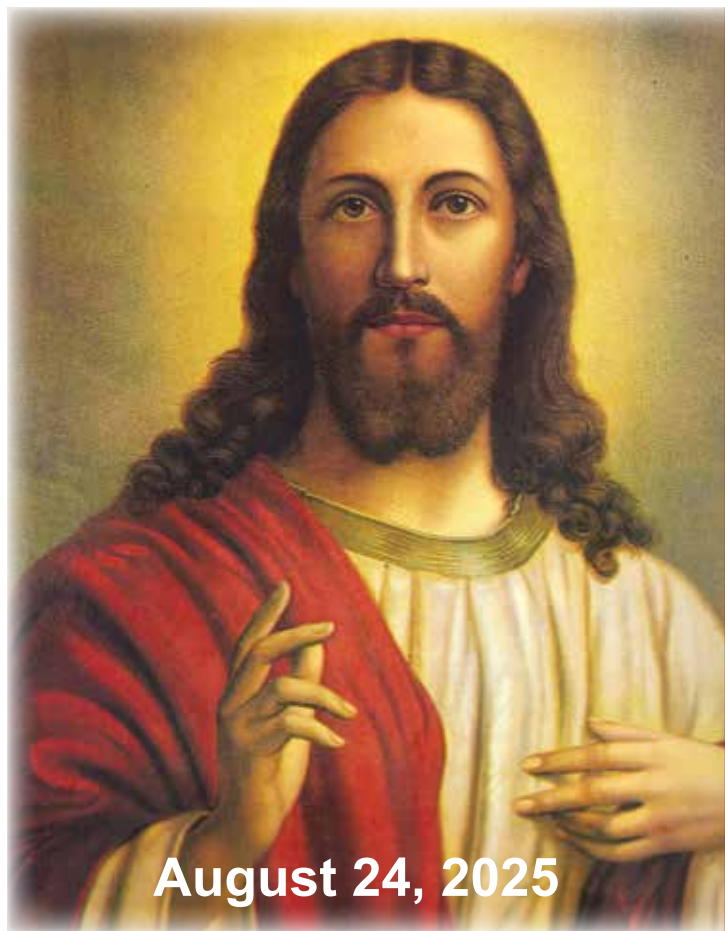




St. Joseph & St. Catherine Parishes



August 24, 2025

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

- Lk 13:29-30

Parish Mission Statement

We are called by our Lord Jesus Christ, to be His church and live His gospel.

We strive to fulfill our baptismal calling by prayer, worship, teaching and in sharing our faith and serving others. Guided by the Holy Spirit and through our patron St. Joseph, we commit ourselves to the responsible stewardship of all God's gifts.

Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday - 8:00 am

School Mass Fridays Aug-May

Saturday - 5:00 pm

Saturday - 7:00 pm at St. Catherine

Sunday - 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 am

First Saturday - 8:30 am

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday • 8:00 - 3:30 pm

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturdays 4:00-4:45 pm

Sundays 7:00-7:15 am

Marriage

Please contact the parish office.

Baptism

Please contact the parish office.

Welcome to St. Joseph & St. Catherine of Alexandria

We appreciate you celebrating with us. If you are not registered as a member of our Parish Community, please fill out this form and place it in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Center and someone will contact you.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

____ Please Call ____ I've Moved ____ New Parishioner ____ Address Change

____ I would like more information on St. Joseph Catholic School (PreSchool - Grade 8)

Our Pastoral Team

Rev. Gerson Parra / Parochial Administrator..... gersonparra@archstl.org - ext. 301
Deacon Mark Byington / Permanent Deacon deaconmark@stjosephfarmington.com - ext. 312
Deacon Rich Doré / Permanent Deacon deaconrich@stjosephfarmington.com - ext. 312
Dr. John Boyd / Principal jboyd@stjosephfarmington.com - ext. 309
Jane Ramos / Director of PSR jramos@stjosephfarmington.com - ext. 306
Lisa Cartee / Office - Business Manager secretary@stjosephfarmington.com - ext. 311
Jake and Mandy Whitener / Youth Group mwhitener@stjosephfarmington.com
Connie Grindel / RCIA RCIA@stjosephfarmington.com - ext. 300
Abe AuBuchon / Bulletin Editor bulletin@stjosephfarmington.com

