


EXULTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Pastor:

Fr. Anthony Mersmann
pastor@sjolpe.org
Rectory: 620-475-3420

Parish Office:

Hours:
Wed. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm &
Fri. 9:00 am-Noon
620-475-3326
st.joseph_olpe@yahoo.com

Administrative Assistant:

Diana Kuhlmann
diana@sjolpe.org
620-475-3784 or 620-794-1914

Mass Schedule:

Saturday - 5:00 pm
Sunday - 8:30 am
Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 7:15 am
The rosary is recited before weekend Masses @
4:35 pm on Saturday evenings and 8:05 am on
Sunday mornings

Confessions:

Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 6:30 am - 7:00 am
Saturday - 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Upon Request

Adoration:

Wednesdays: 8:00 am-7:00 pm in the Church

Other Sacraments:

Contact Parish Office

Parish Contacts:

Funeral Dinners: Linda Dieker, (620) 475-3567
Cemetery: Steve Redeker, (620) 475-3255
K of C: Danny Schneider, (620) 794-5889
Family Life: Kay Schmidt, (620) 475-3767
Outreach: Arlene Redeker, (620) 475-3414
Finance Council: Kevin Flott, (620) 412-3275
Pastoral Council: Kim Irwin, (620) 475-3295
Religious Ed: Lindsey Ratcliff, (214) 732-3813
St. Joseph School Endowment: Michael
Ratcliff, (620) 490-0388

Sacristan 09/08/25 - 09/14/25

Michael Dieker

Weekend Lectors/EMHC

09/13: Donna Bolen
09/14: Dan Schneider
09/20: LeAnn Eberle
09/21: Greg Markowitz
Trish Markowitz - EMHC
09/27: Jana Redeker
09/28: Michael Ratcliff



*“The Way of the Cross alone defeats sin,
evil, and death, for it leads to the radiant
light of Christ’s resurrection and opens
the horizons of a new and fuller life. It is
the way of hope, the way of the future.
Those who take up this way with
generosity and faith give hope and a
future to humanity.”*

~Pope Francis

The cross is our message and our hope.
May we, on this feast day, embrace it
anew.

St. Joseph Prayer List

Collins Baldwin
Linda Barnard
Maya Bishop
Jeanette Reed Copeland
Vicki Dickson
Kauffman Dieker
Susan Haag
Sylvia Haag
Darren Heins
Kenneth Langley
Debbie Markowitz
Brian Martin
Sylvia Miller
Shea Mueting
James Nunley
Todd Orear
Twyla Owen
Olivia Pimpl
Mrs. Ken Redeker
Richard Scheve
Danny Schmidt
Jackie Schmidt
Greg Schonhardt
Mike Wecker
Clara Young

United States Army:

SGM Matthew S. Richter,
Sgt. Austin Burenheide,
Grant Fath,
Major Jacob Haag

Marines:

Lt. Col. James Bechtel

Navy:

Grace Coughlin

Air Force:

Megan DePauw

Army National Guard:

Sgt. Mason Harmon

Mass Intentions:

Sat. 09/13 5:00 pm For the Parish
Sun. 09/14: 8:30 am +Louis & Bertha Trear
+Helen Redeker

Wed. 09/17: 7:15 am +Sonny Wendling
Thurs. 09/18: 7:15 am +Larry Kehres
Fri. 09/19: 7:15 am +Glen & Georgia Haag
Sat. 09/20: 5:00 pm +Jerry & Doris Redeker
Sun. 09/21: 8:30 am For the Parish

Next week, September 22-25, the priests of the Archdiocese will be on their annual convocation just outside of St. Louis.

There will be no Mass, confession, or adoration in the church Sept. 22-25. Fr. Mersmann will return in time for 6:30 am confessions and 7:15 am Mass on Friday, September 26.



IT'S TIME TO
CELEBRATE A NEW
SEASON – A NEW
SCHOOL YEAR, NEW
CCD YEAR, COOLER
TEMPERATURES.....

AND OUR NEW PASTOR, FR. MERSMANN!

WE HAVE SOME GREAT COOKS IN OUR PARISH, SO NO BETTER WAY TO KICK THINGS OFF THAN WITH SOME FRIENDLY COMPETITION. MAKE A CROCK POT OF CHILI AND/OR A BATCH OF CINNAMON ROLLS AND GATHER AT THE PARISH LIFE CENTER, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST. WE'LL OPEN THE DOORS AT 5:30 PM. EATING AND VOTING WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 PM. WITH THE WINNERS BEING ANNOUNCED BEFORE CCD AT 7:00 PM.

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO JOIN THE COMPETITION, PLEASE COME EAT AND VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE DISH. LET'S HAVE A GREAT TURN OUT AND WELCOME FR. MERSMANN TO OUR COMMUNITY.

Take a look at the posters in the back of church highlighting some of the awesome activities for our youth and parish this past year.

There are some great thoughts on their experiences from our teens who attended Prayer and Action this summer.

We are blessed by our parish's support of these and other activities.

Last Week's Collection:

Envelopes (26)	\$ 1,470.00
Plate	171.00
Capital Improvements	150.00
CCD	35.00
Catholic University of America	60.00
TOTAL	\$ 1,861.00



Knights' News



THIS Sunday, September 14th, the Knights will be serving a delicious biscuit and gravy breakfast from 7:30 - 10:00 am. Please join us for the new season of delicious food and great conversation.



