

March 30, 2025
4th SUNDAY of LENT

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Parochial Administrator:

Fr. Vincent Joseph, VC
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vincentvc@diosc.org

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HS Youth Group:
Jennifer Rosanna (208-8853)
Kathy Schreckenber (579-6870)

MS Youth Group:
Kyla Langston 573-225-0608

Adult Education/OCIA Director:
Cindy Jansen 573-238-6767

Cursillo Parish Contacts:
Bobby & Kristi Jansen
573-208-8271, 573-208-8270

Music Director: Daniel Seiler 208-8997

SJ Cemetery: Ashton James 579-7158

SA Cemetery: Alfred VanGennip 450-6600

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact Pastor at least 6 months in advance. Participation in a Marriage Preparation program is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the pastor

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please register. Forms in office.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

sjsabulletin@gmail.com Bulletin submission deadline is Tuesday by noon.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

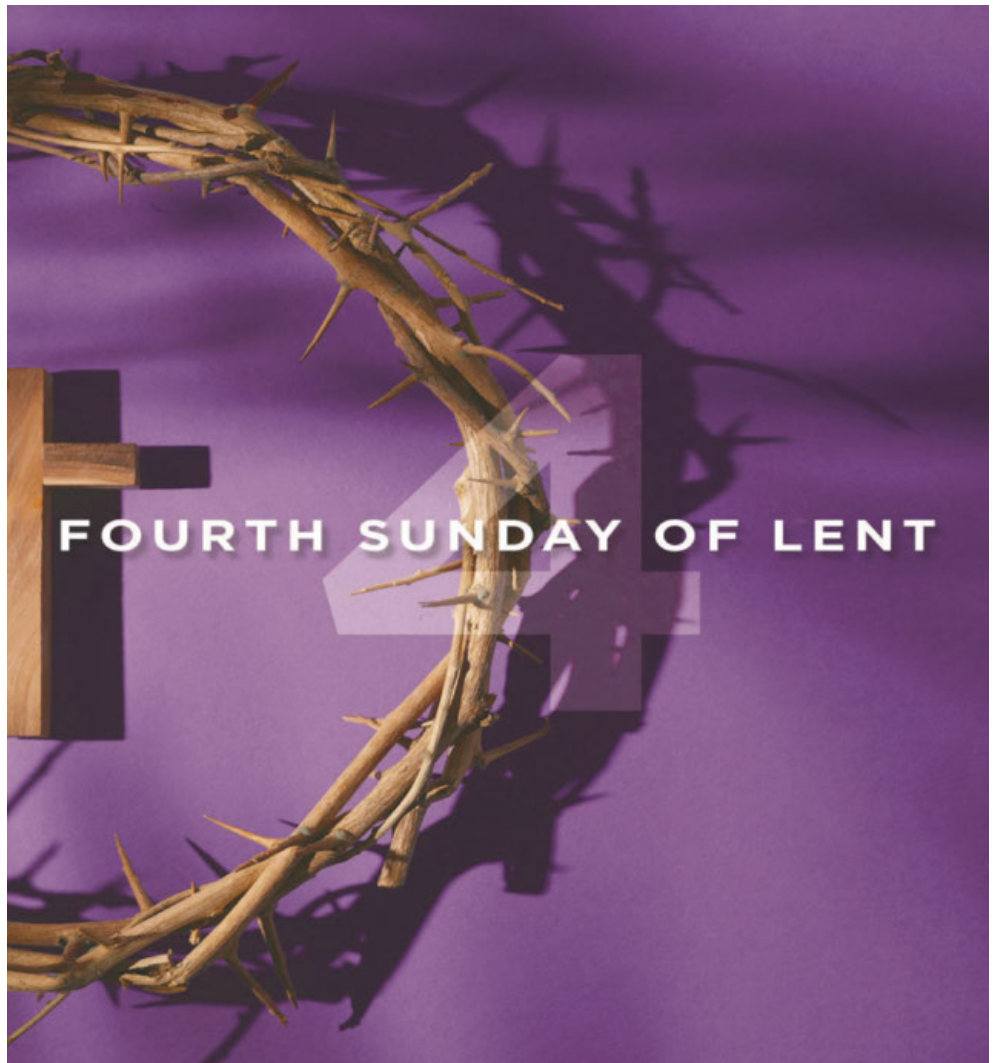
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CATHOLIC CHURCHES

