

DECEMBER 8, 2024

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Catholic Parish



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”

LK 3:4

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

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

BAPTISMS

Haven Grace Dampman

BANNS OF HOLY MATRIMONY

Chris Lamphier and Hannah Manganaro
Kyle Marlin and Kelsey Happer

ASCENSION KIDS

Circle the picture that is facing the **wrong** way.



HELP OUR ELDERLY
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,

Today we celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent and in the Gospel passage we hear that “the word of God came to John, the son of Zechariah.” This is John the Baptist, who scholars tell us might well have been connected with the Essene sect of Judaism, a monastic-type community that lived in the Judean desert near the Dead Sea.

What does it mean that “the word of God” came to him? I think it means that he “heard” God, not necessarily with his ears, but he heard him nonetheless. When he heard God, John took this message seriously and his life took a new direction. He became a man who announced to the world the blessing that was coming in Jesus, the Christ, the promised Messiah. When John heard God’s word and responded to it, he became a prophet. By calling people to acknowledge their sins and recognize their need for salvation that could come from God alone, John prepared the way in people’s hearts for the Messiah’s coming.

This season of Advent is one way that the Church helps us to prepare our hearts for the Lord’s coming. Has “the word of God” come to you lately? Has he called you to take some kind of action, maybe even to move in a new direction in your life? If you say that “the word of God” has never come to you, then I would suggest you have not been listening well. God speaks to all of us, but we are not always ready to listen. The ears of our hearts are often tuned into the “noise” of this world and it makes it difficult to hear God’s call deep in our hearts.

As the world rushes around preparing for a mostly secular version of Christmas, today’s Gospel passage invites us to slow down, be still and listen. We just might, like John the Baptist, have “the word of God” come to us and that “word” might just call us to change, to move in a new direction. The question is - Are we listening?

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



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 **AI Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 7:00PM **Journey** | Library
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

- 7:00AM **Mass** | Church
- 8:00AM **All School Mass** | Church
- 12:00PM **Mass** | Church
- 5:30PM **Liturgy Committee Meeting** | Conf. Rm.
- 5:30PM **RCIA Class** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:30PM **Boy Scouts Troop #218** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Mass** | Church
- 7:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 10:00AM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 3:15PM **Blooming Girls** | Parish Hall B
- 3:30PM **Youth Choir Practice** | Church
- 4:00PM **Guadalupe House** | Off-Site
- 5:30PM **Celebrate Ascension Planning Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 6:30PM **4th Degree Knights/Assembly Meeting** | Parish Hall B
- 6:30PM **Knights of Columbus State Regional Meeting** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:30PM **Virtus Safe Environment Class** | Library
- 6:30PM **Weekly Family Rosary** | Church
- 7:00PM **Cub Scouts #3218/Committee Meeting** | Conf. Rm.
- 7:30PM **Special Needs Team** | St. John Rm.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 9:00AM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Luke Rm.
- 10:00AM **Epic: Church History** | St. Mark Rm.
- 11:00AM **Battle of the Books** | Parish Hall A

- 1:00PM **Ascension Book Club** | St. Mark Rm.
- 1:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:00PM **Epic: Church History** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:00PM **Weekly YFF** | Church
- 6:00PM **Year I Classes** | ACS Classroom 101
- 7:00PM **Choir Practice** | Church
- 7:00PM **AI Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

- 9:30AM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 3:30PM **Youth Choir Practice** | Church
- 4:30PM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 5:30PM **Waiting for Christ** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:00PM **Covered in Prayer** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:15PM **American Heritage Girls Meeting** | Parish Hall B
- 7:00PM **Disciples Dwelling (Rosary Garden)** | Youth Center

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

- 6:00AM **Men of Ascension** | St. Mark Rm.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 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 **Bereavement Support** | St. Luke Rm.
- 10:00AM **Food Drive** | Parking Lot

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 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 **AI Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 6:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:30PM **Fearfully & Wonderfully Made** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:30PM **Heartache to Healing** | St. John Rm.
- 7:00PM **Journey** | Library
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 8** **HOURS
9AM-3PM** **PARISH HALL
LOWER LEVEL**

**ASCENSION WINTER
BLOOD DRIVE**

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.

