Social Security WebEx

Wednesday, July 22, 10am

STM parishioner Matt Pomianek, Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, is hosting a webinar, along with Jewell Colbert, the Regional Communications Director for the KC region.

Matt will give an overview of Social Security and address how benefits are determined, benefits for spouses, working while receiving social security, at what age you can begin to receive social security, and online resources.

To receive a link to the free WebEx, please call Matt’s office at 913-648-6084 or email Regina.mak@edwardjones.com or Karie.tindle@edwardjones.com.

Safe Environment

All volunteers working with minors or vulnerable adults are required to:

- Complete an application (if new in ministry)
- Attend a Protecting God’s Children workshop
- Submit to a background check
- Read the online Policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry

For more Safe Environment information, including reporting and victim resources, see page 10.
Faithful People of Saint Thomas More,

After our first full week of returning to our pre-pandemic daily Mass times (I appreciate the good numbers at both daily Masses!), we are making more inroads on how to minister within a situation that will affect our lives for the foreseeable future.

This Monday our Pastoral Associate, David Butel, and I, will be meeting with some of our home-bound ministers to review the protocols to re-engage in this ministry. Up until now, only the clergy have been engaged in these visits during the pandemic.

This week we also submit a plan to the diocesan Catholic Schools Office on how we propose to begin the school year at STM, and anticipate having an approved plan in place by the end of July. Our new principal, Linda Crosthwait, has assembled a taskforce of teachers and staff to guide us in how to apply the diocesan recommendations and best practices to our campus. As we get closer to the beginning of the school year in mid-August, we'll also share the investments we’ve made to help us remain nimble to the different learning models we might need to employ throughout the next school year.

Two weeks remain for our annual collection of school supplies for Seton Center! Collection bins are in the narthex.

Our bi-weekly compilation of sack lunches to the reStart homeless shelter has expanded to a weekly event until Labor Day. Check out the blurb in the bulletin or weekly email blasts for more information on this or our other summer ministries.

Father Justin
They have increased their online program options due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Their programs are free of charge to anyone living with a serious or chronic disease or their supporters. Brochures for July/August 2020 that list their upcoming programs can be found in the magazine rack at the north end of the narthex.

**Healing Hearts After Abortion**

**Anticipated Retreat: July 24-26 in Kansas City**

There are many post-abortive men and women in our churches who live in silent torment, slowly self-destructing. Yet, Jesus’ heart is moved and He has pity upon them as they suffer in pain and grief.

If you or someone you know is suffering from an abortion decision, discover Jesus’ merciful heart which brings peace and comfort. Rachel’s Vineyard retreats are all about healing the pain of abortion one weekend at a time. The July retreat is the second of three Kansas City retreats that had been scheduled for 2020. Please call 816-679-4973 or email rvkcmo@gmail.com for confidential information and to start the healing.

**Prison Pen Pals**

Due to COVID-19 isolation, MAX Prison & Jail Ministry has seen an increase in requests for pen pals from prisoners all throughout the U.S. Pen pals change lives. If you are over 18 and can commit to writing one letter each month for a year to someone behind bars, please join us. The program is safe and secure—providing complete direction. To find out more, contact Laurie Jo Holmes at 816-714-2364 or holmes@diocesekcsj.org.

**Using Resources Wisely**

**Aligning God's gifts for the Church's life and mission**

**Pitching for Priests**

This event has now been cancelled for this summer.

**Back-to-School Drive for Seton Center**

**Until July 25-26 (Saturday-Sunday), Narthex**

We are collecting new school supplies for over 500 K-12th grade children. Please bring items to the narthex through the month of July and place them in the collection boxes. Your support is greatly appreciated! To volunteer or if you have questions, please call Mary Kate Beck, 816-304-1125; Rachel Kemper, 913-707-3207; or Katie Raccuglia, 816-305-6015.

**What to Bring**

New backpacks (especially for high school age and boys), spiral notebooks (wide or college rule), loose leaf paper (wide or college rule), graph paper, 3-ring binders, pocket folders, #2 pencils, (large, pink) erasers,
pens (blue, black, red), colored pencils, 24-count crayons, highlighters, pencil boxes/pouches, rulers, glue and glue sticks, 3x5 index cards, protractors, and scissors (pointed or blunt).

