

Dear Padre,

I am the divorced mother of three young children. My daughter is making her first Communion and I want to go to Communion with her. But I haven't been to Mass in three years because of my divorce. I am nervous and embarrassed about returning to the Church. What can I do?



Sharing in your daughter's preparation for holy Communion is a lovely desire and a good chance to look closely at your own faith; it may be the "little push" you need. She needs to see in you someone who has faith and is committed to the Church. Taking your children to Mass each Sunday is a good start.

You mentioned that you haven't been to church in three years because of your divorce. You may be confused about the teachings of the Church concerning divorce. Divorced Catholics are still full members of the Church and can receive holy Communion. If you have remarried outside the Church, it is a more complicated issue, yet not hopeless.

Since you haven't been to Mass in three years, the first step is to talk to your pastor or another priest with whom you feel comfortable. Be honest. Explain why you have stayed away from the Church. Then set up a time to go to confession. And please don't be ashamed or embarrassed about coming back to church. No matter how long it has been, the Church welcomes you home. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

What is most amazing about the Lord and his Passover? It is the fact that he achieves glory through humiliation. He triumphs by accepting suffering and death, things that we, in our quest for admiration and success, would rather avoid. Jesus—as St. Paul tells us—"emptied himself" he humbled himself" (Philippians 2:7-8).

HOMILY, ROME, MARCH 28, 2021

MONDAY

March 25
Monday of Holy Week
Is 42:1-7
Jn 12:1-11

TUESDAY

March 26
Tuesday of Holy Week
Is 49:1-6
Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

WEDNESDAY

March 27
Wednesday of Holy Week
Is 50:4-9a
Mt 26:14-25

THURSDAY

March 28
Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday)
Chrism Mass:
Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9
Rv 1:5-8
Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14
1 Cor 11:23-26
Jn 13:1-15

FRIDAY

March 29
Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)
Is 52:13-53:12
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Jn 18:1-19:42

SATURDAY

March 30
Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)
Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a
Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
Ex 14:15-15:1
Is 54:5-14
Is 55:1-11
Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28
Rom 6:3-11
Mk 16:1-7



SUNDAY

March 31
Easter Sunday (Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord)
Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8
Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)

Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16 / Isaiah 50:4-7 / Philippians 2:6-11 / Mark 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39



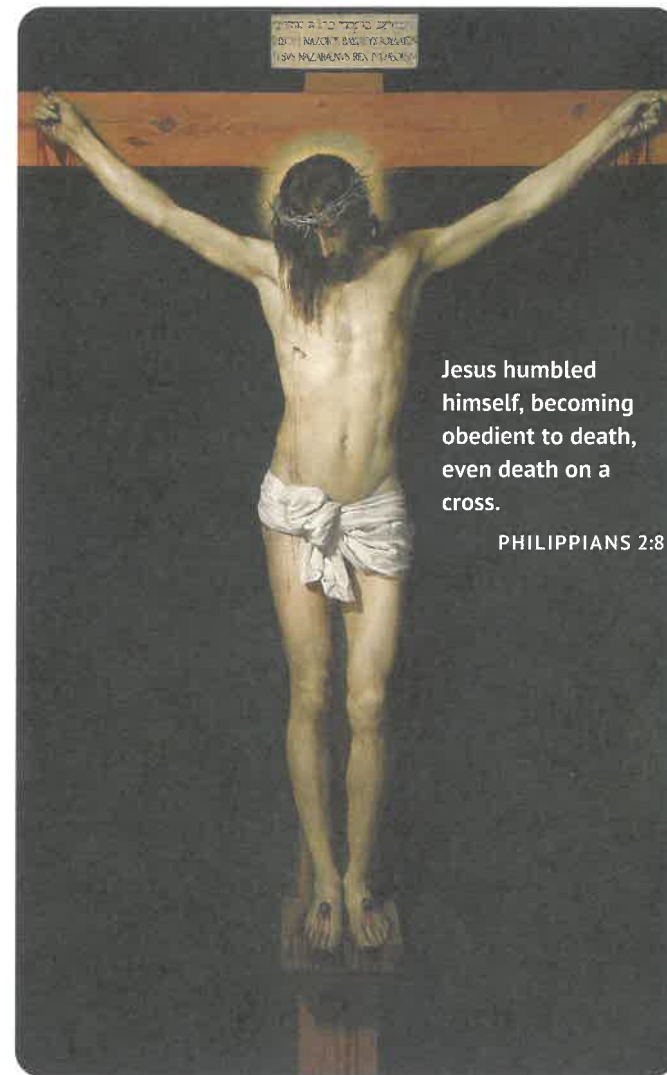
The Hungers with Which We Live

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Tenzin Kiyosaki is a former Buddhist nun who now works as an interfaith chaplain at a medical center in Los Angeles. There she tends to the spiritual needs of patients who have less than six months to live. When her brother asked her what it was that dying patients talk about, it led to her book *The Three Regrets: Inspirational Stories and Practical Advice for Love and Forgiveness at Life's End*. The three regrets she lists are: 1) I did not live the life of my dreams; 2) I did not share my love; and 3) I did not forgive. All too easily it seems we become preoccupied with what in the end becomes peripheral to what we really seek in life.

