Wishing you a blessed Mothers Day

This weekend, be sure to pick up a carnation for your mom!

In honor of mothers, the Respect Life Committee will sell carnations at the end of each Mass during Mother’s Day weekend. They ask for a $1 donation per flower. All proceeds go to Missouri Right to Life, to be used primarily for educational outreach.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

All volunteers working with minors or vulnerable adults are required to:
- Attend a Protecting God’s Children workshop
- Attend a mandated reporter training
- Submit to a background check
- Read the online Policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry

For more Safe Environment information, including reporting and victim resources, see page 10.

Tomorrow’s Priests Collection
MAY 20-21
SEE P4
Faithful People of Saint Thomas More,

On this Mother’s Day weekend, a resounding THANK YOU to all of our mothers whose sacrifices often go unsung. Know that our community appreciates the invaluable ways in which you nurture life! Our STM Respect Life Committee has carnations available for a $1 donation this weekend, to show our love for the maternal figures in our lives, and to help support educational outreach.

I want to thank all of those who helped hold our welcome receptions at last weekend’s Masses. Along with those named last week, I want to also acknowledge Michele Kerwin, Tina Gaughan, Bob & Patricia Thedinger, Lisa Kist, Virginia Sbisa and Erin Reeves, who helped provide for those receptions. We continue to welcome parishioners from Saint Catherine’s this week, asking all of our attendees to wear name tags at the weekend Masses throughout May.

This year was the first year of implementation, of the MO Scholars program and it brought in $51,000 in scholarship funding to the school. We already have an additional six students who are eligible to receive scholarship dollars at STM for 2023-24. I encourage parishioners to attend one of the presentations in More Hall following the 4PM, 9AM or 11AM Masses next weekend to find out how they can make contributions toward this program. See page 4 for more information.

We are heading into the last week of school at STM! May our students and staff finish strong in this home stretch of activities...

Next Friday begins the Novena to the Holy Spirit, the oldest novena in the Christian tradition. The novena can be found on our feature pages (7-8) this week.

Next weekend there is an annual collection for the Tomorrow’s Priest fund, supporting seminarian education. The timing is good, as we will welcome our summer seminarian - Nick Jones - to our parish next weekend too!

Father Justin

P.S. A reminder that the Ascension is celebrated here - as it is in nearly every diocese in the United States - next weekend, May 20-21st. This upcoming Thursday, the 6th Thursday in the Easter Season, is not a holy day of obligation.

The Light is On for You
Confessions are offered in the reconciliation room.
Saturdays, 7:15-8am and 3-3:45pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays*, 5-6pm
and by appointment
*Confession time on Thursday, May 11 will conclude at 5:30pm due to graduation.

Church Hours for Private Prayer
Monday-Friday, 6am-6pm
Saturdays: 7am-5pm; Sundays: 7am-9pm

Pray the Rosary with Others
Sundays, after 9am Mass
Join with the Knights of Columbus in prayer.
Monday-Saturday, after the 8:15am Mass
All are welcome to pray the rosary with others in the Chapel. Fatima devotion is also celebrated on First Saturdays.

Faithful People of Saint Thomas More,
**Eucharistic Exposition at STM**

**Sundays, Noon-9pm in the Church**

Regular time spent with the Lord in Adoration can be life changing!

**Go out of your way.** How can you make Adoration a regular part of your weekly rhythm of prayer? It may mean sacrificing other things, such as time online or watching TV. Start searching for more opportunities to sacrifice other things for that prayer time with Jesus—and watch how he blesses you.

**Fresh Fire Fridays - Last one for the spring series**

**May 12, 7-9pm**

"I have come to set the earth on fire, and wish it were already blazing!" Luke 12:49.

Looking for a wonderful experience of prayer with others? These evenings are beautiful nights of candlelit Eucharistic Adoration with praise and worship music and personal testimonies. Prayer teams are also available to pray with those in need. Come to experience the power of Jesus’ healing presence.

