



MARCH 15, 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Pastor:

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

Parish Office:

Wed. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Fri. 9:00 am - Noon
620-258-6030
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 4:35pm Saturdays & 8:05am Sundays

Confessions:

Wednesday - Friday 6:30-7am
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 03/16/26 - 03/22/26

Phyllis Krueger

Weekend Servers

03/14: Maylee and Daylen Ballinger
03/15: Isaac Arnold, Ava Rudolph,
Daniel Coughlin
03/21: Lilly Lienemann, Sarah Soyez
03/22: Augusta, Sawyer & Bryer McGee
03/28: John Musick, Noah Nunley
03/29: Kaleb Arnold, Bryce Weeden,
Ace Dieker

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

03/14: Jana Redeker
03/15: Greg Markowitz
Trish Markowitz - EMHC
03/21: Lilly Skalsky
03/22: Cass Coughlin
03/28: LeAnn Eberle
03/29: Shirley Langley
Barb Kuhlmann - EMHC

St. Joseph Prayer List

Collins Baldwin
Linda Barnard
Maya Bishop
Jeanette Reed Copeland
Donna Dains
Vicki Dickson
Kauffman Dieker
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
Mike Wecker
Clara Young

United States Army:

SGM Matthew S. Richter,
Sgt. Austin Burenheide,
Grant Fath,
Major Jacob Haag

Navy:

Grace Coughlin

Air Force:

Megan DePauw

Army National Guard:

Sgt. Mason Harmon

**FR. MERSMANN IS GONE
MARCH 15 AFTER MASS - MARCH 21 MIDDAY**

**NO 6:30AM CONFESSION OR 7:15AM MASS
NEXT WEEK. NO ADORATION 3/18. NO 8AM
CONFESSION 3/21.**

**MARCH 19TH IS THE PARISH SOLEMNITY!
FR. HUSER FROM EUREKA WILL BE HERE TO
CELEBRATE A 7PM MASS FOR US.**

Mass Intentions:

Sat. 03/14: 5:00 pm +August Redeker
 Sun. 03/15: 8:30 am For the Parish

Wed. 03/18: 7:15 am NO MASS
 Thurs. 03/19: 7:00 pm +Fred & Helen Windle
 Fri. 03/20: 7:15 am NO MASS
 Sat. 03/21: 5:00 pm +Chad Blow
 Sun. 03/22: 8:30 am For the Parish

Last Week's Collection:

Envelopes (26)	\$ 1,627.00
Plate	505.00
Capital Improvements	60.00
Catholic Relief Services	40.00
Social Support (10)	350.00
The Leaven (1)	50.00
Easter Offering	100.00
TOTAL	\$ 2,732.00

CCD News

There will be no religious education classes on Wednesday, March 18th. Have a safe and fun spring break!

Totus Tuus dates have been set for June 7th-12th. More details coming soon.

WE HAVE MERCH!



1st round of orders due 3/20

Represent St. Joseph wherever you go AND look cool doing it.



Knights' News



The monthly Knights meeting will be held **this** Wednesday, March 18th at 7:00 p.m. There will also be a degree ceremony that evening for new members to join. Please let me know if you are interested in becoming a Knights of Columbus member.

We will be serving our delicious, warm biscuits and gravy breakfast next Sunday, March 22nd from 7:30-10:00 am. Please join us!

Sincerely,
- Danny Schneider,
 Grand Knight

Stations of the Cross

5:00 pm on Fridays during Lent



Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 28th. We invite all able-bodied parishioners to assist with church cleaning. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. Please join us.

Donut Sunday

THIS Sunday, March 15th, donuts and beverages will be served in the Parish Life Center following Mass. Please plan to attend and enjoy friends and conversation.



EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to donate towards Easter altar flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact Laurie (620-343-0321) or Donna (620-475-3794) by **April 1**. The cost remains at \$25. We will also be collecting for flowers after masses on March 21/22 and March 28/29. God bless you for your generosity!



Saturday, April 18, 2026 - 9:00 am - 6:00 pm at Sacred Heart Parish Hall there will be a Pro Life Display - check out the AfterMathKS.com website for more information

All Parish Life Center lottery tickets have been sold!!

*This is the third year in a row that we have sold out. **THANK YOU** to everyone who sold and/or purchased tickets. We are blessed with so many generous people. Best of luck to all ticket holders.*



As a *Walking with Moms in Need* parish, during this season of Lent until Palm Sunday, St. Joseph parishioners are invited to give a gift of diapers (sizes 5 - 7) or wipes that will be delivered to the Shiloh House of Hope. Please leave your gifts in the back of church. As always, your generosity is much appreciated by those seeking services from Shiloh House. Thank you!!

Friday, March 20, 2026 - 6:30 - 8:00 pm Bingo plus 50/50 raffle fundraiser at Sacred Heart Parish Hall to benefit Shiloh House. \$5.00 cards for homemade goodies and prizes.

PICNIC

**Sunday, April 26th
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
at the Parish Life Center**

We hope you have your calendars marked for our parish Spring Picnic. More details will be provided in the coming weeks. In the meantime, here's what we need to make it happen:

- YOU to show up and have a great time.
- Bring a side, a dessert, or an outdoor game if you would like.

