

Saint John the Evangelist Eagle

Volume 11 Number 3 September, 2019



From the Pastor's Desk:

Greetings of peace and love from your pastor. It has been a beautiful summertime so far and I hope that each of you have had a wonderful time with family and friends. To all our youths, we are glad that you are well refreshed and back to school. Students, parents and teachers be assured of our prayers for you for a very successful academic year. We do especially reassure those that have gone off to college or leaving home for the first time that this parish community will accompany you with our prayers. We also encourage them to be sure to identify a Catholic Church near to them and continue to exercise their faith, remembering especially to fulfill the weekend obligation of attending Mass. We also wish to welcome those who might be new or returning back to our Parish, please know that this community is excited to have you and we do invite you to feel at home. If there is any way we would be of assistance to you, do not hesitate to approach us.

I wish to dedicate this page to talk about a change which will come into effect in our parish at the beginning of the next liturgical year starting with the first Sunday of Advent (December 1). We are changing our MISSAL. At present we use the 'Today's Missal', which comes quarterly with an annual Song Book which would be put together in a jacket (which by the way occasionally require to be replaced as many of them easily tear). At the end of each cycle we would recycle the books and also would require parishioners to come out and change the books every quarter. Furthermore, we spend approximately \$2,000.00 annually for these books. In three years we would have spent roughly \$6,000.00 on this. After a lot of consultations with the relevant councils and committees concerned with liturgy in the parish, we are convinced we should seek an alternative. We have decided to go with 'JOURNEY SONGS', which is a three year cycle book in hard cover and contains both the readings and over 800 songs. These books would last many years and by far cheaper than what we have now. Over the next three years we would be paying approximately \$1,500.00 annually for the books (which gives us \$4,500.00 for 3 years). In three years we would have saved about \$1,500.00, and it even gets better because we would not need to spend a cent on Missals for many years to come as long as the books remain in good shape.

Based on all the above considerations, we think it is a good idea for us to try out these books. We did agree in the process of consultations that we will consider the next three years as a trial period for the new books. If parishioners like them after 3 years, we would keep them and eliminate any further spending on MISSALS. But if we don't like them after 3 years, we would discard them and revert back to what we are using now or seek other alternatives, meanwhile we would have still saved some money. We think it's going to be a win-win for us either way. As the time for kick off for the use of the books draw near we would be informing you of anything you need to know about the book and how to use them. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

As usual you will find the reports of various Councils and Committees of the parish in this edition of the newsletter. Remember the Parish Picnic on Saturday, September 28 at the Bicentennial Park starting with Mass at 5pm. Let's make it a family gathering and celebrate our faith.

God bless you all,
Rev. Anselm Kentus Eke, MSP
Your Pastor

Outreach Committee Report

Submitted by Jan Morgenstern

The Outreach Committee volunteered time at the "Stuff the Bus" event in Hoisington. Thank you to all who supported and donated to it. It was very successful. Thank you all for the support of the Hoisington Community Food Bank by bringing non-perishable food donations to church on the first Sunday each month. There have been 72 households served this year. Thank you to the parish nurses who are faithfully present at coffee and rolls to do blood pressure checks.

The Bereavement Support Group has changed from the monthly meetings to meeting four times a year. In addition to the November All Souls Day memorial prayer service, there will be prayer services at the parish center in January, April, and August. This is an opportunity to share fellowship and prayer with those dealing with the loss of a loved one.

This fall we are planning the Memorial Prayer service for St. Ann and St. John parishes, as well as at Country Living Place. In November we will help our parish with the Christmas Basket Program.

Anyone interested joining the Outreach Committee is welcome to join us at our next meeting Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7:00 pm in the parish center.

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." - Ephesians 4:2



Congratulations to Jim Schneweis for his "Quilt of Valor"

Knights of Columbus Report

Submitted by Dan Esfeld

The Knights of Columbus is a great place to learn Charity, Unity, Fraternalism, Patriotism and Leadership. When it gets down to it, no man is too busy to be an active Knight of Columbus. In fact, giving one full day a year to Knights of Columbus activities can make an enormous difference in your life. By spending just 24 hours with us you will be able to serve your parish and help those in need in your local community, grow in your faith, and access our exclusive, top rated insurance program to protect your family.

