

Saint Sabina Catholic Church

700 Trevis Ave. Belton, MO • www.stsabinaparish.org •
www.facebook.com/stsabinaparish • 816-331-4713

Office Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm, Monday - Thursday and
9:00am-1:00pm, Friday



Dave Kille poses with a family that resides in one of the homes he worked on in Paso Puente, El Salvador and Brian Hunt digs an absorption well at another home in Paso Puente.

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:00pm in English

Sunday: 8:00am and 10:30am in English, 12:30pm in Spanish

Confessions: Saturdays 3:00-3:30pm

Visit our website for Holy Day and special Mass times.

Hearing Assistance Available

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Aide à l'audition



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Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 2020

Parish Staff/Mass Intentions

Fr. Jeff Stephan , Pastor	816-979-3157 X57	frjeff@stsabinaparish.org
Deacon Mike Gates		mikeg@stsabinaparish.org
Bridget Hernandez , Communications/Comunicaciones	816-979-3159 X59	bridget@stsabinaparish.org
Kris Larkey , Business Manager/Gerente de Operaciones	816-979-3151 X51	kris@stsabinaparish.org
Biagio Mazza , Pastoral Associate/Asociado Pastoral	816-979-3153 X53	biagio@stsabinaparish.org
Susan Ratigan , Liturgist/Liturgista	816-979-3158 X58	susan@stsabinaparish.org
Kirstie Roberts , Dir. of Religious Ed. & Youth Ministry/Dir. de Educación Religiosa y Ministro de Jóvenes	816-979-3155 X55	kirstie@stsabinaparish.org
Marta Roper , Pastoral Care Coordinator/Coordinadora Pastoral	816-979-3154 X54	marta@stsabinaparish.org
Jeff Shields , Finance Coordinator/Coordinador de Finanzas	816-979-3152 X52	jeffshields@stsabinaparish.org
Tracy Wheeler , Maintenance/Mantenimiento		tracy@stsabinaparish.org
Berenice Zayas , Family Life & Hispanic Ministry/Vida de la Familia Parroquial y Ministerio Hispano	816-979-3150 X50	berenice@stsabinaparish.org

Kathleen Chastain, Diocesan Victim Advocate
Joe Crayon, Diocesan Ombudsman

816-392-0011
 816-812-2500

chastain@diocesekcsj.org
 crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org

Wellness Center/Centro de Bienestar

Wendy Mora Cedillo 816-979-3090
Jeannine Midgett 816-979-3093
Patricia Moreno 816-979-3092



Mass Intentions for the Week

Intentions for February 24-28, 2020

Mon.	8am	Communion Service
Tues.	11am	†Larry Roper
Wed.	8am	†Teresa Cable
	10am	Communion Service (Carnegie Village)
	7pm	†Sabas Valle
Thurs.	8am	†Larry Roper
Fri.	8am	†Fr. Evan Harkins

Saturday, February 29, 2020

4:00pm Intentions of Our Parish Family

Sunday, March 1, 2020

8:00am †Fr. Evan Harkins
 10:30am Intentions of Our Parish Family
 12:30pm Spanish †Jesus Emilio Felix
 †Alma Manuela Romero

From Death to New Life De la Muerte a la Nueva Vida

†**Dayton Rex Wilks**, dear friend of Reba Lancaster

†**Larry Roper**, brother of Ron Roper

†**Teresa Cable**, mother of Holly Keeton and Crystal Cable



Calendar/Information

Sunday, February 23 - Domingo, 23 de Febrero

Elda's Compassion First Communion Boutique

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| 9:00am | PSR/Parents Lounge |
| 10:30am | Bible Study |
| 11:00am | Ensayo del Coro Hispano |
| 11:00am | Escuela de Religión/Piñatas |
| 1:30pm | Reunión del Comité Romero |

Monday, February 24 - Lunes, 24 de Febrero

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| 10:00am | Uplift Cooking |
| 4:00pm | Uplift Delivery |
| 6:30pm | Cub Scout Den Meeting |
| 7:00pm | Boy Scouts |

Tuesday, February 25 - Martes, 25 de Febrero

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| 7:00pm | Living Stones |
| 7:00pm | Retiro de Evangelización |

Wednesday, February 26 - Miércoles, 26 de Febrero

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Ash Wednesday - Miércoles de Cenizas | |
| 8:00am | Ash Wednesday Mass |
| 9:00am | Legion of Mary |
| 10:00am | Communion Service w/Ashes at Carnegie Village |
| 7:00pm | Ash Wednesday Bilingual Mass - Misa Bilingüe |
| 7:00pm | Prayer and Life Workshop |

Thursday, February 27 - Jueves, 27 de Febrero

- | | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|
| 6:45am | High School Youth Donuts and Prayer |
| 9:30am | Piecemakers Quilt Group |
| 7:00pm | RCIA/RICA |
| 8:00pm | Choir Rehearsal (8:00 group) |

Friday, February 28 - Viernes, 28 de Febrero

- | | |
|--------|-----------------------|
| 5:00pm | Fish Fry |
| 6:30pm | Stations of the Cross |
| 7:00pm | Via Crucis |