PO BOX 83, Leopold, MO 63760 ☩ <https://stjohnchurchleopold.com>



Stewardship Corner

St. Anthony	3/23/25
Adults	\$715.00
Loose.....	\$83.00
Easter Flowers	\$25.00

St. John	3/23/25
Adults	\$2920.00
Loose.....	\$364.00
Online	\$948.34
East Europe.....	\$10.00
Easter Flowers	\$140.00
Votive Candles	\$63.00

Online giving is now available.
<https://osvhub.com/stjohnchurchleopold/funds>

Parish & Finance Councils

ST. JOHN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Donnie Landewee, President (573) 225-8466
Gina Jansen Pam Wesbecher
Sarah Deck Alan Elfrink
Mark Deck Bonnie Thiele
Cody Harris Kim Vandeven

ST. JOHN FINANCE MEMBERS

Rene Landewee Dennis James
Marian Hutchings Ted Eftink
Bob Clubb Roger Bucher
Amanda McDonough

ST. ANTHONY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chris Horrell, President (573) 450-4669
Judy Ford, Rents Hall (573) 576-5896
Ben Beel Dorothy VanGennip

ST. ANTHONY FINANCE MEMBERS

Rhonda Horrell Chris Horrell

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR OCIA CANDIDATES & CATECHUMENS:

Brett D. Travis W. Dalton B.
Bryer S. Bryson S. Karen E.

Welcome! We're so glad you've come to worship with us this weekend. If you are not currently registered with either St. John Church or St. Anthony Church and would like to do so, please pick up a registration form in the vestibule of either parish, fill it out, and drop it in the collection basket. We would love to have you as a part of our parish family!

Liturgical Roles

April 5-6, 2025
5th Sunday of Lent

Saturday, April 5, 5 PM (SA)

Servers: Shandy & Blair Elfrink
Lector: Andrea Bueter
Extraordinary Min. *Jennifer Rosanna
Ushers: Chad VanGennip, Michael VanGennip
Offertory: Brian & Beth Eeftink
Sacristan: Rita Holshouser
Rosary Leader: Rita Holshouser

KC Sunday

Sunday, April 6, 8 AM (SJ)

Servers: Finn Beussink, Holden Burger
Lector: Nick Elfrink
Extraordinary Min.: *Cody Van de Ven
Courtney Beussink, Matt Beussink
Choir Min.: Jason Van de Ven
Ushers: Don Gowan, Lance Seiler
Offertory: KC Knight of Month:
Robbie Coomer
Sacristan: Cindy (Lindy) Jansen
Rosary: KC - Stan Seiler

Sunday, April 6, 10 AM (SJ)

Servers: Pearl Smith, Olive Deck
Lector: Annabel Engelen
Extraordinary Min.: *Sarah Deck,
Sheryl Eftink, Gerard Macke
Choir Min.: Harlan Elfrink
Ushers: Doug Deck, Mark Deck
Offertory: Family of Joe Landewe
Sacristan: Polly Mungle
Rosary: Eva Dunn

StoneBridge & Homebound

Extraordinary Minister for

April 6: Jeanne Forrester

Welcome!

St. Anthony parish would like to welcome back Derek and Amy Jansen along with Chandler Jansen and Caydence Jansen to the parish family! We are so glad to have you as part of our parish family once again and hope you all feel welcomed and feel God's love within our parish.

Sacrament Schedule and Weekly Schedule

SJ= St. John | SA= St. Anthony

Monday, March 31

6:45-7:15 AM - CONFESSIONS (SJ)
7:20 AM MASS - L/D Members Ted & Katie Peters Family (SJ)
8:00 AM - 7:00 AM - EUCHARISTIC ADORATION (SJ)
6:00 PM - OCIA (St. Anne's)

Tuesday, April 1

6:45-7:15 AM - CONFESSIONS (SJ)
7:20 AM MASS - Kenny Stause † (SJ)

Wednesday, April 2

3:15 PM - After School Rosary Club (Church Basement)
5:30 - 5:55 PM - CONFESSIONS (SA)
6:00 PM MASS - Pat Peters † (SA)
6:30 PM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS (SA)