**May Prayer Intentions**

**Pope Francis:** We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

**Bishop Johnston:** For vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life, for our diocese and for the entire Church.

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**Contact the Parish Office, Bulletin@STMKC.com or 942-2492 x202, to add or remove names from the prayer list. If your name is dropped off and you are in need of additional prayers for healing, contact the Parish Office. Names appear every other week.**

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**Care & Support**

**Grief Support Group**

**Third Saturdays (May 20), after the 8am Mass**

The Bereavement Ministry at Cure’ of Ars is hosting this meeting in the Father Burak room in the church building. Cure’ of Ars is located at 9405 Mission Rd, Leawood, KS. For more information, call 913-649-2026.

**Saint Regis Mental Health Ministry**

**Monday, May 22, 7pm**

In partnership with Catholic Charities of Kansas City–St. Joseph, Saint Regis is kicking off their parish-based mental health ministry this May! Chris Ellman, MSW, LCSW, SATP, CSAT from the Center for Healing will present “Your Story Matters: Addiction, Trauma, and Community.” Saint Regis is located at 8941 James A. Reed Rd, KCMP 64138. All are welcome to attend!

**Retrouvaille**

**June 9-11 (Friday-Sunday)**

For marriages in crisis, Retrouvaille has a proven track record of 80% success rate among couples who attend the weekend program and all twelve post sessions. Couples will find help and hope for their marriages during the weekend and the follow-up post sessions. Call 816-505-0510 or email 2017@retrouvaille.org for more information.

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**Please hold in prayer**

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**...our family and friends in the military:**

Nick Alder
Drew Belzer

J.D. Corless
Mike Dean

Logan Effertz
Luke Jokerst

Jonathan Kennaley
Zach Love

Patrick Rogers
Christopher Yates

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**...our parishioners who are sick:**

Josephine Badale
Victor Caruso
Debbie Crawford

Donna Effertz
Mike Gaines
Gene Grillot

Carol Haggerty
Larry LeFebvre
Mary Robinson

Cathy Terwelp
Karen Tritt
Leonardo Viril

Joan Ward
Bill Young

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**...our family and friends who are sick:**

James Adams
Emma Beaver
Jamie Bird

Lucy Briden
Scott Carson
Theresa Finter

Everly Krurek
Gene Lawrence
Jeanette Martinez

Walt Shipley
Vivien Marielle Tafuro

Katherine Willis
Fr. Ed Wills

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**...our family and friends who have died:**

Larry Ward

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**COLOR KEY: STM/STM AFFILIATED  DIOCESAN  SCHOOL  OTHER**

**MAY 15, 2023 BULLETIN**
Memorial Day Commemorative Masses
Monday, May 29, 10am at Catholic Cemeteries
Masses will be held at Mount Saint Mary’s, Resurrection, and Mount Olivet in Kansas City. All are welcome!
Staff will be on hand to help locate graves and answer inquiries. Experienced family service counselors will also be available to discuss pre-planning.
For more info regarding these cemeteries, call 816-353-1900 or email momarkers@cemeterieskcsj.org.

Turning Point Programs for People with Serious Illness
Turning Point educates and supports individuals, families and friends living with a wide variety of serious or chronic physical illnesses. Through classes, activities, and education, Turning Point helps participants increase resilience so they may live life to the fullest, even while experiencing chronic disease. Brochures for May-June that list their upcoming programs can be found in the magazine rack at the north end of the narthex.

Stewardship
Altar Server Training: Entering 4th grade and up
Saturday, May 20, 9:15am in the Church
This training is for new prospects as well as current servers who’d like a refresher course. If you’d like to attend the session, please email frkleine@stmkc.com.

