

[Jesus said,] “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.”

MARK 9:35

Learning How to Die Well

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Karl Rahner was a German Jesuit priest and a leading theologian of the twentieth century. He once observed that one of the tasks of life is to learn how to die well. On first hearing this, we may be much like the disciples who didn’t understand Jesus when he spoke of his own need to enter death (see Mark 9:31–32).

How do we learn to “die well”? If we forgo the need to always have our own way, if we forgive and resist the impulse to get revenge, if we are sensitive to the needs of others even when it’s inconvenient, if we care for the child among us, whether that “little one” be five, forty-five, or eighty-five—if we practice a willingness to die in such ways, then when it comes time for us to make that final journey of our earthly lives, it will not be as frightening because we will have been there before.

Furthermore, if we learn how to die well, our lives will take on new meaning. The focus of our lives will not be on ourselves, but on others and their needs. We will find ourselves less disappointed when life doesn’t go our way. Blue moods will evaporate more readily. We will have a greater interest in daily life. In other words, the very aspects that once seemed to drag us down will become doorways to hope and renewed life. What once seemed to have been a kind of death will become an avenue to faith in the resurrection. ●

Reflect

Have you ever “died to yourself” and then experienced a resurrection?

St. Joseph Catholic Church,
221 N Sycamore Street, Nortonville KS 66060 www.stjosephsnortonville.com

St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
905 Broadway, P.O. Box 176, Valley Falls KS 66088

Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 18760 Rogers Road, Atchison KS 66002

Parishes Office: 221 N Sycamore Street
Nortonville, Kansas 66060

Office hours: M, W, F 8:30a.m.-12:30p.m.
Phone: 913-886-2030
E-mail: sj.ic.cc.parishoffice@gmail.com

Pastor: Fr. William Dun-Dery
E-mail: wdun-dery@archkck.org

Sacraments

Reconciliation Saturday & Sunday 30 min before Mass (Wednesdays 6-7pm St. Joseph)

Marriage Six-month notice required
18 months if annulments needed

Anointing Please let us know of any hospital admissions

Baptism For Baptismal dates call the office;
one Baptismal Class required

Mass Schedule and Intentions			
Sat.	Sep 21	5:00 pm	Corpus Christi
	†	Paul and Mary Lemke	
Sat.	Sep 21	7:00 pm	St. Joseph
	†	Barbara Easthouse	
Sun.	Sep 22	8:00 am	St. Joseph
	†	John J. and Billie Sidoti	
Sun	Sep 22	10:00 AM	St. Mary's
		Mass for the People	
Mon.	Sep 23	No Mass	
Tue.	Sep 24	No Mass	
Wed.	Sep 25	No Mass	
Thu.	Sep 26	No Mass	
Fri.	Sep 27	8:00 am	St. Joseph
	†	Dec. and Liv. members of John J. Weishaar fa	
Sat.	Sep 28	4:30 pm	St. Mary's
		Mass for the People	
Sat.	Sep 28	7:00 pm	St. Joseph
	†	Jeanette Kingman	
Sun.	Sep 29	8:00 am	St. Joseph
	†	John D. Sidoti	
Sun.	Sep 29	10:00 am	Corpus Christi
	†	James Callahan	

No Daily Mass or Adoration this Week Monday-Thursday

Father William will be gone to the annual Priests' Convocation at Conception Abbey with the priests of the Archdiocese. If you need sacramental assistance during that time, call St. Benedict's Abbey: (913) 367-7853.

Mass Swap

September 28/29

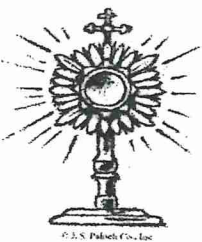
Saturday, September 28: 4:30pm mass at St. Mary's followed by Oktoberfest

Sunday, September 29: 10am mass at Corpus Christi

The Catholic bishops of the United States are pleased to offer once again to the Catholic faithful *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, our teaching document on the political responsibility of Catholics. The statement lifts up our dual heritage as both faithful Catholics and American citizens with rights and duties as participants in the civil order. Please visit <https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-and-peace/forming-consciences-faithful-citizenship> to read, download or print the document in PDF. Please pray for fair and honest elections.

Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions

St. Joseph
Wednesdays, 6-7pm
Corpus Christi
3rd Saturday of month, 4-4:45pm
St. Mary's
3rd Sunday of month, 11am- 12pm



Bulletin Submission deadline: Noon Wednesday

Parish Office Hours on Wednesday, September 25
8:00-10:00am

All are invited to celebrate Respect Life Month's kick-off Mass with Archbishop Naumann. There will be a reception following Mass with donuts and a light lunch. Several Archdiocesan life-affirming ministries will be present to share information. Respect Life Sunday Mass with Archbishop Naumann Sunday, October 6th, 9:30 a.m. Holy Trinity Catholic Church Lenexa KS

Confirmation for all three parishes will be Wednesday, November 6 at St. Joseph Church at 7:00pm.