Saturday, February 29 - Sábado, 29 de Febrero

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Cub Scout Pack 111 Blue and Gold | |
| 9:00am | Altar Society Church Cleaning |
| 10:00am | Rite of Election (Cathedral) - Rito de Elección (Catedral) |
| 3:00pm | Confessions |

Sunday, March 1 - Domingo, 1 de Marzo

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Donut Sunday | |
| 9:00am | PSR/Parents Lounge |
| 11:00am | Ensayo del Coro Hispano |
| 11:00am | Escuela de Religión |
| 7:00pm | Confirmation and High School Youth Group |



Gene Adams	Genoveva Hinojos	Kathleen Owen
Michel Aguirre	Sharon Incorvia	Sara Palomares
Joan Almaguer	Maria Jaime	Juliette Peraza
Jamie Ayers	Jon Kirchhoff	Doug Pittman
Nathan Ayers	Amanda Lager	Joe Potts
Valmer Bays	Maria Lopez	Carlos Ramirez
Allison Benavides	Angie Lopez	Erika Ramos
Christopher Bornheimer	Ray Malisos	Delaney Rewald
Maxine Bremer	Rachel Mancilla	Leonel Reyes
Cruz Imelda Bretado	Emmanuel Mancilla	Claudia Rivera
Rafael Chavez	Tiffany Mayerchack	Faustino Rocha
Jessica Chavez	Yalesia Medina	Rosa Rocha
Judy Curtis	Vismar Medina	Fatima Rodriguez
Gabrielle DeMay	Maria Medrano	Jovany Rojas
Jamie Duncan	Kendall Mittelstadt	Oscar Rosales
Amy Duran	Sean Moorman	Johana Rosas
Patricia Eshleman	Raul Morales	Brenda Ruiz-Davis
Glenda Galvez	Michael Naughton	Briseida SanJuan
Adamaris Gutierrez	Walter Obermeier	Karissa Schinze
Jeanne Hermsmeier	Jennifer Orozco	Kenneth Soto
Dee Hernandez	Teresa Ortega	Ava Spiller



Marion and Mary Pat Biondo	55 Years!	2/27/1965
James and Cheri Effertz	55 Years!	2/27/1965
Pete and Renee Kerckhoff	40 Years!	2/29/1980
Harry Gurin and Louise Large-Gurin	25 Years!	2/26/1995
Gabriel and Maricela Pinon	15 Years!	2/26/2005
Sage and Kayla Stone	2 Years!	3/1/2018

This Week's Do You Know Video:

As we continue our series on what it means to be "catholic" this week we explore why being catholic calls us to have a holistic outlook. Having a holistic outlook demands a strong sense of the inter-relatedness of all creation, a connection between our Christian faith and all of God's creation. A holistic outlook respects faith as well as reason and seeks to connect the natural and supernatural orders of all creation. Openness to human knowledge and its links to faith is the essence of an holistic outlook. Unfortunately, some Christians are not truly catholic when they choose to be rigid and judgmental in moral issues and lack respect for reason, facts or science. Since all creation is the result of God's overflowing love poured out, all of creation contains God's DNA, and therefore all created reality is connected to God and to each other. Make time to view this week's DYK video and challenge yourself as a catholic Christian to develop an holistic outlook.



Lenten Information

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross are a Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man. The 14 devotions, or stations, focus on specific events of His last day, beginning with His condemnation. The stations are commonly used as a mini pilgrimage as we move from station to station. At each station, we recall and meditate on a specific event from Christ's last day. Prayers are recited, and then we move to the next station until all 14 are complete.

You will see the images of Stations of the Cross located around the back walls of our sanctuary. We will pray the Stations of the Cross each Friday in Lent on February 28, March 6, 13, 20, & 27 at 6:30 PM in English and 7:00 PM in Spanish. This devotion is a great way to connect with the passion of Christ and meditate on the gift of salvation won for us through his suffering. Plan to join us for stations after you enjoy the Knights of Columbus Fish Fry on Fridays this Lent.



Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

Wednesday, February 26, 8am in English
Wednesday, February 26, 7pm—bilingual

Fish Fries

Our Knights of Columbus are once again hosting fish fries on Fridays, 5-7pm, during Lent. Menu will include: fried fish, lemon butter baked fish, Cajun baked fish, hush puppies, green beans, garlic potatoes, French fries, coleslaw, meatless spaghetti, bread, and a dessert table.

Prices: Adults \$11, Seniors \$10, Children \$6, Family \$36.

\$1 off a meal if 5 or more canned food items are donated.

Green Team Tip of the Week

The Green Team will continue to recycle aluminum cans during the Fish Fries. We are also recycling #6 plastic cups. Please help by putting your empty cans and cups in the marked bins.

Heaven is in your future if you...

Discover **YOUR** answer at our parish mission:

March 7-11, 2020

The mission will take place during weekend Masses on March 7 & 8 and the evenings of March 9, 10 and 11 at 7pm.

What is a Parish Mission?

