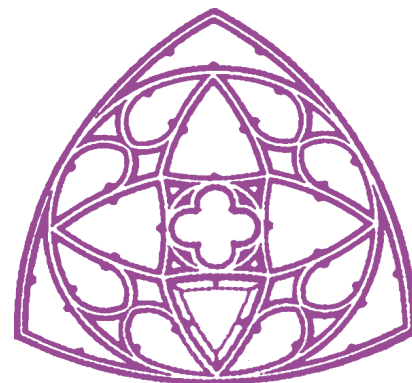


February 23, 2025  
The Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time  
**St. James Catholic  
Community in Midtown**

Small enough to know your name  
Big enough to make a difference



### 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](mailto:Bulletin@StJKC.org).  
**For information to be  
posted on the St. James  
website, email your  
items to:  
[website@StJKC.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bhaghirian@yahoo.com).

Considering **Marriage**? Contact Phyllis McCarty, wedding coordinator, at [PhyllisAMcCarty@gmail.com](mailto:PhyllisAMcCarty@gmail.com) at least 9 months prior to the wedding date.

### FAITH FORMATION

**INFORMATION** from Bonnie Haghirian, Faith Formation Coordinator ([bhaghirian@yahoo.com](mailto:bhaghirian@yahoo.com)).

**Sunday, Feb 23:** If you are a parent attending St. James and your children do not attend a Catholic School, please meet in Marian Hall at **9:20**. Bonnie will do an introduction to "**Circle of Grace**." This diocesan program provides age appropriate materials to help children learn about healthy emotional and physical boundaries

in relationships. **All are welcome.**

**Sunday, March 2:** Families using the "**Seeking God**" program will meet in Marian Hall after Mass. Please bring the books your children are using, and we will talk about Lent. **Please note change of date.**

**Sunday, Mar 9:** After Mass, parishioner Michaela Meckel will present **how to become a more active agent of change for justice**. Make it part of your personal observance of Lent - to grow in faith and take it to the streets! (Like Jesus!)

**Sunday, March 16:** All families preparing for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist please meet after Mass in Marian Hall (downstairs). We will have materials for you to use as you prepare for the Sacraments.

**Sunday, March 23:** First Reconciliation/First Eucharist families with children preparing from Grade 2 to Grade 6, please meet in Marian Hall after Mass. You will receive materials, and we'll have a lesson together.

Continued on page 3

Jesus said to his disciples:

"To you who hear I say,  
love your enemies, do good to those who  
hate you,  
bless those who curse you, pray for those who  
mistreat you.

To the person who strikes you on one cheek,  
offer the other one as well,  
and from the person who takes your cloak,  
do not withhold even your tunic.

Give to everyone who asks of you,  
and from the one who takes what is yours do  
not demand it back.

Do to others as you would have them do to  
you." Luke 6:27-31  
Luke 6:20-22

## ST. JAMES' LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

**Tuesday, April 8 at 6:30 pm**

St. James & St Therese Little Flower will join with  
St. Francis Xavier for a Lenten Penance Service.

1001 East 52nd St., KCMO  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

## COMMUNION TO THE HOME-BOUND

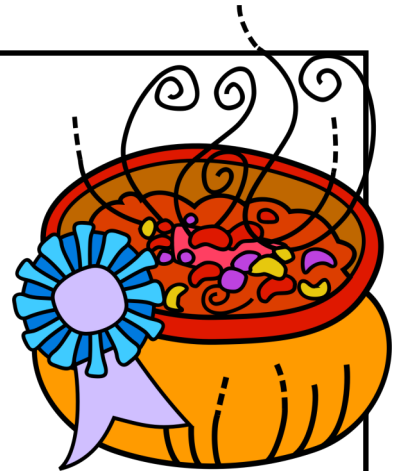
Contact the parish at Parish@StJKC.org or call  
816-561-8512 if you or someone you know is  
confined to their home and would like to receive  
communion. We have Eucharistic Ministers who  
are willing to make a visit.

