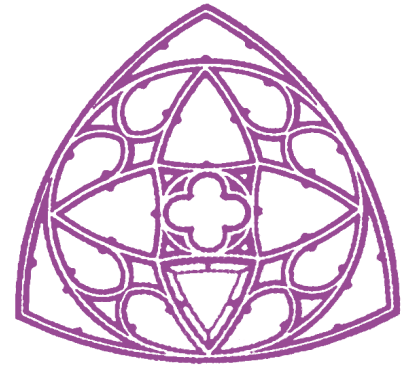


FEBRUARY 2, 2025 — THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

St. James Catholic Community in Midtown

Small enough to know your name
Big enough to make a difference
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 30388, Kansas City, MO 64112
Street Address: 3909 Harrison St. Kansas City, MO 64110
St James Facebook Public Page: Only St James admin team can post to- <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesmidtown>

Bulletin Deadline: 10 pm Mondays
Email items to Bulletin@StJKC.org.
For information/events to be posted on the St. James website, 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 Phyllis McCarty, wedding coordinator at, PhyllisAMcCarty@gmail.com at least 9 months prior to the wedding date.

FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, February 9, WAY BEFORE THE SUPER BOWL, following our Sunday Mass. Sr. Vicki Lichtenauer, SCL, will share her experiences as a caregiver and her program "Deep Windows" for people with dementia/Alzheimer's diagnosis. She will share with us how her program benefits all the family members in that situation. Bonnie will share some of the available local resources. We all are caregivers in some way - hear Sr. Vicki share her experiences with all of us.

Bonnie will meet with families on Sunday, Feb. 16, to help them prepare their children for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. If your family has someone who would like to receive

these Sacraments, please email Bonnie at bhaghirian@yahoo.com so she can provide materials. All ages are welcome.

Sunday, March 2: Families in the "Seeking God" program will meet together. We will have a special presentation on Lent since Ash Wednesday is March 5. et in Marian Hall after Mass. Please plan to attend and bring the books with you.

Sunday, March 9: Parishioner Michaela Meckel will be with us to address environmental concerns and share her role as an activist for change. Care of the Earth is a principle of Catholic Social Justice, and Michaela will help us discover ways we can participate to save "our common home."

Bishop Johnston Urges Compassion Amid Uncertainty

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In these times of uncertainty, I reach out to you with a heart full of compassion and a steadfast commitment to our shared faith. Recent executive orders have raised concerns within our community, particularly regarding their impact on our immigrant families, our schools and our parishes. As your shepherd, I wish to offer guidance rooted in the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ and the enduring principles of the Catholic Church.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has consistently emphasized the Church's unwavering dedication to upholding the dignity of every human person, regardless of their immigration status. Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio, president of the USCCB, reminds us that our actions as a nation should "demonstrate a genuine care for our most vulnerable sisters and brothers, including the unborn, the poor, the elderly and infirm, and migrants and refugees."

Furthermore, Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El Paso, Texas, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Migration, has expressed deep concern that certain policies may "subject vulnerable families and children to grave danger." Nations and communities have a right to protect the common good, but this must not violate the other moral rights attached to the dignity of the human person, nor the moral obligation of Christians to help those in need.

In light of these developments, **I call upon all members of our diocesan family—parishioners, educators, students, and clergy—to embody the Gospel values of love, mercy, and justice.** Let us:

- ♦ **Pray Fervently:** Seek divine guidance for our nation's leaders, that they may enact policies reflecting compassion and respect for human dignity.
- ♦ **Educate Ourselves:** Understand the teachings of the Church on migration and the rights of individuals, articulated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church #2241, and as outlined by the USCCB's Migration and Refugee Services.
- ♦ **Extend a Hand of Welcome:** Offer support and solidarity to migrants and refugees within our communities, recognizing Christ in the stranger among us.

Advocate for Justice: Engage in peaceful and constructive dialogue, urging our policymakers to consider the moral implications of their decisions and to work for comprehensive immigration reform.

Additionally, I want to reassure you that we treat the names and identities of our school students, families, and parishioners as confidential information. We will not voluntarily release this information to anyone, including law enforcement, absent an obligation to do so by court order or subpoena.

As we navigate these challenges, let us remember the words of our Lord: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40). Together, anchored in faith and united in love, we can be beacons of hope and instruments of God's peace.

May the Holy Family of Nazareth, themselves once refugees, guide and protect us all.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Bishop James V. Johnston, Jr

St. James Community Calendar

2/2 Pantry Sunday (For Bishop Sullivan Center)
2/2 Candlemas—Blessing of candles at Mass
2/4 St. James volunteers at Harvesters
2/5 Faith and Grief Luncheon—Visitation Parish
2/6 Choir practice at church 7pm
2/6 Transition team meeting 1pm
2/9 Hospitality Sunday – Mingle & treats after Mass
2/9 Being a Caregiver Presentation after Mass

2/18 Knitting/Crocheting Group meets at 6:30 pm
2/22 Chili and Jimbo Extravaganza—5-7:30 pm
2/28 St. Therese Little Flower Mardi Gras-5:30-9:30
3/5 Ash Wednesday
3/16 All-parish meeting after Mass
4/8 Lenten Penance Service
4/18 Stations of the Cross along Troost 12pm
4/20 EASTER

HARVESTERS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Harvesters volunteer day this month is Tuesday, Feb 4. We will meet from 6-8 pm at Harvesters, 3801 Topping Ave. Volunteers must be 8 years old or older. All volunteers are required to wear closed-toe shoes and long pants. Consider bringing one canned or other non-perishable food item. Contact Barbara Schepers at 816-810-8809 to volunteer.

