



## The Pruning Process

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**T**he common myth is that we receive a new body every seven years as cells die and are replaced. However, stomach cells are renewed every two days or so because of acids and enzymes. Skin cells are replaced every two to three weeks. Bone cells last about ten years, and our brain cells stay with us for our entire lives. In a sense, then, we might say that our bodies are pruned, part of us remaining long-term to nurture and sustain like the trunk of a tree, and part of us severed so that life may be renewed and continue on.

If so with our bodies, are not our spirits also pruned? There is a core part of who we are that wends its way throughout our lives. Yet that “who” has rough edges in need of being smoothed; barbs need to be dulled; and certain inclinations simply need to be severed. Spouses tend to prune one another, the grace of a loving marriage. Children sometimes keep parents honest. Life events may grind down our independence and self-sufficiency. Illnesses, aging, job loss, the death of loved ones—all forcing us to recognize that we are not in control of life. We are thus pruned, forced to surrender much of what we once thought we could control.

Where is God in all of this? If God is woven into the warp and woof of all life, then all the events and rhythms of life can draw us closer to God, pruning us into goodness and fruitfulness. ●

### Reflect

***How have you been pruned and has this pruning led to new growth, new life?***

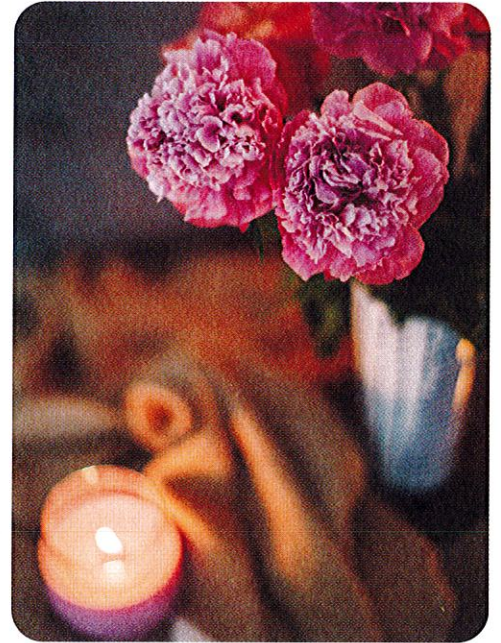


[Jesus said,] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.

JOHN 15:1-2

# Dear Padre,

*Several months ago my son died in a tragic car accident. Life, work, family, and even religion seem so meaningless now. How can I find my way back?*



You have suffered a great loss. When you are able, you can choose to live in a way that will respect both your son's memory and your own ongoing life. Here are a few gentle steps that might help.

- Expect to feel numb at first. This is nature's way of helping you deal with your loss. Keep following the normal patterns of your life and, eventually, meaning will return.
- Allow your friends to help. "Sorrows shared are sorrows lessened."
- If you are sad, let the tears come! Even Jesus cried at the death of his friend Lazarus (John 11:32-35).
- If you are angry, look for a healthy release. Focus the energy of your anger into productive work, even if it's just doing dishes or yard work.
- Use your experience to help others. While helping others, the Lord often reveals to us the meaning of our own losses.
- Don't be afraid to seek professional help. A therapist has the expertise to help you talk about your loss and cope with your grief.
- Pray for yourself, for your son, for all whose lives he touched, for all those who are grieving.
- After you have done everything you can, leave your loss in God's hands. The Lord will do for you what you cannot do for yourself. ●

**The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>
April 29 <i>St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church</i> Acts 14:5-18 Jn 14:21-26	April 30 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 14:19-28 Jn 14:27-31a	May 1 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 15:1-6 Jn 15:1-8	May 2 <i>St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> Acts 15:7-21 Jn 15:9-11	May 3 <i>Sts. Philip and James, Apostles</i> 1 Cor 15:1-8 Jn 14:6-14	May 4 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 16:1-10 Jn 15:18-21	May 5 <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15:9-17



## **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***Jesus needs us, like the vine with the branches. Perhaps to say this may seem bold to us, and so let us ask ourselves: in what sense does Jesus need us? He needs our witness. The fruit that as branches we must bear, is the witness of our lives as Christians.***

