



MARCH 8, 2026

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**



**Pastor:**

Fr. Anthony Mersmann  
pastor@sjolpe.org  
Direct office: 620-261-8954  
Rectory: 620-475-3420

**Parish Office:**

Wed. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Fri. 9:00 am - Noon  
620-258-6030  
office@sjolpe.org

**Administrative Assistant:**

Diana Kuhlmann  
diana@sjolpe.org  
620-258-6031 or 620-794-1914

**Mass Schedule:**

Saturday - 5:00 pm  
Sunday - 8:30 am  
Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 7:15 am  
*Rosary at 4:35pm Saturdays & 8:05am Sundays*

**Confessions:**

Wednesday - Friday 6:30-7am  
Saturday - 3:30-4:30 pm  
Upon Request

**Adoration:**

Wednesdays: 8:00 am-7:00 pm

**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  
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 03/09/26 - 03/15/26**

Michael Dieker

**Weekend Servers**

03/07: Brylee Johnson, Chloe Arndt  
03/08: Thomas Arnold, Cooper Barnhart  
Zachary Jones  
03/14: Maylee and Daylen Ballinger  
03/15: Isaac Arnold, Ava Rudolph,  
Daniel Coughlin  
03/21: Lilly Lienemann, Sarah Soyez  
03/22: Augusta, Sawyer & Bryer McGee  
03/28: John Musick, Noah Nunley  
03/29: Kaleb Arnold, Bryce Weeden,  
Ace Dieker

*A reminder that if your child is unable to serve as scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Thank you very much for your cooperation.*

**Weekend Lectors/EMHCs**

03/07: LeAnn Eberle  
03/08: Dan Schneider  
03/14: Jana Redeker  
03/15: Greg Markowitz  
Trish Markowitz - EMHC  
03/21: Lilly Skalsky  
03/22: Cass Coughlin  
03/28: LeAnn Eberle  
03/29: Shirley Langley  
Barb Kuhlmann - EMHC



**St. Joseph Prayer List**

Collins Baldwin  
Linda Barnard  
Maya Bishop  
Jeanette Reed Copeland  
Donna Dains  
Vicki Dickson  
Kauffman Dieker  
Norman Geiger  
Susan Haag  
Sylvia Haag  
Darren Heins  
Kenneth Langley  
Debbie Markowitz  
Brian Martin  
Sylvia Miller  
Jenna Moyer  
Shea Mueting  
James Nunley  
Twyla Owen  
Olivia Pimpl  
Mrs. Ken Redeker  
Norma Redeker  
Ken Schade  
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

**Navy:**

Grace Coughlin

**Air Force:**

Megan DePauw

**Army National Guard:**

Sgt. Mason Harmon

**Mass Intentions:**

Sat. 03/07: 5:00 pm For the Parish  
 Sun. 03/08: 8:30 am +Abbi Markowitz  
 Wed. 03/11: 7:15 am +Duane Schmidt  
 Thurs.03/12: 7:15 am +Gary Trear  
 Fri. 03/13: 7:15 am +Imogene Schmidt  
 Sat. 03/14: 5:00 pm +August Redeker  
 Sun. 03/15: 8:30 am For the Parish

**Last Week's Collection:**

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Envelopes (26)       | \$ 1,363.00       |
| Plate                | 381.00            |
| Capital Improvements | 45.00             |
| Social Support (14)  | 490.00            |
| The Leaven (3)       | 70.00             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>\$2,349.00</b> |

**Knights' News**

We will be serving our delicious, warm biscuits and gravy breakfast **this** Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-10:00 am. Please join us!

A heartfelt **CONGRATULATIONS** to:  
 Knight of the Year - Danny Schneider  
 Family of the Year - Doug & Laurie Schmidt Family  
 Thank you for all you've done for our organization, parish and community. These council-selected awardees will be submitted to the Kansas Knights of Columbus as nominees for 2025 state-level awards.

The monthly Knights meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. There will also be a degree ceremony that evening for new members to join. Please let me know if you are interested in becoming a Knights of Columbus member.

