



SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

November 24, 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 Ben Babaran

Last week, I could not sleep because a series of 6 typhoons battered our hometown. As a frail human being, the news brought me to my knees each day. Thanks to my faith, I was able to turn to someone who alone can give me hope and peace – my King and my God!

As we enter the week of Thanksgiving, I thank my parents and ancestors who nurtured that faith in me. I even go farther by thanking the Spaniards who colonized the Philippines in 1521 for bringing the Catholic faith to the Filipino natives.

Unfortunately, the European conquistadores brought also the monarchy of Queen Isabela with them and the European church traditions that copied the titles and dresses of lords and princes of Europe. The solemnity we are celebrating Sunday is just the opposite of that kind of rule and pomp. The image of Christ on the cross proclaims a king who offers love and salvation, mercy and forgiveness, respect and acceptance.

The crucifix is the glorious sign of God's reconciling love for us all. It is an image of our God becoming one like us feeling all our frustrations and disappointments. Our King is very present in our most shameful moments.

As I continue to reflect on Sunday's solemnity, I would like to share Gerald Darring's beautiful explanation on "**What is the Kingdom of God? What is the Kingdom of Christ the King?**" (St. Louis University: Center for Liturgy): The Kingdom of God is a space. It exists in every home where parents and children love each other. It exists in every region and country that cares for its weak and vulnerable. It exists in every parish that reaches out to the needy. The Kingdom of God is a time. It happens whenever someone feeds a hungry person, or shelters a homeless person, or shows care to a neglected person. It happens whenever we overturn an unjust law, or correct an injustice, or avert a war. It happens whenever people join in the struggle to overcome poverty, to erase ignorance, to pass on the Faith. The Kingdom of God is in the past (in the life and work of Jesus of Nazareth); it is in the present (in the work of the Church and in the efforts of many others to create a world of goodness and justice); it is in the future (reaching its completion in the age to come). The Kingdom of God is a condition. Its symptoms are love, justice, and peace.

Dear St. James parishioners and friends, I am happy that St. James reflects all of Gerald Darring's explanation on "What is the Kingdom of God?" Jesus Christ is king! We pray today that God may free all the world to rejoice in His peace, to glory in His justice, to live in His love.

Maligayang Pagsasalamat sa inyong lahat! (Happy Thanksgiving to all!) I give my sincerest thanks to Fr. Mike Roach, Fr. Don Farnan, who have been my pastors here at St. James. To Fr. Garry Richmeier, who is the pillar of St. James, maraming salamat (thank you very much) for your listening presence. Above all, to the parishioners of St. James, thank you for all your support. God bless....

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

• ST. JAMES FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, November 24: This is our last opportunity to sign up for the docent led tour at the Nelson Art Gallery on Sunday, December 15 at 1:00. We will have sign ups at Church after Mass on Sunday, November 24. If you are a parishioner who live streams, and would like to visit the Museum, please send Bonnie an email at: bhaghirian@yahoo.com Please indicate "Nelson Tour" in the subject line.

Sunday, December 8: Our Families in Faith who are guiding their children with the "Finding God" series will meet on Sunday, December 8, after Mass, in Marian Hall. We will discuss Unit 2 from the texts, as well as the short entry on the Season of Advent. We will also learn about Mary, the Immaculate Conception. There just might be a gift from St. Nicholas, since his feast day is December 6! Come and see!

Youth Pop Up opportunity: On Sunday, December 22, our youth will have a behind the scenes look at putting together our beautiful Nativity scene in the Church. We will begin right after Mass! Adults: please let Bonnie know if you can help supervise this pop up event. bhaghirian@yahoo.com "Nativity set up!"

Every Sunday after Mass, we extend an invitation to pray to Our Lady, with Philomena leading the Rosary in the Family Room. Feel free to add your prayers and invitation as we pray this beautiful meditative prayer.

• ST. JAMES COMMUNAL GARDEN

The 2024 garden season has come to a close with the first frost a night or two away. Saturday starting at 9:30 am, we will plant garlic, cover the fig, and put away tomato cages and trellises. Hopefully this Sunday, you will still find:

East Garden

Greens and kale

South Garden

Bed 8 - **Beets** Bed 10 - **Carrots**

Thank you for all of your help this garden season. Have a blessed Holiday Season. Soon we will be itching to get back out there to dig in the dirt.

• ST. JAMES CALENDAR

November 24—STEWARDSHIP APPEAL COMMITMENT SUNDAY

November 28—THANKSGIVING DAY

December 1—PANTRY SUNDAY—ADVENT BEGINS

December 4—ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

December 8—HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

December 9—SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 24, 4PM—CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

December 29—FIFTH SUNDAY CELEBRATION

• STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Sunday, November 24, is our **Stewardship Appeal Commitment Sunday**. Please bring your stewardship commitment card with you, and **we will collect the cards during the offertory at Mass. Our goal is for 100% of parish households to turn in cards.** If you can't commit now, you can commit to praying for our parish over the next year.

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

● **PANTRY SUNDAY**

Pantry Sunday is next Sunday, December 1st. Bishop Sullivan Center requests peanut butter and grape jelly this month. They could also use paper bags and plastic sacks you have collected from the grocery store.

● **ST. JAMES GIVING TREE**

Our annual giving tree is set up for this season! We are partnering again with Bishop Sullivan Center to provide gifts for children in need in the KCMO area this Christmas. The tree will be up Sunday Nov 24th through Sunday Dec 8th.

Advent is early this year and they need the gifts back to Bishop Sullivan by the second week of December.

We will also have ornaments for gifts and donations to Manos Amigos, for our families in Anapra!

● **THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

Father in Heaven, Creator of all and source of all goodness and love, please look kindly upon us and receive our heartfelt gratitude in this time of giving thanks. Thank you for all the spiritual and temporal blessings you have bestowed upon us: our faith and religious heritage, our food and shelter, our health, the love we have for one another, our family and friends.

Dear Father, in Your infinite generosity, please grant us continued graces and blessings throughout the coming year.

This we ask in the Name of Christ the King, Your Son and our Brother. Amen

~ Stewardship ~

Week 11/1—11/17: **\$4,371**

Needed each week: **\$4,646**

Percent of Weekly Budget: **94%**

Actual this Fiscal YTD: **\$86,631**

Budgeted this Fiscal YTD: **\$92,920**

Percent of Budget to Date: **93%**

~ Mass Attendance ~

In-person Attendance

11/17, 33rd Sunday in OT **107**

Livestream Attendance

11/17, 33rd Sunday in OT **10**

~ Next Sunday's Readings ~

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Jer 33:14-16

1 Thes 3:12—4:2

Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

~ We Hold in Prayer ~

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| ● Ed Pailer | ● Beverly Johnson |
| ● Amie Miller | ● Jeronn Cann |
| ● Sarita Cann | ● Punch Tuggle |
| ● Carole Gary | ● Mark Cann, Sr. |
| ● Paul DeMerchant | ● Sr. Carole Eschen |
| ● Ross Beaudoin | ● Judith Reed |
| ● George Sitterly | ● Hartleen Fredrick |
| ● Wanda Decker | ● Susie Roling |
| ● Clare Duffy Laramie | ● Teresa Maly |
| ● Kate Miller | ● Charles Carney |
| ● Helen McDonald | ● Lisa Looy |
| ● Andy Bylinowski | ● Pat Durkin |
| ● Jermonica Cann | ● Nancy Moylan |
| ● Pat Marrin | ● Bill Moylan |
| ● Oscar Shelby | |

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.