



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2024

St. James Catholic Church

*3909 Harrison * Kansas City, Missouri 64110*

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

Reflections from Rockhill Parishioners, submitted by Sally Dux

On the sweeping hillside overlooking Gillham Park, the backside of Rockhill Manor can be seen. For over 40 years, St. James Church has been a Eucharistic presence for Catholic residents at Rockhill, initiated by the St. James Altar Society prior to 1984. Before Covid restricted access, Sunday Communion services were held at Rockhill, with Fr. Garry offering on site Mass at Christmas and Easter. At the present time, we are fortunate to have 5 residents joining us each week for Sunday Mass, and I have seen first hand their commitment to their Catholic faith and their appreciation of St. James.

At the suggestion of Deacon Ross Beaudoin, I asked my Rockhill friends to each share a short reflection. In the spirit of Christmas, in which the Advent season encourages us to live our faith, the following individual comments briefly reflect the deep faith of our fellow Rockhill parishioners:

***I am a resident at Rockhill Manor here in Midtown. I've been asked to share a bit about my experience at St. James. From the first time I walked into the building, I was enveloped into a welcoming community. Something I had not experienced before, is people coming out of their pew to offer me the sign of Peace with a warm handshake. I have also been blessed by parishioners who have shared gifts on the holidays. To me, these individuals are Christ in the flesh. Jesus came to us at Christmas to show us the way to Him. I feel grateful for the people I have met at St. James and the love they have shown me. Christ is born, and He is Emmanuel.

***I feel that the Church has made my whole life better. I don't know what I would be without the Catholic church. I feel so Blessed being Catholic. Thank you everyone.

***I don't know what this world is coming to, but I do know Jesus is coming back some day, and that is the best news I ever had. I have much faith in Jesus.

***I am not able to contribute money to St. James but here is a token for free coffee to give to someone in need.

***What is the question? How do we increase our Faith. What is the answer?

Believe in the One who God sent. Jesus is the Christ I love.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

- **ST. JAMES FINANCE COUNCIL**

The Finance Council needs YOU! We are looking for 3-5 people to help oversee our parish finances. Involves quarterly (or more) meetings to review income/expenses, assist in budgeting for unexpected/larger expenses. Not a large time commitment but one that is very important to our long-term viability. Only requirement is a love for St. James. Contact Ann Carlson or Ben if you are interested or want more information.

- **ST. JAMES FAITH FORMATION**

This 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 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 CALENDAR**

December 8—HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

December 9—SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 24, 4PM—CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

December 29—FIFTH SUNDAY CELEBRATION

- **CHURCH ROOF**

We are working with Precision Roofing and Schloegel Remodeling to fix our roof and repair the inside water damage. Precision has promised that they will have the roof repaired by December 16th if they get the particular tiles they need. We have arranged with Schloegel to start repairing and painting the inside starting December 16th, with the job to be completed by December 23, just in time for Christmas. Schloegel may need to construct scaffolding that may be in the way for a few days. We will keep you updated on the progress.

- **BUS STOP ON DECEMBER 27, FRIDAY, 10AM-NOON**

Bishop Sullivan Center is closed for the Christmas Holidays from December 23—January 1. The Bus Stop Ministry is scheduled for Friday, December 27 from 10AM—NOON. We will make and distribute sack lunches as well as the usual scarves, hats, and gloves. Interested in helping? Please See Mary Vincent after Mass or call the parish office.

~ St. James Parish Updates ~

• **KNITTING AND CROCHETING**

Happy Holidays from Knitting and Crocheting. There is NO meeting on December 17, Tuesday. The next meeting will be on January 21, 2025 at 6:30PM in the rectory.

• **ST. JAMES GIVING TREE**

The Giving Tree is wrapping up this weekend. If you haven't already, please drop off the wrapped gifts at the giving tree in the front of church. If you need to set up another time to drop off gifts, please see Katie or Diane or Phyllis after Mass up front at the Giving Tree. We are also still accepting donations for Manos Amigas, please see the tree for details. Special thanks from the Social Justice Committee for your support this Advent season!

• **ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

Thank you all for participating in our diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) this year. Congratulations to Saint James Parish that, this week, reached its goal! Saint Francis Xavier and Saint Therese Little Flower are each at 84% of reaching their goals. This collaborative annual fundraiser for the chancery helps operations in parishes and other ministries throughout our city and surrounding region. The donations support our parishes in several ways. I have great confidence that all three parishes will reach our assigned goals in the same year for the first time this year. Way to go!

• **SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, MONDAY, DECEMBER 9**

There will be NO Mass at St. James. Mass will be offered at St. Francis Xavier at 11:00 AM; St. Peter's Mass is at 7:15 AM; Rockhurst University Mass will be in Massman Hall at 12:00 PM; St. Elizabeth's Mass is at 6PM.

~ Stewardship ~

Week 11/25—12/1: **\$4,452**
Needed each week: **\$4,646**
Percent of Weekly Budget: **96%**
Actual this Fiscal YTD: **\$96,389**
Budgeted this Fiscal YTD: **\$102,212**
Percent of Budget to Date: **94%**

~ Mass Attendance ~

In-person Attendance
12/01, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT **130**
Livestream Attendance
12/01, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT **9**

~ Next Sunday's Readings ~

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Zep 3:14-18a
Phil 4:4-7
Lk 3:10-18

~ We Hold in Prayer ~

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| • 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.