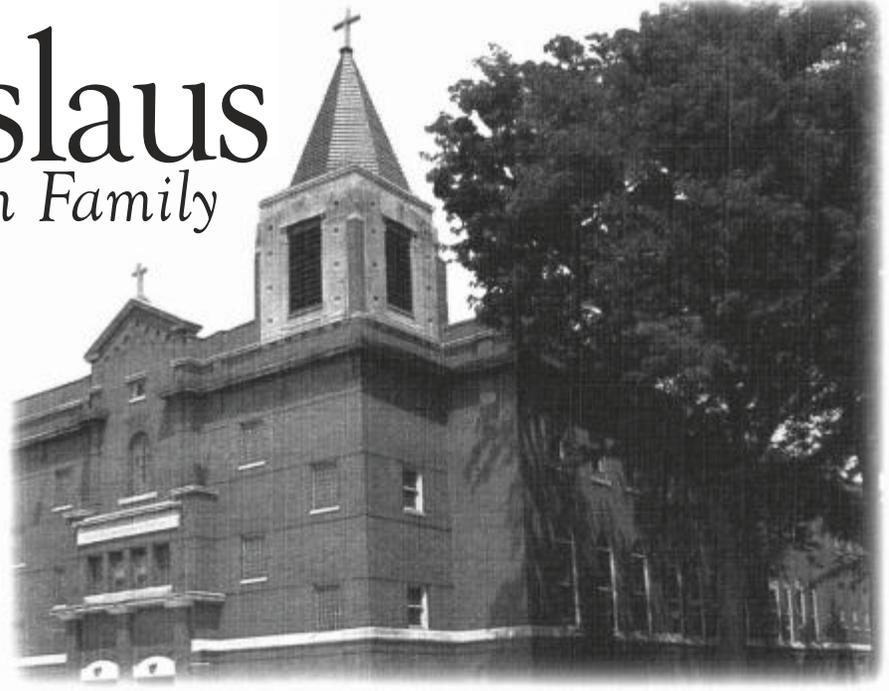


St. Stanislaus

Parish Family

July 25, 2021
17th Sunday
In Ordinary Time



808 W. 150TH STREET · EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA 46312

PARISH STAFF

Msgr. John J. Siekierski, Administrator
Sister Gloria Jean Kozlowski, Director of
Religious Education
Dora Castellanos, School Secretary
Heladia Rivera, Church Secretary

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm (by appointment)

Office Closed: Wednesday,
Friday, Saturday & Sunday

TELEPHONE

Parish Office/Rectory	398-2341
Convent	397-7059
School	398-1316

MASSES

Saturday 4:30pm

Sunday 8:30am

WEEKDAY MASSES

There are no weekday Masses or Word &
Communion Services at this time.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays from

4:00pm-4:15pm

and after the 4:30pm Mass.



17th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When they had had their fill, he said to his
disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so
that nothing will be wasted." - Jn 6:12

Liturgical Notes for the Week

We enter into the 18th week of Ordinary Time and with the proclamation of today's gospel from Saint John into a detour from the cycle assigned for this year. (Do you remember which one?) In the three year Lectionary cycle, there is no Year of St. John. So that the significant John 6 may be proclaimed, it is inserted today and will be read through during the following Sundays. That chapter opens with the multiplication of five loaves and two fish. This is one of only two stories that all four Gospels relate. Jesus seems to be following in the footsteps of the great prophets like Elisha who multiplied loaves and grain, but two things set Jesus' action apart from the Old Testament prophets. First, he takes the bread and fish and gives thanks (in Greek, eucharisteo, from which our word eucharist comes) and then distributes them. The Eucharistic liturgy can be described using four words that depict the fourfold activity in each Mass: "Take, Bless, Bread, Share." These words describe Jesus himself when he feeds the multitudes, when he eats the Last Supper the night before his crucifixion, and when he stops to dine with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. So it happens at Mass: the presider takes the gifts of bread and wine offered by the community, blesses (consecrates) them, breaks them, and shares them. While some of the significance is lost with the usual practice of distributing small hosts and pouring the wine into separate cups before consecration, the pattern is undeniably there. That pattern, further, is repeated by Christ with our very selves. We might believe it to be a conscious choice of our own will to arise and make our way to church on Sunday morning—and it is—but it is truly Christ himself who gathers, who takes us into that house of God that we might ourselves be blessed, broken, and shared with the world in need, sent to proclaim the Gospel of the Lord. "Broken?" you might ask. "How are we "broken" at Mass? Aren't we there to be made whole, to be made holy?" So we are, but the Lord also expects of us a certain vulnerability. Perhaps we come to Mass already broken by some of our "real life" experiences during the week, perhaps not. But in either and any case, we must allow ourselves, by the prayers, the Scripture, the music, by the multivalent presence of Christ himself, to be ripped apart to be made whole again. Does not the word "surrender" contain the word "rend"? "Rend not your garments, rend our hearts! Turn back your lives to me," says the perhaps familiar Lenten hymn "Led by the Spirit." Each liturgy is a chance for us to enter into that truest of conversion moments and, like the apostles in today's gospel, be sent out to proclaim, heal, and build the reign of God, in Christ's name. To receive the Eucharist during Mass these past pandemic weeks, how blessed are we to do so today and how wonderful it is to be given these scriptures to make us more thankful for the Eucharist.

