

ST. MARY'S PARISH

703 Monroe St., Ellis, KS 67637

October 1, 2023
26th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

OCTOBER 2023



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Phone #s

Rectory: 726-4522
School: 726-3185

E-Mail

Parish: stmary@gbta.net
SMS Principal: ppark@stmarysellis.net

Website

Parish: www.stmarysofellis.org
Diocese: <http://salinadiocese.org>

Mass Schedule

Monday 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday 8:10 a.m.
Wednesday 10:00 a.m. (EGSC)
Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:00 a.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Sunday 11:00 a.m. Cedar Bluff, May 21 - Sept. 10, 2023

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Anytime by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Bulletin Deadline

By 4:30 p.m. Wednesday

Baptism

By appointment. Contact the Pastor

Weekly Readings

October 2 - October 8

Mon: Zechariah 8:1-8; Matthew 18:-5, 10

Tue: Zechariah 8:20-23; Luke 9:51-56

Wed: Nehemiah 2:1-8; Luke 9:57-62

Thu: Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Luke 10:1-12

Fri: Baruch 1:15-22; Luke 10:13-16

Sat: Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29; Luke 10:17-24

Sun:

Parish Personnel

Pastor	Fr. Dana Clark
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Emily Mattheyer
School Principal	Mrs. Patti Park
Pastoral Council President	Mr. John Zody
Liturgy Chairpersons	Ruth Bollig and Alyson Johnson
Finance Council President	Mr. Melvin Augustine
School Council President	Mr. Matt Fondoble
Home & School President	Mrs. Jenni Bongartz
Director of Religious Education	Mrs. Judy Schuler

Marriage

Contact the pastor at least six months prior to the anticipated wedding date. No wedding will be scheduled without premarital instruction.

Mass Intentions

Sat	Sept 30	5:30 p.m.	LeRoy & Lois Aschenbrenner Fam (liv/dec)
Sun	Oct 1	7:00 a.m.	For the Parishioners
Sun	Oct 1	9:00 a.m.	Don R. Younger+ (anniv)
Mon	Oct 2	5:30 p.m.	Richard & Charlene Flax+
Tues	Oct 3	8:10 a.m.	Rosita Augustine+
Wed	Oct 4	8:10 a.m.	Larry Winterscheidt+
	EGSC	10:00 a.m.	Paul & Sally Flax+, Jerome Flax+ and Lauren Hillman+
Thurs	Oct 5	8:10 a.m.	William Joseph Reiter+
Fri	Oct 6	8:10 a.m.	Dorothy Weber+
Sat	Oct 7	5:30 p.m.	Jarrett Johnson+ (anniv)
Sun	Oct 8	7:00 a.m.	Rodger & Sheila (anniv) Harper+ and John M & Clara Augustine+ Families (l/d)
Sun	Oct 8	9:00 a.m.	Albert & Lela Heroneme+

Ministries for October 7 & 8

Ministry	5:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m.
Lector	Cindy Zervas	Brian Serpan
Presentation of Gifts	Duane & Karen Dorzweiler	Cody & Megan Honas Family
Eucharistic Minister(s)	Barney Boos Richard Bollig	Eldon & Stephanie Jerauld Peggy Seibel
Servers	Caleb, Landon & Mason Schield	Hannah & Luke James Alyvia Kraft
Cantor / Musician	Alyson Johnson Cheryl Lang	Trilogy Amy Staab
Ushers & Greeters	Clarence Rupp Bob & Margie Mickelson Gary Luea	Cody & Megan Honas Family

Other Ministries

7:00am Lector	Oct. 8 (Sun) 7:00a.m.	Eldon Pfeifer
Communion to Homebound	Oct. 6 (Fri)	Fr. Dana Clark
Ellis Good Samaritan	Oct. 8 (Sun) 10:15a.m.	Geoff & Mindy Eck Fam.
Rosary Leaders	Oct. 7 (Sat) 5:30p.m. Oct. 8 (Sun) 9:00a.m.	Cindy Zervas Peggy Seibel

Meetings & Events

Sun	Oct. 1	Auction Admission Tickets increase
Mon	Oct. 2	Feast of Guardian Angels Ellis Food Box Pantry Open 3-6pm
Tues	Oct. 3	SMS Picture Day
Wed	Oct. 4	Feast of St. Francis Pet Blessing at 2:30 (school circle drive)
Thurs	Oct. 5	Eucharistic Adoration 9am-5pm
Fri	Oct. 6	EHS Homecoming
Sun	Oct. 8	Second Sunday Coffee & Donuts Auction Preview Open House 10-11:30 Last Day to purchase Auction Admission Tix

