



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Dennis R. Schaefer
Address: 802 Middle Street
Prairie du Rocher, IL 62277
Phone: 618-284-3314
Email: sjospdr@htc.net
Website: www.stjoespdr.org
Diocese website: www.diobelle.org

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Secretary: Jill Whelan
Parish Council President: James Popejoy
Finance Council President: Roger Henry
St. Joseph Cemetery: Jack Laurent
St. Leo Cemetery: Steve Gonzalez
Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Dennis Schaefer
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Msgr. Daniel J. Jurek

WEEKEND MASSES AT ST. JOSEPH:

Saturdays: 6:00 pm (odd months)
Sundays: 8:00 am (even months)
Ruma Convent: Sunday at 11am
Daily Mass varies at both locations
Confessions at St. Joseph:
Saturday 5 - 5:40 pm & Sundays 7:15 - 7:45 am

The Ascension of the Lord

June 2, 2019

God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy;
the Lord, amid trumpet blasts.

— Psalm 47:6

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Jesus tells the disciples that they will be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:1-11).

Psalm — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Psalm 47).

Second Reading — God seated Jesus at his right hand in the heavens (Ephesians 1:17-23) or Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:19-23.

Gospel — As Jesus blessed his disciples he parted from them and was taken up to heaven (Luke 24:46-53).

FEET ON THE GROUND

“Until next week, keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars!” Not today’s scriptural wisdom, but legendary DJ Casey Kasem’s sage advice, heard across America for generations, *American Top 40*’s challenging sign-off. Though Casey wasn’t quoting scripture, today’s Acts of the Apostles offers similar advice. As Jesus ascended, disciples “were looking intently at the sky.” Wouldn’t we prefer a soul-relaxing gaze into peaceful blue skies to a heart-breaking focus on this blood-stained earth? But heavenly questioners asked Jesus’ first disciples, “Why are you standing there looking at the sky?” Earth awaited their mission! While our hearts should “keep reaching for” heaven, we need to “keep our feet on the ground.” Ascension’s scriptures and the Jubilee of Mercy remind us: the Jesus we revere as “ascended into heaven” lives right here among us on earth, awaiting our recognition and loving service.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The mystery of the Ascension has to do with holding in tension a sense of God’s nearness, along with the burden caused by apparent signs of absence. The risen Jesus says to Mary Magdalene, “Do not cling to me,” perhaps pointing out to her that his physical presence to the disciples was time-bound and temporary. It was a gift for their transformation, and after forty days, he vanished from their sight and hearing, though never out of their consciousness.

They do not mourn at his going this time: there is no trace of the disciples who hid in fear at his crucifixion, no sense of the women who wept softly as they carried ointments to the tomb through the dewy morning light. Instead, the scriptural accounts show them full of joy, comforted by his promise to be with them forever, and open to the Spirit’s power. They are joyful, energized, aware, and united with one another in love. They seem to grasp an awareness that if the mission to the whole world was a serious one, then the presence of the Risen Christ could not be pinned down to any one place or time, but had to be always and everywhere completely available. All peoples, all times, all cultures were opened to receive him in this moment of the Ascension. The energy of this feast is drawn not from absence, but renewed and deeper presence.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

June 1st THROUGH June 9th

Sun	8am(J)	Deb Horne & Norman Bachelier
Sun.	11am(C)	Ordination class of 1973
Mon.	8:15am (C)	S. Helen Moore
Tues.	4:10pm(C)	Loren & MaryLou Holcomb
Wed.	4:10pm(C)	S. Teresita Kern
Thurs.	8am(J)	Thomas Herzog
Thurs.	4:10pm(C)	S. Angela Schrage (B-day 6/7)
Fri.	8:15am(C)	Fr. Dennis' 44th Anniversary
Sun.	8am	Ethel Bievenue Betty Schaefer
Sun.	11am (C)	S. Emma Goeckner



May 26th 2019

Envelopes (41)	\$1006.00
Loose	\$36.00
Seminarian Ed.	\$91.00

Total	\$1133.00
Weekly goal	\$1700.00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

June 4	Audrey Wiegard & Brian Hartmann
June 5	LeAnn Walker
June 6	Robert Schneider, Kelly Kertz & David Ellner
June 7	Fern Tockstein

*May your day be filled with Good Wishes,
Birthday Greetings and God's Blessings*

Happy Anniversary!