John Denkler - Financial Commission
 Rob Grindel - Property and Maintenance
 John Bieser - Cemetery Association
 Chris Martin - Knights of Columbus
 Dan Jaycox - School Board President

Mark Berkbigler - Athletics
 Tom Benoist - Parish Council President
 Pat Boatright - Respect Life
 Donna Conklin - Women of Mary President
 Jodie Berkbigler - HIVE

St. Catherine
 Jimmy Herzog - Parish Council President
 Marilyn Gegg - Ladies Sodality
 John Adams - Men's Club

Your Gifts to God and Parish

August 17, 2025

Weekly Collection

Adult Envelopes	\$12,594.00
Assumption	\$1,240.00
Electronic Deposit	\$665.00
Loose	\$896.16
	\$15,395.16

	<u>Current Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Sunday Offering	\$15,395.16	\$83,620.49
Budgeted Amount	\$12,950.00	\$90,650.00
Shortage/Overage	\$2,445.16	(\$7,029.51)

Specials

Maintenance & Repair	\$10.00
Our Father's Table	\$455.00
Partners in Education	\$100.00
Total for Specials	\$565.00

St. Catherine of Alexandria

August 16, 2025

Adult Collection	\$450.00
Loose	\$123.00
Total	\$573.00



A Note from Fr. Gerson:

“Strive to Enter Through the Narrow Door” – A Call to True Discipleship

In this Sunday’s Gospel (Luke 13:22–30), Jesus offers a striking and sobering teaching:

“Strive to enter through the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.”

The disciples ask a simple question: “Lord, will only a few people be saved?” But Jesus doesn’t give a direct answer. Instead, he turns their attention and ours to a deeper truth: salvation is not automatic. It requires effort, commitment, and above all, a relationship with Christ that transforms how we live.

This “narrow door” is not a gate of exclusivity, but one of authentic discipleship. It is the path of humility, love, self-denial, and faith a life modeled on Jesus himself.

In this context, the words of Pope Benedict XVI, spoken on May 13, 2007, ring with clarity and urgency:

“The Church has the great task of guarding and nourishing the faith of the People of God, and reminding the faithful of this Continent that, by virtue of their Baptism, they are called to be disciples and missionaries of Jesus Christ. This implies following him, living in intimacy with him, imitating his example and bearing witness...”

Discipleship is not merely believing in Jesus from a distance, it means living in him. It means letting his Word shape our thoughts, letting his love guide our actions, and letting his mission become our mission. Every baptized Christian is called to be a missionary disciple, someone who knows Jesus personally and wants to bring others to that same relationship.

Pope Benedict asked powerfully:

“What does Christ actually give us? Why do we want to be disciples of Christ? The answer is: because, in communion with him, we hope to find life, the true life that is worthy of the name...”

Isn’t that what we all long for? A life of meaning, peace, and love that the world cannot give? Christ offers us that life but we must choose the narrow door. We must say “yes” to the invitation to follow him daily, even when the way is challenging.

Let us then ask ourselves:

- Am I striving to truly follow Christ each day?
- Is my faith visible in my choices, my time, my priorities?
- Am I helping others find the narrow door through my words and actions?
- What do I know about Jesus? • Do I know Jesus?

The Gospel reminds us that knowing about Jesus is not the same as knowing him. The people outside the door say, “We ate and drank in your company,” but Jesus replies, “I do not know where you are from.” He is looking for hearts that are his, not simply for people who have been nearby.

This week, let us renew our commitment to be true disciples not just in name, but in heart and mission. And may our parish continue to be a place where the faith is nourished, where disciples are formed, and where the door to Christ remains open to all who seek him.

