



MAY 17, 2026

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**



**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 - 6:00 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 05/18/26 - 05/24/26**

Michael Dieker

**Weekend Servers**

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**

05/16: Jana Redeker  
05/17: Shirley Langley  
05/23: Lilly Skalsky  
05/24: Cass Coughlin  
05/30: Jana Redeker  
05/31: Dan Schneider

**Fr. Mersmann will be gone  
and there are no sacraments:  
June 1-5  
June 22-26  
July 6-10  
July 20-24**

**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  
Daniel Markowitz  
Debbie Markowitz  
Brian Martin  
Sylvia Miller  
Jenna Moyer  
Shea Muetting  
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. 05/16: 5:00 pm +Marvin & Sylvia Klumpe and +Steven Klumpe
- Sun. 05/17: 8:30 am For the Parish
- Wed. 05/20: 7:15 am +Abbi Markowitz
- Thurs. 05/21: 7:15 am +Fred & Helen Windle
- Fri. 05/22: 7:15 am +Arthur Didde
- Sat. 05/23: 5:00 pm For the Parish
- Sun. 05/24: 8:30 am +Kenny & Imogene Schmidt

**Last Week's Collection:**

Envelopes (38)	\$ 1,745.00
Plate	198.00
Capital Improvements	65.00
Priesthood Present and Future	10.00
Catholic Communication Campaign	10.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,028.00</b>



**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!**

**2nd round of orders due 6/10**

Represent St. Joseph wherever you go AND look cool doing it. Several styles and colors to choose from.



**Donut Sunday is This Weekend**

Please plan to join us in the Parish Life Center following Sunday Mass **this** weekend, May 17<sup>th</sup>, for some food and conversation.

**ST. JOSEPH BBQ 2026**

Our 56th annual BBQ will be on Sunday, September 6, 2026 at Hoeltings' Grove.

GATES open at 5:00 pm. Your **\$50** ticket includes beer/setups from 5:00 pm - 12:00 am, BBQ beef meal, a 50/50 raffle, live auction, & dancing to the band "BRICKHORSE" from 8:00 pm - 12:00 am.

We would LOVE to have you support this event by participating as a donor! This is especially useful if you are NOT able to join us this year---- PLUS your name will be prominently displayed at the BBQ, on Facebook, and on our website before & after the BBQ in local media! *Deadline for donations is AUGUST 10th.* The levels are:

**BRONZE - \$100 SILVER - \$250 GOLD - \$500 PLATINUM-\$1,000 & over**

To be included as a DONOR, contact one of the following BBQ committee members:

- |                       |                  |               |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Dave & Debbie Cole    | Les & Donna Farr | Derek Nuessen |
| Colby Nuessen         | Wade Schmidt     | Kay Schmidt   |
| Doug & Laurie Schmidt |                  |               |

We will be using paperless tickets again this year and we are encouraging all to contact one of the committee members ASAP or use the following QR code to purchase tickets and/or donate...



**You must be 21 to attend AND ALL TICKETS are ADVANCED SALES!**

**THIS is our LARGEST fundraiser for our parish!** If you have participated in OR had kids or grandkids that have participated in one of our parish events that are funded by the BBQ, you will know first-hand how important this fundraiser is for the viability of our Parish Life and CCD Programs! We would LOVE to have your attendance and/or financial support.

**Knights' News**

**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who has been attending and supporting our breakfasts this season. We are glad to offer opportunities for fellowship and hot meals each month. We pray that you all have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you in September!

Our next meeting will be held this Wednesday, May 20th, at 7:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

*- Danny Schneider,*  
Grand Knight



**Coming soon!**  
**June 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**for 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders**  
**June 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**for 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders**

Don't forget to get your students registered. There are forms available in the back of church and at the parish office. Please have registrations in by June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be combining with Sacred Heart this year. The daytime program will be at Sacred Heart. St. Joseph will host the evening program.

**Parish giving (tithing) is now possible through Flocknote! There's a 3% fee St. Joseph pays for credit card donations, but ACH deposit fees are only 1%. Please prayerfully consider making a regular contribution to our awesome parish.**

**All of you that already do, I don't thank you nearly enough.**

**Fr. Mersmann**

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## St. Joseph Parish Mowing Teams 2026

