

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

The Crossbeam

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS



Sunday, September 27, 2026
18th Sunday after Pentecost,
Year A

JESUS' PARABLE ABOUT TWO SONS WHO DON'T DO WHAT THEY SAY REVEALS SURPRISES IN THE REIGN OF GOD. IN THE READING FROM EZEKIEL THE PEOPLE CLAIM THE WAYS OF THE LORD ARE UNFAIR, WHILE GOD OFFERS REPENTANCE AND NEW LIFE. PAUL URGES US TO LOOK TO CHRIST AS A MODEL OF HUMILITY, PUTTING THE INTERESTS OF OTHERS ABOVE OUR OWN. NOURISHED BY THE BROKEN BREAD AND SHARED CUP, WE OFFER OUR LIVES FOR THE SAKE OF OUR NEEDY WORLD.



From the Pastor's Desk

PSALM 25:1-9

1 TO | YOU, O LORD,
1 LIFT | UP MY SOUL.
2 MY GOD, I PUT MY TRUST IN YOU; LET ME NOT BE | PUT TO SHAME,
NOR LET MY ENEMIES TRIUMPH | OVER ME.
3 LET NONE WHO LOOK TO YOU BE | PUT TO SHAME;
RATHER LET THOSE BE PUT TO SHAME | WHO ARE TREACHEROUS.
4 SHOW ME YOUR | WAYS, O LORD,
AND TEACH | ME YOUR PATHS.
5 LEAD ME IN YOUR | TRUTH AND TEACH ME,
FOR YOU ARE THE GOD OF MY SALVATION; IN YOU HAVE I TRUSTED ALL |
THE DAY LONG.
6 REMEMBER, O LORD, YOUR COMPAS- | SION AND LOVE,
FOR THEY ARE FROM | EVERLASTING.
7 REMEMBER NOT THE SINS OF MY YOUTH AND | MY TRANSGRESSIONS;
REMEMBER ME ACCORDING TO YOUR STEADFAST LOVE AND FOR THE
SAKE OF YOUR GOOD- | NESS, O LORD.
8 YOU ARE GRACIOUS AND UP- | RIGHT, O LORD;
THEREFORE YOU TEACH SINNERS | IN YOUR WAY.
9 YOU LEAD THE LOW- | LY IN JUSTICE
AND TEACH THE LOW- | LY YOUR WAY.

“A KEY REASON WE ENJOY SAD SONGS IS BECAUSE THEY PROFOUNDLY
‘MOVE’ US. THIS EXPERIENCE IS SOMETIMES CALLED KAMA MUTA, A
SANSKRIT TERM MEANING ‘MOVED BY LOVE.’ FEELING MOVED CAN INVOLVE
CHILLS, GOOSEBUMPS, A FLOOD OF EMOTIONS (INCLUDING ROMANTIC
ONES), A WARMTH IN OUR CHEST, AND ELATION.
BUT WHY DO WE FEEL MOVED? THE AMERICAN WRITER JAMES BALDWIN
GOT AT THIS WHEN HE REFLECTED: ‘THE THINGS THAT TORMENTED ME
MOST WERE THE VERY THINGS THAT CONNECTED ME WITH ALL THE PEOPLE
WHO WERE ALIVE, WHO HAD EVER BEEN ALIVE.’ SIMILARLY, FEELING MOVED
CAN COME FROM US SUDDENLY FEELING CLOSER TO OTHER PEOPLE.
THIS MAY EXPLAIN WHY THE PEOPLE MOST LIKELY TO FEEL MOVED BY SAD
MUSIC ARE THOSE HIGH IN EMPATHY.

—SIMON MCCARTHY-JONES, “WHY SAD SONGS MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD,”
GREATER GOOD MAGAZINE, NOVEMBER 19, 2021.

PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS DAY.

PASTOR V.



