



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." - Mt 18:15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

OLPi



A Roman Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri 6020 Old Antonia Road, Imperial, MO 63052 sjiparish.org | 636-464-1013

St. Joseph Parish Parish Office Hours: M-F: 7:30 am—3:30 pm 636-464-1013				
CLERGY				
Rev. Daniel G. Shaughnessy, Pastor	frs@sjiparish.org x104			
Rev. Jonathan R. Ruzicka, Associate Pastor	jruzicka@sjiparish.org x116			
Msgr. Gregory Mikesch, In Residence				
Rev. Mr. Roland Kaiser, Permanent Deacon	retired			
Rev. Mr. Brian Selsor, Permanent Deacon	636-464-6901			
Rev. Mr. John Wolffer, Permanent Deacon	314-420-3898			
Parish Administrative Staff				
Carol DuBuque, Child Safety Coordinator	cdubuque@sjiparish.org x105			
Julie Hepp, Parish Accountant	jhepp@sjiparish.org x119			
Kathy Larson, Communications Director	klarson@sjiparish.org x112			
Keith Newbury, Facilities Manager	knewbury@sjiparish.org x110			
Karla Owensby, Business Manager	kowensby@sjiparish.org x103			
Rachel Schoenberger, Administrative Asst.	rschoenberger@sjiparish.org x102			
Heather Selsor, Corpus Christi Center Manager	hselsor@sjiparish.org x111			
Parish Ministerial Staff				
Sr. Rosemary Buttice, ASCJ, Pastoral Associate	rbuttice@sjiparish.org x106			
Sean Feltz, Assoc. Director of Youth Ministry	sfeltz@sjiparish.org x114			
Torri Halbert, PSR Coordinator	thalbert@sjiparish.org x107			
Emily Kopff, Director of Religious Education	ekopff@sjiparish.org x108			
Saint Joseph Sc				
Sr. Carol Sansone, ASCJ, Principal	csansone@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x401			
Sr. Ellen Cronan, ASCJ, Admin. Assistant	ecronan@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x403			
Tara Gaudreault, RN, School Nurse	tgaudreault@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x500			
Rose Preston, Office Manager	rpreston@stjosephimperial.org 636-464-9027 x402			
Other Minist	TRIES			
Knights of Columbus, Jake Dugal	314-707-0212			
Natural Family Planning, Sean/Amanda Dailey	thedaileys16@gmail.com; 314-540-1739			
Parish Cemetery, Bill Regelsperger	314-808-2522			
Sr. Christine's Food Pantry	636-464-7580			
St. Vincent de Paul Society Helpline	636-274-6520			

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Mass Times

Sat.: 8:00 am & 4:30 pm

Sun.: 7, 8:30, 10, 11:30 am; 4:30 pm

Mon.: 6:30 am

Wed.: 6:30 pm (6:45pm school year)

Tues. - Fri. 6:30 & 8:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday-Friday: 7:00 am Thursday: 5:30 pm—7:00 pm Saturday: 3:30 pm—4:30 pm

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

T/W/Th 9:00 am—9:00 pm

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

Attendance at a Baptismal preparation class is required. Classes are held the 2^{nd} Thursday of the month; call to schedule.

SACRAMENTS of EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION

For those who have been baptized Catholic or wish to enter the Catholic Church, RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes are required. For more information contact Sr. Rosemary.

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Anyone who is seriously sick and would like a visit from one of the priests may call the parish office to request one. Hospitals no longer call parishes with this information.

SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE

Contact one of the priests to begin your preparation at least nine months before the anticipated wedding date.

SACRAMENT of HOLY ORDERS AND VOWED RELIGIOUS LIFE

If you are interested in learning about a religious vocation, please contact one of the priests or the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at stlvocations.org or 314-792-6460.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Parishioners who are homebound and wish to receive Holy Communion may call Mary Dixon at 636-467-2104 to make arrangements.

