



St. Andrew the Apostle

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

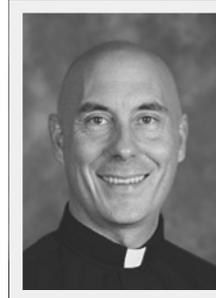
2014 LENTEN BOOKLET

“GIVE UP, TAKE UP, LIFT UP!”
- POPE FRANCIS

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(816) 453-2089 * www.sataps.com



LETTER FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends in Christ,

St. Andrew's Parish welcomes you and your family to join us on our Lenten journey beginning Ash Wednesday, March 5th!

What is Lent? Some reduce Lent to the action of giving something up, as if Lent is an opportunity for a "second New Year's Resolution," in which we set a goal, only to fade in our resolve a month later. Lent is so much more...

Not only is Lent an opportunity for repentance but for renewal. It is the opportunity to draw closer to Christ by recognizing our sins, accepting responsibility, repenting, and resolving to live a new way of life with God's grace. Lent is an opportunity to imitate our Savior Jesus Christ, who himself fasted and prayed in the desert for 40 days to prepare himself to do God's will. God calls each of us to holiness, and nothing less will do.

Do you feel far from sainthood? St. Andrew's Parish wants to help you on your journey to holiness. Our parish's goal this Lent is to help you develop your prayer life, an important foundation to building a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. Inside this Lenten booklet, you will find several resources to assist you with this goal. Please use these resources to develop a meaningful and consistent prayer life, not only during Lent, but throughout the year.

I would like to encourage you to make the most of your 40 days. Don't just give something up for Lent—Start building a strong prayer life for you and your family.

Sincerely,

Father Vincent M. Rogers, Pastor

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LENTEN CALENDAR		Key PH = Parish Hall CH = Church		* For regular weekly Mass & Confession schedules, please see the weekend bulletin's front page.		Ash Wednesday * Fasting & Abstinence * Prayer Challenge * 7:30am Mass * 7pm Mass (Church)	
First Sunday	9		10		11		* Prayer Buddies
Second Sunday	16		17		18		
* 11:30am—3pm St. Joseph Table Luncheon (PH)							
Third Sunday	23		24		25		* 6:30pm Speaker Burton (PH)
Fourth Sunday	30		31		1		
* 11:30am—2pm McKellar & Gicheru Seminarian Luncheon Fundraiser							
Fifth Sunday	6		7		8		* 6:30pm Speaker Melissa Ohden (PH)
Palm Sunday	13		14		15		
Easter Sunday!	20						
* 8:00am, 10:30am, & 6:30pm Masses							

Monday 5	6	7	8
Abstinence Challenge Begins (CH)	* 9:30am—6pm Adoration	* Abstinence * 9:05am School Stations of the Cross (CH) * 4—8pm Fish Fry (PH) * 5:30pm Stations of the Cross (CH)	
12	13	14	15
Challenge begins	* 9:30am—6pm Adoration * 6:30pm Speaker Ryan Sayles (PH)	* Abstinence * 5:30pm Stations of the Cross (CH)	* 5:30pm St. Joseph Table Blessing (PH) * 5:30—7:30pm St. Joseph Table Supper (PH)
19	20	21	22
	* 9:30am—6pm Adoration * 6:30—8pm Growing in Love: Marriage Enrichment Night (PH)	* Abstinence * 9:05am School Stations of the Cross (CH) * 4:30—7pm Fish Fry (PH) * 5:30pm Stations of the Cross (CH)	
26	27	28	29
Speaker Darryl	* 9:30am—6pm Adoration	* Abstinence * 9:05am School Stations of the Cross (CH) * 5:30pm Middle School Stations of the Cross (CH)	
2	3	4	5
	* 9:30am—6pm Adoration	* Abstinence * 9:05am School Stations of the Cross (CH) * 4:30—7pm Fish Fry (PH) * 5:30pm Prayer Buddies meet at Fish Fry * 5:30pm Stations of the Cross (CH)	
9	10	11	12
	* 9:30am—7pm Adoration * 5:45pm—6:15pm Rosary * 6:15—6:45pm Praise & Worship (CH) * 6:45—7pm Benediction	* Abstinence * 9:05am School Stations of the Cross (CH) * 5:30pm Stations of the Cross (CH)	
16	Holy Thursday 17	Good Friday 18	Holy Saturday 19
	* No 8:45am Mass * No 9:30am Confessions * 5—7pm Confessions (Two priests available) * 7pm Mass	* Fasting & Abstinence * No 7:30am Mass * 5—7pm Confessions (Two priests available) * 7pm Liturgy	* No Confessions * No 4:30pm Mass * 8pm Vigil Mass & RCIA students enter the Catholic Church!



