

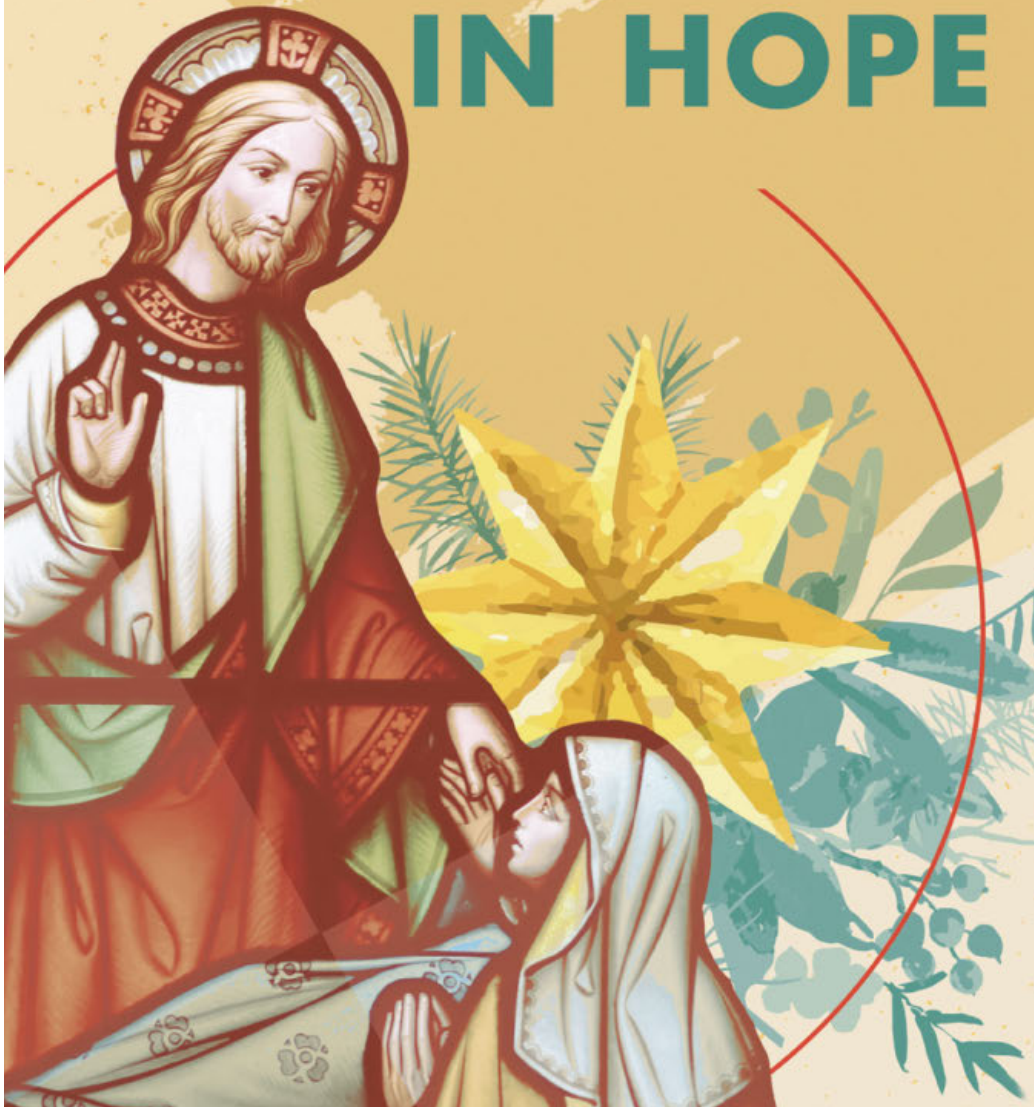
DECEMBER 1, 2024

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Catholic Parish

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WAIT
IN HOPE



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: 5:30PM
Saturday: 3:00PM
Sunday: 4:00PM

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Daily*: 6:00AM–9:00PM

*Closed Monday & Thursday
2:00PM–3:00PM for cleaning

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

OFFICE HOURS

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

☎ (913) 681-3348

✉ AscensionChurch@KCAscension.org

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

9510 W. 127TH STREET • OVERLAND PARK, KS 66213 • KCAscension.org

NEW PARISHIONERS

Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Raplinger
Mr. Douglas Wahl

BAPTISMS

Hannah Kathleen Hedrick

BANNS OF HOLY MATRIMONY

Chris Lamphier and Hannah Manganaro
Kyle Marlin and Kelsey Happer

† FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Joan Kramer

ASCENSION KIDS

Jesus is the star of life. How many stars
can you count?



**HELP OUR ELDERS
RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION**

In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Use your envelopes to donate or write Retirement Fund For Religious in the memo section of your check. You can also donate on-line through your Realm profile by choosing the Religious Retirement Fund. Thank you for your generosity.

**FATHER GARY PENNINGS
PASTOR'S CORNER**



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

So, we begin the Season of Advent, a time of anticipation, not only for the upcoming Solemnity of Christmas, but also for the Lord's ultimate "advent" at the end of days.

In today's Gospel, Jesus says that at the end of days "they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory". He also says that there will be signs, and that when the Lord returns, "the powers of the heavens will be shaken". He warns, "beware that your hearts do not become drowsy".

The main point of Jesus' words is to exhort His listeners to stay awake, not allowing the daily routines of life or worldly excesses to lure them into a state of spiritual drowsiness, oblivious to the spiritual dangers around them. He wants His listeners to be prepared, "for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

The Church invites us to use the Season of Advent as a time of spiritual preparation, not only so that we celebrate Christmas with the proper focus (i.e. the true meaning of Christmas), but also that we pay attention to the signs of the times, attend to our own spiritual health and prepare for our eventual appearance before the Lord after we take our last breath (which could happen sooner than we expect).

So, I invite you to embrace the Season of Advent so that you:

- Draw closer to God's merciful love.
- Let go, more and more, of those things that draw you away from goodness and from God.
- Better prepare to face the Lord, if he were to call you from this life today.
- And Celebrate Christmas with joyful gratitude for the greatest of all gifts, Jesus, who saves us from our sins.

