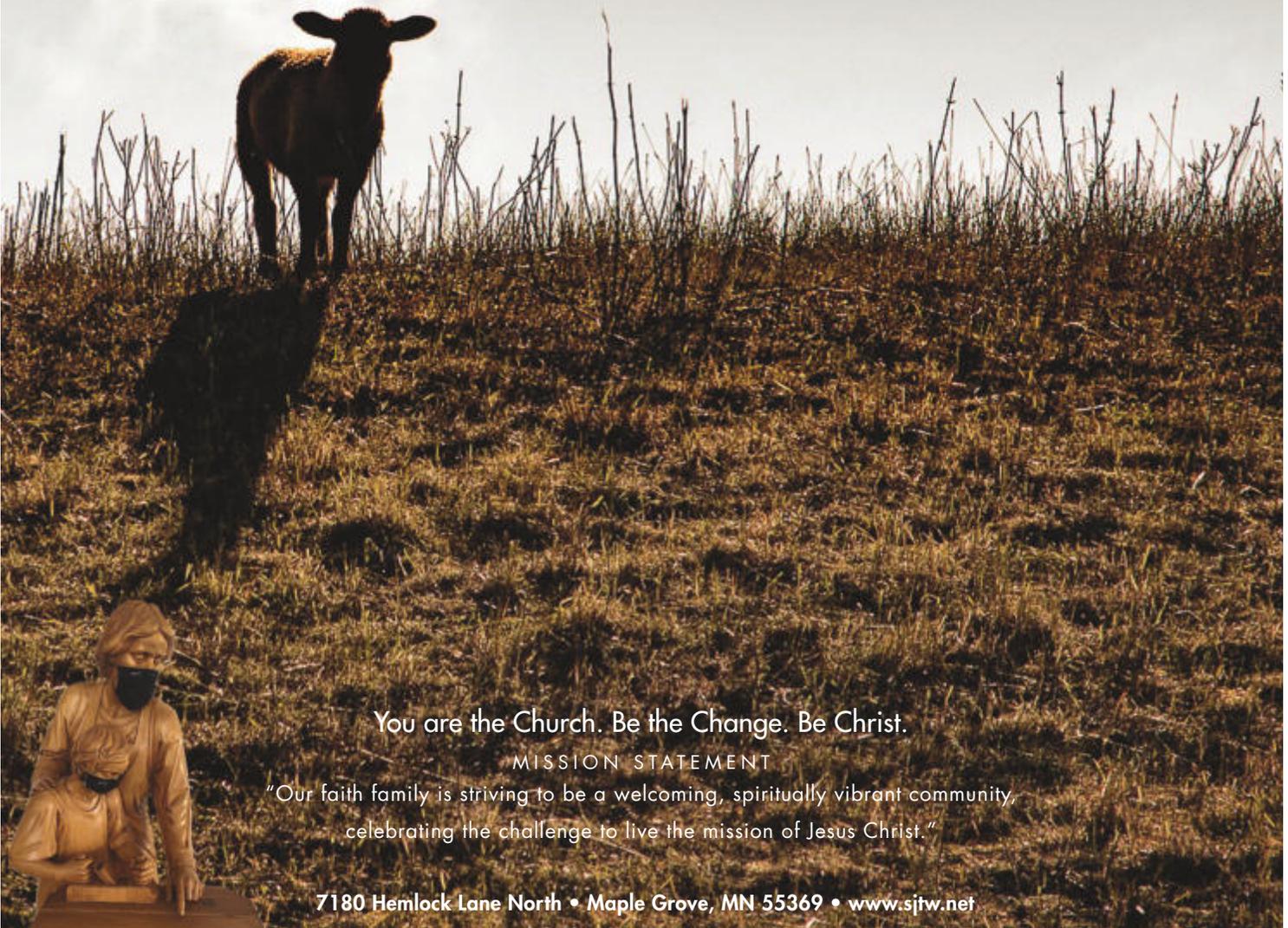


SJTW  *Alleluia!*

"I am the good shepherd.  
A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

1 John 2:1



You are the Church. Be the Change. Be Christ.

MISSION STATEMENT

"Our faith family is striving to be a welcoming, spiritually vibrant community,  
celebrating the challenge to live the mission of Jesus Christ."

Retirement

April 25.

Isle of View.

Goodbye. God be with ye.

