



The Monthly Visitor Catholic Community Of Lawrence County



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April 2024

A Message from Deacon Dave



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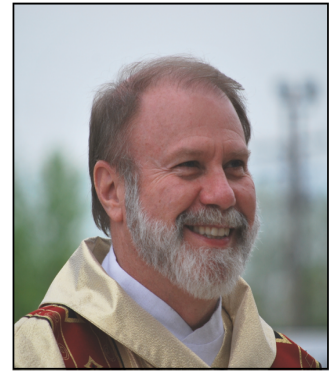
If you know someone who has recently become infirmed or homebound please contact our parish secretary at 275-6539 so that we can add them to our visitation list.

Greetings in the Lord
Jesus Christ:

If you remember, when the pandemic began in the spring of 2020, the Archdiocese of Indianapolis mandated that all of their churches were to be closed for congregational purposes. At that time the Archdiocese recommended that local churches should consider streaming their Masses. Neither of our Catholic Community of Lawrence County (CCLC) parishes had any equipment or the means to stream Masses. Dale Platteter started to research what would be needed to livestream CCLC Masses. He started with a meager cell

phone. As time went on more people got involved with the project and the CCLC was able to obtain the needed equipment from different grants, which gave both parishes the capability to livestream. After the Archdiocesan mandate expired the parishes continued livestreaming for those who were homebound and those who were unable to attend their home parish. I asked Dale to write a short article to provide information concerning the livestreaming and how someone could use it. He provided the following:

The CCLC has been providing a modern "connection" to their



Deacon Dave Reising

local church community for some time now. We are now streaming **Sunday Mass** twice a month *via the internet*. You can watch Mass from the comfort of your easy chair using a smart phone or smart TV set, without any special equipment.

Videos of our Masses are recorded on the **second and fourth Sunday weekend**, each month. Father Jegan is usually the

Anointing of the Sick

The catechism says,

“The anointing of the sick is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death.

Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived”

Prayer Ministry

The question is “What do you want to ask God for today?” Most of us don’t need much time to consider that question because we all have needs and/or wants. Scripture tells us that our prayers are very powerful! If you are interested in having someone from our Parish Prayer Ministry to pray for you or with you, just give Deacon Dave a call at 812-278-1795, and he will set up a time to meet with you.

celebrant on those weekends, so you can listen to his homily twice a month.

If you have heard of **Facebook** and/or **YouTube**, that’s where we store the Mass videos. They can be watched anytime, 24/7, which makes it extremely convenient. If you can’t find us on the internet, ask a neighbor, relative, or anyone under the age of 30 to help. It’s a chance to evangelize them too!!

Using any search engine, our videos are found using the keywords “**Catholic Community of Lawrence County**.” If you recognize some familiar faces, you have landed in the correct place.

For those who are more tech savvy, the videos are located on **Facebook** at this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071735417752&sk=videos>

And on **YouTube** (2 hours after each event) at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@catholiclawrencecounty>

Dale Platteter (St. Vincent) and John Marshek (St. Mary) have been providing technical support on this streaming project for the past 4 years. If you need help connecting your smart phone or TV, call the parish office. We will provide a technician to visit your home and show you how it’s done.

Thank you, Dale, for the work you have done and also for the above information. As Dale has mentioned above, if you have questions or want someone to actually set you up with these capabilities, please feel free to call the parish and we can get you help.

God Bless,
Deacon Dave

STREAMING FOR SHUT-INS



*Worship with us on Facebook and YouTube at “Catholic Community of Lawrence County” on the **SECOND AND FOURTH SUNDAY WEEKEND** each month.*



Mass - Saturday April 13 at 5:00 pm from St. Vincent
Mass - Sunday April 28 at 8:30 am from St. Mary

2nd Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday

Scripture Readings: Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 5:1-6, John 20:19-31

People may doubt what you say, but they will believe what you do. —Lewis Cass

The story of Thomas' understandable skepticism concerning the reports of Jesus' resurrection is well known. We call him "Doubting Thomas" when, truth be told, all of the disciples had similar doubts. Thomas had what we call "honest doubts" about the resurrection, as opposed to "blind faith."

