



ST. GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

ST. PETER CLAVER | FEAST DAY: SEPTEMBER 9TH

This is the documentation of a miracle that occurred in St. Louis which was used to move St. Peter Claver from blessed to canonized saint.

In this factory, one day towards the end of 1861, Mr. Strecker accidentally struck his chest sharply against a pointed piece of iron. His breastbone was injured, though no outward wound was at first visible. Still there was considerable pain, a burning sensation, and some swelling. This busy workman did not pay too much attention to his injury, until after two months. The tumor-like inflammation began to grow alarmingly and there was no way to drain off the accumulating malignant matter. Doctor Joseph Heitzig, the family physician, was called in.

Certain external remedies were tried and failed to cure him. Doctor Heitzig opened up the wound with an instrument, only to find the breastbone and some ribs on the left side in a state of incipient decomposition. A series of injections failed to clear this up, as did other remedies. The patient only grew worse. Moreover, violent coughing accompanied by copious sputum pointed to tuberculosis. Fever set in, respiration became difficult, and food could not be taken. Mr. Strecker was so weakened and fatigued that he had to give up his employment and spend weeks at a time as an invalid in bed.

After nine months of steady treatment without success, Doctor Heitzig asked the family to call in Doctor William Schoenemann, considered one of the best specialists in America. After a thorough examination of some futile attempts at healing, the doctor pronounced Mr. Strecker incurable and gave him two weeks to live. Mr. Strecker did not die, but lingered on for many months. He finally turned from human remedies to place himself, with resignation, in the hands of Divine Providence. He began to prepare for death.

At this critical moment, the famous parish missionary, Father Francis Xavier Weninger, S. J. arrived at St. Joseph's to preach a mission. After the mission, Mrs. Strecker happened to be present in the church when Father Weninger was preaching a sermon on Blessed Peter Claver. Father Weninger pointed out Peter Claver's great intercessory power with God. After the sermon, he blessed the people with a relic of Peter Claver.

Mrs. Strecker was a woman of deep faith. She went home and begged her husband to ask Peter Claver to cure his fatal maladies. Although Mr. Strecker had never heard of Peter Claver before this, he began to invoke him and ask for his help. The next day, with the last ounce of his strength, he literally dragged himself to St. Joseph's Church and came in just as Father Weninger was blessing the sick with the relic. With sincere faith and strong confidence he placed himself in the line of the sick. Father Weninger blessed him and allowed him to kiss the relic.

What occurred now, Ignatius always found hard to explain. He said he felt a sudden increase in courage, a strengthening of faith, and an utter assurance that he would recover his health through the intercession of Peter Claver. The relic had no sooner been applied than the external suppurating sore began to disappear. The breastbone and ribs healed rapidly and the tuberculosis of the lungs vanished – all within a week or two. In fact, the day after the blessing with the relic, Mr. Strecker was back on the job in the factory. Despite great fatigue, he could already do a reasonable day's work.

Dr. Schoenemann was astonished. Although not a Catholic, He declared that he recognized in the cure, a miracle of God's omnipotence. The cure was complete. There was never any relapse. Years later, Mr. Strecker died on June 4, 1880 in St. Nicholas parish, adjoining St. Joseph's. The City Board of Health issued a certificate that he died of typhoid fever and not as a consequence of his previous illnesses. Ignatius was buried in old SS. Peter and Paul Cemetery.

Two years after the cure, a thorough canonical investigation was made by the Most Reverend Michael O'Connor who was for many years Bishop of Pittsburgh but now a member of the Society of Jesus. The miracle was formally declared authentic in Rome by Cardinal Bianchi in 1887. This miracle was chosen as one of the required two for the canonization process of Peter Claver. He was canonized the following year and his feast is now celebrated in the universal church on September 9th.

Many of his descendants are still living in St. Louis and throughout the United States.

<https://www.shrineofstjoseph.org/st-peter-claver.html>

“BE OPENED”

Today in the Gospel of Mark Jesus heals the deaf and mute man by putting his finger in the man's ear, spitting and touching the man's tongue, and groaning to heaven with the word of prayer “Ephphatha.” The meaning of this word of prayer is “be opened.” In the Order of the Baptism of Children there is still an option to offer a “Ephphatha” prayer. It is accompanied by touching the ears and mouth of the one being baptized. Here is the prayer that accompanies the actions:

May the Lord Jesus who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak, grant that you may soon receive his word with your ears and profess the faith with your lips to the glory and praise of God the Father.

Jesus offers this man in the Gospel the ability to hear and to speak. The “Ephphatha” prayer in the order of baptism is a reminder of how every gift God gives us is to be used. To give glory and praise to God.

