



Better Together

Volume 1, No. 3

QUARTERLY PARISH NEWSLETTER
ST. CLEMENT • ST. JOSEPH • MARY QUEEN OF PEACE

October 2024

Catholic Stewardship Renewal

In this issue, we are highlighting the Pillar of Prayer, one of the four Pillars of Stewardship. Under this Pillar are the activities that the Parish sponsors that help our parishioners grow closer to God by strengthening their relationship and growing in spirituality.

All three of our Parishes have a wide array of ministries in which parishioners can participate to grow their spiritual life in prayer. These include Adoration, Altar Servers, Flame of Love, Lector, Mass Coordinator, Musicians, Offertory Gift Bearers, Prayer Line, and Rosary Leaders. Anyone interested in any of these prayer ministries can find more information about these ministries in our Stewardship Guide, copies of which are available at the back of church.

During Advent, parishioners have the opportunity to participate in a **4-week small group faith sharing sessions**, called "Parishes as Communities of the Beatitudes". Anyone interested in forming a small group can receive free guides to help facilitate the program sessions. Copies of the guides are available upon request from Shirley Touchette, 618-719-3461 or email: shirleyt_42@hotmail.com or Sandy Orf, 573-470-3470 or email sksho1121@gmail.com. Electronic versions are also available on the Diocesan website: diojeffcity.org/soft-pacotb/

In October, we will begin our second annual Catholic Stewardship Renewal (CSR) process. **The weekend of October 19-20 is Stewardship Commitment Sunday.** At the Masses that weekend, envelopes will be distributed at all 3 Parishes. They will contain a time and talent form, a tithing commitment form and a sheet for feedback regarding our ministries and ways to improve our parishes. The information gathered from the questionnaire is very helpful to correct names, addresses, family information and ministry information, including what we're willing to give back to our Church for all the Church has given us. Members of each church should pick up and return the envelopes to the church at which they're registered. Please complete the forms and return them either by placing in a collection box at the back of church or to the Parish Center Office. If you are away that Sunday, envelopes will be available for you at the back of church.

If you're new to any of the 3 parishes and have questions, contact Stewardship Committee members listed above. Forms need to be returned by the end of November.

St. Clement Cares Fund

The St. Clement Cares Fund helps those that are in unfortunate circumstances. The money collected helps in multiple ways.

- 1/3 -Sent to Hope Center -Quarterly
- 1/3 -Sent to Bright Futures Bowling Green -Quarterly
- 1/3 Stays at the Parish for emergencies of parishioners or those within Pike / Audrain county.

Non-parishioners must have a utility shut off notice to receive help with a utility or proof that their bill is behind. Once they have their paperwork in order and have a meeting with the pastor, the check is written to the utility company only if we are able to help them. We do not help pay rent, car payments, etc. Non-parishioners can only be helped one time a year, so that we can help many others if needed.

Occasionally we have helped in a domestic situation to get a person to safety for the night at one of our local hotels.

For parishioners, its up to the discretion of the pastor how we can help with their needs. This is stewardship at its best!

We thank you all for supporting this fund!



**Want to deepen your
faith & meet new
people in our parish?**

Consider joining a small group
for a four-session series on
Parishes as Communities
of the Beatitudes

For more information, contact:

Shirley Touchette 618-719-3461

Sandy Orf 573-470-3470

Download at: diojeffcity.org/soft-pacotb



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St. Joseph and Mary Queen of Peace Parish News

"Pray, Eat, Play" at Mary Queen of Peace is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Mass at 6 p.m., then carry-in dinner and fun games with Father Ussher and his flock afterward! We hope you'll join us on October 10, November 14 and December ?? (TBA). Everyone welcome!

The Louisiana Ecumenical Women's Group (EWG) meets at 9:00 a.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of March, June, September and November at alternating churches in Louisiana. Our Ladies Sodality group(s) will be hosting on Nov. 12 in Seton Parish Center. All ladies of St. Joseph and Mary Queen of Peace are invited to enjoy good food and interesting programs along with ladies from other churches. If you're not on the invitation e-mail list, but would like to be, notify President Linda Shade at 573-743-2676. Reservations are requested.

All ladies of St. Joseph and Mary Queen of Peace Parishes are invited to attend meetings of the Ladies Altar Sodality. Instead of night meetings during the winter, the St. Joseph meetings will begin immediately following 8:30 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month in Seton Parish Center. The next meeting is October 14 and they try to hold the meetings to one hour or less.

