THE MISSION OF SAINT THOMAS MORE PARISH IS TO PROVIDE A WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, AND LOVING COMMUNITY

BY PROCLAIMING AND LIVING GOD'S WORD THROUGH WORSHIP, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Welcome visitors & friends! New members are asked to register at the parish office.

www.stmkc.com
11822 Holmes Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64131

November 25, 2018

Bulletin online
this and last week’s at stmkc.com

Sunday Masses
Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday:  7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am, 5:00 pm

Daily Masses (HOLIDAYS CAN VARY—SEE P.10)
Monday-Friday: 6:15 am and 8:15 am
Saturday: 8:15 am

Reconciliation
Individual Confessions: Saturdays, 7:15-8 am and 3-3:45 pm and by appointment

Our Clergy
Father Justin Hoye, Pastor
Father Gabe Lickteig, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Kevin Cummings

At the Parish Office
Office Hours: 8:45 am-5:00 pm Monday-Friday
(Closed for lunch 1-2pm)
Parish Office  816-942-2492
Office fax  816-942-8803
Office email directory at  stmkc.com

At the School Office
Randy Smith  Principal
Kathy O’Sullivan  Assistant Principal
Colleen Sullivan  School Secretary
Office Hours: Closed in July
School Office  816-942-5581
School fax  816-941-2450
School email directory at stmkc.com
School tours: contact Jill Schweiss at 816-942-5581x4204 or Schweiss_Jill@stmcyclones.org

Safe Environment
All volunteers working with minors or vulnerable adults are required to:

- Complete an application (if new in ministry)
- Attend a Protecting God’s Children workshop
- 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.

BLOOD DRIVE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
2:30—6:30PM, MORE HALL
DONORS RECEIVE FREE CHEIFS T-SHIRT

Save a Life. Right Here, Right Now.
Reflection

If you took your child to the restroom during the Liturgy of the Word, you might walk away with one of two interpretations of Jesus as King. The first and second readings are bold and victorious. We see Christ coming on the clouds for the final judgment of heaven and earth.

The Gospel sets a very different tone. Jesus is under arrest and facing death before Pontius Pilate. We know how this story will end. So if Christ is King, what does it mean? Is he a glorious conqueror or a suffering servant?

"My kingdom does not belong to this world." Here is the heart of Jesus' reign. He is a king--and his "subjects" are alive and well on earth--but, ultimately, Jesus' kingdom transcends our earthly concepts of power.

Jesus faced down the temptation of a solely earthly kingship. At the close of his 40 days in the desert, the devil offered him the kingdoms of the world. Jesus only had to sacrifice his heavenly values and worship Satan.

The same temptations to distort the kingship of Christ are present to us today. Jesus' invitation also endures. "Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." It is important for us to belong to the full truth of Christ's kingdom.

First, our own hearts must be transformed. Our own rebellions in favor of selfishness and against holiness must be conquered by God's grace. Second, we must work to transform the world as best we can in our own corner of it. Like Jesus shows us by his life and death, this doesn't mean domination. It means service, sacrifice, respect, and love. Our lives must "testify to the truth" of Jesus Christ, who lays down his life for his people. That is the true beauty of Christ the King!

~ Liturgical Publications, Inc.

Pledge Report

230 households returned pledge forms by 11/19/18
STM Annual Stewardship
Goal: 100% response rate
230 households pledged $659,036
STM Capital Campaign
An additional $15,000 has been pledged
Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal
Goal: $175,000 (for STM alone)
58 households pledged $37,133 by 11/16/18

Faithful People of Saint Thomas More,

Advent begins next weekend, and it's a wonderful time to pay attention as to how we prepare to meet Jesus.

How do I prepare to meet Jesus at Mass? Do I arrive with time to pray before the liturgy begins? Do I dress in appropriate attire, i.e., dress which is sensitive to the atmosphere and the feelings of others? Do I honor the one hour fast - no food or drink - before receiving Communion? Do I look at the readings in advance so that the Word penetrates my heart more deeply?

How do I prepare to meet Jesus in the Sacrament of Penance? Have I thoroughly examined my conscience, and know, going in, what sins I need to offer Jesus? Do I pray for the priest hearing my confession, that he might be grac ed with the words I need for my healing and restoration?

