



TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 13, 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 Joan DeMerchant

Today's readings are deceptively familiar. We've heard some of these passages countless times. But they so cut to the heart of how we live our lives, that they demand our attention. Now, I'm kind of biased. I know I'm approaching the end of *my* life, so the issues become more critical. But it all applies, no matter where you are in the life cycle.

There's so much scary stuff going on in the world and in our personal lives, from off-the-rail politics to global warming, Artificial Intelligence and "alternative facts." We have to ask: "What am I supposed to do, to live faithfully and meaningfully...be what I'm called to be... manage everything that seems unmanageable...not fall into deep depression?" The questions are immediate, here and now.

Today's gospel tells us that keeping the rules (include rituals and practices in that) won't save us. I remember as a kid that they were everything. Daily Mass mattered. And going to Confession involved owning up to all my perceived, petty infractions. But the fact is that only radical actions get us to that "place" called "the Kingdom of God." And radical action follows "awareness," which is what I equate with wisdom.

That first reading from Wisdom describes it as feminine (her—a social bias?) and in dramatic terms: how we must pray for it... love it "beyond health"...that it is light when things begin to fade. Which seems to say that we need to be in a pretty desperate place; and nothing else has worked for us before we seek it/her.

Clearly, most of us don't live in wisdom 24/7. We're lucky to have moments, snatches of it. Think about it. When have you experienced wisdom? What was happening? What caused you to see/think in a totally new way? Were there others involved—positively or negatively? What did you do that was totally new/different?

Getting there isn't easy. So many things impede wisdom's appearing. We all have uncontrollable wants in life. We experience doubt and fear; and arrogance creeps in when wisdom requires humility. If we only want to be comfortable or caught up in our fast-paced culture, there's no room for wisdom.

The reading from Hebrews says that the Word of God is "sharper than any two-edged sword." It cuts right through us. Everything is "naked and exposed" in God's eyes. Hearing a potent word that wakes us up and changes everything sounds like wisdom to me.

When we meet people who have found and are living in wisdom, we know it. Humans aeons ago lauded wisdom, loved and sought it/her above all else. The longing is ancient, so we know there is something precious here.

I'll put my money on wisdom, but boy...it is hard bought.

Keep searching....

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

- **BAPTISM THIS SUNDAY**

TUA CLOUD PLAIS, son of Jermeleen Robert, will be baptized this Sunday during Mass.

- **ST. JAMES FAITH FORMATION**

The next Faith Formation session is this Sunday, October 13, with Kris Wade, the Executive Director of the Justice Project. Kris and our own Sr. Donna worked together with women who have been sex trafficked, and Kris carries on the mission. The presentation will begin right after Mass in church.

- **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY**

In observance of the holiday, the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, October 14, 2024.

- **KNITTING AND CROCHETING**

The Knitting and Crocheting group will meet on Tuesday, October 15, in the rectory at 6:30pm.

- **ST. JAMES COMMUNAL GARDEN**

Fall is arriving and temperatures are slowly dropping. Frost will most likely arrive in the next few weeks. Green tomato lovers, our tomato vines are covered with unripe tomatoes. Help yourselves. Other produce available for picking include the following:

East Garden

Turnip and Mustard Greens Wire Cages - Long Beans

South Garden

Bed 7 - **Swiss Chard** Bed 8 - **Arugula and Beets** Bed 10 - **Radishes**

Beds 12 and 13 - **Head Lettuce** Beds 14 and 15 - **Peppers** Bed 17 - **Eggplant**

Wire Cages - **Red and Green Tomatoes** Trellises - **Beans**

- **ST. JAMES CALENDAR**

October 13—HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

October 13—FAITH FORMATION SUNDAY - Human Trafficking

October 27—STATE OF THE PARISH

November 03—PANTRY SUNDAY

November 10—HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

- **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

The Kickoff for the 2024-2025 Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) for the Diocese is scheduled this weekend, October 12th-13th, 2024. There are envelopes in the back of church if you did not receive Bishop Johnston's letter at home.

- **KCUR VOTER GUIDE**

PLEASE click or go to this link—<https://www.kcur.org/kcvoterguide2024>

**TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO OFFER
PRAYERS FOR FAIR AND SAFE
ELECTIONS**

As recent hate speech has increased relative to the election, we want to spend time in prayer. The EmbRace group is hosting two opportunities to offer prayers for a safe and fair election.

**Tuesday October 15th at 7pm
Zoom**

If you wish to attend the zoom prayer service, please email Jennifer Rouyer at jennsr69@gmail.com. A zoom link will be emailed to you prior to the 15th.

**Thursday October 17th
12pm in the Chapel**

After this service, you are invited to come to the Romero Room for refreshments and conversation from 1:00 pm — 2:00 pm. Help us to build and maintain a strong community!

~ Stewardship ~

Week 9/30—10/06: **\$7,911**
 Needed each week: **\$4,646**
 Percent of Weekly Budget: **170%**
 Actual this Fiscal YTD: **\$58,024**
 Budgeted this Fiscal YTD: **\$65,044**
 Percent of Budget to Date: **89%**

~ Mass Attendance ~

In-person Attendance
 10/06, 27th Sunday in OT **165**
Livestream Attendance
 10/06, 27th Sunday in OT **14**

~ Next Sunday's Readings ~

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN OT
 Is 53:10-11
 Heb 4:14-16
 Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45

~ 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.
- Sr. Carole Eschen
- Judith Reed
- Hartleen Fredrick
- Susie Roling
- Teresa Maly
- Charles Carney

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 on the pamphlet rack in the church narthex. 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.