June 2	Msgr. Daniel ordination anniversary
June 5	Bill & Earleen Hanger

*May the Lord continue to bless your marriage and
each of you for many years to come.*

PRAYER REQUEST

Rev. Carl Scherrer	Our Homebound
Patty Cissell	Rev. Ken Schaefer
All Cancer Patients	Tracy Bender
Carolyn Schneider	Rev. Richard Mohr
Diane Corzine	Rev. Joe Rascher
	Freeman (Doc) Greer

Those who are experiencing the devastating effects
of Mother Nature

*All names of the prayer list will be left on for 4 weeks.
Please call the rectory if you would like them to
remain on the list.*



Sun. June 2 @ 8a.m.

B	Steve G
C	Lynne & Nate
L	James
S	Katie & Mackenzie
G	Ray Wiegard Fam.
Chalice/Paten:	Floyd Roy Fam.

Sun, June 9 @ 8a.m.

B	Paulette
C	Audrey & Carol
L	Lynne
S	Zach, Adam & Evan
G	Justin Roy Fam.
Chalice/Paten:	Jeff Roy Fam.



From the Desk of Fr. Dennis

Today's readings from scripture are book ended by two accounts of Jesus' ascension to heaven. St. Luke, who wrote both accounts, emphasizes in each that Jesus left the apostles with a mission and a promise. They were to be Christ's witnesses, and they would receive power with the coming of the Holy Spirit. As we received the Holy Spirit in Baptism and Confirmation, let us reflect on how we, with the help of the Spirit are being witnesses in the world today.

Don't forget Friday is the First Friday of June. Eucharistic Adoration from 1- 4 p.m. at St. John's. Come and spend some time with the Lord! Our world is filled with so much hurt and sorrow, bring these needs and many others to the Lord.

Next Saturday, Joel Seipp, Carl Schrage, & Nicholas Fleming will be Ordained Transitional Deacons at the

Cathedral. Pray for them and our diocese for more Vocations. Know you are invited to attend!

As we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost next Sunday, let us pray that the Holy Spirit fill us with his seven fold gifts . WEAR SOMETHING RED NEXT SUNDAY when you come to Mass and be aglow with the light and love of the Holy Spirit.

Thank You for your prayers and expressions of sympathy on the death of my Mom. Your support and encouragement has meant so much. God Bless you! Have a blessed seventh week of Easter.

Remember, don't worry so much and know that you are loved.

Fr. Dennis

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

Sun: Mass 8a.m. Fr. Dan's 46th Anniversary

Mon: 4p.m. Priest Jubilee Mass Celebration at Cathedral

Tues. R&R @ 10:30a.m.

Fri.: Eucharistic Adoration 1 - 4 p.m. in Church;
Fr. Dennis' 42nd Anniversary

Sat. Deacon Ordination at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral

Sun. 8a.m.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Sam was in front of Joe as they were coming out of Church on Easter Sunday, and Father as usual was standing at the door shaking hands and greeting everyone. He grabbed Sam by the hand and pulled him aside and said, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!" Sam replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Father." "If that's true," Father said, "how come I only see you on Christmas and Easter?" Sam whispered back, "Father, I'm in the Secret Service."

PARTNERSHIP MASS FOR JUNE IS:

St. Joseph: 8am Sunday

St. Patrick: 6pm Saturday

DID YOU REMEMBER



Please contact Paulette R. Deterding 618-284-7353 if you or a fellow parishioner are suffering from an injury, illness, or grief and would like a visit.



The Prayer chain is in place. If you know of someone who is in need of emergency prayers please call Jeanelle Dinan 284-7788 or the rectory @ 284-3314.

Religious Education



PSR registrations for the 2019-2020 school year were mailed out this week. Please make sure

that the forms are back as soon as possible so supplies can be ordered. If you didn't receive a copy please pick one at the rectory or in back of Church.



If you are looking for a special gift for a loved one the youth is selling candles made

from recycled Easter candles. They are \$15 and all proceeds go to the NCYC fund.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER:

School's Out! Will your children go hungry this summer? Unfortunately, there are some children in the State of Illinois who will do just that this summer. Normally, children are happy when school is out for the summer, and they have time to have fun with their friends. For some children and their parents, summer is not a happy time. Many will ask, "How can I feed my children when there are no more school lunches?"