DONORS WILL RECEIVE A CHIEFS T-SHIRT
SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP

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

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

SOLEMNITY OF THE
**IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**
of the Blessed Virgin Mary

O Mary,
CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN,
PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE
RECOURSE TO THEE.

**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 cel-

ebrating 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
BREW LAB 7925 MARTY
DEC 9 7PM LIVE MUSIC

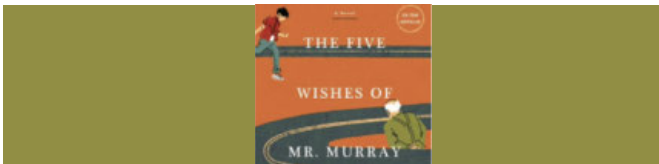
PARABLES & PUBS (YOUNG ADULTS 21-35) • DECEMBER 9

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* by Joe Siple. We will meet on Wednesday, December 11th at 1:00PM in the St. Mark Room.

Details: Linda Cook at 897-3201**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!

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS • DECEMBER 12 (DEADLINE)***Gathering Area*

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.

Sponsors:
Ascension Knights of Columbus
& Ministry of Care




drive-up
Food Collection
Let's Make a Difference

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

Suggested Items

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

- 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.

FOOD DRIVE • DECEMBER 14 & 1510:00AM, *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



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.



CATHOLIC MAKER'S MARKET • DECEMBER 14 COMMUNITY EVENT

4:30 (Mass), 5:30PM (Market), *Off-Site*

The First Annual Catholic Maker's Market will be held on December 14th at St. Pius X Catholic Church in

Mission, Kansas! We will be having Mass at 4:30PM and then at 5:30PM the Market will open! Shop for the holidays and socialize with local artists and creatives!

Learn More: [@vivifycatholicck](#) on Instagram



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.

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	-Long & short sleeved onesies (newborn, 0-3, 3-6mo, +)
-Sleep sacks (sizes 3-6, 6-9)	-Shampoo and conditioner for natural hair, oils & lotions (coconut & vitamin e products)
-Baby blankets	-Robes and slippers (adult sized)
-Baby socks and mittens (newborn, 0-3, 3-6mo)	-Walmart, Target & QuikTrip gift cards
-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	

ASCENSION GATHERING AREA | DECEMBER 2-15

NATIVITY HOUSE • NOW THRU DECEMBER 15

Gathering Area

There is still time to help! Please join us in showering Nativity House with needed items (see list above).



“SO, AS WE HAVE RECEIVED, WE GIVE!”

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

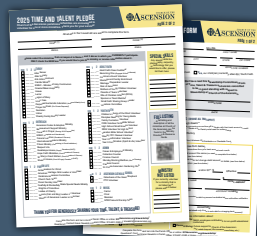
Your commitment to our parish through our “So, As We Have Received, We Give!” Stewardship Appeal will help Church of the Ascension enable transformational encounters by financially supporting our ministries, furthering our mission, and reinforcing our future. We encourage the participation of all of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

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



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.

RSVP by calling Michelle Buzzard at (913) 484-2222.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY HEALTH
 HOME CARE · HOSPICE · HOSPICE HOUSE
CatholicCommunityHealth.org
 Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas

MASS INTENTIONS +

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:00AM —

12:00PM **Jack Punswick**
by *Mike & Diane Brungardt*

7:00PM **Ascension Parishioners**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

7:00AM —

12:00PM **+Dr. Raymond Fuller**
by *Farnan Family*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

7:00AM **+Fansie M. Connelly**
by *Tom & Laurel Ward*

12:00PM **+Gilbert Bickle**
by *Susan Desmond*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00AM **Leo Fimmen**
by *Deacon John & Connie Stanley*

12:00PM **+Michelle Edwards**
by *Family*

Special Intentions of Randy Edwards

+Charlene Clements
by *Ron & Geri Padley*

+Fred Zielinski
by *Joan Newmarker*

+Thomas Audley
by *Cathy Audley*

+Marguerite Ault
by *Deacon John & Connie Stanley*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

