



St. Mary's Parish

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

SIGNS AND WONDERS?

Today's Gospel continues into a second day the narrative that had begun the day before when, after crossing the lake to look for Jesus, a large crowd are fed with five barley loaves and two fish. The following day (today's reading), after more lake crossings, the people who had been miraculously fed are again searching for Jesus. However, they do so (as Jesus puts it) "not because you saw signs, but because you ate the loaves and were filled" (John 6:6).

In John's Gospel, the word "sign" has a distinct meaning. At the wedding at Cana, after telling how Jesus turned water into wine, the Evangelist notes "Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs" that "revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him" (John 2:11). For John, signs are not just wonders to behold; they are about the revelation of God and a response of faith in Jesus.

When the crowd first arrives, Jesus notes that they had not appreciated the sign that he had already given; they are still focused on their physical hunger. When they ask for a sign, "that we may see and believe in you" (John 6:30), they refer to their ancestors who ate manna in the wilderness. Can Jesus top that? Can he give them more bread that will relieve them of their daily worries about going hungry?

Jesus reminds the crowd that it was not Moses who gave the "bread from heaven," but his Father. Further, the Father can give them the true bread from heaven that comes down and gives life to the world. There is a parallel in the Greek between working for food that perishes and doing the works of God, which is believing in Jesus as the one God has sent. This is the sign that the people missed the day before, the sign that Jesus is pointing out to them.

Like the Evangelist, the Church uses the word "sign" for its sacraments. Like the crowd, we are called to see similar "signs" of God's generosity in all the blessings of our lives.

Today's Readings: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54; Eph 4:17, 20-24; Jn 6: 24-35

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, July 31 – 4:00pm

SAINT IGNATIUS of LOYOLA Originally a professional soldier. While convalescing from a wound received in battle, he read The Bible and a Book on the Lives of the Saints which caused a profound conversion in him. While studying at the university of Paris he formed a group of like-minded men in the 'Compania de Jesus' (the battalion of Jesus) commonly called in the Jesuits, devoted to mission work and education. Died in 1556. In our vicinity, Jesuits founded and still operate Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Rockhurst University in Kansas City and Creighton University in Omaha. Just three of their 27 institutions of higher learning in the United States. There are others throughout the world.

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

Sunday, August 1 – 10:30am EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Saint Mary's Parishioners Living and Deceased

Monday, August 2 - 8:00am

SAINT EUSEBIUS For his opposition to the heresy of Arianism he was tortured and exiled to Palestine. Died 371
SAINT PETER JULIAN EYMARD He was devoted to promoting the worship of the Eucharist. Died in 1868

Communion Service

Tuesday, August 3 – 8:00am

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

Wednesday, August 4 – Wednesday Evening Mass is on Summer Break

SAINT JEAN MARIE VIANNEY Pastor of a small French village, commonly known as the "Cure of Ars". He was so renowned and in demand as a confessor and spiritual guide that he had to spend 11 to 16 hours a day in the Confessional. People waited in line, literally, for days to confer with him. Died in 1859.

Thursday, August 5 – 8:00am

DEDICATION of the BASILICA of SAINT MARY MAJOR Anniversary of the dedication in 431 of the first church in Rome dedicated to Mary, Mother of Jesus.

Martha Pollard R.I.P. by Ian Pollard and Family

Friday, August 6 – 8:00am

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION Celebrating the Transfiguration of Jesus on the mount and the appearance of Moses and Elijah to witness before Peter, James and John that he is the Messiah. This feast was inserted into the church calendar by Pope Callistus III in 1457 as an act of gratitude after the repelling of an Islamic army attacking Belgrade.

Dale Parker R.I.P. by Anita Parker

Saturday, August 7 – 4:00pm

SAINT SIXTUS II and COMPANION MARTYRS Commemorating the capture and beheading in the year 258 by Roman soldiers of Pope Sixtus II and four deacons assisting him at Mass in the catacombs.