Have a blessed Advent,



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

- 9:30AM **Sunday Scripture Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 10:00AM **Children's Liturgy of the Word** | ACS Classrooms
- 11:45AM **Mass Live Stream: Families with Special Needs** | Nursery
- 1:00PM **Baptisms** | Church
- 1:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 3:00PM **Ascension Praise Band & Choir** | Church
- 4:00PM **Al Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 6:15PM **Knights of Columbus/Officers Meeting** | Parish Hall Annex
- 7:00PM **Journey** | Library
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

- ALL DAY **Nativity House** | Gathering Area
- 5:30PM **FIRE (Middle School Youth Group)** | Youth Center
- 5:30PM **RCIA Class** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:00PM **Sacristan/EMHC Training** | Church
- 6:15PM **Women's Journey** | ACS Classroom 101
- 6:30PM **Boy Scouts Troop #218** | Parish Hall A
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

- 10:00AM **Mothers of Young Children/Little Angels** | Parish Hall A
- 1:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:00PM **Family Formation** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Advent Parish Penance Service** | Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 7:30AM **St. Mary's Kitchen** | Off-Site
- 9:00AM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Luke Rm.
- 10:00AM **Epic: Church History** | St. Mark Rm.
- 1:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Luke Rm.
- 3:30PM **Youth Choir Practice** | Church
- 6:00PM **Epic: Church History** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:00PM **Vocations Committee Meeting** | Conf. Rm.
- 6:00PM **Weekly YFF** | Church
- 6:00PM **Weekly YFF Parent Gathering** | Parish Hall A
- 6:00PM **Year I Classes** | ACS Classroom 101
- 7:00PM **4th Degree Knights/Officers Meeting** | Parish Hall Annex
- 7:00PM **Choir Practice** | Church
- 7:00PM **Al Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

- 9:30AM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 4:30PM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 5:30PM **Waiting for Christ** | St. Mark Rm.
- 5:30PM **Advent by Candlelight (Women of Ascension)** | Parish Hall A
- 6:00PM **Live the Mass Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00PM **Disciples Dwelling (Rosary Garden)** | Youth Center

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 6:00AM **Men of Ascension** | St. Mark Rm.
- 9:00AM **Kristina Trip** | Library
- 1:00PM **The Bible and Catechism NOT in a Year** | St. Luke Rm.
- 2:30PM **Mahjonn** | St. Mark Rm.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 6:00AM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00AM **Christ Renews His Parish Bible Study** | St. John Rm.
- 9:00AM **Saturday with Santa (MOYC)** | Parish Hall A
- 9:00AM **Women of Ascension / Fellowship & Prayer** | St. Luke Rm.
- 11:30AM **Sacristan/EMHC Training** | St. John Rm.
- 12:00PM **First Saturday Public Rosary** | Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

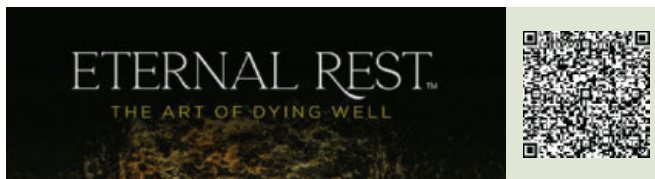
- 9:00AM **Blood Drive** | Parish Hall A
- 9:30AM **Sunday Scripture Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 10:00AM **Children's Liturgy of the Word** | ACS Classrooms
- 11:45AM **Mass Live Stream: Families with Special Needs** | Nursery
- 1:00PM **Baptism Class** | St. Luke Rm.
- 1:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 1:00PM **Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor Session** | Youth Center
- 3:00PM **Ascension Praise Band & Choir** | Church
- 4:00PM **Al Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 7:00PM **Journey** | Library
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym



ASCENSION ANGEL TREE • ENDS DECEMBER 1

All Day, Narthex

Last chance to donate! Our Angel Trees are up in the Narthex. Please consider donating. Proceeds benefit Catholic Charities, JCCB, Wynadotte, Olathe and Kansas City Pregnancy Centers and Advice and Aid.



ETERNAL REST: THE ART OF DYING WELL • DECEMBER 1, 8, 15 AND 22 (SUNDAYS)

9:30AM, St. Mark Rm.

Advent has a two-fold character as a season: #1 to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered, and #2 as a remembrance to direct the mind and heart to await Christ's 2nd coming at the end of time when "He will come again to judge the living and the dead" as is stated in the Nicene Creed. Death remains with us and it numbers our days. How do we understand and prepare for this reality we cannot escape? Eternal Rest presents the Catholic Church's teaching about death and God's response to it with wisdom, truth, gentleness, and compassion. Join us for this award winning 4 week study during Advent. Cost: Order Study Guide "Eternal Rest" from Catholic Market on your own for \$15.95 plus tax.

Facilitator: Joyce Grashoff

Register: Scan QR code



NATIONAL CATHOLIC REGISTER • ENDS DECEMBER 2

Gathering Area

Increase your knowledge, and deepen your faith, with the National Catholic Register. The NCR is owned by

EWTN and is the oldest Catholic newspaper in the United States. Act now and you will receive 26 issues of the NCR, delivered biweekly and filled with national, world, and Vatican news, revealing interviews, in depth commentary, and features. Receive this wonderful resource through our parish discounted bulk shipment program, saving you greater than 50% off the newsstand price. Just complete the information requested on the NCR envelopes in the gathering area and include your check for \$25.00 made out to Church of the Ascension. (That's less than \$1.00 per issue!) Deposit that envelope in the wooden box in the gathering area by December 2nd, and your first issue should arrive by early January. This is the only opportunity to order in 2024 for the 2025 subscription. There are free sample issues on the table in the gathering area.

Questions: Joyce Grashoff 913-271-0266

All babies are as Precious as the **One** whose birth the World Awaits.