The second thing that Jesus has the disciples do in the gospel that Elisha didn't do in the Ordinary Time text was to gather up what's left over. Twelve baskets of fragments are left, one for each of the disciples who doubted they could feed the multitude with five barley loaves and two fish. The prophet Elisha and Jesus understood the essential need to eat. Both feed large hungry crowds. All were fed and no one was left hungry. As you listen to the gospel's miracle, what's your reaction? Do you have any wonderings like about how come there was a boy there with the five loaves and two fish in the first place. A multitude was there, didn't someone else have more? Why was this boy whose name is unknown the one chosen? Do these questions speak a message to you about where you are, what you hear, what you are willing to do with it..., who is there around you at Mass today? Is there a multitude? Could there be more present if word of mouth got out about what takes place here? Rumors get spread like wild fire but the Good News of the Gospel not so!!!

Pope Francis' words about "True Riches" may help our appreciation of the words spoken and written about.

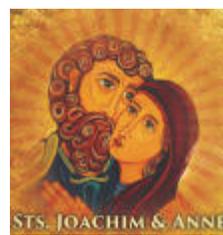
True Riches

I would have liked to knock on every door, to say "good morning," to ask for a glass of cold water, to take a cup of coffee... to speak as family and friends, to listen to each person pouring out their heart—parents, children, grandparents... It is important to know how to make people welcome; this is even more beautiful than any kind of ornament or decoration. And do so with love, showing that true riches consist not in material things but in the heart! Let us always remember this: only when we are able to share do we become truly rich; everything that is shared is multiplied!

Monday celebrates Sts. Anne and Joachim, parents of Mary, grandparents of Jesus. Let us pray today that all children may be nourished and enriched in their lives of faith by their parents, godparents and grandparents into whose care they have been entrusted as Mary was into her family.

Prayer to Sts. Joachim & Anne

O glorious Saints Joachim and Anne, Grandparent of the Most High! Great indeed is our Lord's affection for you. We honor you faithfulness in marriage, and your openness to God's hidden plan. It was from your marital embrace that the Spirit fashioned your fair daughter Mary to be sinless; the dawning of a new creation awakening from her Immaculate Conception. It was in your family that she learned to love God and grow in every virtue. By a life of obedience to the Law of God lived in your home, Mary was prepared to receive the Eternal Word into her heart and into her womb. From your tender love Mary learned a motherhood that knew no bounds, and by the example of your married life, Mary knew what it was to be a faithful wife to Joseph, her most chaste spouse. O Saints Anne and Joachim, great indeed are you who gave life to the Mother of our Savior! It pleased God to create from your union a woman freed from the stain of sin, by the saving death of the son she had not yet conceived. Dearest Saints Joachim & Anne, pray that our families may grow in holiness and that our homes may become grace filled sanctuaries of love. By your powerful intercession, protect and guide all grandparents that they may be great examples of faith. Amen.



Scripture Reflection

St. Oscar Romero said, “We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is the beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest.” There were a group of ladies many years ago who made quilts. They were beautiful creations reflecting inspirational designs artfully composed from the simple scraps of fabric each woman would bring to their individual pieces. There was no plan for the finished project as each finished work became the combined creation of what each woman contributed. They abounded in vibrant colors and dazzled the beholder with intricate patterns and their myriad textures. They were so beautiful that they became coveted family treasures passed from generation to generation. Those women never realized the power of their work. Countless babies rested in the comfort of those quilts warmly nestled in the legacy of tradition they were fortunate to inherit. They adorned countless homes with their beauty and brought joy and solace to many faces. We cannot do everything. We are not meant to. Our work in life is to contribute our individual piece, a piece that reflects the unique thumbprint I claim as my own. We only have to do small things well. Then, as St. Oscar Romero reminds us, the Lord’s grace will enter and do the rest. We have to trust that this is true just as those women trusted in the eventual beauty of their final work. Eucharistic blessings are blessings that start small and multiply. We all come to life with only a few loaves of bread and a few fish. Not any single one of us has all that it takes to transform our world. Who knows what God will do with the little we have and how many will benefit from our kindness, compassion, wisdom, courage, conviction, love, warmth, zeal, faith, and hope? That young lad never dreamed that his few leftovers would do all that they did. God shows up in unexpected ways! Where would life’s adventure and fun be if it were any other way? Being able to be part of bringing God’s creative, transforming, healing to the world opens us up to wonder, awe, and excitement! We can all bring our little piece to the bigger work of God that can result in being a coveted jewel passed generation to generation. This is good news indeed! Bread and wine transform into Christ’s Body and Blood and we become what we eat. Trust that.

