



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 7, 2024

St. James Catholic Church

*3909 Harrison * Kansas City, Missouri 64110*

"Small enough to know your name, big enough to make a difference."

Reflection from Fr. Garry Richmeier

"We are a mess." Many people would agree with that statement. Whether "we" means us as individuals, as a society, as a church, as a country, as a world, or as a species. Chaos seems to be everywhere, and it is messy. Some would say that this mess is a sign that the end is near. Evangelicals describe this "end" beginning with the rapture and winding up with the last judgment. Other not-so-religiously-minded people describe this end as the result of a human compulsion for self-destruction, much like lemmings following each other in jumping off a cliff. Human ingenuity in creating ever new ways to inflict mass destruction, and widespread willful neglect of the planet that gives us life, are a couple of things that seem to support this view.

But there is another way to put meaning to the "mess." Jesus describes the world's mess in Mt. 24 as "birth pangs," by which he meant that new life would emerge from the mess. I have never been pregnant, but anyone who has can attest to the chaos and messiness that precedes new life being born. Martin Luther King Jr. seemed to be saying something about the mess he was involved in when he said "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." He could see the messiness of the civil rights movement as a (required?) precursor to a more just society eventually. We've all experienced the initial messiness of acquiring a new skill, or venturing into some other new territory. But with time and experience, finding fulfillment and enjoyment where there once was only messiness and struggle.

The meaning we choose to place on life's messiness is an important choice. If we see the messiness as needless suffering, leading to the "end," we have little reason to go on, or try to make things better. However, if we see the present messiness as a stage in the process of a new creation coming into existence, we are more apt to participate as midwives in helping to give birth to the new reality. This, I think, is what Jesus meant when he told his followers to look forward to the coming of the Reign of God, but that the Reign of God was already within them.

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

- **BAPTISMS THIS SUNDAY**

Luther Schulte, child of Emmerich Schulte and Fiona Odu, together with Eamon Tousley, child of Benjamin Tousley and Yvette Odu, will be baptized this Sunday. Both children are Philomena Odu's grandchildren.

- **FAITH FORMATION**

The Faith Formation field trip to the Nelson Art Museum is all set for Sunday, JULY 28.

Following Mass, we'll offer a sandwich lunch in the back of church. Tours begin at 12:15. If you are a member, bring your card for free parking and invite some others to carpool with you. Tour is 1 hour 15 minutes long.

We have filled all of our spots. Contact Bonnie for a wait list.

bhaghirian@yahoo.com

- **ST. JAMES COMMUNAL GARDEN**

The early days of summer in July are days of impatient waiting; waiting for green tomatoes on the vine to turn red. Currently available for harvesting is the following:

East Garden

Kale

South Garden

Bed 6 - Swiss Chard

Beds 12 and 13 - Garlic

Raised Bed along Troost 39 - Clove Currants

South Raised Bed - Blackberries

- **PANTRY SUNDAY**

This Sunday is PANTRY SUNDAY. The pantry is asking for items to put in the homeless bags to give out. Items most helpful are: granola bars, single serve tuna, chicken salad with crackers, fruit cups, pudding cups, crackers and cheese, crackers and peanut butter, and single serve Chef Boyardi items.

- **ST. JAMES CALENDAR**

July 7—PANTRY SUNDAY

July 11—AL BROOKS DOCUMENTARY

July 14—HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

July 21—REDEMPTORIST MISSION APPEAL

July 28—FAITH FORMATION TRIP

• **IN COLLABORATION WITH ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**

Migrant Farmworkers will arrive in late July. The peaches and apples are ripening and 500 pickers and their families will arrive to harvest acres of produce in Lafayette County. Migrant Farmworkers Fund relies on the generosity of our parishes to sustain them while they are here. They are asking for:

- ◆ Pinto beans (if you shop Walmart, you can get 20# for \$14.94)
- ◆ Socks - high top work socks

We will set up a place in church to drop off these items. You can start dropping the items off next Sunday.

• **BANNERS FOR THE SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME**

There are 4 new banners up for this season of Ordinary Time. The ends are cut to remind people of leaves since for us this is a time of growth in nature. The solid green banner is from material which was already here in church. We bought the material for the lighter green banners. The multi-colored material was given to us by St. Therese Little Flower Church from a parishioner there who brought it from Nigeria last summer. We thank them for the gift.

• **DOCUMENTARY ABOUT ALVIN BROOKS**

On July 11 at 7PM on KC PBS Channel 19.1, Kevin Willmott’s documentary, THE HEROIC TRUE-LIFE ADVENTUR4ES OF ALVIN BROOKS, will be shown.



~ We Hold in Prayer ~

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Ed Pailer | • Clare Duffy Laramie |
| • Amie Miller | • Kate Miller |
| • Sarita Cann | • Brenda Chapman |
| • Carole Gary | • Helen McDonald |
| • Paul DeMerchant | • Wilson Olter |
| • Ross Beaudoin | • Andy Bylinowski |
| • Bernadette Kangni-Soukpe | • Jermonica Cann |
| • George Sitterly | • Pat Marrin |
| • Wanda Decker | • Oscar Shelby |
| • Cele Breen | • Beverly Johnson |
| | • Jeronn Cann |

~ Stewardship ~

Week 6/24—6/30: **\$3,490**
 Needed each week: **\$4,481**
 Percent of Weekly Budget: **78%**
 Actual this Fiscal YTD: **\$230,469**
 Budgeted this Fiscal YTD: **\$233,012**
 Percent of Budget to Date: **99%**

~ Next Sunday’s Readings ~

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN OT
 Am 7:12-15
 Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10
 Mk 6:7-13

~ Mass Attendance ~

In-person Attendance
 6/30, 13th Sunday in OT **117**
Livestream Attendance
 6/30, 13th Sunday in OT **14**

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

PARISH REGISTRATION

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

If you would like to register as a parishioner, registration forms are in a folder tacked to the bulletin board by the live-stream window in the back of church. Please complete the form and drop it in the collection basket during Mass. The form is also on our website STJKC.ORG under Contact Us.

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.