

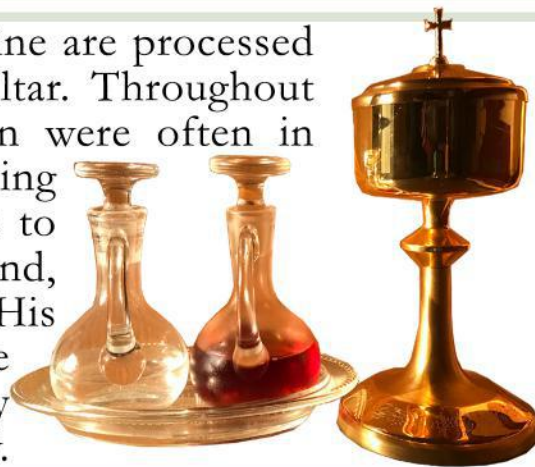
Gifts of Bread and Wine

*“Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out bread and wine.
He was a priest of God Most High.”*

Genesis 14:18

The language of the Mass echoes time and again the language of sacrifice. In the Eucharistic Prayer, the priest speaks of *“the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the offering of your high priest Melchizedek.”* Melchizedek is a mysterious figure from the Book of Genesis, called the *“king of Salem.”* The word *salem* means *“peace,”* making Melchizedek the *“king of peace.”* It is also believed that he was a priest-king of the ancient city of Salem, which became Jerusalem. In Genesis 14, he comes out of the city to greet Abraham with an offering of bread and wine. This offering is considered a foreshadowing of the Holy Eucharist, and Melchizedek is understood as a prefigurement, or *type*, of Jesus, who is prophet, priest, and king.

At the Offertory, gifts of bread and wine are processed to the Sanctuary and placed on the altar. Throughout history, members of the congregation were often in charge of baking bread and providing wine, giving these items over as gifts to God. Our gifts, then, are lifted up and, through His power, transformed into His Body and Blood. In the same way, we pray that we too will be mystically transformed into members of His Body.



“Having sanctified ourselves by these spiritual Hymns, we beseech the merciful God to send forth His Holy Spirit upon the gifts lying before Him; that He may make the Bread the Body of Christ, and the Wine the Blood of Christ ; for whatsoever the Holy Ghost has touched, is surely sanctified and changed.” ~St. Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem (Catechetical Lectures, AD 350)

PARISH PICNIC

Sunday, October 2nd - Following 10 AM Mass

Office #: (260) 824-1380 | Emergency #: (260) 296-0511 | www.StJosephChurchBluffton.org
 Pastor: Fr. David Violi | Administrative Assistant/DRE: Michelle Paxton | Director of Sacred Music: Teresa Smith

-----(cut here)-----

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 e-mail address: _____

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 17

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Special Intentions of Laura Haiflich

Sunday, September 18

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. Rose Mary Helm +

Monday, September 19

No Public Mass

Tuesday, September 20

8:00 a.m. Carl Busch +
8:30 a.m. Confession

Wednesday, September 21

6:00-7:00 p.m. Adoration
6:00-6:45 p.m. Confessions
7:00 p.m. Mrs. Susie Arnold +

Thursday, September 22

8:00 a.m. Jane Witwer +

Friday, September 23

8:30 a.m. Mildred Huss +

Saturday, September 24

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Eugene Tippmann +

Sunday, September 25

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Kerry & Tracy Coyne Family



MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, September 19 - St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr - Prv 3:27-34/ Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday, September 20 - St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs - Prv 21:1-6,10-13/ Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday, September 21 - St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist - Eph 4:1-17,11-13/ Mt 9:9-13

Thursday, September 22 - Eccl 1:2-11/ Lk 9:7-9

Friday, September 23 - St. Pius of Pietrelcina Priest - Eccl 3:1-11/ Lk 9:18-22

Saturday, September 24 - Eccl 11:9—12:8/ Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday, September 25 - Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Am 6:1a,4-7/ 1 Tm 6:11-16/ Lk 16:19-31

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

This weekend (Sept. 17th/18th), the Church celebrates the **Twenty-fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time**. In our local community, we will celebrate the annual **Bluffton Free Street Fair** throughout the coming week. When Street Fair began in 1898, our parish had already been around for over 23 years. At the time, we were a mission parish under the guidance of Rev. Rudolph J. Denk, the second pastor of St. Aloysius in Sheldon (*now known as Yoder*).