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 2, 2021

April 28, 2024

Pastor—Fr. Derek Hooper

Email: dhooper@diojeffcity.org

Fr. Derek Hooper— phone no. 573-492-6595

Deacon Ron Deimeke-573-473-7494

St. Joseph Parish

408 East Kellett

Martinsburg, MO 65264

Rectory—573-492-6595

School— 573-492-6283

ELC— 573-492-6398

St. Joseph Sunday Mass at 9:00 am Saturday Mass at 4:00 pm

Sunday Confessions: 8:30 am Saturday Confessions: 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm Weekday masses: 7:45 am Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday. Week day masses at Sacred Heart: 8:00 am 2nd and 4th Thursday; St. John's 1st and 3rd Thursday

Bulletin info email: tshramek@stjosephmb.org

Website: stjosephmb.org Facebook: St. Joseph Catholic Church

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK**

Mon, Apr 29— no mass  
Tues, Apr 30 —7:45 am mass—Eunice Welschmeyer  
Wed, May 1- 7:45 am mass— Estella Rothermich  
Thur, May 2— 8:00 am mass—St. John's—Laddonia  
Fri, May 3- 7:45 am Mass - Andy Ehret  
Sat, May 4— 4:00 pm Mass— Kent Buckman  
Sun, May 5—9:00 am Mass— Marian Fipps

**ON THE CALENDAR:**

Sun, Apr 28— Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Mon, Apr 29—  
Tues, Apr 30- 1 pm Quilting at Jean Aulbur's town house  
Wed, May 1— Adoration of Blessed Sacrament  
Thur, May 2— 7 pm St. Joseph Parish Council meeting  
Fri, May 3—  
Sat, May 4—  
Sun, May 5— Sixth Sunday of Easter - St. Joseph First Holy Communion

**Liturgical Roles for the month of April:**

**SJC Usher/Counter**

Saturday: Pat Arens and Paul Bertels  
Sunday: Jeff Fennewald and Rodney Willingham

**Musicians/Cantor**

Apr 27-Mark  
Apr 28-Ruth, Rita  
May 4 -  
May 5—  
May 11-  
May 12 -  
May 18-  
May 19-

**Lector**  
Sharon Cope  
Patty Fennewald  
Jennifer Hunn  
1st Holy Communion  
8th grade Graduation  
Carol Willingham  
Peggy Wilburn  
Mae Fennewald

Please contact the office if you are unable to attend that Saturday or Sunday or find a replacement.

**month of May**

Saturday: John Becker and Paul Bertels  
Sunday: Brad Hoyt and Justin Poindexter

**Servers**

**Gifts**  
Jeff and Jennifer Hunn  
Jim and Brenda Hale  
Dale and Peggy Wilburn

David and Kristan Kleinsorge  
Norbert and Kathy Dubbert  
Burt and Dawn Miller

Coltin Cope and Alex Poindexter  
Maci Poindexter and Leah Poindexter  
Rylan Arens and Hunter Arens

Jace Norris and Ty Norris  
Kaytlynn Arens and Ryan Arens  
Chason Sachs and Etta Sachs

**Please Keep in Your Prayers:**

Amanda Keller, Laura Oligschlaeger, Linda Welschmeyer, Chris Robinson, Tammy Purvis, Bob Mette, Tealia McCurdy, Tom Swaim, Betty Mendonsa, Bill Knipp, Bryan Bartlett, Phyllis Silver, Jim Arens, Frances Troesser, Ryker Whalen, Daniel Brooks, Barb Poindexter, Shirley Willingham, Fr. Greg Oligschlaeger, Derrick Feldmann, Frankie Stuckenschneider, Bud Oligschlaeger, Edna Berry, Ryan Maskey, Anthony Arens, Steven Govero, David Welschmeyer, Billie (Welschmeyer) Gering, Jim Gooch, Doris Wieberg, Agnes Bertels, Carolyn Stuckenschneider, Dale (Bud) Craighead, Therese Fennewald, Wesley Andrews, Joe Vance, Edward Borgmeyer, Josh Oliver, Jim Purvis, Penelope Karrenbrock

The Missouri Catholic Conference has shared the Bishops Statement on the Abortion Initiative Petition. A copy of the statement is available for you located by the bulletins in the back of church.

**Eucharistic Adoration Wednesday, May 1,**

Adoration will be held from 8:00 am and continues to Eucharistic Midnight. Welcome everyone, anytime to Eucharistic Adoration of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! A quiet and peaceful time to thank Jesus for all His love and blessings to us.



**Bishop McKnight's May prayer intention for our Local Church**

For those who are preparing for marriage and those who are living the sacrament of holy Matrimony: May the mutual self-giving of spouses and engaged couples bring new life into our community of faith.



