

APRIL 14, 2024

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Catholic Parish

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

He said to them,

*“These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled . . . You are witnesses of these things.”*

LK 24:44, 48



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION EXISTS TO *Proclaim* THE GOSPEL,  
*Worship* WHOLEHEARTEDLY, *Serve* GENEROUSLY, AND *Love* LIKE JESUS.

**WEEKDAY MASS** Monday–Friday: 7:00AM, 12:00PM  
Saturday: 8:30AM

**SUNDAY MASS** Saturday: 4:30PM  
Sunday: 8:15AM, 10:00AM, 11:45AM, 5:00PM

**RECONCILIATION** Tuesday: 11:00AM, 6:30PM  
Wednesday: 6:00AM

Saturday: 3:00PM  
Sunday: 4:00PM

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday: 8:30AM–4:00PM  
Friday: 8:30AM–12:00PM

☎ (913) 681-3348  
✉ AscensionChurch@KCAscension.org

**PERPETUAL ADORATION** Daily\*: 6:00AM–9:00PM  
\*Closed Monday & Thursday 2:00PM–3:00PM for cleaning

After Hours: 9:00PM–6:00AM  
(Code Required)

## NEW PARISHIONERS

Mr. Scott King  
Mr. and Mrs. Luke Gorczyca and Family  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Swindle and Family

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## BANNES OF HOLY MATRIMONY

Alex Seuferling and Morgan Bullinger  
Jack Brekke and Samantha Weems  
Kasey Kelleher and Sarah Graves  
Paul Hoffman and Shelby Morgan

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## FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Judy DeJesus

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## Q1 2024 GIVING STATEMENTS

Please note that 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024 Giving Statements were emailed to parishioners on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Giving Statements were mailed to those households without an email address in our database. Parishioners can also access their giving history at any time from their Realm account. If you did not receive your statement, or have any questions, please contact Karen Newkirk at [KNewkirk@kcascension.org](mailto:KNewkirk@kcascension.org). Thank you for your generosity.

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## RECONCILIATION CHANGE

Due to Confirmation, there will be no 6:30PM confessions on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>



## FATHER GARY PENNINGS PASTOR'S CORNER



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Today's Gospel reads, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

The Apostles were witnesses, but so are we! We, the present-day disciples of Jesus, are called to witness the joy and promise of the Resurrection to our modern world. Much of the western world is rapidly abandoning a Christian worldview and embracing a materialistic and relativistic worldview that minimizes or outright denies God.

It is the mission of the Church to be witnesses to the truth of Jesus and of the purpose of human life. We Catholics are called to first know our faith, believe what the Church of Jesus Christ has handed on to us and to live in a manner consistent with those truths.

I encourage every family in our parish to deepen their commitment to prayer and scripture, to learning what the Church teaches and to wrestle with their own consciences so that they can hear the truth of the Gospel and embrace it. I strongly encourage families to reconsider what occupies the family's time and make sure there is sufficient time for prayer, faith formation and good conversation about life, virtue and sin.

I encourage families to gather with other families for friendship, good conversation and prayer. Gathering for a weekly meal together, praying the family rosary and talking about the mysteries of our Catholic faith, things such as, God, Jesus, the Saints and the role of the teachings handed on by Christ and the Apostles through the Church. How we, as believers can make a positive change in our world and prepare for the eternal life that Jesus promised to those who hold to His teaching.

We are called to witness our Catholic Faith to our modern world. Witnesses must have something to witness to. Thus, we must embrace the wonderful blessings of our faith and the joys of Christ's promise for those who believe.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life,





**SUNDAY, APRIL 14**

- 9:30AM **Sunday Scripture Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 1:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 1:00PM **Baptism Class** | St. Luke Rm.
- 3:00PM **Ascension Praise Band & Choir** | Church
- 4:00PM **Al Anon Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 4:00PM **Reconciliation** | Church
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

**MONDAY, APRIL 15**

- 3:00PM **After School Hangout** | Youth Center
- 5:00PM **RCIA Mystagogy** | St. Mark Rm.
- 5:00PM **RCIA Rosary** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:00PM **Holy Half Hour and Simple Supper** |  
Church and Parish Hall B
- 6:30PM **Boy Scouts Troop #218** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Men of Prayer/Faith Discussion** | Conference Rm.
- 7:00PM **Parish Council Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00PM **Parables & Pubs** | Off-site
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16**

- 3:30PM **Blooming Girls** | Parish Hall B
- 6:00PM **SAC Wellness Night** | Parish Hall A
- 6:30PM **Christ Renews His Parish Team 35 Meeting** |  
St. Luke Rm.
- 6:30PM **Family Rosary (Weekly)** | Church

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17**

- 12:30PM **Ladies Bridge (Beginners)** | St. John Rm.
- 5:00PM **Embrace Grace** | St. John Rm.
- 6:00PM **RISE** | Youth Center
- 6:00PM **Year I** | ACS Classrooms
- 6:00PM **Weekly YFF** | ACS Classrooms
- 6:30PM **Caregivers Support** | Conference Rm.
- 6:30PM **Bunco (Women of Ascension)** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Adult Choir** | Church
- 7:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

**THURSDAY, APRIL 18**

- 4:30PM **Legion of Mary Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:00PM **Project Genesis** | ACS Classroom 206
- 6:30PM **Kim Zember (Presentation)** | Church
- 7:00PM **Adult Confirmation Class** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00PM **Cub Scouts Pack #3218** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Disciples Dwelling (Rosary Garden)** |  
Parish Hall A
- 7:30PM **American Heritage Girls** | Conference Rm.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 19**

- 6:00AM **Men of Ascension** | St. Mark Rm.
- 10:00AM **MOYC/Little Angels** | Parish Hall A
- 1:00PM **The Bible and Catechism NOT In A Year** |  
St. Luke Rm.
- 2:45PM **Mahjongg** | St. Luke Rm.
- 3:15PM **Chess Club** | Library
- 8:00PM **Men's Christ Renews His Parish/Agape** |  
Church