PLEASE JOIN US IN SHOWERING NATIVITY HOUSE WITH NEEDED ITEMS:

- Receiving/swaddling blankets
- Sleep sacks (sizes 3-6, 6-9)
- Baby blankets
- Baby socks and mittens (newborn, 0-3, 3-6mo)
- Baby wash and lotion (fragrance free options)
- Baby monitors
- Baby carriers/carrying wraps
- Backpack style diaper bags
- Baby books
- Teething rings
- Burp cloths
- Towels, washcloths
- Twin sized sheets
- Baby bath toys
- Disposable nursing pads
- Kid friendly Christmas Nativity set
- Long & short sleeved onesies (newborn, 0-3, 3-6mo, +)
- Shampoo and conditioner for natural hair, oils & lotions (coconut & vitamin e products)
- Robes and slippers (adult sized)
- Walmart, Target & QuikTrip gift cards



ASCENSION GATHERING AREA | DECEMBER 2-15

NATIVITY HOUSE • DECEMBER 2-15

Gathering Area

Please join us in showering Nativity House with needed items: Receiving/swaddling blankets, Sleep sacks (sizes 3-6, 6-9), Baby blankets, Baby socks and mittens (newborn, 0-3, 3-6mo), Baby wash and lotion (fragrance free options), Baby monitors, Baby carriers/carrying wraps, Backpack style diaper bags, Baby books, Teething rings, Burp cloths, Towels, washcloths, Twin sized sheets, Baby bath toys, Disposable nursing pads, Kid friendly Christmas Nativity set, Long & short sleeved

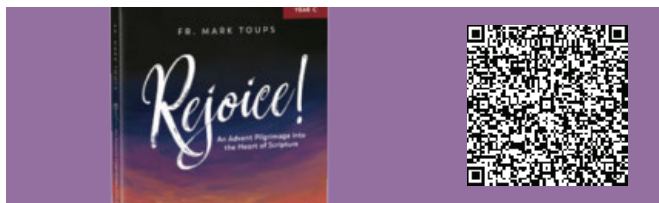
onesies (newborn, 0-3, 3-6mo,+), Shampoo and conditioner for natural hair, oils & lotions (coconut & vitamin e products), Robes and slippers (adult sized), Walmart, Target & QuikTrip gift cards.



EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND SACRISTAN TRAINING & COMMISSIONING • DECEMBER 2 AND 7

6:00PM & 11:30AM, Church

Training and commissioning for Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs) both Outreach and those serving at Mass and Sacristans will be held on Monday, December 2 at 6:00PM and Saturday, December 7 at 11:30AM in the church. All existing EMHCs/Sacristans whose last commissioning was more than three years ago MUST attend - all others are strongly encouraged to attend since a number of procedural changes have been made of which you need to be apprised. Outreach EMHCs should also attend due to changes being enacted impacting that ministry. Any new parishioners who wish to join either or both of these ministries are most welcome. Those individuals should familiarize themselves with the following qualifications for these positions: A person baptized and confirmed and at least 16 years of age; If married, then in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church; Love of the Eucharist with faith in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist; Desire to grow in personal relationship with Christ in the Eucharist; A registered member of Ascension Parish; Weekly participation in the Eucharist; Willingness to serve as needed and available; Commitment to serve as assigned or to obtain a replacement. Those who do not meet these qualifications should discuss their situation directly with Fr Gary. We are in need of dedicated people in both ministries and ask that you prayerfully discern if you are being called to serve.



REJOICE: AN ADVENT PILGRIMAGE INTO THE HEART OF SCRIPTURE • DECEMBER 3, 4 AND 5

Various Times, St. Mark Rm, St. Luke Rm.

A 4-Week Guided Advent Journal for Prayer and Medita-

tion. In this new installment of the Rejoice! series, Fr. Mark Toups guides you on a transformative journey to Bethlehem through the Sunday Mass readings. Drawing inspiration from Mary and Joseph's unwavering faith, you'll learn to recognize God's presence even in challenging times. Cost: \$5. Pick up your journal after Masses in the Gathering Area beginning November 22/23. **updated times and facilitator*

Choose the best option for you:

- Individual Prayer
- Form a Small Group – In the Comfort of Your Home
- Join a 3-Week Small Group (*4th week done on your own*):

December 3 (Tuesdays):

10:00AM–11:30AM, St. Luke Rm. with Tamara James

December 3 (Tuesdays):

1:00PM–2:30PM, St. Mark Rm. with Kim Sutton

December 4 (Wednesdays):

9:00AM–10:30AM, St. Luke Rm. with Dave Sutton

December 4 (Wednesdays):

1:00PM–2:30PM, St. Luke Rm. with Ann Smith*

December 5 (Thursdays):

9:30AM–11:00AM, St. Mark Rm. with Dick Kane*

Register: Scan QR code



GIVING TUESDAY • DECEMBER 3



Support Ascension through #iGiveCatholic! Giving Tuesday is on December 3rd. Advanced Giving for Giving Tuesday has started and runs through December 10th. This year, your gifts will help us purchase NEW tables and chairs for the Parish Hall. Please note: Any Giving Tuesday contribution is not in lieu of our parish stewardship campaign, but an additional, tax-deductible donation.

Learn More/Donate: Scan the QR code



ST. MARY'S FOOD KITCHEN • DECEMBER 4

9:30AM, *Off-Site*

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 get things set up. We serve the lunch at 11:00AM–12:30PM then return to Ascension. Our needs are for parishioners to donate foods to make the taco salads, some to cook the hamburger so we can just warm it up, and for servers the day of. Please visit KCAscension.org/Get In

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT • DECEMBER 5

5:30PM, *Parish Hall*

Join us for Advent by Candlelight modeling Mary's "YES" – living our Eucharistic Mission. Doors open at 5:30PM. Open to all women of our parish. Join us for an evening of fellowship, dinner, prayer, music, and reflection as we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior at Christmas.

Sponsored by Women of Ascension



WAITING FOR CHRIST: MEDITATIONS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS • DECEMBER 5, 12 AND 19 (THURS.)

