



APRIL 26, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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
620-475-3326
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 4:35 pm Saturdays & 8:05 am Sundays

Confessions:

Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 6:30-7:00 am
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 04/27/26 - 05/03/26

Alan Nuessen

Weekend Servers

04/25: Lilly Lienemann, Raylon Ratcliff
04/26: Augusta, Sawyer, & Bryer McGee
05/02: John Musick, Noah Nunley
05/03: Kaleb, Thomas & Isaac Arnold
05/09: Alisa Skalsky, Maren Ratcliff
05/10: Megan Barnhart, James Nunley,
Aiden Dreier
05/16: Destiny Cole, Ace Dieker
05/17: Taitlyn Cole, Rynlea Heins,
Amber Soyez
05/23: Noah & James Nunley
05/24: Raylon Ratcliff, Rowan Krueger,
Maybelle Krueger
05/30: Caroline & Cody Traffenstedt,
05/31: Adriana, Lydia & Bryce Weeden

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

04/25: Jana Redeker
04/26: Cass Coughlin
05/02: Carolyn Cole
05/03: Greg Markowitz
Laurie Schmidt - EMHC
05/09: LeAnn Eberle
05/10: Dan Schneider
05/16: Jana Redeker
05/17: Shirley Langley
05/23: Lilly Skalsky
05/24: Cass Coughlin
05/30: Jana Redeker
05/31: Dan Schneider

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
Audra Steen
Mike Wecker
Clara Young
United States Army:
SGM Matthew S. Richter
Sgt. Austin Burenheide
Grant Fath
Lt. Colonel Jacob Haag
Navy:
Grace Coughlin
Air Force:
Megan DePauw
Army National Guard:
Sgt. Mason Harmon

OLPE COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY

Wednesday
April 29
2026

Sponsored by:
Olpe FACS
Classes
and
OHS Key Club



To Be Put on the List Please Contact:
Jenny Schmidt at jeschmidt@usd252.org
Megan McGuire at mmcguire@usd252.org

Or Call the School at 620-475-3223



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

It's that time of year again when yards are green and the smell of fresh grass clippings fill the air!

Please consider volunteering to assist with the mowing schedule for the parish grounds which goes from April through September. We are so grateful for those who are already on a mowing team! Even with our current teams in place, we could use more of you to make time to participate in this task.

Volunteers are assigned for one month, and if there are enough members, you may only have to mow once or twice in that month. **Please contact Terry Taylor at (620-340-5062) or the parish office if you can assist.** The payback and benefits are excellent!

An updated list of the mowing crews and schedule for this year will be published mid-May.

**Rectory Garage Sale
moved to May 2nd
with Olpe's City Wide Garage Sale**

PARISH LIFE CENTER RENTALS

It is very exciting that the Parish Life Center is seeing increased use for events, so we are republishing the rate schedule to consider for your next special occasion. Rental requires reservations and a facility agreement to be signed. Contact the church office at 620-475-3326 if you have any questions, want to make a reservation, and/or obtain a copy of the facility agreement. The following rates apply:

Parishioner Fees (for main hall & kitchen):
1-4 hours rental.....\$ 75.00
More than 4 hours (limited to one day).....\$150.00

Non-Parishioner Fees (for main hall & kitchen):
1-4 hours rental.....\$250.00
More than 4 hours (limited to one day).....\$500.00

Additional Costs:
Security/Damage Deposit (required to secure rental).....Same as rental fee above
Special Event Insurance (through the Archdiocese).....\$ 95.00
(unless coverage is secured through your personal home owner's policy—proof is required)

Individual Room Rate (Daily):
St. Thomas Aquinas.....\$ 25.00
St. Gabriel.....\$ 25.00

