



MAY 3, 2026

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



**Pastor:**

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

**Parish Office:**

Wed. 8:00 am - Noon; 1:00 - 5:00 pm  
Thurs. 8:00 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 05/04/26 - 05/10/26**

Karen Hayes

**Weekend Servers**

05/02: John Musick, Noah Nunley  
05/03: Megan Barnhart, John Musick,  
Brailey Schmidt  
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**

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  
Sherry Elmenhorst  
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

**Mass Intentions:**

- Sat. 05/02: 5:00 pm +Louis & Bertha Trear
- Sun. 05/03: 8:30 am For the Parish
  
- Wed. 05/06: 7:15 am +Todd Orear
- Thurs. 05/07: 7:15 am +Erwin Eberle
- Fri. 05/08: 7:15 am +Ida Joy Brown and  
+Ricky Hammond, Jr.
- Sat. 05/09: 5:00 pm +Herbert & Lorena Haag and  
+Albert Redeker
- Sun. 05/10: 8:30 am For the Parish

 **Knights' News** 

Next **Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**, all graduates and all mothers are invited as special guests to our biscuits and gravy breakfast from 7:30-10:00 a.m. We hope you will all join us for our last breakfast until September.

Our next meeting will be held, Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Sincerely,  
  
~ *Danny Schneider*,  
Grand Knight

**CCD News**



**June 7-12, 2026**  
Registration forms are available in the back of church and at the PLC.

**Grades 1-6**  
Mon-Fri 9am-3pm  
@Sacred Heart

**Grades 7-12**  
Sun-Thur 6:30-8:45pm  
@St. Joseph  
Dinner provided

Flyers and application packets were sent home with CCD students last Wednesday. If you did not receive the information, applications are also available in the back of church and in the PLC.



Effective this week, the Parish Office will be open as follows:  
Wednesdays - 8:00 am - Noon;  
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Thursdays - 8:00 am - Noon

Appointments can still be made outside these times by contacting the office. Wednesday evening hours will resume when CCD begins the end of summer.

**Last Week's Collection:**

Envelopes (27)	\$ 1,041.00
Plate	295.00
Capital Improvements	10.00
Priesthood Present and Future	265.00
Catholic Home Mission Appeals	130.00
	130.00

**TOTAL** **\$ 1,741.00**



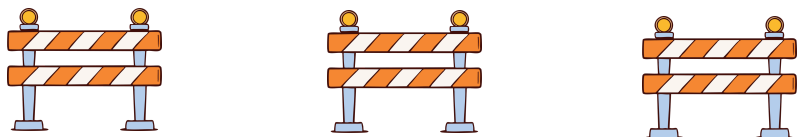
*Mass Honoring our  
Graduating Seniors and  
All Mothers*

**Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**, We'll be honoring our graduating high school seniors and all mothers during Sunday Mass. Following Mass, graduates, families and all mothers are invited to be special guests of the Knights of Columbus at their biscuits & gravy breakfast.



*Congratulations  
to our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders who are  
making their First Holy  
Communion this Sunday*

- Clair Ryan Arndt
- Daniel Ty Barnhart
- Everly Marie Dreier
- Ella Mae Hayes
- Claire Taylor McIlvain
- Charlie Beth Rogers
- Olivia James Ward



Stucco repair has begun. The choir loft will have extensive repairs, the staircase on the south end will be completely redone, and some work will be done to the cove on the north end near the sanctuary. This will take around 3 weeks. This project has been 100% funded already. This community is too good! If you wish you could've helped in some way, just ask Father what the next project is.

# Spring Picnic THIS WEEKEND

Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
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.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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.



**ST. JOSEPH BBQ**  
Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026  
More info to follow in coming weeks

Please congratulate our newest Catholics!  
Here are the baptisms we had in April.



Rip Eurich  
baptized April 18th



Oakley Carlson  
baptized April 25th



Kallen Whitehurst  
baptized April 25th



Have you been getting our email updates?

Please be sure you're registered with St. Joseph flocknote and that we have a number and email on file.