- Are you new to St. Andrew's Parish?
- Have questions about the Catholic faith?
- Need help understanding the Mass?

St. Andrew's Coming Home Committee members would love to meet you and your family! Please call us at the parish office today at (816) 453-2089!

DID YOU KNOW?

What is the connection between Advent & Lent?

Just as our secular calendar divides the year into twelve months to mark the rhythm of the year, so does the Catholic Church divide the year into different liturgical seasons to bring focus to our worship. Both Advent and Lent are two of the Church's liturgical seasons. These two are periods of preparation & repentance, highlighted by the purple-colored vestments the priest wears in Mass. Both seasons help renew our hearts but for different reasons.

Advent prepares us to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ... this great mystery when God revealed Himself by becoming flesh and dwelling amongst us (Jn 1:14). Advent also helps us to prepare for Jesus' eventual Second Coming, when we will be judged on how we have, or haven't, loved others.

On the other hand, Lent calls us to repentance in order to prepare ourselves to celebrate the heart of the liturgical year, the Triduum (from the evening of Holy Thursday through the evening of Easter Sunday), in which we celebrate Jesus' victory over sin and death as a result of his Passion, Death, and glorious Resurrection.

DID YOU KNOW?

Why is Lent 40 days?

Let's look at scripture to discover the biblical significance of the number 40 and its relationship to the Lenten period.

In the Old Testament, the righteous Noah and his family entered the ark, and a heavy rain cleansed and covered the earth for 40 days and nights (Gen 7:6-12). Likewise, Moses spent 40 days on Mt. Sinai as God prepared him to receive the 10 Commandments to share with the Israelites (Ex 24:12-18). When the Israelites failed to trust God's plan to lead them safely into the Promised Land, God had them wander in the desert for 40 years until their hardened hearts learned to trust Him (Num 32:6-15).

In the New Testament, Jesus fasted and prayed in the desert for 40 days and nights before he began his public ministry, and the devil unsuccessfully tempted him three times with allusions of power and pleasure (Mt 4:1-11). Finally, after Jesus' Resurrection, he returned for 40 days to prepare his Apostles before he ascended into heaven. Jesus spent these 40 days forgiving, teaching, sanctifying, reassuring, and empowering His Apostles to continue his ministry of salvation on earth until the Second Coming.

Hence, in the Bible, the number 40 is often used to designate a trial or a test of a person's faithfulness in order to prepare them to lead a life of holiness.

Pope Benedict XVI said, "Sacred Scripture is not something of the past. The Lord does not speak in the past but speaks in the present, he speaks to us today, he enlightens us, he shows us the way through life... he prepares us and opens us to peace."

Therefore, how do you plan to physically and spiritually prepare yourself during your own 40-day Lenten test of faith in order to grow in holiness with God?

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Abstinence, Fasting, & More

1. Ash Wednesday (March 5) and Good Friday (April 18) are both days of **abstinence** from meat and also days of fasting. **Fasting** means that only one full meal is allowed; no solid food between meals. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but they should not equal another full meal together.
2. The other Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence from meat.
3. The obligation to abstain from meat begins at fourteen years of age.
4. The obligation to fast begins at eighteen years of age and ends at fifty-nine years of age.
5. Although the faithful enjoy freedom in conscience to excuse themselves for a just cause from these mitigated laws of fast and abstinence, the obligation to do penance is a serious one, and no Catholic should lightly excuse himself/herself from this obligation during the Lenten season.