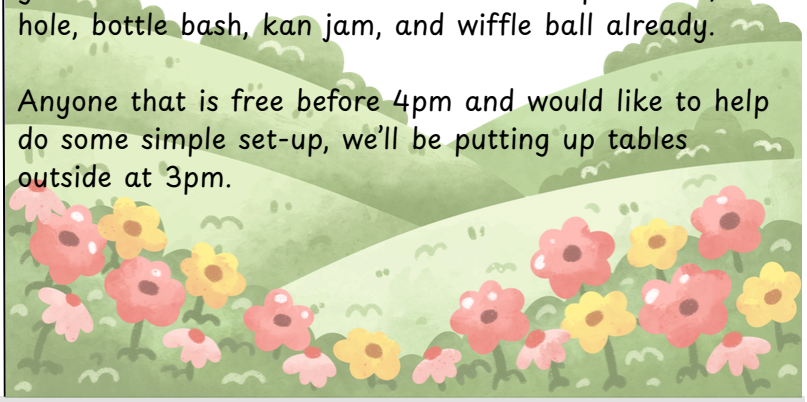
DATE CHANGE Spring Picnic

**Sunday, May 3rd
4-7pm at the Parish Life Center**

Show up for a great time together!

Pulled pork sandwiches and baked beans are being provided. Bring a side dish (veggies, salads, etc.) or a dessert to share. Bring your favorite yard (or indoor) games and some lawn chairs. We'll have pickleball, corn hole, bottle bash, kan jam, and wiffle ball already.

Anyone that is free before 4pm and would like to help do some simple set-up, we'll be putting up tables outside at 3pm.





Father's Corner



From a homily on the Gospels by Saint Gregory the Great, pope

(Hom. 14, 3-6: PL 76, 1129-1130)

Christ the good shepherd

I am the good shepherd. I know my own—by which I mean, I love them—and my own know me. In plain words: those who love me are willing to follow me, for anyone who does not love the truth has not yet come to know it.

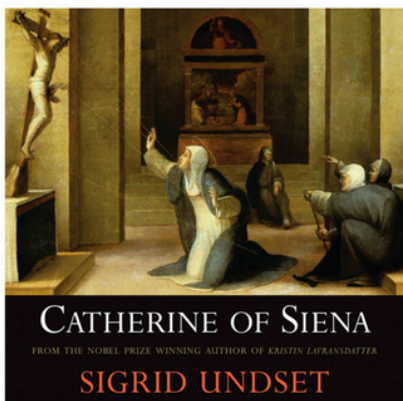
My dear brethren, you have heard the test we pastors have to undergo. Turn now to consider how these words of our Lord imply a test for yourselves also. Ask yourselves whether you belong to his flock, whether you know him, whether the light of his truth shines in your minds. I assure you that it is not by faith that you will come to know him, but by love; not by mere conviction, but by action. John the evangelist is my authority for this statement. He tells us that *anyone who claims to know God without keeping his commandments is a liar.*

Consequently, the Lord immediately adds: *As the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep.* Clearly he means that laying down his life for his sheep gives evidence of his knowledge of the Father and the Father's knowledge of him. In other words, by the love with which he dies for his sheep he shows how greatly he loves his Father.

Again he says: *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them; they follow me, and I give them eternal life.* Shortly before this he had declared: *If anyone enters the sheepfold through me he shall be saved; he shall go freely in and out and shall find good pasture.* He will enter into a life of faith; from faith he will go out to vision, from belief to contemplation, and will graze in the good pastures of everlasting life.

So our Lord's sheep will finally reach their grazing ground where all who follow him in simplicity of heart will feed on the green pastures of eternity. These pastures are the spiritual joys of heaven. There the elect look upon the face of God with unclouded vision and feast at the banquet of life for ever more.

Beloved brothers, let us set out for these pastures where we shall keep joyful festival with so many of our fellow citizens. May the thought of their happiness urge us on! Let us stir up our hearts, rekindle our faith, and long eagerly for what heaven has in store for us. To love thus is to be already on our way. No matter what obstacles we encounter, we must not allow them to turn us aside from the joy of that heavenly feast. Anyone who is determined to reach his destination is not deterred by the roughness of the road that leads to it. Nor must we allow the charm of success to seduce us, or we shall be like a foolish traveler who is so distracted by the pleasant meadows through which he is passing that he forgets where he is going.



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Forming Catholics for *Life*.

Catherine of Siena

Sigrid Undset's Catherine of Siena is critically acclaimed as one of the best biographies of this well-known and amazing fourteenth-century saint.

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