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY
9A.M.- WORSHIP W/SCS AND LIVESTREAM
10:30A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM
BROADCAST ON OUR [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



[This Weeks Bulletin \(click here\)](#)



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26 @ 5PM
VICKY WIENKE- ASSISTING MINISTER



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27 @ 9AM
LEE DELANEY- USHER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28 @ 10:30AM
PAT LIPKA- ASSISTING MINISTER
SHAWN VOIT- USHER

ALTAR GUILD FOR SEPTEMBER:
RHONDA DREZEK
CONNIE ARNOLD

**SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN. PLEASE
REGISTER YOUR CHILD HERE:
[HTTPS://TITHELY-5ED939B212C2C-
1939424.ELVANTO.NET/ADMIN/FORMS/FORM/?ID=0DF741C1-
58BF-4FE5-9A2A-B2917176CEA2](https://tithely-5ed939b212c2c-1939424.elvanto.net/admin/forms/form/?id=0df741c1-58bf-4fe5-9a2a-b2917176cea2)**



ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

**BIBLE STUDY @ 6PM
OCTOBER 1ST, 8TH, 15TH**

**OCTOBER 3RD
BURCHFEST**

**OCTOBER 11TH
SOUP/ CHILI SALE**

**OCTOBER 15TH @ 7PM
PENNY SALE**

**AGAPE MEAL DATES:
OCTOBER 4TH
NOVEMBER 1ST
DECEMBER 6TH**

OCTOBER IS ALL ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

EACH SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, I WILL BE FOCUSING ON STEWARDSHIP WITH THREE WORDS: PASSION, PRIORITIES, PROVIDENCE. LET'S EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A GOOD STEWARD AND WORK ON OUR GIVING. ST. JOHN'S HAS ACCOMPLISHED A GREAT THING THIS YEAR WITH THE MORTGAGE, HOWEVER, THE WORK CONTINUES.

START ASKING YOURSELVES A FEW QUESTIONS.

AM I PASSIONATE ABOUT GOD'S WORK?

WHAT ARE MY PRIORITIES AND WHAT DO THEY SAY ABOUT ME?

DO I TRUST THAT GOD WILL PROVIDE?

THIS WEEK 9/27 - 10/3

TODAY:

9 A.M. WORSHIP W/ SCS
10:30 A.M. WROSHIP
11:30 A.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL
7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

MONDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP
6:45 P.M. ZUMBA
7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

TUESDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. TAI-CHI
6 P.M. ROCK VOICES
6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

WEDNESDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP

THURSDAY:

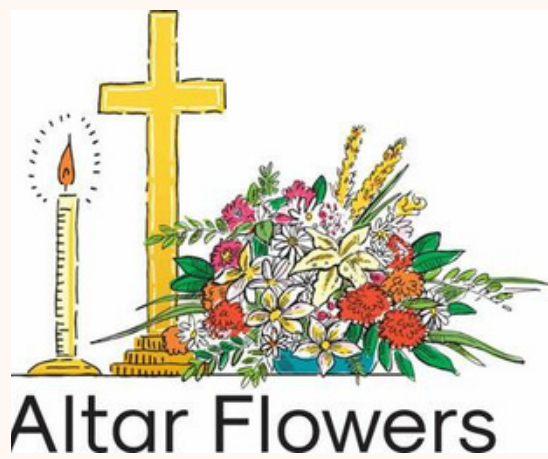
9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. NA
1 P.M. CEMETERY MEETING
5 P.M. ZUMBA
6 P.M. BIBLE STUDY
7 P.M. WORSHIP & MUSIC
7 P.M. NA

FRIDAY:

10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)
6 P.M. YOUTH BAKING IN KITCHEN
7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

SATURDAY:

10 A.M. BURCHFEST
5 P.M. WORSHIP



IN LOVING MEMORY OF ELNA DELANEY

BY JAY & SYLVIA DELANEY

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION BY ORDERING A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT USING THE ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?

IF SO, WE ARE IN NEED OF ACTION TEAMS. THIS PROVIDES \$250, FREE TO YOU, FOR VARIOUS MISSION PROJECTS. EACH THRIVENT MEMBER IS ALLOTTED TWO ACTION PROJECTS PER YEAR. THAT'S \$500 THAT CAN GO TOWARDS A MISSION PROJECTS OF ST. JOHN'S.