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20**

- ALL DAY **Men's Christ Renews His Parish**
- 6:00AM **Legion of Mary Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:40AM **Marian Consecration Group** | Conf. Rm.
- 9:15AM **Morning Glory Class** | Library

**SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

- ALL DAY **Men's Christ Renews His Parish**
- 9:30AM **Sunday Scripture Study** | Conference Rm.
- 1:00PM **AA Meeting** | Conference Rm.
- 3:00PM **Ascension Praise Band and Choir** | Church
- 4:00PM **Al Anon Meeting** | Library
- 6:30PM **Confirmation Practice** | Church
- 6:30PM **Fearfully & Wonderfully Made** | St. Mark Rm.
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

***“Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life.  
Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love,  
come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration.”***

ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA



**PARABLES & PUBS • APRIL 15  
(YOUNG ADULTS 21-35)**

7:00PM, *Brew Lab*  
(7925 Marty St, Overland Park, KS 66204)

Parables and Pubs is a unique experience. It's nothing special but sometimes profound. There is no better place to bring a friend, talk about deep things, while sipping on a beverage. With live music, a short parable, had a great atmosphere, we can all hopefully journey to something better. So come on out to the next one, see you soon.

Contact: [JPassantino@kcascension.org](mailto:JPassantino@kcascension.org)



**RUNNIN' WITH THE REVS GAME • APRIL 15**

7:00PM, *Hayden High School*  
(401 SW Gage Blvd, Topeka, KS 66606)

All are invited to cheer on your favorite priest or student player at the Runnin' With the Revs basketball game on Monday, April 15th at Hayden High School in Topeka. The game begins at 7:00PM. Priests will be teamed up with 8th grade and high school students from area Catholic schools. Bring your family and friends to enjoy this fun event. Donations collected will benefit our seminarians.



**HOLY HALF HOUR AND  
SIMPLE SUPPER • APRIL 15**

6:00PM, *Church and Parish Hall B*

Bring your families and friends and come spend a quiet 30 minutes in the church with Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction. This is a beautiful time to introduce children and those of our brothers and sisters who have never experienced the gift of quiet time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. After our time in the church, we will head downstairs for a simple supper. All are welcome.



**BUNCO IS BACK! • APRIL 17  
(WOMEN OF ASCENSION)**

6:30PM, *Parish Hall A*



Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. There is a \$5 registration fee which covers: bunco, prizes, snacks and drinks. If you have never played, no worries, you will learn very quickly and easily. It might become your favorite game.

Register: Scan QR code  
Sponsored by *Women of Ascension*



**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP • APRIL 17**

6:30PM, *Conference Room*

If you are caring for a loved one in need, we invite you to join us the 3rd Wednesday of each month for an evening of community connection with others walking the same beautiful and often challenging path. Bring your questions, stories, concerns and leave with coping skills and spiritual support for the road ahead.

Contact: *Michelle at (913) 484-2222*  
Sponsored by *Catholic Community Health*



**KIM ZEMBER • APRIL 18**

6:30PM-8:00PM, *Church*

Join us as Kim Zember shares her personal testimony of a continued journey of surrendering her same-sex desires to Jesus in pursuit of the greater love she has found in Him. Through her personal testimony she helps give others insight into how to love those around them who identify within the LGBTQ community and also gives hope and direction to those who may have same-sex attraction or struggle with their identity.



**MASS WITH PRAYERS FOR HEALING • APRIL 18**

7:30PM, *Cure' of Ars*  
 (Father Burak Rm; 9405 Mission Rd., Leawood, KS)

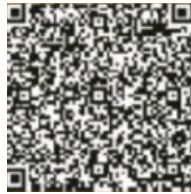
A mass with prayers for healing, sponsored by Charismatic Prayer Group will be held Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Call for more information: (913) 649-2026



**33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY • APRIL 20**

9:15AM-10:30AM, *Library*



Join us Saturday mornings for a 5-week "33 Days to Morning Glory" do-it-yourself retreat to consecrate yourself to Jesus through Mary. Have a better understanding of Mary's role in our salvation, and for anyone seeking a deeper relationship with Mary or Jesus. Please purchase your own copy of the book online or contact Trinity House Catholic Books and Gifts (913) 652-0080 for book availability.

Register: Scan QR code, Visit [KCAscension.org](http://KCAscension.org) or call the Parish Office



**LINGER OVER BREAKFAST KC • APRIL 20**

9:00AM-11:00AM, *St. Teresa's Academy*  
 (Windmoor Center; 5600 Main St., Kansas City, MO 64113)

Want to enjoy beautiful butterflies, delicious vegetables, fabulous flowers in your backyard and enhance sustainability in our lives as well? Join us as we share earth-saving tips about gardening, composting, seed saving, home energy audits and beekeeping. Register by April 15.

Cost: \$20 (breakfast included); Doors open at 8:30AM

Register: Scan QR code or visit [CSJSL.org](http://CSJSL.org)  
 Sponsored by *The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet*



**CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH • APRIL 20-21 (MEN'S WEEKEND)**

7:30PM, *Church*



Deepen your prayer life with a Christ Renews His Parish Retreat weekend. This 2-day retreat will give you the opportunity and the resources to make lasting changes in your relationship with Jesus. Use the QR code above to register.

Contact: Brian Hornung at (913) 558-2934 or [Hornung@everestkc.net](mailto:Hornung@everestkc.net)



**MOTHER'S DAY CARDS • NOW THRU MAY 8**

We will have a very special celebration on Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day), at all Masses. Mothers, both living and deceased, will be honored. Cards are available in the gathering area for parishioners to send to their mothers. The cards will be directed to support Pro-Life causes, a suggested donation of \$5.00 is requested. The priests will include all Mothers in their silent personal intentions at the Mass; however, the names will not be included in the bulletin.



**GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY • APRIL 21**

Please help support our priests and seminarians! Each year, a special offertory collection is taken up throughout the Archdiocese on Good Shepherd Sunday which is allocated to three funds supporting the priesthood:

1. The education and support of our 25 seminarians.
2. Continuing education and retreats for our 115 priests.
3. The care of our 22 retired priests.