Today we tell the story of how Jesus' life of loving others came to its final conclusion, one of sacrificial love to the point of death. He came to reveal how such love is an essential dimension of the presence of God at the heart of every human life, and a cornerstone of the kingdom of God he proclaimed and to which he gave his life.

To the end, even on the cross, forgiveness was an essential aspect of his life of loving others. The very realities of what Jesus' life was all about are the same hungers we so often fail to recognize as we live our lives, though it is what he continually preached. Coming face to face with our own mortality seems to make his message most real. ●



Jesus humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

PHILIPPIANS 2:8

Reflect

Are you living the three values articulated by Tenzin Kiyosaki? Is there one you could do better?



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St. Joseph Neier

Rev. Peter Blake, Pastor &

Rev. Eric Kunz, Senior Associate Pastor

March
23 & 24
2024

Confession Times:

Saturday 4:00pm – 4:40pm

Saturday Mass: 5:00pm

Sunday Mass: 10:30am

Weekday Masses: Monday – Wednesday – NO MASS

Office: 636.583.2806

Sarah's Cell: 314.808.0337

Website: stjosephneier.com

Email: parishoffice@stjosephneier.com

Thursday – Friday – 6:30am

Pastor's Column

Today we celebrate the Lord's entry into Jerusalem amid the crowds' joyous "Hosanna" which quickly turns to the cry, "Crucify Him, Crucify Him." This is the holiest week of the entire year as we relive the Paschal Mystery and celebrate the great events of our salvation. It is a week that disciples ought not to miss. We see Jesus riding astride a donkey into the throngs waving palm branches. We see Jesus sharing the Last Supper with His apostles and in the course of the meal instituting for all time the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, then washing the disciples' feet to show them that being His disciples is all about service, not earthly rewards. We see Jesus nailed to the Cross and hanging there between two thieves uttering even then, words of forgiveness and mercy. We see Him placed in the arms of His sorrowful Mother and feel her anguish as we mourn the death of our Savior. We see darkness turn to light as we celebrate the triumphal return of the Savior from the grave. We welcome new members into our family through the sacraments we can sometimes take for granted. Let their joy and hunger for Jesus remind all of us how privileged we truly are to follow Him. We see the Risen Jesus with eyes of faith as we are reminded at Easter that the tomb was empty. We stand to renew our Baptismal Covenant and promise to reject anything that leads us away from God. As we celebrate the liturgies of Holy Week, a very special grace is given us if we ask for it. Faith is increased, hope is renewed, and charity blossoms into action.

God Bless, Happy Holy Week!
Please remember to pray 3 Hail Marys
Fr. Pete

Please pray for those who are sick in our parish and families:

Shirley Beckman
Valerie Broeker
Anna Marie Brueggemann
Chris Elbert
Cynthia Faust
Linda Frick
Zachery Goosage
Benny Hammer
Andrew Hellebusch
Brandon Huels
Olivia Jasper
Rick Just
Ashley Koelling

Get
Well
Soon

Marcus Lowe
Vincent Mueller
Jean Oldavi
Lilly Mae Randolph
Ashley Shelton
Marcia Shollenberger
Courtney Smith
Special Intention 1
Special Intention 2
Erica Sterling
Heather Struckhoff
Sr. Georgiann Wildhaber, SSND
Sheri Zambruski



Please pray for those serving our country:

Adam Amato

Jamie
Brueggemann
Murphy

Andy Davis

Taylor Donner

Emily Guenther

Caleb Logsdon

Michael Miller

Michael Murphy

Reese Pellin

Sam Smith

Owen Struckhoff

Luke Stuesse

Emma Wildhaber

APRIL

2024

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	8	9	10	11	12	13
7	15	16	17	18	19	20
14	22	23	24	25	26	27
21	28	30 - MAY 1				
28	5	7	8	9	10	11

PSR
Polling Place
Parish Hall
6am - 7pm
Sarah
off at 1pm

10:30am Mass
Ladies Sodality Meeting
9:00am
Quilter's Room

10:30am Mass
Union KC
Breakfast
7:30am - 11:30am

PSR
Forever Young Club
1pm - ??

