

## Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Mass Intentions

Monday, 11th, Weekday

No Mass

Tuesday, 12th, Weekday

No Mass

Wednesday, 13th, Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

No Mass

Thursday, 14th, The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

No Mass

Friday, 15th, Our Lady of Sorrows

No Mass

Saturday, 16th, Saints Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

4 p.m.: For the Parish

Sunday, 17th, Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10 a.m.: Kathryn Clerc, by Marcella

### Liturgical Roles

**Saturday, September 16th, 4 p.m.:**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** P. Martin, M. Martin, J. Keith, A. Cowell, D. DuFrenne

**Gift Bearers:** G. & J. Howe

**Lectors:** D. Trost

**Servers:** W. & N. Mudd

**Ushers:** K. Donjon, C. Schaefer

**Sunday, September 17, Catechetical Sunday, 10 a.m.:**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** TBA by SJB School

**Gift Bearers:** TBA by SJB School

**Lectors:** TBA by SJB School

**Servers:** TBA by SJB School

**Ushers:** K. Poirrier family

### Thought for the Week

Sandwich every bit of criticism between two layers of praise.

### On the Lighter Side

The Pastor had just put up his "Shut OFF All Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices" signs in the entrances of the Church. During the homily a cell phone begins to ring. The embarrassed person doesn't reach to shut it off not wanting to draw attention to himself. The priest pauses during his homily and says, "That better be God calling!"

### Please Pray For ...

Judy Weber, Linda Burnett, Nursing Home Residents, Homebound Parishioners

*Names remains for 4 weeks. Call the rectory.*

### Vocation Corner

"There can be no promotion of vocations or Christian mission apart from constant contemplative prayer. The Christian life needs to be nourished by attentive listening to God's word and, above all, by the cultivation of a personal relationship with the Lord in Eucharistic adoration, the privileged "place" for our encounter with God... Mary Most Holy, the Mother of our Savior, had the courage to embrace this ideal, placing her youth and her enthusiasm in God's hands. Through her intercession, may we be granted that same openness of heart, that same readiness to respond, "Here I am", to the Lord's call, and that same joy in setting out (cf. Lk 1:39), like her, to proclaim Him to the whole world." ~ Pope Francis, November 26, 2016

### Readings

**1st Reading: Ezekiel 33: 7 - 9**

God called the prophet as a watchman for the house of Israel. Unless those called by God try to turn the wicked away from evil, they will not be saved. When holy people speak up in God's behalf, they are saved.

**2nd Reading: Romans 13:8 - 10**

All commandments are summed up in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law."

**Gospel: Matthew 18:15 - 20**

Jesus said, "If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

### From the Desk of Fr. Dennis

On this 23rd Sunday we are reminded that conflicts are often hard to resolve and can be even more challenging. Scripture tells us that this has always been true. Today as we know too well, conflicts are often subject to immediate publicity, on the internet, facebook, etc. and the process of healing may be harder than ever. But today's readings confirm that the ultimate root of reconciliation is always the same: if we love and respect one another, the steps to healing are made possible...even easier. The more we are able to love God with our whole being and to love our neighbor as ourselves, the more we will keep the commandments and experience the blessings God wishes to bestow on us such as peace, joy, forgiveness and fulfillment.

This weekend our Partnership along with other parishes in the dioceses will be taking up a **Special Collection to support the relief efforts underway in Texas** for the areas devastated by Hurricane Harvey and the subsequent catastrophic flooding. I thank you for your response as we join to help ease the burden of the thousands who were left homeless.

Have a blest week! Be grateful for all of God's blessings! Remember, don't worry so much and know that you are loved! ~ Fr. Dennis

### Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Josh Koch and Kaitlyn Thies who will be married next Saturday here at St. John's. May the Lord richly bless them with many happy years!

### Catechetical Sunday

Next Sunday, Sept. 17th at the 10 a.m. Mass, we will have our annual commissioning of teachers and catechists.

"Living as Missionary Disciples" is the theme of this year's celebration. The Children's Choir will sing, and there will be an Open House in School following the Mass until noon. We are blest with so many dedicated people in our parish who have accepted the call to participate in the ministry of religious education be it in our school, PSR program, youth group, and adult faith formation.

