

St. Joseph Catholic Church Newsletter

“St. Joseph Catholic Church brings Christ to our community and our community to Christ.”

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Dr. Richard Rowe of The Kolbe Center speaks at the Rally for Life on June 15th at Rosa Parks Square.

The Kolbe Center Leads for Life

At a May Macon-Bibb Planning and Zoning meeting, the Planning and Zoning Commission granted Summit Center, PC authorization to open a clinic at 833 Walnut Street. It would likely be a clinic that would provide abortions, contraceptives, STD testing and other services. In response to that decision, the St. Maximilian Kolbe Center for Life and the St. Joseph Respect Life Committee organized a protest rally on May 21st at the site of the proposed clinic. The rally drew parishioners from each of the Catholic Churches in the Macon area and a substantial number of other concerned citizens from the community. Signs were carried and people prayed and sang together in a peaceful, united public effort to deter the opening of the clinic and to ask for God’s protection of life in our community.

On Friday, June 15th, The Kolbe Center organized a rally at Rosa Parks Square which attracted hundreds to pray, listen, protest, and march against abortion and the proposed abortion clinic. Mr. Walter B. Hoye, a nationally known abortion protester from California, was the keynote speaker for the rally and was preceded by talks from Ann Beall and Dr. Richard Rowe. Ann Beall stated to the sound of applause throughout the crowd, “We want to send a message to our leaders and to the Summit Center that we do not want this clinic in our community. We also want to send the message that we will continue to show up, we will pray, and we will support the women in our community all the while protesting the evil of abortion.”



To find out more about The Kolbe Center of Life, check out their website at: kolbecentersmacon.org .

St. Joseph's Stewardship Council

St. Joseph's Stewardship Council would like to thank all of the many volunteers who give of their time, talent, and treasure so generously to our parish. Through our hard work and time, given so freely and with love, our beautiful parish can be the hands and feet of our Lord Jesus Christ to fellow parishioners and to the community at large.

Have you ever wondered what the St. Joseph's Stewardship Council does or what it would take to join? The Stewardship Council serves as a support for parish ministries by organizing events and workshops to exchange ideas and inspire leaders in our parish community. The Council also assists parishioners who have ideas about starting new ministries.

The St. Joseph's Stewardship Council is looking for a few good men and women to serve with us. Please contact Rebecca Brown at rbfamilie.brown@gmail.com for more information.

Our Stewardship Council members are Angela McAfee, Marty Oates, Lisa Carter, Bob Fenimore, Billy Wells, and Rebecca Brown.

Our council would love to expand our team!

Stewardship Prayer

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding and my entire will; all that I have and call my own.

You have given it all to me. To you, Lord, I return it. Everything is yours; do with it what you will.

Give me only your love and your grace. That is enough for me.

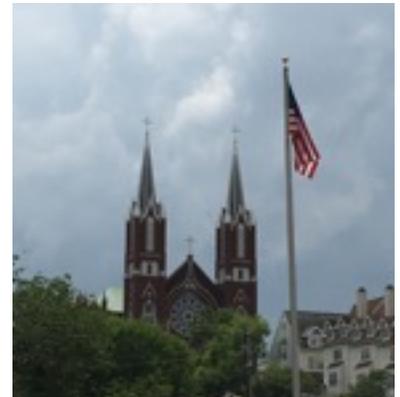
-St. Ignatius of Loyola

God owns everything, and we get to manage it for Him. The responsible management of these God-given resources is called stewardship.

Join us for First Sunday Fellowship!



Join us the First Sunday of the month for coffee, donuts, and fellowship in the Social Hall between the 8:30 am and 11:00 am Masses. Come and get to know our fellow parish brothers and sisters!!



Thank you Lord for the freedoms we enjoy in this great nation. May we always treasure the gift of our independence and be thankful for the service of those who have given that independence to us, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Letter from Solomon Kaanan, our Seminarian

On January the 25th of 2018, I arrived at St. Joseph's Church and have lived with the St. Joseph family to this day. At the end of July, I will return to the seminary to finish up my last year of studies. However, as the end of my time here draws nearer, each day I wake up thinking about the beauty of the St. Joseph's family and the love I have enjoyed and shared. I came as a stranger to Macon but am leaving as a citizen, for I feel southern.

