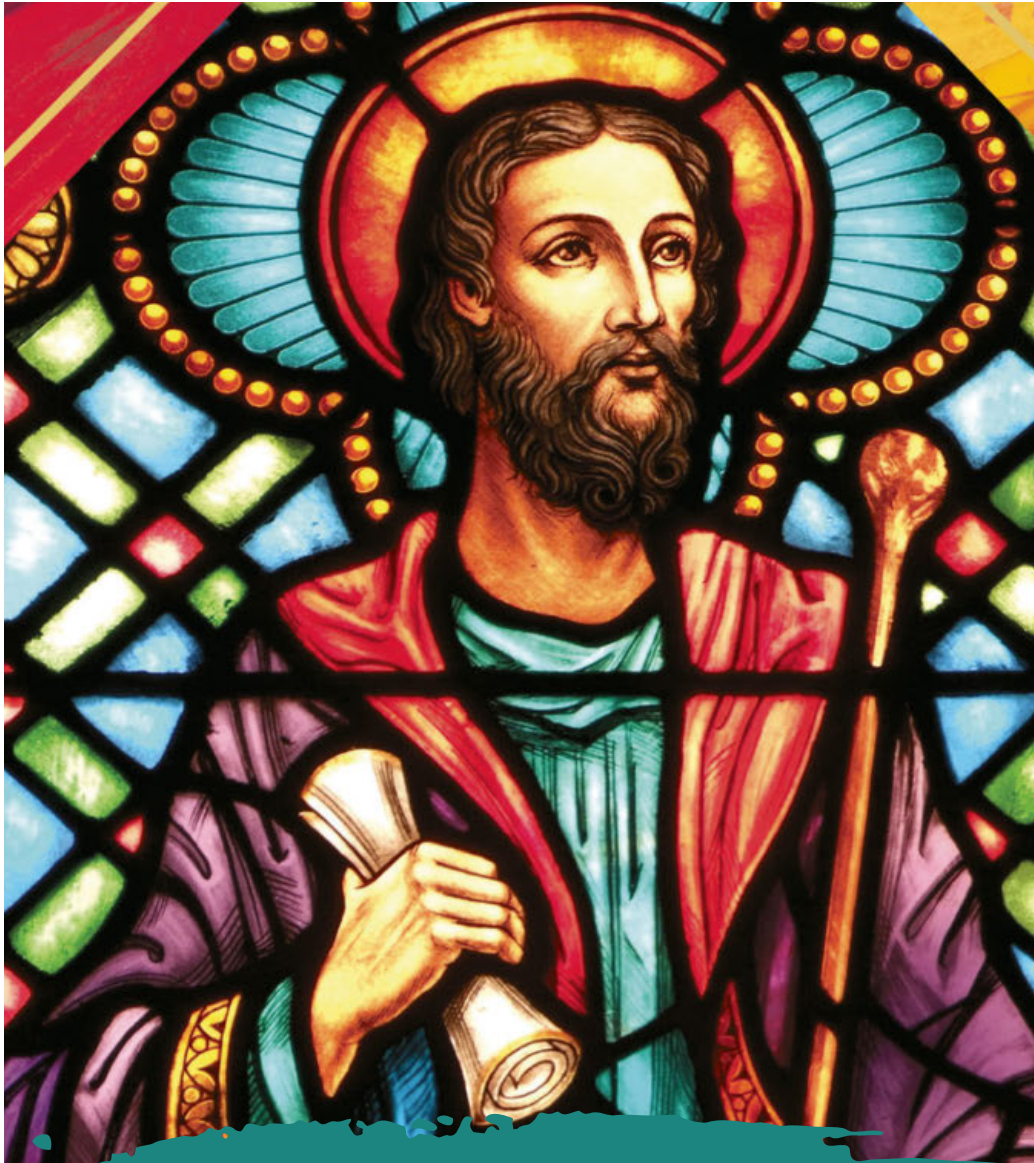


JANUARY 26, 2025

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Catholic Parish



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

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.

