

DECEMBER 15, 2024

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Catholic Parish

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

IN JOY,
WE WAIT



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

 **BAPTISMS**

Caroline Suzanne Friling
Brooks Michael Conlan

 **BANNS OF HOLY MATRIMONY**

Kyle Marlin and Kelsey Happer
Jack Tenbrink and Delaney Cedeno

† FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Janet Blessing

Walter Hellebusch
*Brother of Carl & Brother-in-law
of Laverne Hellebusch*

Madeline Harpenau
*Sister-in-law of Lennie &
Mary Pat Harpenau*

**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,

On this Third Sunday of Advent we hear John the Baptist calling the desert crowds to repentance. John offered a baptism of repentance, but before he baptized he demanded that the people demonstrate evidence of their change of heart by producing good works.

John exhorted the people to be generous, to be honest and just. He encouraged them not to abuse their positions of power or to bear false witness. He said be content with your wages, not resentful that you do not make more. John spoke with a great urgency; God's time of fulfillment was at hand. John the Baptist was announcing the coming of the Messiah and he was preparing people's hearts to recognize Jesus when he came.

As we journey through Advent, we too are invited by John, through the Gospel text, to ready the way of the Lord in our own hearts. The Baptist knew that people would never recognize the Messiah's presence if they were mired in sin. So, he encouraged them to repent of their sinful ways and to choose good over evil; to live in new ways.

Advent, while not as penitential a season as Lent, nonetheless calls us to turn from sin so that we too might better recognize the blessing we have received in Jesus. All Catholics are encouraged to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation a part of their preparation for Christmas. Just as John called the crowds in the desert to repent, so the Church, through the proclamation of the Advent Gospels, calls each of us to repent as well; to confess and change our ways.

The regional penance services were early this year and have already taken place, but Ascension and surrounding parishes offer ample opportunities for reconciliation. Take advantage of the opportunity.

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



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 9:30AM **Sunday Scripture Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 10:00AM **Food Drive** | Parking Lot
- 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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 5:30PM **FIRE (Middle School)** | Youth Center
- 5:30PM **RCIA Class** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:00PM **Holy Hour for Vocations** | Church
- 6:00PM **RCIA Year 2** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:15PM **Women's Journey** | ACS Classroom 101
- 6:30PM **Boy Scouts Troop #218** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Knights of Columbus/Council Meeting** | Parish Hall B
- 7:00PM **Men of Prayer/Faith Discussion** | Conf. Rm.
- 7:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 10:00AM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:30PM **Weekly Family Rosary** | Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 12:30PM **Ladies Beginners Bridge** | St. John Rm.
- 1:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Luke Rm.
- 3:30PM **Youth Choir Practice** | Church
- 6:00PM **Vocations Committee Meeting** | Conf. Rm.
- 6:00PM **Weekly YFF** | Church

- 6:00PM **Year I Classes** | ACS Classroom 101
- 6:30PM **Caregiver's Support Group** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00PM **Choir Practice** | Church
- 7:00PM **AI Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 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.
- 6:00PM **Cub Scouts #3218 Pack Meeting** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Disciples Dwelling (Rosary Garden)** | Youth Center

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 6:00AM **Men of Ascension** | St. Mark Rm.
- 12:00PM **College Lunch and Mass** | Parish Hall A
- 1:00PM **The Bible and Catechism NOT in a Year** | St. Luke Rm.
- 2:30PM **Mahjonn** | St. Mark Rm.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 6:00AM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00AM **Christ Renews His Parish Bible Study** | St. John Rm.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 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.
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym



CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Thank you for being generous to the Christmas Catholic Charities collection to help even better things happen this coming year. Please use your Catholic Charities envelopes, and put in the regular offertory collection during the Christmas Masses. If you are on auto-debit and do not receive envelopes, extra Catholic Charities envelopes will be available in the gathering area or you can write Catholic Charities in the memo line of your check. You can also donate on-line through your Realm profile by choosing the Catholic Charities Fund.