**Postponed to March  
1st**

## ST JAMES' ANNUAL CHILI DAZE

Join us on Saturday,  
March 1st 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!!!!!! All proceeds go to provide heat  
assistance to families in need.



## St. James Community Calendar

2/20 Good Conversations Retreat 9 am- 2 pm

2/23 Circle of Grace—Marian Hall 9:30

2/28 St. Therese Little Flower Mardi Gras 5:30-9:30

**3/1 Chili Contest & Jimbo 5:30-7:30 pm New Date**

3/2 Seeking God—Marian Hall after Mass

3/4 St. James volunteers at Harvesters 6-8 pm

**3/5 Ash Wednesday Mass with Ashes 7:00 pm**

3/9 Michaela Meckel, *Living Justly* after Mass

3/9 Daylight savings begins - Move clocks forward

**3/16 Parish Community/Synod Meeting after Mass**

4/8 Lenten Penance Service—St. Francis X 6:30pm.

4/18 Stations of the Cross along Troost 12pm

**4/20 EASTER**

**4/27 Parish Community/Synod Meeting after Mass**

## RECTORY CLEAN-OUT!

We are in the process of cleaning out  
the rectory. If you have stored any-  
thing in the rectory, please let us know  
by Friday, **March 7**. Please send an  
email to [parish@StJKC.org](mailto:parish@StJKC.org). Thank  
you.



## 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.

## WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Ross Beaudoin  
Paul DeMerchant  
Theresa Maly  
Amie Miller  
Nancy Moylan  
Bill Moylan  
Steve Wallace

If you or someone you know needs prayers, please send their names to [Bulletin@StJKC.org](mailto:Bulletin@StJKC.org).

If you had the name of a family member or friend on the previous list and want it to continue to be on the list, please resubmit it.

## WEEKLY ROSARY

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

## St. James is looking for a Parish Organizer-Leader

St. James is a parish with a rich history of living the Catholic Social Teachings at the corner of 39<sup>th</sup> and Troost in Kansas City, MO. We have a very active community comprising approximately 200 families spread over 72 zip codes in the metro area. Many of our members are older and have years of experience volunteering or working for the Catholic Church.

St. James is looking for a leader to take us into the next phase of our parish life. This is a bold move since no Catholic Church in our diocese uses this leadership model. We want to make Pope Francis' call to be a "Synodal Church" a reality at St. James.

A qualified person must be Catholic and able to:

1. Be passionate about leading the parish from a lay-led parish to a community-led, synodal parish.
2. Identify gifts in each parishioner and invite them to use their gifts to fulfill the parish mission.
3. Engage all parishioners in the decision-making process on major parish topics.
4. Provide training and support to parishioners at all levels of the parish ministry.
5. Represent the interest of the parish to the diocese and broader community.

**In the past, St. James has had a leader who was a "Parish Administrator." We now seek a "Parish Organizer" to organize our gifts to make a difference in KC and the world.** For more information or a complete job description, contact Bill Cordaro at [bulletin@StJKC.org](mailto:bulletin@StJKC.org) or call the parish at 816-561-8512.

## FAITH FORMATION Continued from page 1

**Sunday, March 30:** First Reconciliation/First Eucharist families with children preparing from Grade 7 and up, please meet in Family Room at back of church after Mass. You will receive materials and we'll have a lesson together.

**Sunday, April 6:** "Seeking God" families will meet in Marian Hall after Mass to learn more about Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Please bring your books

Have a question or a suggestion for future topics, contact Bonnie at [bhaghirian@yahoo.com](mailto:bhaghirian@yahoo.com).

## ST. JAMES FEB 16 COMMUNITY-SYNOD MEETING REPORT

Over 50 parishioners were in attendance while a number of children were playing with Linda Art in the Family Room. The focus of the Synod was to discuss and decide if St. James wants to hire a full-time instead of a part-time Parish Organizer. The synod was informed that St. James has enough money in the current budget to hire a part-time person (29 hours a week) but would need more parish income to hire a full-time person. Here is the information presented at the Synod.