Continuing in our theme of communal outreach, our parish has a space reserved along West Washington Street (near the library) throughout Street Fair. It is my hope that we will be able to have a presence throughout most of the week. We will be setting up a table, where we hope to have information about the parish, a box for prayer intentions, a variety of literature and pamphlets about the Catholic Faith, water to give out, and a drawing for a free bible. And, most importantly, smiling faces.

TAKE A STAND FOR LIFE

Next **Saturday (Sept. 24th) at 11 AM**, our parish will be hosting the **Wells County Regional Rally for the Right to Life of Northeast Indiana**. This peaceful gathering is meant to draw together those who are willing to stand beside mothers-in-need and families, as well as faith leaders and our pro-life legislators, in a loving manner. It will also help lead our parish into the **Forty Days for Life** Campaign, running from September 28th through November 6th.

Though we may now be in a post-Roe world, this does not mean that our advocacy for life ends (*as seen by our participation in the above events*). We must strive not simply to see an end to the evils of abortion, but work build up a culture of life in all things and at every stage of life. To learn where we, as a state, are currently in this fight, join us for our **Discussion Forum** on Abortion on **Thursday, September 29th**, at **7:30 PM** in the **Parish Social Hall**.

This forum will look at both the morality and legality of abortion. With the Dobbs Decision, the Supreme Court returned regulation of abortion back to the individual States. To help navigate the legal framework of both the Dobbs Decision and Indiana's most recent legislation, we will be joined by Colin Andrews, parishioner and Wells County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, and Kent Kiracofe, a St. Al's parishioner and Wells County Circuit Court Judge.

In addition to the above offerings, we are happy to announce a transition of leadership within our Pro-Life Committee. After many years of service to our parish on this committee, current co-chairs Mike and Debbie Lautzenheiser have passed on the leadership role to Nick and Hannah Boratenski. We thank Mike and Debbie for their dutiful service and welcome Nick and Hannah to this new role. See next weekend's bulletin column for a note from Nick.

DID YOU KNOW? GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE

For many centuries, the Faithful brought bread and wine from their homes to the church to be used for the Mass and to be given to the clergy and the poor. Today, a similar offering for the parish and the poor is made with our monetary contributions. At the Offertory, members of the parish will take up a collection from the assembly and bring it to the priest at the altar with the bread and wine to be used for the sacrifice.

The priest places the bread and wine on the table. He then mixes water with the wine and washes his hands to help us think of the Last Supper. (*Mixing water with wine and washing hands were common Jewish practices during the life of Jesus.*) Finally, he invites us to pray that the sacrifice be acceptable to God. We respond "Amen" to the Prayer Over the Gifts and stand to participate in the central prayer of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

In giving our gifts over to God, whether it be bread and wine or a monetary donation, we are setting these gifts apart for God. And the Son, in returns, lifts them up, transforms them, and gives them over to the Father. This humble and simple action is meant to call to mind how we are called to make ourselves a gift to the Lord and allow Him to work in and through us. ~Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Carol Leitner, Pat Pfeifer, Troy Cook, Bobbie and Cheryl Jackson, Andrea Holte, Bonnie Burns, John Houlihan, Nora LaVine, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Dr. Doug Phillips, Jeff Tillman, and Marj Pogue.

**September 24 Regional Rally at Wells County at St. Joseph Catholic church
1300 N Main Bluffton from 11-Noon.**

Come show your support for Life with others



Take a stand for LIFE in your Indiana county on Saturday, September 24th from 11a- Noon. This peaceful gathering shows Northeast Indiana we are ready to stand beside mothers-in-need, children, families, faith leaders and our pro-life legislators in a loving and law abiding manner. Bring your family and connect with like-minded friends that share your heart for our most vulnerable citizens.

