



# St. Mary's Parish

[www.stmarysinhigginville.org](http://www.stmarysinhigginville.org)

401 W. Broadway, Higginville, MO. 64037

Phone 660-584-3038

Father Tom Hawkins, Pastor

Sunday Obligation Mass Times: Saturday, 4:00 pm, Sunday, 10:30 am

Mass or Communion Service: Mon. thru Fri.: 8:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 3:30 pm and after the 4:00 pm Mass, and by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage: Contact Pastor 9 months prior

Sacrament of Baptism: Registered parishioners call Pastor for class & date

## FROM DOUBT TO BELIEF

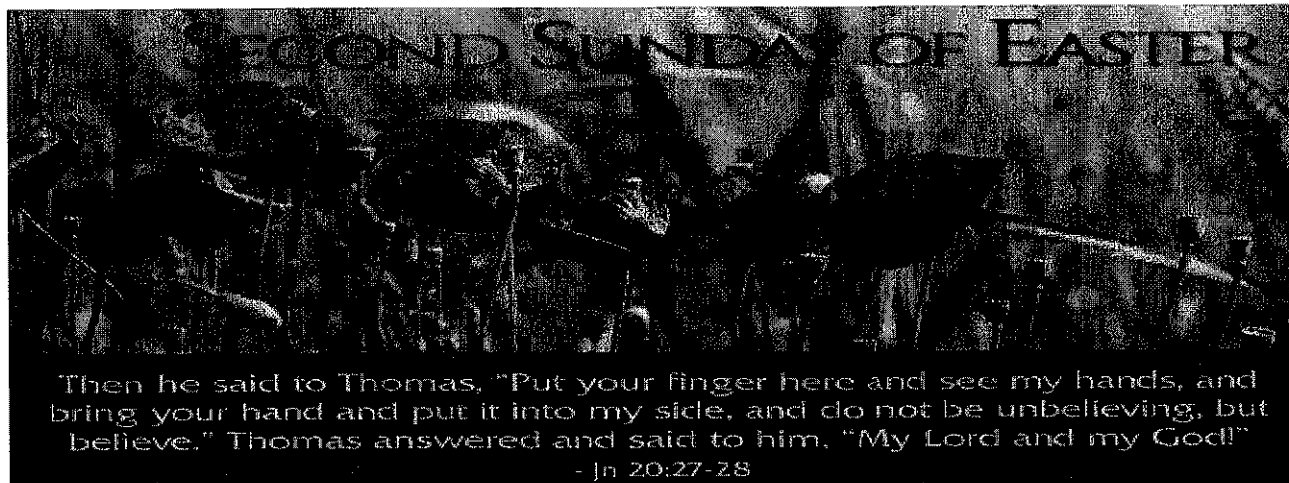
The apostle Thomas will forever be remembered as the one who doubted. It is good that his experience is recorded in the Gospel of John. We all doubt sometimes, and "Doubting Thomas" shows us how to move from doubt to belief, knowing that the risen Jesus will be with us through it all. Thomas did not keep his doubts to himself, but instead voiced them aloud to his trusted companions. We can only imagine the conversations that took place between Thomas and the other disciples as they described the peace that they felt following Jesus' time with them. Thomas' doubts were put to rest once and for all when Jesus offered him physical proof of the Resurrection. We do not have the sort of physical evidence that was shown to Thomas, but we can perceive Christ's presence in the Eucharist, in the words of sacred scripture, and in the presence and actions of others.

The journey of faith often ebbs and flows, with times when our relationship with the Lord is the guiding force in our lives, and times when we are tempted to turn away from all we know to be true, good, and beautiful. In those moments when we find ourselves struggling with doubt or temptation, we can follow Thomas' lead and turn to trusted companions, faithful and faith-filled family and friends, who will support us and show us the way from doubt to living faith. Like the disciples who were in the room when Jesus came among them, we too have received the Holy Spirit. Today, let us consider where we are on the journey of faith, turn to trusted companions and the Holy Spirit to strengthen us on the way, and know that the Lord is with us as we live and grow in relationship with Christ.