### Reports Available

The Picnic Report and Annual Parish & School Financial Report is available at the entrances. \*\*Picnic Report Addendum: Bingo expenses do not reflect the \$1,200.00 that is estimated to be paid for the Bingo Taxes. It is reflected in the Net number.

**Happenings This Week**

Sun.: Fr. Dennis has Mass at 8:30 a.m. at Joseph's; Fr. Clyde will have 8 a.m. at St. Patrick's and 10 a.m. at St. John's; Fr. Dennis will have 11 a.m. at the Convent; Fr. Dennis leaves for Priests' Convocation in the afternoon  
Mon.-Fri.: No Masses  
Tues.: Bible Study, 8:45 a.m., Church; School Board mtg., 7 p.m., library  
Wed.: Post-Picnic mtg., 6p.m., cafeteria; PSR classes, 6:45 p.m., in school; Bible Study, 6:45 p.m., Church basement  
Thurs.: Wedding Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m.  
Sat.: 1 p.m. wedding Josh Koch & Kaitlyn Thies; No confessions at 3 p.m.; Red Bud 150 Historical Cemetery Tour, 1 p.m.; KC Council Spaghetti Dinner, 5 p.m., Social Center with movie at 7 p.m.  
Sun.: Catechetical Sunday - commissioning of teachers at 10 a.m. Mass, Open House in school till noon

**Dinner & a Movie: "God's Not Dead"**

You're invited to enjoy dinner and a movie on Sept. 16th at the SJB Social Center hosted by St. John the Baptist KC Council. We are serving a delicious spaghetti dinner at 5 p.m., followed by a special viewing of the movie "God's Not Dead" at 7 p.m. Donations accepted for dinner; concession stand available during the movie. Proceeds benefit SJB AC Fund. Be sure to join us for a great family night for proof that God's Not Dead!

**Pope Francis Speaks to Our Hearts**

(There will be crosses) It is normal for husband and wife to argue - it's normal. It always happens. But my advice is this: never let the day end without having first made peace. Never! A small gesture is sufficient. Thus the journey may continue. Marriage is a symbol of life, real life - it is not "fiction!" It is the sacrament of the love of Christ and the Church, a love which finds its proof and guarantee in the cross. My desire for you is that you have a good journey, a fruitful one, growing in love. I wish you happiness. There will be crosses! But the Lord is always there to help us move forward.

**Mums for Sale**

It's time for St. John School's annual Mum Sale! Mums are \$7.50 each and available in red, yellow, bronze, and purple. Mums must be ordered by Sept. 12th and will be delivered Sept. 19th. Order forms are available at the church entrances OR speak with a SJB student!

**KC News**

We are in need of help for our annual Tootsie Roll Drive on Sept. 16th. We are also needing help at our Dinner and a Movie on Sept. 16th. This is a new idea for us, so we are in need of plenty of help and plenty of families to join us for a great meal and a powerfully good movie.

**RCIA Sessions**

Our RCIA sessions will begin on Monday evening, Sept. 18th at 7 p.m. We will be meeting this year at the Red Brick School Building at St. Patrick's in Ruma. A letter has been sent to our 4 inquirers and their sponsors. Keep them in your prayers as they begin this faith journey seeking to make their Profession of Faith at the Easter Vigil.

**Church A/C & Heating Fund Drive**

Work continues on completing the full installation for the Church. Like they say, "It's in the details that takes the time". To date we have collected \$62,624.20. As we mentioned we encountered between \$8,000-\$10,000 in unexpected expenses. Thank you for helping us as we work to continue this project.

**Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal**

Your response has been great as we have reached out to help support the CSMA drive. To date we have received \$18,500.00 from 109 participants. We are \$1,250 short of our goal. Will you help us? If you misplaced your pledge envelope, you can find one on the bulletin table. Thank you for helping us reach out to the needy of Southern Illinois.

**Rummage Sale**

St. John School's Annual Fall Rummage Sale will be held September 22-24. More info soon!