Catholic Services Appeal/CSA 2021

Many sincere thanks to the 2 families of our parish who made a pledge/gift last week in the amount of **\$1,150.00** toward our Catholic Services Appeal parish goal of **\$24,294.00** We need **\$4,679.00** to reach our Parish Goal. Please be generous in helping our parish reach its CSA goal. Thank you and God bless you and yours.
— Msgr. John

Financial Blessings

YOUR GIFTS TO YOUR PARISH LAST WEEK IN THE COLLECTION AMOUNTED TO.....\$3,803.00

Adult envelopes issued.....297 (July, 2021)
 Adult envelopes used.....91/31% (July 18, 2021)
 Food Pantry.....2 donations.....**\$150.00**
Thank You for your continued support! May God Bless You!

CONSIDERATION: Each of us is an endangered species. When we die, our species disappears with us. Nobody like us will ever exist again. — Journalist, Janet Malcolm

Everyday Stewardship

St. Therese of Lisieux made a point of going the extra mile in kindness towards those people who really got under her skin. It was part of her own brand of Everyday Stewardship — thanking God for all His creation, even the parts with which, in her own humanness, she struggled to cope. I think about this a lot when I challenge myself to give thanks for things that bother me and people who challenge me. When I do this, I envision Christ giving thanks over those insufficient loaves. How many of us would see that paltry little basket and kick a rock in frustration because we can’t feed all our people? “You didn’t give me enough, Lord! You didn’t give me enough patience, enough money, enough creativity, enough stamina to be a good steward. If you had given me more, I could also give more!” In those moments of despair, we need to take a good look at the life God has given us. We need to look at the trials and the challenges and the shortcomings. The hopes that didn’t pan out, the disappointments that keep cropping up. Somewhere therein lies what we need to be the steward God asks us to be, just as St. Therese’s own stewardship was defined by the people she simply couldn’t stand. God does not give us all we want. He does not give us all we ask for. He does us one better: He gives us all we need. It’s all in the basket.
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Inspiration For The Week

God shows up in unexpected ways! Just when we think we have God’s agenda figured out, another surprise comes. Expecting to find God only in some places hinders us from finding Him everywhere. Who would have thought that a young boy’s few loaves and fishes would feed thousands of people? The disciples were probably just as amazed as everyone else when this feast appeared before them. Sometimes, we find it difficult to believe that God can do amazing things with something small and simple. Yet, grasping this truth is really at the heart of understanding the power of the Eucharist. Having the Body and Blood of Christ made present for us is one amazing wonder. Actually being fed and nourished by that gift is another. Now being able to become what we have eaten, God can do tremendous things with the simple, humble gifts of our lives. All we have to do is realize that God dwells within us. When we do, then everyone we encounter and everything we do has the power to become a sacramental moment. When done with great love even the smallest gesture can be multiplied exponentially. Now, that’s amazing!



Monday, July 26 - Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, July 27

Wednesday, July 28

Thursday, July 29 - St. Martha

Friday, July 30 - St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Saturday, July 31 - St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

4:30pm †Julia A. Lelek int. Rosemary Malocha
†Janice Ciba int. Family

Sunday, August 1 - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am †Mary Brzek int. Gregory & Sophia Bembenista and Family
Health & God's Blessings for our Parishioners

Quote from Pope Francis

Living for others is a rule of nature.
We are all born to help each other.
No matter how difficult it is.
Life is good when you are happy;
But much better when others are
happy because of you.



Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained

Question: We are considering homeschooling our children. Does this present a problem when it is time for them to receive the sacraments? What must we do?