PLEASE, CONTACT NANCY KESSLER IF YOU'RE A THRIVENT MEMBER AND WOULD LIKE TO HELP.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE IN THIS NEW SECTION , PLEASE SEND A PICTURE AND FEW SENTENCES ABOUT WHAT MAKES YOUR LIGHT SHINE.

EMAIL THE OFFICE SJLCWS@GMAIL.COM



IT'S BACK!

THE (NOT SO WORLD FAMOUS) ALTAR GUILD PENNY SALE WILL BE HELD
HERE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15.

DOORS OPEN AT 6:15, SALE STARTS AT 7.

TICKETS ARE \$5.00 PER SHEET WHICH INCLUDES YOUR ADMISSION, LIGHT
REFRESHMENT AND DRINK

(CUPCAKES, COFFEE, TEA, LEMONADE, AND WATER).

DOOR PRIZE CHANCE ALSO INCLUDED.

EXTRA TICKETS ARE \$3.00 PER SHEET

THERE WILL BE A DRAWING FOR 5- \$10.00 GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE AT 2/ \$1.00.

SO, WHAT IS A PENNY SALE-

IT IS SIMILAR TO A BASKET RAFFLE (WITHOUT THE BASKET)

EXCEPT THAT THE ITEMS OFFERED ARE NEW OR GENTLY USED ITEMS
THAT YOU TAKE A CHANCE ON WINNING.

EXAMPLE, KNICK-KNACKS, HOLIDAY ITEMS, GLASSWARE ETC.

THERE ARE LOTS OF GOODIES TO BE WON!

IT WILL BE A FUN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP, SO MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND
BRING A FRIEND OR TWO ALONG AND MAYBE A BAG TO TAKE YOUR
WINNINGS HOME.

SEATING IS LIMITED TO 100.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THEN!

QUESTIONS , CALL OR SEE CONNIE 716-674-2409

OR ANY ALTAR GUILD MEMBER.

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME AND CAN BE BROUGHT IN ANY TIME AND LEFT IN
THE PARISH HALL OR BETWEEN THE FOYER DOORS LABELED "PENNY SALE ".

PLEASE, NO CLOTHES OR LARGE ITEMS.

PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS ALTAR SUPPLIES.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, YOUTH (COUNTS TOWARDS COMMUNITY SERVICE), AND FRIENDS TO HELP US HOST BURCHFEST '26 ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD!

WHETHER YOU CAN VOLUNTEER FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS OR THE ENTIRE EVENT, YOUR TIME AND TALENTS WILL MAKE A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE. BURCHFEST RUNS FROM 10AM TO 2PM. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT FROM 8AM TO 3PM.

PLEASE CONTACT KATHY AT 716-208-9043 (TEXT OR VOICEMAIL) OR SIGN UP AT CHURCH.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK—AND TOGETHER WE'LL MAKE BURCHFEST ANOTHER WONDERFUL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!

BURRITTO PROJECT

WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTED ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS BACK IN JUNE. IT'S AMAZING TO SEE THE GRATITUDE THAT THEY HAVE FOR WHAT WE PROVIDE. HOWEVER THE NEED DOESN'T END. ONCE AGAIN WE ARE GOING TO GO DOWNTOWN ON THE FIFTH TUESDAY OF SEPTEMBER (THAT IS THE 29TH) TO PROVIDE A MEAL AND PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS.

THERE IS GREAT NEED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR US TO TAKE THERE. IF YOU CAN, PLEASE PLACE WHATEVER YOU HAVE IN THE COLLECTION TOTE LOCATED IN THE PARISH HALL.

**MEN'S UNDERWEAR, WOMEN'S UNDERWEAR, SOCKS, DENTAL FLOSS
BAR SOAP, MOUTHWASH, SHAVING CREAM**

POPE FRANCIS IS QUOTED AS SAYING "YOU PRAY FOR THE HUNGRY. THEN YOU FEED THEM. THAT'S HOW PRAYER WORKS." THAT IS WHAT WE ARE DOING. THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF IT.