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**Office Hours:** Tues, Wed, & Thurs.

**ST. JOSEPH DIRECTORS/COORDINATORS**

**Director of Religious Education**  
**7-12<sup>th</sup> grade – Bryn Kuhlman**  
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**Music Coordinator**  
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**The Seven Last Words, by Venerable Fulton John Sheen**  
**The Second Word**  
**This day thou shalt be with Me in Paradise.**

There is a legend to the effect that when, to escape the wrath of Herod, Saint Joseph and the Blessed Virgin were fleeing into Egypt with the Divine Child, they stopped at a desert inn. The Blessed Mother asked the lady of the inn for water in which to bathe the Babe. The lady then asked if she might not bathe her own child, who was suffering with leprosy, in the same waters in which the Divine Child had been immersed. Immediately upon touching those waters baptized with the Divine Presence, the child became whole. Her child advanced in age and grew to be a thief. He is Dismas, now hanging on the Cross at the right hand of Christ!

Whether the memory of the story his mother told him now came back to the thief and made him look kindly on Christ, we know not. At any rate, enough dry fuel of the right kind gathered on the altar of his soul, and now a spark from the central Cross falls upon it, creating in it a glorious illumination of faith. He sees a Cross and adores a throne; he sees a condemned Man, and invokes a King: "Lord, remember me when Thou shalt come into Thy Kingdom."

Our Blessed Lord was owned at last! Amidst the clamor of the raving crowd and the dismal universal hiss of sin, in all that delirium of man & revolt against God, no voice was lifted in praise and recognition except the voice of a man condemned. If Peter, James, or John had cried out, perhaps the friends would have rallied; perhaps the Scribes and Pharisees would have believed. But at that moment when death was upon Him, when defeat stared Him in the face, the only one outside the Small group at the foot of the Cross to acknowledge Him as Lord of a Kingdom, as the Captain of Souls, was a thief at the right hand of Christ.

At the very moment when the testimony of a thief was given, Our Blessed Lord was winning a greater victory than any life can win and was exerting a greater energy than that which harnesses waterfalls; He was losing His life and saving a soul. And on that day when Herod and his whole court could not make Him speak, nor all the power of Jerusalem make Him step down from the Cross, He turns to a quivering life beside Him, speaks, and saves a thief: "This day thou shalt be with Me in Paradise." No one before was ever the object of such a promise, not even Moses, nor John, not even Magdalen, nor Mary!

It was the thief's last prayer, perhaps also his first. He knocked once, sought once, asked once, dared everything and found everything. When our spirits stand with John on Patmos, we can see the whitestoled army in Heaven riding after the conquering Christ; when we stand with Luke on Calvary, we see the one who rode first in that procession, Christ, Who was poor, died rich. His hands were nailed to a Cross and yet He unlocked the keys of Paradise and won a soul. His escort into Heaven was a thief. May we not say that the thief died a thief, for he stole Paradise? Oh, what greater assurance is there in all the world of the mercy of God? Lost sheep, prodigal sons, broken Magdalens penitent Peters, forgiven thieves! Such is the rosary of Divine forgiveness.

**Prayer**

Dear Jesus! Your kindness to the penitent thief recalls the prophetic words of the Old Testament, "If your sins be as scarlet, they shall be made as white as snow: and if they be as red as crimson, they shall be white as wool." In your words of forgiveness to the penitent thief, I understand now the meaning of your words, am not come to call the just, but sinners. . . They that are in health need not a physician, but they that are ill. "There shall be joy in Heaven upon one sinner that doth penance, more than upon ninety-nine just who need not penance." I see now why Peter was not made Thy first vicar on earth until after he had fallen three times, in order that the Church of which he was the head might forever understand forgiveness and pardon. Jesus, I begin to see that if I had never sinned, I never could call You "Saviour." The thief is not the only sinner. Here am I! But Thou art the only Saviour.

**ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL NEWS:**

**St. Joseph Parents Club Pizza Hut Fundraiser** will be held on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. 5th-grade parents deliver.

**St. Joseph School's** participation in the **Baby Bottle Campaign** is a powerful way to live out the message of Respect Life. Your support gives new and expectant mothers the help they need—like rent, utilities, and baby supplies—so they can choose life with hope and dignity. Every bottle filled is a message that they are not alone and that their baby's life matters. Baby Bottles are in the classrooms, and money can be sent with a student from St. Joseph School or given through your notated parish donations. Thank you!