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




The Marriage Course

Navigate life together

A course to help couples strengthen their relationship

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT
 (HYBRID COURSE)

JANUARY 21ST IN-PERSON
 KICK OFF, DINNER PROVIDED

VIEW 6 VIDEOS AT HOME

APRIL 29TH IN-PERSON
 WRAP UP, DINNER PROVIDED

To Register 

CONTACT: MARCIA JACOBSON
 MINISTER OF MARRIAGE, FAMILY LIFE & VOCATIONS
 913-681-3348 X 151 M.JACOBSON@KCASCENSION.ORG



HOLY *half*-HOUR

We are having a Holy "Half" Hour and Simple Supper:

MONDAY, JANUARY 20 | 6:00PM
 REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED BUT NOT REQUIRED




AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A *gift*


USE IT TO *serve*

ONE ANOTHER, AS GOOD *stewards*

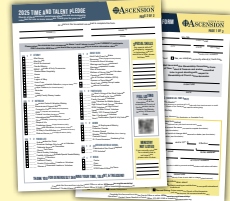
OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE
CF 1 PET. 4:10



"SO, AS WE HAVE RECEIVED, WE GIVE!"



Online Form



Paper Form

We are grateful to all of our parishioners who have submitted their commitments for 2025. Your support will allow Church of the Ascension to continue enabling transformational encounters by financially supporting our ministries, furthering our mission, and reinforcing our future.

We realize this is a busy time of year, but we need your help with our planning for next year.

If you have not yet completed your commitment form, we ask that you take a moment to fill it out either on paper or online, and indicate your financial pledge and ministry involvement for 2025.

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.

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

**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
- 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 • 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).

**HEARTACHE TO HEALING • DECEMBER 15**5:00PM, *Narthex*

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!



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

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)



**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.

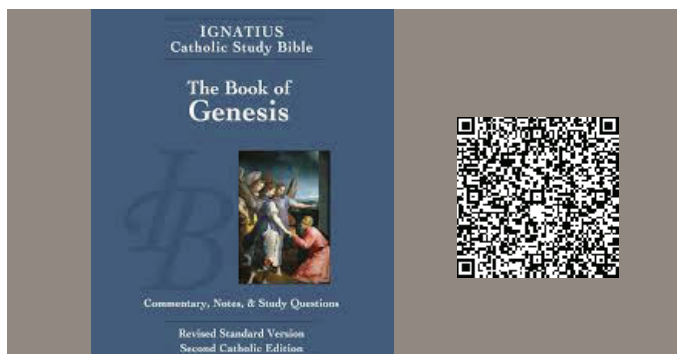


THE GREAT BOOK SERIES: EVERLASTING MAN •
JANUARY 2, 9 16, 23, 30 FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27
MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, 24

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



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.

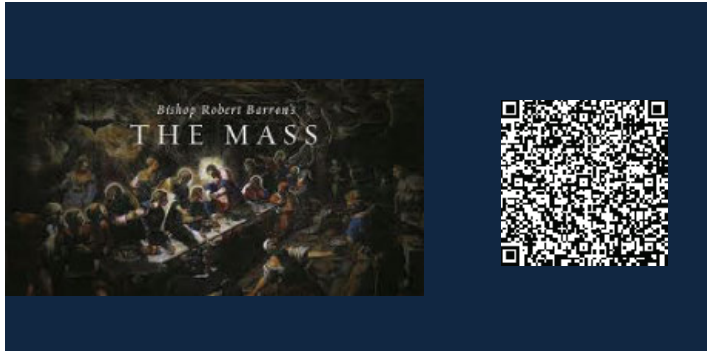
Choose a group for YOU:

- **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

(continued on next page)

• **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



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

 **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
 Patty Lecuyse Campbell
 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
 Kerri Martin
 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

MASS INTENTIONS +

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00AM —
 12:00PM **+Mary Jane Clarkin**
by Family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:00AM **+Mary Blaise**
by Blaise Family
 12:00PM **+Jane Aula**
by Lisa Ragan

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00AM **+Steve Hester**
by Family
 12:00PM **+Danny & +Tom Goodwin**
by Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00AM —
 12:00PM **+Michelle Edwards**
by Family
+Edward Austin Lewis
by Family
+Gene Kanatzar
by The Kanatzar Family
+Fred Zielinski
by Joan Newmarker
+Sue & +Harvey Wilcox
by Gary Sims Family
+Kathy Nichols
by Judy & Craig Arnold

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00AM **+Sharon Andersen**
by Knights of Columbus
+Don Young
by Knights of Columbus
 12:00PM **+Pat Bins**
by Family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:30AM —
 4:30PM **+Joyce Boydston**
by Craig & Judy Arnold

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:15AM **Ascension Parishioners**
 10:00AM **+Missy Zampini**
by Jim & Tricia Baldwin
 11:45AM —
 5:00PM **+Charlene Clements**
by Cynthia & Gerard Schulin

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.

 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.