In my existence living in Minnesota, I do not hear "goodbye" much anymore. The departing greeting seems to be something more like: "have a good day" or "have a good week" or "see you later."

It is very hard to say goodbye. We even say that we hate long goodbyes. Yet, when somebody leaves suddenly we feel such a shock or that the rug was pulled out from underneath us. Any which way leave-taking happens, the process puts us all in a very awkward and difficult situation. When honest, we have to admit that we just don't know what to say and are hard-pressed to find the right words.

Nevertheless, when we are forced to enter into this process of letting go, there is an opportunity to find great meaning and awareness in the wonderful connection that has existed without even a passing thought in everyday life. I often see this within family dynamics when one member finds out that he or she is diagnosed with severe cancer. When openly and honestly faced, the reality of taking leave becomes a process of beholding the beauty of an eternal love that's been shared for years without ever any formal or cursory acknowledgment.

The dying person sometimes even says, "it feels like I'm at my own wake." There is a beholding of the eternal within the earthly. How does it go? You don't know what you got until it's gone! Saying goodbye helps us to realize what we already have been given and to understand how this gift exists beyond absence.

Saying goodbye helps us to die before we die so that when we die we don't die. We come into knowing that God is with us, that God will be always with us by the good practice and process of saying goodbye. I am forever grateful. Merry Easter!

God be with ye!

Father Don.

### *Weekday Mass*

Monday – Thursday at 11:00 am (In person and on Facebook Live)

Friday Morning at 6:30 am (In person only)

### *Weekend Mass*

Saturday Evenings at 5:00 pm (In person, parking lot and live-streamed)

Recorded Mass will be available following Live Stream.

Sunday Mornings at 8:30 and 10:30 am

Online at [www.sjtw.net](http://www.sjtw.net)

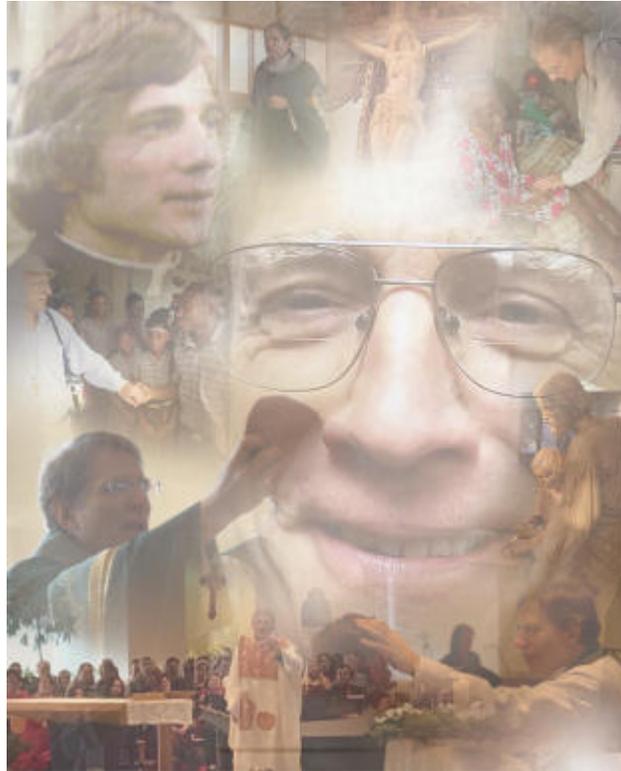
**Those planning to attend Weekend Masses NO LONGER need to sign up.**

**Masks must be worn inside our building at all times. Please maintain social distancing (6') as you enter and exit SJTW, as well as when you come forward to receive communion in the hand.**

We will broadcast weekend Masses via FM transmitter for those that don't feel comfortable coming indoors but would like to participate from the parking lot and receive Holy Communion.

Communion ministers will be located outside Door 2 (faith Formation doors).