Learn about the MO Scholars K-12 Scholarship Program
May 20-21, after 4pm, 9am, & 11am Masses
It’s no secret that one of the keys to a dynamic and growing parish is a dynamic and successful school. In 2021, the Missouri General Assembly established the MOScholars program, a program that provides scholarships of up to $6,375 per student for children to attend Catholic and other private schools. Already, 8 students at Saint Thomas More School have been awarded this scholarship, and our hope is that many more will apply as it grows.
Join the STM Stewardship Committee to learn more about this program. Jeremy Lillig, the Executive Director of Stewardship & Development for the diocese, will be on hand to discuss:
- Student eligibility for the MOScholars scholarship
- The process involved in applying for the MOScholars scholarship
- How you can support this program at no cost to you when you file your Missouri tax return

This event will be particularly helpful for:
- families with young children who will be enrolling at STM school in the coming years
- parishioners who pay taxes to the State of Missouri but would prefer their tax dollars be put toward this program instead of the state’s general fund.

Refresments will be provided, so RSVPs are preferred (but not required), simply for the purpose of having enough food on hand. Call Mary at the Parish Office, 816-942-2492 or email information@stmkc.com.

Join the STM Green Team for a Walk at Jerry Smith Park
Sunday, May 21; begin with prayer at 5pm
The Green Team invites you to celebrate the beginning of Laudato Si’ Week (May 21-28). Laudato Si’ Week commemorates the release in 2015 of the encyclical by Pope Francis in which he called Catholics and all people

Texas Hold ‘em Poker Tournament
Saint Thomas More Knights of Columbus Council 14270 presents
FRIDAY, MAY 19, IN MORE HALL
All men and women are invited to this charity poker tournament!
Register at 7pm; play at 7:30. Pre-register for $30; walk-ins are $35.
Cash Prizes - $300 First Place, $200 Second, $100 Third.
To register, text 816-213-9375 or email kcmarkus@sbcglobal.net.
of the world to care for the earth and the poor.

The park is a hidden gem in south KCMO, located at 139th and Prospect. A 1.36 mile crushed limestone trail winds its way through native prairie and wildflowers. You may want to bring binoculars to do some bird-watching. In case of rain, the walk will be cancelled. For more information, contact David Butel at 816-942-2492 x210 or dbutel@stmkc.com.

Garage Sale at Former Saint Catherine’s Campus
June 2-3 (Friday-Saturday), 9am-5pm
Come for the final sale. Everything must go!

Looking to share your talent?
Have you found your niche at STM? Do you love to read or have a deep love of the Eucharist? STM needs Readers (Lectors) and Eucharistic Ministers (Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion) at all the Sunday Masses. Both of these ministries require attendance at a one-time, two-hour training workshop provided by the diocese and then a quick session with Father Justin before serving at the Mass you normally attend.

Training Sessions
• Reader training: Monday, June 5, 6:30-8:30pm
• EM training: Thursday, June 8, 6:30-8:30pm
Both will be held at Saint Peter’s Church, 701 E. Meyer Blvd., KCMO. The parish pays your registration fee.

For more information and/or to sign up, see our Liturgy Coordinator, Sharon Arnett, in the narthex on Sunday or email sharon@stmkc.com.

Join Father Justin in Serving Breakfast to the Homeless
Monday, June 12, 6:30-8:30am
Morning Glory Ministries in Downtown KCMO is re-opening this week, moving from the Cathedral to the Catholic Center and expanding service from 4 to 5 days a week. Father Justin will lead a band of STM volunteers to serve breakfast to the hungry. Open to those 18+ (or 16-17 with a parent). Ten are needed for the morning. To join, or for details, contact Father Justin.

Volunteer Opportunities
Catholic Charities needs volunteers at their south Kansas City food pantry, 8001 Longview Road, KCMO 64134. Shifts are flexible between 8:30am-5:30pm, Monday-Thursday. For more information, contact volunteers@ccharities.com.