**WALKING WITH MOMS
IN NEED
BINGO FUNDRAISER**

This Monday, September 15th, is Bingo Night to benefit Shiloh House at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Emporia from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Bingo prizes will be homemade food items.

The Walking with Moms in Need Group from St. Joseph - Olpe, St. Mary's - Hartford, Sacred Heart of Jesus - Emporia, St. Catherine's - Emporia, and the Didde Catholic Campus Center - are again hosting this fundraising event for the second year. The proceeds will assist with additional support to the moms in our communities who are in need.

Please plan to join us for tasty snacks and a fun evening of bingo for a worthy cause. Thank you!

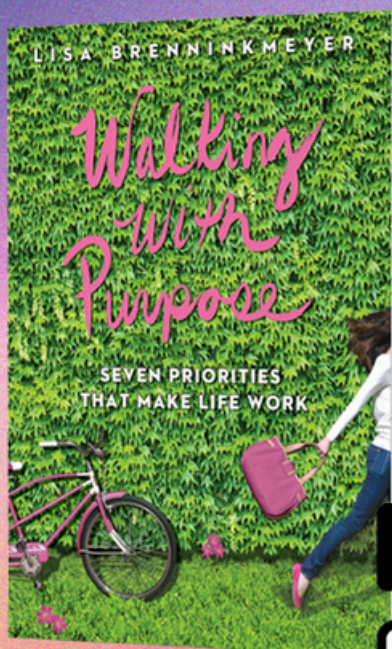
~The Walking with Moms in Need Group from St. Joseph - Olpe



**Hole-y Donuts
Next Weekend!!**

Next weekend we will be serving donuts, coffee, juice, and milk in the Parish Life Center after Sunday morning Mass. Please join us to enjoy good conversation with fellow parishioners.

MOM'S BIBLE STUDY



Sign Up



WEDNESDAY
NIGHTS DURING
CCD



DIDDE CATHOLIC
CAMPUS CENTER

Annual Benefit Dinner

presents

OKTOBERFEST 2025

Prost to a Purpose! Join us in celebrating the amazing things happening at the Didde Catholic Campus Center with an Oktoberfest twist! Our annual benefit dinner has long supported the faith and formation of students—and this year, we are raising our steins once again. Enjoy hearty German fare, festive conversation, an awesome live auction item, and plenty of Gemütlichkeit (good cheer)!

October 4, 2025

Didde Catholic Campus Center
1415 Merchant St., Emporia, KS 66801

The evening begins with Mass at 5:30pm followed by a cocktail hour, dinner & program.

\$50/seat or \$400/table if paying by check or cash

\$60/seat or \$480/table for online purchases

Stop by the center, email development@diddecenter.org or call 620-343-6765 to reserve your seats today. RSVP by September 28, 2025

Make your reservation today! Didde Catholic Campus Center

RURAL YM OUTREACH & NETWORK

ADORATION AND SHINDIG

ADORE + DANCE SMORES GAGA

OCTOBER 12

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 5-7PM

ST. JOSEPH, OLPE
306 IOWA STREET

ADMISSION IS FREE ALL AGES WELCOME
BRING LAMN CHAIRS OR BLANKET & A JACKET!
RAIN OR SHINE - CHECK WEBSITE FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN

WWW.ARCHDIOCESE.ORG/RURAL
785-221-2644

A back-to-school celebration
- and -
welcome Fr. Mersmann

chili cook-off
cinnamon roll bake-off

Chili & Sweet
Meet n' Greet - Oct. 1

Doors open at 5:30 • Dinner at 6
Cash prizes awarded at 7



Father's Corner



September 14th is the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Most of the time, it goes unnoticed on a weekday. This year, it falls on a Sunday. When a feast of Jesus happens on a Sunday, we celebrate that feast rather than the given Sunday in Ordinary Time.

I'm thrilled that we get to celebrate this feast all together. It's one of my favorites. Even the fact that it's so important and goes mostly unnoticed makes me cherish it more. Holy Cross was the first parish I was assigned to as a priest. I got my first pickup while I was there, so that I could do much needed work on the grounds during Covid.

The Cross itself is also the focal point in the timeline of all of creation. All that occurred before anticipates that moment, and all that has happened since refers back to it. Here are some quotes and thoughts from various saints that help communicate why this Feast and why the Cross are so beautiful.

St. John Chrysostom (4th century)

He himself said, "The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep." Therefore I call Him King, because I see Him crucified. It belongs to a king to fight for his subjects, and He fought and overcame. Behold another paradox: He is bound, and yet He looses the bonds of sin; He is pierced in the side, and yet He heals the wound of Adam.

St. Paul of the Cross (1694–1775)

The Passion of Jesus is the greatest and most stupendous work of divine Love. The greatest and most overwhelming work of God's infinite mercy. The Cross of Christ is the greatest book in which we learn the knowledge of God. The Cross is the school of love.

St. Francis de Sales (1567–1622)

Mount Calvary is the academy of love. See how much He has loved us! For love of us He died. Upon the Cross we learn all the lessons of perfection. What is more contrary than life and death, yet out of death He has given us life?

St. Andrew of Crete (650-712)

"Christ's glory is his cross and his exaltation upon it, as he plainly says: When I have been lifted up, I will draw all men to myself."

St. Theodore the Studite (759-826)

"The cross was the tree on which Christ, like a king on a chariot, destroyed the devil, the Lord of death, and freed the human race from his tyranny."

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

"Whoever wishes to live perfectly should do nothing but disdain what Christ disdained on the cross and desire what he desired, for the cross exemplifies every virtue."