The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be traveling through our diocese from July 1-5, 2024, stopping in Sedalia, Boonville, Jefferson City, Columbia and Starkenburg. Learn how you can walk with us and worship with us at several events throughout the diocese...Please watch for more information and details about this exciting event coming soon.

"Come & See" what a beautiful and blessed time it is when you freely give of your time to be with Jesus. Lifting our hearts and praise to our God. Special time to worship, give thanks, and pray for our loved ones and concerns on our hearts. We always have openings for more to join in hourly segments. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is on the first Wednesday of each month. 8:00 am to midnight. Call Jan Schafer 573-473-2104 if you would like to start a monthly devotion and spend more time with Jesus. All are welcome anytime.

**Second Tuesday Mass** -The 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Mass will be held on Tuesday, May 14 with Fr. Philip Niekamp presiding at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows Starkenburg MO. The sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at 11:15 AM followed by the Rosary at 11:40 AM and Mass at NOON. A light lunch will be available at Valentine Hall following the Mass. Cost for the lunch is \$10.

**Join Our Team! The Early Learning Center** is looking for an individual to keep a safe, positive, environment where children can learn and play. We are looking for an educator for our one year old room. Benefits: childcare discount, access to health care, paid holidays, paid time off. If interested email us at elcdirector@stjosephmb.org or message us on Facebook!

**St. Joseph School News**  
Principal - Michelle Hombs

**May Crowning**-taking time during the month of May to celebrate Mary, the Queen of Heaven. **On Wednesday, May 1, at the 7:45am Mass** students and staff will process into church carrying flowers as 8th graders receive the flowers and crown the Mary statue. Each student is asked to bring a fresh cut flower or two to carry into church.

**Birthday Lunch**-the annual all school Birthday Lunch will be next Tuesday, April 30. **We thank David and Sharon Welschmeyer** for sponsoring our meal making it no cost for the students and staff.

**Welcome Mrs. Angel**- We are excited to share that Mrs. Tammy Angel will return to SJS as the 5th/6th grade homeroom teacher for the 24-25 school year. We are fortunate as she has been in education for more than thirty years. We now have a full staff for the 24-25 school year.

**Sacrament Information**- Rehearsal for First Communion will be Thursday, May 2 at 6:00 pm in the church. **First Communion will be on Sunday, May 5 at the 9am Mass** with pictures to follow. Confirmation rehearsal for both the candidate and sponsor will be Sunday, May 5 at 5:00pm in the church. **Confirmation will be on Wednesday, May 8 at 6:30pm.** Candidates and sponsors must be there by 5:30 for pictures.

**Parish Graduation- Saturday, May 11, at the 4:00pm Mass** We will be promoting four 8th grade students onto high school. Any parishioner graduating from high school, trade school, or college are welcome to take part. Graduates, please call school (492-6283) to share if you would like to be a part of our graduation Mass and/or be listed in the program.

**School Advisory Council**- consists of 6 adults (parents and/or parishioners), for a term of 3 years, who provide input and guidance to the pastor and/or principal on the direction of the school's policies, activities, and for the overall good of the school. One new member, to begin a 3 year term in July, is needed for the upcoming 24-25 school year. If you are interested in becoming an Advisory Council member for next school year, please contact the school office, 492-6283.

**Looking Ahead ...**

**Monday, April 29**-Make up track meet @ Montgomery City, meet starts at 3:pm. **Tuesday, April 30**- All school birthday lunch, dress of choice, 11:30 **Wednesday, May 1**- 7:45am May Crowning Mass, 3/4 liturgical roles, 8th grade receiving flowers and crowning Mary; Vocations Day in Columbia for 5/6; All books are to be returned to SJS Library so that inventory can be completed. **Thursday, May 2** - 7:45am song practice; 8th Grade Diocesan Mass, Jefferson City, 10:30am Mass **Friday, May 3**- 7:45am Shadow Mass, PK/K with their Big Shots; Blue/Gold tops with uniform bottoms for Mass; Baptismal anniversaries for the months of May, June, and July; Track & Field Day, 11:30 start, may bring athletic wear to change into

**PLEASE SAVE YOUR MOSER'S RECEIPTS FOR ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL.** We send them in to get cash for the school. Every \$10,000 of receipts gets us \$50. We have already received \$150 this year. There is a box in the back of church where you can put them. There is no expiration date for the receipts. We no longer collect the actual Box-Tops labels, but get those points by scanning the receipts within 14 days of purchase. Campbell Soup Company no longer gives us any rewards for their labels.