Thursday, April 3

8:05-8:25AM - CONFESSIONS (SJ)
8:30 AM MASS - Lorraine Holzum † (SJ)
12:00 - 10:00 PM - KC ADORATION (SJ)
6:00 PM - Easter Choir Practice (SJ)

Friday, April 4

6:45-7:15 AM - CONFESSIONS (SJ)
7:20 AM MASS - Eula VanGennip † (SJ)
5:00-7:00 PM - KC Fish Fry (KC Hall)
7:00 PM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS (SJ)

Saturday, April 5

6:30 AM - Men's Group (KC Hall)
4:15-4:45 PM - CONFESSIONS (SA)
5:00 PM MASS - Families of St. John & St. Anthony Parishes † (SA)

Sunday, April 6

7:20-7:50 AM -and - 9:30-9:50 AM CONFESSIONS (SJ)
8:00 AM MASS - Paul Arnzen † ((SJ)
10:00 AM MASS - Joe Landewe † ((SJ)
4:00 PM - OCIA (St. Anne's)

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES:

Sunday, April 13 Bulletin Items are due by Monday, April 7 at noon

Sunday, April 20 Bulletin Items are due by Sunday, April 13 at noon

On Sunday, April 6 at all masses Fr. Vincent will bless vehicles, tractors, soil and seed. Small containers of soil or seed can be placed on the floor in front of the altar. Father will go outside after each Mass to bless tractors and vehicles.

Notes from Fr. Vincent:

4th Sunday of Lent

Grandpa and his granddaughter were out for a walk one day when Grandpa realized they had walked a whole lot farther than their normal walks. He asked his granddaughter, "Do you know here we are?" The girl said, "No!" "Do you know how to get home?" Again the girl said, "No!" Then Grandpa asked, "If you don't know where you are or how to get home, does that mean you're lost?" --- The girl said, "No, Grandpa! How can I be lost if I'm with you?"

Today's gospel story of the prodigal son is one of the most familiar and moving portrayals of God's loving compassion for his people. The prodigal son is not a model for conversion. Rather the emphasis is on the mercy of the father and the joy of finding the sinner again. Through this story Jesus was giving practical expression to the Father's invitation to all his children. The story is realistic and full of insights. Almost every detail of the story emphasizes the immense reckless love God has for us. Every detail is charged with symbolism and reveals the unconditional love of God.

"When Jesus speaks in his parables of the shepherd who goes after the lost sheep, of the woman who looks for the lost coin, of the father who goes to meet and embrace his prodigal son, these are no mere words: they constitute an explanation of his very being and activity."—Pope Benedict XVI (1927-2022), Encyclical — *Deus caritas est*, 25 December 2005. Mercy, compassion and forgiveness mark the being of Jesus and his activities here on earth.

The gospel story challenges us to review the relationships in our lives and to bring them into line with Jesus' teaching on leading a forgiving life.

Hope we all are spiritually nourished during the parish Lenten retreat. I sincerely thank Sr. Anna Rose and Sr. Amanda Marie for their guidance during the retreat. The initiative and the planning done by Cindy Jansen in this regard are highly appreciated and recognized.

Prayer: Father, grant that I may ever more relish your merciful love. Amen.

St. John the Evangelist and St. Anthony, pray for us and protect us.

Fr. Vincent Joseph VC

Adult Education Notes

The Gospels of the third, fourth, and fifth Sunday's in Lent are the most powerful of Jesus's teachings. Last week the Woman at the Well, today the Prodigal Son and the Man born Blind, next Sunday the Woman caught in Adultery, and the Raising of Lazarus. The depth and richness of any and all of these Gospels are evident of a loving and merciful God. Please read them in meditation and with the Lectio Divina. (Read-reread-ponder-reread-Pray)

There is a new book out called "The Secrets of the Parables" that gives you a glimpse at a different view of them. This one blew my mind. Picture this: Jesus as the Prodigal Son. This parable shows us normally the selfish, greedy, arrogant and bad son of a loving, merciful father.

Well, think of the acts of the son. He asked for his inheritance, left to a distant land, squandered the inheritance, sunk to the lowest of low, regained his senses, went back to the father to ask for forgiveness and the father's love and mercy. The father throws a huge banquet for him.

