THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

ST. JAMES

SYNODAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY MIDTOWN

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

Join Us for Mass

Every Sunday at 10 AM

Sacraments

Sacramental Minister:
Fr. Garry Richmeier C.PP.S.
garrycpps@gmail.com

Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist & Confirmation:
Contact Bonnie Haghirian,
faithformation@stjkc.org

Rite of Christian Initiation in the Catholic Church:
(Adult Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation & Confirmation) takes place as needed.
Contact Bonnie Haghirian at
faithformation@stjkc.org.

Marriage:
Contact Phyllis McCarty,
Marriage Coordinator
phyllisamccarty@gmail.com
(at least 9 months prior to wedding date)

Confession: Upon request
Email Fr. Don Farnan - FrDon@stjkc.org
OR Fr. Garry Richmeier -
garrycpps@gmail.com

"We are a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges and encourages dialogue, a Church ever open to welcoming, like this [St. Peter's] Square with its open arms, all those who are in need of our charity, our presence, our readiness to dialogue and our love." - Pope Leo XIV

The Crown of Thorns

Our Lenten Crown of Thorns decoration in the center of church carries in some symbols of our faith journey. Around the metal form is a band of grapevine reminding us that Christ is the vine and we are the branches. Then there are many locust branches which have large thorns to remind us of the hardships we sometimes encounter in living out our faith. Finally, there is a band of barbed wire to link us to the detention camps and refugee camps where some of the Body of Christ suffer today. We pray we may join with all other Christians to bring about a more redeemed world.

March Pantry Sunday

March 1st is Pantry Sunday. Bishop Sullivan requests the following items:

- Bar soap & dish soap
- Tooth paste & tooth brushes
- Laundry detergent
- Tampons and sanitary napkins

Thank you for your generous support.

Crosses for Lent

After Mass there will be materials in the back of church if you would like to make a small wooden cross to carry with you during Lent.

Welcome to St. James

We are a warm, inviting community rooted in the inclusive love of Jesus—who broke down barriers, showed compassion, and invited everyone to the table. Here you'll find open hearts, meaningful worship, and opportunities to live out justice and kindness.

Reach out to our friendly staff at ParishStaff@StJKC.org, or head to www.StJKC.org to fill out a registration form. We can't wait to walk this faith journey with you!

Chili Daze Winners

Our winter chili fundraiser was held on Saturday, February 7th. Sixteen people entered the chili contest and wowed the judges with difficult but delicious decisions. Congrats to winners: Sister Rose, Sandy McGuire, and Diane Etzel-Wise.

We raised $532 that will be used to up-grade the live streaming equipment. We ate great food, played rousing games of JIMBO with fabulous prizes, and laughed a lot. We will see you next February for CHILI DAZE!!!!

St. James Synod Update

Our Parish Synod has been busy! Over the last two gatherings, parishioners have shared creative ideas and thoughtful insights on six key areas: Outreach & Christian Ministry, Communications, Financial Stability, Buildings & Grounds, Parish Growth, and Faith Formation.

Each meeting has brought together 35–40 engaged parishioners, and the energy has been fantastic. We'll be sharing more details soon.

The Synod meets every third Sunday after Mass, and everyone is encouraged to join the conversation. Our next meeting is March 15th. Come help shape the future of St. James.

Lent Fish Fries

Here are some local fish fries happening during Lent. Get some friends together and go enjoy some fellowship this season. Check your Friday email for more.

- St. Therese Little Flower 2/20, 2/27, & 3/6 from 11am-6pm
- Holy Spirit, Lee's Summit: February 20 & 27 and March 13 & 20 from 5-7pm
- St. Elizabeth, Kansas City: Feb. 20 & March 6 from 5-8pm
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Kansas City: Fridays, February 20 – March 27 from 5-7:30pm

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026,

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading - Genesis 12:1-4a God calls Abram to leave his country and family for an unknown land, promising to make him a great nation and blessing to all peoples. Abram obeys in faith.
Reflection Question: What might God be asking you to step away from in order to trust Him more fully and follow where He leads?

