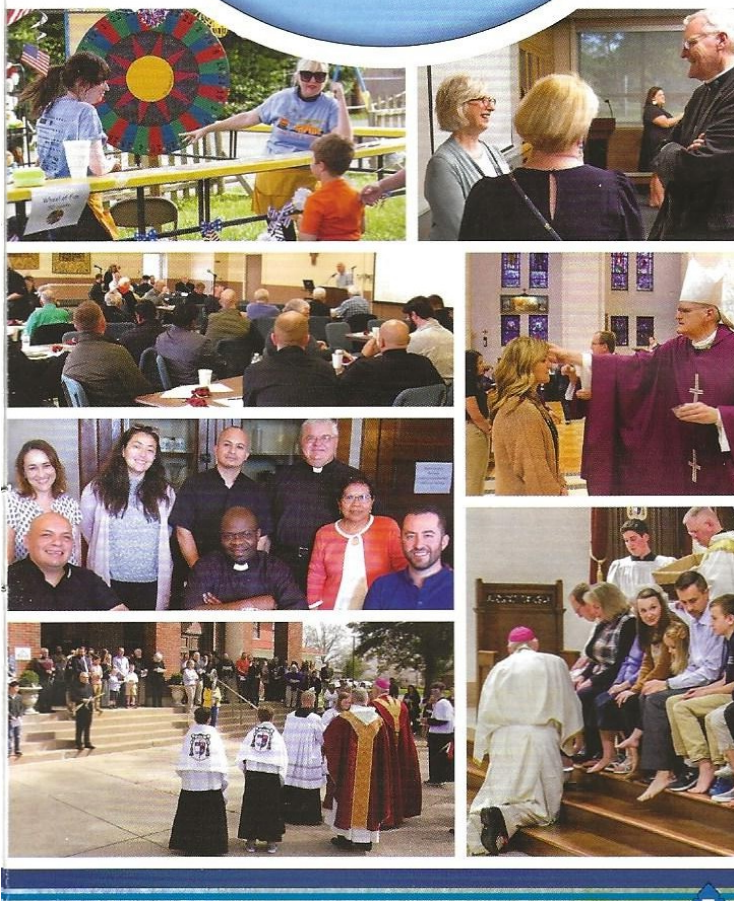
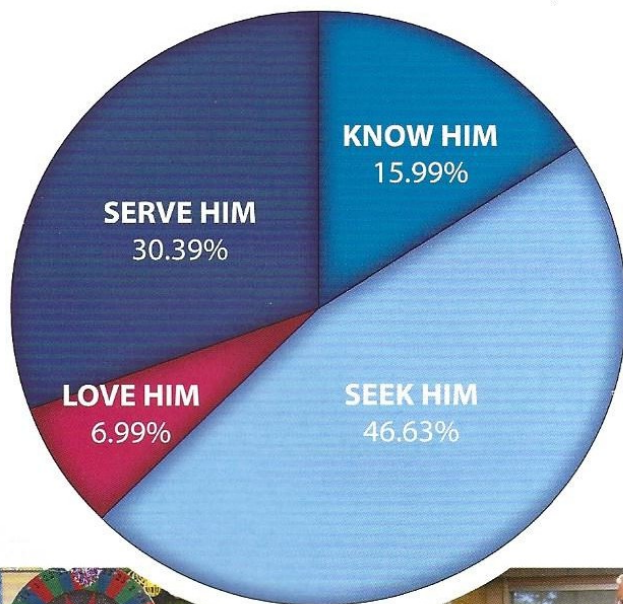
Thank you...

(Continued from page 1)

All the work we do collectively in our diocese is important work. And it takes a lot of money to do that work. Now “the diocese” really does not have any money. It’s not like “they” are doing a big summer social or having a lot of bake sales to come up with money. They don’t have a secret stash of money hidden somewhere that they can use. The only money they have comes from all of us, the people in all the parishes in the diocese.

The truth is that “the diocese” is not “them” but really “us.” Through the Catholic Ministry Appeal we are making real our commitment to being “us,” the Diocese of Evansville. Through our

How Your Gift Serves



Dear friends,

I am grateful for the opportunity to write to you and express my thanks for the support you give to the Diocese of Evansville's Catholic Ministry Appeal Campaign over many years. Over the years, the people of St. Joseph Parish have made possible much good work that is done in our diocese.

Your pledge, joined with the pledges of thousands of your fellow Catholics who are helping to grow the ministries of the Diocese of Evansville. These ministries reach beyond your parish boundary and impact the lives of countless people in the twelve counties of southwest Indiana and throughout the world.

With St. Joseph, I give thanks for the many ways you continue to bless your parish and our diocese by your faithful stewardship.

Joseph M. Siegel

Rev. Joseph Siegel Bishop of Evansville

CMA pledge we are making real our commitment to help own the financial obligations we have as a Diocese. It is a great challenge to extend the ownership we feel in our own parish to the larger Catholic Church, in particular, the Diocese of Evansville, and, in fact, to the whole Universal Catholic Church. But this is what the faithful people of our parish have been doing for the past 185 years of the life of our parish.

Just as we do here at St. Joe, Bishop Siegel and those who run our diocesan offices know how important it is to be good stewards of the money they receive. This year our share of the cost of running the diocese is \$133,345.00. Essentially, this is a “bill” we owe the diocese. Should our CMA collection fall short, we would need to take money from our general fund to pay whatever wasn’t paid. So, you can see why it’s important to reach our goal.