Bishop Sullivan Center needs volunteers to help with food pantry assistance, food pick-up, community kitchen and light maintenance. Most volunteer positions are perfect for individuals, couples or groups. If interested, please email hannah.brockway@bishopsullivan.org or call 816-442-7272.

Looking for a job that provides a living wage?
Catholic Charities has launched New Hope Staffing. New Hope Staffing matches individuals needing stable, career-path employment with employers who are building their workforce. Visit newhopestaffing.org or email newhopestaffing@ccharities.com to get started!

Prayer Blankets Thank you to the fourteen people who helped make prayer blankets on Tuesday, May 2. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship and nine more prayer blankets were made, one of which was given to a parishioner the very next day.

April Financials
Regular - $234,873.41    Plate - $4,632.25
Facilities - $3,301.00    HVAC - $12,500.00
Education Fund - $476.00    School - $3,219.85
Holy Land - $300.00

Thank you for your continued contributions!

One Family Restored in Christ, Equipped for Mission
Growing God’s Family
Activating our baptismal call to holiness and being disciple makers

You don’t want to miss out on being a More Friend!
(for parishioners 55+ years)
Questions? Contact Beth Sullivan. (Contact info is in the parish directory, available in the narthex.)
Mass, Rosary, Breakfast and Q & A with Father Justin Saturday, May 13, 8:15am Mass and after, More Hall
Always interesting! This event will be complimentary to those who join More Friends before this event.

It’s Membership time again!
Dues are $10/member for the year and may be mailed to, or dropped off at, the Parish Office. Please include name(s), phone number(s) and email address(es).
What will the future hold for More Friends?
Many minds and hearts are working on some projects for More Friends events. Possibilities include:

- **Local Events:** bingo, Wornall/Majors House Museum, New Theatre Restaurant, Powell Gardens, Royals baseball game, Truman Library, Truman Farm and Home, Master Gardeners presentation, casino trip, trivia.
- **Trips:** Warm Springs Ranch, Crystal Bridges in Bentonville AR, Perryville MO National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.
- **Popular Annual Events:** Octoberfest, Friendsgiving, Christmas party

A Special Welcome to Saint Catherine's parishioners to join the community of More Friends is currently being brainstormed by the best!

**Last Mystagogy Session**
**Tuesday, May 16, 6:15-7:30pm in More Hall**
Following their entrance into the Church at Easter, the Church offers a period of "Mystagogy" (Greek for "mystery"), accompanying participants as they deepen their appreciation for life in the Body of Christ. The last session will cover: Spiritual Direction and Accompaniment. Any parishioner is welcome to join.

**Red Bridge Food Pantry**
**Third Saturdays (May 20), 9-11am**
The First Baptist Church, located at the corner of Red Bridge and Wornall Roads, is the location of the Red Bridge Food Pantry. If finances are tight and you need help with food, call 816-908-7800 to set up an appointment. You must bring a current utility bill when you pick up the food. A portion of our monthly food drive goes to this food pantry to help feed those who are food insecure in south Kansas City.

**All Women Welcome!**
**Tuesday, May 30, at 6pm**
All women are invited to attend the final Women of STM social and spiritual event to celebrate and honor our Blessed Mother, Mary. We will meet on the deck of Maris Haster’s home to pray the Rosary, followed by a 6:45pm social and a presentation by Jill Winters.

Please park in front and come in the front door. You may bring wine or beverage of your choice and an appetizer or dessert. If you wish to pray the Rosary in front of the Mary Garden, you may want to bring a lawn chair, otherwise not needed. If inclement weather, the gathering will move indoors. Questions or need the address? Please call or text Maris at 816-286-0405.

**Acts of the Apostles Scripture Study**
**Wednesdays (May 31-August 2), 6-7pm, More Hall**
Study materials provided. Bring your own Bible, option-al. Email yvonne0557@att.net or text 913-271-1222 for more details. Yvonne began as a group facilitator of Acts of the Apostles in 1990, has taught grades 5-8, served as president of the SEKC Serra Club, and facilitated online Zoom scripture studies from COVID to the present.

