

DECEMBER 22, 2024

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Catholic Parish

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PEACE
BE WITH YOU



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

Ms. Angie Machetta and Children
Mrs. Ruth Smith
Mr. Daniel Wee
Ms. Jennifer Garcia
Mr. Ricardo Urriola
Paul and Linda Rothers
John and Lora Barkett

BAPTISMS

Zelie Christine Galindo
Matthew Thomas Galindo
Hazel Rae Hendrickson
Adeline Rose Smith
Amara Rosella Amadi

† FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Marilyn Sechi
Wife of Marvin Sechi

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



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, with Christmas right around the corner, we are presented in the Gospel with the account of the Blessed Virgin Mary's visit to her relative Elizabeth in the hill country of Judea, outside of Jerusalem.

When she arrives, Elizabeth responds to Mary's greeting with Spirit-inspired words that we now repeat as part of our "Hail Mary" prayer, "blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Then Elizabeth says, "blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation, i.e. the Divine Word of God who became flesh in Mary's womb and was born in a Bethlehem manger, we are encouraged to follow the example of Mary's faithfulness to God's will in her life. Oh, that others would be able to say of you or me, "blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." That you and I would live in such a way that others would recognize the strong faith and trust we have in God.

Mary, I suspect, had no idea of what lay ahead for her as the mother of God's "Son." Little did she know that heartache she would have to endure as she fled from Herod's murderous pursuit, as her son grew in relative obscurity, as Jesus was rejected by the religious leaders when he began his ministry and how he would be persecuted and murdered by the religious and secular powers of the day.

Yet, because of her trust in God's loving care, Mary said "yes" to whatever God had in store for her. As we prepare to celebrate what God has done for us in Jesus, the promised Messiah, may we be given the grace to imitate Mary's trust in God's Love and His help for whatever lies ahead.

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



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 **Al Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 6:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. Luke Rm.
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

- 12:30PM **4th Monday Afternoon Bridge** | St. Luke Rm.
- 1:30PM **Youth Choir Practice** | Church
- 7:00PM **Rejoice Advent Study** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

- 4:00PM **Mass** | Church
- 4:00PM **Mass** | Parish Hall
- 6:00PM **Mass** | Church
- 8:00PM **Mass** | Church
- 10:00PM **Mass** | Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

- 9:00AM **Mass** | Church
- 11:00AM **Mass** | Church
- 7:00PM **Al Anon** | St. John Rm.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

- 4:30PM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 4:30PM **Shalom House** | Off-Site
- 7:00PM **Disciples Dwelling (Rosary Garden)** | Youth Center

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

- 6:00AM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00AM **Christ Renews His Parish Bible Study** | St. John Rm.
- 7:30AM **Hope Faith Breakfast for the Homeless** | Off-Site
- 9:00AM **Mary's Prayer Cenacle** | St. Mark Rm.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

- 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.
- 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.

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.

PROJECT CHRYSALIS: UPDATE



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



CHRISTMAS • DECEMBER 25

Sharing with you the Glory, the Wonder, the Miracle of this Holy Season. Have a Blessed Christmas and New Year!



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.



CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-ALONG AND CONCERT: • DECEMBER 28

6:30PM, Off-Site **COMMUNITY EVENT**

The Fidelium Chorus Catholicus is proud to present its Christmas carol sing-along and concert *This Have I Done for My True Love* on Saturday, December 28 at 6:30PM at St. James Catholic Church (309 S Stewart Rd, Liberty, MO 64068). While many anticipate the advent of Our Savior in musical celebrations ahead of Christ's Nativity, Fidelium's Christmas offering commemorates this joyous celebration during its namesake liturgical season. Featuring a variety of sing-along Christmas carols alongside select choral anthems by Holst, Rutter, and more, *This Have I Done for My True Love* (a free-will offering event) is most certainly a festive way for the whole family to celebrate Christ's first coming into the world.