6:30am Mass
Eucharistic Adoration
7am - 1pm
4H
7pm

5:00pm Mass
Scavenger Hunt
@ Union KC Hall
Registration: 12pm
Dinner: 5:30pm

10:30am Mass

Quilters
Thursday's
8am - 1pm &
7pm - 9pm

PSR
Wednesday's
6:30pm -
7:45pm

PSR
Sarah
in around
11:30am

6:30am Mass
Sarah
Out of Office
Archdiocese Mtg

5:00pm Mass

10:30am Mass

PSR
Forever Young Club
1pm - ??

6:30am Mass
Eucharistic Adoration
7am - 1pm
4H
7pm

5:00pm Mass

10:30am Mass

PSR
Ice Cream
Social
Last Class

6:30am Mass
Sarah
in around
10:00am

5:00pm Mass



He is Risen

HOLY THURSDAY
7PM MASS
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

GOOD FRIDAY
7PM MASS
ST. CLARE & ST. JOSEPH NEIER

HOLY SATURDAY
8PM MASS
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

EASTER SUNDAY
7AM MASS
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
8:30AM MASS
ST. CLARE
10AM MASS
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
10:30AM MASS
ST. JOSEPH NEIER



Thank you

For your Generosity & Support

March 11 - 17

General Fund Donations

Regular Offering Envelopes: (54)	\$ 3,109.00
Regular Offering Loose:	\$ 99.00
Immaculate Conception: (1)	\$ 20.00
Online Giving*: (9)	\$ 330.01
Total:	\$ 3,558.01

Restricted Funds Donations

Catholic Education: (1*)	\$ 49.20
Electric: (1*)	\$ 47.95
PSR Registration: (14)	\$ 920.00
Rental Income: (1)	\$ 500.00

*Online Giving/With Transaction Fees Removed (Number of Contributors)

March

Tithes & Offerings



March 2024

"General Funds Collections"

March 3	\$3,501.00
March 10	\$4,204.30
March 17	\$3,558.01
March 24	\$ TBD
March 31	\$ TBD

Repent in Lent!



Weekly Schedule

THIS WEEKEND

NEXT WEEK

SAT 23 MAR

5:00PM MASS

MASS INTENTION LILLY TIMMERMAN

LECTOR

N. - KAREN GERLEMANN V. - AMBER GERLEMANN

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

VIOLA SCHROEDER THERESA STRAATMANN VOLUNTEER

THURS 28 MAR

7:00PM MASS

MASS LOCATION IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FRI 29 MAR

7:00PM MASS

MASS LOCATIONS ST. CLARE ST. JOSEPH

SAT 30 MAR

8:00PM MASS

MASS LOCATION IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

SUN 24 MAR

10:30AM MASS

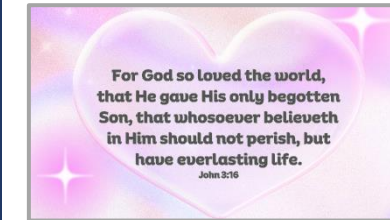
MASS INTENTION PARISH FAMILY OF ST. JOSEPH

LECTOR

N. - LISA BOCKLAGE V. - PATTI GREIFE

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

CHRISTY BAKER JEN KISSINGER CHRIS BLOCK



SUN 31 MAR

10:30AM MASS

MASS INTENTION FRANK & ELIZABETH KLOEPPEL

LECTOR

MICHELLE YOUNG

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

PATTI GREIFE JEFF BAKER TIM FETH

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY

- 4:15PM - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - UNION
- 5:00PM - ST. JOSEPH - NEIER

SUNDAY

- 7:00AM - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - UNION
- 8:30AM - ST. CLARE - ST. CLAIR
- 10:00AM - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - UNION
- 10:30AM - ST. JOSEPH - NEIER

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- **Sunday, March 24th**
 - Shooting Match – noon - ?? – Parish Grounds
- **Wednesday, March 27th**
 - NO PSR
- **Thursday, March 28th**
 - Quilters – 8am – 1pm – Quilter's Room – NO EVENING QUILTING
- **Thursday, March 28th – Sunday, March 31st – Holy Week**
 - Please see the bulletin for Mass times and locations

April

- **Tuesday, April 2nd**
 - Polling Place – 6am – 7pm – Parish Hall
 - Sarah off at 1pm
 - Scavenger Hunt Planning Mtg – 6:30pm – Parish Hall