Last year 68% of our parish families joined in making an average pledge of \$430.00 to our CMA campaign. I’m confident that they will want to help out again by making a pledge again this year.

Last year 32% of our parish families were not in a position to financially support our CMA campaign. My prayer is that the circumstances in their lives have changed so that they too can join our common effort. I know that if these families will join efforts made by those who have supported the CPC in the past, we will be able to meet our parish goal of \$131,345.00

Sunday, September 13th is the kick-off for our CMA campaign this year. As we have done in the past, you will receive a letter inviting you to participate in our CMA. Please take some time to think and pray about how God is asking you to help. do the work He has given to all of us.

My prayer is that the stewardship example that so many faithful people of our parish have given over the years will fill us with confidence to do our part. When we all make a pledge that we are capable of doing, not only will we have enough money to meet our CMC goal, we will also make great things happen in our parish and throughout our diocese. May the example of St. Joseph inspire all of us to do our part.

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LIVING THE FAITH TOGETHER: A YEAR OF FAITH FILLED OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



Each Sunday, beginning on September 20, at the 10:30 am Mass, young children (ages 4 through 2nd Grade) are invited to join in a special Liturgy of the word with children. They will be dismissed at the beginning of the mass and meet with one of the leaders of our Children's Liturgy of the Word Catechists and then return to church.

BIBLE STUDY GATHERING



Wednesday evening Bible Study: This fall we will continue to learn about the Catechism of the Catholic Church using *The Foundations of Faith*. There will be 10 sessions starting on Wednesday, September 16th at 6:45 pm in the St. Joe school meeting room. If you would like to join in, we have books available, please contact Paula Baehl (812-598-9056)

THAT MAN IS YOU



"That Man Is You" men's group will continue to meet this fall beginning on Wednesday, September 16th at 5:30 pm in the school meeting room. The year's focus: Journey from fear to fearless worship, from a lifeless corpse hanging on the cross to an empty tomb, from Apostles hiding in the upper room to proclaiming the risen Lord to the ends of the earth! Beginning with Christ to the Apostles, to the Apostolic Fathers, to the men of our day, Contact Rodney Baehl, (812-598-9062) Steve Jung ((812-760-7681), or Andy Reckelhoff (812-760-0324) for more information.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?



Do you ever find yourself asking
What am I looking
for in my life?



What is the meaning of my life?
How can I be a better person?
Does God have something to say to me?
What is the right path for me in life?
How can I make a difference in this world?
What can I do about the loneliness I feel?
How can I come to know God's love?

If you are asking these questions or questions like them, come join us as we explore what it means to be part of our Catholic Faith Tradition. We will meet on Tuesday, September 22nd at 6:30 PM in the school meeting room. to see what RCIA is all about. Contact Fr. Gene Schroeder, (812-499-9074) or Steve Jung (812-760-7681) for more information. These sessions are also open to those who are already Catholic but would like to learn more about our faith tradition.



WOMENS RETREAT

Save the date for our Parish Women's Retreat coming April 3-4, 2027! Come for a relaxing, faith-filled weekend: motivational speakers, music, food, fellowship, a "spa hour", adoration, Mass, and time for prayer.



PRAYING THE ROSARY

We have a long standing tradition of praying the rosary before the 8:00 Sunday morning Mass. Expanding on this during the months of October and May, we will pray the rosary twenty-five minutes before each Weekend Mass. If you would like to lead one of the rosaries before Mass, contact Jessica Reckelhoff (812-598-1151).

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation: Students entering their sophomore year of high school can begin attending Confirmation Classes leading up to the Rite of Confirmation on March 6, 2027. Please contact Jessica Reckelhoff (812-598-1151) if you have any questions.

Parent Meeting and

Sessions 1 – August 30 11:30–1 pm

Session 2–September 27 11:30 –1 pm

Session 3–October 25 11:30 –1 pm

Session 4–November 15 11:30 –1 pm

Rite of Enrollment – December 6 at 10:30 am Mass

Breakfast following Mass Session 5 11:30 –1 pm

Session 6 – February 7 11:30 –1 pm Confirmation Practice

Confirmation Celebration with Bishop Siegel

Saturday, March 6 5 pm



MAKE A CURSILLO WEEKEND

Cursillo is a lay movement for spiritual life within the Church to make the world more Christ-like. The method of the movement is to form small groups of Christians who meet in a friendship group to share their lives as Christians. A four-day encounter is a part of the movement that prepares the Christian to live out his or her faith. There are two Cursillo weekends for Men and Women coming up. **MEN'S WEEKEND SEPT. 10-13, WOMEN'S WEEKEND OCT. 15-18.** Call the Fr. Gene Schroeder (812-499-9074) for more information.

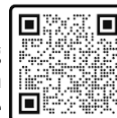


TEC (TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST) WEEKEND

TEC weekends have begun again. TEC is a three-day retreat experience for High School Juniors through age 21. It is an opportunity to make new friends, experience your faith in a different way, and have some fun. Find out what everyone is talking about. The next TEC weekend #123 November 7-9. Contact Fr. Gene Schroeder (812-499-9074)



A weekend gathering for young adults 18-24 at Camp Carson on September 25-27. Meet young adults from throughout the



diocese. Take a break from busyness to recharge. Grow your faith through prayer, talks, small group discussions. Free time for outdoor adventures. Register at eaglecatholic.com retreat.