Carol Unger and her Intentions – for her Birthday

Sunday, August 8 – 10:30am NINETEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

Saint Mary's Parishioners Living and Deceased

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers Schedule	Ushers	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Servers	Greeters	Offertory Gifts
Sat. July 31 st	Gary Starke Bill Wallpe	Peggy Singh	Terie Starke	Howard Goring	Lisa Kuecker	Charles Hare
Sun. Aug. 1 st	Chris Kaiser Rick Rankin	Karen Schroeder	Rich Cole	Ben Mason Brodie Rankin	Scott & Kristina Campbell	Rick & Kalani Rankin Family
Sat. Aug. 7 th	Robert Beck Bill Summerlin	Bob Brown	Carol Summerlin	Bill Wallpe	Sandy May	Colleen Starner Carita Trent
Sun. Aug. 8 th	Marty Bell Roger Rinne	Emily Rhoad	Rhonda Smith	Ben Mason Olivia Cowherd	Roger Rinne	Janet & Roger Hoeflicker

**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.

Weekly Collection from July 18th	
Parishioner Envelopes	\$ 3,965
Loose Cash Donations	\$ 104
Total Parish Support	\$ 4,069
Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 3,278

“CHOCOLATE FOR BODY AND SOUL”

An online spiritual study for women, sponsored by the Precious Blood Renewal Center in Liberty, will gather from 6:30pm to 8pm the evenings of September.

God’s grace is rich, extravagant and luscious. What better metaphor for God’s grace than chocolate! This chocolate-themed study series is designed to help participants learn more about God’s abundant grace while building relationships with other women.

Learn more at programs@pbrenewalcenter.org

D.R.E. WANTED

We are still looking for a Director of Religious Education to organize and manage our Parish School of Religion classes for youth on Sunday mornings.

Summertime is usually used by the D.R.E. to plan the class year and order books and materials. This is a part time position which on average takes about 4 hours a week. The D.R.E. must be a practicing Catholic, going to a Sunday Mass every weekend, with a good knowledge of Catholicism and an ability to work with students and teachers. Starting salary is \$18 per hour.

MISSIONS APPEAL THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who assisted Father Gianantonio Baggio who was here last weekend for the annual Mission Appeal.

Father Gianni, as he likes to be called, is from Italy and a member of the Congregation of the Missionaries of Saint Charles, popularly called the Scalabrinians. \$360 was contributed to the work of the Missions. Thanks to all who gave.

PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE

At the meeting the Parish Council on July 21 it was reported that in the recently concluded fiscal year of July 1 2020 to Jun 30 2021 our parish Income was \$179,204 and our Expenses were \$170,119 for a Difference of \$9,085.

At that meeting the Council reviewed the projected budget for the coming fiscal year which anticipates \$177,300 in Income and Expenses.

Thanks to all our contributors for all their support.

Each employed adult in every parish should be donating to the work of the Church in proportion to their means. Thanks to all who support Saint Mary’s.

**INQUIRY PHASE FOR MEN TO
BE ORDAINED A DEACON**

Years ago, when Rev. Ron Elliott first came to Saint Mary’s as administrator of the parish, he came as a married Deacon. It takes about two years of preparation to qualify for the diaconate. Our diocese is now beginning an inquiry phase for men who may be interested in a vocation as an ordained Catholic deacon. There will be discernment sessions throughout this summer and fall. If you would like to find out more, visit: www.kcsj catholic.org/office-of-the-diaconate/ to view requirements. Or phone the Diaconate Office at 816-714-2302

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 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.

DESSERTS REQUESTED FOR TEACHERS APPRECIATION

Again this year an Appreciation Lunch will be hosted for the teachers and staff of the C-1 schools by the congregations active in the Higginsville Ministerial Fellowship. At least two members of each congregation are asked to provide homemade desserts—a pie, a cake, brownies or cookies. These are needed for Monday, August 16. They can be left at the Parish Office and Father Tom will deliver them or you can take them directly to the school cafeteria just prior to lunch time. If you can provide a dessert, please let the Parish Office know.

KNIGHTS MEET MONDAY – AUGUST 2

The local council of Knights will gather this Monday evening, August 2, at 7pm in the lower meeting room. Enter by the west (small parking lot) door. Among the items to be discussed: Knights Mass on August 22, Knights Brunch on August 29 and the Installation of Officers at the September meeting.

All men of the parish over the age of 18 are encouraged to be a Knight and all Knights are expected to be personally involved in supporting the activities of the council.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL – SEPT 26

Married couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary during 2021 are invited to a special Mass (at 9am or 11am) at the Cathedral in downtown Kansas City on Sunday, September 26.