It's weird, isn't it, that doubt can be honest and that faith can be blind? Can't faith and doubt both be honest or blind? Theologian J.E. Lesslie Newbigin points out, "One does not learn anything except by believing something, and — conversely — if one doubts everything one learns nothing." At some point, belief has to overcome doubt. Yet, on the other hand, those who believe anything, will believe everything and consequently don't believe anything. They are easily duped and deceived.

Thomas was nobody's fool. But, in the face of overwhelming evidence, faith triumphed over doubt. Thomas' experience reminds us that a little honest doubt goes a long way in removing the scales of blind faith. When we are assailed by persistent doubt, what can we do?

1. **Pray:** Bring your doubts and concerns to God in prayer. Pour out your heart honestly, and then choose to believe that God hears you and is working for your good.
2. **Trust God's Promises:** Spend time in the Scriptures, meditating on God's promises. When doubt arises, counter it with the truth of God's Word.
3. **Lean on your Christian community:** Share your doubts and struggles with fellow believers who can offer support, encouragement and prayer.
4. **Remember God's Faithfulness:** Reflect on past experiences where God has been faithful. Use these as reminders of God's unwavering love and care.

Don't forget that our faith is not in our circumstances or our own strength but in the unchanging character of God. As we choose faith over doubt, we open ourselves to the abundant blessings and the deep, abiding peace that only God can provide.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we confess our doubts and uncertainties to you. Help us to choose faith over doubt, to trust in your perfect plan and to believe in your unwavering love for us. Strengthen our faith, Lord, and lead us into deeper relationship with you. Amen.

Activity Page

Week of April 7, 2024

DAILY GOSPEL READINGS

Sunday: John 20:19-31
Monday: Luke 1:26-38
Tuesday: John 3:7-15
Wednesday: John 3:16-21
Thursday: John 3:31-36
Friday: John 6:1-15
Saturday: John 6:16-21

Verse to Remember

“This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night.”

—Joshua 1:8

April 2024

| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

GLIDOGRAM

Theme: Countries of the world. **Letter:** I

Directions: Write a country in row 1 whose name begins with I. On line 2, the “I” should “glide” to the second position, then the third, fourth, fifth and sixth position. Then reverse the order to fifth, fourth, third, second and, finally, first position. Do not use any country twice.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| 1. | I | | | | | | | |
| 2. | | I | | | | | | |
| 3. | | | I | | | | | |
| 4. | | | | I | | | | |
| 5. | | | | | I | | | |
| 6. | | | | | | I | | |
| 7. | | | | | I | | | |
| 8. | | | | I | | | | |
| 9. | | | I | | | | | |
| 10. | | I | | | | | | |
| 11. | I | | | | | | | |

Having trouble thinking of countries for the GLIDOGRAM?

Unscramble the countries in the list below, and then write them on the appropriate lines in the table to the left.

| | |
|----------|-------|
| ITIHA | _____ |
| DELAINC | _____ |
| IWK TUA | _____ |
| EHIPAITO | _____ |
| IMACAJA | _____ |
| MLIA | _____ |
| IIJF | _____ |
| INCAH | _____ |
| ERLDAIN | _____ |
| ALIWMA | _____ |
| EMAVNIT | _____ |

SOLUTION: — Scrambled countries: Haiti, Iceland, Kuwait, Ethiopia, Jamaica, Mali, Fiji, China, Ireland, Malawi, Vietnam. Glidogram: 1. Iceland, Vietnam, Haiti, Ethiopia, Jamaica, Malawi, Kuwait, Mali, China, Fiji, Ireland.

April 14, 2024

3rd Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: Acts 3:13-19, 1 John 2:1-5, Luke 24:35-48

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant.