#	Name	Phone #
<b><u>April Team</u></b>		
1	Barnhart, Les (Captain)	620-475-3455
2	Barnhart, Kyle	620-794-7049
3	Musick, Darin & John	785-554-1127
4	Nunley, Michael & Angela	316-734-9715
5	Nuessen, Colby	620-412-3578
6	Nuessen, Derek	620-794-2664
<b><u>May Team</u></b>		
1	Schreiner, Eric (Captain)	620-475-3706
2	Haag, Jerry	620-475-3496
3	Irwin, Mike	520-490-0126
4	Murphy, Gary	620-475-3505
5	Redeker, Bill	620-475-3942
6	Schmidt, Wade	620-757-0541
<b><u>June Team</u></b>		
1	Davis, Brett/Carolyn (Captain)	620-475-3958
2	Redeker, Justin	620-475-3634
3	Redeker, Steve	620-475-3255
4	Schmidt, Doug	620-475-3284
5	Stead, Gary/Connie	620-475-3563
<b><u>July Team</u></b>		
1	Taylor, Terry (Captain)	620-340-5062
2	Cole, Kyle	620-366-1542
3	Kuhlmann, Steve	620-475-3784
4	Lienemann, Ben	620-960-0718
5	Ward, Willie	816-309-7092
<b><u>August Team</u></b>		
1	Cole, Dave (Captain)	620-475-3740
2	Markowitz, Greg	620-437-7961
3	Skalsky, Mike	620-437-2837
4	Kerwin, Joe	620-341-1543
5	Soyez, Michael	320-366-2253
<b><u>September Team</u></b>		
1	Schneider, Dan (Captain)	620-475-3430
2	Pettijohn, Chuck	620-475-3906
3	Schonhardt, Greg	620-481-6064

If you are unable to assist your team for the designated month, you will need to find a replacement for your team.

There are "special events" scheduled throughout the summer. These events are scheduled through the parish office. If your team is notified about a special event, we ask that the grounds are mowed and trimmed for the event.

If the grounds need to be mowed in October, we will ask for volunteers to assist with this task.

If anyone else would like to volunteer please contact Terry Taylor (620-340-5062).

A large, colorful graphic that says "Big Thanks" in a playful, bubbly font. The word "Big" is in blue and yellow, and "Thanks" is in red, orange, and yellow. The letters are thick and rounded, with some overlapping.

**Many thanks to all those who have kept our campus looking beautiful over the years and to those who continue to do so. In addition to those on this list, there are others who take care of our parish property whether it is picking up limbs, fertilizing the grass, trimming, planting flowers, sweeping and cleaning the church steps, etc. You all are appreciated and our parish is truly blessed!**

**If you would like to be part of a team, please contact Terry Taylor.**

**Have a wonderful summer!**



# Father's Corner



**From a sermon by Saint Augustine, bishop**

(Sermo de Ascensione Domini, Mai 98, 1-2: PLS 2, 494-495)

*No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven*

Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: *If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth.* For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

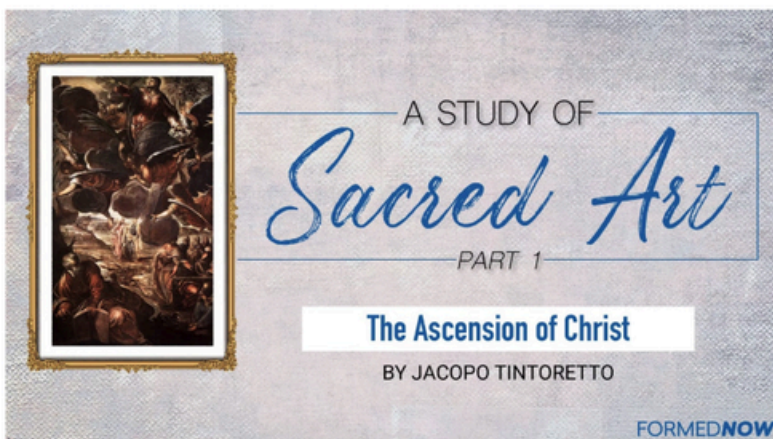
Christ is now exalted above the heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: *Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?* and when he said: *I was hungry and you gave me food.*

Why do we on earth not strive to find rest with him in heaven even now, through the faith, hope and love that unites us to him? While in heaven he is also with us; and we while on earth are with him. He is here with us by his divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love.

He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again into heaven. The fact that he was in heaven even while he was on earth is borne out by his own statement: *No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.*

These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for he is our head and we are his body. No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: he is the Son of Man by his union with us, and we by our union with him are the sons of God. So the Apostle says: *Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so is it also with Christ.* He too has many members, but one body.

Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. Thus, no one but Christ descended and no one but Christ ascended; not because there is no distinction between the head and the body, but because the body as a unity cannot be separated from the head.



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## The Ascension | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp to expand your knowledge of sacred art. In this episode on Formed, they discuss The Ascension of Christ by Jacopo Tintoretto.

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