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Sep. 10

8:15am † John Shum

Wednesday, Sep. 11

12:05pm † Don Marquardt

Thursday, Sep. 12

NO MASS

Friday, Sep. 13

8:15am † Don Kramer

Saturday, Sep. 14

5:30pm † Patricia Dwerlkotte

Sunday, Sep. 15

7:00am ~ People of the Parishes of St. Gregory and St. Malachy
10:30am † Arnold and Emma Taphorn and † Nadine Taphorn

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, Sep. 9

5:30pm Altar Society Meeting

Friday, Sep. 13

NO ADORATION

Saturday, Sep. 14

4:30pm - 5:15pm Confessions

PARISH NEWS

Altar Society Meeting

The Altar Society meeting for September will be held on **Monday, September 9th at 5:30pm**. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend.

CCD Classes

CCD classes for K - 6th grade students who do not attend St. Gregory's School will begin this Wednesday, September 11th. Classes will take place every Wednesday from **3:30-4:45pm**. MES kids will meet after school and walk to the parish hall together. Please stop by the parish office to fill out a registration form or email parishoffice@stgregorychurch.org. Thank you.

Confirmation Parent Meeting

Confirmation for current 7th and 8th graders will begin on **September 15th**. A parent meeting will be held in the parish hall on **Sunday, September 8th at 6:00pm**. All parents of junior high kids are encouraged to attend. Contact Allyson Lauer at 713-1760 with any questions.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Envelope & Plate for September 1st \$ 7,088.64
 ACH for September 5th \$ 4,145.00
 (\$11,200 Expected Average Collection needed each week)

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Loan Principal Balance (as of 08/01/24).....\$233,806.63
 Donations (since 08/01/24)..... (\$ 2,100.00)
 Total Contributions to Date\$7,871,641.25
 (\$9,100 needed each month for loan payment)

BAPTISMAL CELEBRATION

Please welcome

Laudie Anne Holthaus,

daughter of Charlton and Amy Holthaus,
 who was baptized Sunday at St. Gregory's.

Curious About Catholicism?

Do you have questions about the Catholic faith? Are you searching for answers? Do you want to become Catholic but don't know how to get started?

RCIA will begin soon.
 (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

If you would like more information about the Catholic Church, want to become Catholic or wish to renew your faith, this is for you!

Contact Fr. Quentin or the office for more information.

AREA NEWS

Sunday, September 8th - St. Michael's Church Summer Picnic, Axtell. Come and enjoy a meal with roast beef, ham, potatoes and homemade desserts. Serving will be from 11am-2pm. \$13 for adults, \$7 for kids 4 to 10 years old, 3 and under are free. Games for all ages, bingo, card games, quilt raffle along with our chance book drawing. Concessions also available. Fun for Everyone!!

Sunday, September 8th - St. John's Catholic Church Bazaar, Hanover. Serving grilled chicken, smoked pork loin, meatballs, cheesy potatoes, vegetables and homemade desserts from 4-7:30pm in St. John's Gym. FREE WILL donation. Raffle drawing at 9pm. Do not need to be present to win.

The Little Way of Marriage. There is a longing for deeper connection, even in faithful, Catholic marriages. No matter where you are in your marriage, here's the good news we want to share with you: Doing little things with great love can open your marriage to the transformative power of God's grace. The example of St. Therese and her parents, Sts. Louis and Zelig Martin, can show you how! Join us for a Marriage Enrichment Workshop at **Sacred Heart in Sabetha on Sundays at 4pm. September 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th.** Contact Annie Deters to sign up at annie@nekansascatholics.org



Sunday, September 29th - Daniel Oberreuter Parish Mission Concert. St. Monica/St. Elizabeth and St. Columbille parishes will host Daniel Oberreuter, lead singer of a Catholic band at 7pm at the Valley Heights-Blue Rapids gym. The mission concert is called **Come Hold My Son** and will take listeners on a journey through the mysteries of the rosary. For more information, please visit www.comeholdmyson.com. There will be a free-will offering.



ST. GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC SCHOOL



PTO Fundraiser: The St. Gregory PTO has put together a fundraiser with Idntiteez. If you open the QR to the right or go to <https://idntiteez.chipply.com/stgregory/?apid=9032690> you can view the PTO fundraiser store. Be sure to check it out! A portion of each purchase will go back to the St. Gregory PTO.



A "**Virtus - Protecting God's Children**" training session for anyone who has contact with children in regards to the school will be held on Wed. Sept. 18th starting at 5:30 pm in the school. This training needs to be completed by anyone who drives/goes on school field trips, helps in the classroom and/or with classroom parties, helps in the lunchroom, is a substitute teacher, is a school volunteer etc. The class is mandated by the Archdiocese and will be given by registered facilitator Tamera Steinlage. To register for the class please go to www.virtus.org.

Grandparents Day Mass & Program: We would like to invite all grandparents to attend mass with the students at 8:15am on Fri. Sept. 27th, followed by treats in the church hall. The Grandparents Day program will then begin in the school gym around 9:30am.