Mary Queen of Peace and St. Joseph Parishes are signing up for their new joint Church Directory. The last one was done in 2015. Sign-ups are in progress and the photos will be taken on Monday, October 21st and Tuesday, October 22nd. Parishioners are asked to sign up as soon as possible and can even do so online - see the posters at Church for the procedure. Each family will be given a free 8x10 photo and a Church Directory book. Additional photos can be priced and ordered. Please direct questions to Dana Barker or Jean Burkemper of MQP Parish. (Contact Parish Council Secretary Sandy Orf at 573-470-3470 for their phone numbers.)

Congratulations to Stephen and Cindy Orf of St. Joseph Parish. They were honored to have Fr. Ussher validate their marriage on their 11th anniversary, September 21st, to bring them into full communion with the Church. May God continue to bless this union in the years to come.

Congratulations to Ed & Karen Illy of St. Joseph's. They celebrated their 45th Wedding Anniversary with a Blessing by Fr. Ussher, assisted by Deacon Mark, at Mass on Sunday, August 11th.

Our condolences to the family of Nancy Lesley. Nancy was a faithful and devout member of St. Joseph Parish for many years, along with her parents, siblings and her own immediate family - daughter Carie, Bill, Gretchen & Ryan. Following retirement from her teaching career in Louisiana Public Schools, Nancy worked with the St. Clement children in their After-School Program. May God rest her soul.

St. Joseph Parish members were sad to hear of the passing of Ann Woods-Laird. Ann and her family were faithful members of St. Joseph Parish some years ago. Her obituary can be found on the Collier Funeral Home website. Funeral service will be held Oct. 27 at 1 pm at Collier's with visitation from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Burial at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Vocations Updates

Congratulation to **Chad Freie**, who on August 25, was instituted as an acolyte at a ceremony at the Cathedral. This is an important step in his preparation to be ordained as a permanent deacon next summer. As an Acolyte, Chad will assist the priest and deacon at the Altar and serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Communion. Being instituted as an acolyte gives him the opportunity to serve more actively and more visibly in the parish.

Message from our Seminarian Bryce Smith

Blessings to all at the parish of Saint Clement. I am currently in my fourth and last year of undergraduate pre theology at the Pontifical College Josephinum. This semester has been filled with many challenges as well as graces as I prepare to move into theology next year. It has been a struggle at times, but as our Lord says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Knowing the Lord is here by my side, I have no doubt it will be just fine. Spiritually, I feel the call to the priesthood more now than ever, and, with the Right of Candidacy coming up next summer, it is almost overwhelming. I can never give the Lord enough thanksgiving for the good he has done for me in my life and pray he continues to work in me and through me to reach His people.

Thank you to everyone who has been praying for me over the years, and I ask that you continue to pray for me as I continue to walk with Jesus and ask Him what His will is for me.

Ad Jesum Per Mariam
Bryce Smith



St. Clement PSR News

There are 17 children registered for PSR (1st - 6th grade). We welcome two new volunteer teachers: Danielle Orf (3rd/4th grade) and Breanne Kroencke (5th/6th grade). We welcome back Melinda Kneib, the 1st grade volunteer and Robie Orf, 2nd grade volunteer and PSR Coordinator.

We have 4 children registered for the 1st Communion class and are expecting 1 more to join us in the next week.

We are looking forward to October - the month of Mary and the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7). The PSR children and the youth group are planning a weinie roast at the Orf Farm on Sunday, October 20, from 5 pm-7 pm (when the youth group meets).

In November we are looking forward to learning about and celebrating the Solemnity of All Saints (November 1) and All Souls Day (November 2). We plan to go to the cemetery and pray for the souls in Purgatory.

Please pray for all the children in our parish.

15th Annual Golf Tournament

Saturday, October 19, 2024
4 Person Scramble - Sign In: 7 am/Tee off: 8 am
Entry Fee \$360/team; \$40 per cart;
Fee includes Skins, Mulligans, & Lunch
Vandalia Country Club, Curryville, MO
Hole Sponsorship available for a donation of \$100
For more information contact
Ryan Kent 573-470-0807

St. Clement Youth Group

The next St. Clement Youth Group meeting will be on Sunday, October 20. We will meet from 5-7 pm at Robie & Mel Orf's farm. There will be a BBQ, swimming, fishing and lawn games. It will be a great time for fellowship with friends and an opportunity to enjoy the cooler temperatures. Youth group is open to young people age 12+. For more information contact Becky Turner 573-470-6853 or Kathleen Berry 573-470-9812

There are also Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) weekends coming up Nov. 2-4 and Jan. 18-20. TEC is for youth age 16-21. Quest weekends, for youth age 13-15, are Dec. 13-14 & Jan. 31-Feb. 1. Both are held at the Franciscan Retreat Center in Quincy. To sign up, refer to greatrivertec.org.