Tune in your FM radio to 106.7. A worship aid can be downloaded at <https://www.sjtw.net/mass-schedule>





FR. MIKE

During the past year you have been extremely faithful in your contributions to the parish. Because we have not had to spend money on some of the things that have been in the budget and some folks have given us generous gifts to use as we see fit, we have been busy about the complex fixing and repairing things. In some cases we have even replaced things that were past their life expectancy. With increasing numbers of people in the church for weekend Masses and daily Masses, and for people coming into the building because of Faith Formation or other meetings I encourage you to look carefully at things. Hopefully you will notice some of the changes as well. As we begin to engage in parish activities once again I would like to remind you that we still need your financial support so that the ministries we have engaged in can continue and even thrive. You have been generous. I would ask you to continue the good work God has begun in you. Fr. Mike

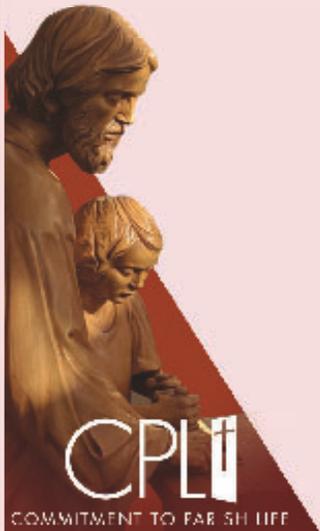


COMMITMENT TO PARISH LIFE

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 2021 CONTRIBUTIONS

		# of Donors
Sunday CPL	\$11,854.00	106
Electronic	\$22,975.13	248
Child Envelopes	\$ 2.00	1
Plate	\$593.00	
Total	\$35,424.13	355

*Thank You for your Generosity and Continued Support!*



**YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED & APPRECIATED!**

<p><b>ONLINE</b></p>  <p>Visit <a href="http://www.sjtw.net">www.sjtw.net</a> Click <b>DONATE</b></p>	<p><b>TEXT</b></p>  <p>Text <b>SJTW GIVE</b> to <b>77977</b></p>	<p><b>MAIL</b></p>  <p>Send envelopes: SJTW 7180 Hemlock Lane N, Maple Grove, MN 55369</p>
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# Together in Hope

## 2021 Catholic Services Appeal

The Catholic Services Appeal Foundation is an independent foundation partnering with fellow Catholics to share Christ's love with neighbors in need through ministries that serve the poor, support life and strengthen the Faith.



For the first time in 20 years we have failed to meet the goal for the Annual Appeal.

Surprisingly it is not that those who have given have not given enough. It is there are so many who have faithfully given in the past who have not yet made a commitment to the Appeal. The Appeal assists over 20 ministries in the Archdiocese including service to those with unwanted pregnancy, the homeless and hungry, those seeking an annulment, and education for pre-school through the education of seminarians. If you have not yet made your pledge and gift to the Annual Appeal I ask you to do so soon. All of these ministries benefit everyone no matter where in the diocese we live. Any of these ministries are too big for each parish to do on their own so we all work together to provide the needed ministries who call upon the church to render assistance. Fr. Mike

Visit [www.csafspm.org/givecsaf/](http://www.csafspm.org/givecsaf/)



## Spring/Summer Children's Sale

St Joe's Children's Sale will be the weekend of May 15th-16th. The sale is open to EVERYONE - you do not need to be a church member to participate. Here is the link to current information posted on our

church website: [www.sjtw.net/childrens-sale](http://www.sjtw.net/childrens-sale)

Here is the link for the volunteer sign up:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_TP2ditzzv7LWpFy1HP-08fyYAmbl1EzOBaUqno4aj8/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_TP2ditzzv7LWpFy1HP-08fyYAmbl1EzOBaUqno4aj8/edit)

All volunteers are eligible to shop the Friday night pre-sale, ahead of the public sale.

If you have questions and/or would like to be on our sale emailing list, please contact Jennifer and Kim at [childrenssale@sjtw.net](mailto:childrenssale@sjtw.net)

EARTH DAY • ARBOR DAY

## WHITE SPRUCE SAPLING GIVEAWAY



PLANT A TREE IN HONOR OF FATHER DON  
PICKUP AFTER MASS SUNDAY, APRIL 25



The Caring for Creation team at St. Joseph the Worker will be handing out free white spruce saplings after Mass this Sunday, in honor of Earth Day and Arbor Day. One per family. Please consider planting a tree in honor of Father Don and his service to our parish. Father Don has been a lifelong supporter of trees and God's beautiful blue-green Earth.