How do I prepare to meet Jesus in my neighbor? Do I believe that Jesus comes to me in my neighbor, and thus choose in advance to honor him by my words, actions and demeanor? Do I engage another by giving preference to listening over speaking?

Preparation honors the one with whom we keep company, and shows that he or she is worth the upfront investment of our time and attention. The way we prepare to meet Jesus - as our Lord and our friend - shows our love for him, and our eagerness to please him.

May you and I prepare well this Advent, and may we not be surprised at how the Lord rewards our efforts to honor him through our small acts of preparation.

Father Justin

Bulletin Deadlines

December 2 bulletin - due Mon., Nov. 26, 5pm
December 9 bulletin - due Mon., Dec. 3, 5pm
December 16 bulletin - due Mon., Dec. 10, Noon
December 23 bulletin - due Mon., Dec. 17, 9am
Please send items to bulletin@stmkc.com. Thank you!
Stewardship Corner

Reflection

The exchange between Jesus and Pilate in today's Gospel is, arguably, the most important exchange in all of literature. Pilate asks Jesus: “What have you done?” Jesus replies that he testifies to the truth. In the second reading we are reminded of the essence of that truth: Christ, ruler of all, loves us, liberates us from the bonds of sin, makes us into new kingdom.

As we approach the Advent season, this week would be a good time to reflect on the question: What have we done in our daily lives, in our actions, words, private prayer, and in our interaction with others, to testify that Jesus is Lord?

~ International Catholic Stewardship Council

Annual STM Stewardship Appeal

Commitment weekend has passed, but it’s not too late to return your pledge forms. Thanks to those who have already done so! Returning your form indicates your support of the parish and its many endeavors. STM is a parish of which we can be proud: proclaiming and living God’s word through worship, education, and social justice.

Your commitment of time, talent, and treasure means STM is able to continue the various ministries under its umbrella. Returning your pledge form allows us to budget for the next fiscal year in confidence, knowing that you plan to support the parish (barring unforeseen circumstances, of course) through the 2019 calendar year.

Again, thank you for your pledge!

Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA)

The ACA gives us an opportunity to join others in our service together, to do more good than one person or parish can do alone. No gift is too small. Please join the effort!

October Financials

Regular - $233,583.96
Plate - $3,452.20
Facilities - $1,993.50
School - $707.00
Capital Campaign - $26,975.84
Mission Sunday - $3,581.00

Please hold in Prayer

...our family and friends in the military:
Alex Arnold
David Baska
Seth Gulsby
John Hylander
Steve Janner
Brian Owara
Dottie Dick
Dee Gedinghagen
Peggy Hembree
Grace Herrera
Carol Hummel
Jennifer Johnson
Jack Jones
Bubbles King
John Kohn
Margaret Kohn
Tom Lillis
Trudy Locke
Alicia Pouch
Nathan Pouch
Patrick Rogers
Joanne Masterson
Erma Menze
Marsha Morris
Lynn Nelson
Mary Alice Nicholson
Young Park
John P. Sullivan
Andrew Turner
Bryan Van Buskirk
Christopher Yates
Teresa Roos
Edie Scavuzzo
Cathy Ustic
Mike VanNoy
Walt Walker

...our parishioners who are sick:
Rita Armstrong
Bob Bates
Nancy Brogan
Jim Brooks
Michael Bua
Victor Caruso
Fred Cuele
Bubbles King
Pam Barthol
Rosemary Bauer
Jessie Carpenter
Dan Cowan
Dick Donaldson
Liz Donaldson
Billy Greetley
Lorraine Green
Fr. Joseph Hardy
Sara Horning
Kevin Isom
Jaxson Keith
Greg Larm
Mary Latela
Jack Lenten
Mary Mahoney
Denise Adams Mehlo
Kathy Palla
Pam Pinkerton
Liz Root
Melissa Schmiedeler
Dianne Sell
David Wagner
Glennon Winter

No gifts are too small. Please join the effort!