5:30PM, *St. Mark Rm.*

St. John Henry Newman was one of the most beloved and well-known preachers of his time. Originally an Anglican priest, Newman converted to Catholicism and became a renowned Catholic priest and Cardinal. You are invited to journey with St. John Henry Newman through Advent into Christmas meditating on the coming of Christ and the Christian life with wonder and joy. Cost: Order the book from Catholic Market for \$14.95 plus tax. *Facilitator: Joyce Grashoff*

Register: Scan QR code

SATURDAY WITH SANTA • DECEMBER 7

9:00AM, *Parish Hall*

Join us for crafts, games, advent activities and a photo with Santa! Enjoy muffins, coffee, and hot cocoa too! Register by December 4th to be entered into a drawing to "jump the line!" Three winners will be notified on December 6th! Register with the QR code. We hope to see you there!

Register: Scan QR code (in ad)

Volunteer: Scan QR code (on the right)

Hosted by: Mothers of Young Children (MOYC)



DECEMBER 1-8



**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 8**

**HOURS
9AM-3PM**

**PARISH HALL
LOWER LEVEL**

**ASCENSION WINTER
BLOOD DRIVE**

DONORS WILL RECEIVE A CHIEFS T-SHIRT

SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP



By joining our blood donation drive, you really have the power to save lives and make a meaningful impact on your community. Many thanks for your support.

WINTER BLOOD DRIVE • DECEMBER 8

9:00AM, *Parish Hall Lower Level*

By joining our blood donation drive, you really have the power to save lives and make a meaningful impact on your community. Donors will receive a Chiefs t-shirt!

Register: Scan the QR code

**MAGNIFIKID!
MAGAZINES**

Be sure to pick up a Magnifikid magazine at weekend Masses! They are available in the back of church.



**PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN
REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE:**



If you feel that there is a situation that a child or vulnerable adult may be in an abusive situation within any ministry of the church (by cleric, employee or volunteer), please report ASAP. Make a report to Kansas Protection Report Center at 1-800-922-5330 or the Archdiocesan Confidential Report Line at 913-647-3051.

AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A
gift
USE IT TO
serve
ONE ANOTHER, AS GOOD
stewards
OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE
CF 1 PET. 4:10



**“SO, AS WE HAVE
RECEIVED, WE GIVE!”**

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

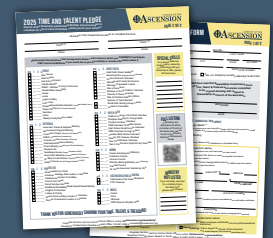
Your commitment to our parish through our “So, As We Have Received, We Give!” Stewardship Appeal will help Church of the Ascension enable transformational encounters by financially supporting our ministries, furthering our mission, and reinforcing our future. We encourage the participation of all of our parishioners!

THANK YOU

Thank you to those parishioners who have submitted their commitments. If you have not yet had an opportunity, please complete your commitment form, either on paper or online, to indicate your financial pledge and ministry involvement.



Online Form



Paper Form

Thank you for your generosity, prayers and commitment to Church of the Ascension.

If you have questions or need assistance, contact Karen Newkirk, Minister for Stewardship and Engagement, (913) 681-3348 x160 or knewkirk@kcascension.org.

MASS INTENTIONS +

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:00AM **+Teresa & +Bernard Weiser**
by *Cathy Weiser*

12:00PM **+Mary Francis FencI**
by *Family*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:00AM —

12:00PM **+Howard Flanagan**
by *Jerry & Glenda Flanagan*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:00AM **+Joan Ostmeyer**

12:00PM **+Chris Braun**
by *O'Grady Family*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

7:00AM **Memorial Mass**

12:00PM **+Fred Zielinski**
by *Rosemary Berberick*

Joan Johnson
by *Keith & Molly Johnson*

+Heather Kelly
by *Ron & Geri Padley*

+Don Yakshaw
by *Family*

+Blake Martin
by *Mike & Maureen Fischbach*

+Sharon Andersen
by *Char Grothues*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

7:00AM **+James Burns**
by *Knights of Columbus*

+Shirley Brazin
by *Knights of Columbus*

+Sharon Andersen
by *Knights of Columbus*

8:00AM **+Rob Allen**
by *Keith & Molly Johnson*

12:00PM **+Deacon Jack Thesing**
by *Mary Thesing*

+John P. Ryan
by *Mary Thesing*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:30AM **+MariAnne Geck**
by *Ascension*

4:30PM **+Michelle Edwards**
by *Family*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:15AM **+John & Louisa Boor & Family**
by *Cathy Weiser*

PRAYERS

FOR OUR SICK

Susan Arp
Bob Barr
Charlotte Berndt
Kathy Bins
Lynn Butzen
Jan Cheray
Paul Clinton
Hudson Coffman
Jim Conrad
James Daley
Dan Deasy
Karen Elliott
Susie Evans
Ron Fortino
Megan Freking
Joseph Garrison
Scott Graham
Mary Pat Harpenau
Marsha Hatfield-Baker
Pete Ingles
Joan B. Johnson
Wade Johnson
Larry Judy
Gabby Kelly
Jerry and Pat Klimas
Jane Godar Kreiter
Ellen & Jerry Lavin
Pam Manning
Dale Marti
Sue Marti
Karen Mathes
Kelly Mayer
Rebecca Meis
Sharon Milde
Forrest Mistler
Jenny Melookaran
Sarah Millsap
Deloris Moore
Joey Monty
Mike Mullen
Kay Myrick
Fred Nelson
Keith Newman
Carmen & John Nodar
Bob Novellano
Rick Ostmeyer
Cathy Oxley
James Palmer
Louise Parizek
Aimee Parsons
Virginia Ranallo
Lilibeth Pinon
Carmen Porterfield
Jack Punswick

Evelyn Rauen
Becky Reed
Amy Reinhardt
Katy Rempel
Heather Rollheiser
Ed Roitz
Mark Rulo
Barbara Schulte
Marilyn Sechi
Bob Sherman
Janet Sherman
Laird Simons
Carol Stump
Paul Surles
Fr. Tom Tank
Dan Tira
Collin Warrender
Bridget A. Weeks
Griffin Weyforth
Marilyn Wheeler
George Winkler
John Witt
Emy Yabut