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Ministry Schedule	Sept. 16 4:30 pm	Sept 17 7:00 am	Sept 17 8:30 am	Sept 17 10:00 am	Sept 17 11:30 am	Sept 17 4:30 pm
Lectors	Simms Dalton	Stevens Schiavi	School Children	Brotherton Lang	Schelt Zubliones	Volunteers
Servers	C. Bailey E. Bailey Volunteer	Volunteers	W. Nesselhauf H. Preston L. Preston	L. Reiter I. Rohe Volunteer	J. Vonder Haar J. Vonder Haar P. Vonder Haar	A. Julius K. Julius N. Julius

	Mass Intentions
Monday	September 11, 2023
6:30 am	Bill & John Dust
Tuesday	September 12, 2023
6:30 am	Jeanne Klosterman
8:00 am	Dust Family & Friends
Wednesday	September 13, 2023
6:30 am	Betty & Dan Fitzgerald
8:00 am	Robert M. Potts
6:30 pm	Rita Juliette
Thursday	September 14, 2023
6:30 am	Devore Family Special Intention
8:00 am	Bernard Markovich
Friday	September 15, 2023
6:30 am	Jim Moss
8:00 am	William & Margaret Dust
Saturday	September 16, 2023
8:00 am	Ellie Rieger
4:30 pm	Patricia Sokolic
Sunday	September 17, 2023
7:00 am	Robert Winkler
8:30 am	Jim Hunziker
10:00 am	Parishioners SJBD/SJP
11:30 am	Barbara Dodson
4:30 pm	Rita Juliette

Please stop by, call, or email the parish office to schedule Mass Intentions. Mass cards for *special intentions* or *in memory* are available; they may be picked up in the parish office. The stipend per Mass is \$10.

ANNUAL GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY

We are in the process of updating our Annual Guide Book & Directory for the Church. This book will be the Who, What, Where, When Why and How of our Congregation. The book is being provided at no cost to our Church, including the mailing to each family, and again is being subsidized by local businesses that advertise in it. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please call Brenda Tolbert at 314-745-4220 or e-mail her at btolbert1159@yahoo.com.

Parish Stewardship 8/21/2023 - 8/27/2023			
	Current	Fiscal YTD	
Offertory			
Total collected	\$25,046.48	\$196,682.14	
Amount needed	\$21,568.77	\$194,118.936	
Surplus or shortage	\$3,477.71	\$2,563.21	
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS			
Tuition assistance	\$215.00		
St. Vincent dePaul	\$2,767.00		
Sr. Christine's Food Pantry	\$795.00		



BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

If you have something for publication in the bulletin, please send it to bulletin@sjiparish.org. The deadline is each Monday at noon.





From the Desk $\it of$ Fr. Jack Ruzicka, Associate Pastor

To the Parish Family of St. Joseph and St. John the Beloved:

In this installment of Ruzicka Recommends, I recommend the novel, "The Edge of Sadness," by Edwin O'Connor (particularly the edition published by Loyola Classics). This is one of my top five favorite novels of all time. I read this for the first time in the seminary and again, recently, as a priest. While I appreciated it the first time around as a seminarian, I value it all the more as a priest.

The novel details the life of Fr. Hugh Kennedy, a recovering alcoholic, who returns to his priestly ministry in Boston. He is now the pastor of Old St. Paul's, a lackluster parish that was once grand – an assignment that is, at best, undesirable. He ekes his way through a humdrum and ordinary life as the shepherd of a parish with nothing to do. He is middle aged and is starting to reflect on his life.

The most powerful theme in this novel is dealing with the drama and reality of old age. The main characters in this story are not young and spry; rather, they're seasoned, nostalgic, and contemplative. The enthusiasms of their youth have given way to the thoughtful musings of life's meaning and the impact they've made on the lives of others. This is a reality that I, as a young man, can only reverence from afar – but will later come to understand.

