



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 22, 2021

St. James Catholic Church

3909 Harrison * Kansas City, Missouri 64110

Our Mission

We, the people of the St. James community in faith, commit ourselves to building the Reign of God for all people, serving especially our neighbors in Midtown, Kansas City.

Our Vision

St. James Parish will be a vital Catholic Christian presence at the crossroads of Kansas City, meeting the spiritual needs of our members and impacting both the midtown neighborhood and the larger community. We will be a growing and diverse community where worship and sacramental life are joyful and vibrant; where people are empowered to live the Gospel; and where, especially, the needs of the poor and disenfranchised are lovingly and humbly addressed.

Mass Schedule

Sunday **10:00 am**

Confessions

By appointment only

Parish Office **(816) 561-8512**

Office Hours: 9:00 --3:00, Monday-Friday

Email parish@stjkc.org

Website stjkc.org

Address 3909 Harrison St.
Kansas City, MO 64110

P.O. Box Number P.O. Box 30388
Kansas City, MO 64112

Parish Staff

Fr. Mike Roach, Pastor fr.mike@stjkc.org

Fr. Garry Richmeier, Weekend Associate garrycpps@gmail.com

Ben Babaran, Parish Administrator bbabaran@stjkc.org

Robert Basolo, Music Minister rbasolo@shb.com

Beaurina Olter, Bookkeeper beauolter@gmail.com

Joe Crayon, Ombudsman 816-812-2500

Victim Advocate victimadvocate@diocesekscj.org

Parish Leadership Team **LT@stjkc.org**

Toni Pennisi Wurth Bob Anderson

Connie Anderson Mary Vincent

Chris Zaroor Chuck Wurth

Fr. Mike Ben Babaran

Parish Finance Council **Finance@stjkc.org**

Fr. Mike Pam Waters

Ben Babaran Michael Waldeck

Andrew Shepard

Anne Carlson



Artwork by Mark Bartholomew

"Master, to whom shall we go?"

~ John 6:68

Bulletin Deadline: Mondays

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

- **SR. BARBARA SOAK, SL**

Happy 50th Anniversary, Sr. Barb! May God continue to bless you and your ministry with love, joy, peace and good health.

- **ST. JAMES' 115TH ANNIVERSARY**

The celebration on Sunday, August 29th, begins with 10 AM Mass. Fr. Mike Roach will preside. Following Mass, join us on the south lawn for food, fun and much more. To insure everyone's health and safety, food will be served in to-go boxes. Raffle tickets are available now.

- **OGELSBY HOTEL/AFFORDABLE HOUSING UPDATE**

A milestone achieved, finally! The vacant hotel at 3930 Troost, between the Thrift Store and Bishop Sullivan Center, is ready to become 25 affordable one-bedroom apartments! We are happy to announce that the financing has been secured, the contractor engaged and work should begin shortly! Watch for action at the site! Many people have made this long process possible. We'll be sharing more details soon. Prayers of gratitude!

- **HARVESTERS**

St. James' Harvesters volunteer opportunities are back on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Our first occasion is Tuesday, September 7th. Harvesters is located at 3801 Topping Ave. Volunteers must be 16 or older and are required to wear closed toed shoes and masks. Consider bringing 1 canned or other non-perishable food item. Please contact Sarah Hirsch at 816-728-6115 if you plan to attend.

- **ST. JAMES COMMUNITY GARDEN**

The weather is right for tomato and tomatillo ripening. For those not familiar with tomatillos: Pick them when they fill out their papery husk, when they have turned yellow, or when they have fallen off the plant. This week we have the following ready for picking:

Troost39 Backdoor Center Bed:

- Center Bed: Basil (Thai and Sweet) and Parsley
- Center West Bed: Tomatillos

South Garden:

- Beds 4 - 7: Butternut Squash
- Bed 10 - Roma Green Beans
- Beds 14 and 15: Peppers (Hot and Sweet)
- Beds 16 - 18: Tomatoes
- Bed 20: Eggplant
- Trellises at the end of 15, 18, and 20: Long Beans

East Garden - Kale, Collards, Swiss Chard, and Sweet Potato Leaves

- **NEW MEMBER TIM SAKADA**

New Member Tim Sakada writes from Army Basic Training at Ft. Jackson, SC: "I definitely have missed the Sundays at St. James. Tell everyone that I send a Hello, and I'll be back soon." Tim will finish Basic in early September.



Reflection from Ben Babaran

These days, we hear many people saying “it is a free world” as their response to mask mandates due to rising cases of the delta variant of Covid-19. Very true! Thanks to God who did not withhold the gift of free will from us even after the colossal disobedience of Adam and Eve. Nevertheless, we are asked to make responsible choices in the so-called free world as our choices determine our chances and the changes we experience in life.

In Sunday’s First Reading, Joshua challenges the Israelites at Shechem to make a choice of whom they wish to serve. Joshua’s declaration tells us about God’s patience with us even when we are disobedient. His narrative shows us that God cares about us, desires our salvation and gives us the opportunity to make reliable choices.

Likewise, in the Gospel, our Lord Jesus wraps up his teaching on the Eucharist by challenging his hearers to choose to accept his doctrine that leads to life or leave it for a damnable fate. In the same manner as Joshua, Jesus takes time to explain to them why they need to make a choice and where it would lead them. As a matter of choice, many people could not accept his teaching and left him.

The same invitation to make a choice is open to us today. When Jesus challenged the apostles to choose as the other people were leaving him and going back to their former way of life, Peter replying on behalf of others says, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life”.

Joshua and Jesus propose new ways to their respective audiences while leaving them to choose. Choice-making characterizes life. We must choose to take a chance before our life could change. However, our undue attachments to various ways of living often make it difficult for us to accept some new and helpful realities that life opens for us.

This is the time for responsible choice-making. It is imperative for us to remember that whenever we make a choice, we also choose the consequences. There are many options in life, but we need to go for the optimal option. What choice would we make today in our personal lives, in our family, in our relationship with others, and ultimately in our journey with Christ? Are we going to choose to fight and eradicate the Covid-19 virus and its variants by responsibly listening to the experts or are we going to help spread the pandemic of misinformation? Will we, like Peter and the disciples, make the right and responsible choice by sticking with the Lord who has the message of eternal life and without whom no option is tenable?

Have a beautiful Sunday and a pleasant week ahead as we choose wisely and responsibly.

~ Peace,

Ben

~ Around Kansas City ~

LUNCH
And
DESSERT



ADMISSION:
\$1.15



RAFFLE DRINKS FUN SILENT AUCTION



Join Evergy, Spire & Collaborative Partners at
Bishop Sullivan Center

TUESDAY
AUGUST 24
2021
9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

BISHOP SULLIVAN CENTER
3936 TROOST AVE, KANSAS CITY, MO 64110

Available for Missouri residents only.

evergy | spire | KC

~ Readings ~

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN OT
DT 4:1-2, 6-8
JAS 1:17-18, 21B-22, 27
MK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

~ Stewardship ~

New Budget for the Fiscal Year
2021 - 2022
Is being put together.

~ We Hold in Prayer ~

- Connie Anderson
- Ed Pailer
- Amie Miller
- William Carson
- Cann and Shelby Families

~ Mass Attendance ~

In-person Attendance
8/15, Assumption of Mary 98

Livestream Attendance
8/15, Assumption of Mary 24