NOVEMBER 23, 2025



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



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 office@sjolpe.org

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 11/24/25 - 11/30/25

Michael Dieker

Weekend Lectors/EMHCs

11/22: Cass Coughlin

11/23: Rosemary Martin - Lector

Aaron Cole - EMHC

11/29: Jana Redeker 11/30: Michael Ratcliff

> THE MASS ON THANKSGIVING DAY, November 27th,

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WILL BE AT 10:00 AM.

THE MASSES ON DECEMBER 8TH, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, WILL BE AT 7:15 AM & 7:00 PM.

THERE WILL BE NO CCD AND NO ADORATION THIS WEEK DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.



St. Joseph Prayer List

Collins Baldwin Linda Barnard Mava Bishop Jeanette Reed Copeland Vicki Dickson

> Kauffman Dieker Norman Geiger

> > 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: Sat. Mason Harmon

Mass Intentions:

Sat. 11/22: 5:00 pm For the Parish

Sun. 11/23: 8:30 am +Fred & Helen Windle

Wed. 11/26: 7:15 am +August & Helen Redeker

Thurs. 11/27: 10:00 am + Marie Haag 11/28: 7:15 am Fri. NO MASS

11/29: 5:00 pm Special intention for Sat.

Danny & Sheila Broyles

Sun. 11/30: 8:30 am For the Parish



TOTAL

Christmas Poinsettias



\$ 2,195.00

284.00 130.00

40.00

25.00

15.00

20.00

\$ 2,709.00

Biscuits and Gravy breakfast will be held this Sunday, November 23rd from 7:30-10:00 AM. Proceeds from these breakfasts benefit our Knights' charities. We certainly appreciate all donations and support and look forward to sharing time with our community members.

Knights' News



Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the Parish Office will be open Tuesday, Noon - 3:00 and Wednesday, 8 a.m. - Noon this week. The office will be closed on Friday.



Last Week's Collection:

Capital Improvements

My Christmas Offering

Retirement Fund for Religious

Campaign for Human Development

Catholic Charities

Envelopes (30)

Plate

If you would like to donate towards the purchase of altar flowers for Christmas in memory of a loved one, please contact Donna at 620-475-3794 or Laurie at 620-343-0321

by December 22nd.

The suggested donation remains at \$25 this year.

We will collect donations for flowers after masses on Dec. 6/7 and Dec. 13/14.

Thanks to all for your kindness and generosity!

Church Cleaning



Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 6th! Our semi-annual church cleaning will begin at 8:30am. We invite all able-bodied men, women, and youth to help make fast work of this task.

Let's all pitch in to beautify our church for the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of our parish with Archbishop McKnight and the Christmas season.



Choir practices for the Christmas season will begin next Sunday, Nov. 30th following Mass. If you are interested in joining the Choir, we'd love to have you!

Parish Life Center Lottery Tickets On Sale

Lottery tickets for the March 2026 - February 2027 season are now available for \$25 each! Please help spread the word to your family and friends.

These lottery tickets make great Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers, and birthday, anniversary, "thank you," or "just because" gifts as well. There are 999 tickets for sale. We have sold out the last couple of years! The proceeds support the Parish Life Center.

Tickets have been issued to CCD families. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, you can contact one of them. You can also call Kim Irwin (520-237-5188) or the Parish Office.





Sunday, November 23rd | Knights Hall Soup at 5pm, Bingo at 6pm

The time has arrived! Come enjoy an evening of family fun! Dinner begins at 5:00 p.m. with Bingo following at 6:00 p.m. There are lots of great prizes to win, including a quilt made by our Quilting Corner ladies.

There will also be a raffle with some wonderful prizes. Pop and snacks will be available.

Thank you to all who have made donations to make this event successful.





HEY PARENTS!

St. Joseph Family Life Ministry is again providing an avenue for you to enjoy a "night out" and your kids to get a great start to ADVENT!

SUNDAY. NOVEMBER 30

Parish Life Center 3:00-6:30 PM AGES K-6th grade PIZZA, movie, snacks/hot chocolate, crafts

This is a GREAT opportunity for parents to drop off your youngsters and enjoy a dinner date out or shop, etc. It will also coincide nicely with Advent Vespers which begin at 7:00 PM at the church.

Sign up on the sheet in the back of church by this weekend or text Kay at 620-340-5638 to register your child!



ADVENT VESPERS

Join us at St. Joseph for 7 pm Vespers on November 30th, the First Sunday of Advent, with members from Olpe United Methodist and Ebenezer Global Methodist churches.

Desserts and refreshments will be served at the Parish Life Center after the prayer service.

If you are interested in bringing a dessert, please contact Diana Kuhlmann. 620-794-1914.

St. Joseph Parish's 150th Anniversary

As you may or may not know, this year marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of our parish. Historically, we have celebrated the year of the dedication of our first church building (1885).

However, a parish is primarily a body made up of families and individuals. St. Joseph Catholic Parish was actually founded 10 years before a church was built (1875).

As a way to mark this powerful moment, and in order to show our connectedness to the larger Church, Archishop

McKnight will be celebrating the

8:30am Mass on Sunday, December 14th.

Please plan to attend (and invite anyone you know that has not been to St. Joseph in a while).

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



Father's Corner



Advent confession times

(weeks 2 and 3 of Advent)

6:30-7am Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7-9pm Thursdays 8-10am Saturdays

Confession for CCD students

3rd - 6th grade 6pm December 10th & 17th

> 7th - 12th grade 7pm December 10th

I will be on retreat December 1-5, so there will be no confession, adoration, or Mass that week.

I'm sorry to miss a big chunk of the first week of Advent!

Please make note of the additional availability for Reconciliation during the second and third weeks of Advent.

This Sunday's Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe blends really well with the themes of Advent. This Sunday's solemnity is a reminder that Jesus is the One through whom all things are. He is the source of salvation.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be." John 1:1-3

Objectively, there is nothing and no one more important in our lives than Jesus Himself. How well we recognize and respond to that objective reality is all over the place, though. How we do Confession, what conversion and growth in holiness look like, all of the how-to's for our faith have to do with seeing 'What am I giving preeminence over Jesus in my life?' Whether those things are sins in themselves or even good things given to us by God, nothing can take the highest place in our lives besides Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. He deserves this place in his own right as Son of the Living God, the love of the Father made visible. What is more, he merited this place by being lifted on the Cross. We raised him to that place by our sins. Now it's time to recognize his place with praise, honor, glory, and worship.

One of my favorite elements of Advent is that there is an emphasis on not what we do, but how we wait. It's actually a time not to do. The waiting of Advent isn't supposed to be a mad rush to get everything ready for a major gathering that we're hosting - it's just waiting. Calmy. Imagining time just sitting and waiting brings peace to my mind and my heart, but it also brings some level of anxiety. I've had to train myself to be able to wait and be still, and there's still plenty of room to grow. I remember many times where sitting and waiting was only filled with anxiety.

If we combine these two themes, we can ask ourselves 'what is keeping me from being able to simply and peacefully wait for the coming of Jesus?' 'what am I doing instead of waiting?' Here's the challenge of Advent: do less of those things. Even if they seem like good things, things we've been doing for years, if they're keeping us from being able to receive grace in this time of waiting, then take a break from those things. Maybe don't even start them back up after Advent.

To simplify, happy Solemnity of Christ the King, happy almost Advent. Stop doing so much.