ON-LINE RESOURCES TO NOURISH YOUR SOUL stjoeco.org/nourishing-your-soul

More and more, people are turning to the “on-line world” for news and information. Sometimes we can get overwhelmed by the sheer volume of information that can be found through the internet. While there is much information floating around the “on-line” that is not worth much, there is still an opportunity to find great information that can truly help as we determine how to go about living our lives as followers of Jesus. All the things you find listed below are a kind of spiritual smorgasbord. Some things will appeal to some people and not to others. But there is sure to be something that will speak to your journey. Here are some things that you can access through our parish website (www.stjoeco.org). Click on the icon “Nourishing Your Soul.” Here are some of the things you will find.



Among the things you will find on this website are daily information about what is happening in the life of Pope Leo. Access it at vatican.news.va. You can also read the different messages, such as his weekly audiences, that Pope Leo gives to various groups as well as the special letters (encyclical) that Pope Leo writes for the world. You can also access such things as the teachings of the Second Vatican Council as well as other encyclicals written by previous Popes. You will find reflections on the daily readings, as well as being able to pray the angelus prayers and the daily rosary. You can also listen to the English broadcast of the Vatican Radio.

All of these efforts fall under the communications department of the Vatican. Officially it is known as “The Dicastery for Communication” which meets the needs of the Church’s evangelizing mission through the use of production models, technological innovations and forms of communication currently available and those that may yet emerge. Through the Vatican television and radio networks, as well as a daily newspaper, *L’Osservatore Romano*, they communicate to the Catholic community and the world through many different languages. Not only can you listen online to the daily broadcasts of the Vatican radio (*Radio Vaticano*), you can also subscribe to their online newsletter.

PREACHER EXCHANGE

Each week, Fr. **Jude Sicilianno OP** Jude Sicilianna, a member of the Dominican Order, offers “First Reflections,” which are his reflections on the scriptures readings for each Sunday. Along with these reflections you will also find a “Justice Bulletin Board” which offers invitations for taking what we hear in the scripture readings and putting them into action in our lives.



For Your Marriage is an online recourse for people who are dating, couple who are engaged and those who are married as well as couples raising their families. Through podcasts, reflections from married couples those considering marriage, and those who are married and raising a family, you will find an abundance of information for your journey.

Monasteries of the Heart is a free monthly spiritual publication for people who lead busy lives & long for greater spiritual depth. Each month you will receive daily reflections to challenge and inspire you. You will also have the opportunity to join zoom gatherings to explore different aspects of our spiritual life with other



people on the same path as you are. You can also access the writings of Sr. Joan Chittister, OSB from the Benedictine community of Erie, Pennsylvania.



Fr. Henri Nouwen was a spiritual thinker and writer who wrote about the life of Jesus and the love of God in ways that have inspired countless people to trust God more fully.

For generations of priests, pastors, teachers and seekers, Henri Nouwen created a template for ministry and spiritual formation that offered a balanced and creative theology of service that embraced woundedness as part of our shared human condition. Few spiritual writers have been so unabashedly candid about their own struggles and brokenness. His words speak directly to the wounds we each have experienced in our own lives, and they remind us that we are each a fully loved child of God, scars and all.

Through this on-line resource you can receive daily reflections from the writing of Fr. Nouwen as well as the chance to join in zoom meetings with other people.



Through the on-line resource ‘Catholic Rosary On-line’ you can pray the rosary. With each of the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous

mysteries, you will find reflections from different passages from the bible.

On Being is a podcast hosted by Krista Tippett. Through spiritual inquiry, science, social healing and poetry, it offers wisdom to replenish and in a tender, tumultuous time to be alive. With a 20-year archive featuring luminaries like Mary Oliver, Thich Nhat Hanh, and Desmond Tutu, each episode brings a new discovery about the immensity of our lives.



PLAIN SPEECH with Philip Gulley

Philip Gulley is a Quaker Minister who formally astored a Quaker Meeting group in Plainfield Indiana. He currently resides near Paoli in Southern Indiana. In addition to his pastoral reflections the Christian Journey, he is the author of a delightful series of books, *The Harmony Series*, which tells the story of Pastor Sam Gardener, who leads a Quaker community in the fictional town of Harmony, Indiana.

The Word Among Us is a popular monthly Catholic devotional magazine featuring daily Mass



readings, meditations, and inspirational articles. Founded in 1981, it serves over 500,000 subscribers worldwide with practical guidance for living out the Christian faith. Many of you are already familiar with this resources. You can access this information through it’s online version and have a printed version sent to you.

(Continued from page 4)

The Growing Edge is a place where folks come together to explore who we are and how we want to work and live, speaking our truth and listening with open hearts. Through a monthly podcast, Parker Palmer, a Quaker writer and teacher, and songwriter Carrie Newcomb, join in conversation with various guests who explore the spiritual life.