St. Clement Ladies Sodality

The Ladies will be very busy this fall with lots of weddings and events to be catered.

At the October meeting we will hold officer nominations and at the November meeting we will hold elections for new officers for a two-year term. New officers to be installed at the December meeting.

The Ladies Christmas party will be held at our December meeting, starting at 6:00 p.m. All past and present member are invited. The meal will be catered, with reservations in advance appreciated. Games will be played after the meal.

As always, new members are invited to attend a monthly meeting, with our next meeting on October 9th at 6:30 p.m. at the KC Hall.

St. Joseph Knights of Columbus News

The St. Joseph Knights of Columbus will be holding their Tootsie Roll Drive on October 11 and 12. They can be found at street intersections in Louisiana.

Then on October 19 and 20, during Colorfest, they will have a food stand selling porkburgers, pulled pork and hot-dogs. Their booth can be found close to the Hannibal National Bank (HNB—formerly Mercantile Bank) on Georgia Street. Stop by to say hello and have a little lunch.

The St. Joseph Knights of Columbus meetings are held at 7:00 p.m., with the next ones at October 22 and November 26. They are always looking for new members. Anyone wishing to inquire about joining may contact Mike O'Neill, Frank Schwendemann or any of the other KC members for information.

St. Clement Parish News

Thanks to all that helped in any way with the Pre-Harvest Parish Auction held in August. The Net Profit for the event was \$47,339.22.

The Adoration Chapel is now open with the Eucharist exposed on Friday from 7 am - 9 pm. Most time slots are covered by 2 or more people so there can be a backup if one cannot make it. There are some hours that have only 1 person. If you would like to sign up or be a substitute, contact Michelle Nacke at 573-470-2656 or Mary Jane Noelsch at 573-470-3321. Anyone is welcome to pray in the Adoration Chapel at any other time with the Eucharist reposed in the Tabernacle. Adoration also continues on Wednesday in the Main Church beginning after the 7 am Mass until Benediction at 11:30 am.

Projects the Parish Council are working on is moving the freezer from the Parish Center to the school to store food; for the sign in front of church, replacing the plexiglass on one side and repairing frame on the other side; planning of celebration for Fr. Ussher's 25th Anniversary celebration on Dec. 14th; maintenance items either being completed or being researched include dirt leveling behind Parish Center and school sidewalks, tree trimming, sidewalk from school side door to playground and guttering on front of school.

Light switches for inside the church are located only at the south entrance. Anyone wanting to pray should enter that south door to access the light switches. The center light above the altar has been marked.

Marriages:

Clayton Sorenson and Michelle Scherder - daughter of Keith & Martha Scherder, married June 29th, 2024

Cole Scherder & Sonja Perry - Son of Terry and Colleen Scherder & daughter of Robert & Kristin Perry, married August 3rd, 2024

Baptism:

Maylee Josephine Scherder - July 14, 2024

Daughter of Wesley & Marley (Knock) Scherder

SAVE THE DATE: Fr. Ussher's 25th Anniversary of his Priesthood will be celebrated **December 14** at the 5:30 pm Saturday Mass at St. Clement. More details to come.

St. Clement Knights of Columbus News

The Knights voted to pay for a concrete slab for the new playground at the school and to purchase a sign for the KC Ballfield and donate said sign for purchase at the Parish Auction. The Knights have donated Hall use to Options for Women for their fall banquet and will also donate \$500.

It was decided to sell the tent as the Knights have built a new pavilion on the KC grounds. The van used to transport the tent will be auctioned at the Whitetail Banquet.

The Knights will again be sponsoring the "No Hunger Holiday" in November providing the ingredients for a complete Thanksgiving Dinner to families in need in Pike County. A special collection will held in November for this effort.

New members are always welcome. Contact Justin Caldwell at 573-795-3619 to learn how to join.