Today's Readings: Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

BEGIN YOUR DAY WITH CHRIST.

*Each morning members of our parish gather to read the scriptures,  
pray for the needs of the World and the Church and spend time in quiet meditation.  
Because Jesus Christ is in the Mass, it is the most important thing a parish does.*



**MASS TIMES, SAINTS DAYS and INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, April 10 – 4:00pm**

*Saint Mary's Parishioners, Living & Departed*

**Sunday, April 11 – 10:30am SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER**

*Martha Anderson R.I.P. Michael & Sharon Cirillo*

**Monday, April 12 – 8:00am**

*Communion Service*

**Tuesday, April 13 – 8:00am**

SAINT MARTIN, Pope and Martyr. A victim of the power politics of his time, he was tried by the imperial court for treason and died in 656 of starvation and ill-treatment. Last pope to be martyred.

*Martha Pollard R.I.P. by Ian Pollard*

**Wednesday, April 14 – 6:00pm in the Evening**

*Pete & Helen Beck R.I.P. by Margie Weller*

**Thursday, April 15 – 8:00am**

*Alma Beck & Joyce Kays R.I.P. by Margie Weller*

**Friday, April 16 – 8:00am**

*Rev. James A Moffat R.I.P. pastor here at Saint Mary's 1932-1940 Died 1980*

**Saturday, April 17 – 4:00pm**

*Rev. Michael O'Brien R.I.P. pastor here at Saint Mary's 1972-1975 Died 1981*

**Sunday, April 18 – 10:30am THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER**

*Saint Mary's Parishioners, Living & Departed*

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers Schedule	Ushers	Lector	Eucharistic Minister/ Server	After Mass Cleaning
Sat. April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Wallpe Volunteer	Sandy May	Mike Deamos	Dwaine & Marlene Edwards
Sun. April 11 <sup>th</sup>	Marty Bell Chris Kaiser	Chris Kaiser	Emily Rhoad	Karen Schroeder Marty Bell
Sat. April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Bill Wallpe Mike Ryun	Bob Brown	Howard Goring	Larry & Teresa Hoepfner
Sun. April 18 <sup>th</sup>	Marty Bell Chris Kaiser	Emily Rhoad	Hazel Nuelle	Greg & Karen Daniel Family

## GAUDETE ET EXULTATE

### (Rejoice and Be Glad)

*The Apostolic Exhortation*

*of Pope Francis about Holiness in today's world.  
For Personal Meditation or Family Discussion*

“We should not think of the devil as a myth, a representation, a symbol, a figure of speech, or an idea. This mistake would lead us to let down our guard, to grow careless and end up more vulnerable. The devil does not need to possess us. He poisons us with the venom of hatred, desolation, envy, and vice. When we let down our guard, he takes advantage of it to destroy our lives, our families, and our communities. As Saint Peter writes in his First Letter in the New Testament, ‘Like a roaring lion, he prowls around, looking for someone to devour.’”

*Gaudete et Exultate #161*

## HARVESTERS FOOD DISTRIBUTION

### THIS THURSDAY

The monthly distribution of free food from Harvesters is a great blessing for anyone in need of food assistance. That will be this Thursday, April 15, as happens the third Thursday of each month.

Food give-away starts about 9:30am and stops at 11am. There is usually an abundance of fresh vegetables and fruit. Sometimes canned goods and sometimes meat. It depends on whatever the warehouse sends.

There are no requirements but participants have to get a number (starting at 8am) and are served in sequence.

Participants no longer have to bring boxes to carry the food – because of the pandemic people stay in their cars and the packaged foods are placed directly into the trunks of the car. Trunks should be cleared out so there is space for the food supplies.

This will be at First Assembly of God Church, 1050 W 19<sup>th</sup> Street in Higginsville. Just East of Walmart.

Able-bodied volunteers are needed to do the distribution. Volunteers begin work at about 8am when the food arrives by truck from Kansas City; it needs to be unloaded and arranged. Clean up lasts until about 1pm.

The Ministerial Fellowship is inviting members of all congregations and all the community to join in this effort.