**-Part-time:** 29 hours a week at \$30 per hour is \$45,240 plus taxes of \$6,560 for a total of \$51,800. No benefits are provided since the work week is less than 30 hours.

**-Full-time:** 40 hours a week at \$30 per hour, this is a salaried position with a salary of \$62,400. Taxes and benefits will be \$18,250, for a total of \$80,600.

-The difference between part-time and full-time is \$28,800 per year.

-We have secured a gift of \$12,000 for one year with the possibility of being renewed if St. James hires a full-time Parish Organizer.

-St. James will need to increase tithing by \$16,800 or about 10%.

**The question was presented after much discussion: "Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? St. James should hire a full-time Parish Organizer to lead us as we grow into a Synodal Parish." The responses were: 50% Strongly Agreed, 26% Agreed, 11% Neutral, 7% Disagreed, 2% Strongly Disagree, and 4% said "I Don't Know".**

Some members expressed concern about those in the parish who are already giving all they can afford. To those who are making such a sacrifice, we say you are doing your part. Thank you.

We currently have two promising applicants. We have several parishioners with years of interviewing and hiring experience who have offered to help.

We will continue to keep you posted. Please keep St. James Community, the synodal process, and our search for a Parish Organizer in your prayers



## SEEING THAT PARADISE BEGINS NOW

March 17-31, April 7-28, May 5, 2025

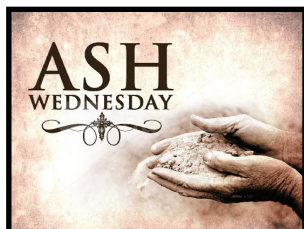
Mondays | 6:30-8 p.m. In person and via Zoom.

**Led by Fr. Garry Richmeier C.P.P.S.**

**The Bridges to Contemplative Living** with Thomas series invites users to personal spiritual transformation for the sake of a more just and peaceful world. Over eight sessions, we will explore with Thomas Merton contemplative living, prayers, readings other spiritual writers, and questions for dialogue. To register, go to: <https://www.pbrenewalcenter.org/events/thomas-mertons-bridges-to-contemplative-living/> or call 816-415-3745.

## MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

St. James will host an Ash Wednesday Mass at 7 pm. Invite family and friends to join us.



## PREPARING FOR LENT

**Sunday, March 2**, following mass, we'll be putting up the Crown of Thorns for Lent. Please stay to help, especially if you can throw a baseball accurately.



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

**MARCH 2 — 8TH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

### FIRST READING — SIR 27:4-7

Sirach teaches us to pay attention to how people speak; it reveals a lot. How often do you find yourself weighing your words before speaking?

### SECOND READING — 1 COR 15:54-58

Paul speaks of Jesus's resurrection as taking away the "sting" and "victory" of death. What words of comfort do you use to those grieving over the death of a loved one?

### GOSPEL— LK 6:39-45

Jesus encourages his followers to be humble in judgment of others and mindful in speech. Have you had good role models in your life for these virtues?

## ST. JAMES INVITES YOU TO GROUPS OF 6

Lent begins Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. **Do something special for Lent.** Here is a great way to get to know more parishioners and feel more connected to the parish. St. James is forming **GROUPS OF 6**, who will meet once a week during Lent in individuals' homes. It would be a time of sharing and fellowship discussions on the Sunday readings and how they apply to today. We will also spend time praying and generally sharing.



Register at the back of the church if you want to be part of a GROUP OF 6. Include the time and day you can meet. Register right away so we can start to create the different groups.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENT: "A NEW RENAISSANCE" ARTWORK DISPLAY

**Open weekdays 8am to 5pm until March 14**, Jackson County Courthouse, (415 E. 12th Street in KCMO) Celebrate Black History Month by viewing a display of artwork from the International African American Art Museum in KC. This display is a reflection of the resilience, brilliance and impact of artists and visionaries who have helped to shape the Kansas City metropolitan area.