Advanced Health Care of OPKS: Fred Cuele, Bubbles King

...our family and friends who are hospitalized:
Edward Lucas, father of Mary Ziegler

...our family and friends who have died:
Marilyn Carr
Bob Cunningham
father of Kevin Cunningham

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE, BULLETIN@STMKC.COM OR 942-2492 X202, TO ADD OR SUBTRACT 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.
WELCOME TO SAINT THOMAS MORE PARISH

Dates to Note
Saturday, December 1 - Kindergarten Service Project
Monday, December 3 - STM-for-All mtg., 7pm
Tuesday, December 4 - Home & School mtg., 6:30pm
Tuesday, December 11 - PreK-K Christmas Concert
   Grades 5-8 Christmas Concert
Wednesday, December 12 - Grades 5-8 Band Concert
Tuesday, December 18 - Grades 1-2 Christmas Concert
   Grades 3-4 Christmas Concert
Friday, December 21 - All School Mass at 1:30pm

NFL Raffle Tickets
Week 10 Winners
$500 (144) - William Colnar
$250 (139) - Connie Eichhom
$100 (137) - Christopher Adams, Willie Aikens
$75 (19) - Karen Redlich, Pat Hardin
$50 (21) - Christina Steffens
$25 (23) - Sean & Grayson Valentine, Brian Casper

Football Report
Our STM tackle football teams capped off another safe and successful season! Three teams competed in the city championships at Rockhurst High School last month, and our 8th graders successfully defended their championship. We are most proud of that fact that zero STM players suffered concussions/head injuries this past season. Guardian Caps were introduced this year; these caps are worn to reduce impact to the helmet by 33%. This offseason, a bulk of our shoulder pads will be upgraded. STM football is committed to keeping our kids safe on the football field by having up-to-date equipment and reducing full-contact practices every week.

Saint Thomas More is one of the most decorated football programs in the Kansas City Catholic League and we want that tradition to keep going! All STM coaches are USA Football Heads Up certified and we have made football safety an integral part of our program. Through this program, our coaches learn about concussion recognition and response, heat preparedness and hydration, proper fitting equipment, and proper tackling/blocking.

We would love to have more kids and parent coaches in our football program as tackle football promotes camaraderie, teamwork, discipline, and work ethic that will help shape our children into well-rounded adults. Please contact Kevin Stone, stmcyclonefb@gmail.com, to learn more about playing tackle football for STM school. Go Cyclones!

Thanksgiving is on the minds of our students as 2nd and 4th grade buddies make turkeys together. We are so thankful for our students and all their creativity.

STA High School Placement Test (HSPT)
December 8 or January 12 at Saint Teresa’s Academy
Eighth grade girls are invited to take the HSPT on either date, 8am-12:30pm (test begins at 8:15am). Test takers should check-in at the Windmoor Center (lace-wrapped building). All students applying for admission into the freshman class are required to take this test. Stay after the test for pizza!

To register, visit stastars.org/admissions/apply, and fill out the online application (HSPT registration is part of the application).

STA is an all-girls Catholic, college-prep high school sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Questions? Contact Becky Flores, Admissions Director, at bfl ores@stteresasacademy.org or 816-501-0035.

EDGE (Grades 6-8) – Meet at The Peak on Sundays at 3pm (before the 5pm Mass).
LifeTeen (Grades 9-12) – Meet at The Peak on Sundays after the 5pm Mass, until 7:30pm.

Needed: cases of water
**Monthly Food Drive Next Weekend**
**December 1-2 (Saturday-Sunday), Narthex**
Our December food drive will be a part of our Christmas Drive for Seton Center and Saint Louis Parish, to help provide meals for families at Christmas. Please bring canned fruits, canned meats, boxed meals, low sodium canned soups and vegetables, pasta and pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, and canned beans.

**Help Make Christmas Brighter for a Family**
Our annual Christmas Drive for Seton Center and Saint Louis Parish Social Services is underway. This year, our goal is to provide gifts for approximately 1000 children. There are two ways you can participate:
- **Shop for a specific child or children (age 16 and under) from Seton Center.** Each child’s wish list is provided. This is generally a cost of about $50 per child. This is a great family or group project! If your family, friends, club or company would like to adopt children to shop for, please contact Rita Tiehen at tiehenr@gmail.com or 913-244-1581.
- **Buy new toys or gifts to leave by the tree in the narthex.** The tree has ornaments with gift suggestions. Gifts can be left (unwrapped) anytime between November 11 and December 2. These individual gifts will be taken to Saint Louis Parish.