**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.

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 MJACOBSON@KCASCENSION.ORG

ADULT FAITH FORMATION



Join a small group this January!
In addition, check out the many Adult Faith classes we have starting in January! (See pages 8–10).

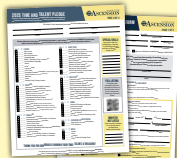
AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A *gift*
USE IT TO *serve*
ONE ANOTHER, AS GOOD *stewards*
OF GOD'S VARIED GRACE
CF 1 PET. 4:10



“SO, AS WE HAVE RECEIVED, WE GIVE!”



Online Form



Paper Form

THANK YOU!

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.

As we wrap up our annual appeal for the year, it's not too late to submit your pledge.

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.

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 23

7:00AM —

12:00PM **Father Alessandro Borracia**
by Wally Foote

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00PM **Christmas Eve Memorials**

6:00PM **Christmas Eve Memorials**

8:00PM **Christmas Eve Memorials**

10:00PM **Christmas Eve Memorials**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00AM **Christmas Memorials**

12:00PM **Christmas Memorials**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

7:00AM **+Janet Blessing**
by David & Elizabeth McMIndes

12:00PM **+Charles Leins**
by Angela Leins & Family

+Fred Zielinski
by Rosemary Berberick

+George McLiney
by Joe & Linda Walrod

+Nellie Sandbooth

+Marie Badke
by Rita McNally

+Bobby Osborne
by Vi McFarland

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

7:00AM **Maria Earle-Gal**
by Lara Family

12:00PM **+Charisse Hesper**
by Mom

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:30AM **+Deceased Members of the Innocent Family**
by Jessy Innocent

4:30PM **+David Hinemeyer**
by Madrid Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:15AM **Ascension Parishioners**

10:00AM **+Terry Weiser**

11:45AM —

5:00PM —

PRAYERS

FOR OUR SICK

Susan Arp
Bob Barr
Hugh Benson
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
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
Patty LeCluyse
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 Nogueras 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.



THIS WEEK ON
FORMED

Week of December 22, 2024



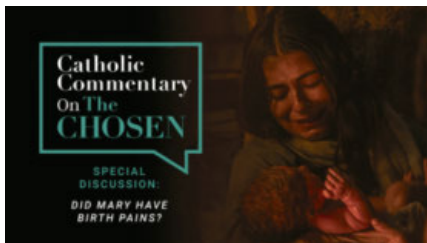
The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special

In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.



O Holy Night - Christmas with the Annie Moses Band

Experience the beauty of the Christmas season with the Annie Moses Band as the acclaimed classical crossover ensemble performs stunning arrangements of holiday favorites.



Mary's Labor: What Does Catholic Tradition Have to Say?

Join Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and Dr. Michael Barber as they explain the Catholic Church's understanding of Mary's labor and the birth of Jesus Christ.

 **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

JANUARY

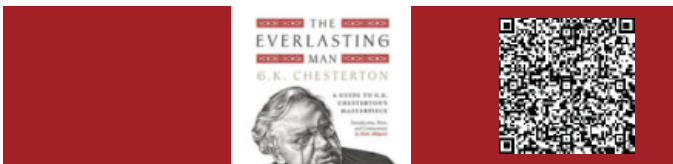


ST. MARY'S FOOD KITCHEN • JANUARY 1

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 food, cook the hamburger and servers the day of. Please visit KCAscension.org/Get Involved/Service Opportunities to see full details and explore volunteer opportunities!