Parish Announcements

- **Last Week to get your Auction Tickets at a Discounted Price!!!** If you are planning to attend the 29th Annual Parish Auction this year on October 14th, be sure to reserve your tickets this week for the price of \$60/ticket! On October 1st, the price raises to \$70. There are still plenty of Raffle tickets available—call the Parish Office for your admission tickets and to purchase chances to win in the Cash Raffles!
- **You are invite to come Preview the Auction Items** after Mass on Sunday, October 8th from 10:00-11:30am in the school gym! All items will be on display for you to come see what is up for grabs! You will also be able to pick up your admission tickets, books, purchase tickets of any sort that you may not have had the chance to do so yet (reminder: last day to purchase admission tickets is Oct. 9th)!
- **Second Sunday Coffee & Donuts** will be held in conjunction with our Auction Preview Open House on Sunday, October 8! Please come to the school gym and enjoy a sweet treat while looking at all the items!
- **YDisciples!** Do you wrestle with the brokenness of this world? Come join in on a discussion about God's healing and redemption for ourselves and humankind this Wednesday, Oct. 4th with meal at 6:30pm and group to follow! Bring a friend!

Parish Offering: Weekend of September 23 & 24

Weekly Budget Fiscal Year 2023-24: \$7,433.34

Offertory Loose Plate.....\$1,078.00

Adult Envelopes.....\$4,275.00

Total Giving this week.....\$5,353.00

For this weekend the collection is under by \$2,080.34.

Notes from the Pastor

Parish Auction. Our parish auction is only *two* weeks away! We have items, but lacking bidders! ***Reach out to your friends and relatives and invite them to the auction.*** We will have a preview of items next Sunday (October 8) in the school gym. Coffee and donuts will be served in the gym this month so you can eat and browse at the same time. Auction books and tickets will be available for pick up too. Be sure to check out all the items on the auction website: charityauction.bid/stmarysauction2023. It has all the items listed, and if you wish, you can purchase raffle tickets or donate to the special project online!

Remember that Mass on the auction night will be at 4:00pm and not 5:30pm.

Respect for Life Month. October is Respect for Life month. This Sunday is Respect of Life Sunday. During this month, we consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. This year's theme is "*Radical Solidarity*." The focus is on our call to radical solidarity with mothers in need and their children; we are reminded of our responsibility to put our love for them into action. Check out the bulletin insert and the respect for life pamphlets and material on "What's on the Table" in the back of the church.

Remembering Prayer Service. We will be conducting our Remembering Prayer Service, as we did the last several years, the first Sunday of November, November 5, at 4:00pm for parish family members who have lost a loved one during the past year. We will be compiling a list of names. I'll publish in next week's bulletin the list of names of funeral services I had this past year. If you have a loved who died within the past year and they are not on the list, let us know so we can add them.

Catholic Trivia

343. How is the sacrament of Matrimony celebrated? Since Matrimony establishes spouses in a public state of life in the Church, its liturgical celebration is public, taking place in the presence of a priest (or of a witness authorized by the Church) and other witnesses. *Further reading: CCC 1621-1624*

344. What is matrimonial consent? Matrimonial consent is given when a man and a woman manifest the will to give themselves to each other irrevocably in order to live a covenant of faithful and fruitful love. Since consent constitutes Matrimony, it is indispensable and irreplaceable. For a valid marriage the consent must have as its object true Matrimony, and be a human act which is conscious and free and not determined by duress or coercion. *Further reading: CCC 1625-1632, 1662-1663*

These excerpts are from the Compendium of the CCC.

Have a good week! Fr. Dana

School Announcements

- **School Picture Day!** Students - remember to wear your uniforms and your best smile to school on Tuesday, October 4th for Picture Day!!!
- **Annual Pet Blessing on Wednesday, Oct. 4th at 2:30pm** in the school circle drive! All are welcome to attend!
- **Fleece Tie Blankets for Ellis Good Sam:** Students will soon be working on a project for Ellis Good Sam! We will be making fleece tie blankets for the residents and are looking for donations of fleece! If you can help us with this project, approximately 4 yards will be needed to make each blanket. Donations may be dropped off at the school or in the box in the back of church until October 20! We appreciate your help with this project!

