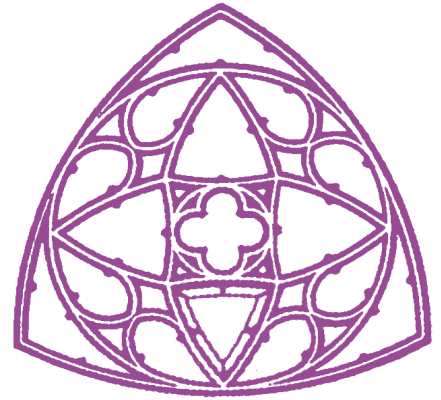


March 23, 2025
The Third Sunday of Lent
**St. James Synodal Catholic
Community in Midtown**

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
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 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.

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

Confessions arranged upon request. Email Parish@StJKC.org or call the office, 816-561-8512.

FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, March 23: Meeting for all families preparing for **First Reconciliation and First Eucharist** in Marian Hall after Mass.

Sunday, March 30: "Fifth Sunday Luncheon" in Marian Hall. Families using the "**Finding God**" series at home are invited to sit together at the Luncheon.

Sunday, April 6: After Mass, Fr. Garry will celebrate First Reconciliation to all those who are new to the Sacrament and their families only.

MARCH 30TH COMMUNITY LUNCHEON AFTER MASS

Every 5th Sunday, following Mass, we have lunch together. **Sunday, March 30 is a 5th Sunday.** On March 30th, 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.



HOLY WEEK EVENTS—ALL ARE WELCOME

April 13th—Palm Sunday Procession. Gather at Gleed Park (Harrison Parkway & Charlotte St.) at 10 a.m. (weather permitting) to bless Palms with several other local churches.

April 13th - Palm Sunday Mass begins about 10:20 or so when the procession returns from Gleed Park.

April 17th - Holy Thursday Mass at 7 pm. Our ceremony includes washing feet and hands and the Eucharistic procession at the end of mass. Adoration will follow until 9 pm.

April 18th - Good Friday Stations of the Cross on Troost, more info to follow. It starts at noon.

April 18th - Good Friday Service begins at 7 pm.

On Holy Saturday, April 19th, at 10 a.m., decorating the church and setting up the font will begin. All are invited to come and help transform our worship space for Easter.

April 19th - Holy Saturday Vigil Mass begins at 8 pm with the lighting of the Easter candle.

April 20th - Easter Sunday Mass at 10 am.

ST. JAMES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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
4/6 First Reconciliation Service after Mass
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, meet @ Gleed Park 10a
4/13 Palm Sunday Mass starts approximately 10:20am
4/17 Holy Thursday Mass 7pm
4/18 Stations of the Cross along Troost 12pm to 1pm
4/18 Good Friday Service 7pm
4/19 St. James Community Garden 10am-12pm
4/19 Saturday, Prepare the Church for Easter 10am
4/19 Easter Vigil Mass, Saturday 8pm
4/20 EASTER Mass 10 am
4/20 Children's Easter Egg Hunt after Mass
4/26 St. James Garden 10am-12pm
4/27 Parish Community/Synod Meeting after Mass
5/1 Missouri March for Life—Jefferson City

INVITE A FRIEND OR FAMILY
MEMBER TO JOIN YOU
AT EASTER MASS.

It's a great way to introduce
people to who we are.

*We are a wonderful community
making a difference in our world.*

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 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.

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.

READINGS FOR MARCH 30 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

JOSEPH 5:9A, 10-12 As Israel settled into the land of Canaan (the Promised Land), they learned God removed the “reproach” of Egypt from them and they could freely eat from the land. What have you discovered about yourself or others during this season of Lent?

SECOND READING — 2 COR 5:17-21 Paul taught that reconciliation with God and with each other was key to being a “new creation.” How often do you experience reconciliation with God or with others?

GOSPEL— LK 15:1-3, 11-32 In the parable of the Prodigal Son, in a real sense, both sons are lost. How might you help a lost family member or friend this week?