Questions: Dorothy and Michael Eagan 913-526-8314

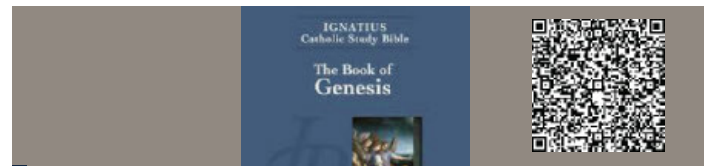


THE GREAT BOOK SERIES: EVERLASTING MAN • JANUARY 2, 9 16, 23, 30 FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27 MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, 24

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



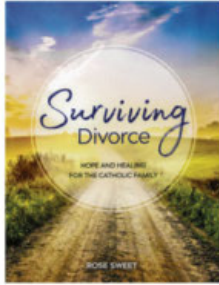
THE BOOK OF GENESIS SUNDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY • JANUARY 5-MARCH 2 (SUNDAYS)

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 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

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.

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

ASCENSION BOOK CLUB • JANUARY 8

1:00PM, *Conf. Rm.*

Our book for January is *The Personal Librarian*, by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray. We will meet on Wednesday, January 8th at 1:00PM in the St. Mark Room.

Questions: Linda Cook at 897-3201



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



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



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

HOSTED BY **7:00- 10:00PM (DOORS OPEN AT 6:30)**

Women of Ascension **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



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

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:
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
& 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

**CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION**

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



PARABLES & PUBS (YOUNG ADULTS 21-35) • JANUARY 20

7:00PM, Off-Site

Join us at Brew Lab on January 20th 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.



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 MJACOBSON@KCASCENSION.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@kcascension.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@kcascension.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



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.

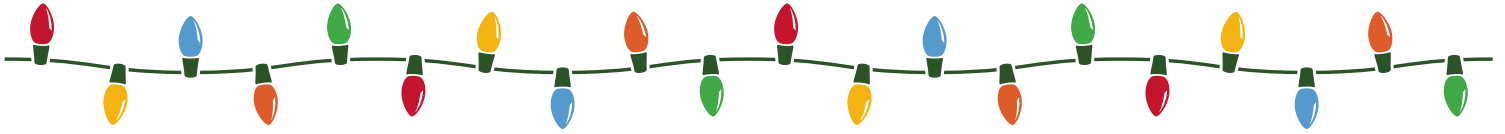
Saturday, February 1st: 8:00AM–6:00PM

Sunday, February 2nd: 7:15AM–12:45PM

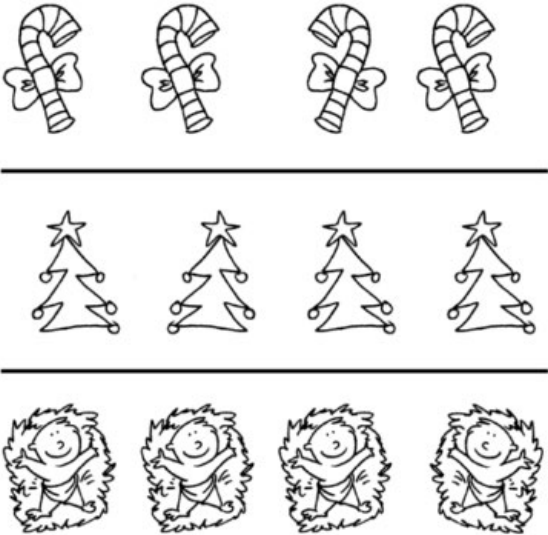
(Concludes with attendance at the 11:45AM Mass)

Note: This is not an overnight retreat.