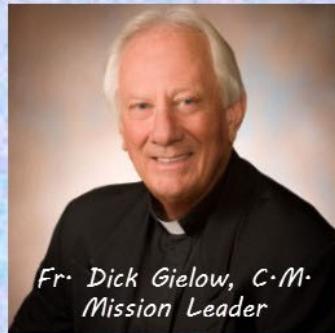
A time to gather as a community to invigorate our faith.

Who is a Mission for?

Everybody!

Invite your friends, neighbors, family members and co-workers.

Continue to watch the bulletin each week for more information about the Mission and visit our website for more details and the Mission Prayer.



Fr. Dick Gielow, C.M.
Mission Leader

Pastoral Care

Nursing Home Mass Schedule

Feb 26	10:00am	Carnegie Village (Communion Service)
Mar 4	10:30am	Beautiful Savior
Mar 11	10:30am	Benton House

Signs of Depression and Anxiety There are a lot of signs of depression, but you may not have them all. How intense they are, and how long they last, are different from person to person. Some of the ways you might feel are:

Sad, empty, or anxious. It will continue over time without getting better or going away.

Helpless, worthless, or guilty. You may feel bad about yourself or your life, or think a lot about losses or failures.

Hopeless. You may be pessimistic or believe that nothing good will ever happen. You may even think about suicide.

Irritable. You may get restless or more cranky than usual.

Less interest in activities. Hobbies or games you usually enjoy may not appeal to you.

Less energetic. You may feel extremely tired or think more slowly. Daily routines and tasks may seem too hard to manage.

Trouble concentrating. It could be tough to focus. Simple things like reading a newspaper or watching TV may be hard. You may have trouble remembering details. It might seem overwhelming to make a decision, whether it's big or small.

Changes in the way you sleep. You may wake up too early or have trouble falling asleep. The opposite can also happen. You may sleep much longer than usual.

Changes in appetite. You may overeat or not feel hungry. Depression often leads to weight gain or weight loss.

Prayer Requests/Peticiones de Oración

Christina Albarez	Cherie Hatfield	Agustin Rivera
Margaret Bannerman	Martha Healy	Michelle Rose
Dennis Berg	Ted Henry	Anna Ryan
Jean Berg	Beth Heide	Ron Schock
John Bidondo	Rhonda Henke	Andy Sheer
Mary Pat Biondo	Alex Henningsen	Jaxton Shipley
Betty Bremenkamp	Bob Henningsen	Don Standley
Maxine Bremer	Morgan Hilliard	Rachael Casady Smith
Sheila Brown	Richard Hoedl	Cleo Srader
Joyce Callahan	Gale Holsman	Wally Srader
Patty Carr	Richard Huffman	Marie Stinger
Jackie Chiappetta	John Jongenelen	Lois Stogsdill
John Cikan	Don Kueck	Rita Stout
Joseph Coots	Emmy Long	Jean Tate
Toby Coyle	Kristy McClain	Joe Taylor
Mark DeLuca	Ray Malisos	Priscilla Tristani
Mark Deterding	Laurie Marmon	Tierney VanMeter
Paula Dull	Bienvenido	Senny Vigil
Terry Eppert	Martinez	Richard Vogel
Jean Frank	Melba Mercier	Amanda Votava
Bettianne Gardiner	Janet Moorman	Mary Westfall
Butch Geer	Mark Parson	William Jordan Family
Judy Giannini	George Panebianco	Merle Woolworth
Rita Ann Hand	Diane Quinn	Carmitia Yust
	Larry Rhodes	

Sick and Homebound ministers Ash Wednesday

is February 26th this year. Please try to visit your homebound with ashes that day. You may pickup blessed ashes after the 8am Ash Wednesday Mass. Questions contact Marta 816-979-3154 or marta@stsabinaparish.org.

Wellness Center

Did You Know --Today, in the United States chronic disease effects **6 in 10 Americans**. By 2030, chronic disease will account for **\$47 trillion** in healthcare expenses.

Chronic disease is the single biggest threat to our health today. Moreover, it is *behavior change* that is really needed to prevent and reverse chronic disease. According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control), the top five behaviors for preventing chronic disease include not smoking, getting regular physical activity, consuming moderate amounts of alcohol or none at all, maintaining a normal body weight, and obtaining daily sufficient sleep.

The reality is that behavior change is hard, and most people don't know how to do it successfully. Most doctors, nurses, and physician assistants aren't trained in behavior change. Instead, they are trained in the "expert" model of care, where they simply tell patients what to do and expect them to do it. **For most people, information itself does not change behavior.** Behavior change happens at home, not in the clinic.



The Wellness Center is here to support you with our team of health coaches. Health coaches are trained to support you on your journey to wellness. Our health coaches are masters at helping people break bad habits and form new, healthy behaviors.