Answer: Homeschooling is legal in all fifty states and like other types of education, has its advantages and its drawbacks. There are many factors to consider, and each family has to decide what the best way to educate its children is. With religious education, many dioceses have a formal policy that outlines procedures and expectations, some of which include more than just academic information. Call the religious education office to find out what they are for your area. In general, though, an appointment with your parish priest to discuss your situation is the best first step. An opportunity to discuss what is available, what the expectations are for each sacrament, and how you can best prepare your child helps make your time of preparation more effective. The priest can direct you to good catechetical materials, parent information classes, and other choices and possibilities for your child. All parents need to be part of their child's religious education, taking a lead in instilling the values and beliefs of their faith. Communication and information helps us all to teach and preach the Gospel as Jesus did.

Question Of The Week

First Reading:

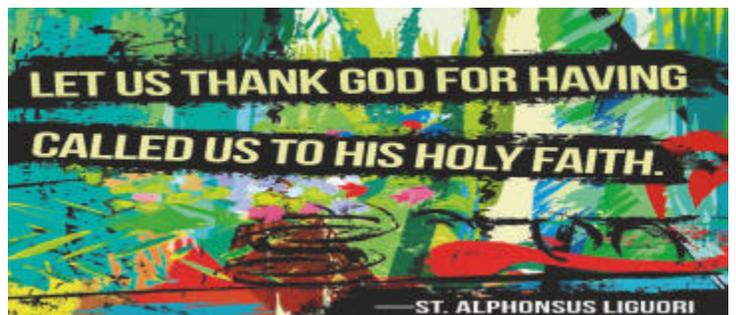
The prophet Elisha was able to feed a crowd of a hundred people with only twenty barley loaves and some fresh grain. Why do you think God empowered Elisha to perform this feeding miracle?

Second Reading:

Paul taught the Ephesians that as believers we are called to live by the moral imperatives of humility, gentleness, patience, love, and peace. Which of these virtues do you think you do well?

Gospel:

The people mistakenly thought of Jesus as "the Prophet who is to come into world" after the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. What are some times when you have seen others misuse or misrepresent Jesus?



Community Events

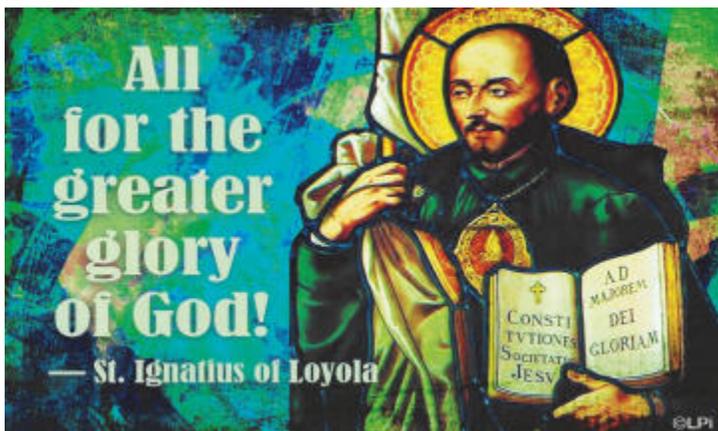


St. Stanislaus School is re-opening its 3 & 4 year old pre-school program. Both full and half day classes are offered. This program lays the foundation for good academic and social skills. Children can be registered by calling the school at 219-398-1316 or by going on-line at www.ststansec.org. Don't delay, classes fill up fast.



If anyone is interested in helping the Food Bank of NWI's Mobile Market in the area of East Chicago, please contact Sarah Barnard at 219-980-1770 ext.316 for more information on how you can help. Or you can always find more information on their website at www.foodbanknwi.org

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Looking for a new school for your child?

Join us! My School Options will be hosting a Parent Information Session near you to discuss the opportunities available to Hoosier Families. Because of new legislation, many Hoosier households may qualify for the state's school choice programs. Join us to learn more and find a new option for your child's K-12 education!

Parent Information Session

Hammond

Wednesday, July 28th

6:00 pm

Bishop Noll Institute

Enter through Door "C"

1519 Hoffman Street, Hammond, IN 46327

RSVP to Tara Nelson at

tara@myschooloptions.org

or by phone at 219-808-0106

For assistance in Spanish, RSVP to Cesar Roman

cesar@myschooloptions.org

or by phone to 317-383-1346.



**SAINT
STANISLAUS
SCHOOL**

We, at St. Stanislaus Catholic Elementary School, are dedicated to nurturing our students to achieve academic

excellence within a safe, faith-filled environment. We work to create well-disciplined learning experiences which lead children to Christ by deepening their faith, building their self-worth, and encouraging their service to the community.

Enrollment is Currently Open

Classes start August 18, 2021

Children can be registered by calling the school at 219-398-1316

or by going on-line at www.ststansec.org.

Don't delay, classes fill up fast.



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