This novel reminds me of a poignant line from the lovely film, "The Straight Story," directed by David Lynch (which I also recommend!). In this movie, Alvin Straight (an older man nearing the end of his life) travels many miles to reconcile with his estranged brother. Along the way, he meets various people, creates memories, and shares wisdom and insights from his own lived experience. One evening, while sitting around a campfire with a group of boisterous youngsters, a young man teasingly asks, "So, Alvin, what's the worst part about

getting old?" To which Alvin replies, "The worst part about getting old is rememberin' when you was young." In "The Edge of Sadness," Fr. Kennedy reflects on the meaning and worth of his priesthood now that his younger years are behind him. His reputation now carries the burden of his fall into alcoholism and subsequent leave of absence for recovery. He sees his local community changing, and not always for the better. He wonders if his priesthood is still valid and useful as he sees younger men rise up and do what he once did. He now has to navigate living with a naïve, over-zealous (and slightly annoying) associate. He wonders if his years of experience can be valued and appreciated in a church enamored with the young and vivacious clergy. Here, I will quote at length one of the most profound passages in the novel. It's not a spoiler! In this excerpt, Fr. Kennedy reflects on the death of his father:

And so my father died. ... Every day and every night I had prayed that he might be allowed either the miracle of recovery or the blessing of a happy death. These prayers were not answered. My father did not recover, and he died witless and in pain. ... Here is the old, baffling problem that has always been with us and will be until the end of time: the problem of reconciling pain and suffering with an omnipotent and merciful God. But here it seems to me we deal with something reason cannot reach, and with that part of man that reason does not touch, for when someone stands fixed and helpless before another's suffering ... the cool light of reason may not be of much help. A syllogism does not support a mother who has seen her baby burned. And here, I think, faith comes in. ... The point is that if one accepts God, one accepts him totally, accepts what he does and what he permits. One accepts it, but one does not necessarily understand it. Surely it's a question of vision, for as we are, we can see, but only to the corner; we cannot begin to see the whole design.

4 September 10, 2023

While the questions asked in this novel are heavy and deep, the finale is beautiful and hopeful. Edwin O'Connor is an incredibly empathetic and insightful author. Every question and every dilemma is treated with reverence and respect. I firmly believe you will emerge from the pages of this novel with deeper empathy and a renewed love for life. O'Connor shows us, with piercing clarity, that it is often when we are at the edge of sadness that we discover – or perhaps rediscover – the immense joy of knowing God and being known by Him.

So...grab yourself a cup of coffee, a comfortable chair, and a copy of "The Edge of Sadness"! You will not regret this read. Until next time, happy reading! God love you and God bless you!

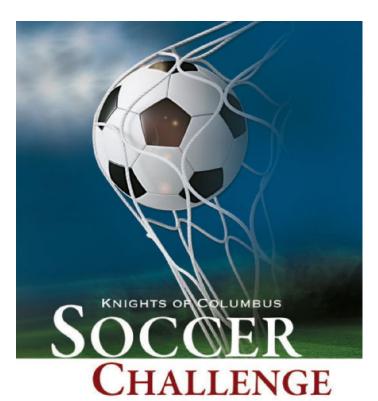
Respectfully yours,

Fr. Jack Ruvika

Save the Date! In Celebration of the 60th Jubilee of Religious Profession of Sr. Rosemary Buttice, ASCI please join us in the Corpus Christi Center on Sunday, October 1, 2023 at any time between 10:30 am - 1:30 pm. We're sharing the event with Donut Sunday and will also have some savory bites after the noon hour. Please stop by to congratulate Sr. Rosemary on her jubilee, and also to acknowledge her service to St. Joseph Parish, now in its 19th year!







Boys and Girls, Ages 9-14

Location: Wiles Field

Date: 9-17-23 Time: 5 PM

Sponsor: Knights of Columbus #2333

Contact: Registration @ 4:30

Please note: Entrants may compete in only one local competition.

