

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Father Bill Fisher, Pastor

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 25, 2020



Watch and Pray

Prayer is the foundation and hearts of ministry in our homes. Pray daily with and for your spouse and children.

As you pray, thank God for all of your daily blessings. Ask for guidance and strength during tough times and doubt.

Talk to God as you would a close friend about your day. Share your good things and your concerns. Remember that God loves and cares about you and your family...*and in the stillness, don't forget to listen.*

With our deepest Sympathies

We suffered the loss of three longtime St. John the Baptist parishioners. Our thoughts and prayers are with the loved ones of these dear friends. They will be missed in our parish family.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, it has been difficult for all of us to share our condolences and happy memories of the friends we have lost.

We look forward to times when we can safely celebrate the wonderful lives of our deceased parishioners. We all want very much to support our friends in person as they grieve for those they have lost.

Peter Veselic

Pete Veselic died Oct. 12, 2020, at age 82. He was born in Veselici Lipnik, Croatia, and came to the U.S. in 1971.

Pete retired from the Kansas City, Kansas, Housing Authority.

He leaves his wife, Barbara, and sons, Ivan and Branko.

Services were Oct. 15 at our church, with burial at Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Helen Ann Mahurin

Helen Ann Mahurin died Oct. 14, 2020. She was 98.

Born in 1922 on Strawberry Hill, Helen graduated from Wyandotte High School in 1940. She worked for the Kansas City Public Library for 56 years before retiring in 2001.

Helen was married to Lt. Col. Thomas F. Mahurin for 40 years before his death in 2002. Together, they enjoyed flying in their own plane.

Helen was a longtime volunteer with the St. Patrick's Day Parade and was named Queen of the Kansas City Irish Parade.

Services were Oct. 21 at our church with burial in Leavenworth National Cemetery.

Edward Emil Grisnik

Ed Grisnik died Oct. 16, 2020. He was 87.

Music was a large part of his life and he played bass and accordion with the Ed Grisnik Polka Band. He was also the musical director of the Strawberry Hill Croatian Folk Ensemble and the Kansas City Ethnic Choir.

He served on the board of the Strawberry Hill Museum. Ed was a Korean War Veteran.

He is survived by Marijana Pinter Grisnik, his wife of 64 years; daughters Elaine and Mary Jo Grisnik; son Edward, and grandchildren, Max and Isabell.

Private services were held last week.

Weekly Collection

Oct. 4, 2020

Envelopes:	\$ 2,900
Maintenance:	\$ 265
The Leaven	\$ 42
Candles	\$ 62



The Food Kitchen cupboards were almost bare. We asked for your help – and wow!

When Phyllis Hampton, our church secretary, arrived at the parish office last week, there was a pile of Amazon boxes. And she had several visits from people donating food and money for our monthly Food Kitchen.

Please accept our sincere thanks for helping your neighbor!

We still need your help to fill those shelves for the 550 sack lunches served each month.

Feel free to bring cookies, chips and pudding/fruit cups to the parish office.

Or, if you have Amazon Prime, you can send items through the St. John's Food Kitchen wish list. Visit our website for the link.

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The Story of the Solemnity of All Saints

Catholics observe All Saints' Day each year on Nov. 1. The day is dedicated to the saints who have attained heaven and are recognized in the canons of the Church.

This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Given the pandemic, however, Archbishop Joseph Naumann continues to offer dispensation who do not feel it is safe to attend Mass.

The following day, Nov. 2, is All Souls Day to remember those who died and not yet reached heaven.

Although the earliest commemoration of "all the martyrs" was held in the early fourth century, it was Pope Boniface IV who created both All Saints and All Souls days.

After successive waves of invaders plundered the catacombs in the early seventh century, the Pope gathered the remains of saints and reinterred them beneath the Pantheon.

That building had been a Roman temple dedicated to all gods. Boniface rededicated the shrine as a Christian Church "that the memory of all the

saints might in the future be honored in the place which had formerly been dedicated to the worship not of gods but of demons" (*On the Calculation of Time*).

Reflection

This feast first honored martyrs. Later, the Church acknowledged other paths to sanctity.

Father Bill Fisher will offer Mass to remember those who died from Nov. 1, 2019 to Oct. 31, 2020.

8 a.m., Monday, Nov. 2
Holy Family Church, 247 Orchard, KCK

In the early centuries, the only criterion was popular acclaim, even when the bishop's approval became the final step in placing a commemoration on the calendar.

The first papal canonization did not happen until 993. The lengthy process now required to prove extraordinary sanctity took form in the last 500 years.

Today, the feast honors the obscure as well as the famous—the saints each of us have known in every day life.

Credit: catholic.org and franciscanmedia.org

We encourage all citizens, particularly Catholics, to embrace their citizenship not merely as a duty and privilege, but as an opportunity meaningfully to participate in building the culture of life. . . .



Every act of responsible citizenship is an exercise of significant individual power.

We must exercise that power in ways that defend human life, especially those of God's children

who are unborn, disabled or otherwise vulnerable.

We get the public officials we deserve. Their virtue—or lack thereof—is a judgment not only on them, but on us.

Because of this we urge our fellow citizens to see beyond party politics, to analyze campaign rhetoric critically and to choose their political leaders according to principle, not party affiliation or mere self-interest.

Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics 34, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, November 1998]



First Reading

Thus says the LORD: "You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans.

"If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him. If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset; for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body. What else has he to sleep in? If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

Responsorial Psalm

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, O LORD, my strength, O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

My God, my rock of refuge, my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold! Praised be the LORD, I exclaim, and I am safe from my enemies.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

The LORD lives and blessed be my rock! Extolled be God my savior. You who gave great victories to your king and showed kindness to your anointed.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading

Brothers and sisters: You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord,

receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment.

The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."