January Financials

Total Unrestricted Revenue:	\$ 16,403.17
January 2024 Expenses:	- \$ 25,145.88
Difference:	(\$8,742.71)
Total Restricted or Homecoming Funds Used For Other January Expenses:	\$ 2,488.66

February Financials

Total Unrestricted Revenue:	\$ 17,508.74
February 2024 Expenses:	- \$ 54,714.78
Difference:	(\$37,206.04)
Total Restricted or Homecoming Funds Used For Other February Expenses:	\$ 34,631.33



Union Knights of Columbus



March

Friday, March 29th

Fish Fry • 4pm – 7pm – Hall
Dine-In, Drive-Thru or Carry Out

April

Monday, April 1st

Board Meeting • 7:30pm – Lounge

Tuesday, April 2nd

FREE Informational Seminar
on the Fraternal Benefits available through
the Knights of Columbus.

Location: Immaculate Conception
Marian Center

Time: 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Other Information:

- Pizza will be served
- Seating is limited
- Reservations are ***REQUIRED***
 - Call John Jasper - 314-581-6968
 - Call Jim Noelker - 636-283-1100



Join us!
Next Forever Young Day is **April 3rd @ 1pm**

Forever Young Club

Always the **FIRST** Wednesday of the month

Play Games
Tell Stories
Build Friendships

Ladies Sodality Meeting

Come Join Us!

9am

Sunday, April 7th

Quilter's Room


WCU Meeting

Monday

April 1st @ 7pm

Basement of Marian Activity Center

please join us



Eucharistic Adoration

Let's give thanks to Our Lord

Thursday, April 4th

6:30am Mass
Adoration following
Perpetual Help Devotions
until 12:50pm
With Benediction After

Daughters of Isabella News

First Saturday Mass & Rosary

Saturday, April 6th, 8am

Rosary prayed @ 7:30am

Immaculate Conception Church

We hope many of you can attend!

Reminder:
Dues of \$20 for 2024 are now due.

TOTUS TUUS 2024
Parish summer catechetical program



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Monday, June 17th - Friday, June 21st
9am-3pm
Grades First-Sixth
Sack Lunch


Registration packets available in the Main vestibule

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL
Sunday, June 16th - Thursday, June 20th
7:00-9:00pm
Grades Seventh - Twelfth

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION GYM
\$50 PER STUDENT. \$100 FOR FAMILIES OF TWO OR MORE

Please send a sack lunch with your student. Snacks and water provided.

contact Janelle Gildehaus at gildehausj@icschoolunion.org



Divine Mercy Day of Reflection

Saturday, April 6, 2024
8:30 am - 2:30 pm
St. Francis Borgia Parish
Washington, Missouri

Featured Speaker:
Father Richard Rocha, Pastor
St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church
Blue Springs, Missouri
Catholic Chaplain for KC Chiefs, KC Royals & KC Police Dept.

The day begins with Mass at 8AM at St. Francis Borgia Church, followed by a continental breakfast. The program begins at 9AM. A light lunch will be served at noon. The day concludes with praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 2PM.

This day is hosted free of charge.
RSVP requested by April 1st to Bill Gegg
Phone: 636-667-7867 | Email: bill.gegg@att.net

Daughters of Isabella with Brushin' Whimsy PAINT PARTY/ FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY **APRIL 21** 1-4 pm

LOCATION
Knights of Columbus Hall
700 Clearview Dr
Union, MO



\$35 includes a pre-traced canvas, specialty drink, snacks, door prize, 50/50 raffle, silent auction

Make checks payable to Daughters of Isabella #591 or register with QR code

Contact Jo Noelker 636-584-9257 or Brushin Whimsy 636-221-1249 for questions



This is a Western Catholic Union (W.C.U.) matching fund event

NEW LOCATION
UNION KC HALL
700 CLEARVIEW DR.
UNION, MO 63084

THE SCAVENGER HUNT IS BACK!!!

Registration begins at NOON
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

Join us for a fun filled day and evening!




Fun for the whole family! Don't be shy... Tell your friends why they can't miss this event!

Sponsored by: **St. Joseph Neier**

Register by March 24th to receive 5 bonus points!
Pre-Registration is encouraged

Competition: 1:30pm - 4:30pm
Cost: \$25 per person - Includes: Registration, T-Shirt & Dinner
Dinner: 5:30pm - Union KC Hall - Cash Bar \$10 for Non Scavenger Hunt Participants


Sign Up Now



**Union KC Hall
Blood Drive**
700 Clearview Drive, Union, MO 63084

**Monday,
April 8th**
1:30pm - 6:30pm

Transforming Lives,
ONE Blood Drive At A Time!



