



# MAY 15, 2022

## 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

St. Ann Catholic Church  
1503 Tracy Ave Excelsior Springs MO 64024  
(816) 630-6659



Scan for online giving

Pastor Fr. Kevin Drew  
kevdraw11@yahoo.com  
Deacon, G. Alan Bandy

Church email address:  
stannparishoffice@gmail.com  
Website: stanncatholicchurch.net  
Emergency Contact Number (816) 810-5035

**Online giving is available  
at this secure link:**  
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/>

**THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS SCHEDULE**  
Weekends: 4:00PM Saturday - 8:30AM Sunday  
Daily: 8:30 AM Monday through Saturday  
Hour Hour 7pm Wednesday Adoration 7:30am Saturday  
**Confessions 30 minutes prior to every Mass**

### Mass Intentions

Sat	May 14	4:00 PM	Paul V. Mercurio
Sun	May 15	8:30 AM	St Ann Parishioners
Mon	May 16	8:30 AM	Nancy Gorski+
Tue	May 17	8:30 AM	Wanda Nanneman
Wed	May 18	8:30 AM	Mary Lammers+

Thur	May 19	8:30 AM	Nancy Gorski+
Fri	May 20	8:30 AM	Mary Ann Cicconi
Sat	May 21	8:30 AM	Robert Wuestenfeld+
Sat	May 21	4:00 PM	St Ann Parishioners

<u>OFFERING</u>	
May 8	\$ 7,861.51
Online giving	\$ 475.00
Tomorrow's Priest	\$ 10.00

**PRAYER REQUESTS**  
Bill Greim, Tim Pingell, Michael Sena,  
Stephan 'Doc' Kohl

### FROM FATHER DREW

St Damien de Veuster, May 10

Does anyone you know have the perfect marriage? Is there such a thing as the perfect marriage? No, because marriage has its ups and downs; its challenges. A priest writes that as the world gets further and further away from God being married and raising a family and keeping them Catholic becomes more and more a heroic calling: the battle scars should unite you rather than divide – is that not what our Lord's scars are supposed to do?

This priest relates an inspiring story that was reported shortly after World War II about a woman who contracted leprosy. At the time it meant that she would have to be sent to a leper asylum in Louisiana. Her husband, a major in the army, insisted on going with her: "I just want one thing in the world" he said, "to be with my wife."

The husband had been a war hero in the Pacific and while on tour had been captured with his wife and imprisoned. She was given a chance to be set free, but turned it down, and despite his protests, she stayed in the prison with her husband. It was there that she contracted leprosy. Accompanying the story was a picture of him kissing his wife on the forehead. No doubt, writes the priest, this display of devotion was the fruit of a common life maintained under the most difficult of circumstances.

Our honored saint today was also a prisoner in the Pacific. Damien de Veuster was a Belgian Catholic priest. He then was married as well, his bride of course being the Catholic Church. In 1864 Damien went to the Hawaiian Islands as a missionary. He landed on the island of Molokai, a leper colony where one writer wrote "he entered a world of untold human misery made worse by rampant immorality. Into this darkness he brought the light of Christ."

The government in Hawaii, none too fond of Catholic priests, exploited the risk of contagion. They ordered Fr Damien to choose between leaving the colony permanently or remaining in it till the end of his days. He chose to stay and take care of the lepers on Molokai, also known as Devils Island. He suffered greatly for this; no longer being able to receive the sacrament of penance regularly. He had been virtually cut off from his brother priests by the isolation order, and he suffered for years, eventually dying of leprosy in 1889.  
(continue on back)

### *Fr. Drew, Continued*

St Damien was devoted to Eucharistic Adoration. In Belgium, before he was ordained, he spent the hour of 2 am praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament. A fellow novice noticed that Damien exhibited “an extraordinary zeal for nocturnal adoration.” Our writer states that the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist was the driving force and mainstay of his life of service to the lepers. St Damien said he could not go on without the constant presence of the Divine Master in his poor chapel.

A writer notes that we should all see Christ in the poor and the sick. That’s very true. But he also states what perhaps gets forgotten in our own time is “that the saints were able to see Christ so clearly in the needy precisely because they saw him first in the Mass and the tabernacle, as well as in the rosary and in their prayer life.”

There is no perfect marriage here on earth. The only perfect marriage is in heaven when we will be united perfectly to Christ the Bridegroom. But in the meantime, Christ makes marriage on earth a sacrament, providing for the necessary graces to succeed, which come at the cost of self-denial and personal sacrifice. So, see Christ first in the Mass and the tabernacle. See his battle scars. That will be the driving force and mainstay of your marriage under the most difficult of circumstances.

Sign up for our **Catholic Youth Summer Camp** (School, Boot camp) **Tuesday, Wednesday June 7, 8.**

**From 8:00-2:30.** We will have some instruction and fun and games built around Pope Benedict XVI's quote: "The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness." Sign up sheet in vestibule, questions see Carrie Watson.

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### **MISSOURI PRIESTS vs KANSAS PRIESTS**

Pitching for Priests softball game between the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph & the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas priests is **BACK!** Come cheer on our team as they defend rights to keep the Pitching for Priests trophy. Gametime 7 pm Friday. Tailgating begins at 4:00. June 10 at the KC Monarchs Stadium. Money goes to seminarians' education. Sponsored by Catholic Radio Network. Go to the link below to order tickets.

<https://catholicradionetwork.ticketspice.com/pitching-for-priests-2022>

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**Make a holy hour early on Saturday mornings.** Friends, for almost a year I have exposed the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 am on Saturdays. Get up early and come, especially on First Saturdays of the month, which Our Lady asked to be devoted to her. Bask in the silence and "stay awake and watch" (see Mt 26:41) with Our Lord.

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### **THANK YOU!**

Thank you to all who helped with the First Communion and Mother’s Day Mass. The flowers were beautiful and the Mary and Martha’s home-made breads were wonderful. With all that’s going on in the world, the light shines in the darkness.

To listen to Fr Drew's homilies, go to the “Podcast” app on your phone. Search “Daily Homily Father Kevin Drew”. Touch that screen and listen to current and past episodes of his homilies.

Two ways to listen to the daily Mass at St. Ann, tune into Catholic Radio 1090 AM or go to [catholicradionetwork.com](http://catholicradionetwork.com). Click on “Listen Live”; aired at 11:00 AM; daily homily airs Monday-Friday at 3:50 PM.



**If you would like to register to St Ann Parish call, email, or see Fr Drew after Mass .**

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The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse: 1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and 2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and 3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or [crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org](mailto:crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org), if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. Victim Assistance Coordinator, Whitney True-Francis, 816-392-0011