Fr. Gerson’s Schedule

Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday 10 am - 2 pm

Friday 10 am - 12 pm

08/26/25 - 7 pm Parish Ministry Encounter

08/27/25 - 11 am Finance Meeting

08/27/25 - 6 pm PSR Catechist Meeting

Fr. Gerson Parra - Parochial Administrator



You’re Invited: Parish Ministry Encounter Night

This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect together on our call to discipleship, deepen our sense of mission, and grow in faith as a community. Whether you’re involved in ministry or simply curious to learn more—come and be inspired! - **All are welcome!**

St. Joseph Parish – Town Hall Meeting Questions

As we look to the future of **St. Joseph Parish**, we are called to be a **vibrant and dynamic community** rooted in **evangelization, faith formation, and discipleship**. To grow stronger in these areas, we invite you to **prayerfully reflect** and share your thoughts on the following questions. Please **write your responses** and place them in the **collection basket** or **return them to the parish office**.

Evangelization & Mission

1. How can St. Joseph Parish deepen its mission of evangelization to reach more people with the Good News?
2. What new ways can we explore to share Christ's love and mission in our community?
3. What kind of training or support would help you feel more prepared to evangelize?
4. What resources would be most helpful in sharing your faith?

Faith Formation & Discipleship

5. What opportunities for faith formation and discipleship should our parish offer to help parishioners grow closer to Christ?
6. How can St. Joseph Parish support you and your family in becoming active disciples and joyful witnesses of Christ?

Parish Life & Community

7. What makes St. Joseph Parish a vibrant and dynamic community, and how can we build on these strengths?
8. What areas need improvement to better support a thriving parish life?
9. What challenges does our parish face as we work toward renewal and growth?
10. How can we better accompany one another on the journey of faith and service?

11. How can we make our parish and parish school more welcoming and inviting to newcomers?

12. What has helped you feel a sense of belonging at St. Joseph? What makes it hard for others to feel connected?

13. Are there parish groups, ministries, or events you wish existed here?

Worship & Spiritual Practices

14. What aspects of our liturgies (Mass, music, homilies, environment) help you encounter God? What could be improved?

15. Are there prayer or devotional practices you would like to see offered more often (e.g., Adoration, Rosary, healing services)?

Communication & Leadership

16. Do you feel informed about what is happening in the parish? How can we improve communication?

17. How can parish leadership (pastoral council, staff, clergy) better listen to and support parishioners?

Stewardship & Involvement

18. In what ways do you feel called to share your time, talent, or treasure with the parish? What support would you need to take the next step?

Suggestions

Do you have any additional ideas or suggestions to help strengthen our parish community?

Your input is **vital** as we discern together how to build a parish that is **alive in faith**, committed to forming **missionary disciples**, and **boldly sharing the Gospel**.

Your voice matters as we journey forward, united in faith and hope for a flourishing future!

In Christ,

Fr. Gerson Parra
Parochial Administrator

Mass Schedule

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

23
&
24

Readings: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

Saturday: 5:00 pm: † Thomas Donze

Saturday: 7:00 pm: Parishioners

Sunday: 7:30 am: † Michael J. Wolo

9:00 am: Vocations to Priesthood

10:30 am: † Pat McLain

Mon. Weekday

25

Readings: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22

8:00 am: † Windy Fryman

Tue. Weekday

26

Readings: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mt 23:23-26

8:00 am: † Dan Stott

Wed. Saint Monica

27

Readings: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32

8:00 am: * Ryan Dowell

Thur. Saint Augustine, Bishop, Doctor

28

Readings: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 24:42-51

8:00 am: † Pat McLain

Friday The Passion of St. John the Baptist

29

Readings: 1 Thes 4:1-8 (429)/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mk 6:17-29

8:00 am: † Ron LaPlant

Monday, August 25, 2025

Sacristans

Pat Boatright, Rita Boyd, Jane Eck, Kathy Thompson,
Charlotte Vander Bol,
Ann Lutsch