Fr. Ron Rohlheiser OMI

Fr. Ron Rohlheiser is a member of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He is widely recognized as one of the foremost spiritual writers of our times. Over the years he has served as a Provincial Leader of the Oblate Community and as President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas. Each week he writes a spiritual reflection which you can access through our website. Three of his best known books are *The Holy Longing*, *The Search for a Christian Spirituality*, *A Sacred Fire*, *A Vision for a Deeper Human and Christian Maturity*, and *Insane for the Light—A Spirituality for our Wisdom Years*.

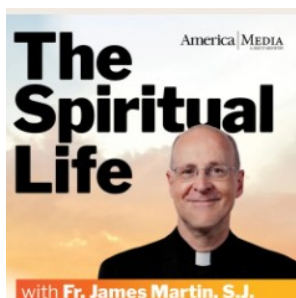
At the Center for Action and Contemplation (CAC), they believe that transformation begins with learning to see and love the world as it is. through everyday Christian contemplative wisdom and practices, we support those seeking healing—within themselves and in the world around them.



Center for
Action and
Contemplation

The work of the Center for Action and Contemplation is rooted in a long tradition of Christian contemplation but presented in ways that meet people where they are today. Whether through teachings, practices, or community engagement, their goal is to help people live out this wisdom in particular ways so that they become instruments of love and healing in the world.

Here you can sign up for daily reflections, have access to several different podcasts and also participate in zoom gatherings.



What is prayer and how can we pray? How do I know if God is responding to my prayers? What does it mean to live a spiritual life? "The Spiritual Life with Fr. James Martin, S.J.," focuses on how people experience God in their prayer and their daily lives. The show combines practical wisdom with deep reflections from spiritual masters like Sister Joyce Rupp and Cardinal Timothy

Radcliffe, and well-known seekers such as Stephen Colbert and Whoopi Goldberg—all tracing the mystery of God's activity in their own lives.

Kate Bowler "Everything Happens"

Are you living your best life now? Not always? This is a podcast for you. Duke Professor Kate Bowler is an expert in the stories we tell about success and failure, suffering and happiness. She had Stage IV cancer. Then she didn't. And since then, all she wants to do is talk to funny and wise people about how to live with the knowledge that, well, everything happens.



THE ALTAR SOCIETY IS MAKING
KUCHENS ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 12
JOIN US TO HELP AT 7:30 AM



SALUTING OUR 4-H FAIR PARTICIPANTS



Emma Roemke
Miss Teen Contest
Winner



Kathrine Roemke
4-H Fair Queen
Contest Runner Up



Logan
Daugherty



Kaelyn Hughes



Macy Adler Dairy
Showmanship Award Winner



Annabelle and
Gracelynn Stolz



Emily Daugherty



Rowan Koester



Palmer Koester

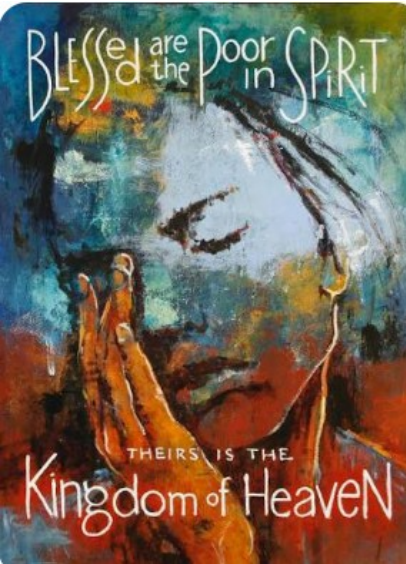
DO YOU HAVE PICTURES OF OTHERS THAT WE CAN RECOGNIZE?



FALL FESTIVAL IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. PLAN
NOW TO HELP THE PTO & MEN'S CLUB AT THEIR BOOTHS

REFLECTIONS ON THE BEATITUDES--AN INVITATION TO DEEPEN OUR FAITH

The Beatitudes are paradoxical “commandments.” They don’t tell Christians what to do; they tell them what they will be like if they are living in the kingdom: They will be poor in spirit, pure in heart, merciful and gentle peacemakers; they will thirst for what is right and be persecuted because of it, and they will mourn. Not a very happy prospect! And yet the Beatitudes call discipleship a happy life. Why? Because when



we live in right relationship with God and one another, we are comforted, our hunger is satisfied, we are shown mercy, and we see God; and so, we are called God’s children, and we live under God’s reign!

The Beatitudes are as concerned about a new way of relating as the Ten Commandments were in the ancient days of Israel. The commandments spoke of showing honor to God and to one’s parents, of not killing, lying, stealing, cheating, or being jealous. The Beatitudes take nothing away from this

revelation, but they do add something new. Instead of asking us to obey rules, they invite us to a lifestyle based on vulnerability, self-emptying, and cooperation.

Yet if we ask most Christians what it means to be moral, they think of the Ten Commandments, not the Beatitudes! They think in terms of legalistic morality. But to follow Jesus is to follow him out of the legality of systems and into living in a much larger truth. It’s to move to a more mature level of faith, where we discover God much more as lifegiver than law-giver.

The law makes us aware of problems. It gives a certain basic order to society and a framework within which people can live their lives. But what if people just obey the law and nothing more? Is there any law that requires you to make friends? Is there any law that compels you to fall in love? Is there any law that says you have to have agency, accomplish something, or be happy? Is there any law that states people have to care about you when you are suffering? Of course not! Almost everything that makes life enjoyable and satisfying comes from people going beyond the legal minimum. It’s going beyond the letter of the law that makes life worth living.