Practices of Lenten penances and acts of mortification, increased devotion and prayer, and acts of mercy and charity are all worthy elements of our Lenten tradition.

Catholics should participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, receive Holy Communion worthily, and renew their commitment to live a life of integrity in fidelity to the Church's teachings and disciplines. We also pray for others and make sacrifices for those who are preparing to enter the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass.



DID YOU KNOW?

What is the biblical significance for using ashes for Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday is significant because it begins the penitential Lenten season. On this day, Catholics receive ashes in the Sign of the Cross on their foreheads, and hear the ending sentence from Genesis 3:19...

“By the sweat of your face shall you get bread to eat, Until you return to the ground from which you were taken; For you are dirt, and to dirt you shall return” (Gen 3:19).

This scripture verse reminds us of our complete dependence on God — that He created us out of the dust of the earth. It also reminds us of the effects of Original Sin that we inherit from our first parents. Because Adam & Eve distrusted God’s loving plan for them, sin and death entered the world amongst other curses, such as concupiscence (inclination to sin), difficult toil, suffering, child labor pains, among others (Gen. 3:16-19).

The use of ashes reminds us of our need for repentance to restore our relationship with God, who is the source of holiness. For more biblical examples of when ashes were used to symbolize repentance, please read the following verses:

Old Testament

Judith 4:11; 4:15 & 9:1

1 Maccabees 3:47 & 4:39

Isaiah 58:5

Jeremiah 6:26

Daniel 9:3

Jonah 3:6

New Testament

Matthew 11:21

Lk 10:13

*“Both were made from dust, and to dust they both return.”
- Ecclesiastes 3:20*

PRAYER PROCESS

Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic, p. 71 * By Matthew Kelly

Dynamic Catholics see a connection between the joy and fulfillment in their lives and their efforts to walk with God and grow spiritually. This Lent, strive to establish a meaningful prayer life using this helpful guideline:

Prayer Process:

- 1. Gratitude:** Begin by thanking God in a personal dialogue for whatever you are most grateful for today.
- 2. Awareness:** Revisit the times in the past twenty-four hours when you were and were not the-best-version-of-yourself. Talk to God about these situations and what you learned from them.
- 3. Significant Moments:** Identify something you experienced today, and explore what God might be trying to say to you through that event (or person).
- 4. Peace:** Ask God to forgive you for any wrong you have committed (against yourself, another person, or him) and to fill you with a deep and abiding peace.
- 5. Freedom:** Speak with God about how he is inviting you to change your life, so that you can experience the freedom to be the-best-version-of-yourself.
- 6. Others:** Lift up to God anyone you feel called to pray for today, asking God to bless and guide them.
- 7. Finish by praying the **Our Father**.**

PRAYER CHALLENGE:

Read the 4th Pillar of the Catechism on Prayer in 40 Days!

To read the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* on-line, please visit here:
<http://www.scborromeo.org/cc/p4s1.htm>