**DISCUSSION FORUM TOPIC: ABORTION
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH**

Join Fr. David for a Discussion Forum on Thursday, September 29th in the Parish Social Hall. Catholicism Explained (RCIA Program) will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the Discussion Forum will begin shortly after at 7:30 p.m. The Discussion Forum Topic: Abortion. Fr. David will be joined by Deputy Prosecutor Colin Andrews and Circuit Court Judge Kent Kiracofe who will be discussing the legal ramifications of Abortion.

Everyone is invited and welcome to attend.



Children's Choir Practice will be from 5:30-6:30 pm in the conference room beginning Tuesday, October 4th. Any young person ages 7-14 is invited to join! Please contact Teresa Smith at tersalsmith2000@yahoo.com for more information.

PARISH CALENDAR

- Sat., Sept. 17 - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- Sun., Sept. 18 - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Sept. 18 - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- Tues., Sept. 20 - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- Wed., Sept. 21 - Adoration - 6-7 p.m. / Confessions 6:00-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- Wed., Sept. 21 - No Choir Practice
- Thurs., Sept. 22 - Catholicism Explained (RCIA Program) - 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- Sat., Sept. 24 - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- Sun., Sept. 25 - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Sept. 25 - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- Tues., Sept. 27 - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- Wed., Sept. 28 - Adoration - 6-7 p.m. / Confessions 6:00-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs., Sept. 29 - Catholicism Explained (RCIA Program) - 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- Sat., Oct. 1 - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- Sun., Oct. 2 - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Oct. 2 - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- Sun., Oct. 2 - Parish Picnic following 10:00 Mass on the Church Campus.
- Tues., Oct. 4 - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- Tues., Oct. 4 - Knights of Columbus - Recitation of the Holy Rosary 6:40 p.m. in Church, followed by a meeting in the Parish Social Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Weekend of September 23/24, 2022



5:00 Nick Boratenski
7:30 Mike Morrissey
10:00 Youth Cantors



5:00 Stacey Coulardot
7:30 Steve Wagner
10:00 Monica Harris



5:00 Volunteers
7:30 Volunteers
10:00 Volunteers



5:00 Angel/Zoe Soto, Isiah Bedwell
7:30 Phillip Mayer, Abby/Adrienne Wagner
10:00 Grant Reifsteck, Gabby Hoffacker, Gracie Haiflich

**St. Joseph Parish Finance Report
for the Weekend of September 10/11**

Adult Envelopes- \$2,650.00

Child Envelopes- \$0

Loose- \$268.30

Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$537.39

Religious Education Fund- \$0

Gym Rent- \$500.00

Votive Candles- \$96.75

Total- \$4,052.44

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$6,050.89 ahead of our budget for the month of September.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$70.00

*Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish
are greatly appreciated.*

Thank you!

osvonlinegiving.com/4741



NEW PLAYGROUND BLESSED

The rain held off just long enough last Sunday, September 11th for Fr. David to bless the new playground which sits on the south side of the Church Campus. Fr. David was joined by the students and catechists on their first day of the new Religious Education year.



THE MASS IN SLOW MOTION

Rev. Ronald Knox

Chapter VI – The Offertory (Part I)

It's all very well for you to point out that the Offertory is only concerned with unconsecrated bread and wine, and that isn't much to get excited about. That's quite true, of course, but I think if you will use your imagination for a moment you will see that there is good excuse for making a lot of the unconsecrated host and the unconsecrated chalice. They may have no great importance of their own at the moment, but they are going to be terrifically important. And it can become very narrow-minded of us if we think only of what things are at the moment, not of what they are going to be.