If you are contemplating any change and you are unsure of where to start, let us help!

first hand
HEALTH COMMUNITIES
816 979-3090



Stewardship

"For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same? So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Matthew 5: 46-48

The stewardship way of life, giving away the best of our time, talents, and treasure to God for His glory and for the sake of others, is the path to holiness. Yet, it appears utterly foolish in the eyes of many. If your lifestyle and your priorities look a little foolish to the world around you, know that you're probably doing it right in God's eyes. At the same time, you will be filled with a peace that the world around you desperately needs. And your stewardship way of life may just draw those around to the heavenly Father and a life of holiness, too. So, with God's grace, we can confidently press on in the stewardship way of life, aiming to be perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect. Our all-holy God desires it and deserves nothing less. — See more at www.catholicsteward.com/blog/.

Contributions for February 16

Contributions for February 16 will be listed in the March 1 bulletin.

Online Giving

St. Sabina offers an online giving option for parishioners and visitors. This is an easy, safe and secure way to make contributions online. To set up a one-time or recurring contribution: go to our parish website at www.tsabina.org, click the "Online Giving" button in the top right section and fill out the online contribution form.



AmazonSmile Donations

Did you know that we are eligible to receive donations based on your Amazon purchases? Last quarter, we received donations based off of over \$3000 of your purchases! Please remember this while doing your Amazon shopping! To support us in this way, be sure to do your Amazon shopping through smile.amazon.com and select "St. Sabina Catholic Church, Belton" as your charity of choice.

amazon smile

Consider Making a Bequest to St. Sabina

As Christian stewards, we share the responsibility for making our Church a true community of faith and a vibrant source of service to the larger community. This includes providing financial support for today's needs and building a firm foundation for tomorrow. To leave your parish, a school, ministry a bequest, make sure your intentions are understood by providing as much identifying information as possible. State the Legal Name, Tax ID Number (if known), Address, City, ST Zip. Contact Kris at kris@stsabina.org for more information.

Are these books really in the Bible?

There are certain books of the Bible, especially the Hebrew Scripture/Old Testament, that most Christians either know nothing or very little about. These five sessions begin an exploration of some of these books. Three of the books are named after women, *Judith*, *Esther* and *Ruth*. Chapter 13, part of the Additions to the book of Daniel, narrates the little known story of *Susanna*. The sessions conclude with a look at a little known book called Tobit. All the narratives relate engaging and entertaining stories concerning the adventures of their main characters. They also communicate key values regarding fidelity to God and to one another. The sessions are offered on Wednesday Evenings, March 4, 11, 18, 25, & April 1, 2020, from 7-9 PM and repeated on Thursday Mornings, March 5, 12, 19, 26 & April 2, 2020 from 10 AM-Noon. To register, call Biagio at 816-979-3153, or e-mail Biagio at biagio@stsabina.org. St. Sabina is located at 700 Trevis Avenue, Belton, MO 64012. All faith traditions are most welcomed.

Prayer and Life Workshop

Prayer and Life Workshops are formation sessions that help you learn and deepen the art of prayer. Each week a new type of prayer is presented and practiced (by praying, we learn to pray). In the workshop, we learn to enter into a personal relationship with the Lord through different prayer methods, from the first steps of simple prayer to the heights of contemplation. Since prayer is an art in regard to human nature, the workshop is organized in a manner that offers a progressive way of learning. This workshop will be offered on Wednesdays, through May 27, 7-9pm, in classroom 8 of the education wing. **Last Wednesday the class was canceled due to weather. It is not too late to begin!** Please sign up in the gathering space or contact Biagio or Kris in the parish office at 816-331-4713, biagio@stsabina.org or kris@stsabina.org. The cost of this program is \$15, which pays for the materials.



Stewardship

St. Sabina Fourth Annual Benefit Auction

Save the date! Grab your bell bottoms, zip up your jumpsuits and catch the *Disco Fever!* Join us for a funky night including great food, fun and competitive bidding to support our parish and its ministries on Friday, May 1, 2020. More details to come.

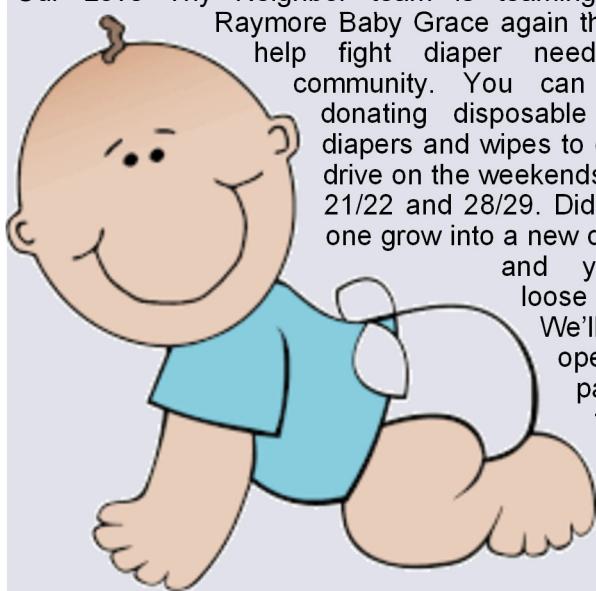
We need your help! In order to make this night "dyno-mite," we are asking for your help in procuring donations of new merchandise, sporting events, services, collectibles, time shares, entertainment, gift baskets, gift cards, or in-kind cash donations. Donations valued over \$75 will receive free advertising blocks in our auction catalog, up to a full-page ad depending on the item or service value. We also have plenty of volunteer opportunities! In addition to volunteers to help everything run smoothly during the auction, we will also need teams to help plan, procure, and decorate. If you can share your gifts with us in one of these ways, please contact the parish office.