In this book, the words of the parable transcribed from Greek can be seen in two different lights. It can be described like this. Jesus asks His Father for His 'substance' being one with Him (inheritance) and leaves the Father. Thus Jesus' incarnation He comes to earth (distant land) and becomes man, where He lavishes (squanders) His Father's love on the sinners and prostitutes that need His mercy. He is arrested and dies (the lowest point of His existence) going into the nether world (pig's sty) but rises (goes back to the Father to live) asking for forgiveness and repentance (Jesus's quest for our salvation which He died for) bringing the lost with Him and the Father receives His Son with all the more love than ever before (Jesus goes back to the Heavenly banquet prepared for those He loves).

WOW! Sit with this and ponder that for a while and truly, truly take it to your heart how Jesus who became sin tho He knew no sin came to save us from ourselves and bring us from our deepest sins, pains, and sorrows home, where we are healed and loved beyond love. If you haven't yet, please this Lent make a true repentance of your sins and go to Confession and get back right with God. He loves you so much. He has redeemed you and you are His.

Ministry Notes & Updates

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 5898:

Third annual Crawfish Boil next Saturday, April 5. From 2pm till sold out!. Music by Callie & Kevin from 2-5 and Hodo Trio from 6-10. Gun raffles, 50-50, money wheel giveaways of \$250, \$500, \$750 and \$1,000. Tickets \$30 at Leopold General Store, KC Fish Fry or from Ethan Broshuis or James Lewis \$35 at door. Kids 7-15, \$15.

At the Knight of the Year dinner, Ethan Broshuis was honored as Knight of Year, the Bryan Deck family as Family of Year and Cohen Beussink as Youth of Year. Our guest speaker was State Deputy Michael Auchly of Montgomery City.

VOCATION MINISTRY:

"While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him." (Luke 15:20) Our Father calls us to run toward the path He has prepared for us. Is He inviting you to share this compassion with others through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Talk to Fr. Vincent at 238-3300 ext. 2. **Vocation Crucifix for March: Gerard Macke** *For our parish, that we may offer a welcoming and supportive community for those exploring vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray to the Lord.*

ST. JOHN PCCW:

April 19: Group 8 (Vandeven-Yount) will host and bring finger foods for reception of RCIA candidates and their families

April 26: Groups 1-2 (Abner-Engelen) will work and bring wrapped dessert servings to the Clem-Mary Lou Landewee's farm auction

May 6-10: keep saving items for rummage sale. Contact officers for more information

ST. ANTHONY PCCW:

St. Anthony PCCW will be collecting items for Birthright during Lent. Things needed are: 0-3 month clothing, 3-6 month clothing, Newborn and Size 1 pampers, Blankets, Shampoo and lotion. All donations will be greatly appreciated. A box will be in the vestibule of St. Anthony's to drop items off at.

Ministry Notes & Updates

PSR:

Please pray for our students going through the sacrament of First Holy Communion this year. It will be on April 27th at the 10 am Mass. **Alaura Broshuis, Josie Deck, Anita Fodge, Ben Francis, Cam Hutchings, Avery James, Lacey McDonough, Sophie McWilliams, Addie Peters, Kynlee Seiler, Joseph Smith, Megan VanGennip, Em-marie Wiseman, Augustus VanGennip, Kenny King, Bailey Atkinson.**

NEED HELP: PSR weekday religion classes on Tuesday and Thursday mornings is still needing a teacher for the older grades. Please consider giving your talent and time. Contact Holly at 573-238-5452.

CONFIRMATION:

Our next confirmation meeting will be on April 6 after the 10 am Mass in the school cafeteria.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:

Don't forget to please help out at the baseball concession stand during all home baseball games this spring! Also - the youth group has been asked to run a concession stand at a local auction in our area on April 27. Watch for more info and to sign up to help!

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:

Please keep those growing in holiness at DYC this weekend in your prayers: Bryson Green, Theo Smith, Walter Smith, Pearl Smith, Kynlee Martin, Halley Lincoln, Lorna Brandel, Emma Engelen, Audrey Langston, Blair Elfrink, Erin Michaelree, Valerie Michaelree **Chaperones:** Marian Hutchings, Michaela Martin, Kyla Langston & Jessica Stoverink

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

As a Lenten service project, we will be having a diaper drive for our local Birthright. There is an immediate need for all sizes. Please help by donating. You may leave diapers in the back of church. For monetary donations to purchase diapers, please put in a marked envelope in the collection basket. Thank you!

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