My time at St. Joseph's was full of exciting experiences in many ways that even if some lives weren't affected positively, mine was affected in a beautiful way and it does leave a mark on my soul. I loved my involvement in the parish life and its environs. During these months, I served lunch at DAYBREAK and had good times with the less opportune men and women of our society and city; in them the face of Jesus was revealed and Matt 25:40 was fulfilled. I have missed the students here at St. Joseph's school during the summer. They were a joy and they kept me surprised by their show of love in many little ways. I also took part in the Mercer Catholic campus ministry and it was nice to see young men and women growing in their faith as they are the future of Catholicism. Furthermore, I made visits to the homebound in our parish, and those in the hospitals bringing them Holy Communion, and I helped out in the church sacristy and on the altar by helping our Altar Servers and assisting the Masters of Ceremonies during the Mass.

It was a good time spent and I felt loved from day one. Each person or group at St Joseph's Church is unique and beautifully different by heart, and everyone has been holy and a loving family to work with. I am grateful to the Monday Miraculous Medal Novena group, the daily rosary group, the MC's, altar servers, ushers, pastoral council, parish staff, parents and families, and thankful for all of their support in so many ways during my time here and I ask for continuous prayers for my future as I pray for them.



Seminarian Solomon Kaanan and Fr. Scott Winchel at Andersonville National Cemetery on Memorial Day

Our Pastor and the Parochial Vicar have been like a family to me and like older brothers. I have learned a lot and am still learning all that concerns the priesthood from you; this is because you are open to teaching me to become a good priest for the people of God, the Church.

I would like to thank St. Joseph's Parish for your support in all aspects. It was a blessed time and I hope and believe St. Joseph's will be my family even after I leave. Finally, word from the Vocation Director has reached me that my diaconate ordination has been scheduled to be at this beautiful church of St. Joseph, your church, on December 15, 2018. I invite you all to the ceremony to celebrate with me the beauty of God's love and mercy.

May the blessings and peace of Christ keep us warm in His love, now and always. Amen.

In Cruce Vincam,
Solomon Kaanan
Diocese of Savannah

Did you know....

There were seven events in the life of Jesus in the Bible in which He sheds blood. Can you guess them?

answer on pg. 4

July, the Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus

From the earliest times of Christianity and from the time of the Passion, when Christ poured out His blood for our salvation, followers of Christ have practiced devotion to the Most Precious Blood of Jesus. During the month of July, the Church honors the Precious Blood and encourages us in this devotion, with the traditional feast day devoted to the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ observed on July 1st.

Devotion to the Precious Blood has its Biblical roots in references from the New Testament. Romans 5:9 speaks of our justification by His blood. In Hebrews 10:19, we read of our sanctification and consecration by the Precious Blood. In 1 John 1:7 we are told that it cleanses us from all sin.

Romans 5:9: *“Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.”*

Hebrews 10: 19-22: *“Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.”*

John 1:6-7: *“If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”*

Numerous saints have spoken of devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus such as St. Catherine of Siena, who often wrote about the Precious Blood of Jesus. Bl. Gaspar del Bufalo, a 19th century Roman priest, and founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, also did great work to spread the devotion throughout the world.

The Precious Blood courses through the Church, giving life to the Body of Christ. It was the cleansing agent that allowed the holy saints and martyrs to wash their robes clean and it is the price of our redemption, the object of our salvation, and the assurance of our eternal inheritance.

The faithful are encouraged to honor the Precious Blood throughout the year, and most especially during the month of July. As we honor the Precious Blood of Jesus in union with the Church this month, may it awaken in our hearts a love and gratitude for Christ's gift to us, for He has saved us by His blood.

Prayer to the Precious Blood of Jesus

Precious Blood, oozing from every pore of Jesus in the Agony, enable me to love God's holy will above all.

Precious Blood, flowing from the scourging at the pillar, inspire me with a sorrow for my sins, and a tolerance for suffering.

Precious Blood, falling in profusion from the crown of thorns, grant me a ready acceptance of humiliations.

Precious Blood, shed profusely in the crucifixion of our Lord, make me die entirely to self-love.

Precious Blood, shed to the very last drop by the opening of Christ's Sacred Heart, give me that generous love which sacrifices all for God.

Precious Blood, sacred price of my redemption, apply to me your infinite merits.

Precious Blood, I adore you from the depths of my heart; I invoke you ardently, for you are my salvation, and by you I hope to obtain the joys of heaven.
Amen.

- written by St. Catherine of Siena

Answers to *Did you know...*

answer from pg. 3

1. Jesus' circumcision as a baby 2. Agony in the garden 3. Scourging at the pillar. 4. Crowning with thorns 5. Shoulder wound from carrying Cross 6. Nail wounds on cross 7. Wound in side from spear