Diaper Drive—March 21-29

Did you know that 1 in 5 moms cut back on food, utilities, or other essentials, in order to provide diapers for their children?

Our Love Thy Neighbor team is teaming up with Raymore Baby Grace again this year to help fight diaper need in our community. You can help by donating disposable or cloth diapers and wipes to our diaper drive on the weekends of March 21/22 and 28/29. Did your little one grow into a new diaper size and you have loose leftovers? We'll take open packages too!



Focus on Ministry

Each month we will be highlighting one of our many parish ministries. Please take this opportunity to read about the ministries offered at our parish. If you are interested in volunteering, or simply want more information, please reach out to the contact person listed at the bottom of the ministry highlight.

El Salvador Scholarship Students, New Homes Scholarship Students in El Salvador

St. Sabina currently supports 13 scholarship students in the community of Cinquera, which is in the department of Cabañas in El Salvador. Cinquera is a small town of 800 people, who totally rebuilt their town after the civil war ended in 1992. The majority of the families in Cinquera live in poverty, and their only hope for financial stability is to have one child graduate from university and find employment.

The organization that coordinates the scholarship program in El Salvador is called the Center for Exchange and Solidarity (CIS). The CIS was founded in 1993 after the signing of the Peace Accords in El Salvador. Solidarity groups from the US, Canada and Europe came together with the Salvadoran organizations to develop a center to promote people-to-people relations after the war. The root causes of the war, economic and social injustice were still present, and continue today.

Dignified Homes in Paso Puente, El Salvador

The CIS is embarking on a dignified housing project with the community of Paso Puente in Tonacatepeque, across the street from Romero Community. There are 153 families in Paso Puente, most living in squalor. The CIS approached the new government of El Salvador, together with the communities. The government is prioritizing getting support to the most marginalized areas, which includes Paso Puente. The government agreed to build 54 dignified homes with CIS. CIS will raise \$4,000 per home to put on the roof, electric installation, a tile floor, a pila/sink and a bathroom with shower, toilet and sink. The government will give each family \$3,500 for the base of the house, windows and doors. And the government will pay for the infrastructure—potable water, sewage, streets and drainage.

2020 Delegation to El Salvador

Recently 5 parishioners traveled to El Salvador to help build houses in Paso Puente and to visit our scholarship students in Cinquera. Thanks to Brian Hunt, Joni Keffer, Joe Lewis, Dave Kille, and Kris Larkey for traveling to El Salvador to help improve the living conditions of those in Paso Puente and Cinquera.



Youth Ministry

PSR News

Elda's Compassion Boutique is returning to offer free First Communion apparel. All families are welcome to visit their little shop which will be set up in the Parish Hall on February 23rd from 9am to noon. They receive donated dresses and suits and have them dry cleaned to be worn again. If you have a very gently worn garment to donate, you may drop it off in the Youth Office by February 23rd.

Tour of the Church Night! Our First Communion kids and their parents are invited to join together on March 3 for an evening of fun, fellowship and preparation for the sacrament of Communion. Kids will get a backstage pass to the inner parts of the church with one of our sacristans, bake altar bread to share with their families, create a unique banner that's all about them and have a hot dog dinner with their classmates and family. The night begins at 6:30pm and ends at 8:30pm. Please arrive early so we can get the groups all set and have a little prayer to start our night off right. This is not a drop off event. At least one parent/guardian must accompany each student.

Youth News

Junior High Youth! Our next meeting is Wednesday, March 4 at 7pm.

Confirmation Candidates! Our next Sponsor Night will be March 11 from 7-8:30pm in the Parish Hall.



Group hug!! The Confirmation candidates in our high school youth group were on retreat last weekend as part of their preparation for Confirmation!

saint snippets

For 86 years, I have served Jesus Christ, and he has never abandoned me.

St. Polycarp

A disciple of St. John the Evangelist, Bishop of Smyrna, and martyr for the faith

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February 23

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Child Safety

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

All volunteers with youth and children must attend one Protecting God's Children workshop, submit to a background check and sign the policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry, (EIM). More info at <https://kcsjcatholic.org/the-office-of-child-and-youth-protection/>

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



Scripture from the New American Standard Bible ® (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation.
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Reflection on the Readings

This Sunday, we continue our reflections on Matthew's Sermon on the Mount by focusing on Jesus' directive "to be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." The readings help us understand what is involved in following through on Jesus' challenge. The refrain from Responsorial Psalm 103 invites us to sing of God's essential identity and primary qualities, "The Lord is kind and merciful."

Psalm 103 is a song of praise and deep gratitude to God for continuing to manifest forgiveness and compassion towards all. It reiterates the creedal statement used by Jews whenever they articulate their understanding of God. That creedal statement richly proclaims that "Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness."

