



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 4, 2024

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. Don Farnan, Pastor frdon@stjkc.org

Fr. Garry Richmeier, Sacramental Minister garrycpps@gmail.com

Ben Babaran, Parish Administrator bbabaran@stjkc.org

Robert Basolo, Music Minister rbasolo@shb.com

Beaurina Olter, Bookkeeper beauolter@gmail.com

Fiona Odu Schulte, Youth Minister fiona.odu@gmail.com

Joe Crayon, Ombudsman 816-812-2500

Victim Advocate victimadvocate@diocesekscj.org

Parish Leadership Team

LT@stjkc.org

Sr. Francis Voivedich Dan Nash

Reba Burgess Presly Silbanuz

Philomena Odu Bob Anderson

Fr. Don Farnan Ben Babaran

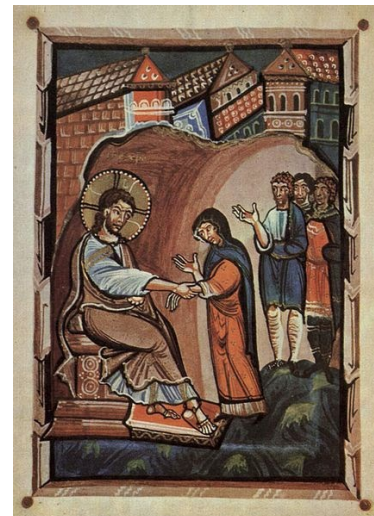
Parish Finance Council

Finance@stjkc.org

Ben Babaran Michael Waldeck

Andrew Shepard Anne Carlson

Fr. Don Farnan Peter Hughes



Christ Healing Peter's Mother-in-Law
Meister des Hitda-Evangeliars, circa 1020

He approached, grasped her hand,
and helped her up.
Then the fever left her and she
waited on them.

~ Mark 1:31

Bulletin Deadline:
Mondays

For information/events to be posted on the website:
Martha Belker at website@stjkc.org

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

• ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This Sunday, February 4, the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be offered during Mass for all who wish to receive it.

• CONFIRMATION

Confirmation classes continue this Sunday. After the classes, there will be a rehearsal at NOON in St. Francis Xavier. The Sacrament of Confirmation is scheduled on February 12, Monday, 7PM at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church.

• ST. JAMES HARVESTERS OPPORTUNITIES

Put on your favorite jerseys and be part of the Harvesters opportunities this month! Our regular Harvesters volunteer day this month is Tuesday, February 6 from 6-8 pm. The second is the Harvesters Souper Bowl of Caring on Saturday, February 10. We have fun at both these events.

We can get a little workout while supporting a good cause.

Harvesters is located at 3801 Topping Ave.

Volunteers must be 8 years old or older. All volunteers are required to wear closed-toed shoes, long pants. Consider bringing 1 canned or other non-perishable food item.

Please email/text Barbara Schepers at bschep@aol.com or 816-810-8809 if you plan to attend.

• CHILI DAZE FUNDRAISING

RAFFLE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW! Tickets are 1 ticket for \$3.00 or 2 tickets for \$5.00.

Take a chance to win \$100 Price Chopper or Costco card.

Drawing happens at Chili Daze February 24.

SIGN UP TO BE A CHILI CHEF! Enter your chili in the contest today!

~ Stewardship ~

Week 1/22—1/28: **\$17,535**

Needed each week: **\$4,481**

Percent of Weekly Budget: **391%**

Actual this Fiscal YTD: **\$139,179**

Budgeted this Fiscal YTD: **\$134,430**

Percent of Budget to Date: **104%**

~ We Hold in Prayer ~

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| • Ed Pailer | • Carole Gary |
| • Amie Miller | • Paul DeMerchant |
| • Matthew Cann, Jr. | • Ross Beaudoin |
| • Sarita Cann | • Helen Toney Cann |
| • Bill Pickett | |

~ Next Sunday's Readings ~

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46

1 Cor 10:31—11:1

Mk 1:40-45

~ Mass Attendance ~

In-person Attendance

1/28, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time **168**

Livestream Attendance

1/28, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time **11**



Reflection from Fr. Garry Richmeier

In the movie "The Devil's Advocate," Al Pacino plays the devil and Keanu Reeves plays a lawyer to whom the devil appears in order to tempt him to do all kinds of bad things. The two characters have many conversations, and the devil tries to get Keanu to sell his soul completely, which will give the devil greater power. Just when it seems Keanu is going to completely sell his soul, he takes himself out of the picture so the devil can't use him anymore. He is then returned to his normal life, as if nothing had happened. But Pacino makes one more appearance in the movie, disguised as a reporter who wants to do a story about Keanu, depicting him as a hero, and Keanu agrees to it. The movie ends with Pacino saying in a menacing tone that vanity is his favorite tool.