In thanksgiving for our current and future "Good Shepherds," please be generous in your support on April 21, 2024. Thank you!



# EASTER AND THE HOLY EUCHARIST

BY: THE REV'D FR. JOHN A. HARDON, S.J.



We do not usually associate Easter and the Holy Eucharist. But we should. Our faith tells us that God became man in order that, by His death on the Cross, He might redeem the world. But this same faith tells us that, when Christ died on Calvary, the Church came into existence. We may therefore say that we were delivered from sin by the Savior's death, and receive the blessings of His grace through the Mystical Body which came into being the moment Jesus expired on Good Friday.



But our Catholic Faith tells us even more. Saint Thomas Aquinas raised the question, "Whether Christ's Resurrection is the cause of the resurrection of our bodies?" He answers in the affirmative. His logic is that whatever is first in any order, is the cause of all that comes after it. Since Christ's Resurrection was first in the order of our resurrection, it must be the cause of our rising from the dead. To prove his point he quotes from Saint Paul, "Christ is risen from the dead, the first fruits; for by a man came death, and by a man the resurrection of the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20-21).

Saint Thomas goes on to explain that this is perfectly reasonable. Thus, we read what Christ Himself says, "As the Father raises up the dead, and gives life; so the Son also gives life to whom He wills" (John 5:21). It is part of the divinely established natural order that every cause operates first on what is nearest, and through it upon others, which are more remote. For example, fire first heats the nearest air, and through it heats bodies that are further off. Consequently, the Word of God first bestows immortal life upon that Body which is naturally united with Himself, and through it works the resurrection in all other bodies. Without apology for this long paraphrase from the 'Summa Theologica,' we now get back to the subject of this article, on Easter and the Eucharist.

At the Last Supper, Christ pronounced the words, "This is my Body; this is the chalice of my Blood"—the Body and Blood that were to be nailed to the Cross and shed on Calvary. As some of the Church's earliest commentators explain, on Easter Sunday night when Jesus sat down with the disciples at Emmaus, they recognized Him in the "breaking of bread," which was the Eucharist.

Since the Resurrection of Christ, the Holy Eucharist is indeed the true, living Body and Blood of Christ. But it is now the Risen Christ in His glorified humanity. What are we saying? We are affirming an article of the Catholic faith.

In the late eleventh century, when the monk Berengarius denied the Real Presence, he was told to profess what has since come to be known as the Eucharistic Creed:

*"I believe in my heart and openly profess that the bread and wine placed upon the altar are, by the mystery of the prayer and words of the Redeemer, substantially changed into the true and life-giving flesh and blood of Jesus Christ the Lord, and that after the consecration, there is present the true Body of Christ which was born of the Virgin and offered up for the salvation of the world, hung on the cross and now sits at the right hand of the Father, and that there is present the true blood of Christ which flowed from His side. They are present not only by means of a sign and of the efficacy of the Sacrament, but also in the very reality and truth of their nature and substance (Gregory VII, 1079)."*

Words cannot be clearer. Christ in the Eucharist is now the Risen Savior who is seated at the right hand of His heavenly Father and will come on the last day to judge the living and the dead.

# EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE OF FAVERNEY

FRANCE, 1608



In the 17th century, Protestantism and Calvinism spread quickly in France by means of the many material benefits conceded by the new religions to the members of the nobility and the clergy coming from the Catholic Church. This placed at risk the faith of many and created many uncertainties, even in the monasteries. In the city of Faverney there was a Benedictine Abbey whose monks had departed a great deal from the rule of their founder. They had only in high-esteem the devotion to the Lady of Notre-Dame la Blanche, known in all the area for its many miracles. Through her intercession many miracles had in fact been verified, among which was even the returning to life of two infants who were not yet baptized. In 1608, on the Vigil of the Feast of Pentecost, the monks decided to prepare an altar for the exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The lunette of the monstrance was very large, and because of this, they decided to put in two Hosts. When Vespers had finished the monks left the monstrance exposed on the provisional altar. On the next morning, the sacristan opened the church and found it full of smoke, with the provisional altar completely reduced to ashes. He started to yell, and immediately the religious and other people hastened and

proceeded to remove the ashes with the hope of finding some part of the monstrance. When the smoke began to clear, they were astonished seeing that the monstrance was suspended in the air. The multitude increased and crowded to see the Eucharistic marvel, in which the Hosts had remained unharmed regardless of the fire. The religious were astonished, and unable to make a decision, asked the counsel of the Capuchin friars of Vesoul. These immediately prepared a new altar over the burned one, and celebrated Holy Mass. During the elevation of the Host, the monstrance slowly descended upon the new altar. When the canonical process finished, on July 10, the Archbishop of Besançon declared that the Miracle was authentic, and on September 13, the Archbishop of Rodi - who was the nuncio in Brussels - made it known to Pope Paul V who granted a Bull of Indulgence. The miracle rekindled the faith of many. In 1862, the Congregation of Rites authorized the celebration of the Miracle. In 1908 the third centenary of the miracle was solemnly commemorated with a National Eucharistic Congress. Even today it is possible to see and venerate the relic containing one of the two Hosts which remained unharmed. The other Host, unfortunately, after it was donated to the Church of Dole, was destroyed by the revolutionaries in 1794.



On the Vigil of the Feast of Pentecost, the monks of Faverney decided to expose the Blessed Sacrament for public adoration. During the night, a fire flared up which destroyed the altar and the sacred furnishings, but not the monstrance containing the Sacred Host. The monstrance was retrieved after a few days while it was suspended in the air perfectly intact. The miraculous Host is still kept today and many are the pilgrims who every year hasten to venerate the miracle.