In addition, there are three volunteer opportunities:
- **More Hall** - Food and gifts will be sorted and packed on **Sunday, December 2.** Contact Michele Kerwin, 816-942-1090 or michele.kerwin@gmail.com, if you would like to help.
- **Saint Louis Parish** - Lorena Sonnier needs help preparing Christmas items the week of December 4. Call her at 816-822-9091.
- **Seton Center** - To volunteer to help with their Christmas distribution, contact Shelli Lange at 816-581-4758 or shelli.lange@setonkc.org.

With your generous help, we can make Christmas brighter for many struggling families.

**Sign Up for Summer 2019 Trips to Guatemala**
**Sunday, December 9, 6pm in More Hall**
If you are interested in going on one of the mission trips to Guatemala next summer, please come to this sign-up/information meeting. There are two trips planned: June 22-28 and July 13-19. Total trip cost will be a maximum of $1,500. (Details of each trip are still being worked out.) A non-refundable deposit of $100 is required to secure each spot. Please consider going on one of these amazing trips! For more information, email Phil Smith at philsmith4470@gmail.com.

**Care & Support**
**David Butel, Pastoral Associate**
dbutel@stmkc.com or 942-2492 x210

**Grief Support Group at Saint Thomas More**
**Beginning Monday, December 10, 6:30-8pm**
Ascend Hospice and Saint Thomas More Parish are hosting a new monthly grief support group on the second Monday of every month beginning December 10. This group will be a drop-in group. Come every month or once in a while. Generally, we will discuss the grief journey and find ways to cope and grow as we adjust to the loss of our loved ones.

In the first session, participants will share how they are coping or not coping during the busy holiday season. Some tips will be shared on how to quiet anxiety during these days. If you are wondering how to navigate your days because of your loss, please come. You will leave with practical tools and ideas to support you. The group will meet in the parish office living room.

For more information contact Maureen Kelly, Bereavement Coordinator at Ascend Hospice at 816-421-9924 or Maureen.Kelly@ascendhealth.com or David Butel at 816-942-2492 x218 or dbutel@stmkc.com.

**Homebound/Nursing Home Eucharistic Minister Training**
**Tuesday, December 4, 6-9pm**
Many Catholics are not able to join STM for Mass on Sundays due to health reasons. There are several Eucharistic Ministers who take Communion to people’s homes, to hospitals and to nursing homes so those who cannot attend Mass can receive the Lord in the Eucharist.

If you would like to learn more about this ministry, contact David Butel at dbutel@stmkc.com or 816-942-2492 x210. If you are interested in attending this training, we must register you with the diocese. This particular training is for people who have already been trained as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for daily and Sunday Masses.

**Photographs of Loved Ones**
Thank you to all of you who brought photographs of deceased family members and friends which have been displayed in the church throughout the month of November. This week, we will be decorating for Advent, so please take photographs home after the Masses this weekend.

For the Prayer Chain, email David Butel at dbutel@stmkc.com.
STM Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 25
- Sunday Nursery, during 9:30am & 11:30am Masses
- No Edge (Grades 6-8) or LifeTeen (Grades 9-12)
- No Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Monday, November 26
- Youth After-School Hangout, 3:15-4:30pm, The Peak
- Weight Watchers, 5:30pm, More Hall D
- SPRED meeting, 7-8:30pm, Bauman & Huemann Rooms
- Bible Timeline, 7-8:30pm, More Hall A

Tuesday, November 27
- Bible Timeline, 2-3:30pm, More Hall
- Blood Drive, 2:30-6:30pm, More Hall D
- Living Waters, 6-9:30pm, Church

Wednesday, November 28
- Youth After-School Hangout, 3:15-4:30pm, The Peak
- School of Religion, 6-7:10pm, More Hall A

Thursday, November 29
- Guatemala Action Group mtg., 6:30pm, Parish Office
- RCIA, 7-8:30pm, More Hall A

Friday, November 30
- Parish Office closed
- Men of STM: Journey Together, 6-7:40am, More Hall
- Adoration, 9am-11am on Saturday, Prayer Chapel

Saturday, December 1
- Advent Morning of Reflection, 8:15am-Noon
- Kindergarten Service Project, 9-11am, Flanagan Hall