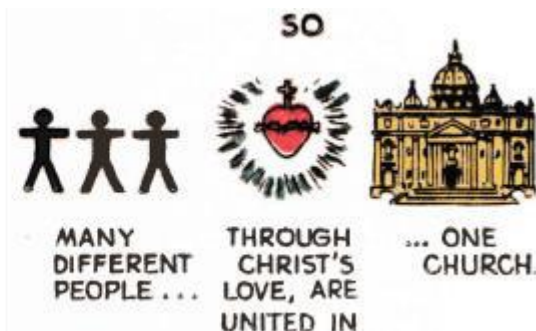
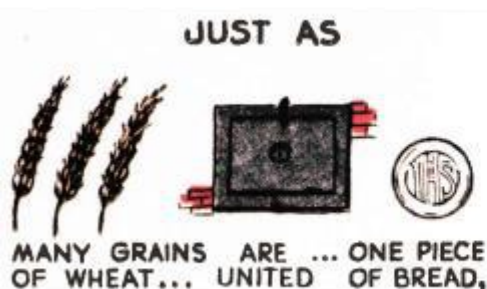
Imagine yourself walking through a field of wheat; out in the park, say, by the deer-cote. All those ears of wheat are full of promise; they are going to be something. That particular ear of wheat which is sticking out on the left of the path will be threshed, ground in the mill, baked in the oven, made into a sandwich, and be eaten by somebody on a railway journey; that is the destiny which is shaping itself inside that particular set of little husks. Now look at that ear of wheat which is sticking out on the right of the path. That one will be threshed, ground in the mill-the same mill, baked in the oven-no, not in the same oven, or at any rate, not in the same batch; there will be no baking powder this time. Then it will be pressed by a Carmelite nun in a press which will give it the imprint of the crucifix; it will be sent off in a tin to the sacristan of some church; it will lie on the altar, some Latin words will be said over it, and after that it will be lifted up in a gold monstrance, and everybody who passes in front of it will go down on both knees... It's the same with the chalice, only, of course, we aren't so familiar with the process of making wine. That duster over there will find its way into a bottle of ordinary wine; somebody will drink it over his dinner; get drunk on it, perhaps, and come to blows, and be sent to prison. That other duster will find its way into a bottle of altar wine, will be consecrated, will be drunk by a priest, and bring him just the grace he needed to resist that temptation, to rise to that height of sanctity. And yet the two clusters grew side by side in the same vineyard, long ago.

So what the priest is doing at the altar is to separate, to earmark, this particular lump of wheat, this particular dose of wine, for a supernatural destiny. And that, of course, is just what is happening to you and me all the

time. Sooner or later we shall die, and that moment of death will be, please God, our Consecration; we shall be changed into something different, be given a spiritual body in place of our natural body, and live praising God among the Saints to all eternity. What we are doing now, all the time, is to make of our lives an Offertory to Almighty God; to separate them, set them apart for him, so that when death comes it may be our Consecration. And that is why the pious books will tell you, at the Offertory, to put yourself in imagination on the paten, between the priest's hands.

We mustn't despise, then, the unconsecrated host which the priest is holding up in front of the crucifix, the drops of wine which are trickling down into the chalice; we must think of what they are going to be. The whole idea of the Offertory is that the bread and wine are something which YOU hand over to ME, which the faithful hand over to the priest, to see what he can make of them. That's why I say that this is the point where YOU come in. Those two small servers in red cassocks, one of them with hiccups and the other with his shoelace undone, represent you, represent the congregation. In theory, you are all crowding on to the sanctuary, turning the priest's solitary dance into a tumultuous round-dance; all holding out pieces of bread and shouting, "*Father Knox! Father Knox! Do bless this one!*" That's what the Offertory really is; only you aren't actually expected to do quite that. You are expected to place your body, in your imagination, beside the host on the paten, and to say, "*Dear God, this ridiculous thing is all I have to offer you; please make something of it.*"

Yes, let us get excited about the unconsecrated bread and wine, because of what they are going to be; but don't let's lose sight of the fact that what they are going to be depends entirely on what God is going to do with them; WE could wave them about in the air and repeat words over them from morning until night, and they would remain simply ordinary bread and wine even still; it's only because God is going to take a hand in it that they are going to become something quite different. That is the whole point of the Offertory; to remind us how little it is we offer, so that when we get to the Consecration we may be bowled over, more than ever, by the thought of what He makes of it.



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THINK!
T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
i - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?

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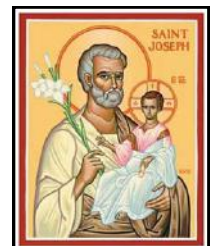
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without leaving
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-St. Mother Teresa

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Parishioner

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