Regardless of their schedule or other commitments nearly two million men around the world have found that the Knights of Columbus adds something significant to their lives. Join us today and see just how far 24 hours can take you. If you are, interested please contact Dan Esfeld at (620) 282-1897 or email dan.esfeld@gmail.com

Upcoming Events: (At K of C hall unless noted)

Sept. 9 : K of C Meeting – 7:30 pm

Sept. 28 : Parish Picnic - Bicentennial Park - 5 pm
Beer Garden – Proceeds for NCYC

Oct. 14 : K of C Meeting – 7:30 pm

Nov. 11 : K of C Meeting – 7:30 pm

Nov. 15 : Turkey Bingo – 7:30 pm

Nov. 24 : Memorial Mass St. John Church – 9am

Nov. 24 : Turkey Dinner - 10:30 am – 1 pm

Dates and times for the Monthly Texas Hold-em Poker will be published in the parish bulletin.

We would like to thank everyone who attended our Bingo, dinners and fish fries this past year. They were a great success. We also would like to thank all those Brother Knights and their families that have helped with all our events. Without your support, these events would not have been the success they were. Anyone wishing to help please contact John Yanda by phone 620-617-3070 or email jfyanda66@gmail.com

**Mark Your
Calendars...**

**Saturday, Sept. 28
at 5 pm**



Pastoral Council Report

Submitted by Diane Batchman

The Pastoral Council met on Aug. 22. Members present were Stephen Debes, Rose Debes, John Yanda, Neil Ochs, Richard Neidhart, Judy Spangler, Diane Batchman, Mike Aylward, and Father Eke. The meeting opened with a prayer led by Stephen Debes, council president.

School Lot: There is concern the current church lot nor the parking lot behind the parish center would be big enough to build a new church if the need would arise. The lots were measured and we will check with the city regarding ordinances to see if either of these two lots would be large enough to build a new church. No decision regarding selling the old school lot will be made until determining if either of these lots are large enough to build a church on.

New Song Books: The Liturgical committee chose Journey songs for the new permanent church missals/song books. We will start using them December 1. The books will be paid for over a three-year trial period and if the parishioners decide they don't like the permanent missals, we will discuss returning to the one-year missals. The primary purpose for this change is cost savings.

Liturgical Committee: Trying to set a date in November to have a workshop for all church ministries. The purpose of the workshop is to educate everyone on the purpose and responsibilities of each ministry and to foster uniformity in the Liturgy.

Reflection questions from the Bishop: Father will collect answers from the list of questions sent to the various church committee members and send them to the Bishop.

Other Business:

We will resume the men's and women's faith formation groups in the fall and spring.

We are working on an Advent mission.

Sacramental Celebrations

Baptism:

July 27 - Chloe Marie Koelsch, daughter of Matt and Nicole Koelsch

Social Committee Report

Submitted by Jim Meitner



The annual Parish Picnic will be held at the Hoisington Bicentennial Park on Saturday, Sept. 28. There is a sign up sheet in the back of both St. John's and St. Ann's churches.

The celebration will begin with Mass at 5 pm. Fried chicken dinner will be served following Mass. A D.J. will be providing the music entertainment. There will be a bounce house for the children and door prizes for all ages. ***REMINDER: Each member of the June, July, August and September Altar Society Guilds are asked to bring 2 dozen cookies.***

Altar Society Report

Submitted by Loretta Kinman

The Altar Society ladies continue to lead the Rosary at the Vigil of a deceased member, call for cakes and salads as well as prepare and serve the wonderful funeral dinners and coffee and rolls. The nurses of our parish (Altar Society members) take blood pressures at our monthly coffee and rolls the first Sunday of the month.



Congratulations to Teresa Dolechek for celebrating her 100th birthday on August 24!

Finance Council Report

Submitted by Loretta Kinman

The Finance Council met on Aug. 20. Members present were Mike Aylward, John Debes, Jay Steinert, Debbie Finn, Lois McLeland, and Loretta Kinman. Jim Blackwell was absent.

New Members: We welcomed new members Debbie Finn and Lois McLeland.

Parish Picnic: Jim Meitner from the Social Committee was present to request funds for the annual parish picnic. It was agreed to allow up to \$1,500.00.

Caritas / Core Circles: Loretta Kinman reported that the Core Circles had taken a break and were supposed to start back up in August, but at this time, it seems it is on hold. Several members of the Steering Committee are having major commitments in their lives that are not allowing time for this.

Songbooks: New songbooks will be used beginning the first week of Advent (Dec. 1). They should last for many years, saving money and eliminating much waste/recycling.

School Lot: Selling the school lot was discussed. We had visited with Kurt Schremmer after this was discussed at the last Finance Council meeting. We have 6—50' x 140' lots or 3—100' x 140' lots. His suggestion was that IF we decided to sell them, to sell them separately to 3 people or to a contractor who could build homes there. Mike Aylward is going to visit with the City to get a little more information.