The same is true in our spiritual life. The framework of the commandments provides a basic and needed regularity in our spiritual life. We need such a “container” if we are ever to move beyond commandments and discover blessings. We can’t expect to be blessed with the happiness of living in the reign of God if we never obey God’s laws. Yet even God’s laws are not an end in themselves. Living within them simply frees us to hear the call of the Spirit to the more radical spiritual life of the Beatitudes.

Fr. Richard Rohr OFM



It can be easy to view the Beatitudesas Jesus’ command for us to try real hard to be meeker, poorer, and mournier in order that we might be blessed in the eyes of God.... But what if the Be-

atitudes aren’t about a list of conditions we should try to meet to be blessed? What if they are not virtues we should aspire to?... Maybe the Sermon on the Mount is all about Jesus’ lavish blessing of the people around him on that hillside ... who that world—like ours—didn’t seem to have much time for: people in pain, people who work for peace instead of profit, people who exercise mercy instead of vengeance.

Maybe Jesus was simply blessing the ones around him that day who didn’t otherwise receive blessing, who had come to believe that, for them, blessings would never be in the cards.... Doesn’t that just *sound* like something Jesus would do?

Nadia Bolz-Weber offers her own version of beatitudes for people who may not feel blessed today:

Blessed are the poor in spirit. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you.
Blessed are they for whom death is not an abstraction.
Blessed are they who have buried their loved ones, for whom tears could fill an ocean.
Blessed are they who have loved enough to know what loss feels like.
Blessed are the mothers of the miscarried.
Blessed are they who don’t have the luxury of taking things for granted anymore.



Blessed are they who can’t fall apart because they have to keep it together for everyone else.

Blessed are the motherless, the alone, the ones from whom so much has been taken.

Blessed are those who no one else notices.

The kids who sit alone at middle-school lunch tables. The laundry guys at the hospital. The sex workers and the night-shift street sweepers.

Blessed are the losers and the babies and the parts of ourselves that are so small, the parts of ourselves that don’t want to make eye contact with a world that loves only the winners.

Blessed are the forgotten.

Blessed are the closeted.

Blessed are the unemployed, the unimpressive, the underrepresented.

I imagine Jesus standing there blessing us all because I believe that is our Lord’s nature. Because, after all, it was Jesus who had all the powers of the universe at his disposal but did not consider his equality with God something to be exploited. Instead, he came to us in the most vulnerable of ways, as a powerless, flesh-and-blood newborn. As if to say, “You may hate your bodies, but I am blessing all human flesh. You may admire strength and might, but I am blessing all human weakness. You may seek power, but I am blessing all human vulnerability.”... Jesus was God’s Beatitude—God’s blessing to the weak in a world that admires only the strong.

REMEMBERING
Beverly Jones

November 16, 1947–August 1, 2026

Beverly (Schapker) Jones was born on November 16, 1947, the oldest child of Paul and Alma Schapker. Her sister, Phyllis and brothers, Kenny, Randy and Paul would follow. They grew up on St. Wendel Road within eyesight of St. Joseph. Beverly started school here at St. Joe at the original school which was located just east of our current rectory. In 1958 she joined her classmates in the “new” school where she graduated in 1961. She then attended Mater Dei High School where she graduated in 1965.

Like many young people at the time, Beverly went to dances at Lamey’s Grove, a popular gathering place. There she met a young man named Keith Jones. They would be married on December 14, 1968 here at St. Joseph.

At the time, Keith had been drafted into the army. He would serve his time in Germany. Beverly traveled with him to Germany and it was there that their first son, Scott, was born. Returning home they also welcomed a second son, Rick.

Beverly would spend her considerable time and energy raising her two sons. That included all the normal tasks of cooking, cleaning, laundry. In all of these efforts, her sons knew that they were loved and cared for.

Over the years Beverly worked at a number of jobs. She worked at Mead Johnson until her son Rick was born. Later she would work at Deaconess Hospital. But most of her working career was with the Post Office where she worked for over twenty years. She worked at the main Post Office where she updated addresses. Over the years, Beverly would also offer her help working in the dining room at our summer socials.

We remember Beverly as a person who was very loyal and faithful toward her family. She was a person who didn’t want anyone to make a big fuss over her. She lived a very simple life enjoyed most being at home and spending time with her sons and later her grandchildren Daniel and Jessica. In the last few years of her life, she and Keith began living at River Pointe Health Campus. Beverly continued to live there after Keith’s death in 2023. We pray that God will grant Beverly the blessings of a good and faithful life and that she might now know the goodness of her life.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS –SEPT. 20, 2025 – OCT. 12, 2025