Sunday, December 2 - 1st Sunday of Advent
- Last day of the Christmas Drive!
- Seton Center Food Drive
- Coffee & Donuts, after 7:30 & 9:30am Masses, Narthex
- Sunday Nursery, during 9:30am & 11:30am Masses
- Edge (Grades 6-8), 3-4:30pm, The Peak
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, 3:30-5pm, Nursery
- LifeTeen (Grades 9-12), 6-7:30pm, The Peak

Events with STM

More Friends (for parishioners 55+)
Saturday, December 8, 1-4pm, More Hall
Enjoy a Christmas brunch featuring an elegant buffet by Silver Spoons and entertainment by Celebration Choir members. Call Maryann Smith, 816-941-3563, by Wednesday, December 5. Free for More Friends members; $16 per guest. Mail checks to Maryann at 44 E. 108th Terr., KCMO 64114. Both members and guests must have a reservation. In addition, the slate of officers for the 2019 year will be nominated and voted in.

Fall Blood Drive - Free Cheifs t-shirt with donation!
Tuesday, November 27, 2:30-6:30pm, More Hall D
Someone needs blood every two seconds. Much of today’s medical care depends on a steady supply of blood from healthy donors. The #1 reason blood donors say they give blood is because they “want to help others.” Please help the Community Blood Center to ensure that this precious commodity is being adequately provided to our local hospital patients.

Donate blood at the upcoming blood drive. To make an appointment online, go to esavealifenow.org and use sponsor code stthomasmore. You may also call Linda Heiman, 816-942-0052.

When you come to give blood remember to bring a photo ID. Also eat well and drink plenty of fluids prior to your arrival.

3rd Annual Advent Morning of Reflection
Saturday, December 1, 8:15am Mass-Noon
Are you searching to experience unconditional, boundless LOVE during this Advent season? Then join your fellow STM parishioners for this reflection. We will discuss living in kinship, with compassion, understanding, mercy and humility.

The morning will begin with Mass and then we will gather in More Hall for a light breakfast and a spiritual morning of music, reflections, prayer and conversation focusing on LOVE. All parishioners are invited. To make a reservation, contact Marla Byrne, mbyme0926@swbell.net or 816-942-9705, or Craig Laird, laird.craigs@gmail.com or 816-898-2478.

Women of STM Christmas Party
Monday, December 3, 6pm
All women of the parish are invited to socialize at our next monthly gathering, at the home of Marla Byrne. Please bring an appetizer, dessert or beverage to share. We also invite you to bring a funny white elephant gift for the gift exchange. The new Women of STM ministry is designed to gather women in the parish for social, spiritual and service gatherings. For questions, contact Marla Byrne at mbyme0926@swbell.net or 816-942-9705.

~ Cheryl Anderson, Meredith Barthol, Marla Byrne, Kathy Reese, and Kathy Thomas

Bishop’s Visioning Process: Prayer Request
Last July, Bishop Johnston held ten listening sessions and provided an online submissions form allowing the faithful to share their vision, hopes and ideas for our future. Please pray for Bishop Johnston and his Visioning Team working to create a mutually-shared vision for our diocese, that the vision will help us be thankful for the gentle Kingship of Christ.

The vision, priorities and goals will be completed in December. Announcements of the results and the steps to implement them will be forthcoming early next year. Visit kcsjcatholic.org/visioning-process for more information.
Safe Environment

Background on Current Practices
In response to the crisis of the sexual abuse of children by clergy in the Catholic Church, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops drafted a landmark document in Dallas, Texas at its 2002 summer assembly. This document, setting forth their agreed upon responsibilities in combating the problem, was entitled the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. A comprehensive set of procedures to address allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy, the Charter includes guidelines for reconciliation, healing, accountability, and prevention of future acts of abuse.