For more information contact the President of the Higginsville Ministerial Fellowship, Rev. Dale Felder at 660-584-6289. All help welcome!



The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of abuse or observe or suspect sexual abuse: Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18) and contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911 and after reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816-812-2500 or [crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org](mailto: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 the Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816-392-0011.

## GRIEF SUPPORT WEEKEND

Beginning Experience is offering a healing weekend April 30-May 2, 2021 at Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kansas. This invitation is open to men and women of all ages who have suffered the loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation. It is a time to heal and a time to begin anew. Reservations are required. For more information visit [www.begginningexperience.kc.org](http://www.begginningexperience.kc.org), email [register.bekc@gmail.com](mailto:register.bekc@gmail.com) or call 308-5301873.

### Weekly Collection from April 4th

Parishioner Envelopes	\$4,919
Loose Cash Donations	\$ 128
Total Parish Support	\$5,047
Average Weekly Expenses	\$3,278

### PARISH COUNCIL CANDIDATES INVITED

Each May we select two parishioners to join St. Mary's Parish Council, taking the places of those two members of the council who are coming to the end of their three year term of service.

A candidate for the council has to be a registered parishioner who is a faithfully practicing Catholic, financially contributing to the support of St. Mary's and involved in the life and work of the parish.

Candidates need to understand this is a three-year commitment: to attend the bi-monthly meeting of the Council and also work on one of the committees of the Council.

To volunteer your name to be included in the drawing, contact the Parish office (660-584-3038). The drawing of names takes place at the 10:30am Mass on the first Sunday of May, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### "MEALS ON WHEELS" DRIVERS NEEDED

**APRIL 26 to 30**

Volunteers from our parish are needed to deliver hot meals from the Higginsville Senior Center to shut-ins during the last week of this month. It takes about an hour and a half on just one day of the week. The signup sheets are on the east table behind the pews.

If you would like to volunteer (either to be a regular driver or on as needed basis) please call Terie Starke at [REDACTED]. Terie is the Meals on Wheels volunteer coordinator for our Parish. Thanks to all who help.

Other weeks in 2021 when volunteer drivers will be needed are: June 21-25, August 16-20, October 11-15, December 6-10.

### AN ONLINE ZOOM RETREAT

The Precious Blood Center a ministry of the Fathers of the precious Blood located in Liberty, Missouri is offering by means of the internet a two hour Zoom Retreat on Saturday, April 17 from 10am to Noon. The title of the Retreat is "Being in the Presence of God: The Contemplative Journey" for more information or to register go to [programs@pbrenewalcenter.org](mailto:programs@pbrenewalcenter.org)

### VIRTUAL AUCTION TO SUPPORT THE CATHEDRAL

Bishop Johnston invites the entire diocese to support the annual Spring Festival and Auction of our diocesan Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday, April 22. The event will be online only. Proceeds will help pay down the debt of the cathedral and support its varied ministries. For more information go to [www.kcgolddome.org](http://www.kcgolddome.org).

### VATICAN ASSURES THAT CORONAVIRUS VACCINES ARE MORALLY ACCEPTABLE FOR CATHOLICS

"The Vatican's doctrinal office issued a note December 21 saying it is 'morally acceptable' for Catholics to take vaccines against the coronavirus, in what appears an unprecedented effort to convince believers to inoculate themselves to help end the global pandemic.

"Addressing concerns that some of the new vaccines were developed using cell lines connected to tissue obtained from two abortions decades ago, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith said the 'grave danger' of spreading the coronavirus outweighs those concerns.

### "CATHOLIC KANSAS CITY"

The Office of the diocesan archives is publishing a new book titled 'Catholic Kansas City' written by the diocesan archivist, Dr. Zach Daughtrey. 'Catholic Kansas City' is a pictorial history tracing the earliest foundations of Catholicism in Kansas City from the 1830s up to 2003. The book sells for \$21.99. To purchase a copy, contact Dr. Daughtrey at 816-714-2365 or [daughtrey@dicoesekcsj.org](mailto:daughtrey@dicoesekcsj.org) or Deacon Ralph Wehner at 816-714-2334 or at [wehner@dicoesekcsj.org](mailto:wehner@dicoesekcsj.org).