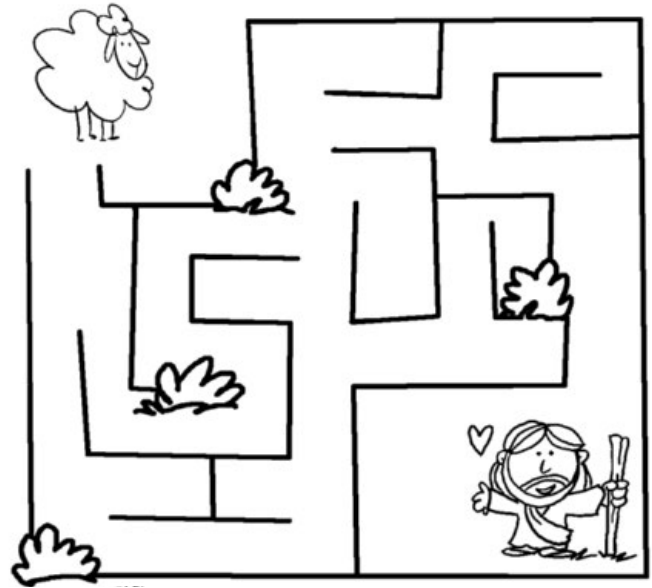
ASCENSION KIDS



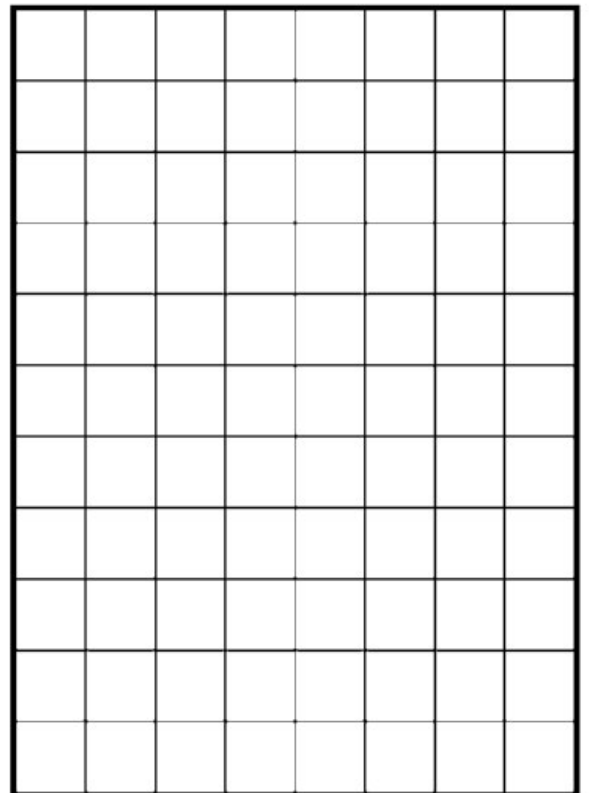
Circle the picture that is facing the **wrong** way.



Help the sheep **find** Jesus.



Copy the picture square by square.




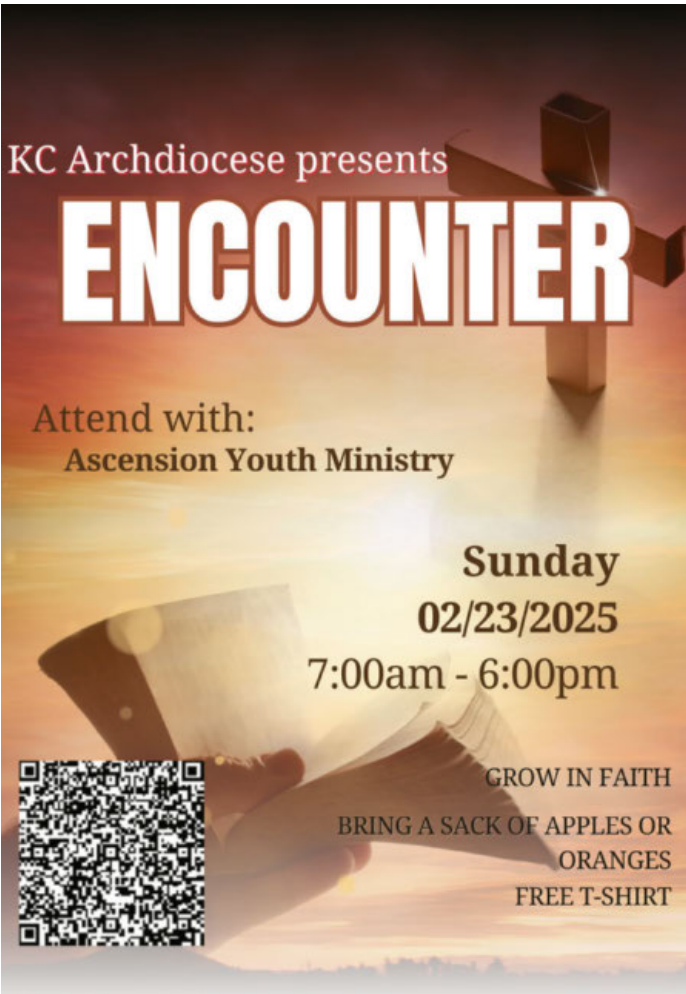
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Sunday
02/23/2025
7:00am - 6:00pm