Rather not shop?
Due to the coronavirus restrictions, you may prefer to make a monetary donation. Make checks payable to Saint Thomas More and write “Back to School Drive” in the memo or on the envelope. Thank you so much!

Red Bridge Food Pantry
Our Red Bridge food pantry at First Baptist Church is in need of donations since the number of families they serve has increased. The best way to support them is to write a check, payable to First Baptist Church of Kansas City, 100 W. Red Bridge Road, KCMO 64114. Please write Red Bridge Food Pantry on the memo line.

Sack Lunches for the Homeless
reStart works with individuals and families to prevent, navigate or end homelessness. Parishioners provide sack lunches each week which are delivered to reStart to help feed the people they serve. Contact David Butel at 816-942-2492 x210 or dbutel@stmkc.com to learn more about this outreach effort.

June Financials
Regular - $242,301.68  Plate - $0
Facilities - $2,920.00  School - $260.00
Capital Campaign - $17,317.74
Communications Collection - $883.00

Thank You!
Thank you to the many who are continuing to make contributions to the church. Your support is very much appreciated! Our staff continues to respond to your needs. Please call us at 816-942-2492 if we can help.

Missouri Election Law Changes
The Missouri General Assembly has made some changes in election laws this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the August primary and November elections, Missouri voters will be eligible to cast ballots by mail with notarization of the ballot envelope, and voters in at-risk categories for contracting or transmitting COVID-19 are eligible to vote by absentee ballot without obtaining notarization.

Applications for absentee or mail-in ballots are now ready for the August 4 primary election. Registered voters may request an application either in person or by mail. The deadline for requests by mail is Wednesday, July 22, at 5pm. Mail-in ballots must be returned by mail to the election authority in time for its receipt by 7pm on election day. Absentee ballots may be returned either by mail or in person. For more information on new voting options check out the Secretary of State website: sos.mo.gov.

Medicaid Expansion on August 4th Ballot
Expanding access to Medicaid will help many low-income, working Missourians get access to healthcare coverage through the Medicaid program. It will also help Catholic hospitals improve their operating margins by reducing uncompensated care. The Missouri bishops are supporting this effort. Will you join them? For more information on Medicaid, and to listen to a podcast about the Medicaid expansion ballot proposal (Amendment 2), please visit the Missouri Catholic Conference website at mocatholic.org.

Civilize It: Dignity Beyond the Debate
The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is promoting a year-long initiative ahead of the 2020 elections, inviting Catholics to model civility, love for neighbor, and respectful dialogue. This initiative is built on the recognition that every person—even those with whom we disagree—is a beloved child of God who possesses inherent dignity. Civilize It is the invitation to imitate the example of Jesus in our daily lives, including in our encounters with one another through civil dialogue. Catholics are invited to take a pledge to commit to honoring human dignity through civil conversation. For more information and to take the pledge, go to CivilizeIt.org.

A Prayer for Civility
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where uncivil words prevail, show me how to model love. Help me remember the God-given dignity of all and invite others to do the same. Show me how to build bridges and not walls and see first what unites us rather than how we diverge. Let me seek to understand before asking to be understood. Give me a listening heart filled with empathy and compassion.

May I be clear in sharing my own position and respectful and civil in describing those of others. Let me never tolerate hateful ideas. May I invite all to charity and love. Lord, help me to imitate your compassion and mercy. Make me an instrument of your peace. Amen.
**Fathers, Friendship and Faith**

**Tuesday, July 14, 8:30-10pm, at THE PEAK**

Father Lopez will be back for a final farewell at the Men’s Monthly Social. The social will be IN PERSON and in a NEW LOCATION. The Knights will serve refreshments and snacks. Be sure to put this on your calendar and let’s all show Father Lopez how much he is appreciated!

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)**

CGS is a Montessori-based religious experience involving children and adults in which the religious values of childhood, primarily the values of contemplation and enjoyment of God, are the priority. This experience is shared in a place prepared for children called the atrium.

Since our STM atrium has had to be closed temporarily due to Covid-19, our lesson and material plans are now available online, so parents can create an atrium at home. If you would like training on how to be a CGS catechist at home, please contact gbash@stmkc.com or visit stmkc.com, search CGS, for more details. Please note that CGS has only been offered at STM for children in preschool through 1st grade, so the materials on the website are geared to that age group. However, you might find some of the lessons appropriate for older children as well.