Sincerely,  
*- Danny Schneider,*  
 Grand Knight

**Donut Sunday**

Next Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, donuts and beverages will be served in the Parish Life Center following Mass. Please plan to attend and enjoy friends and conversation.

**WE HAVE MERCH!**



1<sup>st</sup> round of orders due 3/20

Represent St. Joseph wherever you go AND look cool doing it.



*Stations of the Cross*

5:00 pm on Fridays during Lent

**CCD News**

**There will be no religious education classes on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. Have a safe and fun spring break!**

**Totus Tuus dates have been set for June 7th-12th.**

**There are only 25 PLC lottery tickets remaining. Contact the parish office if you are interested.**

Daily drawings for \$25, special drawings each month ranging from \$50-\$200, and a **grand prize of \$750 on the Feast of St. Joseph (March 19th).**

RECONCILIATION THIS LENT

Don't put it off any longer. God wants to give you incredible things.

Wed-Fri 6:30-7am  
 Sat 8-9am  
 Sat 3:30-4:30pm



As a *Walking with Moms in Need* parish, during this season of Lent until Palm Sunday, St. Joseph parishioners are invited to give a gift of diapers (sizes 5 - 7) or wipes that will be delivered to the Shiloh House of Hope. Please leave your gifts in the back of church. As always, your generosity is much appreciated by those seeking services from Shiloh House. Thank you!!

**Friday, March 20, 2026** - 6:30 - 8:00 pm Bingo plus 50/50 raffle fundraiser at Sacred Heart Parish Hall to benefit Shiloh House. \$5.00 cards for homemade goodies and prizes.

**Holy Week Mass Schedule**

**Palm Sunday**

8:30am - St. Joseph  
10:00am - St. Mary

**Holy Thursday**

7:00pm - St. Joseph

**Good Friday**

3:00pm - St. Joseph  
6:00pm - St. Mary

**Easter Vigil**

8:00pm - St. Joseph

**Easter Sunday**

8:30am - St. Joseph  
10:00am - St. Mary

**To the amazing families with young kiddos:**

- I want to do everything I can to encourage your children's presence with you during Mass. I argue that your time *together* at Mass as a family unit is the most important in every way.
- With that, if you ever feel bad that your child makes noise, **please don't**; it is proof of life, which everyone at St. Joseph should acknowledge as something beautiful. If you ever are made to feel poorly because of your children's participation or noise, I would like to know immediately.
- The pews near the confessional seem especially nice for young kids, since they can see more clearly what is happening, and the staircase on the side gives access to two restrooms and our chapel, if you need a more private space.
- At least during Lent, I have asked Michelle not to do the children's liturgy. It has been difficult for me to dismiss young kids and have them miss out on a good portion of what the Church Herself wants for them to hear and be a part of. The Liturgy of the Word during Lent and Easter is the most clear and powerful, too. Going full-circle, I promise any difficulty it costs for you and your children to be together for the entire Mass is 100% worth the investment. I am more than grateful that you all are here.

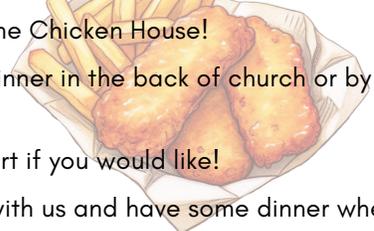
*Congratulations*

**February winners of the Parish Life Center Lottery**

|                       |                     |      |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------|
| 02/01                 | Debbie Redeker      | \$25 |
| 02/02                 | Rowyn Dexter        | \$25 |
| 02/03                 | Ace Dieker          | \$25 |
| 02/04                 | Henley Tovar        | \$25 |
| 02/05                 | Richelle Birk       | \$25 |
| 02/06                 | Megan Barnhart      | \$25 |
| 02/07                 | CheyAnn Cole        | \$25 |
| 02/08                 | Amanda Arndt        | \$25 |
| 02/09                 | Angela Nunley       | \$25 |
| 02/10                 | Darryl Lutz         | \$25 |
| 02/11                 | Maggie Dieker       | \$25 |
| 02/12                 | Kadon Redeker       | \$25 |
| 02/13                 | Ace Dieker          | \$25 |
| 02/14 - St. Valentine | Scott Wendling      | \$50 |
| 02/15                 | Rowyn Dexter        | \$25 |
| 02/16                 | Preston Langley     | \$25 |
| 02/17                 | Amanda Arndt        | \$25 |
| 02/18                 | Macy Wecker         | \$25 |
| 02/19                 | Derek Reese         | \$25 |
| 02/20                 | Charlie Haag        | \$25 |
| 02/21                 | Hunter Carlson      | \$25 |
| 02/22                 | Rowyn Dexter        | \$25 |
| 02/23                 | James Nunley        | \$25 |
| 02/24                 | Leah Blaufuss       | \$25 |
| 02/25                 | Carol Flott         | \$25 |
| 02/26                 | Thomas Barnhart     | \$25 |
| 02/27                 | Fr. Mohan Bathineni | \$25 |
| 02/28                 | Lydia Weeden        | \$25 |