*"The Lord God is my help..."*

Isaiah 50: 7



May is Mental Health Awareness Month  
Free Zoom Classes For The General Public  
Visit [www.namimn.org](http://www.namimn.org)



**CROSS Food Shelf Hours:**  
**MON: 10 am – 6 pm**  
**TUES: 10 am – 6 pm**  
**WED: 10 am – 5 pm**  
**THUR: 10 am – 5 pm**  
**FRI 10 am – 3 pm**  
**SAT & SUN: Closed**



## Can you make time to be a worker bee?

Worker Bees are parish members that have a desire to serve, have a particular skill to share, and have a little time to offer a helping hand to a parish member in need. This is an on-call ministry of sorts where your interest in serving will be matched as we receive requests for assistance. Whether lending a helping hand to another member looking to move something heavy at their home, rake some leaves, fix a broken screen, or provide a little guidance, Worker Bees provide one-time assistance as their schedule permits. We are currently recruiting members to join our Worker Bee group. Sign up online at [www.sjtw.net/sjtw-worker-bees](http://www.sjtw.net/sjtw-worker-bees) or contact Mike ([mike@sjtw.net](mailto:mike@sjtw.net)) in the parish office with questions.

## ADULT FORMATION



### Stephen Ministry

For parishioners wanting a confidential, caring listener, St. Joseph the Worker Stephen Ministry is offering comfort to those experiencing grief, loss, anxiety, loneliness, or family issues. All shared feelings and information are held in sacred confidence.

If you would like a trained Stephen Minister who would call

on a scheduled basis, please contact the parish office at 763-425-6505. After business hours, please leave a message at 763-425-6505 Extension 114. Someone will contact you as soon as possible. All information is confidential.

## RETREATS

### GRIEF TO GRACE: HEALING THE WOUNDS OF ABUSE

June 6 – 11

Still hurting from the trauma of sexual, emotional, physical, or spiritual abuse suffered during childhood, adolescence or as an adult? We offer a healing retreat with therapeutic staff, self-compassion, and hope; and to explore an intimate encounter with Christ. 5-DAY OVERNIGHT retreat June 6-11. Please contact Deacon Marty Meyer/[deaconmeyer@outlook.com](mailto:deaconmeyer@outlook.com) or [Diane@griefftogracemn.org](mailto:Diane@griefftogracemn.org). WEBSITE [www.griefftogracemn.org](http://www.griefftogracemn.org)

### Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center

Women's Retreats - May 11/13 (Tu - Th), June 11-13 (weekend) or June 15-17 (Tu - Th),

Men's or Women's Silent Retreat - June 24-27

Consider stepping out again by attending Midweek or weekend Spring Retreats at Franciscan Retreats and Spirituality Center in Prior Lake.

Observe the changing of the seasons on our 60 acres of forest and prairie. Be enlightened by four compelling talks. Meet with a spiritual director, partake in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy hour of Adoration, Mass, or simply relax in your fully private suite. See our website for our pandemic safety protocols.

Register online at [www.franciscanretreats.net](http://www.franciscanretreats.net). or by calling at 952-447-2182

### Kings House – Buffalo

Women's Silent Weekend Retreat – May 14-16

Experience a new sense of wonder by attending the "A Listening Heart" retreat being held at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, MN, May 14-16. The retreat begins Friday at 8 pm and ends Sunday at 12:45 pm. Suggested offering is \$160 which includes the non-refundable \$30 deposit. Scholarships are available for high-school & college-age students. A peaceful, prayerful and affordable retreat experience is waiting for you. Please call (763) 682-1394 or visit [www.kingshouse.com](http://www.kingshouse.com) for online registration or more information.

April 25, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

## FAITH FORMATION



### Vacation Bible School is back!

June 14-18 • 9-11:45 am

We are still looking for a pre-school leader and any other volunteers to be station leaders for games, Bible skits, pre-school and imagination station. All materials are provided so leaders just need to make the stations come alive! We also need crew leaders who chaperone small groups of children from station to station. Grandparents would be perfect for this role! If we do not have enough volunteers by Friday April 23rd we will sadly have to cancel VBS this year. We do not want this to happen but we need a certain number of volunteers to make VBS a success. Teens in grades 6-8 are needed for assistant positions. High school teens that volunteer can apply these hours for confirmation.

Register online at [www.sjtw.net/2021-vacation-bible-school](http://www.sjtw.net/2021-vacation-bible-school) If you have any questions, please contact Nichola at [nichola@sjtw.net](mailto:nichola@sjtw.net) or 651-278-9673.