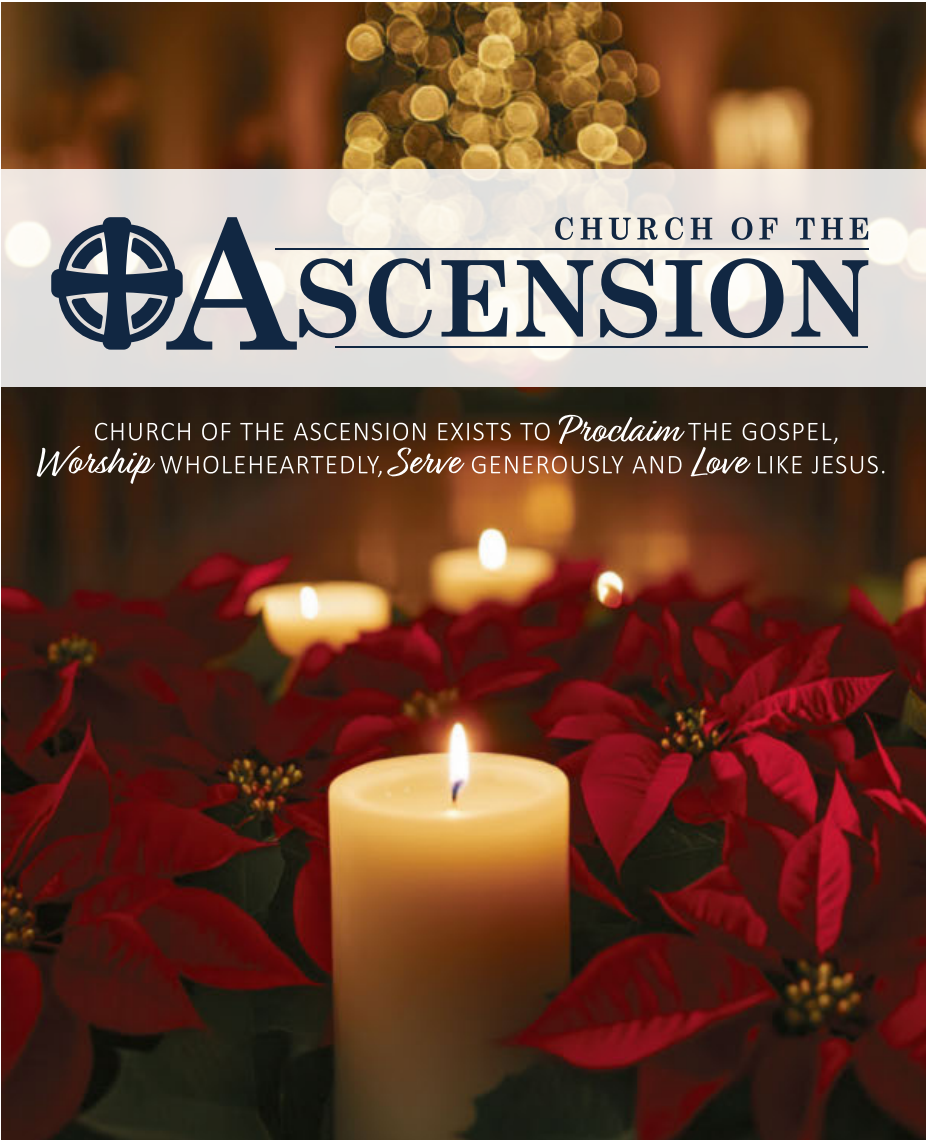
 FAMILY ROSARY • TUESDAYS
6:30PM, Church

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



CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24th • 4:00PM (Church), 4:00PM (Parish Hall), 6:00PM, 8:00PM, 10:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25th • 9:00AM, 11:00AM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD MASSES

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

January 1st • 9:00AM, 12:00PM

DECEMBER

PROJECT CHRYSALIS: UPDATE

No meeting in December. Will resume meetings on January 28, 2025 at 6:00PM in St. Luke Room.



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/GetInvolved/ServiceOpportunities to see full details and explore volunteer opportunities!

Questions: Dorothy and Michael Eagan 913-526-8314

CATHOLIC SURVIVING DIVORCE GROUP



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.

This group is facilitated by a licensed counselor,
Mary Vorsten.

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



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MINISTRY • JANUARY 11

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. Our next meeting is on Saturday January 11.