—*Robert Louis Stevenson*

In today's reading, the disciples — minus Judas — have gathered in Jerusalem, along with “their companions” (v. 33) and the two men Jesus encountered on the road to Emmaus (vv. 13-33). Suddenly, Jesus popped unannounced into their midst and said, “BOO!”

Actually, he said, “Peace be with you.” But the effect was the same. “They were startled and terrified, and *thought that they were seeing a ghost*” (v. 37, emphasis added).

Have you ever seen a ghost? The disciples thought that what they were seeing was a ghost, like the time they were fishing (see Mark 6:49-50).

What is striking about this reading is Jesus' insistence that he wasn't a ghost. Jesus goes to great pains to demonstrate that he is not a sprite, apparition, phantom or ghost. He quickly establishes the physicality of his presence. “Look at my hands and my feet,” he said to them. “See that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have” (vv. 39-40). At this point, he also “showed them his hands and his feet” (v. 40).

Why the stress on the humanity of Jesus? Many reasons, but one big one is because *Jesus is our brother* — one of us. The writer of Hebrews explains: Jesus “had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect ... because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested” (Hebrews 2:17-18).

Jesus is one of us. The disciples thought they were seeing a ghost. They were wrong. He was one of them. And if we are to have a ghost of a chance at experiencing the power of the resurrected life of Christ, we, too, must put aside any ghost stories. He is risen. Thanks be to God!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you broke the bonds of death. You are risen and alive! And now, you give us peace. Help me to enjoy the blessings of your peace. Amen.

Activity Page

Week of April 14, 2024

Daily Gospel Readings

Sunday: Luke 24:35-48

Monday: John 6:22-29

Tuesday: John 6:30-35

Wednesday: John 6:35-40

Thursday: John 6:44-51

Friday: John 6:52-59

Saturday: John 6:60-69

Verse to Remember

*“But it is for you, O LORD, that I wait; it is you,
O LORD my God, who will answer.”*

—Psalm 38:15

S E T S A I S E L C C E D H T
 O E J D R I N Y G L E I N A D
 N J O S E E S T H E R G A I M
 G E S E E U B A H O S E A D U
 O R H Z S L T M I J O N I A H
 F E U E O E C E U A A E H B A
 S M A K M V H I R N H S C O N
 O I C I A I H A N O J I A A R
 L A M E N T A T I O N S L R U
 O H H L N I G H B N R O A Z T
 M I A Z E C H A R I A H M E H
 O D C G K U K K A B A H C Y O
 N K I N G S B R E V O R P R T
 K V M P S A L M S U D O X E U
 J U D G E S I S A M U E L U Z

OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

Use the Table of Contents in the front of your Bible to find a list of the books in the Old Testament. Then, locate them in the box to the left by searching horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forward or backward.

Numbered books, such as 1 KINGS, appear only once without their numbers.

ANSWER: What God promises,
God will provide.



DECODE THIS MESSAGE! Use the lowercase letters to decode the message. Answer is in the box above.
SHwhGaRtgDEWodCRpAroJOmiLYsesPRgQUAoSBdwODSiKNipXOLroNOvWiTYde.

April 21, 2024

4th Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: Acts 4:8-12, 1 John 3:1-2, John 10:11-18

It takes some of us a lifetime to learn that Christ, our Good Shepherd, knows exactly what he is doing with us. He understands us perfectly.

—Phillip Keller

This story is about how a well-known hymn emerged from the horror of the American Civil War, and is told by the author of the lyrics, Joseph Gilmore.

He had been speaking at a mid-week service in March 1862, and his subject was Psalm 23. It was a text with which he was quite familiar for he had used it several times in his ministry. This time, however, he couldn't get past the words, "He leadeth me." The entire verse is "He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul" (KJV). He said, "Those words took hold of me as they had never done before, and I saw them in a significance and wondrous beauty of which I had never dreamed."

He went on to explain that "It was the darkest hour of the Civil War. ... [I] realized that God's leadership is the one significant fact in human experience, that it makes no difference how we are led, or whither we are led, so long as we are sure God is leading us."