DATE	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	LECTORS
Saturday September 19, 2026 5 PM	Diane Woods Eric Reffett Peter and Jodi Fehrenbacher	Susie Schapker
Sunday September 20, 2026 8 AM	Terry Drone Brian and Ann Craney Marcia Frey	Jalane Weber
Sunday September 20, 2026 10:30 AM	Debra Baumgart Austin Frey Danielle Welage Doris Taylor	Jane Scheller
Saturday September 26, 2026 5 PM	Mary Loehrlein Carolyn Hutchinson Katy Jarboe Diane Woods	Sis Jarboe
Sunday September 27, 2026 8 AM	Terry Drone Lisa Cook Rodney and Paula Baehl	Dave Schmitt
Sunday September 27, 2026 10:30 AM	Sally Kempf Cecelia Koch Kitty Deig Paul Hillenbrand	Shane Wessel
Saturday October 3, 2026 5 PM	Donald & Brandon Werner Mary Kay Fehrenbacher Donna Niemeier	Jim Hermann
Sunday October 4, 2026 8 AM	Darlene Appler Jalane Weber Kylie and Stephanie Frey	Tom Folz
Sunday October 4, 2026 10:30 AM	Amy Cody Jena Wessel Rachael Schnaus Becky Doshier	Chad Martin
Saturday October 10, 2026 5 PM	Eric and Karen McDonald Butch and Linda Feulner	Toni Askins
Sunday October 11, 2026 8 AM	Tom and Dolores Folz Imogene Baehl Michael Elpers	Tom Blythe
Sunday October 11, 2026 10:30 AM	Austin Frey Steve Jung Al Debes Debra Baumgart	Jane Scheller

CELEBRATING THE GRADUATES OF ST JOSEPH SCHOOL

* Indicates Deceased

50 YEARS

CLASS OF 1976

Alice Banker*
Lynn (Rumner) Brown
Cheryl Cobb
Cynthia Duncan
Marybeth (Kempf)
Eickhoff
Robin Goebel
Mary Gray
Keith Hartz
Tom Head
William Jost
Carl Kempf
Jeff Kempf
Sheri (Allison) Kempf
Donna Kramer
Dan Lehman
Brenda Martin'

Curtis Niemeier

Tracy Pace

Beverly Robb

Paul Schapker

Rick Scheller

Ronald Schmitt

Kevin Schneider

Tammy (Weiss)

Schroeder

Vincent Schu

Daniel Sims

Daryl Straub

Kimberly

Thompson

Tracy Tomes

Rodney Will

75 YEARS

CLASS OF 1951

Jerome Duncan

Patricia Egbert

Lawrence Englert*

Mary Elpers*

Francis Gerteisen

John Geuss*

Jeanette Goedde

William Greenwell

Margaret Walter*

Jim Woods*

LIVING ALUMNI OF
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

76 YEARS

CLASS OF 1950

Henry Englert
Dorothy Johnson
Donald Schu
Mary (Folz) Seibert
Marilyn (Effing)

Wassmer
Eugene Wigand
Dorothy Snodgrass
Betty (Schapker)
Will

77 YEARS

CLASS OF 1949

Mary Lee Dormeier
Herman Hartweck
Jerome Kelle
Shirley Shick
Shirley Weinzapfel

78 YEARS

CLASS OF 1948

Elizabeth Coulter
Rosalie Hartman
Marvin Preske
Patricia Rexing
Dorthea Schnur
William Wilbers

79 YEARS
CLASS OF 1947

Robert Adams
Margaret Fuhs
Peggy Koester

80 YEARS

CLASS OF 1946

Leona (Schapker)
Englert
Lawrence Pfoff
Delmar Wigand

81 YEARS
CLASS OF 1945

Elveria Wallace

82 YEARS
CLASS OF 1944

Jacquelyn
Niemeier
Edna Gish,

Rite Greder
Melida Paul

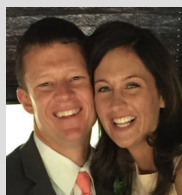
83 YEARS
CLASS OF 1943
William Schmitt
Mary Gertiesen

85 YEARS
CLASS OF 1941
Carol Thornton

86 YEARS
CLASS OF 1940
Anna Mae
(Voelker) Gries

Class of 1937
89 YEARS
Isabelle (Wolf)
Schneider

2026 SUMMER SOCIAL--RUNNING LIKE CLOCKWORK



Megan and Chip Altstadt



Britt and Patrick Fehrenbacher



Kelly & Jordan Wilkinson



Jordan & Jenna Phelps

There are some things that we have gotten very good at doing here in our parish. One of these is knowing how to fix a great fried chicken dinner with dressings, dumplings and all the other fixings. People here have been doing it for over a hundred years. So, it comes as no surprise that our latest “cooks” were able to fix another great meal this past July 26 at our most recent Summer Social. “It was the best meal ever.” “I had enough food for three meals!” These were just a few of the many comments we heard.

Not only was it a great meal but the delivery of the meal through our carryout was done with great efficiency. We’ve perfected this drive through effort that it has become rather common place for all of us. It takes the comments of others to remind us how much of an efficient operation it is.

This year we served over 2600 meals to folks going through the carryout as well as the meals we took to the United Caring Shelter, the House of Bread and Peace and the Ozanam Family Shelter. There was

still some food left over which folks in the parish took home. Those who did so made contributions of \$708 toward our Haiti Food Fund for our brothers and sisters at St. James School—a win-win situation for sure.



take such great pride in what they do and want their efforts to be the very best possible. Special thanks to Mary Fuchs who donated all the eggs we used for the dressing

and dumplings as well as all the onions we needed. A word of thanks to Stu Gibbs who grilled the hot dogs and hamburgers we had for our “after social” party. Thanks to the Men’s Club for paying for this as well as the chips and drinks.