7:00AM **+Sharon Andersen**
by *Knights of Columbus Breakfast Club*

12:00PM **+Eleanor & +Vincent Kohake**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:30AM **+Alice Andresen**
by *Michael & Maureen Fischbach*

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

+Katherine McCool
by *Family*

+Edward Austin Lewis
by *Family*

Special Intentions of Randy Edwards
by *Family*

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
Parker Jantz
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
Mark Murfield
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.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:15AM **Ascension Parishioners**

10:00AM **+Sam Mentasana**
by *Louie Mentasana, Charlie & Carol Mentasana*

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

5:00PM —



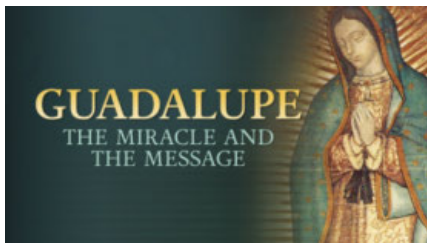
THIS WEEK ON
FORMED

Week of December 08, 2024



Christmas Special | Laugh and Grow Bible for Kids

Hosted by the Hopeful World, this beautiful retelling of the story of Jesus' birth will help kids understand the true meaning of Christmas. Viewers both young and old will be filled with hope as they recall God's promise fulfilled through our Savior's arrival.



Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message

Enjoy this film narrated by Jim Caviezel that walks us through our Mother's miraculous appearance to Juan Diego, an encounter that has influenced the conversion of millions of people.



What Is The Immaculate Conception?

What is the Immaculate Conception? Use this video to help teach kids about this great mystery of our faith.

 **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

DECEMBER



HEARTACHE TO HEALING • DECEMBER 15

5:00PM, Church

Heartache to Healing is a social support group for those widowed early in life. Come join us in the Narthex on Sunday, December 15th for 5:00PM Sunday Mass at 4:50PM. After Mass join us downstairs in the St. John room for some visiting, eating, drinking, and playing games. Please bring a snack and/or drink to share while we visit and play board/card games. Come join us for Sunday Mass and then meet some new friends, pray, and play with us! We look forward to meeting you on Sunday, December 15th!

RSVP: Laura at khaeus1@hotmail.com, or Damon at damon452@yahoo.com



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 • 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

BREATHE RESPITE CARE • DECEMBER 21

4:00PM, Off-Site

The BREATHE staff includes highly trained individuals who provide a fun and safe environment for our participants. The goal is that every parent or caretaker feels confident leaving their loved one in a safe, fun and exciting environment. The BREATHE staff includes two Registered Nurses who are on staff to handle all medical needs such as G-Tube feedings, medication distribution, toileting, and any other medical needs. BREATHE also has an Adaptive Physical Education (PE) Teacher who provides exciting and fun physical activities to get participants moving. Additionally, we have a Music Therapist who engages participants through music. Finally, we have a large staff of loving and caring volunteers of all ages. Each event has a flexible yet consistent schedule.

RSVP: Scan QR code (in ad)

Volunteer: Scan QR code (to the right)



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 signup by scanning the QR code. Detailed information is available on the signup.

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



ST. MARY'S FOOD KITCHEN • JANUARY 1

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 until 12:30PM then return to Ascension. It is a real hands-on experience of serving people in need. 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 at St Mary's, and for servers the day of. Added benefit: WE HAVE A BLAST! Please visit KCAscension.org/Get Involved/Service Opportunities to see full details and explore volunteer opportunities!

Questions: Dorothy and Michael Eagan 913-526-8314



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



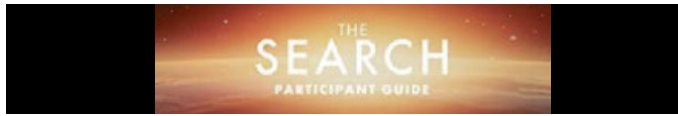
TRIVIA NIGHT • JANUARY 11

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



THE SEARCH SMALL GROUPS • JANUARY 9

6:00PM, Ascension and Off-Site

Join a Small Group to Discuss “The Search” (free) on FORMED. Groups of up to 8 people will watch a 20-minute video and then discuss (Discussion Guide provided!). 7 weeks 1 ½ hour per session. We will meet at Ascension for the first “optional” session on January 9, 2025, from 6:00PM-8:00PM for the opportunity to meet your small group leader. Small groups officially begin meeting in individual homes the week of January 13-17.