# MASS INTENTIONS+

## MONDAY, APRIL 15

7:00AM —

12:00PM +Steve Hester *by Gress Family*

## TUESDAY, APRIL 16

7:00AM +Margaret "Peg" McNally *by Rita McNally*

12:00PM Living & Deceased Members of  
the Smeltzer Family

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

7:00AM +Sylvia Beeson *by Blaise Family*

8:00AM +Bob Rodocker *by Molly & Keith Johnson*

12:00PM +Marlene Hammes *by Denise Hammes*

## THURSDAY, APRIL 18

7:00AM —

12:00PM +Becky Montanino *by Judy & Craig Arnold*

+Kimberly Raine *by Margaret Rethman*

+Sterling Braswell *by Neal Braswell*

+Gene Burt *by Cathy Audley*

## FRIDAY, APRIL 19

7:00AM —

12:00PM +Georgian Harris *by Family*

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20

8:30AM +Marie Sullivan *by Mayer Family*

4:30PM +Mark Reed *by Family*

## SUNDAY, APRIL 21

8:15AM +James Bob *by Family*

10:00AM +Stephen Wilson *by Joanne & John LaFleur*

11:45AM +Marcella McDowell  
*by Robert & Sally Ann James*

5:00PM Ascension Parishioners



## HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Are you homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist?

Contact: *Patty at (913) 681-3348*



## PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

\*\*\* = HIGH NEED

Don't know what the Adoration Chapel is all about? Come and visit - see Jesus any time.

### Adoration Hours that NEED immediate weekly partners:

Friday: 4:00PM

Saturday: 10:00AM\*\*\*, 3:00PM\*\*\*, 7:00PM\*\*\*, 10:00PM

Sunday: 6:00PM

*(Plus other subs needed Saturdays at various times)*

Contact: *Debbie Engel at DeboraSuzanne@gmail.com*



## MEALS FOR PRIESTS

Do you love to cook? We have three priests with hearty appetites! Meals for Priests is a ministry that provides meals one day per week for our beloved priests. Interested in cooking and providing a meal, please visit [KCAscension.org](http://KCAscension.org); Scroll down to the Trending Section, Click Volunteer Sign Ups, Meals for Priests. Or scan the QR Code.

Contact: *Patty (913) 681-3348*



## FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION • FIRST SATURDAY (WOMEN OF ASCENSION)

Women of Ascension is starting a first saturday devotion. Open to all women of our parish. The first saturday of each month: Rosary (8:00AM, Church); Mass (8:30AM, Church); Prayer and Fellowship (After, St. Luke Rm.)

Contact: *Mary Connor at MaryConnorHome@gmail.com*



## FAMILY ROSARY • EVERY TUESDAY

6:30PM, Church

Join the family rosary every Tuesday at 6:30PM in the church. Together we will pray for our families, our nation and our world! Blessed Mother, pray for us!



## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Susan Arp	Fred Nelson
Bob Barr	Keith Newman
Charlotte Berndt	Carmen & John Nodar
Jan Cheray	Bob Novellano
Hudson Coffman	Cathy Oxley
James Daley	James Palmer
Karen Elliott	Aimee Parsons
Susie Evans	Lilibeth Pinon
Ron Fortino	Chris Poggie
Megan Freking	Carmen Porterfield
Scott Graham	Evelyn Rauen
Mary Greve	Becky Reed
Mary Pat Harpenau	Amy Reinhardt
Marsha Hatfield-Baker	Katy Rempel
Pete Ingles	Heather Rollheiser
Corky Jacobs	Mark Rulo
Kathi Jacobs	Susie Santa Maria
Joan B. Johnson	Marian Scaletta
Larry Judy	Barbara Schulte
Gabby Kelly	Chuck Schumacher
Jerry and Pat Klimas	Marilyn Sechi
Matthew Kopff	Bob Sherman
Jane Godar Kreiter	Janet Sherman
Donna Kuhn	Laird Simons
Ellen & Jerry Lavin	Carol Stump
Louis Lindstrom	Paul Surles
Pam Manning	Fr. Tom Tank
Dale Marti	Dan Tira
Sue Marti	Collin Warrender
Karen Mathes	Bridget A. Weeks
Kelly Mayer	Griffin Weyforth
Rebecca Meis	Marilyn Wheeler
Sharon Milde	George Winkler
Jenny Melookaran	John Witt
Sarah Millsap	Emy Yabut
Deloris Moore	Fred Zielinski

## THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of April 14, 2024



### God Is with Us

What does it mean to say that God is with us in the Eucharist? What is the Eucharist? Watch Episode 1 of Presence today!



### St. Bernadette of Lourdes



"St. Bernadette of Lourdes" is a beautiful and faithful retelling of the familiar story of one of the world's most beloved saints. Humorous, moving, and reverent, this unique, award-winning, independent film has been seen by millions worldwide and has sold tens of thousands of copies since its release in 2009.



### Joan of Arc

Cultivate a devotion to St. Joan of Arc, the young saint who died a martyr at the age of nineteen, by watching this powerful film. Her story comes to life in this movie and will doubtless leave you inspired by her faith in God.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

An offering from the  AQUINAS INSTITUTE and  SPACIOUS PRAYERS



## PRAY FOR OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

A.B. Leah Lewis, Captain Tyler H. Cordry, US Army; Lt. Colonel Diane Caranta, MD; Captain Stephen Cuff, US Army; Corporal Aidan Egan, USMC; PFC John Froome; Corporal Margaret Gould, USMC; Senior Airman Courtney Hinemeyer, USAF; Larry Homan, Army; Lance Corporal Brooke L. Jalbert; Captain Jacob Morin, USAF; Captain Dan Prior, US Army; 2nd Lt Tom Stivers, US Army; Captain Mitchell R Willis, Pilot, USAF.