Lawn Care: Father asked what the Council thought of the lawn care currently done by Miller Lawn. They felt it looked fine and didn't feel the expense was terrible.

Terms Ending: Jay Steinert and Jim Blackwell will go off the council 8/20/20, John Debes and Mike Aylward both agreed to stay one extra year so we don't need 4 members at one time and will go off 5/20/21 and Debbie Finn and Lois will McLeland go off 8/20/22.

New Chairperson: We appreciate that Mike Aylward has agreed to serve as Chairperson of the Finance Council.

Religious Ed. Committee Report

Submitted by Rose Debes, DRE

After a break for the summer, the religious ed program is getting ready for a busy year. Our Opening Mass and enrollment night was held on September 4. Classes for students will begin on September 18.

We have several new happenings this year. Beginning October 2, students in grades K-5 will be welcome to come to the parish center directly after school. During this time, prior to the normal class sessions, students will participate in short interactive lessons covering topics such as saints, scripture stories, and prayer memorization.

Also beginning October 2, students in grades 6-12 will be welcome to come to the parish center starting at 6:30 to enjoy pizza and have time to socialize prior to going to their class sessions. Pizza will be sold by the slice.

The middle school youth will be using a new program this year entitled *Edge*, run through Life Teen. We are very excited about the engaging format of this program to help our youth better connect to their faith.

Our parish is hosting a "Protecting God's Children" session on Wednesday, September 11 from 6:00-9:00pm in the parish center. This training is required by the Diocese for anyone who works with children, including catechists, chaperones, drivers, etc. Each family with a student in the religious ed program should have one adult trained so they will be in conformity with diocesan guidelines if they are ever needed to volunteer in our program. All other adults who are interested in volunteering with our youth are encouraged to attend. Please contact Rose Debes at 785-259-3779 if you would like to attend.



R.C.I.A Report

“Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults”

Submitted by Judy Spangler

Are you or someone you know searching for a church to call home? If so, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) may be for you! The R.C.I.A. is a time to come together to learn about the Church and to discern if God is calling you to become Catholic at this time.

If you have questions, or would like more information, call Judy Spangler at 620-786-0541 or Fr. Anselm Eke at 620-653-2963.

LABOR DAY!

The parish had a float in the Labor Day Parade for the first time in many years. Thank you to all who worked to prepare the float. Special thanks to Paul Axman who designed and built the float!



The FIRST PLACE Labor Day Parade Float!

The Fruit of Obedience

By Br. Cornelius Avaritt, O.P.

www.dominicanajournal.org

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes that it may bear more fruit. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. (Jn 15: 1-2, 4)

Our world tells us that obedience is a submission to power that takes away freedom and attempts to control. The world says that obedience does not have a person's best interests in mind. The world encourages us to be independent, goal driven, and focused on individual success: don't let others tell you how to live, it says. Often, however, these motivations of individuality, when acted upon, leave one directionless and confused. Obedience is actually an expression of love by a unity of our will with God's will. Obedience is not just an imposition of power, but a freedom to choose love. The virtue of obedience directs us in living a fruitful life united with Christ.

Christ as the vine supports a person's union with God. The vine supports the branches in their growth so that they can be fruitful. Christ helps direct us in our actions and decisions so that we remain in union with God. As long as we stay united with Christ, attached to the vine, we will remain in union with God. But if we were to break that unity through disobedience, we would live a life of unhappiness and separation from God, as happened with the Fall of Adam and Eve.

Because of the Fall, we exist today in a fallen nature. Our nature needs the redeeming vine of Christ to give us unity with God again. Christ was obedient to his Father in his death on the cross, and this act of obedience on the cross restored the unity between God and the human race. The unity that Adam and Eve's disobedience destroyed was restored by Christ's obedience. We imitate the obedience of Christ by obeying the commands of God: *If you keep my commandments you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love (Jn 15:10)*. The unity caused and supported by obedience permits one to love Christ and God in a more intimate and permanent way. We are called to obedience to remain in union with God.

The unity we have with Christ ultimately leads to a life of happiness. Happiness with God is our intended final end. If we persevere in obedience out of love for the Father, he will reward us with the fruit of obedience: eternal life united with him.