The Charter directs action in the following matters:
- Creation of a safe environment for children and young people
- Healing and reconciliation for victims and survivors
- Prompt and effective response to allegations of abuse
- Cooperation with civil authorities
- Disciplining of offenders
- Providing for future accountability by establishing a national Office of Child and Youth Protection
- Prevention of abuse

- Information from kcsjocyp.org

Office of Child & Youth Protection (OCYP)
The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph created the OCYP to oversee the various aspects of the Charter. The OCYP employees, with the help of parish and school Safe Environment Coordinators (SECs) and other volunteers:
- Train everyone to prevent and report abuse
- Provide outreach to those abused
- Require background checks for everyone who works with minors
- Educate minors to recognize a safe environment and what to do when unsafe
- Report all allegations to public authorities
- Work with law enforcement

In order to comply with the Charter:
All adults* who work with minors must:
- Submit to a background check (every 5 years)
- Attend a Protecting God’s Children workshop
- Read and acknowledge the policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry
*The bishop, priests, deacons, seminarians, all diocesan employees, and any volunteers who work with minors.

ALL CHILDREN must have age-appropriate access to safe environment training annually. Training is provided through Circle of Grace, a curriculum developed by the Archdiocese of Omaha, NE.

ALL EMPLOYEES in frequent contact with minors (Catholic school teachers, youth directors, religious ed directors, etc.) and SECs are required to also read monthly updates generated by virtus.org.

ALL SECS must oversee compliance with OCYP policies regarding Virtus and Circle of Grace training.

ALL PARISHES are required to submit semi-annual reports to the diocese noting their safe environment efforts and ready to be audited for compliance.

What to Do
- Pray for your (our) children!
- At an early age, teach your children how to say “no,” firmly and politely, and allow them to show affection to family/friends in their own ways.
- Let your children know they will be believed for talking about people who make them uncomfortable/are abusing them. (This is seldom made up.)
- Check your children’s history on computers, tablets, and phones. Know their passwords. Monitor conversations on online video games.
- Talk to your children and hang out with them.
- Not a parent? Go through training to help in children/youth ministries at STM!

Things to Know
- One in four girls and one in six boys will experience some sort of sexual abuse/exploitation by the age of eighteen.
- Up to 90% of the time, the perpetrator is known to the child/youth.
- Juveniles commit approximately 1/3 of all sex offenses against children.
- One in five children (10-17 years old) receive unwanted sexual solicitation online.
Adult Faith Formation
Gabrielle Bash, Director of Faith Formation
gbash@stmkc.com or 942-2492 x223
Adult Formation: www.stmkc.com/aff

Faith Formation Classes - The Bible Timeline
Mondays, 7-8:30pm, in More Hall A & 
Tuesdays, 2-3:30pm, in More Hall B/D
The Bible Timeline is an ongoing series that will last through the school year. Feel free to jump in as you are able. Topics each week will be listed here or may be found on the STM Event Calendar at stmkc.com.

**November 26-27**: Royal Kingdom - Part 1 - 1 & 2 Samuel/1 Kings

Other Opportunities

"A Little Bit of Heaven" Parish Mission
**November 26-28 (Monday-Wednesday), 7-9pm**
You are invited to hear Father Robert Gielow at Saint Catherine of Siena Church. Each evening will begin with Mass and end with refreshments.

Advent Wonder and Hope in Atchison, KS
**Thursday, Nov. 29, 10am-3:30pm, Sophia Center**
As your plans for Advent are about to unfold, would you like a day to reflect and prepare yourself for this sacred season? This day is designed to help you reawaken your childhood wonder amidst the flurry of extra activities and refocus on the hope this season offers. Come to listen, share, create, pray and enjoy some much needed sacred silence. Facilitated by Mary Kay Whitacre, D.Min, Sophia Center staff member. Suggested donation of $25 includes lunch. For reservations, call 913-360-6173 or visit sophiaspiritualitycenter.org.

Retreat For the Healing Purification of the Church
**Nov. 30-Dec. 2 (Friday, 6:30pm-Sunday, 11am)**
Christ’s Peace House of Prayer, a ministry of the Archdiocese of KCK, is hosting a prayer, fasting and silence retreat to pray for the healing and comfort of the victims of abuse and for the purification of bishops, priests and the entire church. Perpetual Adoration, daily Mass, Confession, the Liturgy of the Hours and various prayer services will be offered.

Call 913-773-8255 or email info@christpeace.com to register for an hour of adoration. Come for all or part of the weekend. Overnight retreatants will be asked to sign-up to cover Adoration hours, fast on bread and water, and remain in an attitude of silence. Overnight accommodations will be at no cost; a collection of alms will be taken for abuse victims.