**Tending The Flock** has received a lot of donations of useful medical equipment. *If you know of someone in need of durable medical equipment please contact Rhonda Kestler at 573-582-2905.* We are always accepting donations so please keep this ministry in mind if you have durable medical equipment.

**Happy Anniversary & Birthdays**



April 29: Kennedy Rentfro  
May 1; Audrey Schafer, Joan Hank  
May 4: Alex Poindexter  
April 27: Hunter Arens

Please contact the parish office if you would like a birthday or anniversary listed in the bulletin. Parish office hours are Tuesday thru Thursday 9 am until 4:30 pm.

**Beginning Monday, May 6, 2024** the Rosary will be prayed at the Sacred Heart Grotto next to the church in Vandalia on the first and third Monday of each month. If there is inclement weather it will be moved inside the church. The Rosary will be prayed for the United States of America in the coming months to return to God, one nation under God. There will be a brief explanation of each mystery during the Rosary for a deeper reflection during the Hail Mary's. We will begin with the Joyful mysteries.

Mothers and their loved ones are invited to enjoy the beauty of **The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church on Mother's Day, May 12.** Mother's Day is a special event for the Mothers' Shrine, which honors the Blessed Mother, Mary, and all who love with a mother's love, whether as a mom within a family or as a spiritual mother. The Mothers' Shrine is adjacent to St. Patrick Catholic Church, 176 Marian Drive in Laurie. The Mothers' Shrine is hosting a complimentary brunch May 12, 9:30 – 11 am, following 8:30 am Mass at St. Patrick Catholic Church. There is no fee for the meal and all are welcome. Reservations are not necessary; people will be seated first come, first serve. Donations are welcomed. Mother's Day afternoon, at 1:30 pm, all are welcomed to a special Mass celebrated by Father John Schmitz, rector of the Mothers' Shrine, at the outdoor altar. Following the Mass, the names of more than 100 new honorees for the Mothers' Wall of Life will be unveiled.

**The Spring Pilgrimage** will be held on Sunday, May 19 with Fr. Niekamp presiding at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in Starkenburg, MO. The day begins with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by a Rosary procession through the Shrine grounds. A traditional German lunch will be available from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Following lunch, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be available with several priests. Benediction is at 1:30 and an Outdoor Mass will be celebrated at 2:00 PM. Cost for lunch is \$15 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12 and those under 6 are free.

**Job Opening at Fr. Tolton Catholic High School**

Fr. Tolton Catholic High School currently has an opening for a Full-Time Custodian. Full job description and information on how to apply can be found at <https://toltoncatholic.org/job-openings>. Join our team - apply today!

*Remain in me, as I remain in you.  
Just as a branch cannot bear  
fruit on its own unless it remains  
on the vine, so neither can you  
unless you remain in me.*

John 15:4

**It is from the Lord that we bear fruit as disciples of Christ. Our lives are not our own; yet, when we invite the Holy Spirit into our daily lives, are faithful to his commandments and frequently receive the sacraments, our lives will reflect the love of God to others.**



DIocese OF  
Jefferson City

**SJC Financial Report:**

	Income	Expense	Difference
July to March	\$733,566.22	\$781,569.96	\$-48,003.74
Percent of Budget	80.97%	82.75%	

Month of March	Income:	Expense	Weekly Apr 7	Weekly Apr 14	Weekly Apr 21
Church	\$ 35,046.42	\$ 21,742.89	\$ 9,586.00	\$14,925.73	\$13,633.70
School	\$ 9,965.98	\$ 32,930.32	\$ 1,287.20	\$ 1,697.20	\$ 624.20
ELC	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 23,229.44	\$ 3,915.00	\$ 2,325.00	\$ 4,255.00
Extended Care	\$ 1,034.00	\$ 1,127.65	\$ 344.50	\$ 118.00	\$ 213.50

*You're  
Invited*

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**Second Tuesday  
of Every Month**

March – November

**Sacrament of  
Reconciliation**

11:00 a.m.