### COMING FALL 2021

SJTW parishioners will be able to gather together in small groups to talk about the future of our church! More to come in weeks ahead. See the details at our parish website <https://www.sjtw.net/synod>  
We Need Your Voice, Your Input, Your Ideas!

## F R . M I K E ' S R E F L E C T I O N



FR. MIKE

Years ago there was a young man from Asia who lived with another priest and I while learning English and finishing his education in the US. One time I was happy to see that he had invited his friends over for the evening. When I greeted them they began to laugh. Since I love to laugh I asked this young man what they were laughing about. Sheepishly he told me they had said: "all you white people look alike." I burst out laughing as well because as I was growing up in northwestern Minnesota we had no people of color at all. We frequently said the same thing about folks from Asia. He was not happy. So he and I engaged in a process of him helping me identify people from different areas of Asia while I helped him identify white people. It was a great learning experience for me. The reason I bring this up is the unrest recently in Brooklyn Park over the shooting death of a young black man. I bet that the experience African-American people have in our cities of police and the total community gives them an impression from which they see the world. I also bet that the experience police and those who are white have of people from every other culture gives them a perspective from which they act. What a difference it would make if we actually talked to one another and maybe shared our experience of one another. My experience is that everyone has the same goals and aspirations. We just see how we obtain them as being different. I treasure the people from around the world who help make up our parish. They add to the diversity of our parish and enrich each of us. I encourage us to speak to others so we can discover we have more things that unite us than things that divide us. We can learn more about ourselves and our perspectives. We will treasure others more. Fr. Mike



Pope Francis said Mission is one of the greatest challenges for our Church and it must remain foremost in our hearts. St Joseph the Worker has given us many opportunities to take on the challenge of Mission, both here in our own community and through our relationship with St. Catherine's in Haiti.

12 years ago, our parish leaders guided by the Holy spirit led us to Haiti. How many of you thought that you would have an opportunity to share your blessings with people that live on a small island, the poorest country in the western hemisphere? Many of our parishioners have already responded to the call and have gone to worship, pray and share the gospel with our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

They have shared God's love in homes with no running water, no electricity and rely on growing their own crops for food. They have seen families collect water from the river or wells and pour it into bucket filters in their homes, so their children have clean water to drink. They have traveled miles into the countryside to give medical care to people that have no way to get to a doctor or a hospital. We have also visited the schools, where some of the children have advanced their education to go on and become teachers. So, they can give back to their parish. Many have called it life changing after seeing the faith, hope and resilience in Bouzy. If you have been following along with our relationship, you would know of their recent hardships including hurricanes, the total collapse of their church, the pandemic, and government turmoil. Even with those difficulties and without their church building they still come together as a community and worship with great joy.

Over the past year, we were able to support their schools, medical needs, and clean water. We know that education is a way out of poverty, and supporting teacher's salaries helps to ensure many have access to a good education. We were able to secure some much-needed prescription medications for the clinic in Bouzy. Work on their new church continues, and thanks to many of you, the walls are almost completed, and they are working on the cement floor. We are excited to see these developments and hope that soon they can begin work on the roof. The progress and their passion for the new church building has been amazing to watch. We are inviting you to be part of the St Joseph Haiti mission team. We are not traveling to visit them at this time because of the pandemic and political unrest, but we hope to in the future. In the meantime, there are still a lot of ways you can be a part of our mission...One way to contribute is thru prayer, which is the foundation of all we do.

We have several committees that meet throughout the year. These opportunities include groups that focus on clean water, medical needs, communications, education, and a leadership committee. If you could spare a couple hours a month, we welcome anyone with interest to talk with us and find out more.

We are having a second collection this month to help fund our activities. We thank you for your past support and hope you will continue to be generous. You can use the Haiti envelopes or donate on-line thru the SJTW website. Jesus is calling us to mission and St Joseph the Worker has given us the opportunity to serve. It is up to all of us to respond.

For more information about our Haiti relationship or becoming involved, contact: David or Lori Henke at 763-221-1785 or [dnlhenke@gmail.com](mailto:dnlhenke@gmail.com)

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



### Knights of Columbus

The Knights are proud to announce their Council Family of the Month celebrating exemplary support of our Church, Community, Life and Faith! In

April, the Knights select a Knight and Family of the Year and is normally announced at our Steak Dinner.