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK RELATIVES & FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Karen Armstrong	Janelle Downs	Dianna Heintz	Dick Maguire	Dave Roth
Linton Bayless	Adeleaide Fix	Diane Hutchinson	Blake Martin	Lori Ruskamp
Michael Beam	LaVonne Friedrichsen	Jessica Imler	Paul Newman	Stacy Sell
Annie Boehmcke	Paul Friedrichsen	Chad Jones	Tina Noelke-Orf	Lawson Sosebee
Amanda Brower	Andrea Gifford	Chris Johnson	Mike Ojile	Jim Steffen
Michele Buche	Phil Godar	Sean Kavanaugh	Roe Park	Karen Steffen
Audrey Cooper	Angela Tira Gravitt	Luella Lappe	Eryn Patton	Art Sumpstine
Judy DeJesus	Monica Greenwood	Dennis Larkin,	David Poskin	Stephanie Thomas
Richard Dobkin	Karla Harris	Jim Lasher	Paula Ramsey	Benjamin Waller
Steve Dougherty	Colleen Heeter	Ellen Loschke	Mark Reda	

## APRIL

### SHARE YOUR FAITH • WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

6:00PM–7:30PM, *Ascension*

Sharing our Faith is the call of every Baptized Catholic. One way to do just that is by being an aide to our Youth Faith Formation Program. We are in need of aides for 1st, 3rd and 4th grade Youth Faith Formation on Wednesday evenings from 6:00PM–7:30PM. Would you prayerfully consider being one? It is a rewarding ministry.

Contact: *William O’Leary at (913) 681–7683*

### SHALOM HOUSE • APRIL 25

Shalom House is the only homeless shelter for men in Kansas City, KS. We serve dinner and bake desserts for our homeless brothers at Shalom House on the last Thursday of each month. Our next date is Thursday April 25. If you feel called to serve, please visit our signup by scanning the QR code.



Contact: *Dan Tira at (913) 991–7755*

### MEN’S FIRST ANNUAL BRING A FRIEND WELCOME BREAKFAST • APRIL 25

7:00AM, *St. Michael the Archangel Parish (Porter Hall in Leawood)*

Join us and bring a friend(s) to break bread and the Sunday Scripture on April 25th at 7:00AM. All men and their friends regardless of parish are invited. Fr. Luke Doyle will present on evangelization and welcoming. No cost for breakfast or event. RSVP is required. Don’t miss this inaugural event for Catholic Men.

RSVP to: *Rich Henry RTHenry72@gmail.com or Mike Bartkoski Mike.Bartkoski@bvmbiologics.com*

### COVERED IN PRAYER • APRIL 25

6:00PM, *St. Luke Rm.*



Covered in Prayer is the “blanket making” ministry of Church of the Ascension. We gather on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00PM to make blanket kits, separate fabric, talk

and generally enjoy each other’s company! You can come and pick up material and take it home, or you can stay and learn how to make blankets. No need to be an expert seamstress. We gratefully accept donations of cotton, fleece and flannel materials and yarns.

### CALLED TO LOVE AGAIN DIVORCE MINISTRY • APRIL 27

6:00PM, *Pope Pius X Parish; Mission, KS*

Called To Love Again Divorce Ministry welcomes you to ongoing monthly events where you will find support, friendship and healing. The next meeting is April 27th at 6:00PM at Pope Pius X Parish in Mission, KS. Please visit our website at: [TheCall2Love.com/Called-To-Love-Again](http://TheCall2Love.com/Called-To-Love-Again) or email us directly at: [Katie@TheCall2Love.com](mailto:Katie@TheCall2Love.com)

### HOPE FAITH BREAKFAST FOR THE HOMELESS • APRIL 27

Before 7:30AM, *St. John Hallway*

Church of the Ascension cooks and serves breakfast at Hope Faith Ministries on the last Saturday of the month. If interested in helping, please go to [KCAscension.org](http://KCAscension.org), scroll down to the “trending” section, & click “Volunteer Signups” to serve or bring food. This is an awesome family activity!

### 40 HOURS OF ADORATION • APRIL 28–30

5:00PM, *Ascension*

In this year of Eucharistic Revival, Ascension will start the 40 Hours Devotion—basically 40 hours of continuous adoration of Our Lord in the church itself. This special event begins at the Sunday 5:00PM Mass (April 28) and concludes at the Tuesday Noon Mass (April 30). All regularly scheduled adoration hours in the chapel will take place in the church during this period.

Contact: *Fr. Stull at [FrStull@kcascension.org](mailto:FrStull@kcascension.org)*

### ROSARY RALLY • APRIL 28

3:00PM–4:15PM, *Ascension*

Please join us to Honor Our Blessed Mother and Our Lady of Fatima which will be held on Sunday April 28th from 3:00PM to 4:15PM at the Church of the Ascension. We will pray the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious mysteries of the Holy Rosary



followed by Benediction and the opportunity for attendees to enroll in the Brown Scapular. For driving instructions or future dates for the Kansas City monthly Holy Rosary rallies, please visit [RosaryRalliesKC.org](http://RosaryRalliesKC.org)

## MAY

### ST. MARY'S FOOD KITCHEN • MAY 1

9:30AM, Ascension



Ascension has been a contributor to St. Mary's Food Kitchen for many years. Ascension's day is the 1st Wednesday of the month to provide supplies and prepare a taco salad luncheon. We leave Ascension at 9:30AM to prep the meal and set up. We serve the lunch from 11:00AM until 12:30PM. Our needs are for parishioners to donate foods, cook the hamburger and serve. Please visit [KCAscension.org/GetInvolved/ServiceOpportunities](http://KCAscension.org/GetInvolved/ServiceOpportunities) to learn more.

Contact: Jean Hinman (913) 908-9811 or Dorothy and Michael Eagan (913) 526-8314

### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MINISTRY • MAY 11

9:00AM, St. Luke Rm.

The Bereavement Support Ministry at Church of the Ascension meets the second Saturday of every month in the St. Luke Room unless otherwise noted on the parish calendar, after 8:30AM Mass for support and education. Our next meeting is on Saturday May 11th.

### INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS MINISTRY MEETING • MAY 13

7:00PM, St. Luke Rm.