**Rosary**

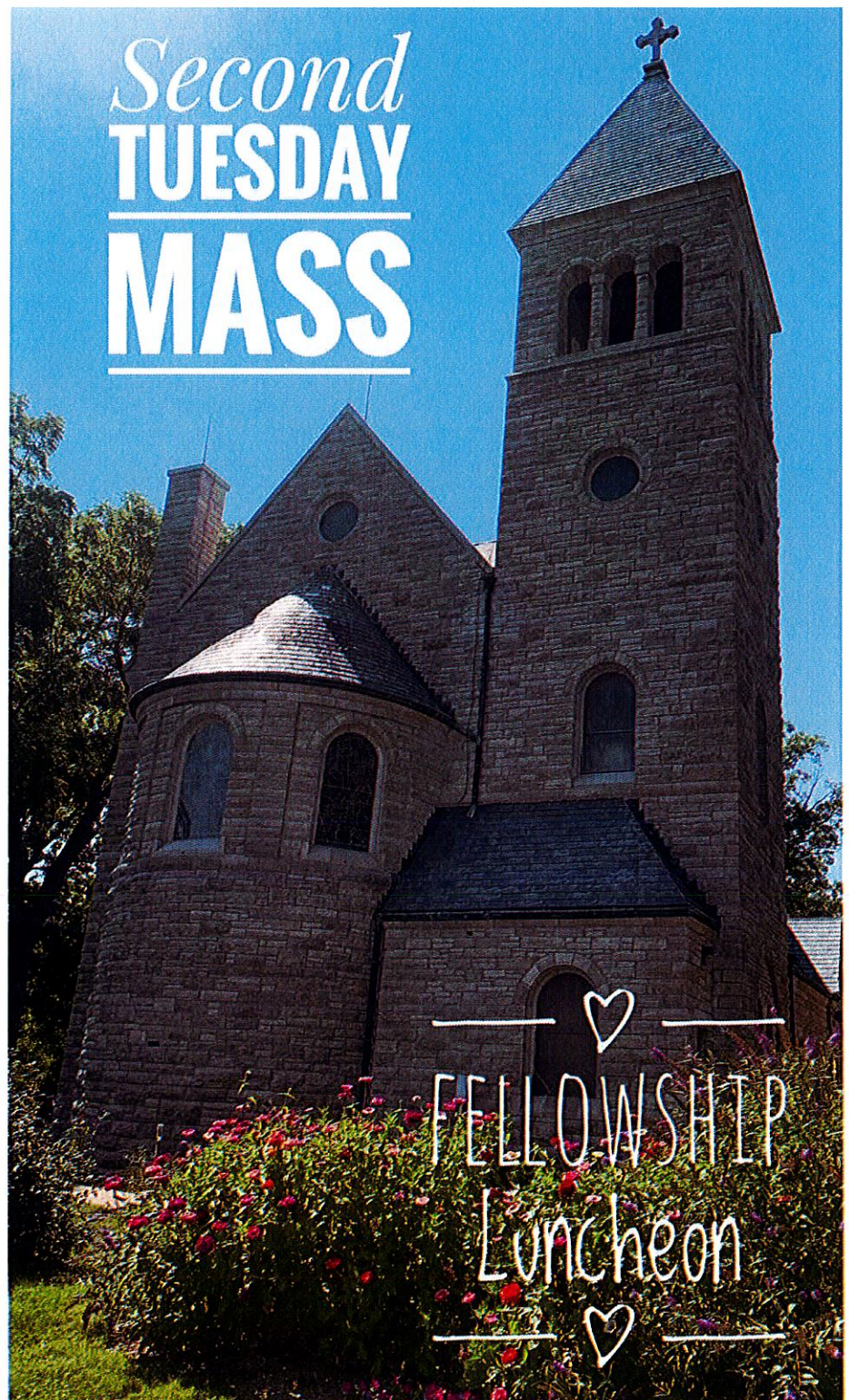
11:40 a.m.

**Lunch**

After Mass

**Shrine of Our Lady  
of Sorrows**

Starkenburg/Rhineland  
197 Highway P



**Tuesday, May 14, 2024**

**Father Phil Niekamp, Officiant**

Lunch

Dessert, Tea & Coffee - \$10.00

# Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows Starkenburg, MO



Annual Spring Pilgrimage

**Sunday – May 19, 2024**

Pilgrimage starts 10:00 a.m.

Followed by Traditional Dinner

*Serving 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

12:30 p.m. Confessions

1:00 p.m. Benediction

2:00 p.m. Outdoor Mass

*Serving: Fried Chicken, Roast Beef,  
Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes,  
Corn, Slaw and Dessert for Adults,  
\$15.00, Children 6-12, \$5.00,  
Under 6. free.*

Located: 197 Hwy P, Rhineland, MO 65069

Directions: HWY I-70 take Hwy 19 south 7 miles to Big Spring.  
Hwy K west 6 miles. Hwy P south 4 miles to Starkenburg.

Shrine and Valentine Hall are handicap accessible.

[www.risensavior.diojeffcity.com](http://www.risensavior.diojeffcity.com) or 573.236.4390