In the gospel today, we hear about Jesus casting out demons. We might think that demons, as they are depicted in the bible, are kind of a quaint notion, possibly a way people of that time described phenomena that they didn't understand. With science and technology, we might pride ourselves as being able to better understand things that were once attributed to demons. But like Al Pacino disguising himself as a reporter at the end of the movie to continue his work, the demons we deal with aren't so obvious and identifiable.

If the devil appeared to any of us as a fiery red guy with horns, a pitchfork, we would know not to do anything he said. But the demons we struggle with and who make our lives hell, are much more subtle, and work behind the scenes. They usually appear as good things, which we have no problem trying to get. For example, patriotism and protecting one's country are generally highly valued. The human race has a long history of killing each other in service to this "good." This is what is presently happening in Israel and along our southern border. We value capitalism as the best economic system, and tout the freedom it gives people to achieve the American dream. Celebrating and defending this system seems to blind us from the fact that it leaves some people behind, and allows us to have no problem with the scandalous gap between the rich and the poor. Unfortunately, our demons don't show up as Al Pacino announcing himself as the devil.

In the bible, Jesus cast out demons in the same way he did everything else -- through love. Whether he was casting out demons, healing the sick, teaching, eating a meal with someone, or forgiving sins, it was God's perfect love flowing through him with which he did everything. If we are to cast out the demons which torture us, we will have to do the same. We will have to resist the temptation to run after what is only apparently good, and refocus our efforts to do what is truly good. And as Jesus showed us, that is always love.

Peace,

Fr. Garry

Should you blindly follow those Holy Week traditions?

By: Archbishop Socrates B. Villegas - @inquirerdotnet

Philippine Daily Inquirer

It is Holy Week. God made these days holy—but not by His pains and sufferings. Pain alone cannot save us. God made these days holy by pouring much love into the sufferings He endured. Only love can save us and wash our sins away.

Holy Week is about what Christ has done for humanity. Let the memory of God’s mercy sink in without any compulsion to do something. Just relish His mercy and bask in the radiance of His love. During Holy Week, tell God “Thank you.” Holy Week is not what men and women do to make these days holy. It is not about what Catholics must do, nor is it about religious traditions and pious practices done to “feel good” after. Fasting is good, but without *malasakit* (concern) for others, it is nothing. Prayer is good, but without remembering others and laying aside personal comfort, it is just an ego trip. Helping the poor and giving alms are good, but if you do it for show or to get a “feel good” reward later, it is just a noisy bell.

Can we go to the beach during Holy Week? If it will help you love like Jesus, yes, you can. But if it will distract you from the story of His love, please don’t. The highest law is not silence but love. Silence speaks only if that silence is loving.

Do we need to visit churches during Holy Week? That is good practice, but you might want to visit seven patients in the charity ward of a hospital instead and bring them some food. Choose to love.

Do we need to scourge our backs until they bleed to show atonement for our sins?

Instead of spilling your blood on the streets, why not walk into a Red Cross office and donate blood? Choose to share life. Share your blood.

Do we need to walk barefoot till our soles get blisters as a form of penance for our sins? Why don’t you buy a pair of slippers and give it to a child who goes to school dragging his torn footwear?

Must the face look sour and gloomy during Holy Week? Love begins with a smile. Make someone happy this Holy Week. Make someone feel loved. With your smile, show that God is love.

Read more: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/887655/should-you-blindly-follow-those-holy-week-traditions#ixzz8QaKvA2W3>

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Office of Child and Youth Protection

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the **Independent Ombudsman, Joe Crayon**, at 816-812-2500, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Whitney True-Francis, the **Victim Assistance Coordinator** at 816.392.0011 or true.francis@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

SUNDAYS AT ST. JAMES

2nd Sunday - FAITH
FORMATION SUNDAY

3rd Sunday - HOSPITALITY
SUNDAY

4th Sunday - PANTRY
SUNDAY

5th Sunday - 5th SUNDAY
CELEBRATION