The celebration includes the presentation by Bishop Johnston of a small gift.

This is also for any couples not able to be physically present but would like to receive an acknowledgement.

If you are celebrating your Golden Wedding Anniversary this year and would like to take part – a reservation must be made through the Parish Office 660-584-3038 before the end of August.

NO ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING TUESDAY

The Altar and Rosary Society usually meets the first Tuesday of the month but the ladies are on summer break. Next meeting of the Altar and Rosary Society will be September 7 at which there will be the Installation of Officers for the year and a delicious dessert. All women of the parish are invited—mark your calendars.

LAUDATO SI'

On Care for Our Common Home

Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter of 2015

For Personal Meditation or Family Discussion

“LAUDATO SI', mi' Singore” – “Praise be to you, my Lord. “ In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. ‘Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with colorful flowers and herbs.

“This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all forms of life. This is why the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor; she ‘groans in travail’ (as Paul writes in his Letter to the Romans). We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth; our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters.”

Laudato Si # 1&2

BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETS NEXT SUNDAY – AUGUST 8

Among items needing attention are: installation of the new, more secure, east door; protection of the air-conditioners from vandalism; and upgrading the sound of the video system in church.

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.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

Another title of Saint Joseph in the Litany which bears his name is “most courageous”. Courage is the mental and moral strength to persevere and withstand danger, fear or difficulty.

Joseph having to take his family on little notice out of their own country and into Egypt for the safety of the Christ Child had to take great courage.

Being a good parent these days often means having to face fears and difficulties with strength and perseverance. Even as individual persons of Faith remaining a good person in the face of these times takes perseverance and courage.

And so we turn to Saint Joseph as our patron, example and guide. ‘Saint Joseph, most courageous-pray for us.’

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

OUTPACE POVERTY 5K RUN/WALK

This annual fundraising event of Catholic Charities will be Saturday September 18 at Frank A Theis Park near the Plaza. Gather with friends and family to help alleviate poverty in our diocese. Proceeds from the event will benefit the programs and services of Catholic Charities of Kansas City- Saint Joseph. The morning is geared toward family teams, corporate team building, running clubs or simply anyone looking to support our efforts to help the poor. There are several ways to participate and/or volunteer. For more information, visit OutpacePoverty.org.

To learn more about the mission and service of Catholic Charities visit their website at www.catholiccharities.-kcsj.org

TO FIND OUR PARISH MASS ON THE INTERNET

Go to YouTube.com then search for Saint Mary’s
Higginsville MO

There is also a link from our parish website:
www.stamarysinhigginsville.org

From the Pastor’s desk
Dear Parishioners,

August 1st

Last weekend we completed printing in our Sunday bulletins the Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis titled “Gaudete et Exsultate” [‘Rejoice and be Glad!’].

It was sort of a pep-talk from Pope Francis about seeking holiness and like a wise old grandfather he offered some practical advice about how to do that-delivered in a very informal manner.

This weekend we begin running Pope Francis’ famous second encyclical letter, “Laudato Si”. That title is from the opening words of a prayer by Saint Francis of Assisi- “Praise be to you my Lord!”.

An ‘encyclical’ is a letter designed to “cycle” around – to get around and get people’s attention.’

“Laudato Si” written in 2015 was the Pope’s appeal to the world to take serious action in the face of the looming ecological crisis. As so many climate catastrophes are now unfolding it deserves to be better known.

Unlike the informality of a papal exhortation, an encyclical letter it is a much more serious, scholarly, philosophical and theological document but if you got through the exhortation you should be able to do the same with the encyclical. Which starts appearing in bite size chunks in our bulletin this weekend.

The purpose of an encyclical is to get people to think and discuss and hopefully do something. “Laduat0 Si” got a lot of attention when it came out but the average Catholic probably never actually read it. This will be your opportunity to do so.

Peace and Blessings, Joy and Love in the Lord!

Father Tom Hawkins

LOOSE CHANGE COLLECTION THIS WEEK

This Sunday being the first Sunday of a new month we will take any pennies, nickles and dimes or whatever you wish to contribute in a ‘Loose Change Collection’, ‘Loose Change’ money is being used to connect our church’s new video screen to the church sound system; anticipated to cost about \$600.

The Loose Change Collection is a monthly reminder that every donation makes a difference. It is by working together that we get a lot done.

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