

Father Richard Frank celebrated Mass for Easter at 10:00 AM Sunday March 31, 2024. There were 87 in attendance.

Contributions received in March:

Offertory Collection:	\$	6,611
Other:	\$	1,970
Building Fund:	\$	
Monthly Budgeted:	\$	5,083
		+3,498

Monday April 8

Jesus and Coffee meets 10 AM at McCarty Center

April 13

Stewardship Conference  
Cana Hall  
Jefferson City

April 13

10AM- 3PM  
Parish Center  
Coin Show

**THIRD SUNDAY OF  
EASTER  
CELEBRATED  
APRIL 13, 2024**

3:30 PM - Rosary  
3:40-3:55 Sacrament of  
Reconciliation  
4:00 PM – Eucharist  
**\*VOCATIONS**

Please pray for our Parishioners residing in Hermitage Nursing & Rehabilitation Center: Sally Fleenor and Franz Hallatschek



**APRIL PRAYER  
REQUESTS**

Dave and Diana Robinson,  
Kathi Kessinger, Phil Rotert,  
Mary Berry, Roger Riley, Ed  
Camp, Jimmie Lee Farmer,  
Rodney Schaefer, Father  
Dan, Alice Wepplo, sister of  
Margaret Hastings, Teresa  
Kilkenny, and Mike  
Stevenson.

**PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN  
AND WOMEN IN HARMS WAY**



Matthew Bialek, Alex Eisinger,  
Logan Eldred, Mark Holm, Michael  
Greenleaf, David Murphy, Houston  
Noah, Caitlin Schaefer, Addie Schaefer and  
Faith Schaefer.

*The Easter 2024 issue of “Word Among Us” is available in the basket in Miller Hall. Please pick yours up and consider picking one up for our homebound members.*

**Bishop McKnight’s  
April prayer  
intention for our  
Local Church**

For a greater awareness of and respect for our common home in building an authentic human ecology: May we be good stewards of the gift of creation in defending all human life.



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**THE SECOND SUNDAY  
OF EASTER  
SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY  
CELEBRATED  
APRIL 6, 2024, AT 4:00 PM**

Office Hours: Mon, Tues, & Thurs, 8:30a.m.– 1:30p.m.  
Wed. By Appointment

Pastor: Father Benjamin Nwosu  
bnwosu@diojeffcity.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 3:40 – 3:55 p.m.  
Rosary: 3:30 p.m. Eucharist: 4:00 p.m.

Like us on Facebook

(facebook.com/stbernadettehermitage) St Bernadette’s  
website: [www.https://stbernadette.diojeffcity.org](https://stbernadette.diojeffcity.org)

**ST BERNADETTE CHURCH IS A CENTER OF  
CHARITY WHERE WE PRAY, GROW, LOVE,  
AND LEARN TO LIVE LIKE JESUS CHRIST**

"Once, at a dark moment in my life, I asked the Lord for the grace to free me from a difficult and complex situation. A dark moment. I had to preach the Spiritual Exercises to some women religious, and on the last day, as was customary in those days, they all went to confession. One elderly Sister came; she had a clear gaze, eyes full of light. A woman of God. At the end of the confession, I felt the urge to ask her a favor, so I said to her, 'Sister, as your penance pray for me, because I need a particular grace. Ask the Lord for it. If you ask the Lord, surely he will give it to me'. She paused in silence for a moment and seemed to be praying, then she looked at me and said, 'The Lord will certainly give you that grace, but make no mistake about it: he will give it to you in his own divine way'. This did me much good, hearing that the Lord always gives us what we ask for, but that he does so in his divine way. That way involves the cross. Not for masochism. But for love, love to the very end."

*Pope Francis*

**Mass Intentions** - If you would like to offer a mass for a loved one, please contact the office. These are \$10 and there are many available days in the next several months to choose from.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

John 20:21-23

God shares his mercy through the Resurrection of Jesus. Even in times of doubt, like Thomas, God's merciful love is there for us to receive. By the power of the Holy Spirit and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we surrender ourselves to his mercy.



