



St. James Catholic Church

WELCOME LAUREN PARKER

Lauren Bell Parker is the new Youth Minister at St. James. She grew up in Greenwood, Arkansas and after finishing high school moved to Manhattan, Kansas to attend K State. While in college, Lauren attended St. Isidore Parish where she helped with parish communications and served as a lector. In 2011, Lauren received a BS degree in Communications and Agricultural Journalism and headed to Kansas City for a new job—Coordinator of Student Services at KU Medical School in KC. In Dec 2020 Lauren received her MA in Higher Education Administration from UMKC. She now is the Director of Professional Programs at KU School of Medicine.

Everyone in Lauren's family still lives in Arkansas—her parents, her brother's family and her sister's family including four nephews all under the age of seven. On a weekend trip to visit Lauren, they drove by St. James and decided that's where they would attend Sunday Mass. New to KC, Lauren didn't know where St. James was. Once she discovered its location, she told her siblings, "No, no, no. Everyone tells me to stay away from Troost. We can't go there." But her family insisted. Lauren remembers, "Walking in with my family, I fell in love with St. James. It was during Lent, and I knew I had found my spiritual home." Her experience of working with young adults and her deep faith lead Lauren to accept the position of Youth Minister. She wants to help young adults with faith formation and the challenge of finding their place in the church as well as in the larger community. An advisory team will offer guidance to Lauren as the program progresses.



In her spare time, Lauren enjoys being outside-fishing, hiking, playing tennis or training for marathons. She loves being with her family every chance she gets, and her best friend and companion is a rescue dog named Hattie Mae. Please take the time to introduce yourself. Lauren Bell says where she comes from, people use two names. But it is just fine with her if you don't.

St. James is glad you are here, Lauren Bell.



Blessing of the Youth Advisory Team with Lauren Bell
Patricia Nwachukwu, Beaurina Olter, Justin Babaran, and Andre Fontcha



Visit us at:
WWW.STJKC.ORG

Like us at:
<https://www.facebook.com/stjamesmidtown>



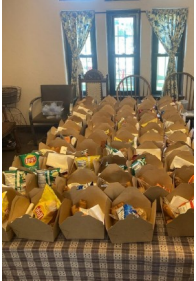


CELEBRATING 115 YEARS AT ST. JAMES

AUGUST 26 1906-2021

St. James was established in 1906, and the parish gathers annually in late August to celebrate. This year, with Covid restrictions still in place, the planning committee decided to combine the evening Founding event with another tradition of St. James—5th Sunday. When a 5th Sunday occurs on the calendar, the parishioners attend 10 AM Mass and have a meal following it. This year the Founding date of August 26th was three days before the 5th Sunday of August. Combining elements of each produced a hybrid celebration full of fun and fellowship. It was great being together again.

The day began with 10 AM Mass with the Pastor, Fr. Mike Roach presiding. Parishioners attended the service in person or by live streaming. Then the action moved outside to the South Lawn where volunteers had been busy long before Mass began. Two guests, heat and humidity, arrived early and stayed late. But the crews worked around them as tables and chairs from Marian Hall, the serving area, drink station and entry area were in place and ready to go on time. Following CDC guidelines, food preparation was completed in the rectory. Box lunches for everyone contained hot dogs and chips as well as dishes from Togo, Nigeria, Micronesia and the Philippines. Dessert was individually wrapped cookies created by the amazing Cookie Crew of St. James.



Several activities added to the day's enjoyment. Music was provided by St. James' favorite DJ-Justin Babaran. The Micronesian dancers enchanted the crowd with dances from the Islands, and Pat Marrin's mural displayed the history of St. James. The Community Garden table offered fresh produce, and tours of the two garden sites were available. There was a silent auction. A new feature added this year; all of the certificates were donated to Troost. Included were: The Combine, T39 Thrift Island Coffee, Fannie's, Harvest Moon Botanica, Bakery. Thank you to these generous small businesses of the celebration, Price Chopper and Boulevard



Babaran. The Micronesian dancers enchanted the crowd with dances from the Islands, and Pat Marrin's mural displayed the history of St. James. The Community Garden table offered fresh produce, and tours of the two garden sites were available. There was a silent auction. A new feature added this year; all of the certificates were donated



was a raffle and a to the auction was items or from businesses on Store, Anchor Equal Minded Café, Urban Café and Black Hole owners. Thanks also goes to the major sponsors Beer.



A surprise visit from Fox 4 KC provided more fun. A film crew was out driving around to see if anything was happening in Midtown on a hot Sunday afternoon. They spotted the activity at St. James, stopped to check it out and ended up filming a segment including action shots and interviews which aired on the evening news.

Everyone joined in the clean up; soon the South Lawn was tidy, quiet and standing empty in the late afternoon sun. Another celebration of St. James and its long history at 39th and Troost was over. Here's looking forward to the 116th celebration!



AROUND ST. JAMES

MUSIC ON TROOST RETURNS

Goldenberg Duo performs at St. James.



FIRST SUNDAY AT TROOST39

Parishioners, Schuyler and Sarah show off their treasures from the thrift store.



GOLDEN JUBILEE

Sister Barbara Doak receives a blessing as she celebrates 50 years as a Sister of Loretto.



BUS STOP MINISTRY

Winter items for the bus stop await a blessing.



SERVICE PROJECT

Rockhurst University students are ready to hear job assignments for their Freshman Service Day at St. James.



MARIAN HALL

This crew takes the new refrigerator down the steps to Marian Hall.



ST. JAMES COMMUNITY GARDEN

Harvest from the garden yields sweet potatoes.





St. James Midtown KC is slowly re-opening. The in-person attendance of the Sunday Mass has increased. However, we have missed a lot of parishioners during the pandemic. You are invited to join us in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist each Sunday. Masks are now optional. If you cannot make it in-person, the livestreaming of the Sunday Mass continues.

We encourage COVID vaccines, boosters and flu shots. Be well and stay safe!

As the end of the calendar year is just around the corner, may we remind you of your financial support for the ministries of St. James?

If you are interested, the following links tell the stories of the Oglesby and Troost39 Thrift Store:

OGLESBY - [Historic Oglesby Hotel Being Restored as Affordable Housing on Troost](#)
TROOST39 THRIFT STORE - [Two Americas: When thrift stores are the best option in your neighborhood.](#)

Have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving!
Fr. Mike

St. James Calendar

December 15, 6:30 PM - Advent Communal Reconciliation

December 24, 4:00 PM - Children's Christmas Mass*

December 24, 10:00 PM - To Be Determined

December 25 - NO Christmas Day Mass

*ONLY this Mass will be livestreamed.