The Hebrew word for "kindness" is *hesed*, best understood as the faithful covenant love of God that is deep, strong and endures forever. God's *hesed* is a model for the way we are called to respond to God, and the way we are to deal with one another. The Hebrew word for the "compassion" of God is *rahimim*, with its source in the Hebrew word *rahem*, meaning "womb."

By making such a connection, the psalm clearly states that God's *hesed*, God's enduring, faithful love is similar to a mother's love for the child of her womb. God's faithful love is best expressed in mercy and compassion akin to a mother's love. Jesus calls us to love and be compassionate towards all as God loves and is compassionate towards us.

The first reading from Leviticus states Jesus' directive with the words "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy." Treating others the way we would want to be treated begins to get at the intention that God had in mind in creating us. From the beginning, God knew that "it is not good for the human being to be alone." We are created and hard wired for community. In Leviticus, the guidelines for living like God are summed up in the command to "love your neighbor as yourself." Why? Because "I am the Lord" says Leviticus. God essentially states that this is the way that I am, and if you are in relationship with me, this is the way that I ask you to be.

The second reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians picks up this same theme from a different

perspective. Paul talks of the community of believers as the very "temple of God." God dwells no longer in a building, but in the community of those who believe and choose to enter into loving relationship with God.

Consequently, if we are living expressions of God's presence to others, it is essential that we manifest that in our thoughts and actions. We do that by taking on the wisdom of God, modeling ourselves on Jesus, who came to model for us how to be "perfect" as God is perfect. By belonging to Christ, who belongs to God, we confess and practice that we belong to one another, and consequently we treat all in the same manner that God has dealt with us in Christ.

Jesus, in the gospel selection from Matthew's Sermon on the Mount, takes our God modeling even further. In typical rabbinic fashion, Jesus interprets and expands on the intent of the law as it applied to matters of retaliation towards others who would wish us harm. Jesus clearly states that to be holy and perfect like God, it is not enough to love your neighbor as yourself. You are to "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Why? Because you are to be as non-judgmental and non-prejudicial as God "who makes...the sun rise on the bad and the good and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust." As God treats all equally with love, mercy and compassion, so must we. This is not an easy task for most of us. Yet it is the key challenge of Christianity as a whole, and of disciples of Jesus in particular.

As you reflect on the readings this week, challenge yourself to treat all equally, with enduring love, mercy and compassion. In this fashion we concretize Jesus' life style and values in our lives, and in the process work on "being perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Biagio Mazza, Pastoral Associate



Readings

Sunday, February 23

1st Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18
Psalm: Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

Sunday, March 1

1st Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Psalm: Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (3a)
2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19
Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Bible Study

Catholics are mostly exposed to the Bible through the Sunday Lectionary Readings. In order to help us all enter into the Bible through the Sunday readings, we offer study sessions that provide an opportunity to read, to study background to the readings, and to reflect on how to apply the readings to our lives. Our next Bible Study dates are Sundays, Feb. 23 and March 8 at 10:30am in the conference room. All are welcome; bring a Bible. To register, call Biagio at 816-979-3153.



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Reflexión Sobre las Lecturas

Este domingo, continuamos nuestras reflexiones sobre el Sermón del Monte de Mateo, enfocándonos en la directriz de Jesús de que "sean perfectos, como su Padre celestial es perfecto". Las lecturas nos ayudan a entender lo que implica el seguimiento del desafío de Jesús. El estribillo del Salmo responsorial nos invita a cantar de la identidad esencial y las cualidades primordiales de Dios: "El Señor es compasivo y misericordioso".

El Salmo 102 es una canción de alabanza y profunda gratitud a Dios por continuar manifestar perdón y compasión hacia todos. Reitera la declaración de credo utilizada por los judíos cada vez que articulan su comprensión de Dios. Esa declaración de credo proclama ricamente que "Misericordioso y clemente es el Señor, lento para la ira y abundante en la bondad".

La palabra hebrea para "bondad" es *hesed*, mejor entendida como el amor fiel del pacto de Dios que es profundo, fuerte y perdura para siempre. El *hesed* de Dios es un modelo para la manera en que estamos llamados a responder a Dios, y la manera en que debemos tratar unos a otros. La palabra hebrea para la "compasión" de Dios es *rahimim*, con su fuente en la palabra hebrea *rahem*, que significa "vientre".

Al hacer tal conexión, el salmo indica claramente que el *hesed* de Dios, el amor perdurable y fiel de Dios es similar al amor de una madre por el hijo de su vientre. El amor fiel de Dios se expresa mejor en misericordia y compasión semejante al amor de una madre. Jesús nos llama a amar y ser compasivos hacia todos como Dios ama y es compasivo hacia nosotros.