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the 2023 Knights of Columbus Soccer Challenge. The local competition will be held at Wiles field at 5:00 pm. on Sunday September 17th. Registration begins at 4:30 pm.

The K of C Soccer Challenge is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district, and jurisdictional competitions. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are eligible to participate and will compete in the respective age divisions. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

Council 2333 in Kimmswick is one of 17,000 Knights of Columbus councils that make up the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Founded in 1882 to assist working class and immigrant Catholics in the United States, today the approximately 2 million members of the Knights put their faith into action through a broad range of charitable causes locally, nationally, and internationally with financial contributions and hands-on service.



All men of the parish are invited to attend Men's Cross Training practices. You may ask yourself, "Why should I attend these practices?" Here is what other men have said:

- Come and see how striving to be a better man, husband and father takes sacrifice, but brings you joy and happiness you may not have experienced. God wants that for you.
- Come and be with other men who are trying to be better men, husbands and fathers. You'll be with other men who struggle with the same things you struggle with and you'll know you aren't alone. You have other men to lean on when you need help and you'll be there for them when they need help.
- Come and hear a man's personal story of a time in his life
 when he discovered God was calling him to more. Hear what
 happened in his life, what changes he made and how his life
 is different since he made those changes.

Spend one hour with other men learning how to become a better man, husband and father. After the talk, there will be discussion on how you can benefit from what you heard and an opportunity to make a commitment to do something that will help you as you strive to live like a man of God.

There are three sets of monthly practices remaining this semester – most on Thursdays, and 9/12 on Tuesday: Thursday 9/7, Tuesday 9/12, Thursday 9/21, Thursdays 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, and Thursdays 11/2, 11/9, 11/16. Practice is conducted at the Corpus Christi Center at St. Joseph Parish. Doors open at 6:20 pm, the Rosary is prayed at 6:30 and the program begins at 7:00 sharp. Each session is one hour long, ending promptly at 8:00. There is no cost to attend. To learn more go to: https://catholicctm.org/mens-cross-training.



Passionate about sports? SJAA is looking for a few good people! Free sports for up to 4 kids!

For more information contact Mitch Mueller (314) 220-5305. Thank you for your consideration!

6 SEPTEMBER 10, 2023



Saturday, September 23, 2023

Please show your support by donating a new item or service, becoming a sponsor, making a cash gift, or placing an advertisement.

Please complete this form and return to St. Joseph Parish Office or to Lucas. Null@gmail.com.

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Please make checks payable to "St. Joseph Parish"



Grandparenting with Grace Grandparent Conversations

Grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends who also serve as grandparents, what do you most want to pass on to your grandchildren?

This and other questions will form the basis of a six-week program gathering grandparents in our community for conversation. All are invited to this program "Grandparenting with Grace."

The author Kathy Coffey writes: "These sessions will cover the topics of passing on the faith, gratitude, being channels of grace and practical strategies. They are based on the belief that none of us is as smart as all of us, so they will encourage discussion. We have much we can earn whether our experiences are similar or different. While the focus of these sessions is on younger children, the material can be applied to grandchildren of all ages."

Sessions will be led by Sr. Rosemary Buttice on Wednesday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Corpus Christi Center. The sessions will begin on Wednesday, September 27 and continue on October 4, 11, 18, 25 and November 8, 2023. Please bring pictures of your grandchildren, great grandchildren or those who are like grandchildren to you. These pictures will be a delightful way to begin our discussions.

If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please contact Sr. Rosemary at:

rbuttice@sjiparish.org or 636-464-1013 x106





Knights of Columbus Council 2333
American Red Cross Blood Drive
Tuesday, September 19, 2:30-7 pm
Corpus Christi Center at St. Joseph Parish
For appointments go to redcrossblood.org
Search for our drive or use sponsor code
SJCCImperial or call Bob (314-704-8068)
or Janet Hermann (314-304-4238)
Walk-ins are welcome

To save time visit redcrossblood.org/rapidpass on the day of the drive to complete pre-donation reading and health history. The Rapidpass is also available on the American Red Cross app.

