

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

CROSSROADS IN LIFE, THEN AND NOW

Sometimes in life we find ourselves at a crossroads, faced with an existential choice that will alter the course of our life. We are aware, at these moments, just how significant our choice will be and that there will be no going back.

In both the first reading and the Gospel we see such moments calling people to make such choices. Which god will the Israelites follow? Joshua, their leader after Moses, knows that the area around the Promised Land is occupied by other peoples, with other gods. Perhaps remembering how, after Moses had gone up Mount Sinai, the Israelites set up a golden calf to worship, Joshua worries that they may again be susceptible to such attractions. He is asking them for a commitment, and proclaims, "As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

The people who were frenetically following Jesus, crossing the lake twice to pursue him, eating the bread he miraculously provided, are now puzzled by Jesus proclaiming himself as "the bread of life," and they are incredulous. They can go with him no farther, so they gradually drift away. The Twelve, however, stay with Jesus. What else could they do? Who else offers such a profound vision of human life? Peter expresses it well: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Not all of our life's crossroads involve our faith, but some do. Perhaps there is someone in your parish who chose to become Catholic and is now alienated from their family; someone who is unhappy with a new pastor and wondering about looking for a different parish; someone who was especially distressed by the clergy sex abuse and prayed long and hard before deciding that she needed her parish to get through it. There may be many in your parish facing such choices, and they need our support and our prayers. In the meantime, we can hope that someday they will again experience Jesus as the Holy One of God, offering them words of eternal life.

Today's Readings: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Eph 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32];
Jn 6:60-69

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, August 21 – 4:00pm

SAINT PIUS X Undertook various church reforms; including permitting children to receive Holy Communion. Died in 1914

Saint Mary's Parishioners Living and Deceased

Sunday, August 22 – 10:30am TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ethel Ruehter R.I.P. by Mary Wallace

Monday, August 23 - 8:00am

SAINT ROSE of LIMA She lived a life of penance and solitude caring for the homeless, elderly and ill in Lima, Peru. Died at the age of 31 in 1617.

Communion Service

Tuesday, August 24 – 8:00am

SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE Also called Nathaniel in the Gospel of John, he is said to have taken the Gospel to India and Armenia where he was martyred by being flayed alive.

Martha Anderson R.I.P. by St. Mary's Altar Society

Wednesday, August 25 – Wednesday Evening Mass is on Summer Break

SAINT LOUIS IX Sainly King of France for whom the Missouri city of Saint Louis is named. He was a model ruler and father of eleven children who showed a special care for lepers. In 1270 he died of plague while on the Second Crusade attempting to liberate the Holy Land from Islamic invaders.

SAINT JOHN CALASANZ He founded a religious order dedicated to helping poor children. Had to endure many trials and much opposition to his work. Died in 1648

Thursday, August 26 – 8:00am

Renee Thaller R.I.P. by St Mary's Altar Society

Friday, August 20 – 8:00am

SAINT MONICA A committed Christian, she was in an arranged marriage to a pagan, by whom she had a son who would become the great Saint Augustine. For thirty years of frustration, she prayed for the spiritual awakening and moral reform of her husband and son – which eventually happened. Died in 387. Patron Saint of mothers with problem children.

Ethel Ruehter R.I.P. by Mary Wallace

Saturday, August 21 – 4:00pm

SAINT AUGUSTINE After a morally confused youth and young adulthood, he was converted by the preaching of Saint Ambrose and baptized at the age of 33. He eventually became a priest, a bishop, and a great defender of the Catholic Faith. Several of his books (most famously his Confessions) and over 500 of his sermons are still in print. Considered one of the four great Doctors of the Latin Church. Died in 430.