Jerusalem Farm: Advent Luncheon Retreat Series
**Advent Saturdays (Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22), Noon-1:30pm**
All are invited to gather at the farm, 520 Garfield Ave. KCMO, for lunch and reflections on Hope (12/1), Faith (12/8), Joy (12/15), and Peace (12/22). Free event; donations always accepted. Please make a reservation by emailing community@jerusalemfarm.org or calling 816-421-1855.

Advent Mission with Father Bill Casey C.P.M.
**December 2-6 (Sunday-Thursday), 7pm**
Amidst the glitter and Christmas present shopping, how will you prepare for your spiritual reception of Christ this December? Father Bill Casey, nationally renowned speaker and frequent guest on EWTN Catholic radio and TV, will present “Preparing the Way of the Lord by Spiritual Renewal.” Scripture Readings, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction, Confession, and social gatherings will all be included.

The mission is hosted by Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 2700 Mechanic, Harrisonville, MO. If you would like to attend and would like a ride, call Chris Scott at 816-805-3617. Give a gift to someone else: carpool!

Sophia Spirituality Center Offerings in Atchison, KS
**For more information or to register, call 913-360-6173 or visit sophiaspiritualitycenter.org**

Surviving the Holiday while Grieving
**Thursday, December 6, 10am-3:30pm**
How can I survive when I will still be grieving and the whole world will be celebrating Christmas and the New Year? Learn about grief and develop a plan that will work for you. This retreat will be offered by Sister Susan Holmes, OSB, who has been a hospice/bereavement coordinator for more than sixteen years.

Entering into the Silence of Advent
**December 7-8 (Friday, 7pm-Saturday, 4:30 pm)**
This silent retreat will explore the meaning of Advent and its power to touch our lives. Opportunities will be provided for personal and shared prayer as well as silent reflection and attending Eucharist with the Benedictine Sisters on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Mary Pat Johnson, a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth, will lead the retreat.

Finding the Sacred through Depression
**Saturday, December 8, 9am-5pm**
Sharon Highberger shares an inspired pathway out of clinical depression. Hear about the value of deepening spiritual practices to find new hope and discover one’s own path to the God of grace and compassion.

What Child is This? Advent Day of Reflection
**Saturday, December 8, 8:30am-3pm, Precious Blood**
Savor an experience with Jesus through guided meditations with Father Ron Will, CPPS. The day includes a fair trade sale with items from Ten Thousand Villages and concludes with a Taizé Prayer Service. Suggested donation of $40 includes lunch. Register by Monday, December 3 at info@pbrenewalcenter.org or 816-415-3745. The Precious Blood Renewal Center is located at 2120 Saint Gaspar Way, Liberty, MO 64068.
Nearby & Coming Soon
Building Community with Our Neighbors

Coats for Kids - Collecting at Muehlebach Funeral Care
Now through Wednesday, December 5
The annual KMBZ Coats for Kids drive is underway and Muehlebach Funeral Care is pleased to participate again this year. Help make a difference for kids in need in KC by donating a new or gently-used coat. Coats may be taken to Muehlebach Funeral Care, 6800 Troost Ave., KCMO, 8:30am-5pm Monday-Friday. To drop off a coat on Saturday, please call 816-444-2060 to arrange a time. Thank you for your support!

Masquerade Jewelry & Accessories Sale
November 29-30 (Thurs., 7am-5pm; Fri., 7am-3pm)
Volunteer Services of St. Joseph Medical Center is sponsoring this popular sale where each piece is priced at $5. A wide selection of items make great holiday gifts. Come to the lower level of the Medical Mall. Proceeds benefit Catholic Charities. Call 816-812-1198 for more information.

Discover the Joy of Volunteering!
Feel great, meet new people, make a difference in the lives of hospital patients...Become a St. Joseph Medical Center Volunteer. Want to learn more? To check out volunteer opportunities and complete a volunteer application, go to stjosephkc.com. For further information or questions, contact Volunteer Services at 816-943-2774 or pkeenan@primehealthcare.com.

School of Love Date Night
Thursday, December 6, 6:30-8pm
We’re live filming Date Night, School of Love’s well-loved monthly married couples event, so we can send it into homes throughout KC and beyond. So we’re hitting the road & heading south...only for a time. So we won’t be on the Plaza. Instead, we’d love to have you come to Ascension Catholic Church Youth Center, where we’ll be staging & shooting three of our best Date Night talks over the past five years!

