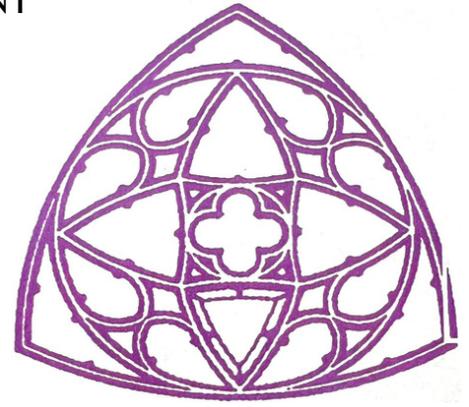


THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

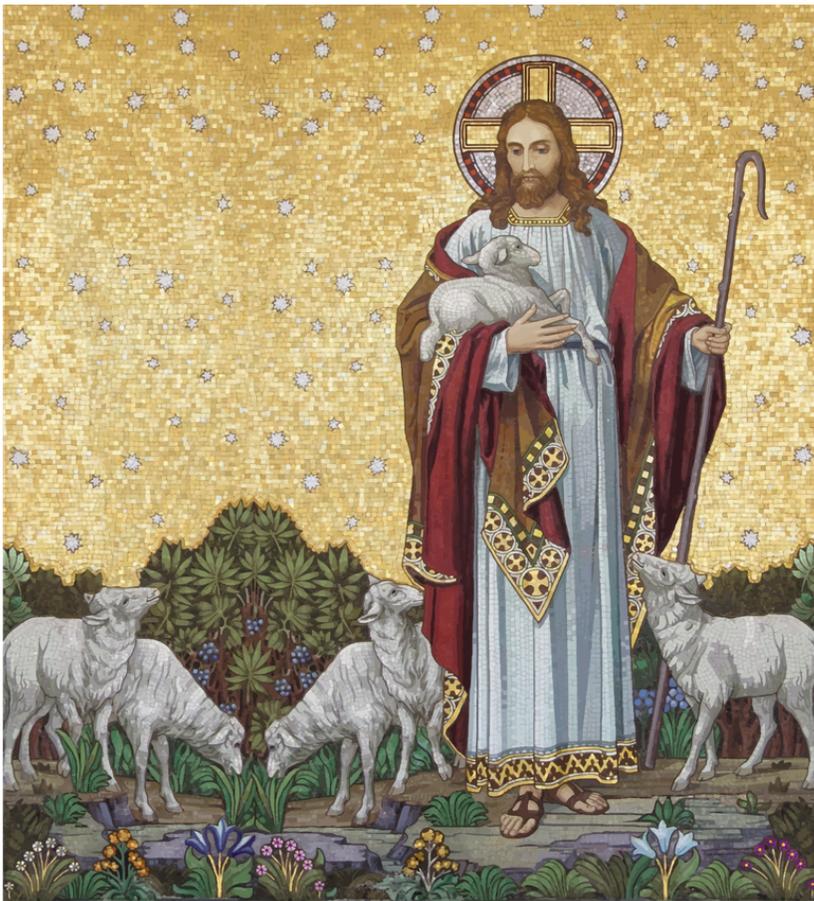
ST. JAMES

SYNODAL CATHOLIC

COMMUNITY MIDTOWN



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



The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
beside restful waters he leads me;
he refreshes my soul.
Psalm 23:1

Join Us for Mass

Every Sunday at 10 AM

Sacraments

Sacramental Minister:

Fr. Garry Richmeier C.P.P.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



Easter Candy Donations Needed

St. James teens need your help with donations of bags of small wrapped candy and plastic eggs for the Easter Egg hunt.

Donations accepted through March 22nd. Baskets for donations will be available at the doors of church.

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 March 13 & 20 from 11am-6pm
- Holy Spirit, Lee's Summit: March 13 & 20 from 5-7pm
- Holy Cross, KC: March 6 & 20 4:30-7:30pm
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Kansas City: Fridays, February 20 – March 27 from 5-7:30pm
- Curé of Ars, Leawood, KS: Every Friday, until March 27 from 5-7pm



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!



Lenten Prayers

For an additional Lenten activity, please consider joining Parish staff and volunteers in the church at 1:00 pm on the following Tuesdays for quiet reflection time and prayer: March 17, 24, and 31. Please enter through the south door.

MEETING

Join Us for Our Monthly Synodal Gathering – Right After Mass Today.

All parishioners are warmly invited to stay after Mass for our monthly Synodal Gathering. This month we'll continue our conversation on two important topics shaping our future as a parish:

- The Cathedral of the Streets – exploring how we serve and accompany our neighbors with dignity and compassion
- Our ongoing journey toward becoming a fully synodal parish – listening, discerning, and walking together in mission

Your voice matters. Your presence strengthens our community. Please join us as we continue building a parish rooted in communion, participation, and mission.

Learning Lesson today after Mass and Banner Making in Marian Hall for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist candidates.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026, FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



First Reading - Ezekiel 37:12-14 God promises to open the graves of His people, restore them to their land, and put His Spirit within them so they may live again.

Reflection Question: Where in your life do you need to trust that God can bring new life and hope to what feels lifeless or lost?

Second Reading - Romans 8:8-11 Paul teaches that those who live according to the Spirit belong to Christ, and the same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead now dwells in believers and gives them life.

Reflection Question: How can you allow the Spirit of God living within you to guide your daily choices and bring new life to your faith?

Gospel - John 11:1-45 Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead, revealing His power over death and strengthening the faith of many who witness the miracle.

Reflection Question: What does Jesus' power over death invite you to believe about His ability to bring hope and new life into your most difficult situations?



