



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

LOOK WITHIN

A wrestling match of sorts takes place in this section of Mark's Gospel. Jesus tries mightily to describe what it will mean to be his followers, and the disciples try mightily to avoid the subject. They point to an outsider, and the dangers *he* poses. Jesus turns the tables and asks his disciples to look within themselves: how are *they* a danger to Jesus and his work? Jesus uses graphic language, invoking self-amputation, to underscore his point.

Sometimes our most difficult obstacles lie deep within. Like our hands and feet, some attitudes and habits are deeply a part of us, and their removal would be traumatic for us. Yet we know that some beliefs (such as idolatries based on race, wealth, or gender) or behaviors (such as addictions) seriously harm ourselves and many others. We need a prayerful, non-neurotic watchfulness about our inner life. When necessary, we need a fierce resistance to anything that places us or others in danger.

Jesus, in today's Gospel from Mark, says "whoever is not against us is for us." Mark was speaking to his own Christian community. From its beginnings, there were tensions in the Church about who speaks for Jesus. Jesus himself always called for unity of heart and a diversity of expression as a sign of the truth of the Gospel. It is no secret that in Christian history and continuing today, divisions have seriously damaged the message and cause of Christ.

In our own time and place, cultural and political divisions have reduced our ability to solve problems and to live together in a just and peaceful society. Perhaps this is a time for Christians to step up, to remember that our unity in Christ is far deeper than the differences that we perceive. We are called to reach out and listen to each other, to honor each other as members of the Body of Christ. Christians can lead the way, and show everyone watching how it's done.

Today's Readings: Num 11:25-29; Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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9/26/2021

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, September 25 – 4:00pm

Mike Melies by Gary & Terie Starke

Sunday, September 26 – 10:30am TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WORLD DAY of PRAYER for MIGRANTS and REFUGEES

Saint Mary's Parishioners, both Living and Deceased

Monday, September 27 – 8:00am

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL A priest of France deeply moved by the plight of the desperate poor. He defended the poor and abandoned, founded the Vincentians and with the Saint Louise de Marillac founded the Daughters of Charity. Died in 1660.

Communion Service

Tuesday, September 28 – 8:00am

SAINT NECESLAUS Duke of Bohemia who sought to bring the faith to his people. Killed by his pagan brother in 929 at the age of 22. A Christmas Carol sings of the help which he personally gave to the poor.

SAINT LAWENCE RUIZ and THE MARTYRS OF NAGASAKI From the years 1633 to 1637, sixteen persons were tortured, burned and their ashes scattered in an attempt to stop the spread of the Christian Faith.

Ethel Ruehter R.I.P. by Josie McDermed

Wednesday, September 29 – 6:00pm in the evening

FEAST OF THE ARCHANGELS There are three angelic messengers mentioned by name in the Bible: Michael (“Who is like God?”) protector of security forces and the sick; Gabriel (“God’s Strength”) patron of telecommunications and the postal service; Raphael (“God’s Remedy”) protector of travelers and the blind.

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

Thursday, September 30 – 8:00am

SAINT JEROME Monk, scholar and master of languages. At the request of the Pope he translated the Bible from Hebrew and Greek into the common language of the time, Latin. In his old age he lived in a cave near Bethlehem where he died in 420.

Steve Lock R.I.P. by Mark & Brenda Brunner

Friday, October 1 – 8:00am

SAINT THERESE of the CHILD JESUS Therese Martin, affectionately known as “The Little Flower”, was a contemplative Carmelite Nun who died of tuberculosis at the age of 24 in 1897. Her journal “The Story of a Soul” has been very meaningful to many people.

Ethel Ruehter R.I.P. by Karen Schroeder

Saturday, October 2 – 4:00pm

FEAST of the GUARDIAN ANGELS This day honors the multitude of heavenly spirits who watch over the activities of every human being – including you.