Saint Mary's Parishioners Living and Deceased

Sunday, August 22 – 10:30am TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers Schedule	Ushers	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Servers	Greeters	Offertory Gifts
Sat. Aug. 21 st	Gary Starke Bill Wallpe	Peggy Singh	Bob Brown	Mike Deamos	Barbara Beck	Stephen & Kristin Vetter
Sun. Aug. 22 nd	KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS					
Sat. Aug. 28 th	Lisa Kuecker Bill Summerlin	Mike Esser	Barbara Beck	Howard Goring	Barbara Beck	Colleen Stamer Carita Trent
Sun. Aug 29 th	Mitch Bennett Mike Ryun	Karen Schroeder	Rich Cole	Jace Rankin Kate Cooper	Nina Withrow	John & Cheryl Spiegelhalter

DIOCESAN 9/11 REMBRANCE CEREMONY

Mount Olivet Cemetery at 7601 Blue Ridge Boulevard in Kansas City will host a ceremony of remembrance to honor the victims of the 9/11 attacks as well as show appreciation for the 9/11 heroes and all current First Responders. The event will be held on the 'Twentieth Anniversary of 9/11'. That is Saturday, September 11, 2021. Beginning at 5:30pm with music by the American Legion Band. Prayers and remarks by local officials will start at 6pm. For more information email momarkers@cemeterieskcsj.org

DRIVERS NEEDED FOR MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Thanks to those of our parish who have volunteered to deliver lunches to Shut Ins. More help is needed.

Our parish works with other congregations of Higginsville to provide volunteer drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels on various weeks during the year. It takes about one hour on just one day of the week starting from the Higginsville Senior Center.

If you would like to volunteer (either to be a regular driver or on an 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.

Upcoming weeks in 2021 when volunteer drivers will be needed are: October 11-15 and December 6-10.

Sign-up sheets are on the table behind the east pews.

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP JOHNSTON

"An overwhelming majority of Americans support the Hyde Amendment and laws that prevent government-funded abortion. Many in Congress are now trying to remove the Hyde Amendment from the current federal budget. Congress needs to hear from a significant number of our faithful in the next two weeks.

"Please join my fellow members of the US Bishop's Pro-Life Committee in sending a strong message that billions of taxpayer dollars should not be used to pay for abortion.

"Sign the petition at www.notaxpayerabortion.com."

DIOCESAN LIFE AND JUSTICE COLLECTION THANK YOU

Thanks to all who donated \$325 towards the Diocesan Life and Justice Collection last week. To learn more, or to make your gift today, please visit www.lifeandjusticekcsj.org

LAUDATO SI'

On Care for Our Common Home

Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter of 2015

For Personal Meditation or Family Discussion

Saint John Paul II became increasingly concerned over the "ill-considered exploitation of nature". In his first Encyclical he warned that human beings frequently seem "to see no other meaning in their natural environment than what serves for immediate use and consumption." Subsequently, he would call for a global ecological *conversion*. At the same time, he noted that little effort had been made to "safeguard the moral conditions for an authentic human ecology." The destruction of the human environment is extremely serious, not only because God has entrusted the world to us men and women, but because human life is itself a gift which must be defended from various forms of debasement. Every effort to protect and improve our world entails profound changes in "lifestyles, models of production and consumption, and the established structures of power which today govern societies." Authentic human development has a moral character. It presumes full respect for the human person, but it must also be concerned for the world around us and "take into account the nature of each being and of its mutual connection in an ordered system" Accordingly, our human ability to transform reality must proceed in line with God's original gift of all that is.

Laudato Si' # 5

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.

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.

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@ombudsmankesj.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.

LOVE THOSE LABELS

No, we are not talking about designer labels found on women’s clothing. We are on the look out for Best Choice labels found on grocery items. Whenever you see one please snag it and put it (or at least the barcode) in the wood box in the front vestibule of the church. Our Altar Rosary Society redeems Best Choice labels for money to support their many projects. Thanks to all who participate.

FROM THE DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE

OFFICE TELL CONGRESS

Your voice could help save lives. The Hyde Amendment has protected Americans from funding abortion for 45 years and is credited with saving the lives of over 2.4 million children to date. Now, some members of Congress want to take away this law that both Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century. Billions of taxpayer dollars could be used to pay for abortions. You are invited to join the resistance to this effort. The goal is for millions of Catholics to sign the petition at www.notaxpayerabortion.com.