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



**DRIVE-UP
FOOD
COLLECTION**

SATURDAY JANUARY 11TH
10AM-2PM PARKING LOT
AND AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:
peanut butter, canned meat, canned fruit, pasta sauce-no glass, pasta, canned beans, dry beans, canned vegetables

QUESTIONS
DAVID WHITAKER 913-626-2676
JOHNETTE MARTIN 913-481-8663

SPONSORED BY:
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& MINISTRY OF CARE

DRIVE-UP FOOD COLLECTION • JANUARY 11

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, canned meat, canned fruit, pasta sauce (no glass), pasta, canned beans, dry beans, and canned vegetables. We accept unexpired foods only. The Ascension Drive-Up Food Collection is on January 11 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



GUADALUPE HOUSE • JANUARY 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 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. Our next date is January 14.



HOLY half-HOUR

We are having a Holy "Half" Hour and Simple Supper:
MONDAY, JANUARY 20 | 6:00PM



REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED BUT NOT REQUIRED





HOLY HALF HOUR • JANUARY 20

6:00PM, Church

We will begin in the Church with Eucharistic Adoration, followed by a light dinner in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

Register: Scan the QR code



The Marriage Course

Navigate life together

A course to help couples strengthen their relationship

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT (HYBRID COURSE)

JANUARY 21ST IN-PERSON
KICK OFF, DINNER PROVIDED

VIEW 6 VIDEOS AT HOME

APRIL 29TH IN-PERSON
WRAP UP, DINNER PROVIDED

To Register



CONTACT: MARCIA JACOBSON
MINISTER OF MARRIAGE, FAMILY LIFE & VOCATIONS
913-681-3348 X 151 M.JACOBSON@KASCENSION.ORG

THE MARRIAGE COURSE (MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT) • JANUARY 21
6:00PM, St. Mark Rm.

Start 2025 with a course to help strengthen your marriage. This is a wonderful gift to your marriage while you enhance communication, renew your connection, strengthen problem solving skills, and enjoy fun and inspiration. Contact Marcia Jacobson with any questions. mjacobson@kascension.org

Register: Scan the QR code



PROJECT CHRYSALIS • JANUARY 28
6:00PM, St. Luke Rm. (Lower Level)



Are you a member of this club that nobody wants to be in? Project Chrysalis is a ministry for parents or grandparents who have suffered the loss of a child. Our mission is to offer support and hope through scripture and fellowship.

Questions: Patty in the parish office at pbillinger@kascension.org.

FEBRUARY



Live the Mass
A REFLECTIVE RETREAT

Save the Date

FEBRUARY 1, 2025
8AM-6:00PM

FEBRUARY 2, 2024
7:15AM-11:45AM MASS



The Veil Removed

LIVE THE MASS: A REFLECTIVE RETREAT • FEBRUARY 1-2

8:00AM, St. Mark Rm.

Looking to get more out of the Mass? Come join us as we explore the history of the Mass and how it joins heaven and earth. This fast moving retreat will give you a greater understanding and appreciation for the Mass.

Saturday, February 1st: 8:00AM–6:00PM

Sunday, February 2nd: 7:15AM–12:45PM

(Concludes with attendance at the 11:45AM Mass)

Note: This is not an overnight retreat.



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 TONIGHT

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.

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 two Ascension winners for Week 13 (11/30/24). Checks will be mailed to the winners. Don Sosna - \$100 Luke Willenbring - \$50 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

- **TONIGHT:** Knights Christmas Party, *Cinzetti's*

FOURTH DEGREE ASSEMBLY ACTIVITIES

- Fourth Degree Officers Meeting, 2/6, 7:00PM, *Annex (Knights Room)*
- Fourth Degree Assembly Meeting, 2/11, 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.



The Knights of Columbus offer several unique charities including the Christian Refugee Relief Fund, Disaster Relief, Ultrasound Initiative and Coats for Kids. The organization also partners with a few groups on international charitable events including Special Olympics, the Global Wheelchair Mission and Habitat for Humanity.



Join today:



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



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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.



**JANUARY 17-19, 2025
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Must register with roommate)

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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.



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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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



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@archkck.org



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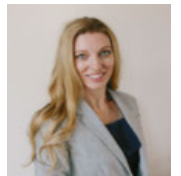
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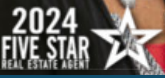
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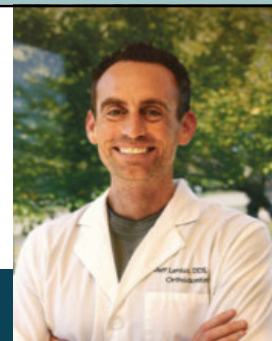


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