The International Mission Team will have an informational meeting Monday, May 13th at 7:00PM in the St Luke room to discuss the interest and plans for a June trip to Guatemala. We typically travel to Guatemala yearly to work with the vulnerable and elderly population in San Lucas Tolimin in a variety of personal ways. This international mission also supports a papal agency, CNEWA, which is involved in organizations in the Near East. Please join us.

Contact: Ed Herman 913-897-4856

### GUADALUPE HOUSE • MAY 14

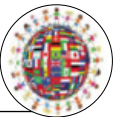
Drop Off By 4:30PM, St. John Hallway



Our Lady of Guadalupe House is an organization run by the Sisters of the Fraternity Missionaries of the Poor of Jesus Christ. The Sisters reach out to the poor and homeless in Kansas City, Kansas, and Ascension provides them with supplies needed for their ministry. If you are interested in supporting the Sisters with their cause by donating supplies, please visit the Church of the Ascension homepage at [kcasension.org](http://kcasension.org), and click on Volunteer Signups/Guadalupe House. Please drop off supplies to the Parish Hall by 4:30PM on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Our next date is Tuesday, May 14.

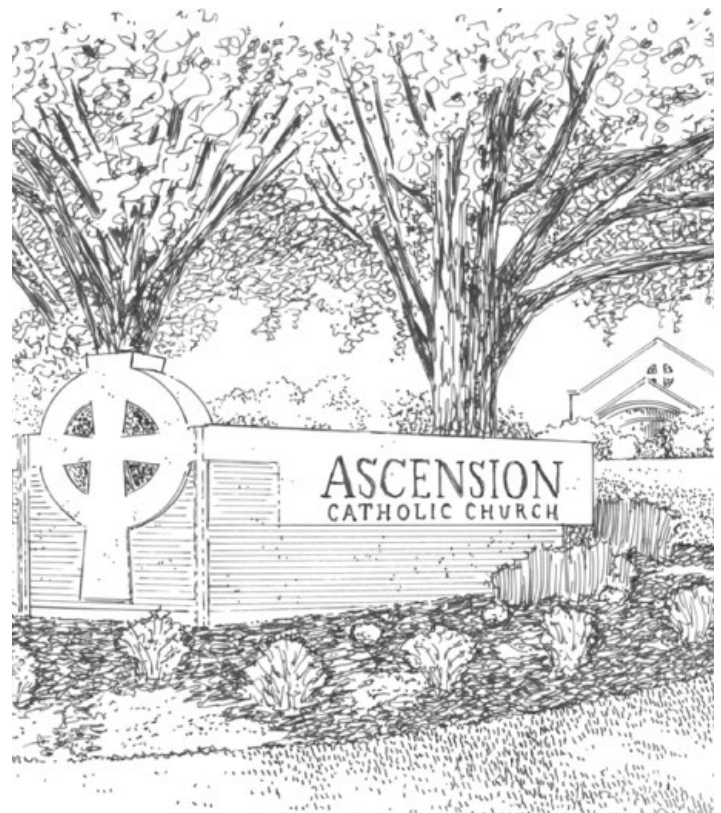
### 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PENTECOST MULTI-CULTURAL LUNCHEON • MAY 19

1:00PM-2:30PM, Parish Hall



Enjoy our very own Peruvian and Philippine Dancers! There will be foods from all the amazing cultures that our Parishioners represent. Peru, Venezuela, Russia, Mexico, Vietnamese, India, Poland, France, Ireland and more!

For More Information Visit: [KCAscension.org](http://KCAscension.org)





# Baby Bottle Boomerang

Help support the Wyandotte and Olathe Pregnancy Centers by filling baby bottles with your spare change!

May 4 through 12, 2024

**THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!**  
sponsored by The Knights of Columbus and Ministry of Care & Social Justice

## WOMEN OF ASCENSION SPRING SERVICE PROJECT

ADVICE AND AID PREGNANCY CENTER HAS ASKED WOA TO PUT TOGETHER GIFT BAGS FOR THE DADS OF THE FAMILIES THAT RECEIVE AID AND ONGOING COUNSELING AT THE CENTER.

- 1 Please consider purchasing a gift from our Amazon wish list here by April 25th:



- 2 Join us on Tuesday, May 7th at 6:30 in the St. Mark room to put the gift bags together and enjoy fellowship, appetizers & drinks

REGISTER HERE:




**BEST DAD**



# ASCENSION FEAST DAY Celebration



Please register here for planning purposes (free-will donations accepted at the door):



**K of C**

SATURDAY | MAY 11TH  
5:30 - 7:30 PM | PARISH HALL

PASTA DINNER, CUPCAKES, COTTON CANDY AND ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



## Drive-Up FOOD Collection

Saturday 05/11/2024

tomato/pasta sauce, pasta, peanut butter, cereal, soups

We gratefully accept cash and check donations. Please make checks payable to Catholic Charities.

Questions?  
David Witaker @ 913-626-2676  
Johnette Martin @ 913-481-8663



*Save the Date*

# ASCENSION COMMUNITY BBQ

-Friday, June 7: Tasting & Party  
-Saturday, June 8: Judging

---

## JOIN THE COMPETITION!

- Team sign ups deadline: **May 20**
- Early bird team registration through **April 1: \$50**
- Regular Registration: **April-May 20: \$75**

Please enter Team Name & contact information for Team Captain at registration



**QUESTIONS?**  
Marissa Brown  
mbrown2@  
kcascension.org

**WE'RE HOSTING**



**VBS 2024** **MARVELOUS MYSTERY**  
The Mass Comes Alive

# JUNE 3-7

Registration Opens: April 1




*Save the Date*

DETAILS & REGISTRATION WILL BE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE



**FEAST OF  
THE ASCENSION**

SATURDAY, MAY 11  
FOLLOWING 4:30PM MASS

**BBQ  
WEEKEND**

JUNE 7-8

**CORPUS  
CHRISTI  
PROCESSION**

SUNDAY | JUNE 2

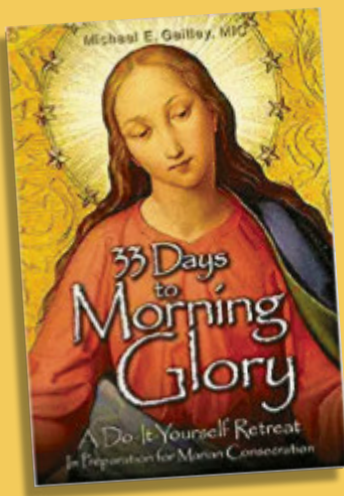
**FALL  
FESTIVAL**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