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Bryan Atkins
Jennifer Baalman
Ken Becker
Marissa Bemis
Joe Breault
Amanda Brower
Shari Chang
Brigid Durkin
Lauren Collins
Audrey Cooper
Steve Dougherty
Bonnie Galyean
Bob Gleason
Maureen Godar
Anne Hauser
Colleen Heeter
Diana Heintz
Art Jeannet
Sean Kavanaugh
Bruce Kessler
Janet Kostelec-Voght
Maryanne Lally
Dennis Larkin
Ellen Loschke
Gregg McNeely
Jean Mickel
Michael Momsen

Steve Moran
Brad Morton
Cindy Morton
Sally Norbert
Yvonne Pennings
Roslyn Perry
Louis Raymond
Russell Rebman
Mark Reda
Nicole Rizzo
Bernadette Schwarz
Olivia Sims
Tom Sims
Colleen Skinner
Lynn Stephan
Stephen Sullivan
John Tucker
Carol Wellinghoff
Hope Wellinghoff
Mike Wellinghoff

ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

Lt. Colonel Diane Caranta, M.D.;
Captain Tyler H. Cordry, US Army;
Captain Stephen Cuff, US Army;
Ensign Edward Dodson, US Navy;
Corporal Aidan Egan, USMC;
2nd Lt John Fischbach, USMC;
Spc. J. Ben Froome II, US Army;
Corporal Margaret Gould, USMC;
Senior Airman Courtney Hinemeyer, USAF;
Larry Homan, US Army;
Lance Corporal Brooke L. Jalbert;
A.B. Leah Leis, USAF;
Captain Jacob Morin, USAF;
Alexander Noguerras US Army;
Captain Dan Prior, US Army;
2nd Lt Tom Stivers, US Army;
Captain Mitchell R Willis, Pilot, USAF

Please note: Prior to publishing, permission from the individual you wish to add to the prayer listing must be obtained. Names will be retained for 6 months.

10:00AM **+Al Cramer**
by *Marysia & Ron Moore*

11:45AM **+Frank & Marie Rottinghaus**
by *Margaret Rethman*

5:00PM **Living & Deceased Members of the Smeltzer Family**

 **PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

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

Hours that NEED immediate weekly partners: * = HIGH NEED**



Sunday: 5:00AM, 1:00PM, 2:00PM; First Sundays 1:00AM***
 Monday: 1:00AM, 10:00AM, 11:00AM
 Tuesday: 11:00PM Wednesday: 7:00AM, 10:00AM
 Thursday: 8:00AM***
 Saturday: 7:00AM, 11:00AM, 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 10:00PM
Plus other subs needed Saturdays at various times
 Register: Scan the QR code or contact Debbie Engel at 913-485-8918 or deborasuzanne@gmail.com.

 **FAMILY ROSARY • TUESDAYS**
 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!

 **HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS**

Are you homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist?
 Contact: Patty at (913) 681-3348



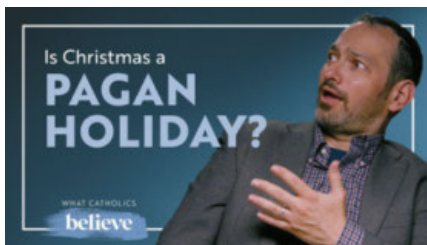
THIS WEEK ON
FORMED

Week of December 01, 2024



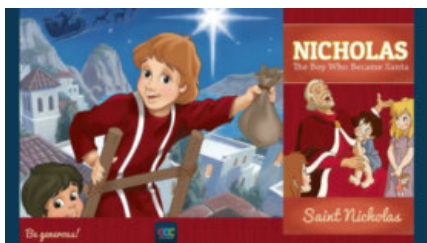
30 Minutes BC

30 Minutes BC creatively explores the profound emotions and intimate struggles of Mary and Joseph during the final 30 minutes before the birth of Jesus. As the clock ticks down, the couple navigates a whirlwind of hope, joy, and uncertainty, turning to God amidst it all.



Christmas (Part 1) | What Catholics Believe

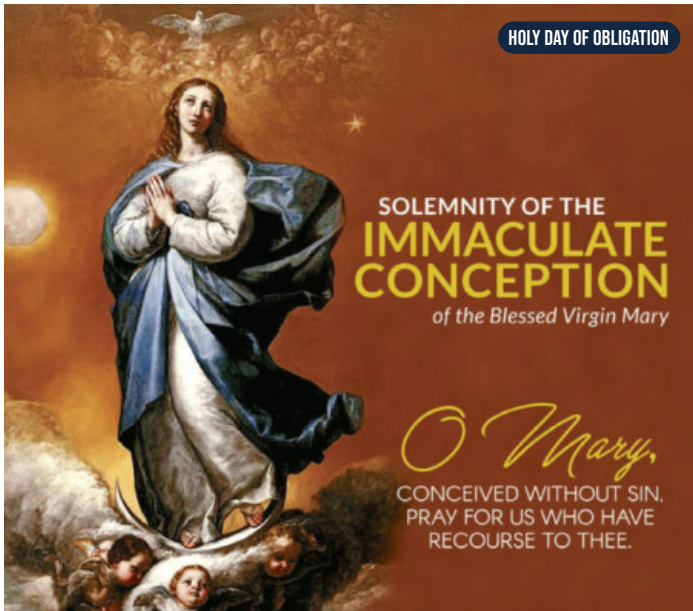
Dr. Michael Barber answers some of the Internet's most asked questions about Christmas. Is Christmas a pagan holiday? Why is Christmas celebrated on December 25? What happened at the "first Christmas"? Find out the answers to these and more!



Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa

Here is the fascinating story of the boy whose love for others make him one of the most popular figures of all times. Today, more than sixteen centuries later, the entire world celebrates the kindness and generosity of the man we call Santa Claus.