Birthday Celebrations

SEPTEMBER

Kylie Kinman.....4th
 Donald Sanders.....5th
 Lois Klug.....6th
 Gene Weiser.....7th
 Sheena Gocela.....8th
 Vic Hoffman.....8th
 Patricia McConnell...8th
 Michael Aylward.....9th
 Donita Crutcher.....9th
 Robert Gerritzen.....9th
 Caiden Hoffman.....9th
 Karson Kinman.....10th
 Xavier Robinson....10th
 Joyce White.....10th
 Layton Hoffman.....11th
 Michael McCurry...11th
 Pam Willis.....11th
 Kaelynn Axman.....12th
 Rhonda Boxberger..13th
 Kenneth Steiner.....13th
 Brenda Unrein.....13th
 Randall Dumler.....14th
 Taylen Morales.....14th
 Hailey Petersilie....14th
 Kassy Petersilie....14th
 Lexus Petersilie....14th
 Ron Smith.....14th
 Colton Staudinger...14th
 Margaret Evers.....15th
 Mea Holloway.....15th
 Marlene Lange.....15th
 Kate Debes.....16th
 Leyton Mooney.....17th
 Janet Jonas.....18th
 Laeya Beck.....19th
 Ron Goetz.....19th
 Brian Quade.....19th
 Patricia Redetzke...20th
 Cecilia Schneweis...20th
 Richard Reichuber...21st
 Shawn Ingram.....22nd
 Robert Rome.....22nd
 John Debes.....23rd

Nancy Kaiser.....24th
 Graham Schoendaler..25th
 Dana Stoss.....26th
 Alyssa Johnson.....28th
 Jadyann Andereck....29th
 Cole Grabast.....29th
 Heather Stos.....29th
 Douglas Axman.....30th

OCTOBER

Luis Vasquez.....1st
 Robert Glynn.....2nd
 Dwight Nett.....2nd
 Zachary Rubio.....2nd
 Zade Sanders.....2nd
 Benjamin Beck.....3rd
 Domonick Hendricks..3rd
 Jill Applegate.....5th
 Jessica Preisner.....5th
 Jillian Axman.....6th
 Mary Ann Behr.....6th
 Scott Klug.....6th
 Keri Schremmer.....6th
 Merri Breit.....8th
 Todd Boor.....9th
 Kiley Demel.....9th
 Ethan Hitschmann...9th
 Tammy Sanders.....9th
 Kathy Hoffman.....11th
 Carla Richards.....11th
 Jeanne Steiner.....11th
 Chad Beck.....14th
 Jared Batchman.....16th
 Jim Schneweis.....16th
 Ronald Batchman...18th
 Randy Stos...18th
 Ryan Bieberle.....19th
 Angi Beck.....20th
 Thad Foltz.....20th
 Riley Brungardt....22nd
 Mackenzie Kaiser...22nd
 Shane Andereck.....23rd
 Presley Brungardt...23rd
 Larry Deines.....23rd
 Carey Brummer.....25th

Pam Redetzke.....25th
 Evan Applegate.....26th
 Kyle Jeffrey.....26th
 Keith Kinman.....27th
 Genevieve Reif.....27th
 Jenna Hoffman.....27th
 Kobe Crawford.....28th
 Alaina Rubio.....28th
 Doris Weiser.....28th
 Kaiden Jeffrey.....29th
 LouAnn Morgenstern..29th
 Gerry Bieberle.....31st

NOVEMBER

Faye Doonan.....1st
 Tricia Schremmer...2nd
 Jerry Stoss.....2nd
 Marty Haberman.....4th
 Chase Robinson.....4th
 Sharla Schremmer....4th
 Sarah Detter.....5th
 Natalie Sanders.....6th
 Keith Schneweis.....6th
 Richard Neidhart....7th
 Cole McCurry.....8th
 Toni Schneweis.....8th
 Ervin McConnell....9th
 Melissa Schremmer..9th
 Bill Schremmer.....10th
 Peter Debes.....11th
 Karah Birzer.....12th
 Diane Deines.....12th
 Johnelle Moshier....12th
 Dylan Richards.....12th
 Matt Morgenstern...14th
 Millie Cook.....15th
 Rilynn Crawford....15th
 Catarina Debes.....15th
 Leyton Haxton.....15th
 Debbie Finn.....16th
 Trevor Kaiser.....17th
 Avery Brewer.....18th
 Justin Cramer.....18th
 Drake Gruis.....18th
 Melissa Stout.....18th

Joseph Doze.....20th
 Sandra Moshier.....20th
 Brian Brummer.....23rd
 Andrea Gonzalez...23rd
 Delphine Hickey....23rd
 Kristie Kaiser.....23rd
 Nicole Jeffrey.....26th
 Matt Koelsch.....26th
 Julia Debes.....27th
 Ann Schremmer.....27th
 Mayla Crawford.....28th
 Terry Reif.....28th
 Marcie Cook.....29th
 Eldon Reif.....30th