LK 4:18

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**

Joseph David Nigrin

 **BANNS OF HOLY MATRIMONY**

Frank Totta and Kara Dold
Sam Parada and Annie Brill

 **FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE**

John Redmond
Father of Tim Redmond, Father-in-Law of Amy Redmond and Grandfather of Lauren Koca & Kyle Redmond

Alice Berry
Sister of Nancy Schier

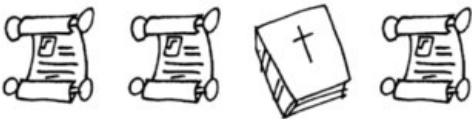
John Golom
Father of Linda Mies & Grandfather of Vanderspoel Family

Angie Ranallo
Wife of George Ranallo

Fr Kenneth Reichert
Uncle of Janet Van Ness

ASCENSION KIDS

Circle the picture that is **different**.



FATHER GARY PENNINGS
PASTOR'S CORNER



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On September 30, 2019 – the liturgical memorial of St. Jerome – Pope Francis announced that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time would be celebrated as the Sunday of the Word of God. The Pope instituted this special celebration by means of the Apostolic Letter, “Aperuit illis.” So, on this Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Catholic parishes throughout the world will place a special emphasis on celebrating the Sunday of the Word of God. What do we mean when we say the “word of God”?

Jesus, Himself, is the Divine Word who became flesh, so in that sense we refer to Jesus as the “Word of God.” In a broader sense, any revelation by God concerning Himself, His plan for salvation or His will for mankind could be considered God’s word. Thus, the Church has always understood Sacred Tradition (the truths, beliefs and ways of praying that have been handed on by word of mouth or practice since apostolic times) to be part of divine revelation. Most people, however, understand the “word of God” to be a reference to the Sacred Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

The Second Vatican Council, in its document on divine revelation entitled, Dei Verbum, states the following:

“there exists a close connection and communication between sacred tradition and Sacred Scripture. For both of them, flowing from the same divine wellspring, in a certain way merge into a unity and tend toward the same end... Consequently, it is not from Sacred Scripture alone that the Church draws her certainty about everything which has been revealed. Therefore, both sacred tradition and Sacred Scripture are to be accepted and venerated with the same sense of loyalty and reverence.”

Today, the Church celebrates the profound gift of the “word of God,” especially as we proclaim it in the Sacred Scriptures.

Today, also kicks off National Celebrate Catholic Schools week which celebrates Catholic Education in the United States. These two celebrations go well together, because all who teach in Catholic schools, as well as those who serve as catechists in our Youth Faith Formation programs, are called to “echo down the Word.” Thus, our schools and religious education programs becomes places of encounter with the “word of God.”

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

- ALL DAY **Baby Bottle Boomerang** | Gathering Area
- 9:00AM **Donut Sunday** | Parish Hall A
- 9:00AM **KofC Free Throw Contest** | Gym 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 **Baptisms** | Church
- 1:00PM **ACS Open House & New Family Meeting** | Library
- 1:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 3:00PM **ACS Parent Enrollment Meeting** | Church
- 4:00PM **Ascension Praise Band & Choir** | Church
- 4:00PM **Al Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 6:30PM **Strong Fathers & Strong Daughters Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:30PM **Strong Fathers Raising a Modern Day Knight** | Library
- 7:00PM **Journey** | ACS Classroom 101
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

- ALL DAY **Baby Bottle Boomerang** | Gathering Area
- 12:30PM **4th Monday Afternoon Bridge** | St. Luke Rm.
- 12:45PM **Rosary** | Church
- 5:00PM **RCIA Rosary** | St. Luke Rm.
- 5:30PM **RCIA Class** | St. Mark Rm.
- 5:45PM **Finance Council Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:30PM **Demonstration Mass** | Church
- 6:15PM **Women's Journey** | ACS Classroom 101
- 6:30PM **Boy Scouts Troup #218** | Parish Hall A
- 7:00PM **Knights of Columbus Council Meeting** | Parish Hall B
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

- ALL DAY **Baby Bottle Boomerang** | Gathering Area
- 8:30AM **Mini Vocations Day** | St. Luke Rm.
- 12:45PM **Rosary** | Church
- 6:00PM **Project Chrysalis** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:30PM **Celebrate Ascension Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 6:30PM **Parent Enrollment Meeting** | Church
- 6:30PM **Weekly Family Rosary** | Church
- 7:00PM **Women of Ascension Line Dancing Practice** | Parish Hall B

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

- ALL DAY **Baby Bottle Boomerang** | Gathering Area
- 10:00AM **Epic: Church History** | St. Mark Rm.
- 12:45PM **Rosary** | Church
- 6:00PM **Epic: Church History** | St. Mark Rm.