Salina Diocese Announcements

- **Annual Anniversary Masses:** The Diocese will be recognizing couples that are celebrating their 1st anniversary or any anniversary ending with a 5 or 0, with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Vincke on Sunday, Oct. 15th in Salina at The Cathedral and on Sunday, Oct. 29th in Hays at St. Nick's. Registration and event detail are available to the Diocese website!
- **New Adult Formation opportunity: Tuesdays with the Diocese:** Join adults of the Diocese of Dodge City and Salina on Oct. 3, Oct. 24, and Nov. 14 to learn more about The Second Vatican Council, Scripture and Synod. You are invite to attend all three evenings or just one at no cost. Connect via Zoom using your own device at 6:00-8:00pm. To sign-up and receive the link, go to dcdiocese.org/af. **Oct. 3 - The Second Vatican Council with Fr. Frank Coady.** What is the Religious between Scripture and Tradition.

Prayer List

Please Remember in Prayer

Dean Augustine, Gilbert Augustine, Juanita Augustine, Mark Boos, Ken Collins, Janice Collins, Dianne Durler, Rose Egger, Sister Doris Flax, Robert Gerhardt, Debbie Haas, Edna Hejny, Lawdy Herman, Nathan Hively, Rob Hrabe, Gilbert Kinderknecht, Doug Kingsley, Clifford Kreutzer, Agneta Kuhn, Lucille Kuhn, Irene LaBarge, Kevin LaBarge, Joey LaBarge, Shawna LaBarge, Martin & Debbie LaBarge, Holly Metzler, Bob Mickelson, Riley Moore, Elizabeth Newton, Jeanna Plante, Megan Ptscheck, Doug Rohr, Toyna Sterling, Tanner Sullivan, Marlene Tribble, Brandy Womack, and the residents of EGSC.

If any one has names they would like added to the list, they may call the rectory at 726-4522.

Community Announcements

- **Ellis Nutrition Center (Mealsite) Meals:** We invite you to join us at the Ellis Nutrition Center on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday for great cooked meals at 11:30am for a price of \$3.75 per meal for guests over 60 years of age! Guests under 60 must pay the full cost of a meal, which is \$6.75. Can't dine-in with us, no worries, we offer carry-out and delivery! Carry out meals are ready by 10:45am! To get on the list for carry-out or delivery, contact Leonard at 785-726-1278! This week's menu includes: Ground Beef Stroganoff, Ham & Beans, Taco Salad and Baked Fish!!!



Purchase Tickets

There is still time to purchase admission tickets! Ticket price is NOW at \$70.00 per person! Tickets are only available until Oct. 9th!

Preview Open House

Come preview the items at the auction on Sunday, Oct. 8th from 10:00-11:30 in the school gym!

Mass Time Change

Mass on Saturday, Oct. 14th will be at 4:00pm, not 5:30pm

Make a Donation

You may still make a cash donation and/or a donation towards the special item for this year's auction!

Reminders for the next 2 Weeks



Auction Website



Charityauction.bid/

CHILDREN AS COMMODITIES?

"Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. This is your pilot speaking. ... I have two pieces of news to report, one good and one bad. The bad news is that we are lost. The good news is that we are making excellent time." —Author Unknown

In 1971, the renowned physician and medical ethicist, Dr. Leon Kass, used this parable to illustrate the coming wave of assisted reproductive technologies, hailed by science as a final triumph over infertility; scientists were on the verge of creating children outside the womb and inside the laboratory. Dr. Kass feared that we had not given adequate consideration to the question of how this might affect the couples pursuing these methods and the children produced from them. Forty years later, we're just beginning to understand the consequences of such technologies.

Consider Natalie,* a thirty-year-old woman living in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Throughout her childhood and adolescent years, she suffered from depression and endured severe adjustment difficulties, feeling as if she never truly belonged in her family. When she was seventeen years old, she discovered that she was conceived through a process known as commercial surrogacy. Natalie's parents had contracted with another woman to become pregnant using her father's sperm and the woman's own egg, bear her for nine months in her womb, and then hand her over to them. After questioning why her parents lied to her, Natalie became estranged from them, hurt that money, rather than the expression of marital love, was the context in which she was brought into the world.



Now consider Amy, who was eight years old when her parents told her they would be divorcing. Her father attempted to gain custody of her older sister, but not her. The reason? Amy was conceived via an anonymous sperm donation, and her father was not

interested in maintaining a relationship with a child who was not biologically his offspring. Such a scenario highlights the many complexities of donor conception, by which a child is intentionally severed from his or her biological parents with little consideration of the long-term consequences of such a decision.

These true stories represent the sad realities often faced both by those who choose to pursue assisted reproductive technologies and by children conceived through them. Unfortunately, when couples face the heartbreaking challenge of infertility, they may not know where else to turn.