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Kyle Perkis	Pat Maloney
Frank Werder	Bob Heinen
Emma Dockweiler	Rosella Hollis
Janet Schmidt	Chris Heinen
Greg Gillece	Tim Hosler
Phil Heuertz	Delores Miller
Virginia Grollmes	Roxie Herring
Jeremy Heinen	
Dorothy Herring	

Also pray for those serving in the Military, those with health issues and those who have no one to pray for them.

Contributions

September 14, 2024

Plate.....	51.00
Utilities.....	200.00
Support.....	2005.00
Total	\$2256.00

September Appointments

Ushers: Mike Brose, Bill Heinen, Pat Sieve
Lay Ministers: Mike Jones, Brandi Varner, Taylor Allen

September 28

Lector: Joyce Heinen
Musicians: Patty Bendure, RaeAnn Allen
Servers: Tommy Welsh
Gifts: Brooks Glassel Family
Finances: Larry Martin, Chad Mooradian
Sacristan: Lesa Brose

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FUND

RAFFLE tickets are on sale through the Knights of Columbus. The drawing will have twenty-one prizes: one \$30,000; one \$10,000; five \$5,000; eight \$2,000; and seven prizes of \$1,000 each. Tickets are \$100 each or can be purchased in increments of \$20. Tickets can be purchased by October 6th from Tom Welsh or Donny Smith.

St Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish Mission Statement

- Study our **FAITH**
- Practice our **FAITH**
- Support our parish and community in **FAITH**
- Evangelize our **FAITH**

Bulletin additions or corrections: Contact Crystal Clark
785-806-0262 (text or call)
email calebcystal@hotmail.com

September K of C Family of the Month

Larry Martin Family

BIRTHRIGHT sent a thank you note to St. Mary's Parish. This year the parish and the KofC council raised \$1000 for Birthright. The national Knights pregnancy support program sent Birthright an additional check for \$200. Thanks to all who supported this collection.

2nd Annual Oktoberfest!

German music, beer, food and fun. Please register using the QR code on the flyer. It will help us determine how much food is needed. Sign up sheets are posted at the doors.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Council #6671 received the COLUMBIAN award this year for completing 16 programs in the Faith, Family, Community and Life categories.

OUR CEMETERY dead trees will soon be removed. It will cost us a total of \$8700 to remove 8 trees and grind the stumps. Donations would be appreciated if you want to help with the project.

Benedict Heuertz passed away Thursday, September 19, 2024. A Rosary will be recited at 5:00 p.m. Monday evening, Sept. 30th at the Mercer Funeral Home. A visitation will follow the Rosary until 7:00 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at St Mary's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. Please keep his family in your prayers.

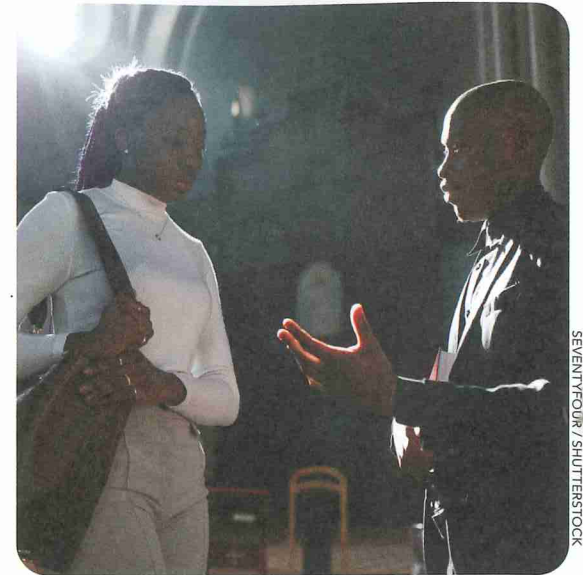
Upcoming important dates:

- **Sept. 28th** Saturday– 4:30 PM Mass at St. Mary's 5:30 PM Oktoberfest
- **Sept. 29th** Sunday–10 AM Mass at Corpus Christi
- **Oct. 5th and 6th** – Tootsie Roll Drive
- **Oct. 6th** – First Youth Mass
- **October 11th** Friday-Tootsie Roll drive at home football game vs JCN.
- **October 11th & 12th**- Junkfest and Valley Falls citywide garage sales (NCYC will not have sale this fall)
- **October 13th** Sunday- Vocation Support benefit breakfast after Mass for Dorothy Herring
- **Oct. 14th** – Senior Citizen supper and bingo
- **Oct. 22nd**-Parish Council Meeting
- **Nov. 6th** – Confirmation at St. Joseph's

Dear Padre,

What is spiritual direction? How does it differ from counseling?