Choose a group for YOU:

- **Couples:** Mondays at 6:30PM with Steve & Angela Salem
- **Couples:** Tuesdays at 6:00PM with Glenn & Cindy Bowers
- **Couples:** Tuesdays at 7:00PM with Jim & Joanne Burns
- **Couples:** Wednesdays at 7:00PM with Evan & Joanie James
- **Couples:** Thursdays at 6:00PM with Phil & Joyce Glasser
- **Couples:** Thursdays at 7:00PM with Michael & Susan Lally
- **Men/Women:** Thursdays at 2:00PM with Char Grothues
- **Men:** Wednesdays at 8:00PM with Patrick Earhart
- **Women 50+:** Fridays at 7:30PM with Katherine McGuire
- **Fathers of Young Children:** Wednesdays at 7:30PM with Adam Keller
- **Fathers of Young Children:** Wednesdays at 7:30PM with Jake Huber
- **Mothers of Young Children:** Register to Receive Specific Days and Times of Small Groups

Register: Scan the QR Code or call the parish office at 913-681-3348



THE GREAT BOOK SERIES: EVERLASTING MAN • JANUARY 2, 9 16, 23, 30 FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27 MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, 24

5:30PM, St. Mark Rm.

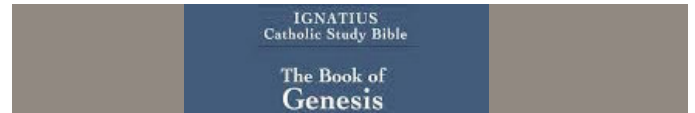
Next in the series of great books that you always wanted to read but were afraid to do on your own is The Everlasting Man by G. K. Chesterton. St. John Paul II once wrote, “Jesus Christ is the answer to the question that is posed by every human life.” All human history converges on the Incarnation, and then proceeds from it. Chesterton



looks at Christianity from a perspective you have never seen before, and will stay with you for the rest of your life. It has evangelized countless numbers to Christianity. This is a 16 week read throughout Winter into Spring, and will be aided greatly by videos of the GKC online book club, and the Word on Fire edition of this classic. Cost: The Everlasting Man may be ordered from Wordonfire.org for \$29.95. (It is strongly recommended that you use this version so that you have the questions we will use in class, Dale Ahlquist commentary after each chapter, and footnotes on every page available to you.)

Facilitator: Joyce Grashoff

Register: Scan the QR Code or call the parish office at 913-681-3348



THE BOOK OF GENESIS SUNDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY • JANUARY 5–MARCH 2 (SUNDAYS)

9:30AM, St. Mark Rm.

What better way to begin the New Year 2025 than to start with the first book of the Bible? We will be studying the book of Genesis (for 9 weeks) using reading of Scripture, and discussion in small and large group. If your New Year’s resolution includes “I would like to start all over again,” come and join us in reading the Bible with deep understanding to learn what God’s plan was for us “in the beginning...” Cost: We will be using the book of Genesis from the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible. That single book for \$12.95 can be purchased online at www.ignatius.com or locally from Trinity House. Link provided in registration confirmation email.



Facilitator: Joyce Grashoff

Register: Scan the QR Code or call the parish office at 913-681-3348



BISHOP ROBERT BARRON’S “THE MASS” COURSE • JANUARY 9–FEBRUARY 20 (THURSDAYS)

1:00PM, St. Mark Rm.

Join us in walking through “The Mass” by Bishop Barron (for 7 weeks) and be transformed through insights on this most privileged and intimate encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. See how the Mass brings us out of the fallen world and into the heavenly realm, how it resonates with a call from God and a response by his people,



the Church, and, most importantly, how we are intimately joined with the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. "The Mass" will help you understand how to fully, consciously, and actively participate in the source and summit of the Christian life. Sign up today! Cost: \$5 Ascension will be providing binders of the materials at the first class for a cost of \$5.