- 6:00PM **Weekly YFF** | Church
- 6:00PM **Year I Class** | ACS Classrooms
- 7:00PM **Choir Practice** | Church
- 7:00PM **Catholic Surviving Divorce Group** | Conf. Rm.
- 7:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 8:30PM **Mens Basketball (Over 21)** | Gym

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- ALL DAY **Baby Bottle Boomerang** | Gathering Area
- 12:45PM **Rosary** | Church
- 1:00PM **Bishop Robert Barron's "The Mass" Course** | St. Mark Rm.
- 4:30PM **Legion of Mary Queen of the Universe Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 4:30PM **Shalom House** | Off-Site
- 5:30PM **The Great Book Series: Everlasting Man** | St. Mark Rm.
- 6:00PM **Live the Mass Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 7:00PM **Disciples Dwelling (Rosary Garden)** | Youth Center

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

- ALL DAY **Baby Bottle Boomerang** | Gathering Area
- 6:00AM **Men of Ascension** | St. Mark Rm.
- 9:00AM **ACS VIP Day** | Parish Hall A
- 12:45PM **Rosary** | Church

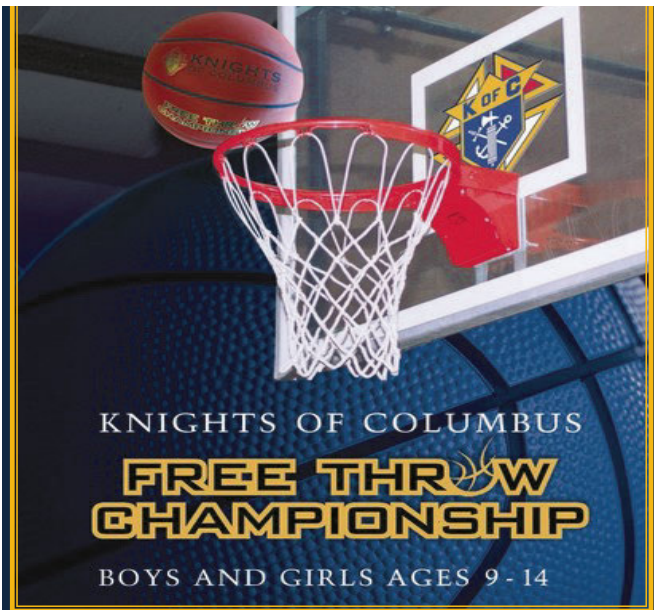
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- ALL DAY **Baby Bottle Boomerang** | Gathering Area
- 7:00AM **Christ Renews His Parish Bible Study** | St. John Rm.
- 8:00AM **Live the Mass Retreat** | St. Mark Rm.
- 9:00AM **Women of Ascension Fellowship & Prayer** | Conf. Rm.
- 12:00PM **First Saturday Public Rosary** | Parking Lot

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- ALL DAY **Baby Bottle Boomerang** | Gathering Area
- 7:15AM **Live the Mass Retreat (Continues)** | St. Mark Rm.
- 9:30AM **Sunday Scripture Study** | St. Mark Rm.
- 10:00AM **Children's Liturgy of the Word** | ACS Classrooms
- 11:45AM **Mass Live Stream: Families with Special Needs** | Nursery
- 1:00PM **Baptisms** | Church
- 1:00PM **AA Meeting** | St. John Rm.
- 3:00PM **Ascension Praise Band & Choir** | Church
- 4:00PM **Al Anon** | St. John Rm.
- 6:15PM **Knights of Columbus Officers Meeting** | Parish Hall Annex
- 6:30PM **Strong Fathers & Strong Daughters Meeting** | St. Luke Rm.
- 6:30PM **Strong Fathers Raising a Modern Day Knight** | Library
- 7:00PM **Journey** | ACS Classroom 101
- 8:00PM **Mens Basketball (Over 40)** | Gym

JANUARY 26—FEBRUARY 2



Knights of Columbus
FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP
 BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 9-14

Ascension Catholic School Gymnasium
Sunday, January 26th
Registration 8:30-9:00
Completion Begins At 9:00
Proof of Age Required
 Winners Move On To Regional Competition
 Contact: Jay Reinhardt jkreinhardt@sbcglobal.net

KOFC FREE THROW CONTEST • JANUARY 26

8:30AM, Ascension Gym

The Knights of Columbus are hosting the annual Free Throw Championship for boys and girls ages 9-14 in the Ascension Gym. Registration is at 8:30AM; Contest starts at 9:00AM. Please bring proof of age.

