

January 12, 2025, Baptism of Our Lord

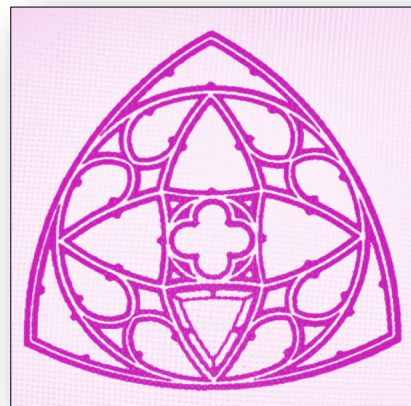
St. James Catholic Community in Midtown

Small enough to know your name

Big enough to make a difference

3909 Harrison, Kansas City, MO 64110

Parish@StJKC.org www.StJKC.org



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.

Parish Office Phone: 816-561-8512
Office Hours: 10:00A -3:00P, Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Email: parish@StJKC.org
Website: www.StJKC.org
Mailing Address: P.O. Box Number P.O. Box 30388, Kansas City, MO 64112
Street Address: 3909 Harrison St. Kansas City, MO 64110
St James on Facebook Public: Only St James admin team can post - <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesmidtown>

Bulletin Deadline: 10 pm Mondays—
Email items to Bulletin@StJKC.org.



For information/events to be posted on the webpage, email your items to:
website@StJKC.org.

Sacramental Preparation Information

For information on preparation for the Sacraments of **Baptism, First Reconciliation, and First Eucharist**, please contact Bonnie Haghirian, our Faith Formation Coordinator, at bhaghirian@yahoo.com.

Confirmation preparation will start this fall.

Rite of Christian Initiation in the Catholic Church (Adult Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) will take place as needed. Contact Bonnie Haghirian at bhaghirian@yahoo.com.

Considering **Marriage**? Contact Ben Babaran at bbabaran@stjkc.org at least 9 months prior to the wedding date.

Next Parish-Wide Meeting is After 10 am Mass on January 19.

As we move closer to being a Parishioner-Led community, communication is important. Fr. Don Farnan and the Transition Team is setting aside the **third Sunday of each month** for our Parish-Wide Meeting to discuss important issues facing the parish. We encourage everyone to participate. If you would like to discuss something at the meeting, please email your thoughts to Parish@StJKC.org.

YOUR CONTACT INFO IS NEEDED

Communication is critical for the success of a Community-Led Parish. To communicate effectively, we need the parishioner's current contact information. If you are not receiving parish weekly emails or didn't receive the November Stewardship Appeal Packet in the mail, we don't have your correct contact information. **Email your correct name, phone, email and street address to Parish@StJKC.org.**

If you prefer, you can call the office at 816-561-8512.

The parish will not sell your contact information at any time.



****Faith Formation****

Thank you to our parishioners who participated in the tour of the Nelson Art Gallery's collection celebrating **Our Lady and the Christ Child**. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about and appreciate the Nelson's artworks. On Sunday, **January 12, the Seeking God** families will meet after Mass in Marian Hall to share reflections on Christmas and Epiphany. We will review Units 2 and 3, so please bring your books to assist with our discussion. We will also talk about First Reconciliation and First Eucharist for our children who will be preparing for the Sacraments. We look forward to another topic to be announced for February regarding Faith Formation.

Parish Faith Formation Opportunity In observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, St. Therese Little Flower Parish will host the 3rd Annual "Called to Serve Others—Sharing a Little Hope" event on January 20, 2025. The day will begin with a Prayer Service at 10:00 AM, followed by the distribution of "Care Bags" to spread hope in our community.

*I, the LORD, have called you
for the victory of justice*

Isaiah 10:41

St. James Community Calendar

1/12 Hospitality Sunday - Mingle & treats after Mass
1/12 **Seeking God** Faith Formation
1/16 Transition team meeting 1pm
1/16 Choir practice at church 7pm
1/16 Transition team meeting 1pm
1/19 All-parish meeting after Mass
1/20 MLK remembrance service at St Therese 10am
1/23 Choir practice at church 7pm
1/23 Transition team meeting 1pm
1/30 Choir practice at church 7pm
1/30 Transition team meeting 1pm
1/25 Faith & Racial Healing—Visitation
2/16 **All-parish meeting after Mass**
3/4 Mardi Gras – **Lent begins**
3/16 All-parish meeting after Mass
4/18 Stations of the Cross along Troost 12pm
4/20 **EASTER**

The Transition Team

The Team continues to meet every Thursday at 1 pm. Our task is to assist in redefining our parish as a parishioner-led community and direct the search for our Parish Organizer. The potential Parish Organizer will be brought before the parish before a contract is offered.

If you have a question or concern, feel free to contact anyone of the Transition Team. If you would like to be a member of the team, please let us know.

Ben Babaran - bbabaran@stjkc.org

Martha Belker - martha.belker@sbcglobal.net

Bill Cordaro - billycord4@gmail.com

Fr. Don Farnan - frdon@stjkc.org

Diane Etzel-Wise - dianeew72@gmail.com

NEW PARISHIONERS

All are welcome at St. James. We are an inclusive community of faith following the gospel of Jesus who never excluded anyone and who lived justly. If you want to learn more about St. James Community, please get in touch with staff (Parish@StJKC.org) or, better yet, talk with other parishioners.



Thank You!