Missouri Farmers by Jeff and Lisa Kuecker

Sunday, October 3 – 10:30am TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saint Mary's Parishioners, both Living and Deceased

St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers Schedule	Ushers	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Servers	Greeters	Offertory Gifts
Sat., Sept. 25 th	Lisa Kuecker Bill Summerlin	Peggy Singh	Barbara Beck	Howard Goring	Bill & Carol Summerlin	Larry & Teresa Hoepfner
Sun., Sept. 26 th	Mitch Bennett Mike Ryun	Rich Cole	Brent Schlotzhauer	Olivia Cowherd Kate Cooper	Iles Family	Kyle & Amor Gassen Family
Sat. Oct 2 nd	Gary Starke Bill Summerlin	Howard Goring	Terie Starke	Bill Walpe	Sandy May Lisa Kuecker	Jeff & Lisa Kuecker
Sun. Oct. 3 rd	Marty Bell Bennie Spain	Chris Kaiser	Kim Mason	Ben Mason Luke Iles	Campbell Family	Paul & Rhonda Smith

TO FIND OUR PARISH MASS

ON THE INTERNET

*Go to YouTube.com then search for
saintmarysinhigginville.org.*

Weekly Collection from September 19th

Parishioner Envelopes	\$1,800
Loose Cash Donations	71
Total Parish Support	\$1,871
Average Weekly Expenses	\$3,278

YOUTH SAFETY COMPLIANCE FORM DUE AT DIOCESE OCTOBER 1

A reminder to those working with youth- the first set of audit forms for the 2021-2022 school year is due October 1. These forms are part of the audit data collection done each year for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and every parish must submit their form. The forms can be found on the diocesan website.

1. Go to kcsjocyp.org
2. Click on the "Forms" link on the left side
3. The audit forms are located at the top of the list of forms provided.

For more information contact Don Stubbings at stubbings@diocesekcsj.org

DIOCESAN MASS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY WORKERS

A "Blue Mass" honoring and praying for the men and women throughout our diocese who serve in law enforcement, as firefighters and emergency responders will be held at the Catholic Cathedral (Broadway and 12th Street) in downtown Kansas City at 9am on Sunday, October 10. For more information check <https://faithandblue.org>.

DIOCESAN MASS FOR THOSE IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

A "Red Mass" honoring and praying for the men and women throughout the diocese who serve the public welfare as judges, lawyers and legal professionals will be held on Friday, October 29, at 6:30pm at Visitation Church, 5141 Main Street in Kansas City. For more information contact the President of the Catholic Lawyers Guild, Erik Bendorf at ebendorf01@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR LIVE NATIVITY AT JOHN KNOX

Looking ahead to the Christmas Season – the people at John Knox and Meyer Care are planning a 'drive thru' Live Nativity event to be held on their premises Saturday, December 11, from 5:30-7:30pm. They are seeking volunteers of high school age and above to depict characters in various scenes related to the Birth of Jesus. If anyone or any family from Saint Mary's would like to take part, contact the Parish Office: 660-584-3038.

ANNUAL PARISH HAYRIDE ON SATURDAY OCT 9th AFTER MASS

This year we will be celebrating our annual Autumn Parish Hayride and Wiener Roast! Everyone is welcome to attend. It will be hosted at Jeff & Lisa Kuecker's home. Their home is located at [REDACTED] in Concordia MO. Maps are available on the tables behind the pews towards the back of the church. Any questions call Lisa at [REDACTED].

LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION THANKS

Thanks to those who last weekend donated to the annual collection to support the work of the Church in Latin America \$445.

The Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse: 1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3739 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18) and 2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and 3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the 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 Whitney True-Francois, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816.392.0011 or true.francis@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

NEW BEGINNINGS "LIFE WALK" – OCT 9th

The prolife women's pregnancy center, located near the campus in Warrensburg, will benefit from the Walk/Run fundraiser on Saturday October 9th. Information flyers are "on the tables behind the pews". If you have questions phone 660-747-3593. Register online at nbwburg.org. Even if you can't walk or run, there are ways to sponsor and support the event.