After the service, he grabbed a blank sheet of paper and quickly scrawled out the words to a hymn as though inspired by the Holy Spirit. Later, unbeknownst to him, his wife sent the lyrics to a publisher. They were set to music, and, in subsequent decades and to this day, continue to provide inspiration and comfort to those who hear it or sing it.

*He leadeth me, O blessed thought!
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, He leadeth me,
By His own hand He leadeth me;
His faithful follower I would be,
For by His hand He leadeth me.*

—Timothy Merrill. Adapted from Hymnary.org.

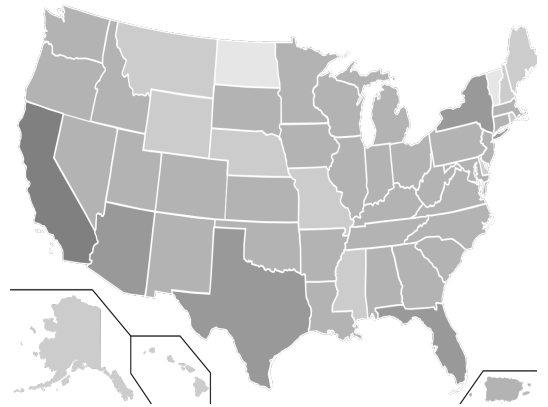
Prayer: Loving God, I praise your name for being my Shepherd and for leading me to green pastures and still waters. Thank you for your loving care! Amen.

Activity Page

Week of April 21, 2024

Daily Gospel Readings

Sunday: John 10:11-18; **Monday:** John 10:1-10; **Tuesday:** John 10:22-30; **Wednesday:** John 12:44-50; **Thursday:** Mark 16:15-20; **Friday:** John 14:1-6; **Saturday:** John 14:7-14



HOW MANY STATES HAVE YOU VISITED?

We live in a beautiful country with many national parks and big cities. Our country features rugged mountains, sprawling farmland, deserts and spectacular coastlines. This activity will help you relive some of your experiences. Place a check mark beside each state you have visited. Think about what you did, or who you saw, while there. Perhaps you visited a friend or family member, or went to a museum and saw some wonderful scenic areas. The next time a friend comes to visit you, show them your list. Ask them what states they have visited.

THE 50 STATES OF THE U.S.A.

| State | ✓ | State | ✓ | State | ✓ | State | ✓ |
|-------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|---|-------------|---|
| Alabama | | Indiana | | Nebraska | | S. Carolina | |
| Alaska | | Iowa | | Nevada | | S. Dakota | |
| Arizona | | Kansas | | N. Hampshire | | Tennessee | |
| Arkansas | | Kentucky | | New Jersey | | Texas | |
| California | | Louisiana | | New Mexico | | Utah | |
| Colorado | | Maine | | New York | | Vermont | |
| Connecticut | | Maryland | | N. Carolina | | Virginia | |
| Delaware | | Massachusetts | | North Dakota | | Washington | |
| Florida | | Michigan | | Ohio | | W. Virginia | |
| Georgia | | Minnesota | | Oklahoma | | Wisconsin | |
| Hawaii | | Mississippi | | Oregon | | Wyoming | |
| Idaho | | Missouri | | Pennsylvania | | | |
| Illinois | | Montana | | Rhode Island | | | |



"April showers bring forth May flowers." —English proverb

April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8

Nothing is impossible. The word itself says "I'm possible!"

—Audrey Hepburn

I have a love/hate relationship with gardening. I love the *idea* of gardening, but I hate *doing* the gardening.

I enjoy walking through beautiful gardens like the ones you find in the great cities of the U.S. I have visited Butchart Gardens in Victoria, as well as some awesome gardens in Paris, London and Shanghai.

But there's a dark side to gardening I don't like to think about. Today's Bible reading reminds me that gardening is not all fun and games.

The reading is about vines and fruit. It opens with, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower" (v. 1). Ahhh. It's a nice image.

The reality, however, is that these eight verses are pretty grim. We could say "harsh." After the nice sentiment in verse 1, Jesus gets right to it: "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit."