**Laudato Si’ & the Catholic Church Conference**
This is a biennial conference to equip and inspire Catholics to more deeply integrate Laudato Si’ and its climate change teaching into the U.S. Catholic Church. Throughout June and July, the series will host 90-minute virtual sessions on the goals of the Vatican’s Laduato Si’ Action Platform. Each session will feature a scholar to describe the goal, a practitioner who outlines their work to achieve the goal and a moderated Q&A. Visit creighton.edu/catholicclimate for details and to register.

**City On A Hill (COAH) Young Adult Events**
Visit kansascityonahill.org for more info. Click on Get Involved to sign up for The Loop, a weekly email with current info. Email: connectevents@kansascityonahill.org

*ConnectKC: Come ’n Craft - Last one for spring!*
**Monday, May 15, 6:30-8pm**
RSVP, then meet at the Faustina Building, 500 W 40th St, KCMO 64111.

**Tuesdays at the Boulevard**
**Tuesday, May 16, 6:30-10:30pm**
Attend 6:30pm Mass at Sacred Heart Guadalupe Church. Doors open for confessions at 5:30. After Mass, head across the parking lot to Boulevard Brewery. The cost is $15 at the door (cash or card) for pizza and drinks; GF, DF and veggie options will be available.

*ConnectKC: Board Games and Brews*
**Thursday, May 18, 7-9pm**
Meet at River Bluff Brewing but please RSVP.

*RSVP at connect@cityonahill.org.*

**Parish Calendar of Events**
**Thu., May 11 - Knights of Columbus mtg., 7:15pm**
Fri., May 12 - Fresh Fire 7-9pm, Church
Sat., May 13 - More Friends: Breakfast & Discussion
Sun., May 14 - Mothers’ Day Carnations sold by Respect Life to honor moms!
**Tue., May 16 - RCIA/Mystagogy, 6:15-7:30pm**
Wed., May 17 - Cooking for Uplift, 1:30-3pm
**Thu., May 18 - Guatemala Action Group mtg., 6pm**
Fri., May 19 - Knights’ Poker Tournament, 7-11pm
Sat., May 20 - Server Training, 9:15am, Church
Sat.-Sun., May 20-21 - MO Scholars Presentation, after 4pm, 9am & 11am Masses
**Sun., May 21 - Tomorrow’s Priests Vocation Fund**
**Mon., May 22 - Living Waters, 7-9:30pm, More Hall**
**Tue., May 23 - Respect Life mtg., 5-6:30pm, More Hall**
The novena honor of the Holy Spirit is the oldest of all novenas since it was first made at the direction of Our Lord Himself when He sent His apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost. It is still the only novena officially prescribed by the Church. Addressed to the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, it is a powerful plea for the light and strength and love so sorely needed by every Christian.

ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
(Recited daily during the Novena)
On my knees, before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses, I offer myself, soul and body to You, Eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of Your purity, the unerring keenness of Your justice, and the might of Your love. You are the Strength and Light of my soul. In You I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve You by unfaithfulness to grace and pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against You. Mercifully guard every thought and grant that I may always watch for Your light, listen to Your voice, and follow Your gracious inspirations. I cling to You and give myself to You and ask You, by Your compassion, to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced Feet of Jesus, looking at His Five Wounds, trusting in His Precious Blood and adoring His opened Side and stricken Heart, I implore You, Adorable Spirit, Helper of my infirmity, to keep me in Your grace that I may never sin against You. Give me grace O Holy Spirit, Spirit of the Father and the Son, to say to You always and everywhere, “Speak Lord for Your servant heareth.” Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
(Recited daily during the Novena)
O Lord Jesus Christ Who, before ascending into heaven did promise to send the Holy Spirit to finish Your work in the souls of Your Apostles and Disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me that He may perfect in my soul, the work of Your grace and Your love. Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal, the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind with the light of Your divine truth, the Spirit on Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining heaven, the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with You and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation, the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints, the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable, and the Spirit of Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord with the sign of Your true disciples, and animate me in all things with Your Spirit. Amen.