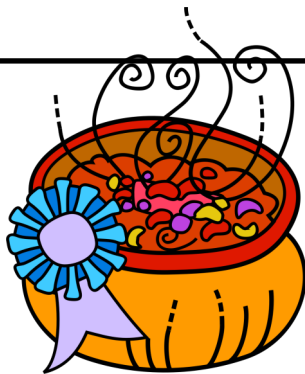
WEEKLY ROSARY

Philomena Odu leads the rosary after each Mass in the Children's Liturgy Room. All are welcome.

2025-26 BUDGET AND COMMITTEES

Committee and team leaders, the 2025-2026 budget is starting to be composed. Around April 15, St. James' bookkeeper will send leaders the first three-quarters of the 2024-2025 budget. Committee budgets for 2025-2026 must be submitted to the Finance Committee and the bookkeeper no later than June 1. If you have questions, email bookkeeper@StJKC.org.

ST JAMES' ANNUAL CHILI DAZE



Join us on Saturday,
February 22, for our
winter FUNdraiser! We will gather in
Marian Hall for this year's Chili Contest and
playing of JIMBO

(our own version of Bingo).

Dinner includes chili, salad and dessert.

Adults \$5.00 Children \$3.00

5:30-7:30 pm

Fun, prizes, raffle and more!!!!!!!

NEW PARISHIONERS

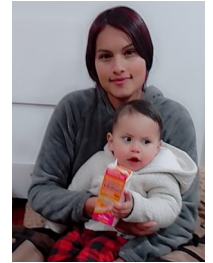
All are welcome at St. James. We are an inclusive community of faith following the gospel of Jesus who never excluded anyone and who lived justly. If you want to learn more about St. James Community, please get in touch with staff (Parish@StJKC.org) or visit our website at www.StJKC.org to complete a registration form.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

In the Fourth Gospel, we find the stewardship of time: "We must work the works of him that sent me while it is day: night is coming when no one can work" (John 9:4). And we have an arresting statement of God's own stewardship: "God so love the world that he gave his only son" (John 3:16). "What do you have that you did not receive?" (1 Corinthians 4:7); "If I give away all my possessions...but do not have love, I gain nothing: (1 Corinthians 13:3); "Be sure of this, ... no one who is greedy (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God (Ephesians 5:5)."

Manos Amigas

Manos Amigas welcomes 2025 and the cold weather it brings to Anapra. We continue to provide heat assistance for 20 elderly people in the colonia. We continue to encourage and monitor education for the students in the sponsorship program. We begin preparations for Mother's Day, Children's Day and Father's Day. Tax letters have been sent. If you have a question about a tax letter, please call 816-806-9760. Watch for big changes to our website manosamigaskc.org. From our friends in Anapra: Thank you for another year of support, love and care. For standing by us holding our hands even thru the distance. Our most sincere gratitude and blessings.



Simeon says "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." Luke 2:32

EMAIL SCAM!

Bill Cordaro, a member of the Transition Team, received an email from what appeared to be Fr. Don Farnan. The email address was "pastofrev@keemail.me". The email read: "Are you available? I would like you to take care of a request I have for you via email in a discreet manner. As soon as possible, I would like to correspond by email."

"Peace and Blessings,"

"Reverend Don Farnan"

Three signs of a scam

1. Urgency
2. Secrecy
3. Suspicious email address

If you receive a suspicious email, delete it and don't reply to it.

ST. JAMES NEEDS SOME GREEN THUMBS



Spring will be here soon, and it will be time to spruce up the flower planters around the church and rectory. Flowers make the church look “lived in” and sends the message that something special is happening inside.

We are looking for someone to manage the planters throughout the growing season. **Look at your thumb; if it is green, you have a calling.** Contact Parish@StJKC.org to learn more.

PANTRY SUNDAY IS FEB 2

The pantry needs pasta, jelly, breakfast cereal, and oatmeal this month. Bring donations to Mass on Sunday. Bishop Sullivan Center is thankful for your continued generosity.



Lewis Diuguid brings our offertory gifts to the altar.

Photo provided by Chris Dewberry

“From the very beginning, Christians have brought, along with the bread and wine for the Eucharist, gifts to share with those in need”

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting 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 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 If the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, report the suspected abuse to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500

or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, at 816.392.0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

The Annual St. Therese Little Flower Parish Mardi Gras Celebration

Friday, February 28, 2025, from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm

at Pierson Auditorium, 5001 Holmes (on the campus of UMKC) Kansas City, MO 64111. Individual tickets may be purchased for

\$25, tables of 9 for \$275. Dinner, great entertainment, silent auction, and more are included. **ALL tickets/tables MUST be purchased in advance - No tickets are available at the door.** You don't want to miss this "Party With a Purpose". Additional information is available, including online purchase of tickets, tables, and donations accepted under the **Mardi Gras Sponsor** tab. Questions may be directed to Estelle Tunley at etunley@stlflkc.org or 816-444-5406.



YOUNG ADULTS—CITY ON A HILL

City on a Hill is the Catholic young adult apostolate that provides community, inspiration, and formation for young adults in the Kansas City metro area: **KC Underground**, February 20, 7:00 p.m. Sacred Heart Parish, 5501 Monticello Road, Shawnee, KS 66226. Candlelight Eucharistic Adoration and reconciliation. Weekly email, The Loop www.kansascityonahill.org/get-connected.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY FEB 9 - 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING — IS 6:1-2A, 3-8

Isaiah eagerly accepted God's call to serve once his sin was removed. What helps you be open to serve others?

SECOND READING - 1 COR 15:1-11 OR 15:3-8, 11

Paul reminds the Corinthians of the Gospel message they proclaimed to them about Jesus's death and resurrection appearances. What do you think makes preaching successful?

GOSPEL - LK 5:1-11

In Jesus' call of the first disciples, we see Peter's obedience and humility. How might you put these virtues into practice this week?