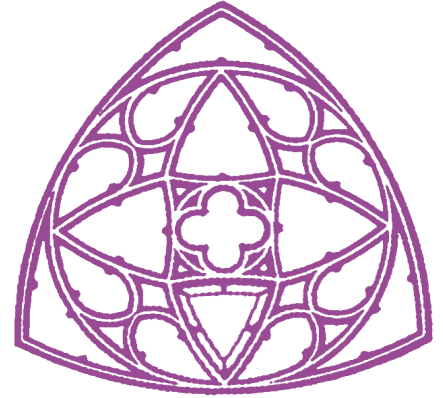


March 16, 2025

The Second Sunday of Lent

# St. James Synodal Catholic Community in Midtown

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



Join us for Mass every Sunday at 10:00 am

## 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](mailto:Parish@StJKC.org)  
Website: [www.StJKC.org](http://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 [FaithFormation@StJKC.org](mailto:FaithFormation@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 [FaithFormation@StJKC.org](mailto:FaithFormation@StJKC.org).

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

### SUNDAY, MARCH 16

ALL parents and children, including teens, who are wanting to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation (Penance) and First Eucharist, are invited to a special meeting in Marian Hall (lower level) after Mass. **We will gather information and set dates.** If you have family that lives out of town, etc., please bring your calendars. We will also have a special class together for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist (all ages). Please email Bonnie at her **new address**, [FaithFormation@stjkc.org](mailto:FaithFormation@stjkc.org), for more information.

## PARISH SYNOD MEETING THIS SUNDAY MARCH 16, AFTER MASS

Topics include:

1. Update on our search for Synodal Parish Director
2. Making our meeting space reflect our Synodal Model of Church by removing 2-3 rows of pews in the back of church so we can set up round tables for Synodal Parish meetings.

All are encouraged to attend as we continue to work together to shape the future of our parish

The meeting will be live streamed. If you can't attend and have strong feelings about this move, feel free to email [Bulletin@StJKC.org](mailto:Bulletin@StJKC.org). We want to hear from you!

## HOW DOES POPE FRANCIS DESCRIBE A SYNODAL CHURCH?

Pope Francis describes a synodal church as one that emphasizes listening, dialogue, and communal discernment. He highlights the importance of every member's participation in the decision-making process, fostering a sense of unity and shared mission. The church should be inclusive, welcoming diverse voices and experiences, and be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in its journey together. (Artificial Intelligence generated)

The Lord is my light and my  
salvation.

Psalm 27

## ST. JAMES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- 3/15 St. James Community Garden 10am-12pm  
**3/16 Parish Community/Synod Meeting after Mass**  
3/18 SFX Public Witness 4:30-5:30pm  
3/20 Save Our Buses Rally 1:00 pm  
3/21 Stations of the Cross at St. James Noon  
3/22 St. James Community Garden 10am-12pm  
3/28 Stations of the Cross at St. James Noon  
3/29 St. James Community Garden 10am-12pm  
3/30 5th Sunday Parish Luncheon after Mass  
4/4 Stations of the Cross at St. James Noon  
4/5 Clean the church for Easter 9:30 am  
4/5 St. James Garden 10am-12pm  
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  
4/12 St. James Community Garden 10am-12pm  
4/13 Palm Sunday procession at Gleed Park 10am  
4/18 Stations of the Cross along Troost 12pm  
4/19 St. James Community Garden 10am-12pm  
4/19 Easter Vigil  
**4/20 EASTER Mass 10 am**  
**4/27 Parish Community/Synod Meeting after Mass**  
5/1 Missouri March for Life—Jefferson City

## MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> LUNCHEON AFTER MASS

Every 5th Sunday, following Mass, we have lunch together. Sunday, March 30 is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. On March 30<sup>th</sup>, our neighbors living at the Oglesby Hotel (between Troost39 and Bishop Sullivan Center) will be our guests. **Sign up in the back of church** to help with set up, food prep, serving or clean up. Volunteers will set up before Mass at 9 am.



## ST. JAMES IS LOOKING FOR A FULL-TIME SYNODAL PARISH DIRECTOR

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. He calls the way of synodality "**what God expects of the church in the third millennium,**" stressing that "**the synodal process should be not an occasional experience, but one of structural change, 'where all can feel at home and participate.'**"

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.

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.

## WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



Ross Beaudoin  
Paul DeMerchant  
Theresa Maly  
Caroline Martin  
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.