**ST. JOSEPH NEWS:**

**The D of I will meet at 1pm on Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.** Rosanne LaBarge & Penny Pfeifer will be the hostesses.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Would anyone be willing to pick up parishioners from their homes for weekend Mass? It could be Saturday or Sunday. Please call the parish office if you would like to volunteer. Thank you!!!

**ST. PAUL NEWS:**

**The Angelus K of C will have a Pro-Life Breakfast** on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. from 8 – 10:30am

**Come celebrate** with us on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> with a special coffee and rolls after the 8:00am Mass to honor our Confirmation candidates.

**Congratulations to our Confirmandi**

**Our Tithes from Last Week**

**Oakley: \$3,289.00 Angelus: \$1,329.00**

**We welcome all our guests to our parishes. If you have moved here, we encourage you to register on our website.**



Follow us on St. Joseph Catholic Church and School

@stjosephoakley

**DAILY SCHEDULE**

- Sat 07 5 pm Mass + Parishioners
- Sun 08 – 8:00am Mass (Angelus) + Rodney Mense  
 8 – 10:30am Prolife Breakfast in Angelus  
 10:30 am Mass + Dietz/Knapp Families  
 2pm Mass + Sr. Judy Stephens
- Mon 09 – 5:30pm School Council Meeting
- Tues 10 – 7:30-8am Confessions  
 8:30am Mass + Dean Heier
- Wed 11 - 7:30am Adoration (Angelus)  
 7:30pm Mass (Angelus) + Kenneth Ostmeyer  
 7pm CCD Classes in Oakley
- Thur 12 – 7:30-8am Confessions  
 8:30am Mass + Ken Wetovick  
 9am – 7pm Adoration  
 1pm D of I Meeting in Oakley
- Fri 13 – 7am Mass + Clara Zimmerman  
 7:30-8am Confessions  
 7pm Stations of the Cross at both parishes
- Sat 14 – 4- 4:45pm Confessions  
 5 pm Mass + Almetha Mendenhall
- Sun 15 – 8:00 am Mass (Angelus) + Dennis Lindeman  
 10:30 am Mass - Parishioners

**Confessions are available in Oakley: Tues., Thurs, & Fri. 7:30-8am. Saturday: 4-4:45pm. Sunday: 7:30am in Angelus and 10am in Oakley.**

**ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL**

- Mr. Danny Lockhart
- Mr. David Manhart
- Mrs. Penny Pfeifer
- Mrs. Cassie Shirley-Vice Chair
- Mrs. Micheline Huffman
- Mrs. Raye Kuhlman
- Mr. Mason Sheetz
- Mr. Ethan Schwarz
- Mrs. Dana Charles – Chair

**ST. JOSEPH FINANCE COUNCIL**

- Mrs. Lisa Racette
- Mrs. Dana Charles (Par. Co. Rep.)
- Mr. Tom Halbleib
- Mr. Lewis Evins
- Mrs. Susan Glassman

**ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL COUNCIL**

- Mrs. Kim Munk
- Mrs. Casey Zerr - Secretary,
- Mr. Russ Kahle
- Mrs. Micheline Huffman (Par. Co. Rep.)
- Mr. Courtland Osborne
- Mrs. Mary Urrego – Vice Chair
- Mr. Jeff Kuhlman – Chair

**ST. PAUL PARISH/FINANCE COUNCIL**

- Mr. Bernard Dickman
- Mr. Clem Fellhoelter- Chair
- Mrs. Kristy Fellhoelter - Vice Chair
- Mr. Mason Bixenman
- Mr. Mark Rueschhoff
- Mrs. Kim Robben

Saturday Mar 14 <sup>th</sup> 5pm	Servers	Volunteers	Sunday Mar 15 <sup>th</sup> 10:30 am	Servers	Brynn H, Peyton K, & Shayden S
	Lector	Cecilia Brungardt		Lector	Kay Hughes
	Gifts	Bob & Sherri Kuhlman		Gifts	Ken & Bridgit Bockwinkel
	Hospitality	Jerry & Elaine Wycoff		Hospitality	Jerry Schoenfeld & Karen Wetovick

Sunday, Mar 15 <sup>th</sup> 8 am	Servers	Johnathan Ostmeyer
	Lectors	Ron Lager & Barney Dickman
	Gifts	Steve & Laura Fellhoelter
	Ushers	Larry Mense, Gary Ostmeyer, Joe Rehmer & Mark Rueschhoff