Of course this effort needs great leadership from the top. We have been blessed by the leadership that Chip and Megan Altstadt and Britt and Patrick Fehrenbacher have provided for the last seven years. As one of our parishioners said, “they were great and made it so easy for us to do our part because we always had everything we needed.” No doubt they set the bar of leadership pretty high. Now they are ready to turn the job over to some new folks. The great thing is that we have two more couples who are ready to take over for next year—Kelly and Jordan Wilkinson and Jenna and Jordan Phelps. If the efforts we saw them putting in this year are any indication, we’re confident that our summer social chicken dinner will be in good hands!

2026 SUMMER SOCIAL GRAND RAFFLE WINNERS

\$10,000—Dorius Taylor
\$2,500—Patti Wittgen
\$500—Martin Will
\$500—Norma Duncan
\$500—Mary Happe
\$500—Andy Wright
\$500 Early Bird—Pat Ashby

Congratulations!



The money received from our social dinners (\$42,185.00) combined with the money raised through our Grand Raffle (\$72,214.00) gave us a gross total income of \$114,399.00. Our expenses from both the dinners and the raffle totaled \$30,898.03 leaving us a net income for the day of \$83,500.97

Such a great outcome would not be possible without the untiring efforts of so many people who helped prepare the food as well as those who put the meals together and made the carryout work so efficiently. It’s obvious that people



2026 SUMMER SOCIAL REPORT

	INCOME		EXPENSES	
	2026	2025	2025	2024
Dinners	\$42,185.00	\$42,047.48	\$14,993.03	\$15,231.81
Grand Raffle	\$72,214.00	\$72,965.00	\$15,905.00	\$15,875.00
TOTALS	\$114,399.00	\$115,012.48	\$30,898.03	\$31,106.81

YEAR BY YEAR COMPARISON SUMMARIES

	2026	2025	2024	2023
TOTAL INCOME	\$114,399.00	\$115,012.48	\$113,884.00	\$115,469.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$30,898.03	\$31,106.81	\$28,151.32	\$31,063.06
NET PROFIT	\$83,500.97	\$83,905.67	\$85,732.68	\$84,405.94

MISSION OUTREACH



Be an island of mercy in
a sea of indifference.

Pope Leo

Not all of us can do great things,
but we can do small things with great
love. *Mother Teresa of Calcutta*



Each weekend when you participate in our food drive for the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry, you are helping to provide food for many people, especially young mothers and their children in the Evansville area! Besides canned goods, cash donations are also welcome. A jar of peanut butter, a bag of rice, a box of cereal—it is all important.



Turn your grocery cart into a simple act of heroism!



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER. 27 9 AM
EVANSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL GROUNDS

Register for the walk online,
www.svdpevansville.org/register-form/

WE'RE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SPONSOR A CHILD'S EDUCATION IN HAITI

Entering another person's world is something Pope Leo talks about. He calls it creating a "culture of encounter." Creating a culture of encounter doesn't just happen. It takes lots of intentional work. We have to want to make room in our life for others.

So, how do you begin to make an intentional effort to let stranger into your life? One way is to become a sponsor for one of the children of St. James Parish in Plaine du Nord, Haiti. The simple act of saying yes to this opportunity can effect the life of a young Haitian forever. The money you give



as a sponsor provides a child with school uniforms and salaries for their teachers. Students who attend our grade school and high school also get the chance to have a meal each day. For many of them, it will be the only meal they will have.

A person or family can sponsor a student for an annual cost of \$360, or just \$30 per month. This fee helps pay for their tuition, provide a stipend for uniforms and books, helps fund the daily food program and allows the students to have access to the parish clinic.

With your help and the help of many of our other friends in the community, we currently sponsor approximately 200 students at St. Jacques elementary and high school. If you would like more information, you can contact Chad Martin, the coordinator of our student sponsorship program. (812-454-2785) or email him at seabeesgreat58@gmail.com



It takes a while for people to move from just throwing things in the trash to begin thinking about what can be recycled. Creating this consciousness is something our school teachers and personnel also work hard at. Gradually we see our young people becoming more aware of the things that can and should be recycled—paper, cardboard, aluminum, glass, metal cans and more. The same thing has begun to happen with our parish groups, even if it just a simple thing like making sure a "recycle container" is available when clean-

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Volunteer with Catholic Charities!

With the continued growth of our Neighbor to Neighbor program, Catholic Charities is seeking volunteers to help facilitate this faith based, life skills education program where neighbors truly impact neighbors.

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- ✱ Use your passion to help others build healthier lifestyle habits.
- ✱ Co-facilitate with skilled staff & volunteers.
- ✱ Training and support provided.
- ✱ 3-6 volunteer hours per week.
- ✱ Two information sessions available. Call or email us today to register for your session!