This year, we are continuing our school wide growth in virtue using the *Disciple of Christ: Education in Virtue* program. We will continue to have a weekly virtue that is introduced to the students and each week, the students will learn/review what the virtue looks like and sounds like. **New this year:** From the 35 virtues, we will also have a monthly virtue that will be the focus at school and at home for the entire month. This virtue will be introduced during a Faith Family meeting at school and information will be sent home to our school families to help them grow in virtue as well. We are hoping to guide students to an ever deeper understanding of virtue and teach them how to cultivate virtue in their own lives.

September Virtue of the Month - Magnanimity

"I can do all things in him who strengthens me." ~Phil. 4:13

Magnanimity means seeking with confidence to do great things in God; literally "having a large soul". This virtue looks like, having an awareness of the goodness of God in yourself, making sacrifices for God, seeking with confidence to do great things for God, and evangelizing other people. It sounds like "At baptism, I received God's grace and became His child," "I want to do great things in God," "I will make that sacrifice," and "Can I tell you about Jesus?"

Let Us Pray: Lord God, guide our actions and words to be an example of magnanimity to those around us. Give us great faith to do your will. Amen.

PRAYER LIST

The power of prayer is an amazing thing! Please keep the following people in your prayers.

Short Term Health Issues: Carly Cook, Robin Martins, Chris Blanchard, Jolene O'Neal, Fred Lienemann, Jim Borgerding, Dorothy Kramer, Glen Richter, Max Hammes, Greg Boss, Jane Haug, Mary Stryker, Cami Friedrichs, Marilyn Hodgen, Scott Wetter, Jess Wetter, Deanna Schroller, KayeLynn Kroeger, Kaylie Kordyak, Preston Runnebaum, Jan Smith.

Long Term Health Issues: Kenny Hearn, Karen Rengstorf, Janel Weigel, Hudson Gartner, Kristi Meyer, Carol Howell, Joan Pacha, Phil Studer, Kathy Jueneman, Donna Sedlacek, Rick Thompson, Alice Murray, Pat Clark, Dorothy Peschel, Killian Gray, Steve Sawin, Torey Butler, Alan Wassenberg, Tony Evans, Mary Landoll, Debra Nietfeld Lambert, Joan Wacek and Sami Kirkland.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, call Margaret Huffman at 713-9653 or the Parish Office.

CELEBRATE

BIRTHDAYS

- Sep. 9 Mary Weickert, John Smith, Isaac Hight, Marguerite Talbot, Tiegan Barry
 - Sep. 10 Jake Lauer, Irish Bussmann, Ensley Holthaus
 - Sep. 11 Marsha Schell, Jeff Schell, Wylde Kwapnioski, Larry Wassenberg
 - Sep. 12 Liz Frese, Andrew Crownover, Hadley Schotte, Alex Bogdan, Mara Friedrichs
 - Sep. 13 Matthew Bena
 - Sep. 14 Jane Sandstrom, Wyatt Miller
- ### ANNIVERSARIES
- Sep. 10 Johnathan and Alex Beckmann
 - Sep. 13 James and Jessica Vogelsberg
 - Sep. 13 James and Marguerite Talbot (55th Anniversary)
 - Sep. 14 Matt and Emily Wassenberg
 - Sep. 14 John and Karen Smith

CONTACTS

CHURCH: 1310 Carolina St., Marysville, Ks 66508 • **OFFICE:** 207 N. 14th St., Marysville, Ks 66508
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Fr. Quentin Schmitz, Pastor

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SCHOOL

Karen Farrell, Principal

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Susan Dressman, School Secretary

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COUNCIL CHAIRS

Parish Council: Sandy Schmitz

Finance Council: Chad Kramer

Cemetery: Frank Staggenborg at 562-8047

Parish Hall Reservations: Contact Parish Office

K of C Hall Reservations: Joe Peschel at 562-7017

Baptisms: See website for information

Weddings: Contact Father Quentin

If someone is in need of the Eucharist taken to them, please call the Parish Office.



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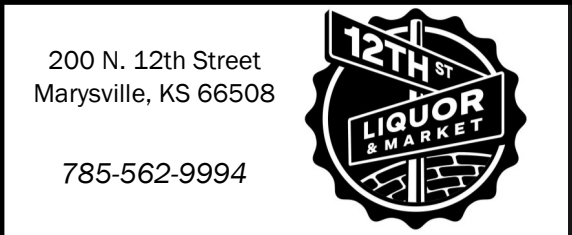
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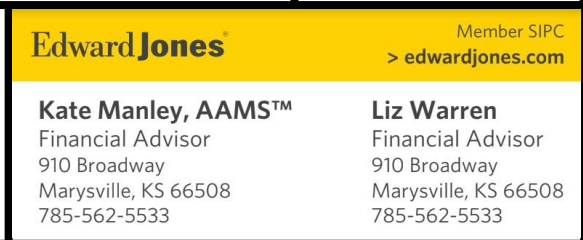
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