Daily Reading Journal

Days	CCC Passages	Days	CCC Passages
Section 1: Prayer in the Christian Life		<i>Sunday, Day of Rest (Mar. 30)</i>	
Day 1 (Mar. 5)	2558 — 2565	Day 23 (Mar. 31)	2728 — 2735
Chapter One: Revelation of Prayer		Day 24 (Apr. 1)	2736 — 2743
Day 2 (Mar. 6)	2566 — 2573	Day 25 (Apr. 2)	2744 — 2751
Day 3 (Mar. 7)	2574 — 2581	Day 26 (Apr. 3)	2752 — 2758
Day 4 (Mar. 8)	2582 — 2588	Section 2: The Lord's Prayer	
<hr/>		Day 27 (Apr. 4)	2759 — 2766
<i>Sunday, Day of Rest (Mar. 9)</i>		Day 28 (Apr. 5)	2767 — 2773
Day 5 (Mar. 10)	2589 — 2597	<hr/>	
Day 6 (Mar. 11)	2598 — 2605	<i>Sunday, Day of Rest (Apr. 6)</i>	
Day 7 (Mar. 12)	2606 — 2613	Day 29 (Apr. 7)	2774 — 2781
Day 8 (Mar. 13)	2614 — 2620	Day 30 (Apr. 8)	2782 — 2789
Day 9 (Mar. 14)	2621 — 2627	Day 31 (Apr. 9)	2790 — 2797
Day 10 (Mar. 15)	2628 — 2634	Day 32 (Apr. 10)	2798 — 2805
<hr/>		Day 33 (Apr. 11)	2806 — 2812
<i>Sunday, Day of Rest (Mar. 16)</i>		Day 34 (Apr. 12)	2813 — 2819
Day 11 (Mar. 17)	2635 — 2642	<hr/>	
Day 12 (Mar. 18)	2643 — 2649	<i>Sunday, Day of Rest (Apr. 13)</i>	
Chapter Two: Traditions of Prayer		Day 35 (Apr. 14)	2820 — 2827
Day 13 (Mar. 19)	2650 — 2657	Day 36 (Apr. 15)	2828 — 2835
Day 14 (Mar. 20)	2658 — 2665	Day 37 (Apr. 16)	2836 — 2843
Day 15 (Mar. 21)	2666 — 2673	Day 38 (Apr. 17)	2844 — 2851
Day 16 (Mar. 22)	2674 — 2680	Day 39 (Apr. 18)	2852 — 2858
<hr/>		Day 40 (Apr. 19)	2859 — 2865
<i>Sunday, Day of Rest (Mar. 23)</i>			
Day 17 (Mar. 24)	2681 — 2688		
Day 18 (Mar. 25)	2689 — 2696		
Chapter 3: The Life of Prayer			
Day 19 (Mar. 26)	2697 — 2704		
Day 20 (Mar. 27)	2705 — 2712		
Day 21 (Mar. 28)	2713 — 2719		
Day 22 (Mar. 29)	2720 — 2727		

Congratulations,
you did it!!!

PRAYER BUDDY ACTIVITY

Tues. March 11th * Deadline to submit participants' names

Wed. March 12th * Prayer Buddy begins

“The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful.”

- James 5:16b

If you would like to participate in this “Prayer Buddies” program during Lent (which is similar to Secret Santa only this program entails praying for a fellow participant only), then please register by e-mailing your name to the parish office at bulletins@sataps.com with “Prayer Buddies” in the subject heading.

Please submit your name & prayer intention on or before Tuesday, March 11th. Names will be drawn the following day by a parish staff member, who will then e-mail each participant their secret Prayer Buddy’s name & prayer intention. Please pray for them during the remaining days of Lent.

If you would like to meet your prayer buddy, please attend the last Knights of Columbus fish fry on Friday, April 4th at St. Andrew’s Parish Hall. The Fish Fry begins at 4:30pm, but please arrive at 5:30pm in case some Prayer Buddies work until 5pm. Please wear a name tag with your first name listed and “Prayer Buddy” written underneath it so that the Prayer Buddies can seek out each other at the event.



HOLY HOUR

Thursdays	Adoration	9:30am—5:45pm
“	Rosary	5:30pm
“	Benediction	5:45pm

“When he returned to his disciples he found them asleep. He said to Peter, ‘So you could not keep watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.’” - Mt 26:40

If interested to have a regular holy hour on Thursdays during Lent or afterwards, please contact:

Tina Gorman at (816) 734-4685

OR

Madelyn Ross at (816) 792-8426

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Thurs. April 10th * 6:15—6:45pm * Church

For one evening only during Lent, the youth choir/band will have a praise & worship time near the end of adoration. A 5:45pm rosary will precede the praise and worship, and a 6:45pm benediction will follow right after they sing. The youth will also sing the Divine Praises during Benediction.

