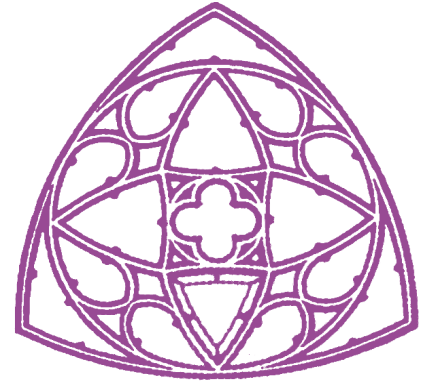


March 2, 2025
The Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time
**St. James Catholic
Community in Midtown**

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.
For information 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@StJKC.org. **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@StJKC.org.

Considering **Marriage**? Contact Phyllis McCarty, wedding coordinator, at PhyllisAMcCarty@gmail.com at least 9 months prior to the wedding date.

FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

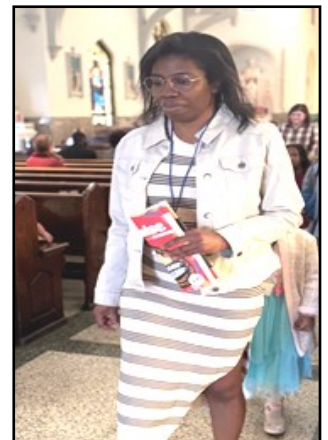
Families using the "Seeking God" program are meeting in Marian Hall on **Sunday, March 2**, following our 10 am Mass. Please bring your books so we can see how everyone is doing. We will focus on Lent, and it will last approximately 30 minutes. **After the session on Lent**, all families of children, teens, and young adults seeking **First**

Reconciliation and/or **First Eucharist** will continue our meeting for an additional 30 minutes. Materials to help prepare for these Sacraments will be available. It's important that all interested individuals and families participate in this meeting.

Lenten Offering: After Mass on Sunday, **March 9**, parishioner **Michaela**

Meckel will share her passion for Social Justice and challenge us to advocate for the poor and marginalized. This is an appropriate topic for our Lenten journey.

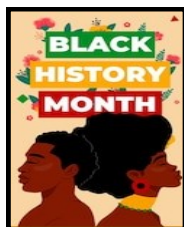
Please contact Bonnie at her new email address: bhaghirian@stjkc.org if you have any questions.



Vivian Nwachukwu
leading the children out
for the *Children's
Liturgy of the Word*.
All photos provided by Chris Dewberry

Jesus said, "How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye."

Luke 6: 41-42



Barbara Jordan (1936-1996) represented Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1972-78 and was the first African American congresswoman from the Deep South. In 1976, she became the first African American woman to deliver a keynote address at the Democratic National Convention.

St. James Community Calendar

- 3/2 Pantry Sunday—see article on this page
- 3/2 **Seeking God**—Marian Hall after Mass
- 3/2 **1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion** Mtg 11:50
- 3/4 St. Therese Little Flower **Louisiana Gumbo** 12-6
- 3/4 St. James volunteers at Harvesters 6-8 pm
- 3/5 **Ash Wednesday Prayer Service & Ashes-Noon**
- 3/5 **Ash Wednesday Mass with Ashes 7:00 pm**
- 3/7 **Stations of the Cross** at St. James Noon
- 3/9 Michaela Meckel, *Living Justly* after Mass
- 3/9 **Daylight savings begins** - Move clocks forward
- 3/14 **Stations of the Cross** at St. James Noon
- 3/16 **Parish Community/Synod Meeting after Mass**
- 3/21 **Stations of the Cross** at St. James Noon
- 3/28 **Stations of the Cross** at St. James Noon
- 4/4 **Stations of the Cross** at St. James Noon
- 4/5 **Clean the church** for Easter 9:30 am
- 4/5 Hanging **folders** in back of church are removed
- 4/8 **Lenten Penance Service**—St. Francis X 6:30pm
- 4/11 **Stations of the Cross** at St. James Noon
- 4/18 **Stations of the Cross along Troost** 12pm
- 4/20 **EASTER**
- 4/27 **Parish Community/Synod Meeting after Mass**

PANTRY SUNDAY-MARCH 2

Sunday, March 2 is Pantry Sunday, when we help replenish Bishop Sullivan's Pantry. Bishop Sullivan is a social outreach organization just three doors south of St. James on Troost. Many of the services they provide were started in St. James' basement. They're requesting jelly, breakfast cereal, or hygiene items such as shampoo, deodorant, and toothpaste. The Pantry is grateful for our continued support.



UPDATE ON CHURCH FROZEN PIPES

The problem of frozen pipes that caused St. James to postpone the Chili Daze until March 1 has been addressed. The work was completed by parishioner Robby Rusca with assistance from Jordan Schiele. Both men are part of the Jerusalem Farm community (JerusalemFarm.org), which is located on Kansas City's northeast side.