In spiritual direction, a person is guided in a process of reflection, self-discovery, and recognition of God's presence in human experience; the primary focus is on one's relationship with God. Thus, in one sense, it is the Lord himself who is the "director" in all spiritual direction. In counseling, a person is also guided in a process of reflection and self-discovery; but the primary focus is on human growth and development. Counseling does not presuppose a person's faith or relationship with God; spiritual direction cannot be complete without it. Both spiritual direction and counseling share the same expectations of openness and honesty in the process; they share the same standards of confidentiality and professional conduct. Moreover, spiritual direction is similar to counseling in its aim toward human growth and development, but it further aims toward holiness and "toward ever more intimate union with Christ" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2014). That union is twofold: a personal relationship with Christ and with Christ's Church. "This union is called 'mystical' because it participates in the mystery of Christ through the sacraments" (CCC 2014). "All Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity. All are called to holiness: 'Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect'" (CCC 2013). ●



SEVENTYFOUR / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

CHAMELEONSEYE / SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Greatness and success in God's eyes are measured differently: they are measured by service. Not on what someone has, but on what someone gives. Do you want to be first? Serve.... [Service] has a precise and concrete meaning in the Gospel. To serve is not a courteous expression: it means to act like Jesus.

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Monday

September 23
St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest
Prv 3:27-34
Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday

September 24
Weekday
Prv 21:1-6, 10-13
Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday

September 25
Weekday
Prv 30:5-9
Lk 9:1-6

Thursday

September 26
Weekday
Eccl 1:2-11
Lk 9:7-9

Friday

September 27
St. Vincent de Paul, Priest
Eccl 3:1-11
Lk 9:18-22

Saturday

September 28
Weekday
Eccl 11:9-12:8
Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday

September 29
*Twenty-sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time*
Nm 11:25-29
Jas 5:1-6
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

The Role of the Church in American Political Life



The Church is the body of Christ, who reigns as king over all Creation. Everything, including political life, belongs to Jesus Christ, and so participation in political life belongs to the mission of the Church. Our mandate is to 'go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation' (Mk 16:15). . . . Here, 'the creation' refers to every aspect of human life. . . 'Nothing human can be alien to it.'

Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 181, quoting *Aparecida Document*, no. 380

Our national tradition of religious freedom permits and encourages all people of faith to bring the insights of their religious traditions to bear on political matters. As Pope Francis affirmed during his visit to the U.S., "Religious liberty, by its nature, transcends places of worship and the private sphere of individuals and families. . . . Religion itself, the religious dimension, is not a subculture; it is part of the culture of every people and every nation."¹

"If society is to have a future, it must respect the truth of our human dignity and submit to that truth. . . . A society is noble and decent not least for its support of the pursuit of truth and its adherence to the most

basic of truths" (*Fratelli Tutti*, no. 207). The truths that guide public life can be known by natural reason. The sanctity of human life, the equal dignity of all individuals, the obligation to protect the vulnerable, the nature and purposes of sex, marriage, and family—these are not exclusively "religious" truths, but truths that all people of goodwill can come to know without the aid of revelation. Our Catholic faith sheds light on these truths, and so we have a duty to bring that light to our nation.

★ —————
"The truth is something we receive, not something we make. We can only judge using the conscience we have, but our judgments do not make things true."
—————★

Many Parts, All One Body

The bishops and their pastoral collaborators each have distinct roles in the Church's mission. The bishops have the responsibility to govern the society of the Church, hand

on doctrine and tradition, and administer the sacraments. The laity are called to bring the gospel to bear on the world. While many laity are involved in roles of leadership and service within the Church, it remains primarily the role of the laity to advocate for justice, to serve in public office, and to inform daily life with the gospel. “The direct duty to work for a just ordering of society is proper to the lay faithful” (*Deus Caritas Est*, no. 29).

Participation in political life requires judgments about concrete circumstances. While bishops together with their coworkers help form the laity in accordance with basic principles, they do not tell the laity to vote for particular candidates. On these often complex matters, it is the laity’s responsibility to form their consciences and grow in the virtue of prudence to approach the many and varied issues of the day with the mind of Christ.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

Conscience is “a judgment of reason” by which one determines whether an action is right or wrong (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1778). It does not allow us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere “feeling.” Conscience—properly formed according to God’s revelation and the teaching of the Church—is a means by which one listens to God and discerns how to act in accordance with the truth.² The truth is something we receive, not something we make. We can only judge using the conscience we have, but our judgments do not make things true.

It is our responsibility to learn more of Catholic teaching and tradition, to participate in Church life, to learn from trustworthy sources about the issues facing our communities, and to do our best to make wise judgments about candidates and government actions. These decisions should take into account a candidate’s commitments, character, integrity, and ability to influence a given issue. Thus equipped, and further impelled by our sense of patriotism, we exercise our right and duty to vote and otherwise to participate actively in public life.³ By forming our consciences for faithful citizenship, we can better pursue the common good and thus obey the command of our Lord to love our neighbors.

This bulletin insert along with five others was approved by the body of U.S. bishops in November 2023.

Find this and more complementary resources at www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

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1 Pope Francis, Meeting for Religious Liberty with Hispanic Community and Other Immigrants, September 26, 2015.

2 *Gaudium et Spes (The Church in the Modern World)*, no. 16. See also, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1785.

3 *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 2239-40.