Your donation is a special gift of life to those who need it! Thank you!

8 SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

Eucharistic Adorers needed:



Tuesdays: 10 am and 3 pm

Wednesdays:

9 am and 7 pm Thursdays:

9 and 11 am, 2 and 3 pm

Visitors are always welcome.

Call Mr. Patrick Smith (573) 310-3472 The Holy Eucharist reposes each night at 9 pm.

On behalf of the members of the Knights of Columbus Council #2333, we would like to invite you to join our organization.





RAISE MONEY FOR ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS IN HONOR OF BILL AND CAROL SCHMIDT

SATURDAY, OCT. 7, 2023, ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL 11:00 A.M. – REGISTRATION; 11:45 A.M. - PLAY STARTS \$30 PER PLAYER

Bring your own partner or come by yourself.
All you can eat and drink - burgers, brats, hot dogs, chips, soda, bottled water and beer. Cash or checks only – checks payable to St. Pius X High School

Prize money for 1ST, 2ND, & 3RD place; 50/50 raffle

If you want to socialize and enjoy all you can eat and drink, but not play in the tournament, you can do so for \$20. Everyone is encouraged to bring a lawn chair.

To sign up to play, be a sponsor, or volunteer your time, contact:

Larry Kist: 314-540-2159 email: lot_g@sbcglobal.net

Or

Brian Westrich: 314-591-1552 email: brian_westrich@att.net



Congratulations to our recently baptized:

Mack James Lloyd son of Travis & Allison Lloyd

Henry Louis Weidler, son of Noah & Zoe Weidler

Charlotte Blue Selser, daughter of Justin & Megan Selsor

Grace May Arnold, daughter of Andrew & Emily Arnold

Joshua Michael Menteer, son of Michael & Taylor Menteer

Samantha Catherine Menteer, daughter of John & Danielle Menteer

Baptized in Christ in August of 2023 May the blessing of the Lord be upon them and may God watch over and cherish these children whom God has blessed with the grace of Baptism.



September 10th Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, Jesus says: "...where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Is there a local family you know who needs assistance? If so, please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we help them know that indeed "God is in the midst of them."

For more information, email Dbalsman@ymail.com

Prayer Meeting: September 13th 6:30 p.m. Business Meeting: September 25th 6:30 p.m.

All Meetings in the Corpus Christi Center.

INWRAPPED RENT NIGHTS What is my role as a Catholic parent? How can I deal with the pressure to do it all? Can I be my child's best friend? Join other parents in the trenches for a night with Paul and Kay Halfmann of D:6 Ministries as we explore these and other questions about parenting in today's world. K-5th Grade Parents Wednesday, September 6th 5:15-6:20pm in the CCC 6-8th Grade Parents Wednesday, September 13th 5:15-6:20pm in the CCC

Our Parish Praying Together

May those who are ill be blessed by Jesus' healing presence:

Matthew Anderson Bob Baer Gail Baumley Mike Boyd Kay Carter Don Compton Thomas Condon Rick Davis Will Fischer Ty J. Foster Dave Greco Manray Marty Greenhalgh Scott Hasse Kathy Hercules Marge Heying Glenda Ğail Husmann Eileen Kaiser Iim Kaiser

Roland Kaiser Iohnathon Koee Floyd McClintock Ron Merideth William Renner Tauni Shuck Dwayne Parker Janeen Reinbott Will Roberts Iim Schaeffer Nina Schaeffer Ken Simms Lorraine Simms Vernon Speidel Jerry Spinks Andrew Staggenborg Vincent Szewczyk Noella Torgerson Jane Werner

We pray for those in the Military:

Jack Jeffers Isaac Longtin Jacob Sarfraz Jared Sheets Grant Staggenborg
Jack Vilchis
Lucas Weiland
Austin McHaffie-Sharp



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if special accommodations are needed.

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