### MIDWEST MARCH FOR LIFE

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 14**

As followers of Christ, we are called to speak the truth and to protect the gift of life. Come be inspired by local and national prolife leaders, including Jeanne Mancini, President of the National March for Life. There will also be an opportunity to meet with State legislators. Join the caravan to the Missouri Capital Building! Visit [www.respectlifekcsj.org](http://www.respectlifekcsj.org) for more information.

## REFLECTIONS FOR THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

As his foster-father, Joseph taught the child Jesus the ways of life and faith in accordance with the Jewish practices of his day. Under the watchful eye of his earthly father, Jesus "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom" as we read in the Gospel of Luke 2:40.

In a similar way parents today are obliged to be the teachers and catechists to their own children. Especially during this time of pandemic when homes have also become Sunday School classrooms. If parents don't teach their children about Life- someone else will.

Teaching children the ways of Life and the way of Faith is the most important thing any parent can do for their child. In particular, how Faith can help us deal with problems and temptations so that we live a full and happy life at a time when there are so many different ways to go astray.

*To be continued*

Based on "Patron of the Church: St. Joseph's Importance Today" by Michael R. Heinlein published in 'Our Sunday Visitor', Dec. 2020

## THE BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETS THIS SUNDAY- APRIL 11

Members of the parish who have volunteered to serve on the committee: Marty Bell, Mike Esser, Howard Goring, Chris Kaiser, Mike Ryun and Brent Schlotzhauer. Brent Schlotzhauer is the committee's Chairperson. Mike Esser is the liaison with the Parish Council.

Meetings are in the Lower Meeting room after the Sunday 10:30am Mass. The Building Committee is scheduled to meet six times a year on the second Sunday of: February, April, June, August, October and December. Anyone who wants to help with the committee is invited to do so.

## GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION THANK YOU!

On Good Friday, April 2, it is customary to take up a collection that will be sent to the Holy Land for support of the Catholic communities and churches in the Holy Land. \$690 was raised. Thanks to those who contributed.

From the Pastor's desk  
Dear Parishioners,

April 11<sup>th</sup>

Many thanks to those who helped set up our church for the special services of Holy Week: the two ever-faithful Hazel Nuelle and Virginia Graham, who helped set up for Holy Thursday and for Good Friday.

And for those who got Saint Mary's prepared for Easter: Hazel Nuelle, Virginia Graham, Theresa Hoepfner, Lisa Kuecker, Brent Schlotzhauer, Karen Schroeder, and Bennie and Nancy Spain. Bless them all!

And thanks to those who volunteered to help with our Holy Week Services: Marty Bell, Bob Brown, Mike Deamos, Mike Esser, Howard Goring, Hazel Nuelle, Lisa Kuecker, Emily Rhoad, Karen Schroeder, Nancy and Bennie Spain, Carol Summerlin, and Bill Wallpe. And all who jumped in and helped sanitize the pews after each service. All assistance appreciated!

Have you ever thought about volunteering and getting more involved? You should! I'd be glad to help you.

My apologies to anyone confused at our Saturday Mass on Palm Sunday weekend. After I announced that we would be reading the Passion account according to Mark, it was not until the next morning that I realized I had read the Passion account according to Matthew!! Because I had accidentally put the ribbon marker at the wrong place. Sorry about that.

Everyone was just kind enough to 'go with the flow' and let the poor old duff of a pastor fumble his way through to the end. Thank you for being patient.

When things did go as planned – on Palm Sunday morning (when I actually read the correct text) and also on Good Friday when we read the Passion by John, we did it with the congregation taking the parts of the chorus and individual speakers. This is the first time that we have tried it that way.

So, was it helpful or irritating? Did it help you pay attention or was it distracting? Please let me know if you think we should (or should not) do this again next Holy Week.

I hope you had a useful Lent and a meaningful Holy Week and are now having a good start to a peaceful and joyful Easter Season.

Peace and Blessings, Joy and Love in the Lord!

*Father Tom Hawkins*



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