La primera lectura de Levítico establece la directiva de Jesús con las palabras: "Sean santos, porque yo, el Señor, soy santo". Tratar a los demás de la manera en que querríamos ser tratados comienza a llegar a la intención que Dios tenía en mente al crearnos. Desde el principio, Dios sabía que "no es bueno para el ser humano estar solo". Somos creados y conectados para ser una comunidad. En Levítico, las normas para vivir como Dios se resumen en el mandamiento de "amar a tu prójimo como a ti mismo". ¿Por qué? Porque "Yo soy el Señor" dice Levítico. Dios esencialmente afirma que así soy yo, y si estás en relación conmigo, así te pido que seas.

La segunda lectura de la primera carta de Pablo a los Corintios recoge este mismo tema desde una perspectiva diferente. Pablo habla de la comunidad de creyentes como el "templo de Dios". Dios no mora más en un edificio, sino en la comunidad de aquellos que creen y eligen entrar en una relación amorosa con Dios.

En consecuencia, si somos expresiones vivas de la presencia de Dios a los demás, es esencial que manifestemos eso en nuestros pensamientos y acciones. Lo hacemos asumiendo la sabiduría de Dios, modelándonos en Jesús, quien vino a modelar para nosotros cómo ser "perfectos" como Dios es perfecto. Al pertenecer a Cristo, quien pertenece a Dios, confesamos y practicamos que pertenecemos unos a otros, y así tratamos a todos de la misma manera que Dios nos ha tratado en Cristo.

Jesús, en la selección del evangelio del Sermón del

Monte de Mateo, lleva mas allá a nuestro modelo de Dios. De manera típica rabínica, Jesús interpreta y expande la intención de la ley cuando se aplica a los asuntos de represalia hacia otros que nos desearían daño. Jesús claramente declara que para ser santo y perfecto como Dios, no es suficiente amar a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. Debe "amar a sus enemigos y rogar por los que le persiguen". ¿Por qué? Porque usted debe ser no crítico y no prejuicioso así como Dios "que hace salir su sol sobre los buenos y los malos y manda su lluvia sobre los justos y los injustos". Como Dios trata a todos igualmente con amor, misericordia y compasión, nosotros también. Para la mayoría de nosotros, esta no es una tarea fácil. Sin embargo, es el desafío clave del cristianismo en su conjunto, y de los discípulos de Jesús en particular.

Al reflexionar sobre las lecturas de esta semana, desafíese a tratar a todos por igual, con amor, compasión y misericordia duradera. De esta manera concretamos el estilo de vida y los valores de Jesús en nuestras vidas, y en el proceso, trabajamos en "ser perfectos, como el Padre celestial es perfecto".

**Biagio Mazza
Asociado Pastoral**

Lecturas



Lecturas del Domingo, 23 de Febrero

Primera Lectura: Levítico 19:1-2, 17-18
Salmo: Salmo 102:1-2, 3-4, 8 y 10, 12-13
Segunda Lectura: 1 Corintios 3:16-23
Evangelio: Mateo 5:38-48

Lecturas del Domingo, 1 de Marzo

Primera Lectura: Génesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
Salmo: Salmo 50:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 y 17
Segunda Lectura: Romanos 5:12-19
Evangelio: Mateo 4:1-11

Ministerio Juvenil/Información

Noticias de la Escuela de Religión

Elda's Compassion Boutique regresa para ofrecer ropa gratuita de Primera Comunión. Todas las familias pueden visitar su pequeña tienda que se instalará en el Salón Parroquial el 23 de febrero de 9 a.m. a mediodía. Reciben vestidos y trajes donados y los limpian en seco para usarlos nuevamente. Si tiene una prenda usada muy ligeramente para donar, puede dejarla en la Oficina de la Juventud antes del 23 de febrero.

Recorrido de la Iglesia! Nuestros niños de la Primera Comunión y sus padres están invitados a acompañarnos el 3 de marzo para una noche de diversión, compañerismo y preparación para el sacramento de la Comunión. Los niños obtendrán un 'pase al detrás de escena' a las partes internas de la iglesia con uno de nuestros sacristanes, hornearán pan de altar para compartir con sus familias, crearán una pancarta única la cual es sobre ellos y tendrán una cena de hot dog con sus compañeros de clase y sus familias. La noche comienza a las 6:30 pm y termina a las 8:30 pm. Llegue temprano para que podamos organizar todos los grupos y orar para comenzar bien la noche. Este no es un evento de dejar los niños. Al menos un parente/tutor debe acompañar a cada estudiante.

Noticias de los Jóvenes

Jóvenes de la Middle School! Nuestra próxima reunión será el 4 de marzo a las 7pm.

Candidatos de la Confirmación! Nuestra próxima Noche de Padrinos será el 11 de marzo de 7 a 8:30 pm en el Salón Parroquial.



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recortes de los santos

Durante 86 años he servido a Jesucristo, y él nunca me ha abandonado.

San Policarpo
Un discípulo de Juan el Evangelista, obispo de Esmirna y mártir de la fe.