St. Clement Cemetery Association

St. Clement Cemetery is managed by a board of parishioners, appointed by the pastor, who are responsible for the care of the cemetery and the graves of the faithful who are buried there. In 1969 the responsibility for the cemetery was passed from the pastor to this board. Current members of the board are: David Korte, president; Gerald Luebrecht, vice-president; Larry Twellman, secretary/treasurer; and Fern Grote and Chris Hummel. The pastor of the parish, Father Henry Ussher, is an ex-officio member of the board.

The board members are responsible for the management of the cemetery, selling grave sites, collecting money, supervising the burial of those who have purchased grave sites and the installation of memorial monuments, and keeping records of all burials and grave sites sold. Expenditures for the cemetery are approved by and paid by the pastor from cemetery funds.

Several years ago, the cemetery was the beneficiary of funds from the estate of Mabel Meyer and now enjoys a healthy fund balance (a summary of cemetery funds and activities can be found on the parish website under "Organizations").

Over 1,200 souls are buried in the cemetery, with 15 to 20 souls added each year. The board asks for donations from parishioners for upkeep and maintenance of the cemetery every October by sending out postcards.

For the fiscal year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024 there were 17 burials, 23 grave sites sold, 146 grave sites available for sale, 342 grave sites sold but not yet used.

Fees for burial sites are: \$250 for members of St. Clement Parish and spouse or family member; \$450 for members of other Catholic parishes and spouse or family member.

St. Clement School News - Meet Our Staff

Enrollment for Each Class:

Pre-K: 13; Kindergarten: 10; 1st grade: 8; 2nd grade: 11; 3rd grade: 10; 4th grade: 6; 5th grade: 7; 6th grade: 4; 7th grade: 7; 8th grade: 1.

Upcoming Events:

October 25 - Trunk or Treat, 5:30 - 7 pm

November 11 - Veterans Day Mass 8 am followed by Breakfast & Program

December 18 - Christmas Program (tentative)

Ashley Labbee, RN - School Nurse. This is my fifth year at St. Clement School. I have been blessed in marriage for thirteen years to my husband Derek. Together we have three wonderful boys Luke, Liam, and Levi. Derek and I have been parishioners at St. Clement since 2010.

Our Lord called me to serve as the nurse for St. Clement School in 2019. During my five years here I have had the privilege of getting to know each child and their families. Talk about a gift. Healthy kids are kids ready to learn. Being at a school where we can include something as incredibly important as our Catholic faith with health and wellness is an immeasurable honor. I absolutely love being in class having discussions and lessons which always include hands on activities. Thank you so much for allowing me to serve our community.

Kelly Crane - I have been St. Clement School Secretary since 2016 with this being my last year. My husband Ryan and I have 3 children, Chloe, Hudson and Dawson.

Missy Dempsey - I am the Pre-K Aide and this is my first year at St. Clement. I am married to Randy and we have 3 sons, 4 granddaughters and 1 grandson. We live in rural Bowling Green.

Lucy Korte - I am the AfterCare Aide and this is my first year. I am a junior at Bowling Green High School and the daughter of Stephen and Angi Korte.

Marcin Jacyna - I work as Custodian/Maintenance at both the School and Parish. I am married to Ali, the Parish Secretary. We have 3 grown children- Levi, Drew and Abi and 3 grandchildren: Jenson, Jett and Jemma. The family began attending church at St. Clement 1999 when their oldest son started school here.

Debbie Akers - I am the School Cook, starting October 2023. Previously I worked in Food Service at the Bowling Green School District for 7 years. I am married to Brian and have 4 children and 5 grandchildren. We live in Curryville. Coming to St. Clement was the best job I ever took.

Carolyn Anderson - Carolyn has worked at SCS for 45 years in a part-time capacity in the kitchen. The kids love Miss Carolyn and she is part of the SCS family! Carolyn is an alumni of SCS.

Others that work or volunteer part-time at the school include Susan Orf who manages the Federal Lunch Program; Karen Allen is a Resource Teacher that helps with Kindergarten. Mary Twellman and Judy Correnti are our Library volunteers.

What would Amendment 3 actually do?

Allow abortion at any time for any reason

Amendment 3 would allow abortions for any physical or mental health reasons. This even allows post-viability, extremely late term abortions for treatable, temporary health concerns. Emotional health would justify an abortion when a child could survive outside the womb.

VOTE NO ON 3 AMENDMENT

Safeguard them both

Learn more at diojeffcity.org/amendment3

Paid for by the Diocese of Jefferson City.
Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, 2207 West Main Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914

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