**Worship With Us**  
The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be traveling through the diocese from July 1-6.

**Worship with us at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Sedalia**

**July 1**  
6:00 PM Dinner and liturgical talks & testimonies at Sacred Heart School  
Solemn procession to St. Patrick Chapel for Adoration (open)  
8:00 PM Overights Adoration at St. Patrick Chapel

**July 2**  
6:30 AM Mass at St. Patrick Chapel with Eucharistic Procession



Don't sign your rights and freedom away by signing an abortion initiative petition that would alter Missouri's Constitution!

Don't let lobbying groups and out-of-state special interests inject abortion politics where it doesn't belong and where it isn't wanted.

This petition goes too far for Missouri!

**This extreme initiative petition could:**

- Legalize abortion as a method of birth control and abortion after a baby can survive outside the womb.
- Allow abortion clinics in your neighborhood - even near schools and churches.
- Give power to judges and the government to force Missouri taxpayers to fund abortions.
- Permit governmental intrusion in health care decisions made by parents with their children.

**Don't be fooled!** Signature collectors might tell you that it's for "women's health" or "reproductive rights" or "to restore Roe" - or that it's "pro-life" or "pro-choice" - or say anything to get you to sign. **Don't believe them!**

**DECLINE TO SIGN** any petition that lets lobbying groups and the government take away your rights and freedom! Tell family, friends, neighbors, coworkers and everybody to **DECLINE TO SIGN**.  
The future of Missouri is counting on you!



The Church loves you and cares about you. Pregnant? Help is available. Contact [Optionline.org](http://Optionline.org) or call or text 800-712-4327. Experienced abortion? (for women and men) [SupportAfterAbortion.com](http://SupportAfterAbortion.com). Call or text 844-289-HOPE (4673).

*St. Bernadette Pray for us!*



**Reflection for John 20:19-31**

The disciples have locked themselves in - after the horror of Jesus's betrayal, humiliation, suffering and public execution, they are hiding behind closed doors. They are paralyzed by fear and the loss of the Lord. No one wants to testify to all that they learned and witnessed at Jesus's side. When Jesus appears among them, he does not reproach them or express anger - he gives them his peace. He had foretold his resurrection many times. He had already revealed himself to the steadfastly loyal Mary of Magdala and sent her to tell the disciples that he had risen. Yet he accepts them just as they are in that room - exhausted, terrified, locked in - and gives them his peace.

This is what we too can expect when we have given up all hope - to be accepted just as we are and to be comforted. Because to know God is to be loved, not to be judged. It is important to notice that Jesus does not expect the disciples to forget what has taken place, he confirms the reality of Good Friday by showing them his wounds. His presence completely transforms their experience and they are filled with pure joy. This is the promise of Easter. That promise is for us too - Jesus wants us to acknowledge the reality of our own suffering too as he

rises up to open our closed hearts and fill them with joy.

But Jesus does not stop at this moment of joy, he makes a remarkable move: when the disciples might have expected to receive his blessing, a touch of his hand, he does something quite extraordinary: he instills in them the Holy Spirit by breathing on them. What does this mean? This is a pivotal moment for the church. In receiving the Holy Spirit, a new community is born living in a more complete relationship with God and full fellowship with each other. Then, as that new community, Jesus sends them on their mission: "as the Father sent me, so I am sending you" - and sends us as the inheritors of that mission - to go out, to be free, no longer bound up and restricted by our fears but liberated to act together in love.

Then there is Thomas. What does his disbelief tell us about the birth of this new community of faith? We might wonder what experiences have led him to find it so hard to believe the other disciples. Had he suffered more on the journey to and through Good Friday? Perhaps. Some of us have more to bear than others, some have felt abandoned by God at times in their life. Jesus's response to Thomas reveals the depth of his loving patience, his willingness to accept us exactly as we are. Jesus invites him to feel the reality of his wounds, his suffering, and Thomas's response is profound, recognizing Jesus as both my Lord and my God.