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ORANGES
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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.



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





ASCENSION KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



FAMILY OF THE MONTH AND KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Trent and Geri Teager, our Family of the Month, and Conner Richenburg, our Knight of the Month, for December.

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 three Ascension winners for Week 14 (12/7/24). Checks will be mailed to the winners. Robert Lewandowski - \$100, Jim Koss - \$50, David Elliott - \$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 railroad@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, January 5th, 6:15PM, Annex (*Knights Room*)
- Council Meeting: Monday, January 27th, 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

- **JANUARY 11 & 12:** Food Collection for Catholic Charities
- **JANUARY 26:** Annual Ascension Knights of Columbus Free-throw Contest
- **FEBRUARY 9:** Knights Masses with Honor Guard, Ushers and Choir, 11:45AM Mass
- **APRIL 6:** Knights Masses with Honor Guard, Ushers and Choir, 11:45AM Mass

FOURTH DEGREE ASSEMBLY ACTIVITIES

- Ascension School Pancake Day, 1/17, Volunteer Opportunity
- 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.

DID YOU KNOW?



The Knights of Columbus membership rose to 2.1 million members last year with 92,000 new people joining the fraternal organization — one of the best years for growth in the last century. The Knights spent more than 47 million hours “serving and sacrificing for the sake of others” and set a new record for charitable giving: \$190 million.



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

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER: AT CHRISTMAS



We, as the People of Life, celebrate Christmas as the fulfillment of the promised Savior. The celebration of our Savior’s birth brings hope, joy, peace and light to us and a world in great need. The beauty and splendor of the Christmas season provides an excellent time to reach out in love to our sisters, brothers and all impacted by procured abortion and to share with them God’s love and mercy, reflected in the birth of His Son, which heals all wounds. If you or a loved one is carrying the grief and sorrow of a past abortion, please come back to God who is love and mercy. Hope and healing can be found at Project Rachel, a confidential, nationwide Catholic ministry based in forgiveness for all those suffering after an abortion, Catholic and non-Catholic. If this would aid you or someone you know, please take action “now”. For more information, call Project Rachel at 913-621-2199 or e-mail projectrachelkc@archkck.org or go online to www.hopeafterabortion.com. If you are not from this area, that website identifies Project Rachel locations nationally. Our warmest wishes to all for a blessed and joyful Christmas season.

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

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!



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 on the right.



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

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2025



Garden GALA
CELEBRATE ASCENSION



More Details Coming Soon!

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

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




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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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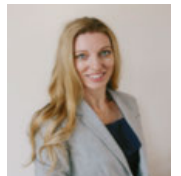
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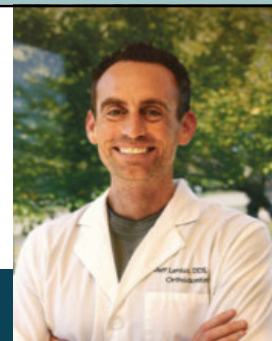


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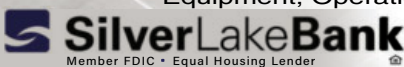
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