The Novena begins on the day after the Solemnity of the Ascension, Friday of the 6th Week of Easter, even if the Solemnity of the Ascension is transferred to the 7th Sunday.

FIRST DAY
FRIDAY AFTER ASCENSION OR FRIDAY OF 6TH WEEK OF EASTER
Holy Spirit! Lord of Light! From Your clear celestial height, Your pure beaming radiance give!

The Holy Spirit
Only one thing is important -- eternal salvation. Only one thing, therefore, is to be feared—sin. Sin is the result of ignorance, weakness, and indifference. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Light, of Strength, and of Love. With His sevenfold gifts He enlightens the mind, strengthens the will, and inflames the heart with love of God. To ensure our salvation we ought to invoke the Divine Spirit daily, for “The Spirit helpeth our infirmity. We know not what we should pray for as we ought. But the Spirit Himself asketh for us.”

Almighty and eternal God, Who hast vouchsafed to regenerate us by water and the Holy Spirit, and hast given us forgiveness of all sins, vouchsafe to send forth from heaven upon us your sevenfold Spirit, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and fortitude, the Spirit of Knowledge and Piety, and fill us with the Spirit of Holy Fear. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary ONCE.
Glory be to the Father SEVEN TIMES.
Act of Consecration, Prayer for the Seven Gifts

SECOND DAY
SATURDAY OF 6TH WEEK OF EASTER
Come, Father of the poor. Come, treasures which endure; Come, Light of all that live!

The Gift of Fear
The gift of Fear fills us with a sovereign respect for God, and makes us dread nothing so much as to offend Him by sin. It is a fear that arises, not from the thought of hell, but from sentiments of reverence and filial submission to our heavenly Father. It is the fear that is the beginning of wisdom, detaching us from worldly pleasures that could in any way separate us from God. "They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts, and in His sight will sanctify their souls.

Come, O blessed Spirit of Fear, penetrate my inmost heart, that I may set you, my Lord and God, before my face forever, help me to shun all things that can offend You, and make me worthy to appear before the pure eyes of Your Divine Majesty in heaven, where You live and reign in the unity of the ever Blessed Trinity, God world without end. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary ONCE.
Glory be to the Father SEVEN TIMES.
Act of Consecration, Prayer for the Seven Gifts

THIRD DAY
7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER OR TRANSFERRED ASCENSION
Thou, of all consolers best, Visiting the troubled breast, Dost refreshing peace bestow.

The Gift of Piety
The gift of Piety begets in our hearts a filial affection for God as our most loving Father. It inspires us to love and respect for His sake persons and things consecrated to Him, as well as those who are vested with His authority, His Blessed Mother and the Saints, the Church and its visible Head, our parents and superiors, our country and its rulers. He who is filled with the gift of Piety finds the practice of his religion, not a burdensome duty, but a delightful service. Where there is love, there is no labor.

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Piety, possess my heart. Enkindle therein such a love for God, that I may find satisfaction only in His service, and for His sake lovingly submit to all legitimate authority. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary ONCE.
Glory be to the Father SEVEN TIMES.
Act of Consecration, Prayer for the Seven Gifts

FOURTH DAY
MONDAY, 7TH WEEK OF EASTER
Thou in toil art comfort sweet, Pleasant coolness in the heat, solace in the midst of woe.