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Information Sessions

Tuesday, Aug 25th at 5:30pm
Thursday, Sept 3rd at 9:00am

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Evansville, IN 47711

812.423.5456
CatholicCharities@evdio.org
www.ccevansville.com

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL DIOCESE OF EVANSVILLE HAVE YOU MADE YOUR PLEDGE TO OUR CMA CAMPAIGN? PARISH GOAL \$133,345 No Gift is too Large or too Small		1 7:30 am Mass	2 7:30 am Mass Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon	3 NO MASS	4 7:30 am Mass NO SCHOOL Communion to the Homebound	5 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4-4:40 pm 5 pm Mass Haiti and Food Pantry Collection
6 8 & 10:30 Masses Food Pantry Collection	7 7:30 AM Mass  LABOR DAY	8 Mass 7:30 am	9 Mass 7:30 am Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon	10 NO MASS Altar Society Meeting 6:30 pm	11 7:30 am Mass Women's Bible Study Group 8:30 am Senior Citizens Gathering 1 pm Communion to the Homebound	12 Altar Society making kuchens 7:30 am Sacrament of Reconciliation 4-4:30 pm 5 pm Mass Food Pantry Collection
13 8 & 10:30 Masses Food Pantry Collection CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL KICKOFF	14 7 am-7 pm Eucharistic Adoration 6:30 pm Mass 7 pm Knights of St. John	15 7:30 am Mass	16 Mass 7:30 am Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon That Man is You 5:30 PM Bible Study 6:45 PM	17 NO MASS Haiti Outreach Commission 6:30 pm PTO Meeting 6 pm	18 7:30 am Mass Communion to the Homebound	19 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4-4:30 pm 5 pm Mass Food Pantry Collection
20 8 & 10:30 Masses Children's liturgy of the Word to begin at 10:30 Mass Food Pantry Collection	21 7 am-7 pm Eucharistic Adoration 6:30 PM Mass 7 pm Men's Club Meeting	22 7:30 am Mass RCIA Introductory Meeting 6:30 PM	23 7:30 am MASS With Grandparents Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon That Man is You 5:30 PM Bible Study 6:45 PM	24 NO MASS  FALL FESTIVAL OCTOBER 4-10 PLAN NOW TO HELP THE PTO & MEN'S CLUB BOOTHS	25 7:30 am School Mass Communion to the Homebound	26 5 pm Mass Food Pantry Collection College Care Packages Available this weekend
27 8 & 10:30 am Masses Food Pantry Collection Confirmation Session 2 11:30-1 Children's liturgy of the Word to begin at 10:30 Mass	28 7 am-7 pm Eucharistic Adoration 6:30 PM Mass	29 7:30 am Mass DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TUESDAY - 6 AM --	30 7:30 am MASS Parish Staff Meeting 12 Noon That Man is You 5:30 PM Bible Study 6:45 PM WEDNESDAY - 6 AM	1 NO MASS	2 7:30 am School Mass Communion to the Homebound	3 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4-4:30 pm 5 pm Mass Food Pantry Collection

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WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday—5 PM

Sunday—8 & 10:30 AM

Fr. Gene Schroeder—Pastor

E-mail gschroeder@evdio.org

Ms. Kristan Gilles—Director of Liturgy

E-mail kgilles@evdio.org

Mrs. Kelsey Meier—Principal

E-mail kmeier@evdio.org

Mrs. Julie Kempf—Secretary

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POPE LEO SPEAKS TO GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

How often in Sacred Scripture, especially in the Psalms, does prayer spring from the despair of those who feel that their lives are of no interest to anyone and are being neglected! The painful

feeling of being forgotten is, unfortunately, shared by many elderly people. This is what happens in homes where loneliness reigns and also in those care facilities where each person's uniqueness risks being reduced to a bed number or an illness.

The celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. May this day, therefore, be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young, to revive the beautiful custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family and even those who have no one to visit them. In an era that favors speed and fragmentation, the human person still yearns to receive care and recognition from attentive minds, kind words and hands capable of tenderness. The digital culture multiplies connections and offers new opportunities for interaction; yet, the human heart retains an irrevocable need for genuine closeness”

For many, the discovery of God's tenderness takes place in its final stages. Indeed, it is increasingly common to reach old age without having had a genuine experience of faith. In such cases, old age can become the right time to begin or resume a spiritual life. On this new journey, especially with all the frailties that come with aging, we can come to an awareness that helps us not to feel ashamed of the fragility that

emerges and also to understand that we are always in need of one another and in need of attention and care. . It is never too late to begin turning to God. It can be a great gift for everyone.

Dear elderly men and women, Pope Francis spoke of you as a “new people” since the number of older adults has never been so large in human history. It is, therefore, more important than ever to reflect with you, this “new people,” on what our vocation might be when fragility – the human person's companion from birth – seems to take over. I would like to say to you: do not be afraid of fragility! It is precisely this weakness that holds within itself a new potential that also illuminates the other stages of life. Indeed, when we acknowledge our fragility, our hearts become open to supporting one another and to invoking the One who can grant what no human power can ensure: the profound reconciliation of hearts and, with it, true peace.

This is how we can live out our old age as Christians: “fragile” yet at the same time “called.” A man and a woman can, in fact, be born anew in old age and exclaim, with the prophet: “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength” (Is 30:15). This strength can become an invitation not to resort to the ways of arrogance and power to ensure human coexistence, but to the ways of reconciliation and true peace. In this time, so harshly marked by the violence of war and social unrest, many wonder what the world in which their grandchildren will grow up will be like. I urge you, dear friends, to join me in praying earnestly that peace may soon come to the whole world. Dear elderly brothers and sisters, I thank you for supporting me every day with your prayers, especially when you recite the Holy Rosary. I return this gratitude from the bottom of my heart and leave you with this prayer: may the Lord always renew us in faith, hope and love – He who never forgets us!