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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

This Sunday, September 26th has been designated by the Catholic Church as a day of prayer for migrants and refugees. Below is the prayer offered by Pope Francis in his message found at www.chausa.org

*Holy, Beloved Father, your Son Jesus taught us
That there is great rejoicing in heaven whenever
someone lost is found, whenever someone excluded,
rejected or discarded is gather into our "we", which
thus becomes ever wider.*

*We ask you to grant the followers of Jesus, and all
people of good will, the grace to do your will on earth.
Bless each act of welcome and outreach that draws
those in exile into the "we" of community and of the
Church, so that our earth may truly become what you
yourself created it to be: the common home of all our
brothers and sisters. Amen*

PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE

According to the Finance Report made at the September meeting of the Parish Council for the period of July 1 to September 15, our total regular Income was \$48,706.40. Our Expenses for the same period were \$40,443.93 for a positive difference of \$8,262.47

During the same period we were blessed to receive a bequest left to Saint Mary's Parish by Pete Beck. That money has been placed into our Savings.

PRECIOUS BLOOD RENEWAL CENTER

'Respect Life Challenge: A Call to Action' will be offered in-person and live-streamed on the Saturdays of October from 10am-11:30am. Meet people active in ministries that defend the "incomparable and inviolable worth of every human life." Topics include: elder abuse, gun violence, mothers of homicide victims, and the death penalty and more. 'Sacred Church- Sinful Church' A weekend retreat for those whom have been hurt by the church they love. Using shared storytelling and prayer. Father Bill Nordenbrock will lead participants through lamentation to renewed hope. For these and other offerings at the Precious Blood Renewal Center in Liberty, Missouri go to programs@pbrenewalcenter.org or 816-415-3745.

LAUDATO SI'

On Care for Our Common Home
Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter of 2015
For Personal Meditation or Family Discussion

I do not want to write this Encyclical without turning to that attractive and compelling figure, whose name (Francis of Assisi) I took as my guide and inspiration when I was elected Bishop of Rome. I believe that Saint Francis is the example par excellence of care for the vulnerable and of an integral ecology lived out joyfully and authentically. He is the patron saint of all who study and work in the area of ecology, and he is also much loved by non-Christians. He was particularly concerned for God's creation and for the poor and outcast. He loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, his open heartedness. He was a mystic and a pilgrim who lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature and with himself. He shows us just how inseparable the bond is between concern for nature, justice for the poor, commitment to society, and interior peace."

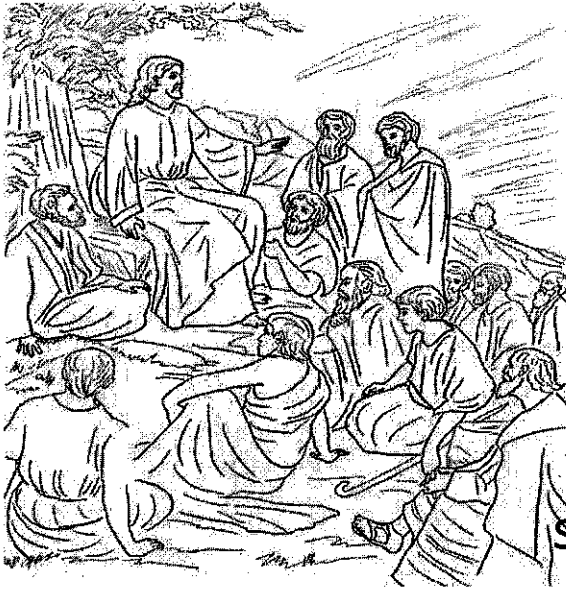
Laudato Si # 10

VIRTUAL GATHERING FOR PARISH MUSICIANS

The Diocesan Office of Worship invites all parish musicians to a "Skills and Spirituality" virtual workshop. In past years this has been a live and in-person event but this year because of the pandemic it will be virtual. Just visit the website at <https://kcliturg.wixsite.com/sands2021>. Thanks to all who serve through the ministry of music.