DECEMBER



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION) • DECEMBER 9

Masses: 7:00AM, 8:00AM (*School Mass*), 12:00PM and 7:00PM, *Church*

Monday, December 9 is a Holy Day of Obligation celebrating the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. After consultation with the Holy See, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has announced that whenever the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred from Sunday, December 8 to Monday, December 9, it remains a holy day of obligation, beginning this year. This is a change of past practice, whereby the obligation to attend Mass was previously lifted with the transfer of the solemnity from Sunday to Monday. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception has always been transferred to Monday when December 8 has fallen on a Sunday. But from now on, the transfer includes the obligation of the faithful to attend Mass. The Roman Catholic Church in the United States is dedicated to the patronage of Mary under the title of her Immaculate Conception. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is therefore the patronal fest of the U.S. Church.

**Please Note: that if you attend the 5:00PM Mass on Sunday, December 8, this does NOT fulfill the obligation for the Holy Day. You must attend another Mass on Monday, December 9.*

**You may attend a regular Sunday Mass on Sunday, December 8 AND attend the 5:00PM Sunday Mass. The 5:00PM Mass would then fulfill your Holy Day obligation.*



PARABLES & PUBS (YOUNG ADULTS 21-35) • DECEMBER 9

7:00PM, *Off-Site*

Join us at Brew Lab on December 9th for Parables and Pubs! There is no better place to bring a friend, talk about deep things, while sipping on a beverage. With live music, a short parable, and a great atmosphere, we can all hopefully journey to something better. So come on out to the next one, see you soon. Visit KCAscension.org/Parables.



GUADALUPE HOUSE • DECEMBER 10

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 kcascension.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.

ASCENSION BOOK CLUB • DECEMBER 11

1:00PM, *St. Mark Rm.*

Our book for December is *The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride*, by Joe Siple. We will meet on Wednesday, December 11th at 1:00PM in the St. Mark Room.

Details: Linda Cook at 897-3201

Sponsors:
Ascension Knights of Columbus
& Ministry of Care




drive-up
Food Food Collection
Let's Make a Difference

Saturday December 14 & 15
10:00AM-2:00PM

- Can't be here on December 14th and 15th? No worries! You can always drop-off your donation in the food bin, located in the St. John hallway.
- Prefer not to donate food? The Knights will be collecting cash and check donations for Catholic Charities after Sunday masses that weekend.

Questions?
David Whitaker 913-626-2676
Johnette Martin 913-481-8663

Suggested Items

- Peanut Butter ✓
- Beans ✓
- Canned Fruit ✓
- Dried Pasta ✓
- Soup ✓

We Accept Unexpired Foods Only

FOOD DRIVE • DECEMBER 14 & 15

10:00AM, *Parking Lot*

Your help is needed! Catholic Charities' food pantry supplies are still at an all time low. If you are able, please help us care for our neighbors in need. Suggested Items: Peanut Butter, Beans, Canned Fruit, Dried Pasta and Soup. We accept unexpired foods only. The Ascension Drive-Up Food Collection is on December 14th and 15th from 10:00AM–2:00PM. You can always drop off donations in the food bin located in the St. John hallway. The Knights will gratefully accept all cash and check donations before and after all Sunday masses.

Contact: David Whitaker at (913) 626-2676 or Johnette Martin (913) 481-8663



COVERED IN PRAYER • DECEMBER 12

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

Covered in Prayer is having a combined meeting for the months of November and December on Thursday, December 12 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. We send over 150 blankets each year to parishioners and friends who are ill or hurting, so your help is needed. No need to be an expert seamstress. We gratefully accept donations of cotton, fleece and flannel materials and yarns. We look forward to meeting you on Thursday evening!



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MINISTRY • DECEMBER 14



9:00AM (After Morning Mass), *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.



FEARFULLY & WONDERFULLY MADE • DECEMBER 15



6:30PM, *Off-Site*

Join us at Coach's (127th & Antioch) for a social! Christmas is a great time to enjoy and catch up with extended family. However, it is also a time of loud parties, new people, and no routine for our loved ones with special needs. Come share tactics for coping with these disruptions. Or come to relax with a group of parents who understand the upcoming challenges.



HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS • DECEMBER 16

6:00PM, *Church*

Join us in praying a Holy Hour for Vocations, Exposition and Benediction. All are welcome!

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

EVERY 3RD WEDNESDAY | 6:30-7:30PM

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 and connection with others walking the same beautiful and often challenging path.

Each month, we tackle a different issue caregivers often face, from memory loss, to burnout, to navigating family gatherings and more. Our talk is followed by open discussion, so bring your questions, stories, and concerns, and leave with coping skills and spiritual support for the road ahead.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP • DECEMBER 18
6:30PM, St. Luke Rm.

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.

Sponsored by Catholic Community Health

Questions: Michelle at 913-484-2222

SHALOM HOUSE • DECEMBER 26
6:30PM, Drop off in St. John Hallway



Shalom House is the only homeless shelter for men in Kansas City, Kansas. We prepare and deliver dinner, and bake desserts for our homeless brothers at Shalom House on the last Thursday of each month. Our next date is Thursday December 26th. If you feel called to serve, please visit our sign up by scanning the QR code. Detailed information is available on the sign up.

Questions: Dan Tira at 913-991-7755

HOPE FAITH BREAKFAST FOR THE HOMELESS • DECEMBER 28

Before 7:30AM, Drop off in St. John Hallway



Ascension's date for cooking and serving breakfast at Hope Faith Ministries is the last Saturday of the month. If interested in helping, please go to Ascension website at KCAscension.org homepage and click Volunteer Signups to serve or bring food.

JANUARY



12-week session
Church of the Ascension
Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30pm
January 8th - March 26th

\$30 fee for the workbook and 12 group meetings.

CATHOLIC SURVIVING DIVORCE GROUP • JANUARY 8-MARCH 26

7:00PM, Conf. Rm.

Join us for a 12-week session in our Catholic Surviving Divorce Group. This group is facilitated by a licensed counselor, Mary Vorsten. \$30 fee for the workbook and 12 group meetings.