**FEBRUARY
ELECTRIC BILL
\$2,430.00**

Union KC Breakfast
Sunday, April 14th
7:30am - 11:30am
All you can eat!



Adults \$12
Children (6-12) \$6
Children Under 6 FREE

700 Clearview Dr.
Union, MO 63084

APRIL 2ND
**DON'T FORGET
TO VOTE**

IF YOU VOTE AT NEIER
THE HALL WILL OPEN AT 6AM.
VOTING ENDS AT 7PM.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING
YOUR PHOTO ID.

**Scavenger Hunt
Planning Meeting**
Tuesday, April 2nd
6:30pm - Hall
Anyone interested in planning
this event is welcome!

NEW LOCATION
UNION KC HALL
700 CLEARVIEW DR.
UNION, MO 63084

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024
**THE SCAVENGER HUNT
IS BACK!!!**

Registration begins at **NOON**
1 Vehicle per team - Max of 6 Team Members
Join us for a fun filled day and evening!

**FUN FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY!!**
DON'T BE SHY...
TELL YOUR FRIENDS WHY THEY
CAN'T MISS THIS EVENT!

Sponsored by:
**St. Joseph
Neier**

Register by **March 24th** to
receive **5 bonus points!**
Pre-Registration is encouraged

Sign Up Now

Competition: 1:30pm - 4:30pm
Cost: \$25 per person - Includes:
Registration, T-Shirt & Dinner
Dinner: 5:30pm - Union KC Hall - Cash Bar
\$10 for Non Scavenger Hunt Participants



Scavenger Hunt Registration Form

Date: Saturday, April 13, 2024
Location: Union KC Hall, 700 Clearview Dr., Union, MO 63084
Schedule: Registration begins at noon
Competition: 1:30pm – 4:30pm
Fee: \$25 per person – includes Registration Fee, T-shirt & Dinner

Other Information:

- 1 Vehicle per team – max of 6 team members
- All participants will be required to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement on the day of the event.
- Call 636-583-2806 for more information
- Dinner & Awards:
 - Invite other family and friends to join you for the Scavenger Hunt awards, view Scavenger Hunt pictures and enjoy awesome food
 - Dinner Begins @ 5:30pm – Union KC Hall
 - Pulled Pork Nacho/Sandwich Bar with all the fixings, Cole Slaw, and Baked Beans
 - \$10 for non Scavenger Hunt participants
 - Cash Bar

Register by March 24th to receive 5 bonus points!

Cash prizes for 1st & 2nd place winners

Proceeds Benefitting
Current Capital Maintenance Projects

All participants will be required to sign a **Hold Harmless Agreement on the day of the event.**

You may drop your form & check in the collection basket at Immaculate Conception, St. Joseph Neier, or St. Clare OR you may mail your form & check,

before April 1st, to: St. Joseph Neier
2401 Neier Rd
Union, MO 63084

Cell number we can reach you at during the competition if we need to:

Team Name: _____

Team Member Name	Email Address
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____

Do you have a NEW phone number, mailing address, need to register with St. Joseph, or would you like to be added to the email list?



If you fall in any of those categories, please contact the Parish Office and let Sarah know!
Thank you!!

ST. JOSEPH NEIER
2401 NEIER RD, UNION, MO 63084

BLOOD DRIVE
WE NEED DONORS!!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024
2PM - 6PM

Blood Donation Can Be a Life-saving Experience



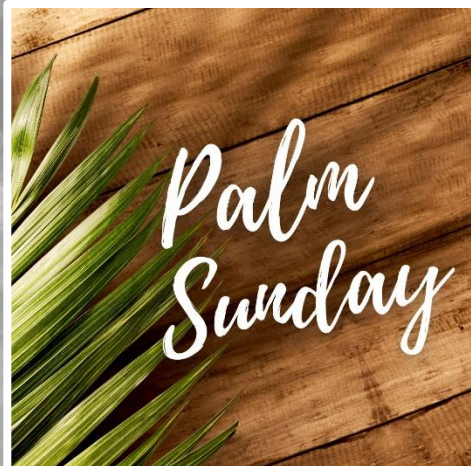
SIGN UP ONLINE
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/account-login.html>
OR CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE
parishoffice@stjosephneier.com
636-583-2806



welcome

We welcome into our Parish Family of St. Joseph the following new parishioners:

DEBI DONOHO,
Her Daughter Caitlin & Grandson Declan



Palm Sunday