“God himself will be the goal of our desires; we shall contemplate him without end, love him without surfeit, praise him without weariness.” - St. Augustine (354-430)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Most Lenten Fridays * St. Andrew's Church
9:05am = School Children * 5:30pm = Parish
* Please view Lenten Calendar ***

Come join our parish on Fridays! Or for personal meditation at home, please feel free to use these resources:

1. Mother Angelica's Reflections on the Stations:

<https://www.ewtn.com/devotionals/stations/face.htm>

2. USCCB's Stations of the Cross Resources:

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/devotionals/stations-of-the-cross/index.cfm>

- On-line Audio Stations of the Cross
- Scriptural Stations of the Cross

RECONCILIATION

Monday	12:00pm
Wednesday	5:30pm
Thursday	9:30am
First Friday	8:00am
Saturday	3:15pm — 4:15pm
Holy Thursday	5—7pm (Two priests available)
Good Friday	5—7pm (Two priests available)

Why do Catholics confess their sins to a priest?

Good question... Please view this excellent six-minute, live animated cartoon YouTube video called [Confession Explained](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvooOCcp600), which was posted by the Diocese of Richmond:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvooOCcp600>

“A sign of sincere repentance is avoiding the occasion of sin.”
- St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)

THE MASS: EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri	7:30am
Thursday	8:45am
Saturday	4:30pm
Sunday	8:00am, 10:30am, & 6:30pm
Holy Thursday	7pm
Good Friday	7pm Liturgy
Easter Vigil	8pm
Easter Sunday	8am, 10:30am & 6:30pm

“How can Jesus distribute his Body and his Blood? By making the bread into his Body and the wine into his Blood, he anticipates his death, he accepts it in his heart, and he transforms it into an action of love. What on the outside is simply brutal violence—the Crucifixion—from within becomes an act of total self-giving.”

- Pope Benedict XVI, August 21, 2005

EUCHARISTIC FASTING REGULATIONS

Code of Canon Law 919.1: A Catholic must fast for one hour from food and drink before receiving Holy Communion, excluding water and medicine.

Can. 919.3: The elderly, infirm, and their caretakers are exempt from this hour fasting.

Can. 915: Catholics who have committed mortal sins and are unrepentant can not receive Holy Communion.

“Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks of the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.” - 1 Cor 11:27-28

FISH FRIES

1.) Fish Fry (Sponsored by UNICO)

Date: Fri. Mar. 7th * **Time:** 4—8PM

Place: St. Andrew's Parish Hall

Menu: 'Premium' Atlantic seasoned cod, breaded shrimp, pasta with tomato or alfredo sauce, cole slaw, potatoes, bread and butter, desert, drinks

Ticket Prices: \$8.00 = adult; \$4.00 = children. Tickets may be obtained from St. Andrew's Parish Office. (Unico is donating \$4,500 to St. Andrew's Parish.)

Needs: Volunteers are needed to work at this event as well as people needed to provide desserts. Please contact Frank at (816) 985-3192 if you are interested.

2.) Fish Fry (Sponsored by Knights of Columbus)

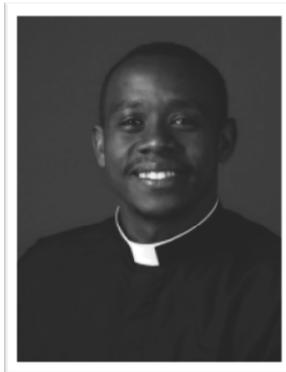
Dates: Fri. Mar. 21st & Fri. Apr. 4th

Time: 4:30—7pm * **Place:** Parish Hall

Menu: Shrimp, baked and steamed fish, baked potatoes, new potatoes, coleslaw, and corn. Desserts, beer, wine, & pop.

Cost: Adults = \$13. Kids 12 & Under = \$8. Family = \$45. Desserts, beer, wine, & pop will be available for purchase.

Please come and support the Knight's biggest fundraiser of the year! All money raised goes to support different ministries of our parish, such as supporting our LifeTeen group to attend the Steubenville conferences each summer!



WESLEY MCKELLAR & LEONARD GICHERU **SEMINARIAN LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER**

Date: Sun. March 30th * **Time:** 11:30am—2pm

Location: St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church

Description: Two of our seminarians Wes McKellar & Deacon Leonard Gicheru are suffering from serious health ailments and mounting medical expenses.