It gets worse. Even the fruitful branches get "pruned." Think about it. Two blades enclose some part of the branch and cut into it and snap it off.

It gets worse still: "Branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned" (v. 6). If a branch doesn't bear fruit, if it withers on the vine, it's removed and thrown into a smoldering fire.

And think of the plowing and digging of gardening. Think of the plucking, pulling, weeding, and all the work of planting, fertilizing and watering every day.

Yes, as I said, gardening is not all fun and games.

Jesus says that we are the branches. So, as the "branch" of this text, are we ready and willing to look at the dark-side message of this passage? The vinegrower has expectations. Are we willing to submit to the shears? Are we willing for some correction and rebukes? Some pruning? Will we make the most of the nutrients the VineGrower provides?

The Scottish divine, Andrew Murray, has a good perspective on the meaning of this text: "A machine can do work; only life can bear fruit. A law can compel work; only love can spontaneously bring forth fruit. Work implies effort and labor; the essential idea of fruit is that *it is the silent, natural, restful produce of our inner life*" (emphasis added).

Will we abide in Jesus?

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, may I be willing to submit to the shears as necessary, so that my life will be laden with fruit that will bless others. Amen.

Activity Page

Week of April 28, 2024

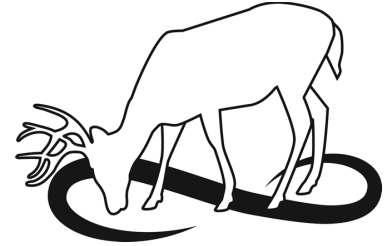
Daily Gospel Readings

Sunday: John 15:1-8
Monday: Matthew 11:25-30
Tuesday: John 14:27-31
Wednesday: Matthew 13:54-58
Thursday: Matthew 10:22-25
Friday: John 14:6-14
Saturday: John 15:18-21

Verse to Remember

*“As a deer longs for flowing streams
 so my soul longs for you, O God.”*

—Psalm 42:1



UNSCRAMBLE THE PROVERB!

Directions: Write in the missing word indicated by the ellipsis (...) in the blank provided. Unscramble the words you wrote in the blanks, to reveal another proverb.

When the going gets tough, the tough ... going. _____

People who live in glass houses should ... throw stones. _____

If the cap fits, ... it. _____

When you begin a journey of revenge,
 start by digging two graves:
 one for your enemy, and one for _____

One person pretends to be ..., yet has nothing;
 another pretends to be poor,
 yet has great wealth. _____

Good things come ... those who wait. _____

When in Rome, ... as the Romans do. _____

Do not wear ... your welcome. _____

Write the unscrambled proverb here:

MISSING LETTERS

The theme of this puzzle is “young animals.” Here are 14 young animal names without the consonants. Complete each word and cross off each consonant when you use it. (The adult version is in parentheses.)

B C C C C C DD FF G G G G H
 J K K K L L L L L L L N N N N
 P P P P S T T T T T T W W
 Y Y Y Y

1. _ U _ _ (BEAR)
2. _ O _ _ I _ _ (GOOSE)
3. _ I _ _ (GOAT)
4. _ A _ _ (DOE)
5. O _ _ E _ _ (OWL)
6. _ O E _ _ (KANGAROO)
7. _ I _ _ E _ _ (CAT)
8. _ O _ _ (HORSE)
9. _ A _ _ O _ E (FROG)
10. _ _ I _ _ (HEN)
11. _ U _ _ _ (DOG)
12. _ _ _ _ E _ _ (SWAN)
13. E A _ _ E _ (EAGLE)
14. _ I _ _ _ (MARE)

SOLUTION: Do not wear yourself out to get rich (Proverbs 23:4, NRSV).

SOLUTION TO MISSING LETTERS:

1. cub
2. gosling
3. kid
4. fawn
5. owl
6. joey
7. kitten
8. colt
9. tadpole
10. chick
11. puppy
12. cygnet
13. eaglet
14. filly