We start your date with happy hour, appetizers, and a brief talk on faith, marriage, family. You finish your date at home or out on the town! Ascension is located at 9510 W. 127th St, Overland Park, KS 66213.

Nativity House KC Fall Fundraiser: New Beginnings!
Thursday, December 6, 6-10pm, Double Tree Hotel
Come to Overland Park for an evening of delicious food, drink and fellowship along with a silent auction! Explore how you are blessing the lives of the homeless mothers and babies in your community and how the Nativity House KC mission continues.

Caring for young unwed mothers and their babies requires a great amount of monetary resources. To make miracles happen, these young women need housing, food, schooling, clothing, counseling, friendship, activities, love, and resources for their babies when they are born. They are dependent on God’s Divine Providence which He provides through your generosity. Call 913-281-7722 or visit nativityhousekc.org for more information and to purchase tickets.

Singles of Nativity Christmas Dance
Saturday, December 8, 7-11pm
Singles are invited to Nativity Parish, 119th & Mission Rd, Leawood, KS for music by the Loose Change Band. Semi-formal dress is recommended. The cost of $20 at the door includes food and drinks. For more information, email Robert Dyer at dyervision@sbcglobal.net.

Young Adults
kansascityonahill.org or 816-714-2397

Reservoir: Young Adult Holy Hour and Confessions
Thursday, December 6, 6:30pm, Saint Peter’s Church
Every first Thursday, young adults gather at 815 E. Meyer Boulevard, KCMO 64131 for Adoration and the opportunity to go to Confession.

Tuesdays at the Boulevard: Young Adult Mass
3rd Tuesdays (December 18)
Rosary and Confessions begin at 6pm at Sacred Heart-Guadalupe Parish, 2544 Madison Ave., KCMO 64108. Attend Mass at 6:30pm, then walk across the parking lot to Boulevard Brewery for their best brews and Waldo Pizza! Your Mass program is your entry ticket, along with $10 cash or check at the door. For more info, visit kansascityonahill.org/upcoming events.

Saint Paul’s Outreach Kansas City (SPO-KC)
SPO-KC is a community of young adult disciples on mission to renew Kansas City and the world. If you are age 21+, consider attending as you are available and bring a friend! See spokansascity.org or email spokansascity@spo.org. Events below are held at Holy Name of Jesus Parish in KC, KS.

Taco Dinner - Every Sunday, 6pm
Free dinner, game night, and watching a show with Father Anthony, SPO-KC Chaplain.

CityWide Worship: 2nd Sundays (Dec. 9), 4:30-5:30pm
Encounter Christ through praise and worship, pray together, and intercede for all of Kansas City across our broader community.
Safe Environment Information

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:

- 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, Jenifer Valenti, JeniferValenti@att.net or 816-812-2500, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City–St. Joseph.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact:

Joan Sandford, Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, safety@stmkc.com or 942-2492 x202, or
Kathy O'Sullivan, School Safe Environment Coordinator, osullivan_kathy@stmcyclones.org or 942-5581.

Mass Intentions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>6:15AM</td>
<td>Phyllis Bukaty†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:15AM</td>
<td>Mike Phelps†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>6:15AM</td>
<td>Frank Schorgl†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:15AM</td>
<td>Barbara O'Flaherty†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>6:15AM</td>
<td>John McLaury†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*8:15AM</td>
<td>David Thompson†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>6:15AM</td>
<td>Jay Nigro†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11/29</td>
<td>8:15AM Bernard Flucke†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>6:15AM</td>
<td>Anne Nearing†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11/30</td>
<td>8:15AM Brian Muldoon†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>8:15AM</td>
<td>Helen Koncak†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12/1</td>
<td>4:00PM Chuck Barthol†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>7:30AM</td>
<td>Fran Murphy†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12/2</td>
<td>9:30AM Don Clarkson†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>11:30AM</strong> Jack &amp; Nancy Henning†</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00PM Parishioners of Saint Thomas More</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

† Deceased  *All School Mass

**Altar flowers this weekend are in memory of the Scaletty family.**

**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.