**Annual Lenten Fish Fry  
March 27<sup>th</sup> @ the PLC  
Stations at 5:30, dinner at 6**

Catered by the Chicken House!  
Sign up for dinner in the back of church or by calling the parish office.  
Bring a dessert if you would like!  
Spend time with us and have some dinner whether you sign up or not.





## Father's Corner



From a treatise on John by Saint Augustine, bishop  
(Tract. 15, 10-12, 16-17: CCL 36, 154-156)

*A Samaritan woman came to draw water*

*A woman came.* She is a symbol of the Church not yet made righteous. Righteousness follows from the conversation. She came in ignorance, she found Christ, and he enters into conversation with her. Let us see what it is about, let us see why a *Samaritan woman came to draw water*. The Samaritans did not form part of the Jewish people: they were foreigners. The fact that she came from a foreign people is part of the symbolic meaning, for she is a symbol of the Church. The Church was to come from the Gentiles, of a different race from the Jews.

We must then recognise ourselves in her words and in her person, and with her give our own thanks to God. She was a symbol, not the reality; she foreshadowed the reality, and the reality came to be. She found faith in Christ, who was using her as a symbol to teach us what was to come. *She came then to draw water.* She had simply come to draw water; in the normal way of man or woman.

*Jesus says to her: Give me water to drink. For his disciples had gone to the city to buy food. The Samaritan woman therefore says to him: How is it that you, though a Jew, ask me for water to drink, though I am a Samaritan woman? For Jews have nothing to do with Samaritans.*

The Samaritans were foreigners; Jews never used their utensils. The woman was carrying a pail for drawing water. She was astonished that a Jew should ask her for a drink of water, a thing that Jews would not do. But the one who was asking for a drink of water was thirsting for her faith.

Listen now and learn who it is that asks for a drink. *Jesus answered her and said: If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", perhaps you might have asked him and he would have given you living water.*

He asks for a drink, and he promises a drink. He is in need, as one hoping to receive, yet he is rich, as one about to satisfy the thirst of others. He says: *If you knew the gift of God.* The gift of God is the Holy Spirit. But he is still using veiled language as he speaks to the woman and gradually enters into her heart. Or is he already teaching her? What could be more gentle and kind than the encouragement he gives? *If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", perhaps you might ask and he would give you living water.*

What is this water that he will give if not the water spoken of in Scripture: With you is the fountain of life? How can those feel thirst who will drink deeply from the abundance in your house?

He was promising the Holy Spirit in satisfying abundance. She did not yet understand. In her failure to grasp his meaning, what was her reply? *The woman says to him: Master, give me this drink, so that I may feel no thirst or come here to draw water.* Her need forced her to this labor, her weakness shrank from it. If only she could hear those words: *Come to me, all who labor and are burdened, and I will refresh you.* Jesus was saying this to her, so that her labors might be at an end; but she was not yet able to understand.



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### St. Frances

Join the Tierney family as they celebrate the feast of Saint Frances of Rome, patroness of homemaking! Learn about practicing the corporal works of mercy in the home, the very Catholic Lenten history of pretzels and beer, and watch Kendra and three-year-old Barbara make something they like to call "trash can soup." Find this episode's feature recipes and more about liturgical living in the home at Catholic All Year. <https://catholicallyear.com/at-home/>.

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