Wes McKellar has two aggressive forms of brain cancer and is receiving both radiation and chemotherapy treatments. He was only able to complete his first semester of seminary before his health issues deterred him.

Deacon Leonard Gicheru had complications with his gall bladder surgery and spent a month in the hospital having six successive procedures to correct these complications. He will be ordained a priest in our diocese in May.

Please lift up our seminarians and their families in prayer and help support them by attending their fundraiser on Sunday, March 30th! An on-line giving link will also be available on our parish website's homepage if you are unable to attend the fundraiser. Thank you for your generosity!

More details will be posted in the bulletin & on-line!

LENTEN PRESENTATIONS



1. The Origins of the Canon of the Bible & Utilizing Scripture in Prayer

Date: Thurs. March 13th * **Time:** 6:30pm

Place: Parish Hall * **Cost:** Free

Description: Although everyone knows what the Holy Bible is, significantly less people know where it actually came from. How did it come to be considered divinely inspired and assembled? We'll explore Sacred Scriptures' origins, various translations of the Bible, and why different Christian denominations have a different listing of books in their bibles. Furthermore, by using scripture as a foundation, we will see how it flows seamlessly to enhance our prayer life in a powerful, augmentative, & enriching way.

Speaker Bio: Ryan Sayles was born and raised in a Southern Baptist church. He converted to Catholicism after getting married, and now he, his wife, and his four children are striving towards living the devout life. The Sayles family are parishioners at St. Andrew's.

2. Hope & Forgiveness

Date: Wed. March 26th * **Time:** 6:30pm

Place: Parish Hall * **Cost:** Free will donation

Description: Darryl Burton is an exoneree, who was wrongfully accused of murder and sentenced to life in prison. During incarceration, Darryl studied the law in pursuit of his freedom, put his trust in God, and after serving 24 years behind bars, was proven innocent and released from prison in 2008.

Speaker Bio: Darryl now works to spread his message of hope and forgiveness on the national and international level, and has done interviews with CNN and other media outlets. Currently, he works as a full-time Mentor Coordinator for Catholic Charities' Turn Around program for the KC-SJ Diocese.



LENTEN PRESENTATIONS

3. Called and Equipped: God's Plan For Each of Us To Be a Part of the New Evangelization



Date: Tues. April 8th * **Time:** 6:30pm

Place: Parish Hall * **Cost:** Free will donation

Description: The New Evangelization calls each of us to deepen our faith, believe in the Gospel, and go forth and proclaim it. Yet many feel they lack the calling or the skills and talents necessary to be a part of evangelization. As a convert (completing RCIA currently) and the survivor of a failed abortion, Melissa Ohden has recognized that God calls and equips each of us to be a part of the New Evangelization and through her life story, will be encouraging others to do the same.

Speaker Bio: Melissa is an international pro-life speaker and activist who has appeared on Catholic and Christian radio and television shows including: *Life on the Rock*, *Defending Life*, the *Gus Lloyd Program*, *Teresa Tomeo*, the *Drew Mariani Show*, *Focus on the Family*, and *The 700 Club*, among many others.

Melissa and her husband Ryan moved to Gladstone, MO, in 2013. They are the proud parents of Olivia, who is a Kindergarten at St. Andrew's, and their second child who will be born in August 2014.

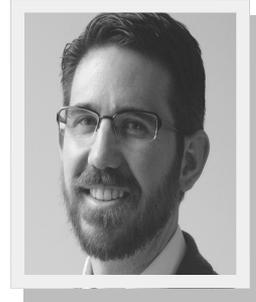


GROWING IN LOVE:
MARRIAGE
ENRICHMENT EVENING

A prayerful & practical
mini-retreat evening
dedicated to YOUR marriage!

This is an evening of prayer and reflection for married couples with the goal of strengthening the love of their marriage during this Lenten season. Bring your Bible and your spouse!