The Gift of Fortitude
By the gift of Fortitude the soul is strengthened against natural fear, and supported to the end in the performance of duty. Fortitude imparts to the will an impulse and energy which move it to undertake without hesitancy the most arduous tasks, to face dangers, to trample under foot human respect, and to endure without complaint the slow martyrdom of even lifelong tribulation. "He that shall persevere unto the end, he shall be saved."
Come, O Blessed Spirit of Fortitude, uphold my soul in time of trouble and adversity, sustain my efforts after holiness, strengthen my weakness, give me courage against all the assaults of my enemies, that I may never be overcome and separated from Thee, my God and greatest Good. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary ONCE.
Glory be to the Father SEVEN TIMES.
Act of Consecration, Prayer for the Seven Gifts

**FIFTH DAY**
**TUESDAY, 7TH WEEK OF EASTER**

*Light immortal! Light Divine! Visit Thou these hearts of Thine, And our inmost being fill!*

**The Gift of Knowledge**
The gift of Knowledge enables the soul to evaluate created things at their true worth—in their relation to God. Knowledge unmasks the pretense of creatures, reveals their emptiness, and points out their only true purpose as instruments in the service of God. It shows us the loving care of God even in adversity, and directs us to glorify Him in every circumstance of life. Guided by its light, we put first things first, and prize the friendship of God beyond all else. "Knowledge is a fountain of life to him that possesses it."

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Knowledge, and grant that I may perceive the will of the Father, show me the nothingness of earthly things, that I may realize their vanity and use them only for Thy glory and my own salvation, looking ever beyond to Thee, and Thy eternal rewards. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary ONCE. Glory be to the Father SEVEN TIMES.
Act of Consecration, Prayer for the Seven Gifts

**SIXTH DAY**
**WEDNESDAY, 7TH WEEK OF EASTER**

*If Thou take Thy grace away, nothing pure in man will stay, All his good is turn’d to ill.*

**The Gift of Understanding**
Understanding, as a gift of the Holy Spirit, helps us to grasp the meaning of our holy religion. By faith we know them, but by Understanding we learn to anticipate and relish them. It enables us to penetrate the inner meaning of revealed truths and through them to be quickened to newness of life. Our faith ceases to be sterile and inactive, but inspires a mode of life that bears eloquent testimony to the faith that is in us; we begin to "walk worthy of God in all things pleasing, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

Come, O Spirit of Understanding, and enlighten our minds, that we may know and believe all the mysteries of salvation; and may merit at last to see the eternal light in Thy Light; and in the light of glory to have a clear vision of Thee and the Father and the Son. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary ONCE.
Glory be to the Father SEVEN TIMES.
Act of Consecration, Prayer for the Seven Gifts

**EIGHTH DAY**
**FRIDAY, 7TH WEEK OF EASTER**

*Bend the stubborn heart and will, melt the frozen warm the chill. Guide the steps that go astray!* 

**The Gift of Wisdom**
Embodifying all the other gifts, as charity embraces all the other virtues, Wisdom is the most perfect of the gifts. Of wisdom it is written "all good things came to me with her, and innumerable riches through her hands." It is the gift of Wisdom that strengthens our faith, fortifies hope, perfects charity, and promotes the practice of virtue in the highest degree. Wisdom enlightens the mind to discern and relish things divine, in the appreciation of which earthly joys lose their savor, whilst the Cross of Christ yields a divine sweetness according to the words of the Saviour: "Take up thy cross and follow me, for my yoke is sweet and my burden light."

Come, O Spirit of Wisdom, and reveal to my soul the mysteries of heavenly things, their exceeding greatness, power and beauty. Teach me to love them above and beyond all the passing joys and satisfactions of earth. Help me to attain them and possess them forever. Amen.

Our Father and Hail Mary ONCE.
Glory be to the Father SEVEN TIMES.
Act of Consecration, Prayer for the Seven Gifts
Office Hours
Mon.-Thurs., 8am-3:45pm; Fri., 8:30am-3:30pm

2023-24 Registration
Contact the school to register and/or tour.
Preschool enrollment is closed; names are accepted for the waiting list. Two other grade levels are almost closed.