Pulled pork sandwiches and baked beans are being provided.

If you would like to donate ingredients or \$, please call or text the rectory number 620-475-3326 to find out what items are still needed.

Annual Lenten Fish Fry March 27th @ the PLC Stations at 5:30, dinner at 6

Catered by the Chicken House!

Sign up for dinner in the back of church or by calling the parish office.

Bring a dessert if you would like!

Spend time with us and have some dinner whether you sign up or not.

Holy Week Mass Schedule

Palm Sunday

8:30am - St. Joseph
10:00am - St. Mary

Holy Thursday

7:00pm - St. Joseph

Good Friday

3:00pm - St. Joseph
6:00pm - St. Mary

Easter Vigil

8:00pm - St. Joseph

Easter Sunday

8:30am - St. Joseph
10:00am - St. Mary

To the amazing families with young kiddos:

- I want to do everything I can to encourage your children's presence with you during Mass. I argue that your time *together* at Mass as a family unit is the most important in every way.
- With that, if you ever feel bad that your child makes noise, **please don't**; it is proof of life, which everyone at St. Joseph should acknowledge as something beautiful. If you ever are made to feel poorly because of your children's participation or noise, I would like to know immediately.
- The pews near the confessional seem especially nice for young kids, since they can see more clearly what is happening, and the staircase on the side gives access to two restrooms and our chapel, if you need a more private space.
- At least during Lent, I have asked Michelle not to do the children's liturgy. It has been difficult for me to dismiss young kids and have them miss out on a good portion of what the Church Herself wants for them to hear and be a part of. The Liturgy of the Word during Lent and Easter is the most clear and powerful, too. Going full-circle, I promise any difficulty it costs for you and your children to be together for the entire Mass is 100% worth the investment. I am more than grateful that you all are here.

Women's Spirituality Conference

April 18
St. Thomas More | Utopia Room
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Registration is now open!
Scan the QR code for the brochure or to sign up

Early Registration by March 10	\$45
Regular Registration	\$50
Late Registration after April 10	\$55
Students (HS/College)	\$20

Sarah Hart



Father's Corner



From a treatise on John by Saint Augustine, bishop

Christ is the way to the light, the truth, and the life

The Lord tells us: *I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.* In these few words he gives a command and makes a promise. Let us do what he commands so that we may not blush to covet what he promises and to hear him say on the day of judgment: "I laid down certain conditions for obtaining my promises. Have you fulfilled them?" If you say: "What did you command, Lord our God?" he will tell you: "I commanded you to follow me. You asked for advice on how to enter into life. What life, if not the life about which it is written: *With you is the fountain of life?*"

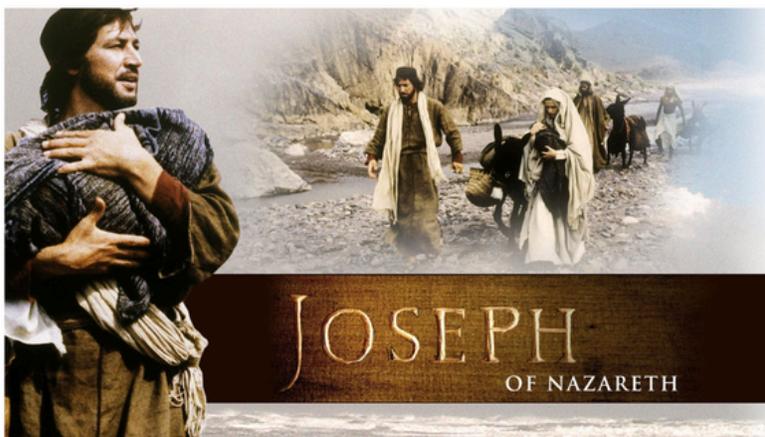
Let us do now what he commands. Let us follow in the footsteps of the Lord. Let us throw off the chains that prevent us from following him. Who can throw off these shackles without the aid of the one addressed in these words: *You have broken my chains?* Another psalm says of him: *The Lord frees those in chains, the Lord raises up the downcast.*

Those who have been freed and raised up follow the light. The light they follow speaks to them: *I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness.* The Lord gives light to the blind. Brethren, that light shines on us now, for we have had our eyes anointed with the eye-salve of faith. His saliva was mixed with earth to anoint the man born blind. We are of Adam's stock, blind from our birth; we need him to give us light. He mixed saliva with earth, and so it was prophesied: *Truth has sprung up from the earth.* He himself has said: *I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

We shall be in possession of the truth when we see face to face. This is his promise to us. Who would dare to hope for something that God in his goodness did not choose to promise or bestow?

We shall see face to face. The Apostle says: *Now I know in part, now obscurely through a mirror, but then face to face.* John the apostle says in one of his letters: *Dear beloved, we are now children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be. We know that when he is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.* This is a great promise.

If you love me, follow me. "I do love you," you protest, "but how do I follow you?" If the Lord your God said to you: "I am the truth and the life," in your desire for truth, in your love for life, you would certainly ask him to show you the way to reach them. You would say to yourself: "Truth is a great reality, life is a great reality; if only it were possible for my soul to find them!"



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Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!

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