Money Counters

Anne Crawford,
Shirley Bieser

Saturday, August 30

5:00 pm Mass

Lector: Sandi Brooks

Extraordinary Minister: Dotty Bach, Ronald Brooks,
LeAnn Luedecke, Newt Luedecke, Jill Patton

Ushers: James Cissell, John Denkler, George Kracke,
Mike Wolo

Servers: Bentley Hickson, Lucas Wolo

Cantor: Tom Berkbigler

7:00 pm Mass at St. Catherine

Lector: Peggy Adams

Extraordinary Minister: Jimmy & Susie Herzog

Offertory Bearers: John & Peggy Adams

Sunday, August 31

7:30 am Mass

Lector: Vicky Damba

Extraordinary Minister: Brenda Donze, Tom Donze,
Steve Forsythe, Norene Leonard, Kathy Neiner

Ushers: Ed Brown, Jim Gerwitz, Gerald Hulsey,
Jack Neiner

Servers: Kaiden Hale, Wade Rariden

9:00 am Mass

Deacon: Deacon Mark Byington

Lector: Mark Berkbigler

Extraordinary Minister: Mitch Fuemmeler,
Jennifer Rhodus, Joe Rhodus, Nikki Sheets

Ushers: Tom Hill, Cindy Kelso, Dylan Kelso,
Zachary Kelso

Servers: Lucas Berkbigler, Trey Berkbigler

Cantor: Michelle Podolak

10:30 am Mass

Deacon: Deacon Mark Byington

Lector: Phyllis LaPlant

Extraordinary Minister: Shirley Bieser, Tim Maloney,
David Werner, Mandy Whitener

Ushers: John Bieser, Clifford Gerstner, Jared Pinkley,
Mike Ward

Servers: Gage Whitener, Kael Whitener, Kya Whitener

Cantor: Rita Boyd

Prayer Life

Together We Pray for



Parishioners names are in bold.



Ryan Dowell
Sue Psujek
Debbie Douglas
Walt Douglas
Andrea Slaner
Amye Borderwick
Leslie Hughes
Reed Fuemmeler
Jim Wilson
Sue Bays
Jerry Bieser
Diane Greer
Laura West
Keith Rariden
Bob Eckenfels
Dana Miller
Gloria Kania
Carol Riutta
Jo Rustemeyer
Sharon Cleve
Nary Britton
Stephanie Danieleley
Bauerley
Larry Winick
Lloyd Davis
Bonnie Whitaker
Rose Petinga
Joey O'Farrell

Carol Johnson
Terry O'Brien
Brian Eads
Kathy Eads
Brian Rigdon
Gary Beck
Marilyn Currington
Kim Payne
Madgie Winch
Gene Winch
Lizzie Eck
BJ Walz
Linda Penberthy
Kerry Mason
Melissa Hage
Michelle Podolak
Paul Podolak
Linda Zinser Eagle
Dick Ryan
Steve Forsythe
Garrett Martin
Diane Greer
Ed Schuch
Cindy Seek
Leeman Schwent Sr.
Katie Fleming
Liz Presnell Klutsarits
Steve Baechle

To add someone to the prayer list contact
prayerpower@stjosephfarmington.com or 573-756-4250.

Let us pray for those who are
carrying the gift of life.

Lauren (Rodney) Pinkston

Valeria (Mason) Harrington

Please call the parish office if you would like
to be added to our prayer list.

Eucharistic Adoration

Each Thursday

8:30 am - 5:30 pm

First Friday of the Month

8:30 am - 2:30 pm

For more information contact Charlie and Rita Boyd
at 760-7887 • ctboyd@sbcglobal.net

Our Thanks To: **Norene Leonard**



for watering and tending to our
potted plants this coming week

Wednesday Rosary

Wednesday at 6:30 pm



Our petition for this week:
"For all children in foster care."

Wednesday Rosary

NOTICE: Holy Rosary Time Change

Dear Parishioners,

Please note that beginning Wednesday, September 3rd, the Holy Rosary time will change from 6:30 PM to 5:30 PM. The date remains the same each week.