THANK YOU!

DEAR ST JAMES COMMUNITY

Journey to New Life is thrilled with the donated items from Sunday, March 16th. They were beyond our expectations and will be appreciated by those who use them. Sr. Rose McLarney

SECURING THE RECTORY

A special note of THANKS to Mike Art and Peter Hughes for making the rectory more secure, energy efficient and rodent free.

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 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 PENANCE 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.

THE ROLE OF PARISHIONERS IN A SYNODAL CHURCH

Parishioners' role in a Synodal Church is central to what it means to be Synodal. Parishioners:

Stay informed about what is happening in the parish by reading emails and bulletins.

Invest our time, talent, and treasure to further the parish's mission. Ask “How can I Help?”

Fully participate in the monthly Synod Meeting on the third Sunday of the month by sharing our thoughts and listening to others.

Support the synod's decisions. Not everyone will agree with all the decisions made at the Synods, but to move forward, members are asked to trust the Spirit as it works its way through our Synods.

ST. JAMES COMMUNITY CAMPING

St. James is getting excited to go camping on August 1-3, 2025 at Big Rock Candy Mountain Retreat in Jadwin, Missouri. This Retreat has lodging options for everyone (tents and cabins) and is located on the Ozark Scenic Riverways. There is an outdoor pool and restaurant on site and plenty of recreational options including horseback riding, kayaking, fly fishing, hiking, biking and more. Please fill out the form below if you are interested in coming. Filling out the form now helps with planning but is not an ironclad commitment. Our deposit is due by June 1, so we will be collecting money in May. Complete this form: <https://forms.gle/fMVvDC3bmAHF2LtY6> Feel free to share this information. Contact Rachel to register or for more information. Rachael Coffman - 816) 885-7718

ST. JAMES SOUND SYSTEM AND LISTENING DEVICES

We are aware of problems with the sound system and are working to correct them. In the meantime, **Assisted Listening Devices** are available at the back of the church for anyone having trouble hearing during Mass. Ask one of the ushers for assistance. Sitting closer to the speakers in the church will also help. **Members speaking at Mass are asked to speak louder and move closer to the mic.**

SUMMARY OF OUR MARCH 16TH PARISH SYNOD

We had good attendance and a good discussion. The Synod was informed of problems with the sound system (See Above Note). The parish is still collecting data regarding the actual cost of running the parish. We are also switching to a different accounting system that will allow us to provide more reports. We plan to spend the entire April 27th Synod on our budget.

We discussed the possibility of removing the three back pews of the church to make room for more space for our Synod meetings. This would allow us to sit around tables and make space for wedding receptions and funeral dinners. Rows of chairs could be set up in the back of the church for Masses as needed.

Marian Hall has been considered for updating and installing an elevator to make it more accessible to our aging population. However, we currently lack the financial resources to make these updates.

The Synod decided to delay the decision to remove the pews and encouraged members to continue praying and discussing options with others.

An update on our search for our Synodal Parish Director was shared. We had three applicants. One applicant's salary expectation was way too high. The second decided that they preferred a part-time position. The third was a very viable candidate, and we interviewed the person.

We started advertising the position in the National Catholic Reporter last week and hope this will generate more interest.

Throughout Synod, the discussion was lively, and many good points surfaced.

This is what a Synodal Parish looks like. Thanks to everyone who participated.

PUTTING OUR BEST FOOT FORWARD FOR EASTER

At Easter and Christmas Masses, our community nearly doubles in size. This is an excellent opportunity to show potential new members the wonderful community we are and how much we love our parish. What visitors experience may influence their choice of parish in the future. **Everyone has a role to play in building this Synodal Church and growing our membership. One way to help St. James grow is by participating in our "Clean Our Church Day."**

***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.**

***Cleaning supplies will be provided. Bring your gloves.**

***Volunteer sign-up sheets** are at the back of the church, or you can email Bulletin@StJKC.org with your name and phone number.

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.

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.

We are excited to have you as part of our faith journey!