**Veteran's Day Eve Bingo**

Mark your calendars for Friday, November 10th for our Veteran's Day Eve Cash Bingo! Doors open at 6 p.m., bingo begins at 7 p.m. Admission is \$20 per guest (half off for all Veterans and Active Duty); includes 12 bingo games, 2 specialty drinks, 1 dauber. Additional raffles and games offered; basket raffles. Bring your own snacks. Max of 12 people per table; limited seating (reservations encouraged; walk-ins welcome). Call 282-3222 for reservations. If you can't make it to the bingo but would like to show your support of SJB Athletics, you can sponsor a game and be recognized that evening for \$40! Please contact Kelly for more information.

**Pencils Needed**

Our PSR program is in need of pencils. If you have any extra pencils with erasers, please put them in the white container in the vestibule. Thank you!

**Your Gifts to God & Parish**

Sunday.....	\$6,948.00
Loose.....	\$555.00
<b>Total (Goal: \$5,866.00).....</b>	<b>\$7,503.00</b>
Adopt-a-Parish.....	\$231.00
Capital Campaign.....	\$197.00
School Endowment.....	\$287.00
Retired Religious.....	\$105.00
<b>Online Giving for August</b>	
Sunday.....	\$1,551.11
Heating & Cooling.....	\$100.00
Adopt-a-Parish.....	\$10.00

**Thank You to Our Advertisers!**

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**BDCCW Fall Meeting**

The Fall Meeting will be held on Thurs., Sept. 28th at St. Mary's, Ellis Grove, in Sense Hall. The morning speaker will be Rebecca Cooper, a lawyer who will talk about wills. Our afternoon speaker will be Nick Kassing, who will give us information about scams and how to protect ourselves. We will attend Mass before lunch. Registration is at 9 a.m.; cost of the day is \$9.00.

### **Respect Life Corner**

Creating a Culture of Encounter - We have children going to school in the morning fearful that when they return home, their parents may no longer be there. Mothers and fathers are staying up at night, not knowing what will happen to their families if or when they are separated from them by the government. Learn, Act, Connect, Pray: Articles including facts and figures regarding immigration are on the Diocesan Hispanic Ministry website ([dps.diobelle.org/offices/hispanic-ministry/resources-recurso](http://dps.diobelle.org/offices/hispanic-ministry/resources-recurso)). Let us all take the opportunity to engage migrants as community members and neighbors - all of whom are worthy of our attention and support.

### **Post Picnic Meeting**

Our post picnic meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 13th at 6 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Please plan to attend!

### **Retired Diocesan Priests Collection**

Our Belleville Diocese currently has 55 diocesan priests of retirement age - 35 who are currently retired and 20 who remain in active ministry; in five years that number will increase to 64! With this large number of retirement-age priests and escalating health care costs, the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection on Sept. 16-17 will help provide the resources needed for their care now and in the future. All monies will be used only for long-term nursing care, Medicare supplemental insurance and prescription medications for our retired diocesan priests. Note: Our diocesan priests do not receive any funding from the Retirement Fund for Religious collection which is held in December. Next weekend show your appreciation to the priests who have walked with you on your life's journey with a generous gift to this special collection.

### **Shadow Visits**

Now's the time to schedule your student's date to shadow a Gibault Catholic student for a full day of class by contacting Pat Herzing ([pherzing@gibalthawks.com](mailto:pherzing@gibalthawks.com)). Gibault is looking forward to meeting your child!

### **Coke Rewards Points**

We are collecting Coke Rewards Points! Please clip and send any product codes from Coke products to the rectory for the school to get FREE money! You can also go to <https://us.coca-cola.com/offers> and enter your rewards to go to our school.

### **Upcoming Events**

**Friends of the Poor Walk**, Sept. 16, Our Lady of the Snows. Benefits St. Vincent de Paul. Info: 618-394-0126.

**Fall Church Picnic**, Sept. 17th, 11a.m.-6 p.m., Valmeyer (St. John UCC and St. Mary's). Silent auction, raffles, attendance prizes, fried chicken dinner (other food available; dine-in/carry-out); games, country store, music.

**Help discover the keys to your marriage by** participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend is Sept. 22-24. To register/for more info: 314-649-7317. [www.stl-wwme.org](http://www.stl-wwme.org).