This adjustment is being made to accommodate PSR and RCIA, which also take place on Wednesday evenings and may require use of the church.

Thank you so much for your understanding and continued support.

Fr. Gerson Parra
Parochial Administrator

Parish Calendar

Planning Ahead



September 1
Parish Office
Closed



September 7
Doughnut Sunday



September 14
Knights of
Columbus
Breakfast



September 28
Turkey Shoot



November 1
Dinner Auction

This Coming Week

Tuesday, August 26

Prayer Shawl

9:00 am • Parish Center

Cantor Practice

7:00 pm • Church

Parish Ministry Encounter

7:00 pm • Parish Center

Wednesday, August 27

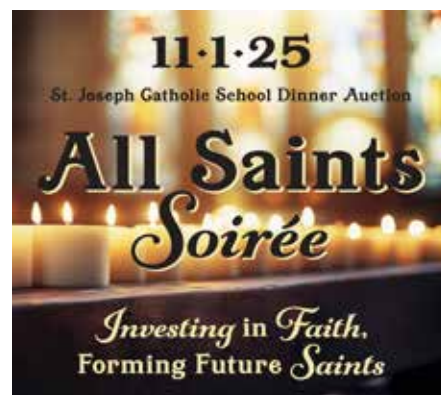
Rosary

6:30 pm • Church

Thursday, August 28

Eucharistic Adoration

8:30 am - 5:30 pm • Church



St. Catherine's Annual Turkey Shoot Sunday, September 28th

• We are needing bottles for the bottle booth. Any nonperishable, unopened, unexpired bottle items will be accepted.



• We are needing items for the country store.

• We are needing raffle baskets or donations toward raffle baskets.



• T-Shirt orders are due by September 5

Please contact Lisa for more information.



In this Jubilee Year of Hope, what does it mean to bring Hope into Action in our hurting & desperate world?

Join us for a morning of reflection exploring how we are called to be **Pilgrims of Hope in Action** in both practical and aspirational ways

Saturday, October 18
St. Joseph Parish Center

8:30 am - 12 noon
St. Joseph Farmington
10 N Long Ave St,
Farmington, MO 63640

Please register via email or this QR code:



For more information, please contact:
Jennifer Meehan at 314.363.6945 or jmeehan@archstl.org
or George Herrera at 314.857.3179 or georgeherrera@archstl.org

Parish Council Nominees

Karen Jones

I've lived here in Farmington since 1969 and have been at St. Joseph since my kids started school here, and my main reason for becoming Catholic. I wanted to be able to live and teach my kids the faith. I'm not sure how much I can contribute to Parish Council, but each parishioner has new ideas. Maybe I'm older and wiser, but I do love my church and my faith. I'm in the choir, I've been on the picnic committee before, and I know the people of our parish. I'm a hard worker and a firm believer.

Jennifer Rhodus

My husband Joe and I joined St. Joseph Farmington parish in 2014, coming from Immaculate Conception parish in Park Hills, where we managed the St. Vincent dePaul Food Pantry there for 10 years. I became President of the St. Vincent dePaul Food Pantry here at St. Joseph parish for 5 years from 2017-2021. I stepped away from that ministry because of health reasons (breast cancer). I was also on the Pastoral Council here at St. Joseph's under both Fr. Rickey and Fr. Thess. I was approached by a parishioner asking if I would consider running again for the council. God speaks to each of us if we are listening! I am interested in and ready to get more involved in our parish once again. Thank you for your consideration. God bless you!

Kay Schmid

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Parish Council. My family and I relocated to Farmington earlier this year, and I am eager to become more deeply involved in our parish community. In my previous parish in St. Petersburg, Florida, I was actively engaged in several ministries. I founded and led a Family Ministry that provided support to struggling families and children, including those in foster care. I also served weekly as a sacristan and eucharistic minister, participated in the women's group, and took part in a diocesan retreat focused on enhancing parish outreach and community engagement. I would be honored to bring this experience and commitment to service to the Parish Council as a way to support and strengthen our faith community. God bless,

**Voting will take place
Aug. 30 & 31 at all Masses.**

Are You Curious About the Catholic Faith?