When couples are unable to bear children, very often there is an understandable feeling of great loss. It is essential to note that "the Church has compassion for couples suffering from infertility and wants to be of real help to them. At the same time, some 'reproductive technologies' are not morally legitimate ways to solve those problems."¹ No doubt, those who are tempted to avail themselves of such technologies almost always plan to accept and cherish the child to be conceived in this manner. Nevertheless, the child is brought into existence through a technological process and not through a loving act of marital intercourse. The inevitable result is that the child is initially treated as an object created for the parents' self-fulfillment instead of welcomed as a gift of God.

Since the advent in 1978 of IVF (*in vitro* fertilization), by which children are "conceived" by technicians working in labs, the floodgates have been opened to bringing about reproduction through egg and sperm donation and surrogate pregnancies. Yet these technologies are fraught with medical, legal, and moral complications that are often either unknown or too easily dismissed.

What many people don't realize is that, in addition to the financial burden, assisted reproductive technologies can also present significant health risks. A February 2014 analysis in the *British Medical Journal* found that women who use IVF are more likely to suffer "gestational diabetes, fetal growth restriction, pre-eclampsia, and premature birth."² Children conceived through IVF are likely to have higher blood pressure, vascular difficulties and other health problems.³ Moreover, IVF and surrogacy subject women to grueling rounds of hormones, shots, and painful procedures with minimal chances of

success. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the overall failure rate of IVF in the United States is nearly seventy percent.⁴

Yet the demand for “designer babies” and the commercialization of childbearing continues to increase. Parents who are spending tens of thousands of dollars to conceive children now have the option of picking the “best” sperm or egg to maximize their investment. However, “children are not parents’ possessions to manufacture, manipulate, or design; rather, they are fellow persons with full human dignity, and parents are called to accept, care for, and raise them to be new members of God’s family and his Kingdom. Children deserve to be ‘begotten, not made.’”⁵ In other words, children have the right to be conceived within the context of an act of marital love, not created in a laboratory by scientists.

How then do we best respond to couples struggling with infertility? First, we must acknowledge their pain and accompany them in their suffering. Second, we should offer them opportunities to continue exploring the possibility of parenthood. Many causes of infertility can be addressed through medical assistance that is fully in accord with Catholic teaching.

Adoption is also a viable alternative for couples seeking to raise children, as it lovingly serves children who urgently need homes and families to love and care for them. For couples who choose not to pursue these options, their active service in ministries and communities where they are needed should be better welcomed. As Pope St.

John Paul II reminded us, “It must not be forgotten ... that, even when procreation is not possible, conjugal life does not for this reason lose its value. Physical sterility in fact can be for spouses the occasion for other important services to the life of the human person.”⁶ While infertility may be a profoundly painful process for many, the Church calls the couple to consider that this experience may ultimately lead to new ways of experiencing God’s love and plan for their love to be life-giving in other ways, even if they are unexpected.

The very technologies that some believed would solve the age-old problem of infertility have, in fact, raised more questions than answers—questions about the meaning and purposes of children, and the limits and

detriments of technology when it intervenes in the most intimate of human relationships. Children, after all, are meant to serve as an outgrowth of a couple’s love, but instead, reproductive technologies reduce that gift to a product. To ignore the concerns raised by some reproductive technologies and to move forward with them anyway would be to take matters into our own hands and to act against this great design. So instead, “in love, hope, and prayer, ... let us be open to God’s gift of life and love in marriage, with profound respect for the dignity of all God’s children.”⁷

**Names have been changed to protect the privacy of those mentioned. To learn more about the Church’s teachings on the morality of reproductive technologies, visit “Life-Giving Love in an Age of Technology” at www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/love-and-sexuality/life-giving-love-in-an-age-of-technology.cfm.*

1 U.S. Catholic Bishops, *Life-Giving Love in an Age of Technology*, (USCCB, 2009). <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/love-and-sexuality/life-giving-love-in-an-age-of-technology.cfm>.

2 Esme I Kamphuis, S Bhattacharya, F van der Veen, professor, B W J Mol, A Templeton, “Are We Overusing IVF?” *British Medical Journal* (2014). <http://www.bmj.com/content/348/bmj.g252>.

3 Ibid.

4 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Society for Reproductive Medicine, Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology, *2010 Assisted Reproductive Technology Fertility Clinic Success Rates Report* (Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2012). http://www.cdc.gov/art/ART2010/PDFs/ART_2010_Clinic_Report-Full.pdf.

5 U.S. Catholic Bishops, *Life-Giving Love in an Age of Technology*.

6 Pope St. John Paul II, *On the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World: Familiaris Consortio* (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1981), no. 14.

7 U.S. Catholic Bishops, *Life-Giving Love in an Age of Technology*.

* Excerpt from *Familiaris Consortio* (*On the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World*). © 1981 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.



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