ST. JAMES'  
COMMUNITY  
GARDEN WORK,  
EVERY SATURDAY  
THROUGHOUT THE  
GROWING SEASON,  
10-NOON



## LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

### 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](mailto: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 6:30pm.

## READINGS FOR MARCH 23 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**FIRST READING** — EX 3:1-8A, 13-15 God reveals to Moses that He has heard the cry of His people, and He is coming to rescue them from slavery in Egypt. What prayer do you need answered from God?

**SECOND READING** — 1 COR 10:1-6, 10-12 Paul believed the mistakes of the Israelites in the desert serve as an example and a warning of what to avoid in our journey with God. How might you show gratitude to God this upcoming week of Lent?

**GOSPEL**— LK 13:1-9 Jesus taught one must repent to bear good fruit in life. Can you think of some good fruit you have borne from repenting. Mistakes of the Israelites in the desert serve as an example and a warning of what to avoid in our journey with God. How might you show gratitude to God this upcoming week of Lent?

## CHILI DAZE UPDATE

Chili Daze was postponed due to frozen pipes, turned off water and freezing temperatures. A week later with running water, thawed out pipes and moderate temperatures, over 60 people gathered in Marian Hall for our winter gathering.

The chili contest was tasty and yielded 3 winners:

**1st place**—Victor Ashby

**2nd place**—Maria Benevenuto-Kalen

**3rd place**—Margo Shepard

Raffle winners: Pat Marin, Marcia Nicely and Michaela Meckel.

The Fundraising Committee thanks everyone who attended. Special thanks goes to the chili chefs, the cookie bakers, Dan “Mr. Jimbo” Nash, Jill Clements, Linda Rechten, Mike and Linda Art and Mary Vincent. The event raised nearly \$1,000! See you next year for more hilarious winter fun.



Photo by Chris Dewberry

## 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. Supplies will be provided.

\***Volunteer Sign up sheets are at the back of church or email [Bulletin@StJKC.org](mailto:Bulletin@StJKC.org) with your name and email.**



## JOIN SFX IN PUBLIC WITNESS TUESDAY, MARCH 18 4:30-5:30 PM

St. Francis Xavier Parish is planning a public witness to express displeasure on the direction our nation is going. Please create your own family friendly posters and join them at the corner of 51st and Troost. Bring a noise maker, such as a cow bell, to bring attention to this event. We must stand up for, and live out our beliefs. The event will conclude with a short prayer service.

## 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](http://www.StJKC.org) to complete a registration form. **We are excited to have you as part of our faith journey!**

## PARKING LOT ETIQUETTE

For security reasons, the parking lot gate is locked when not in use. On Sundays, the gate is locked at 1pm unless there is an official parish activity in the afternoon. Please do not park your car in the lot if you plan to remove it later that 1pm on Sundays. There is available parking on Harrison Street. Volunteers lock the gate after Mass and last Sunday, they waited until the last car left at 3:30. Thank you for your cooperation.

## 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.

## RALLY TO SAVE OUR BUSES!

**MAYOR Q & CITY COUNCIL:  
STOP THE CUTS!  
FUND OUR BUSES!**

AT RISK: 15+ routes & 120+ union jobs.

**Tell these people  
to do their jobs  
and fund our buses!**



As reported by KCUR, Kansas City will lose nearly half its bus routes if the city passes its proposed budget as currently written. Our bus riding neighbors, family, and friends need you to use your voice and speak out against these cuts.

There will be a rally to save the buses on **Thursday, March 20 at 1pm on the KCMO City Hall** (414 E. 12th Street) steps. We need as many people as possible to show up to this rally and tell our city loud and clear that buses are not optional! Register for more details on the rally here: [bit.ly/savekcbuses](http://bit.ly/savekcbuses).

If you are not able to make the rally, but would still like to take action, you can use the following link to email KCMO City Council asking them to fully fund our buses: [smvmt.org/stopbuscuts](http://smvmt.org/stopbuscuts). If you have any questions or would like to learn more, reach out to parishioner Michaela Meckel - [meckelmi@gmail.com](mailto:meckelmi@gmail.com).



**Equality**, or the act of treating everyone equally regardless of any particular attribute, doesn't always treat everyone justly. **Justice** is going beyond just treating everyone the same and recognizing that some people have a naturally-created or sometimes a societally-created disadvantage and thus the playing field wouldn't be level without some kind of additional mitigating advantage to balance it out.

Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." Luke 9:35