THE GIFT OF GRAIN

Thus far, this year's harvest looks promisingly abundant. A way for those who grow crops to support their parish is to transfer a sale of grain directly to the parish. It helps the parish and it can help your income tax. The reasons such a gift might be advantageous are several, but the primary are: avoidance of income to the extent of the value of the contributed grain, deduction of production costs of the grain from the past growing season, in many cases avoidance of the self-employment tax attributed to the contributed grain. If you wish to know more call Laura Gray 816-714-2363 or email gray@diocesekcsj.org. Kristina Campbell can get you the necessary form provided by the Diocese.



Wednesday Evenings

Begins September 29

~6:30 PM-~8:00 PM

**Jesus was a master
storyteller and teacher!**

His methods inspired countless authors for centuries to come. Come join us for Wednesday evenings as we study the deeper meanings in His parables and how they still apply to our lives today. We'll conclude this study with *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, by C.S. Lewis, as we delve into the Christian connections in this wonderful classic.

St. Mary's PSR Corner



- Our Youth Group raised \$1,076 this year at the Country Fair with their Caramel Apple booth. *Great job* to all who organized and worked this event and big THANKS to those who came out!
- PSR starts at 9am and runs till 10:15. Fire Drill was this weekend, please review your plan at home in the event there is a fire.

REFLECTIONS FOR

THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

In the Bible, Joseph and Mary are never called "husband and wife" but are seen as such to form a family together with Jesus. They are called "parents" together, and Joseph is titled "father" and referred to as such by Mary. Together they see to the circumcision and naming of the child Jesus, obediently fulfill all the prescription of the law and temple worship, and are blessed by Simeon. Together they are subject to parental worry and incomprehension while raising Jesus. Together they are obeyed by him. Beside providing for the child, Joseph presumably also instructs him in the law of the Old Testament. Joseph is known to all Nazareth as Jesus' father, in a manner that appears totally ordinary.

From "Joseph in the New Testament"
by Larry M Toishci, OSJ page 81-83

Prayerful condolences to the family and friends of our parishioner Dale Sherman. Dale's Funeral Mass was here this past Monday. Please keep Dale and those grieving for him in your prayers.

At the September meeting of the Parish Council – the report on the parish's finances was reassuring. You can see the summary of it printed in this bulletin. On any given weekend, the report in the parish bulletin can look dire but somehow, by the grace and mercy of God and the generosity of our contributors, the parish boat is still afloat.

Upcoming events discussed at the Parish Council are the free Parish Autumn Hayride and Wiener Roast on Saturday, October 9, after the 4pm Mass. Again this year it will be at the home of Lisa and Jeff Kuecker (~~with the Kuecker~~) in the country north of Concordia. They do a great job! It is a picture-perfect event that will make great family memories.

At the same council meeting it was decided that this year we will again have our Autumn Harvest Dinner on the first Sunday of November but it will be a 'drive-thru' event only. Last year the dinner had to be completely cancelled because of COVID. This year the meal will happen but it will be a 'Drive-Thru', just as we have done the Fish Fries. Cost will be \$10 a meal. Come from Broadway into the drive on the west side of the church- at the first door roll down your car window, place your order and pay. Then drive to the second door to pick up the food and drive off.

Peace and Blessings, Joy and Love in the Lord!

Father Tom Hawkins

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETS MONDAY

Members of the Stewardship Committee will meet this Monday, September 27th, at 6pm in the Upper Meeting Room on the backside of the church, enter by the south door.

Members of the Committee are: Nancy Spain-Chairperson; Virginia Graham, Father Tom Hawkins, Chris Kaiser, Kim Mason, Hazel Nuelle, Mary Rinne, John Spiegelhalter and Lisa Kuecker (who is the Liaison with the Parish Council) and anyone else who wants to help.

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