



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 25, 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 Clink Thomson

Are you normal? Check one answer: yes, no, intermittent.

The 6th chapter of John that we've read for the last few weeks is not normal. It is no wonder that some of the disciples in today's gospel say, This is hard to endure. After all, Jesus, especially according to John, talks funny. "Unless a man be born again." "I am the bread of life." "If you eat my flesh, you will live forever." Who talks like that?

We need help with this ancient poetry. The lectionary is set up to help us. The first reading picks up a theme that situates us in the tradition the Gospel assumes. The tradition is that the experience of the presence of God nourishes our life.

We recently read that Wisdom is a kind of food. "Wisdom has dressed her meat and mixed her wine: yes, she has set her table." That kind of understanding is highly poetical; we don't normally think of wisdom as food.

So when Jesus says he is bread or we have to eat his flesh, we have to realize this startling language has a tradition that we are not normally comfortable with, even as we sing, "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord." It is especially hard for Americans who don't "normally" use poetry to communicate. You can watch TV all day and never hear someone talking in rhyme or even use vivid metaphors. The weatherman and the news anchor "talk normal" – that is, plain English (prose).

If a child comes home with the lament that she is flunking poetry, it is not likely she will be immediately enrolled in summer school. But, if her brother flunks math, remedies will be found.

This explains St. James. We are poetic. When you walk in, the sign says we pray with our feet, an anatomical difficulty unless you understand the relationship between prayer and action. The two dozen (and counting) flags on the back wall don't make sense except to the children of Pentecost. You may think we are weird (not normal) because we respond to the petitions in Igbo (an ethnicity in the Southeastern part of Nigeria) - a language we don't understand. But, I'm told some St. James parishioners are from the Igbo tribe who do their whole liturgy in an ancient language we don't understand. Poetry is open and flexible: under Robert's magic fingers, we move easily from the sedate medieval "Ubi Caritas" to a rocking "Ride, Jesus Ride." At St. James, that's normal.

So, are you normal?

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

- **FAITH FORMATION**

FAITH FORMATION DATES:

September 22

October 13

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Begins on September 8

FAMILY BASED CATECHESIS

Sign ups August 25th

- **PANTRY SUNDAY**

Pantry Sunday is next Sunday, September 1. Bishop Sullivan Center requests items for folks with NO cooking, refrigeration, or housing available:

- ◆ Single serve tuna and/or chicken salad, cookies, chips
- ◆ Poptop: Vienna sausage, Chef Boyardee entrees, Spaghettios
- ◆ Fruit cups, pudding, cheese & crackers, peanut butter, and granola bars
- ◆ Hygiene items: toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, bar soap

- **ST. JAMES COMMUNAL GARDEN**

We welcome Eastern Black Swallowtail caterpillars to our garden. This Saturday at 9:30 am the Rockhurst Finucane volunteers will join us to help set up for the 118th Anniversary and plant lettuce. Produce ready to be picked include the following:

East Garden

Kale

Wire Cages - Long Beans

South Garden

Beds 14 and 15 - Peppers

Wire Cages - Tomatoes

Trellises - Beans

Raspberries

- **ST. JAMES CALENDAR**

August 24—118TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JAMES CHURCH

September 1—PANTRY SUNDAY

September 8—HOSPITALITY SUNDAY; CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD STARTS

September 8—ANOINTING OF THE SICK AT MASS

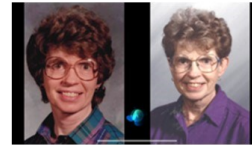
September 14—CELE BREEN'S MEMORIAL PRAYER SERVICE, 10AM

September 22—FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY - Justice Project

September 29—GOLDENBERG DUO CONCERT, 7PM

CELE BREEN, SCL (MARY CECILE)

August 25, 1936 - July 18, 2024



Memorial Prayer Service

September 14, 2024 - 10AM

St. James Catholic Church

3901 Harrison Street, KCMO 64110

*There is a parking lot off Troost Ave.

~ Stewardship ~

PLEASE SEE
BULLETIN INSERT FOR THE
FISCAL REPORT AND BUDGET

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

~ Mass Attendance ~

In-person Attendance

8/18, 20th Sunday in OT **125**

Livestream Attendance

8/18, 20th Sunday in OT **10**

~ Next Sunday's 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

~ We Hold in Prayer ~

- Ed Pailer
- Amie Miller
- Sarita Cann
- Carole Gary
- Paul DeMerchant
- Ross Beaudoin
- Bernadette Kangni-Soukpe
- George Sitterly
- Wanda Decker
- Clare Duffy Laramie
- Kate Miller
- Helen McDonald
- Andy Bylinowski
- Jermonica Cann
- Pat Marrin
- Oscar Shelby
- Beverly Johnson
- Jeronn Cann
- Punch Tuggle
- Mark Cann, Sr.
- Sharon Wallace
- Sr. Carole Eschen
- Judith Reed
- Hartleen Fredrick

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.