You're Invited to Join Our OCIA Program!

Have you ever felt drawn to the Catholic Church? Are you unbaptized, baptized in another Christian tradition, or simply want to complete your Sacraments of Initiation (First Communion and Confirmation)?

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the journey through which adults are welcomed into full communion with the Catholic Church. It's a time of prayer, learning, reflection, and growing in faith with a supportive community.

OCIA is for:

- Those who have never been baptized
- Those baptized in another Christian faith who want to become Catholic
- Baptized Catholics who haven't yet received First Communion or Confirmation

Come and see. Ask your questions. Take the next step in your spiritual journey.

Our OCIA program will begin September 10, meeting weekly on Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center. To sign up or ask questions, contact Connie Grindel at 573-756-4250, or stop by the parish office. We would love to welcome you into the journey.

***We are in need of a few Male sponsors
for OCIA this year, if you are interested
please contact the parish office.***



Message from School Principal Dr. Boyd

I'm looking to finish security film on all classroom and entrance doors to our school. I wrote a grant for 20K and the project was approved. The only drawback was it was approved for 5K less than we needed. If anyone is interested in helping raise the additional funds to allow me to complete the project, just let me know.

Thank you very much to Mineral Area Council on the Arts and Mrs. Ramos. She wrote a grant last year for headphones that will work with our new keyboard lab and just found out it was approved.

It is not too late to get registered. If you know anyone interested in our school ask them to contact the school office. 573-756-6312

Volleyball and Soccer season has begun. Get out and support our student athletes. Go H-O-R-N-E-T-S!!!

The uniform policy and current school calendar can be found on our web page.

Our school facebook page:
www.facebook.com/SJCSFarmington

Our school web-site:
www.stjosephfarmington.com

GO HORNETS...

Dr. Boyd

The Gift of the Anointing of the Sick

"Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the priests of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord." – James 5:14

The **Anointing of the Sick** is one of the most beautiful and consoling sacraments of the Church. It is a powerful encounter with Christ for those facing serious illness, undergoing surgery, struggling with chronic conditions, or nearing the end of life. Through sacred prayer and anointing with blessed oil, the person receives **spiritual strength, peace, and often even physical healing**, in the embrace of God's mercy.

A Sacrament of Healing and Hope

Too often, the Anointing of the Sick is thought of only as "last rites." But this sacrament is not only for the dying—it is meant for **any Catholic who is seriously ill in body, mind, or spirit**. It brings hope, forgiveness of sins, and the courage to suffer in union with Christ.

Receiving the sacrament in time—**before a medical crisis** or unconsciousness—allows the person to be fully present and spiritually open to its grace.

When Should Someone Be Anointed?

- Before surgery or a medical procedure
- During serious illness or physical decline
- If diagnosed with a life-threatening condition
- As the end of life approaches

How to Request Anointing

Call the parish office: 573-756-4250 ext. 300

Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Emergencies (after hours or weekends):
573-756-4250 ext. 317

Email: sacraments@stjosephfarmington.com

We encourage families not to wait until the last moment. The sacrament is most powerful when received in faith and peace, surrounded by loved ones. As your parish family, we are here to support you in times of illness and to bring Christ's healing presence into your life. **Let us walk with you in prayer, compassion, and hope.**



JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY EVENT

Food and beverages will be provided

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION

Deacon James Keating

DATE Tuesday, August 26, 2025

TIME Doors open at 6pm.
starts at 6:30pm

PLACE Corpus Christi Center, St. Joseph Imperial, MO

MEN HELPING MEN FOLLOW CHRIST AND THE TEACHINGS OF HIS CHURCH



Birthdays



Anniversaries



Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary 

To All of Our Parishioners Celebrating This Week!!!