KNIGHTS HOLY HOUR AND MASS

THIS SUNDAY

All Knights of Columbus are encouraged to come early to church this Sunday, starting at 9:30am, and take part in a Knights Holy Hour of Prayer.

Just before Mass the Knights will pray a Rosary for recently deceased brother Knight Steve Lock.

Bring your Rosary and – if you need it – some spiritual reading.

St. Mary's PSR Corner

- 2021-2022 PSR Registration forms are available on the back pews & also on our website stmarysinhigginville.org. Forms and payment are due on August 29th.
- Order forms for the *Annual Youth Mum Fundraiser* are available on the back pews in church. They are priced at \$15 each or 3 for \$30. Forms need to be submitted to Steve or Kristin Vetter by August 29th. Delivery will be mid-September. All checks need to be made payable to St. Mary's Youth Group.
- PSR starts September 12th will be meeting downstairs in the Parish Hall at 9:15am

From the Pastor's desk
Dear Parishioners,

August 22nd

Weekly Collection from Aug 8 th	
Parishioner Envelopes	\$ 1,646
Loose Cash Donations	\$ 56
Total Parish Support	\$ 1,702
Average Weekly Expenses	\$ 3,278

REFLECTIONS FOR THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

"The presence of a human father was necessary for Davidic descent, for protection, affection and instruction. The years of Jesus' life with Joseph and Mary at Nazareth are not recorded in history. It is reasonable to conclude that Jesus learned from his parents, as every child must, and that what he learned was evidenced in the human manner in which he expressed his teaching and in the concrete images he used in his parables. Perhaps the very ordinariness of those years, in which nothing special stands out, is part of the principal information we need to know about Jesus' human origins- he grew up just like every other human being. Once Jesus' identity has been firmly established, one is prepared to receive the divine Good News he was sent to bring. From the absence of Joseph (even when Mary is mentioned in the rest of the Gospel) it may be concluded that Joseph had died by the time of the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. No further data is available. The Carpenter of Nazareth, Joseph, faithfully and unquestioningly fulfills all that God asks of him and having done his job quietly disappears.

From "Joseph in the New Testament"
by Larry M Toishci, OSJ page 60

PROJECT RACHEL UNFAILING MERCY RETREAT

If the memory of an abortion still hurts, Project Rachel offers a weekend retreat called *Unfailing Mercy* to help you. No judging, just gentle guidance.

Call 816-591-3804 for details or email projectrachel@diocesekcsj.org. All inquiries and retreats are confidential

Prayerful condolences to the family and friends of our parishioner Steve Lock whose services were here this past Tuesday evening.

Thanks to the Knights of Columbus who helped with the gathering after the Memorial Mass for Steve's family, co-workers and friends.

Thanks, from all of us to Kristina Campbell who, since we have been unable to find a director for our Parish School of Religious Education, has offered on an interim basis to get the program up and running. Details in this bulletin. Parents with children are encouraged to give her all the support and cooperation she needs.

Peace and Blessings, Joy and Love in the Lord!

Father Tom Hawkins

BRUNCH AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY

Everyone is invited by our Knights of Columbus to stay for Brunch after Mass next Sunday, August 29. Downstairs in the Parish Hall.

There is no charge, but donations will be appreciated. The next Brunch will be October 31.

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.stmarysinhigginsville.org

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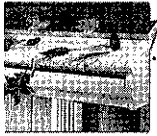
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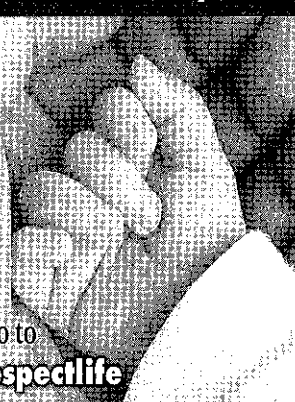
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