Presented by: Dino Durando, the Diocesan Director
of the Office of Family Life
&
Fr. Vincent Rogers



Date: Thurs. March 20th * **Time:** 6:30– 8pm

Cost: Free! * **Location:** Parish Hall

Refreshments: Light refreshments
will be served!

To RSVP: Please contact the parish office at
(816) 453-2089, ext. 7 or koverstreet@sataps.com

“To love a person means to see him as God intended him.”
- Fyodor M. Dostoyevsky (1821-1881)

ST. JOSEPH TABLE

***Primary Annual Fundraiser for St. Andrew's
Social Outreach Ministry***

Sat. March 15th * 5:30pm * Blessing of St. Joseph Table

Sat. March 15th Supper * 5:30—7:30pm * Parish Hall

Sun. March 16th Luncheon * 11:30am—3pm * Parish Hall

History of St. Joseph's Day & Table

St. Joseph's Day is a Roman Catholic feast day commemorating the life of St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Joseph was known as the protector of the Holy Family.

St. Joseph's Day is celebrated on March 19th with the Festa San Giuseppe (Feast of St. Joseph). It began in Italy, and it's a tradition that the immigrants brought with them when they came to the United States. According to legend, a terrible drought and famine plagued the people of Sicily during the Middle Ages. It virtually destroyed most of their crops, and many people in the Western part of Sicily died of starvation. The people began to pray to St. Joseph and begged for his intercession for their plight.

In return for being assisted, they promised to celebrate his feast day annually by having special altars or tables laden with their most precious possessions (food!), which would be shared with all people— rich and poor— as their thanksgiving to him.

God, through St. Joseph's intercessions, answered their prayers. The rains came, and the land, which had been browned and barren, were now lush and green again. Sicilians kept their promise to St. Joseph throughout the generations by preparing elaborate food altars, passing this tradition on to their children and to their communities.

St. Joseph, Patron of the Church, pray for us.



LENTEN ADULT EDUCATION SERIES BOOKLET

Want to do a small group study with your friends at home during Lent?

Our parish is providing a free Lenten Adult Education Series booklet, which includes discussion questions and *Catechism* reflections about the Mass readings for the six Sundays of Lent. The study booklet will be available for download directly from our parish website homepage at **www.sataps.com**.

The study booklet was developed & provided by Kevin Aldrich, who is a teacher and school administrator. Kevin writes curriculum materials for English, theology, and character education, as well as novels, screenplays, and TV pilots. His blog called Doctrinal Homily Outlines can be found at www.doctrinalhomilyoutlines.com and the site is a free resource for homilists and lay faithful.

BISHOP HELMSING INSTITUTE CLASSES

The Writings of St. John

Instructor: Scott McKellar

Dates: March 20, 27, & April 3

Time: 6:30pm

Place: St. Andrew's School, Rm 133

Fee: \$30/person if registering in advance on-line. Financial assistance offered.

For questions or to register, please call (816) 714-2331, or visit the website www.MyBHI.org

Description:

In this three-week course, the unique perspective of the Apostle John, the beloved disciple of Jesus, will be studied. This will review the life, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as witnessed by the *Gospel of John* and the *Letters of John (1, 2, & 3 John)*. Finally, the cosmic or heavenly vision of the Apostle John, as described in the *Book of Revelation*, will be examined.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION & ENCOURAGEMENT

**“Most people have no idea what God would make of them
if they would only place themselves at his disposal.”
- St. Ignatius Loyola (1491 – 1556)**

**“Man is so great that nothing on earth can satisfy him.
Only when he turns to God is he content.”
- St. John Vianney (1786-1859)**

**“Only when we meet the living God in Christ
do we know what life is...
There is nothing more beautiful
than to be surprised by the Gospel,
by the encounter with Christ.”
– Pope Benedict XVI, April 24, 2005**

**“The glory of God is man fully alive;
moreover, man’s life is the vision of God.”
- St. Irenaeus of Lyons (ca. 135-202)**

**“Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses
[prophets, martyrs, saints],
let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us
and persevere in running the race before us
while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus,
the leader and perfecter of faith.” - Heb 12:1-2**