Register: Mary Vorsten at mytherapistmaryv@gmail.com or 913-909-2002

OPEN TO THE WHOLE PARISH (MEN AND WOMEN)

Trivia Night

PRIZES FOR THE FOLLOWING:
1ST PLACE; 2ND PLACE AND 3RD PLACE
BEST THEME/DECORATIONS
2ND PLACE BEST THEME
MUSIC BINGO WINNER

SATURDAY
JANUARY 11, 2025
7:00-10:00PM (DOORS OPEN AT 6:30)

HOSTED BY 

Click here to Register
(as individual or as a team of 8):

\$25 PER PERSON OR \$200 PER TEAM



TRIVIA NIGHT • JANUARY 11

7:00PM, Parish Hall

Come join us for Trivia Night on January 11th! Doors open at 6:30PM. Open to the whole parish (men and women). Prizes for: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place; 1st and 2nd Place Best Theme/Decorations and a Music Bingo Winner! Cost: \$25 per person or \$200 per team (8 people).

Register: Scan QR code

Sponsored by Women of Ascension

ROOTED IN CHRIST

JANUARY 3RD - 4TH



I SAID, 'PLANT THE GOOD SEEDS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,
AND YOU WILL HARVEST A CROP OF LOVE.
PLOW UP THE HARD GROUND OF YOUR HEARTS,
FOR NOW IS THE TIME TO SEEK THE LORD,
THAT HE MAY COME AND SHOWER RIGHTEOUSNESS UPON YOU.'
HOSEA 10:12

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Attend with:
Ascension Youth Ministry

Sunday
02/23/2025
7:00am - 6:00pm



GROW IN FAITH
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ORANGES
FREE T-SHIRT

IN ROCHESTER JULY 11TH - 15TH

Grow in FAITH Meet OTHER CATHOLICS Be CONSUMED Contact MARY BETH Learn MORE

STEUBENVILLE 2025

"FOR THE LORD, YOUR GOD, IS A CONSUMING FIRE, A JEALOUS GOD."
DEUTERONOMY 4:24



THIS YEAR WE ARE HEADED TO ROCHESTER, MN FOR STEUBENVILLE 2025. THE THEME IS "CONSUMED." THE SOONER YOU SIGN-UP, THE LESS YOU PAY. SPOTS ARE LIMITED AND CHAPERONES ARE NEEDED. CONTACT MARY BETH WITH ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR TO CHAPERONE.



ASCENSION KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Please join Knights, spouses, and significant others for our annual Christmas Social on December 15th at Cinzetti's. Social at 5:30PM and Dinner at 6:30PM. See the Knights website for more details and to sign-up/prepay.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH AND KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Mark and Sarah Fortino and their son, Matthew, our Family of the Month, and Brian Yanez, our Knight of the Month, for November.

PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

- Join us on Saturday mornings to Peacefully Pray for life. 9:30AM–10:00AM in front of Planned Parenthood. Park in the west parking lot of Ottawa University, 4370 W 109th St, Overland Park, KS and join the group led by prayer vigil leader, Mike Bartkoski.

FOOTBALL SEASON 2024 RAFFLE RESULTS

Congratulations to the two Ascension winners for Week 10 (11/9/24). Checks will be mailed to the winners. Vince Ohalloran - \$50, Mike Schmidt - \$50.

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 Jordan Steel at raiload@aol.com.

KNIGHTS CHOIR

Contact Patrick Kershaw at captkershawret@icloud.com if you are interested in joining.

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, please pray for Seminarian Ronald Aries from the Philippines whom the Ascension Council has sponsored through Unbound.org. Holy Hours dedicated to Vocations occur every Friday at 1:00PM and Saturday at 11:00AM in the Adoration Chapel.

ALTAR SERVERS

Thank an Altar Server and their families whenever you can for their commitment and devotion!

JOIN US FOR MASS AND MEETINGS

- Officers' Meeting: Sunday, December 1st, 6:15PM, Annex (*Knights Room*)
- Council Meeting: Monday, December 16th, 7:00PM, *Parish Hall B*, preceded by the Knights Vocation Holy Hour and Rosary at 6:00PM.
- Knights' Mass Friday mornings at 7:00AM with breakfast following at Hy-Vee
- 2025 Dues can be paid at AscensionKofC.com

UPCOMING EVENTS *(Watch for email with sign-up and details)*

- **DECEMBER 7:** Nativity Set-Up at Ascension (*After AM Mass*)
- **DECEMBER 7:** MOYC Saturday Santa Volunteer Opportunity
- **DECEMBER 8:** Knights Mass with Knights Choir and Assembly Honor Guard (*Please attend this Mass wearing a Knight's shirt if available*)
- **DECEMBER 13 & 14:** Salvation Army Volunteer Opportunities
- **DECEMBER 14 & 15:** Food Collection Volunteer Opportunity
- **DECEMBER 15:** Knights Christmas Party, *Cinzetti's*

FOURTH DEGREE ASSEMBLY ACTIVITIES

- Fourth Degree Officers Meeting, 12/4, 7:00PM, *Annex (Knights Room)*
- Knights Mass with Assembly Honor Guard, 12/8, 11:45AM, *See email to sign up for Honor Guard*
- Fourth Degree Assembly Meeting, 12/10, 6:30PM, Parish Hall B
- Fourth Degree Knights interested in joining the Fourth Degree Honor Guard please contact: Dave Jones at 913-825-9828 or Pat Healy at 913-244-6544.

DID YOU KNOW?

The order is dedicated to the principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. Membership is restricted to men, at least 18 years of age, who are practicing Catholics in union with the Holy See and are in good standing with the Church. As of August 2024, there were over 2.1 million Knights of Columbus worldwide, with the majority in North America. Our Council has over 500 members and we are always looking for new members to serve Ascension and our Community.



Join today:





DINNER FOR THOSE IN RCIA

Would you like to support the adults in this year's RCIA? We have 24 adults who come every Monday evening to learn about our Catholic faith and discern if this is where God is calling them. They come straight from work, kids, activities, caring for aging parents etc. and you can support them!

Each Monday night we feed a simple supper to the Inquirers and their sponsors which is 55 people total. We are looking for individuals or groups who can join together (friends, CRHP groups, ministry pals...) to provide a meal once this year.

Dinners should be dropped off between 5:00PM-5:15PM in the Matthew/Mark Room. Options include signing up for the whole meal or a portion of it. Scan the QR code to sign up for a date.