Dan Nash, on behalf of St. James community, says **"Thank You"** to Ben and Jo Babaran. Ben has been our parish leader for the last 10 years and now, with his cohort in ministry, Jo, is retiring. The good news is that the two of them plan to continue to minister to our community as parishioners. Thank You Ben and Jo!!!!

Ask the Expert a Question

If you have a question you would like addressed in upcoming bulletins, send it to Bulletin@StJKC.org.

1. What is the time frame for hiring the Parish Organizer?

We are currently waiting to hear from Donna Arnone, who has taken over the parish's accounting duties. Donna is very familiar with the Diocesan accounting system and is also working with St. Therese the Little Flower. After closing out the end-of-year books, she is now better positioned to share with us what we have available to spend on salaries. Once we know what we can spend on salaries, we can start advertising the Parish Organizer position.

2. How is the Transition Team replacing all that Ben has been doing?

The Team can't replace what Ben is doing. Instead, it is delegating some responsibilities to parishioners and trying to complete those tasks that need our immediate attention.

3. Who do we go to if we have questions or need something?

This current bulletin has a lot of information on who

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St. James Community celebrated the birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve with a wonderful performance of our children's choir accompanied by our adult choir. Laurie Parker on the harp and Margaret Kocher on the cello added to the celebration. Fr. Garry blesses our Christmas creche.

*I am baptizing you with water,
but one mightier than I is coming.
I am not worthy to loosen the
thongs of his sandals.
He will baptize you with the Holy
Spirit and fire."*

Say Goodbye To Christmas Decorations

It's time to say good bye to our beautiful decorations until next year. **Volunteers are needed after Mass on January 12** to take down and store the decorations. With a lot of help, we can get this done quickly.



We Lift Up In Prayer Our Fellow Parishioners and Friends

Ed Pailer • Amie Miller • Sarita Cann • Carole Gary • Paul DeMerchant • Ross Beaudoin • 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 • Theresa Maly • Charles Carney • Lisa Looy • Pat Durkin • Nancy Moylan • Bill Moylan

Stewardship Corner

The Bible is a book about giving, with more promises related to giving than to any other subject. For example, the subject of "*believing*" appears 272 times, "*prayer*", 371 times, and "*love*" 714 times, while *giving* is mentioned 2,162 times! Jesus talked more about giving than anything else; more than half of the parables have to do with money and worldly goods.



Readings for January 12, 2025

Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Acts 10:34-38

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

All photos are provided by Chris Dewberry.

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to contact for specific questions. If you don't see who to contact, send your question to Bulletin@StJKC.org.

4. What is the relationship with the diocese if St James Parish becomes parishioner-led?

We will remain a diocesan parish with all the benefits and responsibilities of participating in the diocese. The only "Glitch" is that the diocese has no job category for "Parish Organizer," and we may need to use the term "Parish administrator" when dealing with the diocese.

5. Will sacraments continue to be provided at St James?

Yes, the sacraments will be provided. See page one for more information on Sacramental Preparation.

6. Who chose the transition team?

Diane Etzel-Wise, Martha Belker, and Bill Cordaro ran our parish Stewardship Appeal in the fall. After the appeal, Fr. Don asked us if we would be open to being the start of the transition team. Since then, Ben and Donna Arnone, our new parish bookkeeper, joined the team.

7. Will Fr Garry and Robert Basolo stay?

Yes, they have no intention of leaving.

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Luke 3:22

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.

Catholic Charities is Now Offering Older Youth Adoptions, Aged 8 and Older

In partnership with the state of Missouri, Catholic Charities is a pilot agency for older youth adoptions. There are currently over 1,600 children aged 8 and older in Missouri alone who are ready for adoption, all of whom have exhausted potential relative placements and are seeking the love and stability of a family. These children are eager to know what "home" feels like, and this program allows families to connect with them in a streamlined process that accelerates the path to a lasting bond. For more information, visit moheartgallery.org to view children awaiting adoption in Missouri, or contact Bonnie Maloney at BMaloney@ccharities.com or 816-648-0555.

SILENT DIRECTED RETREAT

January 30 -February 2 or February 6 (Either a Four Day or an Eight Day Retreat) Marillac Retreat & Spirituality Center (4200 S 4th St. Leavenworth, KS) Nurture Your Faith in the Stillness of Winter.

Take time in the stillness of winter to nurture the roots of your faith by participating in a 4-day or 8-day Silent Directed Retreat.

Retreat Details: Opening Gathering: January 30 at 6:30 PM (Orientation and expectations)

Format: • Experience silence and stillness; • Daily prayer and Mass; • Self Discovery and encounter with God • Meet daily with an experienced Spiritual Director.

Cost: \$300 for the 4-day retreat, \$700 for the 8-day retreat (Cost includes room, all meals, and daily spiritual direction.)

Take this opportunity to retreat from the noise of daily life and nurture the roots of your faith in a serene and supportive environment. For more information or to register, go to retreats@scls.org. Spaces are limited—reserve your spot today!

FAITH AND RACIAL HEALING: EMBRACING TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND RESTORATION

Eight Week Series, beginning January 25, Visitation Parish, 5141 Main Street, KCMO. St. James and surrounding parishes are invited to participate. Will meet at either 4 pm or 7 pm, and then will meet every other Wednesday, January 29 through May 7. Please prayerfully consider participating. If you are interested or need additional information, please contact Karen Miller at karen@church.visitation.org