*Find More Here*



*Join Us!*

## 33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY


Please join us on Saturday mornings from 9:15AM to 10:30AM for a 5-Week "33 Days to Morning Glory" do-it-yourself retreat to consecrate yourself to Jesus through Mary. It includes a few pages of daily reading and reflection, plus a weekly video. This is for those who are totally new to this idea, as well as those who would like to re-consecrate themselves. It is for those who want to have a better understanding of Mary's role in our salvation, and for anyone seeking a deeper relationship with Mary or with Jesus. We would love to have you join us on this journey.

**Saturday Study Dates:** April 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, with the Consecration on Monday, May 13

**Time:** 9:15AM-10:30AM      **Meeting Location:** Church of the Ascension

**Facilitator:** Debbie Engel

**Please purchase your own copy of the book online**, or contact Trinity House Catholic Books and Gifts 6731 W 119th Street in Overland Park, (913) 652-0080 for book availability.



## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS: THE CANDIDATES



**Cheryl Schmitz** | 33 years in the Parish

I want to serve on Parish Council to support spirit-guided evolution of the parish toward its vision and mission. I could offer the following specific gifts to the parish: varied ministries involvement from early days to today, ecumenical perspective, planning/research/organization abilities, exposure to care giving demands and health-related parishioner journeys.



**Adam Schreiner** | 8 years in the Parish

I'm genuinely excited about the opportunity to contribute to the Parish Pastoral Council, where I can play a role in nurturing the spiritual growth and fostering the sense of community within our parish. With dedication, a collaborative spirit, and a commitment to creating a welcoming environment, I aim to promote effective communication and advocate for initiatives that resonate with both our parish's priorities and the broader mission of the Catholic Church.



**Pete Asta** | 6 years in the Parish

I believe I have been blessed with several gifts including logical thinking through complex questions that affect different groups of stakeholders, combined with organizational and project planning to achieve a desired outcome. I desire to serve because I believe these gifts can be put to service to help spread The Gospel through the means Jesus gave us; His Church.



**Jacob Stuhlsatz** | 5 years in the Parish

I truly believe that it takes all backgrounds and personalities coming together to create the best team. I would add the benefit of a younger and newer parishioner viewpoint. I am a very quick learner, and I excel in creating unique and effective solutions for various dilemmas or growth endeavors.



**Carrie Kramer** | 4 years in the Parish

This community is simply outstanding and we have grown as a family because of it. I have experience running my own optometry practice and feel that I will bring a fresh set of ideas to the committee. As a parent with school age children, I have an understanding of what young families perspectives and hopes are for the future of the church. I look forward to using my talents to better the church and grow in my faith.



**Parish Council Elections will take place at all Masses on April 27th and 28th**

### RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER • PROVIDING HELP AND HOPE

Progesterone is a natural hormone that is absolutely essential for a healthy pregnancy. What the abortion pill does is block progesterone's effects. This act results in the placenta separating from the wall of the uterus, killing the preborn baby.

Dr. George Delgado recounts a call from a counselor seeking aid for a woman in El Paso, TX who had taken mifepristone (the abortion pill), changed her mind, and wished to stop the chemical abortion. Having never heard of anyone reversing a chemical abortion, the doctor told the counselor "let me think about it." Dr. Delgado had extensive knowledge regarding the use of progesterone aiding pregnant women with low progesterone levels who were

vulnerable to miscarry. He knew there are times when you can treat them with progesterone and save the baby. Was this an analogous situation? While a woman's progesterone levels may not be depressed, if they are being blocked it is as if she had low progesterone levels. He reasoned that if she received supplemental progesterone, possibly it could "out-compete" the mifepristone and save the baby. It worked. Since then, this abortion pill reversal procedure has saved thousands of babies.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If a woman has taken the first abortion pill and has regrets, Abortion Pill Reversal might be possible if she acts NOW! Call 877-558-0333 or visit [AbortionPillReversal.com](http://AbortionPillReversal.com) for help.



Have you heard?!



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Open camera & scan for more information!

CATHOLIC ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

*Women of Ascension Winery Social*

SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Serendipity Farm & Vine Winery  
(Stillwell KS)

Join us for a relaxing afternoon sipping wine and enjoying fellowship as we wrap up another great year of activities

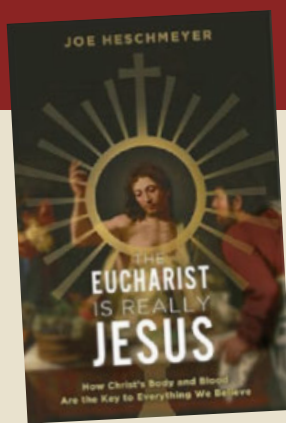


*Save the Date*



# THE EUCHARIST IS REALLY JESUS

## TALK + Q&A WITH JOE HESCHMEYER



**RESCHEDULED for May 1, 2024 from 6:30PM-8:00PM; Parish Hall**  
*(there is no need to re-register if already registered)*

Church of the Ascension's Christmas gift to parishioners is now coming to life! Come hear author Joe Heschmeyer talk and answer questions about *The Eucharist Is Really Jesus*. In the book, Heschmeyer first explains how Catholic belief in the Eucharist is biblical and reasonable. If you're used to thinking of Communion as a purely symbolic ritual, you'll find here a compelling defense of the ancient doctrine of the Real Presence. But even if you already believe it, Heschmeyer shows how that's not an end, but just the beginning.