Facilitator: Tamara James

Register: Scan the QR Code or call the parish office at 913-681-3348



FORGIVENESS 101 CLASS • JANUARY 11 & 18

9:00AM, St. Mark Rm.

Are you struggling with forgiving someone who has really hurt you? You are not alone! "Forgiveness 101" offers a safe and supportive experience of healing for anyone suffering from unresolved conflict and past trauma. In this workshop, you will review the important difference between forgiveness and justice and learn that forgiveness is not about forgetting or excusing the offense. People who learn to forgive are happier, healthier, more at peace, more purposeful, and actually look liberated. The path towards healing is a Journey of Hope! Check out www.yeabut.org for more information on this ministry. "To forgive is to set a prisoner free, only to realize that the prisoner was you." – Lewis B Smedes. Cost: \$20



Facilitator: Kim Sutton

Register: Scan the QR Code or call the parish office at 913-681-3348



ASCENSION KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



CATHOLIC CHARITIES TURKEY COLLECTION

Thank you to all of the Ascension families that donated turkeys and money last month to help those in need have a Thanksgiving Dinner for their family. With your help, we were able to provide turkeys for nearly 300 families and also provided Catholic Charities with funds to provide other Thanksgiving fixings.

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 other Knights 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 our recent Ascension winners for Week 12 and 13 (11/9/24-11/16/24). Checks will be mailed to the winners. Tom Damewood - \$50 and Jim Elder - \$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 railtoad@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

- Council Meeting: Monday, December 16th, 7:00PM, *Parish Hall B*, preceded by the Knights Vocation Holy Hour and Rosary at 6:00PM.
- Officers' Meeting: Sunday, January 5th, 6:15PM, Annex (*Knights Room*)
- 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 8:** Knights Mass with Knights Choir and Assembly Honor Guard *(Please attend this Mass wearing a Knight's shirt & name tag 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

- 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 Officers Meeting, 2/6, 7:00PM, Annex (*Knights Room*)
- 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.



Join today:





NOW OPEN!

“Sensory Friendly Room”
for the 11:45AM Mass

In the Nursery downstairs there is a TV where we will live stream the mass. This low-light and low-volume room is specifically for children and adults who have sensory needs that prevent them from participating in the mass.



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

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

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER:

6,000 FOR CHRISTMAS

The Abortion Pill Reversal Network (APRN) has saved 6,000 babies since its inception in 2008. APRN, managed by Heartbeat International, has a 24/7 hotline that connects women in 93 countries with providers who can help reverse their chemical abortions. The number is 877-558-0333. Women who have taken mifepristone, the first pill in a chemical abortion procedure, can possibly reverse the abortion by taking progesterone within 72 hours. Heartbeat International (Heartbeat) states that studies have shown 64-68% of women who take progesterone, in time, after mifepristone are able to save their pregnancies. The study also shows that there is no increase in birth defects and that there is a lower premature delivery rate than the general population. “Today we celebrate 6,000 children, all made perfectly in the image of our God!” said Chirsta Brown, senior director of Medical Impact for Heartbeat. Continuing she said: “We are thankful for each of them (the children) and their brave mothers who, at one point, felt there was no other way and sadly started an abortion. Quickly, with deep regret, they realized the value of the life they carried and wanted a new plan—and the APRN was there to help.” (Source: “Abortion Pill Reversal Works, ... Grace Porto, Life News, 11/22/24 and others).

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!



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)

LIFE-GIVING WOUNDS

HEALING RETREAT FOR ADULT CHILDREN

of divorced, separated or never-married parents

JANUARY 17-19, 2025 KANSAS CITY, KS

at Savior Pastoral Center

\$225 (Commuting)
\$365 (Single room)
\$325 each (Double room- Must register with roommate)

Limited scholarships available for residents of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.

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.



What is BREATHE?
 BREATHE (Bessette Respite Embracing Action Towards Holy Encounters) is a monthly respite ministry for caregivers of individuals with special needs. It provides individuals the opportunity for community, prayer, socialization and activities and a meal.