Second Reading - 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 Paul the Apostle urges Timothy to share in suffering for the gospel, remembering that God saved and called believers by His grace in Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light.
Reflection Question: How can remembering that your calling and salvation are rooted in God's grace through Christ give you courage to endure hardship for the gospel?

Gospel - Matthew 17:1-9 Jesus is transfigured before Peter, James, and John on a high mountain, revealing His divine glory as Moses and Elijah appear and God the Father declares Jesus His beloved Son, commanding the disciples to listen to Him.
Reflection Question: How does seeing Jesus revealed in glory challenge you to listen to Him more closely and trust Him more fully in your daily life?

Putting Our Best Foot Forward!

Our own Ann Bode has been quietly doing superhero work every Sunday morning to make sure our campus looks clean, cared for, and welcoming before Mass. Now, she's looking for one or two friendly helpers to join her! A tidy campus doesn't just look nice — it sends a message to our neighbors and

to potential new parishioners: "We take pride in this place, and we're glad you're here."

If you can spare a little time on Sunday mornings and want to make a big impact, Ann would love your help. The goal is simple: Campus clean by 9:45 AM. To volunteer, contact Ann at:

📞 816-561-1730 (home) 📱 816-405-0770 (cell)

And a huge shout-out to Ann for her dedication and joyful service. She's been keeping our grounds looking great week after week!

ST. JAMES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FEBRUARY/MARCH

2/22 First Sunday of Lent
2/22 Rite of Recognition during Mass and Confirmation Class after Mass
3/1 Pantry Sunday
3/1 First Reconciliation lesson and practice
3/3 Harvesters Volunteer Day
3/7 Confirmation Lit. at Immaculate Conception
3/8 Hospitality Sunday

MARCH/APRIL

3/15 Parish Wide Synod Meeting After Mass
3/22 Youth Easter Prep Activity
3/28 No Kings Rally
3/29 Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
3/29 St. Carlo Acutis exhibit at Sion Lower School
4/5 Easter & Easter Egg hunt after Mass
4/12 First Communion celebration and cookie reception after Mass

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

The husband and family of Martha Agnew, Cindy McKay Basolo, Barb Doak, Tom Dux, Cindy Etzel Swoboda, Fr. Don Farnan, Michael Heringer, June Johnson, Laverne Johnson, Theresa Maly, Caroline Martin, Amie Miller, Judith Reed, Eric Sitterley, Sean Shaughnessy, Karen Snedden, JoAnne Somerville, & Steve Wallace.

If you or someone you know needs prayers please send their names to Bulletin@StJKC.org

Holy Thursday Help at STLF

For our Holy Thursday service, there will be an Altar of Repose in the basement hall of St. Therese Little Flower. We would like to have a couple of people from St. James help put this altar together. The assembly will be at 1pm on Wednesday, April 1st. If you can help with this, please let Bob Anderson know – banderson49@yahoo.com or 913-205-8024.

Tri-Parish News

St. Therese Little Flower has a Dance Ministry which will be assisting in the liturgies for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. They will assist with the washing of feet on Holy Thursday, the unveiling of the cross on Good Friday, and help provide a communion meditation on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Their rehearsals will be on 2/15, 3/1, and 3/15 following the 9am mass (about 10:30am). There will be other rehearsals as needed.

If you would like to join this ministry for Holy Week, let Estelle Tunley know at etunley@stlfkc.org. For the rehearsals you just need comfortable shoes and comfortable clothes that you can easily move in.

Catholic Charities

There will be a second collection this Sunday for the Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Appeal. Please consider supporting this Diocesn effort to help those in urgent need.

ST. JAMES CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Don Farnan, frdon@stjkc.org

Sacramental Minister: Fr. Garry Richmeier, C.PP.S. garrycpps@gmail.com

Synodal Parish Director: Diane Etzel-Wise parishstaff@stjkc.org

Parish Office: 816-561-8512
Hours: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Monday-Friday
Email: parishstaff@stjkc.org

St. James Catholic Church
www.stjkc.org

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P.O. Box 30388,
Kansas City, MO 64112

Street Address:
3909 Harrison St.
Kansas City, MO 64110

FACEBOOK
@stjamesmidtown

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 1.800.392.3738 (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 at ombudsman@ombudsmankcsj.org or 816-213-6024.
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 816-714-2357 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.