Big Spring Clean-up

Help clean our Church space in time for Easter! Cleaning day is scheduled for Saturday Morning, March 28 from 9-noon. Please plan to show up ready to make everything sparkle! Pastries, fruit, and coffee/ tea will be waiting for you!

Email Alert from Fr. Don

Someone is sending spam email pretending to be Father Don. Do not respond to any email address other than frdon@stjkc.org, which is Fr. Don's correct email address.



Mass Attendance

3/8/26 Attendance

126 In-Person, 8 Online*

2026 Average Attendance

125 In-Person, 10 Online*

7/1/25 thru 3/8/26 Average

130 In-Person, 8 Online*

*Note: Online does not include later YouTube views.



ST. JAMES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MARCH

- 3/15 Parish Wide Synod Meeting After Mass
- 3/15 Banner Making for First Communion
- 3/21 Garden Team @ 10 AM
- 3/22 Youth Easter Prep Activity after Mass
- 3/22 First Reconciliation and practice for First Communion after Mass
- 3/28 Garden Team @ 10 AM
- 3/28 No Kings Rally
- 3/28 Ben Bautista's Confirmation at the Cathedral
- 3/29 Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

APRIL

- 3/29 St. Carlo Acutis exhibit at Sion Lower School
- 4/4 Garden Team at 10 AM
- 4/5 Easter Sunday & Easter Egg hunt after Mass
- 4/5 Pantry Sunday
- 4/7 Harvesters Volunteer Tuesday
- 4/12 First Communion and Baptism Sunday; cookie reception after Mass
- 4/12 Hospitality Sunday
- 4/19 Parish Wide Synod Meeting after Mass
- 4/26 Faith Formation after Mass with Renee' Roosa



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, Noella McCray, Amie Miller, Judith Reed, Eric Sitterley, Sean Shaughnessy, Karen Snedden, & Steve Wallace.

Father Garry's brother, Greg, died on March 10 and Garry was able to concelebrate at his funeral Mass in Great Bend on Thursday, March 12. Please lift up Father Garry and his family in your prayers.

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

Funeral Service for Sharon Payne

The funeral for Sharon Payne, a long time member of St. James and friend to Journey to New Life, will be held on Saturday, March 21. Visitation is at 11, funeral Mass at 12 and light refreshments will be served immediately afterwards. Please plan to attend in Sharon's honor.

Easter Mass Parking

Easter Sunday is a joyful day when we welcome many friends, family members, and neighbors to celebrate with us. To help us offer the warmest hospitality possible, we invite parishioners who are able, to park on the surrounding streets. This simple act makes room in our parking lot for visitors and newcomers, and helps them feel truly welcomed on this wonderful feast.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



Judith Reed is in need of a vehicle and/or transportation resources. Please call the Parish house with any leads for Judith.



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

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 30388,
Kansas City, MO 64112

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

FACEBOOK
[@stjamesmidtown](https://www.facebook.com/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.

A Letter from Dzung's Family

Dear St. James Family,

We are a young Vietnamese family who recently joined St. James. Our family includes Dzung, Loan, and our three children, Keily (6 yo), Tony (2 yo), and our new baby girl Nhi (born 3/7/26). Dzung joined the choir in August 2025 after he arrived in Kansas City to go to graduate school at UMKC. With the help of your Immigration Committee, Loan, Keily and Tony were able to join Dzung in Kansas City in November 2025 and become part of the parish as well.

When we first arrived in Kansas City, life felt very uncertain. We had no relatives and no friends nearby, and everything around us was new. Being so far from home and in a different country is not easy. Things slowly became easier after we started meeting people at St. James. So many of you have helped our family adjust to our new life. The choir led by Robert Basolo has been a place where Dzung feels welcomed and at ease, and where music brings joy in the middle of everyday life. Bob and Connie Anderson and Marilyn Mahoney kindly drove us to Mass every week (and still do!) and helped our family with many of the practical things we

needed as we were getting settled. Bonnie and Chris D. helped Loan and the children become part of the children's liturgy. Linda, Vivian, Patrick, Jill, and Sally, as catechism teachers, and the children who participate opened their arms to help Keily and Tony adjust quickly. For Keily and Tony who are still growing in language and social skills, having a place to learn and talk with others has meant a lot to us. At the Ash Wednesday Mass, Tony felt confident to say "Hello!" to Father Garry. Moments like that show how comfortable our family has begun to feel here.

On the First Sunday of Lent, you organized the Baby Shower for our family as we prepared to welcome our third child. We were deeply touched. Even before the gathering itself, seeing people busily preparing for the celebration meant a great deal to us. In Vietnam we do not have this tradition, so it was a completely new experience for our family. Your kind words and thoughtful gifts mean a lot to us, and they help ease some of the financial pressure our family is facing during this time. We are so deeply grateful to all of you. After the shower, many people such as Marilyn, Bonnie, Martha, Michaela, Linda, Mike, Peter, Jill, Mindy and others have continued to check on us,

looking for resources that will help our family, planning meals for Loan now that the baby is home. Sometimes we say to each other that you care for us the way parents would care for their children. Our parents in Vietnam, who live on the other side of the globe, feel at peace knowing that our family is surrounded by such kindness. Thank you to Father Garry, the choir, the Immigration Committee, the children's liturgy teachers, and all the members of the parish who have welcomed our family and helped us along the way. So many of you have helped us in big and small ways, all of which have helped us adjust to our new life in Kansas City. If we have not mentioned every name here, please know that we are so grateful to all of you. We wish everyone a meaningful Lenten season.

With gratitude,
Dzung, Loan, Keily, Tony, and
our new baby girl Nhi



Catholic Relief Services

Reveal Christ's love to victims of wars and natural disasters throughout the world. Please support the Catholic Relief Services Collection this coming Sunday, March 15. Envelopes available at Mass."