**April - Family of the Year Award - Jeff & Joanne Freed:** Jeff serves on the Haiti committee and helps the Knights in handing out bulletins, fundraisers and spreading our message to Leave No Neighbor Behind. Joanne is a current member of the Parish Pastoral council. Both are members of the church's hospitality team.

**Knight of the Year- Don Kitterman** - Don has been an active member of the Parish in Hospitality for many years. After joining the Council two years ago, he has become the membership chairman and active at all fundraisers and events hosted by the Knights and church including assisting the parish the cleaning protocols after it was reopened last fall.

Please email your nomination for our Family of the Month to Andy Fischer at [fiscap@hotmail.com](mailto:fiscap@hotmail.com).



## Thank you all for the Spring Cleanup- job well done!

Many of you have shown interest in starting up our routine of Monday Night Maintenance, I will put it on the schedule starting Monday, April 26th, 5:30.7pm. This garden maintenance schedule will run through the summer, adding the Music part to the Town Green at 7pm starting in June. If you are able to help at other times, please use the Garden Ministry Cleanup List (see the Garden Ministries CCB file) as a guide and text me with questions, when a task is completed, or if a task needs to be added. I will update the list as I am able.

If the weather is not conducive to gardening, I will try to send an email Monday mornings.

If you would like to help with this most visible Garden Ministry, please call the parish office and they will send you an invite to the Garden Ministries site on the CCB, (Church Community Builder). We would love to add you to our list of wonderful Garden Ministers!

Thanks again and god Bless,  
Anna Mau  
763-438-2642

April 25, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

## STAFF DIRECTORY

**FR. MIKE SULLIVAN, PASTOR**  
[frmike@sjtw.net](mailto:frmike@sjtw.net) 763-400-7201

**FR. DON PICHE, In Residence**  
[frdon@sjtw.net](mailto:frdon@sjtw.net)

**DEACON KEVIN O'CONNOR, HAITI**  
[deaconkevin04@gmail.com](mailto:deaconkevin04@gmail.com) 763-425-6505 x101

**DEACON JOHN WALLIN, MARRIAGE PREP**  
[deaconjohnwallin@gmail.com](mailto:deaconjohnwallin@gmail.com) 612-751-6284

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR, MIKE LENTZ**  
[mike@sjtw.net](mailto:mike@sjtw.net) 763-400-7203

**PARISH OFFICE, THERESA WARDEN**  
[theresa@sjtw.net](mailto:theresa@sjtw.net) 763-400-7200

**BOOKKEEPER, ANN BERGMANN**  
[ann@sjtw.net](mailto:ann@sjtw.net) 763-400-7206

**COMMUNICATIONS, MARK KUHL**  
[mark@sjtw.net](mailto:mark@sjtw.net) 763-400-7202

**DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP, MARC STOCKERT**  
[mstockert@sjtw.net](mailto:mstockert@sjtw.net) 763-400-7209

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP, TARRI NELSON**  
[tnelson@sjtw.net](mailto:tnelson@sjtw.net) 763-400-7205

**MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR, DEAN OLSON**  
[maint@sjtw.net](mailto:maint@sjtw.net) 763-400-7219

**FAITH FORMATION OFFICE: 763-425-9801**  
**DIRECTOR OF ADULT FORMATION AND SPIRITUALITY, KATIE MCCARTY**  
[kmccarty@sjtw.net](mailto:kmccarty@sjtw.net) 763-400-7213

**DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION GRADES 1-8 AND SACRAMENTS OF FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST MONICA LIEBL**  
[monical@sjtw.net](mailto:monical@sjtw.net) 763-425-9801 ext. 156

**DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION GRADES 9-12 FF, 7-12 YOUTH MINISTRY & CONFIRMATION, BARRY SHAY**  
[bshay@sjtw.net](mailto:bshay@sjtw.net) 763-400-7212

**FAITH FORMATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, NICHOLA SCHOENFELDER**  
[nichola@sjtw.net](mailto:nichola@sjtw.net) 763-400-7210

### Readings for the week of April 25, 2021

**Sunday:** Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

**Monday:** Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:1-10

**Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30

**Wednesday:** Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50

**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20

**Friday:** Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14

**St. Joseph the Worker:** Gn 1:26—2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/  
Ps 90:2, 3-4, 12-13, 14 and 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 13:54-58

**Next Sunday:** Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

### MORAL CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING COVID-19 VACCINES

[www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines](http://www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines)

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