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23 de febrero



Seguridad Infantil

La Diócesis de Kansas City-St. Joseph está comprometida a luchar contra el abuso sexual en la Iglesia. Si usted es víctima de abuso sexual, o si usted observa o sospecha de abuso sexual, por favor:

- 1) Llame a línea directa de Abuso Infantil en Missouri al 1.800.392.3738 (si la víctima tiene menos de 18 años de edad), y
- 2) Póngase en contacto con su departamento de policía local o llame al 911, y
- 3) Despues de informarle a las autoridades de la orden civil y de leyes, reporte el abuso sexual del menor o del adulto vulnerable a Joe Crayon, Defensor del Pueblo Diocesano al 816.812.2500 o crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org si el abuso implica a un sacerdote, diácono, empleado o voluntario de la Diócesis de Kansas City-St. Joseph.

La Diócesis tiene un sincero compromiso con los recursos del cuidado y la curación para las víctimas de abuso sexual y a sus familias. Por favor póngase en contacto con la Defensora de Víctimas, Kathleen Chastain al 816.392.0011 o chastain@diocesekcsj.org para mas información.

Todas las personas que son voluntarios con los jóvenes ó niños de nuestra parroquia deben asistir a un taller llamado Protegiendo a los Niños de Dios, también necesitarán someterse a una verificación de antecedentes y deberán firmar la póliza sobre Éticas e Integridad en el Ministerio (EIM). Más información en <https://kcsjcatholic.org/the-office-of-child-and-youth-protection/>

Los Más Pequeños

Jim Burrows



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Pláticas Pre-Bautismales - 14 de Marzo

Normalmente cada segundo Sábado del mes de las 10 am a la 1 pm. (Sólo para niños de 0-6 años.) Salón doble del área de la escuela. Para niños mayores de 7 años requerirán una formación especial.

PRÓXIMOS BAUTISMOS: llamar a Kris al 816-979-3151. Favor de llenar su aplicación para asistir a las pláticas con anterioridad. **No se ofrece cuidado de niños.**

Pláticas Matrimoniales - 14 y 21 de Marzo

Pláticas Matrimoniales ofrecerán los sábados, 14 y 21 de Marzo a las 8am-1pm en el cuarto de conferencia en el área de las oficinas. Todas las parejas necesitan asistir los dos pláticas. Para mas información, llame Martina y Abelardo Arreola a 816-269-4956 o Kris a 816-979-3151.

El Viacrucis

El Viacrucis es una devoción católica que conmemora el último día de Jesucristo en la Tierra como hombre. Las 14 devociones, o estaciones, se enfocan en eventos específicos de Su último día, comenzando con Su condena. Las estaciones se usan comúnmente como una mini peregrinación ya que nos movemos de una estación a otra. En cada estación, recordamos y meditamos sobre un evento específico del último día de Cristo. Se recitan las oraciones y luego pasamos a la siguiente estación hasta que se completen las 14.

Verá las imágenes del Viacrucis ubicadas alrededor de las paredes de nuestro santuario. Rezaremos el Viacrucis todos los viernes en Cuaresma el 28 de febrero, 6, 13, 20 y 22 de marzo a las 6:30 PM en inglés y a las 7:00 PM en español. Esta devoción es una excelente manera de conectarse con la pasión de Cristo y meditar en el regalo de salvación que nos ganó a través de su sufrimiento. Planee acompañarnos para el Viacrucis después de disfrutar las Comidas de Pescado de los Caballeros de Colón los viernes de esta Cuaresma.

En Nuestro Video ¿Sabes...? de Esta Semana:



Mientras continuamos nuestra serie sobre lo que significa ser "católico" esta semana, exploramos por qué ser católicos nos llama a tener una perspectiva holística. Tener una perspectiva holística exige un fuerte sentido de la interrelación de toda la creación, una conexión entre nuestra fe cristiana y toda la creación de Dios. Una perspectiva holística respeta tanto la fe como la razón y busca conectar las órdenes naturales y sobrenaturales de toda la creación. La recepción al conocimiento humano y sus vínculos con la fe es la esencia de una perspectiva holística. Desafortunadamente, algunos cristianos no son verdaderamente católicos cuando eligen ser rígidos y críticos en cuestiones morales y les falta respeto por la razón, los hechos o la ciencia. Dado que toda la creación es el resultado del amor abundante de Dios derramado sobre todos, toda la creación contiene el ADN de Dios y, por lo tanto, toda la realidad creada está conectada con Dios y entre sí. Tómese un momento para ver el video ¿Sabes? de esta semana y desafíese a sí mismo como cristiano católico para desarrollar una perspectiva holística.

Colecta de Pañales—21-29 de Marzo

¿Sabía que 1 de cada 5 mamás reducen la comida, los servicios públicos u otros elementos esenciales para poder proporcionar pañales a sus hijos?



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Horario de Misas para el Miércoles de Cenizas

Miércoles 26 de febrero, 8am en inglés

Miércoles 26 de febrero, 7pm—Bilingüe

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En esta foto aparecen Rodolfo, Alex, Alexander, Nico, Anthony y Alejandro en el retiro Search el fin de semana pasada.

Horarios de Misa

Sábado: 4:00pm en Ingles

Domingo: 8:00am y 10:30am en Ingles, 12:30pm en Español

Confesiones: Sábados, 3:00-3:30pm

**Visite nuestra página web para el horario de
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