When is it held?
 It is held on the third Saturday of the month from 4-7pm. Some dates are flexible depending on holidays and other school related dates (Thanksgiving, spring break, prom, graduation etc.) Our proposed dates for the 2024-2025 calendar year are as follows:

October 19 2024	April 12 2025
November 30 2024	May 17 2025
January 4 2025	June 21 2025
February 15 2025	July 19 2025
March 22 2025	

What is needed?
 We are searching for a school that would be willing to be the permanent host site for our monthly events and be able to store our belongings so that we aren't needing to transport them. We would need access to a cafeteria or adequate space for eating for up to 100 people, access to a gym for activities and 4 to 5 classrooms for various activities, nurses station, and a quiet room. It is also preferred to have access to a gated playground for outdoor play when weather permits.

If your school would be willing to be our permanent host or even host a few events throughout the year, Please contact Josh Ruoff at the special needs ministry office of the Archdiocese at (913)647-3054 or by email at jruoff@archkc.org

SUNDAY MASS GREETERS WANTED

We are looking for more friendly faces to join our ministry!! This is an EASY way to serve our parish and welcome our guests.

All you need to do is come to Mass 15 minutes early to offer a welcome and open doors, and then distribute bulletins after Mass. Scheduling can be flexible to meet your needs. This is a great opportunity for family service too!

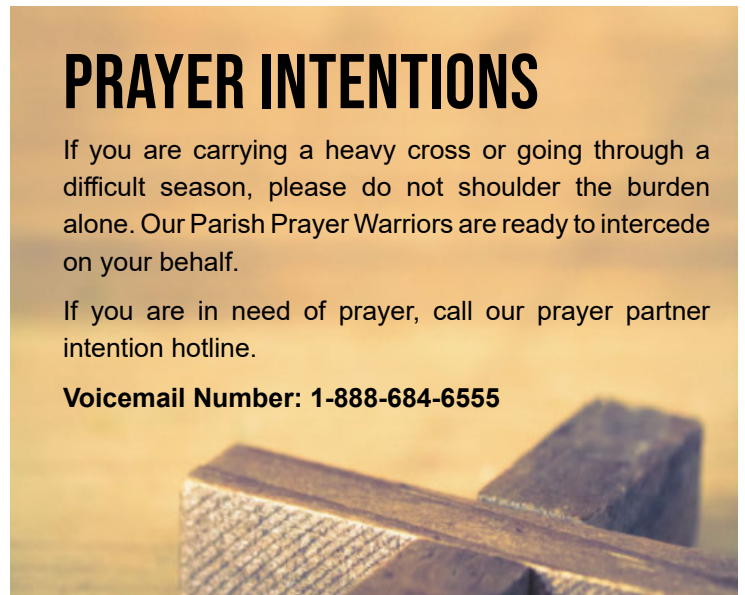
Please contact Mary Bibler to sign up or for more information:
mbibler@kcascension.org

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



COME TO BETHLEHEM



LIVE NATIVITY : DECEMBER 12-15

SCHOOL OF FAITH LIVING NATIVITY

A community celebration of Advent and preparation for CHRISTMAS.

Please join us for a special LIVE NATIVITY; Christmas Rosary meditation with The Joyful Mysteries, reading of the Nativity Gospel, hot chocolate, cookies, traditional Christmas carols & LIVE ANIMALS.

Dec. 12th & 13th from 5:00PM-8:00PM

Dec. 14th & 15th from 4:00PM-8:00PM

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**The program will repeat each night, every hour.*

Come for an hour or come and stay as long as you would like. Invite your family, friends and Rosary Groups!



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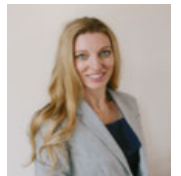
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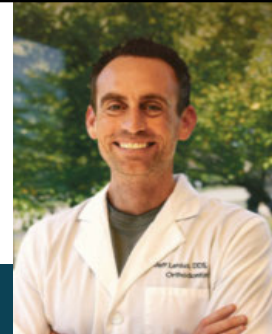
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