Learn: Research the location(s) of free meal distribution centers in your area; add the locations to your Church bulletin or post them on a bulletin board. Act: Volunteer to serve a meal. Connect: Ask a friend or neighbor to go along to volunteer. Pray: Pray for parents who are not able to provide food for their children. For them, summer is the longest time of the year.

DIOCESAN HAPPENINGS:

Quilt-A-Rama @ Immaculate Conception, Columbia

June 11th 8a.m.-5p.m.

June 12th 8a.m.-9p.m.

June 13th 8a.m.-5p.m.

PARTNERSHIP CORNER:

St. John the Baptist Parish Picnic

Friday June 21st Fish dinner beginning at 5p.m.

Saturday June 22nd Chicken dinner buffet 3:30- 7p.m.

Quilt & Cash bingo both nights

St. Patrick & Ruma Convent:

BE A BLESSING GARDEN PROJECT-THE GARDEN IS IN!!!! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, TO THOSE THAT WERE ABLE TO HELP AND TO THOSE THAT FINANCIALLY CONTRIBUTED TO GET US STARTED!!!

We are in need of a few items...tomatoes stakes, and an animal repellent called "Repels-All".

We plan on meeting every Thursday evening at 6PM starting May 6th for anyone that would like to join us or if that day doesn't work feel free to go when you have time to help maintain the garden.

You can find supplies in the little brown shed located next to the garden. Please be respectful and return in the condition you found them. We are the section between the orange cones. Any questions call Sandy @ 282-3176.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Party in the Park:

June 12th: Corey Evitts (one man band)

Evansville Knights of Columbus Fish Buffet

Friday, June 7 Serving 4:30 - 8pm

4 kinds of fish, chicken strips and 7 sides

Adults \$12.00 Children 5-12 \$5.00

Buffet is Dine-in only. Carry outs available by the Plate, Sandwich or by the Pound.

FROM PARISH COUNCIL:

Remember to give to the capitol fund. This fund is set up for the repairs and maintenance of our beautiful church and grounds. Thanks to all who donate to this fund.

PRIORITY LIST UPDATES:

It was agreed that the Church A/C system was the most popular repair.

Total Cost to replace the Church A/C is \$25,750.00.

There is a goal thermometer outside to help track of our progress. Not Sure if you noticed but we are a little over half way to our goal. Thanks to all who have helped thus far, please remember to donate we don't want church to hotter than...well you know!

We have been approved to begin A/C work.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:

Next Event is the Picnic:

Aug. 3, 2019 don't forget to pass the word!

KIDS GAMES: We will be accepting cash and prize donations for the kids games, we completely ran out last year. Check the dollar store, dollar general or any stores clearance item for kid size fun. There will be a tote in the foyer of church for prizes. If you wish to donate cash place it in the collection basket with the label kids games.

BASKET STAND:

Please consider one of the following options for donating to the basket stand.

- Monetary donations- any amount is appreciated. Place in collection basket labeled BASKET STAND
- Completed baskets
- Place items equaling a complete basket in a bag and we will assemble.

Make the value of a basket a minimum of \$10. Cellophane bags to wrap completed baskets will be available in the back of church. Completed baskets and/or items to make a completed basket can be left at the church or rectory. If you have any questions contact Jolene 284-7125

FROM FINANCE COUNCIL:

Our totals for the Diocesan tax, Clergy aid, Insurance and Subsidies (Gibault and St. John's) and our total for FY 2018/2019 is slowly decreasing from 54,179.71 to \$37,926.26. Because of your generous donations since October we have paid off \$16,256.46 of the diocesan bills. Please continue donate generously. Most recent payment was to St. John's, Gibault, & Parish Assessment. Way to Go!

Please continue to donate as generously as possible.

School Subsidy	\$23,582.00
Parish Assessment	\$13,044.20

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

As the new mowers figure out their mowing pattern please remember to be patient. We ask that you **do not** personally mow around any tombstones for liability reasons. If you have any questions please ask for a copy of the Cemetery rules.