**Knowing that the Eucharist is really Jesus becomes a master key to understanding:**

- The cross of Good Friday and the empty tomb of Easter Sunday
- How to worship God in spirit and truth, according to the Bible
- The meaning of our own bodies and their immortal destiny
- How to love God and each other every day, like the saints ... and more essential aspects of our lifelong walk with Jesus.

\*Complimentary books are still available in the Parish Office from 8:30AM-4:00PM, Monday through Thursday, 8:30AM-Noon on Fridays.



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*Single and Pregnant?*  
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Say goodbye to fear, and hello to joy! We help you find hope when life doesn't make sense.



As part of our Walking With Moms in Need initiative, the Archdiocese has launched three Embrace Grace Support Groups in Lawrence & JoCo to help women know we are here for them and their baby too. Help us connect with single, pregnant women who could use some love & support!

To learn more, go to [archkck.org/prolife/embrace-grace](http://archkck.org/prolife/embrace-grace).

to register for a

Scan QR code



support group

# PRAYER INTENTIONS

If you are carrying a heavy cross or going through a difficult season, please do not shoulder the burden alone. Our Parish Prayer Warriors are ready to intercede on your behalf.

If you are in need of prayer, call our prayer partner intention hotline.

**Voicemail Number: 1-888-684-6555**



## BEHOLD KC EVENT DETAILS



Register for the event here!

**WHEN:** MAY 4 | 4-9:30 PM

**WHERE:** NATIONAL WORLD WAR I MEMORIAL, NORTH LAWN

**WHAT CAN I EXPECT?**

- PRAISE & WORSHIP
- CONFESSION
- ROSARY
- CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS
- EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

VISIT [BEHOLDKC.ORG](http://BEHOLDKC.ORG) OR USE THE QR CODE ABOVE TO REGISTER FOR THE EVENT!

## ★ AMBASSADORS WANTED ★

We are looking for more friendly faces to join our ministry!!

*Ambassadors for Christ volunteer during parish-wide events a few times a year to help make our visitors feel welcome.*

*If you are interested in being part of this hospitality ministry, please contact Jami Kuckelman at: [jamikuck@gmail.com](mailto:jamikuck@gmail.com)*



CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST





# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## FAMILY OF THE YEAR AND KNIGHT OF THE YEAR FOR 2023

Congratulations to Joe and Johnette Martin our Family of the Year. Joe and Johnette have spent countless hours supporting the Knights and the Ascension Parish. Congratulations to Fred Randazzo our Knight of the Year. Fred regularly participates in Knights activities including food rescue, tootsie roll donations, Fish Frys, and monthly food collection efforts. Many, many people in need have benefited from Fred's efforts. Congratulations again!

## FAMILY OF THE MONTH AND KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Chris and Michele Staus our Family of the Month and Jim Burns our Knight of the Month for March.

## JOIN THE KNIGHTS

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men's organization open to all Catholic men ages 18 and over. Interested in joining the Knights? Contact Brian Kellerman at BGKellerman@yahoo.com or 913-515-6454.

## KNIGHTS CHOIR

Contact Dan Tira at TiraD@umkc.edu or (913) 451-2341 if you are interested in joining.

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOOD DRIVE

2nd full weekend of each month. Drive up food collection 10:00AM-2:00PM on Saturday. Cash donations accepted after all Masses.

## PRAYERS

Join us in prayer for our seminarians from Ascension – Alex Rickert, Michael Santamarina, Jack Oxley and ALL others including Trey Niesen and Matthias Saiiki. Also, our fellow KofC brother Michael Uhlmansiek as an Aspirant for Permanent Deacon. Holy Hours dedicated to Vocations occur every Friday at 1:00PM and Saturday at 11:00AM in the Adoration Chapel.

## ASCENSIONS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

### FREE THROW CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to Connor Mullane for winning the 2024 State competition. Conner is 11 years old and attends Ascension School. He is now a 2-time State Champion as he also won last year.

## KNIGHTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Ascension 10932 is once again offering scholarships to young men and women who are entering their Freshman Year of High School or College. Eligibility includes the children or grandchildren of deceased or dues-current active Knights of Columbus Ascension Council 10932. High School applicants must be planning to attend a Catholic high school. College applicants must plan to attend an accredited private, community, vocational or public college as a full-time student. Applications are on the Ascension Knights of Columbus website, [www.ascensionkofc.com](http://www.ascensionkofc.com). Applications must be submitted no later than April 30, 2024 to Mark Lewandowski at [MarkLewandowski60@gmail.com](mailto:MarkLewandowski60@gmail.com). Feel free to contact Mark with questions.

## JOIN US FOR MASS AND MEETINGS

- Council Meeting: Monday, April 29 at 7:00PM (*Parish Hall B*), preceded by the Rosary at 6:30PM.
- Officers' Meeting: Sunday, May 5 at 6:15PM, (*Knights Room (Annex)*)
- Knights' Mass Friday mornings at 7:00AM with breakfast following at Hy-Vee
- 2024 dues can be paid at [AscensionKofC.com](http://AscensionKofC.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **APRIL 20:** KofC Sporting Clays Tournament; *Augusta, KS*
- **APRIL 20-21:** Men's Christ Renews His Parish; *Ascension*
- **APRIL 28:** St. Thomas Aquinas Walk for Life; *starting at St. Thomas Aquinas*
- **MAY 2-5:** KofC State Convention; *Topeka, KS*
- **MAY 11:** Italian Dinner; *Parish Hall (following the 4:30PM Mass)*
- **MAY 11-12:** Baby Bottle Boomerang
- **JUNE 1:** Advice and Aid WALK FOR LIFE
- **JUNE 7:** Ascension BBQ Contest: Burgers and Brats
- **JUNE 21:** Pitching for Priests: Altar Server Recognition Tailgate
- **OCTOBER 7:** Save The Date: KofC Golf Tournament, *Falcon Ridge*

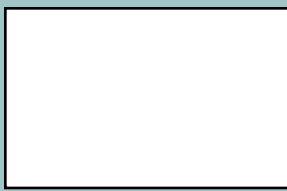
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