Questions? Contact Chris Slack at (913) 461-8319



DEADLINE DECEMBER 12TH

Christmas Flower MEMORIALS

Remember your loved ones by helping Church of the Ascension beautify our sanctuary with poinsettias for Christmas. Christmas Masses will be offered for your loved ones. Envelopes are available on the table in the gathering area and can be placed in the locked box or turned into the parish office. Please print clearly so the information in the bulletin is accurate.

A suggested donation of \$20.00 is appreciated.



RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER:

AN ADVENT PRAYER FOR LIFE

God of Life, We rejoice in the promise of your coming.

You have sent your Son, born in Bethlehem.

He is the Prince of Peace, and The one in whose name all oppression shall cease.

May we welcome his coming each day

And prepare for his coming at the end of time.

May we build a culture that welcomes him

By welcoming every child, born and unborn.

We pray through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen

Infant Baptism



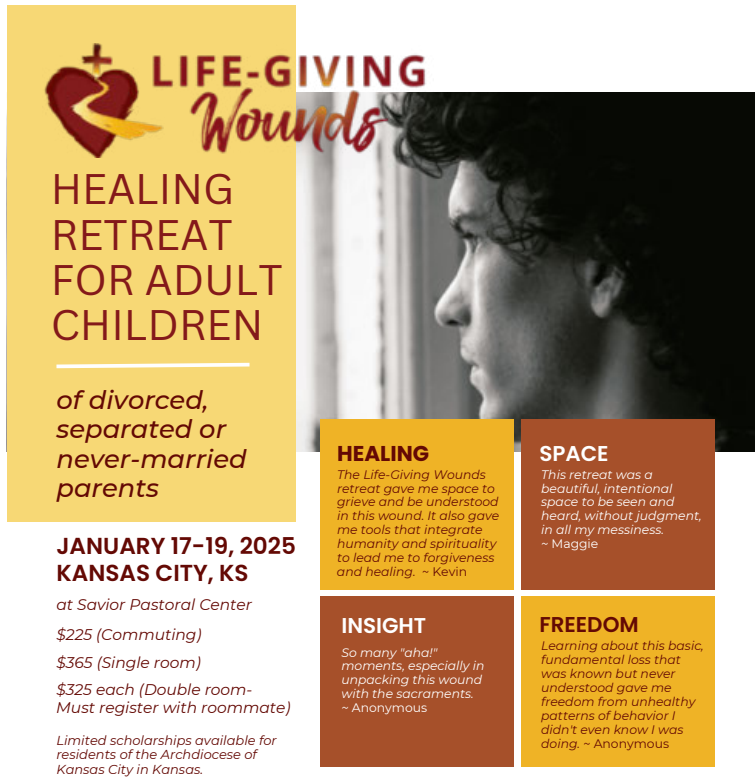
If you are pregnant or planning a new addition to the family, please contact the parish office.

Baptism class is offered monthly & required for new parents.

Class and forms must be completed prior to selecting the baptism date.

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit.
CCC 1213

Contact the parish office at 913-681-3348



LIFE-GIVING Wounds

HEALING RETREAT FOR ADULT CHILDREN

of divorced, separated or never-married parents

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HEALING
The Life-Giving Wounds retreat gave me space to grieve and be understood in this wound. It also gave me tools that integrate humanity and spirituality to lead me to forgiveness and healing. ~ Kevin

SPACE
This retreat was a beautiful, intentional space to be seen and heard, without judgment, in all my messiness. ~ Maggie

INSIGHT
So many "aha!" moments, especially in unpacking this wound with the sacraments. ~ Anonymous

FREEDOM
Learning about this basic, fundamental loss that was known but never understood gave me freedom from unhealthy patterns of behavior I didn't even know I was doing. ~ Anonymous

SPACE IS LIMITED. REGISTER TODAY!



This peer-led weekend includes insightful talks, optional small group and one-on-one discussion, Eucharistic adoration, Mass and the opportunity for Reconciliation.

Life-draining wounds can become a **LIFE-GIVING MISSION.**

archkck.org/LGW @ bdupont@archkck.org OFFICE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Adult children (18+) whose parents divorced, separated or were never married are invited to a Catholic healing retreat January 17-19, 2025. This peer-led weekend includes insightful talks, optional small group and one-on-one discussion, Eucharistic adoration, Mass and the opportunity for Reconciliation. For more information and registration scan the QR code in the ad above.



Embrace Grace
A Walking with Moms in Need Program

Please consider donating an item for the 4 women we are currently walking with at Ascension:



Baby Shower Amazon Wish List

Embrace Grace - Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas (archkck.org)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2025



Garden GALA
CELEBRATE ASCENSION

More Details Coming Soon!

We are looking for more people to join our Celebrate Ascension Committee for this parish-wide event.

If you are interested, please contact **Becky Reed** at: breed@acseagles.org

Mass 4:30 p.m. | Dinner, Auction, Dancing 5:30-11 p.m.

Special Needs Youth Faith Formation

Currently inviting families with a special needs, disabled or learning challenged child age K-8th grade to sign up for the 2024-2025 Youth Faith Formation program

Our specially trained leaders will provide faith formation and sacramental preparation in small group and individual sacramental preparation sessions that help your child growth in their faith through an adapted approach tailored for their needs.

Call the YFF office at 913-681-7683 or visit <https://kcascension.org/fwm/> to learn more.

Classes start soon!

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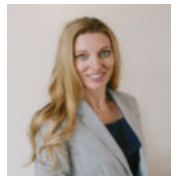


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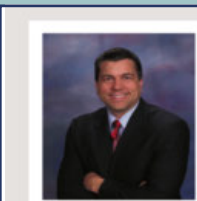
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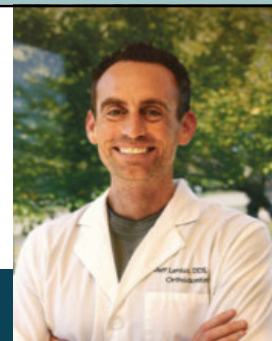


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