Robby sealed a large cold air leak in our old boiler room in the basement which led to the water lines below the south sacristy being freeze-prone for years. He then installed a valve on the exposed water line, allowing us to temporarily solve the problem until we have more time and warmer weather.

We want to thank Robby Rusca for keeping a potential catastrophe at bay. *This is what a community-led parish looks like.*

CLEANING THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

We want to clean our house for all the visitors that join us on Easter morning.

*Date: **Saturday, April 5, 9:30 AM**

*Juice, coffee, and snacks at 9:15 AM

*Dusting, mopping, wiping down pews, wiping marble surfaces, carpet cleaning, etc.

*Please sign up to help after Mass or email

Bulletin@StJKC.org with your name and phone #.

*No experience is needed.



HARVESTERS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Harvesters volunteer day in March is **Tuesday, March 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.

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 39th 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 or call the parish at 816-561-8512.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

LOUISIANA GUMBO, Fat Tuesday, **March 4** at Noon to 6:00 pm at St. Therese the Little Flower Church, 5814 Euclid Avenue, KCMO. Donations of \$10 or more accepted.

MARCH 5TH ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES **at St. James**

- Distribution of Ashes at **noon** with prayer service.
- Ash Wednesday Mass with Ashes – **7:00 pm**

LENTEN FRIDAYS STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Parishioners will be leading the Stations **every Friday in Lent** at noon. The Stations are a Lenten tradition at St. James where we recall the torture, death and resurrection of Jesus. This year, we are inviting parishioners to lead the Stations. Instructions and prayers will be provided. Email Bulletin@StJKC.org if you would like to lead the Stations on one of the Fridays.

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Another St. James tradition is to conduct the Stations of The Cross along Troost recalling how those in Kansas City suffer abuse and/or death every day and organizations along Troost who try to put a stop to the suffering. The Stations start at noon. The starting location to be determined.

COMMUNAL PENENCE SERVICE

A penance service will be held for St. Francis Xavier, St. James and St. Therese Little Flower at St. Francis Xavier Church, 52nd & Troost, on April 8 at 6:30 pm.

"I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare.

C. S. Lewis

"Jesus told his disciples a parable, 'Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher.'"

Luke 6:39

WELCOMING THE POOR, THE OUTCAST AND THE STRANGER: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE AND ITS CHALLENGE TO ALL CHRISTIANS

Four in-person sessions on Monday, 6:30-8:30pm, March 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025, at Village Presbyterian Church, Mission Campus, 6641 Mission Rd., Prairie Village, KS 66208.

Facilitated by Biagio Mazza, a highly respected local theologian. To register, email Biagio at biagio46@gmail.com with your full name and phone number.

Hospitality towards all, especially the poor, the stranger, the marginalized, and those rejected, is the essential image of God that the Lucan Jesus offers to anyone willing to listen and follow through on his message and life.

These sessions explore Luke's gospel with special attention to the need for all Christians to model themselves on the generous, welcoming, and hospitable example that Jesus incarnates throughout the gospel. Luke's Jesus continually goes out of his way to welcome the poor, the alienated and the stranger to fellowship meals, thus crossing boundaries, building community and connecting with all people.

HANGING FOLDERS IN THE BACK OF CHURCH ARE LEAVING APRIL 5TH

We no longer have the need for the household folders.

Please check your folder before **April 5** when the folders will be removed.



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.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

MARCH 10 — 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

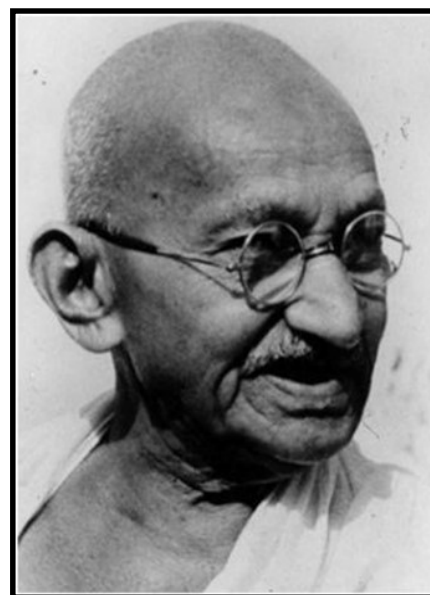
Paul speaks of Jesus's resurrection as taking away the "sting" and "victory" of death. What words of comfort do you use to those grieving over the death of a loved one?

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?

In the
midst of
darkness,
light
persists.

Mahatma
Gandhi



Jesus said, "How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye? You hypocrite! Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye."

Luke 6: 41-42