**Courage and EnCourage**

These ministries help men, women, and children and their families who have unwanted same-sex attraction. For confidential Catholic help, call the Courage helpline 913-428-9893.

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**STM School**

**816-942-5581 STMKC.COM/SCHOOL**

**School Office Hours**

The school office is closed for the month of July. Their voicemail will be checked or you may call the parish office at 816-942-2492.

**Registration for 2020-21**

To register for Saint Thomas More School for the 2020-21 school year, call the school office or the parish office, 816-942-2492.

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**New to STM School?**

If you are new to STM, please email Jill Schweiss at schweiss_jill@stmcyclones.org.

**Parochial League Fall Sports Sign-up**

Registration is open at plkc.org. Please register early! Deposits are refundable if the sport is cancelled. Fall sports include flag football (3rd-4th grade boys), tackle football (5th-8th grade boys - PLKC & CYO), and volleyball (3rd-8th grade girls). Questions?

- Tackle Football Coordinator: Kevin Stone (stmcyclonefb@gmail.com)
- Volleyball Coordinator: Jenny Smith (jkalbsmith@gmail.com)
- STM Athletic Director: Mike Poe (stmkcathletics@gmail.com)

**Flag Football Coordinator Needed**

The flag football program is run through the Parochial League for boys in grades 3-4. The STM Athletic Department is looking for someone to coordinate the program. If you are interested or have any questions, please email Mike Poe at stmkcathletics@gmail.com.

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**Parish Office Staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</tbody>
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**Diocesan Ombudsman**

Joe Crayon  crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org or 816-812-2500

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Safe Environment Information

The Diocese of Kansas City–Saint Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

- Call the MO Child Abuse Hotline, 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), or KS Protection Report Center, 1-800-922-5330, and
- Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
- 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 crayon@ombusdmankcsj.org or 816-812-2500, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City–Saint Joseph.

The diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at chastain@diocesekcsj.org or 816-392-0011 for more information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact:

Joan Sandford, Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, safety@stmkc.com or 942-2492 x202, OR
Kathy O’Sullivan, School Safe Environment Coordinator, osullivan_kathy@stmcyclones.org or 942-5581.

Mass Intentions

Mon: 6:15AM Mary Hawver†
7/13  8:15AM Barney & Rosemarie Maguire†
Tues: 6:15AM Fred Ceule†
7/14  8:15AM Police Officers
Wed: 6:15AM Mary Maskill†
7/15  8:15AM Firefighters
Thur: 6:15AM Cathy Walters†
7/16  8:15AM Emma Garcia†
Fri: 6:15AM Tom Krause
7/17  8:15AM Matthew McCullough†
Sat: 8:15AM Tom Ciralli†
7/18  4:00PM Bill Waris†
Sun: 9:00 AM Tim Dalton†
7/19  11:00 AM Parishioners of Saint Thomas More

† Deceased               *All School Mass

To request a Mass intention, stop by the parish office or call 816-942-2492. Suggested donation per Mass is $10.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

For the daily readings, visit usccb.org/bible/reading. Have the readings sent to your email each day, hear the readings read to you, or watch a video with a reflection based on the readings.
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Kathy O’Sullivan, School Safe Environment Coordinator, osullivan_kathy@stmcyclones.org or 942-5581.

Mass Intentions

Mon: 6:15AM Cathryn Walters†
7/6  8:15AM Anne Barth†
Tues: 6:15AM Nurses
7/7  8:15AM Jamie Cosentino†
Wed: 6:15AM Medical Technicians
7/8  8:15AM Helen Farnan†
Thur: 6:15AM Daniel Tresnak
7/9  8:15AM Don Clarkson†
Fri:  6:15AM Vivian Wurtz†
7/10  8:15AM Carl & Linda Fiorella†
Sat:  8:15AM Mark Ayers†
7/11  4:00PM Parishioners of Saint Thomas More
Sun:  9:00 AM Jerry Meiners†
7/12  11:00 AM Ed & Virginia Redding†
† Deceased  *All School Mass

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