From your account homepage, you can access the Word on Fire digital library, which is normally very expensive!

We'll have online giving set up soon, too, to make tithing and special gifts much easier.



## Father's Corner



From a sermon by Saint Maximus of Turin, bishop

(Sermo 53, 1—2. 4: CCL 23, 214-216)

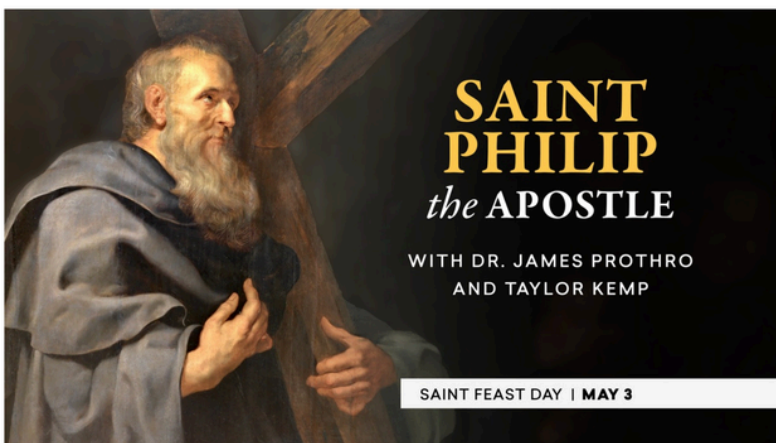
*Christ is the day*

Christ is risen! He has burst open the gates of hell and let the dead go free; he has renewed the earth through the members of his Church now born again in baptism, and has made it blossom afresh with men brought back to life. His Holy Spirit has unlocked the doors of heaven, which stand wide open to receive those who rise up from the earth. Because of Christ's resurrection the thief ascends to paradise, the bodies of the blessed enter the holy city, and the dead are restored to the company of the living. There is an upward movement in the whole of creation, each element raising itself to something higher. We see hell restoring its victims to the upper regions, earth sending its buried dead to heaven, and heaven presenting the new arrivals to the Lord. In one and the same movement, our Savior's passion raises men from the depths, lifts them up from the earth, and sets them in the heights.

Christ is risen. His rising brings life to the dead, forgiveness to sinners, and glory to the saints. And so David the prophet summons all creation to join in celebrating the Easter festival: *Rejoice and be glad, he cries, on this day which the Lord has made.*

The light of Christ is an endless day that knows no night. Christ is this day, says the Apostle; such is the meaning of his words: *Night is almost over; day is at hand.* He tells us that night is almost over, not that it is about to fall. By this we are meant to understand that the coming of Christ's light puts Satan's darkness to flight, leaving no place for any shadow of sin. His everlasting radiance dispels the dark clouds of the past and checks the hidden growth of vice. The Son is that day to whom the day, which is the Father, communicates the mystery of his divinity. He is the day who says through the mouth of Solomon: *I have caused an unfailing light to rise in heaven.* And as in heaven no night can follow day, so no sin can overshadow the justice of Christ. The celestial day is perpetually bright and shining with brilliant light; clouds can never darken its skies. In the same way, the light of Christ is eternally glowing with luminous radiance and can never be extinguished by the darkness of sin. This is why John the evangelist says: *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to overpower it.*

And so, my brothers, each of us ought surely to rejoice on this holy day. Let no one, conscious of his sinfulness, withdraw from our common celebration, nor let anyone be kept away from our public prayer by the burden of his guilt. Sinner he may indeed be, but he must not despair of pardon on this day which is so highly privileged; for if a thief could receive the grace of paradise, how could a Christian be refused forgiveness?



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### St. Philip the Apostle | Catholic Saints

Dr. James Prothro and Taylor Kemp reflect upon St. Philip the Apostle. St. Philip often brought others to Jesus Christ. His feast day is May 3. Jesus shows Philip that by following Himself, he will see God the Father, and that we can be bold in our evangelization and intercession in praying for others.

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