School Dates
Thu., May 11 - 8th Grade Graduation, 5:30pm, Church
Mon., May 15 - Fun Day, PK-7th (Rain-out day: May 17)
Fri., May 19 - Last day of STM School (11:30 dismissal)

Summer Cyclones Care Program
Weekdays (Tue., May 30-Tue., Aug. 8), 8am-5:30pm
The Summer Cyclones Camp is an amazing experience for children in preschool through entering 7th grade. Kids will stay sharp on their academic skills and participate in fun-filled activities.

Costs
One-time, non-refundable activity fee - $300/child
Camp fee per child (can be paid in two installments)
  • 5 days - $3000
  • 3 days (M/W/F) - $2400
  • 2 days (Tu/Th) - $1800
1st payment due May 25; 2nd payment due July 6
Family discount given for more than one child, e.g., 10% for 2nd child.
Visit stmkc.com/community-life/summer-cyclones/ to register or email Tim Waris at tim@stmkc.com.
Camp Directors are Alison Wynne and Jo Rogers.

Special Events During Camp include:
• Guest facilitators – The Marble Guy (learn to play, make a marble, take home a bag of marbles); the Rocket Lady (build your own rocket & shoot it off!); the Roller Coaster lady
• Nature walks to prepare individual sections of your own “Nature Book”
• Red Bridge Library experiences

Congratulations, High School Graduates
Help the Catholic Key congratulate your high school graduate in an upcoming story! If the graduate attends a local Catholic high school s/he is already included. If the graduate attends a non-Catholic school or is homeschooled, please submit his/her name to the Catholic Key by Tuesday, May 30. Visit CatholicKey.org and click on “Contact” to submit a name with school name.

Parish Office Hours (until further notice)
Office Hours: M-W 8:45am-3:30pm; T-Th 8:45am-5pm
F 8:45am-1pm

Finance Ministry Team
Justin Hicks, Chair  Stefanie Bresette
Mark Meierhofer Laura Christopherson
Bruce Gregg
Parishioner volunteers serve for three-year terms.
Questions? Email FinanceCouncil@stmkc.com.

To register as a member of Saint Thomas More Parish...
...go to stmkc.com/registration, contact the parish office or pick up a registration form on the Information table in the church narthex.
Safe Environment Information

The Diocese of Kansas City–Saint 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:

- Call the MO Child Abuse Hotline, 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), or KS Protection Report Center, 1-800-922-5330, and
- Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
- After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org or 816-812-2500 if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City–Saint Joseph.

The diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Whitney True-Francis, the Victim Advocate at victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org or 816-392-0011 for more information.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, contact:
Joan Sandford, Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, safety@stmkc.com or 942-2492 x202, OR
Meredith Blair, School Safe Environment Coordinator, blair_meredith@stmcyclones.org or 942-5581.

Mass Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Mon: 6:15AM</th>
<th>5/15 6:15AM Carl &amp; Linda Fiorella†</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues: 6:15AM Medical Technicians</td>
<td>5/16 8:15AM Brian Muldoon†</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed: 6:15AM Edward Kruger†</td>
<td>5/17 8:15AM Dorothy Whited†</td>
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<td>Thur: 6:15AM John Kohn†</td>
<td>5/18 8:15AM Marcie Muehlebach†</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri: 6:15AM Chris Cipolla†</td>
<td>5/19 8:15AM Joann Katzer†</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat: 8:15AM Scott Pufahl†</td>
<td>5/20 4:00PM Diane Owens†</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun: 7:30AM Our Parishioners</td>
<td>5/21 9:00AM Conrad &amp; Joy Dobler†</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00AM Lynn Nelson†</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

† Deceased **School Mass

To request a Mass intention, stop by the parish office or call 816-942-2492. Suggested donation per Mass is $10.

Scripture Readings

For the daily readings, visit usccb.org/bible/reading. Have the readings sent to your email each day, hear the readings read to you, or watch a video with a reflection based on the readings.