



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 28, 2024

St. James Catholic Church
*3909 Harrison * Kansas City, Missouri 64110*

Reflection from Patrick Marrin

“Remain in me, as I remain in you” (John 15:4).

The image of the vine and the branches provides multiple references to the organic growth and intimate union with Jesus that is the vitality of the church. It conveys well St. Paul’s central idea of the church as the body of Christ, a living communion of the baptized with one another and with the crucified and risen Christ in the world. The metaphor covers many aspects of the Christian life as something cultivated, pruned to maximize productivity, open to ecumenical grafting and, in the end, directed to joy, the new wine of love in the vineyard of the Lord.

One verb repeated often in the fourth Gospel is “to remain.” The first disciples who followed Jesus home remained with him. Their growth and maturity required that they follow him and know him from the exuberant first days of discipleship in Galilee, then through the confusion and suffering of his journey to Jerusalem and apparent failure, and finally through the mystery of his death and resurrection. Just as the branch may take years to produce grapes, so the disciple must remain on the vine through seasons of growth to show results.

The author of 1 John anticipated the challenges of remaining faithful, especially from loss of confidence or even self-rejection for failing to live the ideals of union with Christ. Even if our conscience condemns us, God is greater than our conscience and sustains us in mercy and unconditional love. How discouraged the early missionaries, including St. Paul, must have been by the controversies and attacks they suffered from within and without. Yet they pressed on, remained in the love Jesus had poured out on them even when they were sinners. The history of the church is a miracle of mercy and a message of mercy to an obstinate and sinful world.

Dorothy Day often said that the goal of the Catholic Worker was not success but remaining faithful. God alone can produce abundant fruit through us if we stay on the vine, even if we do not feel successful or see progress on our own terms. How many reformers endured rejection and silencing in the decades before the Second Vatican Council, only to emerge as its architects. How many modern-day martyrs, both physical and spiritual, saw their lives and work cut short, only to bear fruit in God’s time.

Intimacy with Christ is the one thing necessary, the contemplative source of all genuine results that build up the body of Christ. A single mature Christian positioned within a faithful community of disciples can inspire everyone in the full use of their gifts to produce astonishing results. Isn’t this the case at St. James Parish? We inspire one another. Yet, God is always the source, the patient gardener who finds and nourishes such holiness. We can all experience it if we remain on the vine of God’s love in Christ Jesus.

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

- **BAPTISM & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ON SUNDAY**

EMERY ANDERSON-BOLAND will be baptized and SOLEIL RUSCA will receive her First Holy Communion.

- **BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS BOOK**

Copies of “**Blessed Carlo Acutis: A Saint in Sneakers**” are available in the back of the church to the newly Confirmed youth and all the youth of the parish. Carlos has been beatified, and the Cause for Canonization is in process. He died in 2013, as a teenager who succumbed to a short battle with leukemia. He used the internet to spread the Gospel, particularly the Eucharist.

We know the internet is used widely for the good, and just as widely for the bad. Carlos certainly is an example of using it to express his faith.

- **PANTRY SUNDAY**

Next Sunday, May 5, is Pantry Sunday. Bishop Sullivan Center needs pudding cups, fruit cups, granola bars, single serve tuna pouches, and toilet paper.

- **ST. JAMES COMMUNAL GARDEN**

Next Saturday, May 4th, weather permitting, all are invited to join the Garden Gang at 9:30 am to plant tomatoes, peppers, eggplants and more. In anticipation of the big planting day and the rain, let's gather at 10:00 am this Saturday, April 27th at the Garden, and then car pool to a local coffee shop for a "Garden Meeting." Until then, keep dry..

- **ST. JAMES CALENDAR**

April 28, 10AM—EMERY ANDERSON-BOLAND will be baptized and SOLEIL RUSCA will receive her First Holy Communion.

May 4, 4—9:30PM, BEHOLD KC (Please see details on the next page)


May 5—PANTRY SUNDAY

May 12—MOTHER'S DAY

May 19— PENTECOST SUNDAY








BEHOLD KC

EVENT DETAILS



Register for the event here!

WHEN: MAY 4 | 4-9:30 PM

WHERE: NATIONAL WORLD WAR I MEMORIAL, NORTH LAWN

WHAT CAN I EXPECT?

- PRAISE & WORSHIP
- CONFESSION
- ROSARY
- CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS
- EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

VISIT
BEHOLDKC.ORG
OR USE THE
QR CODE ABOVE
TO REGISTER
FOR THE EVENT!

~ We Hold in Prayer ~

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Ed Pailer | • George Sitterly |
| • Amie Miller | • Wanda Decker |
| • Sarita Cann | • Cele Breen |
| • Carole Gary | • Clare Duffy Laramie |
| • Paul DeMerchant | • Jarron Cann |
| • Ross Beaudoin | • Beverly Johnson |
| • Bernadette Kangni-Soukpe | • Oscar Sherlby, Sr. |
| | • Kate Miller |

~ Stewardship ~

Week 4/15—4/21: **\$3,851**
 Needed each week: **\$4,481**
 Percent of Weekly Budget: **86%**
 Actual this Fiscal YTD: **\$190,269**
 Budgeted this Fiscal YTD: **\$183,721**
 Percent of Budget to Date: **104%**

~ Next Sunday's Readings ~

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48
 1 Jn 4:7-10
 Jn 15:9-17

~ Mass Attendance ~

In-person Attendance

4/21, 4th Sunday of Easter **158**

Livestream Attendance

4/21, 4th Sunday of Easter **16**

St. James Catholic Church 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.

St. James Catholic Church 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

Weddings

Contact the Parish Office at least 9 months prior to the wedding date

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

St James on Facebook

Public, only St James admin team can post - <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesmidtown>

Private, must request to join, members can post - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/157616239340>

Bulletin Deadline: Mondays—Email to parish@stjkc.org

For information/events to be posted on the website: Email to website@stjkc.org

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.