Register: Jay Reinhardt at jkreinhardt@sbcglobal.net



COFFEE & DONUTS • JANUARY 26

After 8:15AM and 10:00AM Masses

Downstairs in the Parish Hall



DEMONSTRATION MASS • JANUARY 27

6:30PM, Church

Are you finding Christ in the Mass? Do you know why our Mass is the way it is? Is Mass helping you become who God is calling us to be? Are you missing out on God's message during Mass? We would love for you to join Fr. Gary as he walks us through the processes of our Mass. Come join Fr. Gary in the church as he walks us through a Demonstration Mass. It is a great time to ask questions and to learn more about why Mass is the way it is. **This is an instructional Demo Mass not a full Mass so there will not be a consecration of the Eucharist.*



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.



IGNITE & KS MARCH FOR LIFE • JANUARY 29

8:30AM, Off-Site **COMMUNITY EVENT**

Join us in recognition of the National Day of Prayer for

the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. IGNITE for LIFE is an inspirational, pro-love rally for the protection of preborn children and the dignity of women facing unplanned or challenging pregnancies. The morning consists of praise & worship music, motivational speakers, and the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of Mass with the Bishops of Kansas. Following IGNITE, all are invited to join in the Kansas March for Life to the capitol for the Kansans for Life rally. IGNITE for LIFE is sponsored by the Pro-Life Office of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. All events are free. Registration requested for the IGNITE rally so that we can communicate in case of inclement weather.

Register: ArchKCK.org/Ignite



SHALOM HOUSE • JANUARY 30

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 January 30th. 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

RENEW
RESTORE
REDISCOVER

"Last year, we were so broken. I had our divorce papers in the car and was going to present them to him after the holidays. As we sat under the tree, I was shaking and crying, thinking that this was the last Christmas were going to have as a family. Instead, we went To Retrouvaille in January, and learned how to communicate and how to laugh and hold hands again"

Build a loving marriage

KANSAS CITY WEEKEND JANUARY 31ST
Local Confidential 800.470.2230
www.helpourmarriage.org

 **retrouvaille**
a lifeline for married couples



RETROUVAILLE • JANUARY 31

Off-Site COMMUNITY EVENT

Establish healthy, meaningful communication to en-

hance your relationship while gaining new insights into yourselves as individuals and as a couple. Experience the joy of rediscovering your love.

Register: HelpOurMarriage.org; 800-470-2230

Live the Mass

A REFLECTIVE RETREAT

Join Us!

FEBRUARY 1, 2025
8AM-6:30PM

FEBRUARY 2, 2025
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. *Note: This is not an overnight retreat.* Saturday, February 1st: 8:00AM–6:00PM Sunday, February 2nd: 7:15AM–12:45PM (Concludes with attendance at the 11:45AM Mass)

Register: Scan the QR code

YEAR-END GIVING STATEMENTS FOR 2024

We are grateful for our parishioners' past contributions of time, talent and treasure that support the work of our parish and provide for our financial stability. Year-End Giving Statements for 2024 were sent via email this week to those with an email address in our system. If we do not have an email address for you, your statement was sent in the mail. Please note that you can access your own statement in Realm at any time. From your desktop, go to "Giving," set the filter to "Last year" and click on the printer icon.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Newkirk at knewkirk@kcascension.org or 913-681-3348 x160. Thank you for your generosity!



The Catholic Church celebrates a Year of Jubilee every 25 years, offering the faithful a profound opportunity for spiritual renewal and grace. The 2025 Jubilee Year, inaugurated by Pope Francis, is themed “Pilgrims of Hope.” Here’s how you can participate and make the most of this sacred time:

Opening of the Holy Doors

Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome on December 24, 2024, marking the start of the Jubilee Year. Locally, Archbishop Joseph Naumann opened the Holy Door at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Kansas City, Kansas, on December 29.

Pilgrimage and Indulgences

One of the key traditions of a Jubilee Year is the opportunity to gain plenary indulgences. Catholics are encouraged to make a pilgrimage to a designated Cathedral or church, receiving up to two plenary indulgences per day—one for themselves and one for a deceased loved one. In addition to visiting the Cathedral of St. Peter, Archbishop Naumann has designated all churches consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as pilgrimage sites for the Jubilee. For parishioners in our area, Sacred Heart of Jesus in Shawnee is the closest pilgrimage site.

Acts of Mercy

Pope Francis has expanded the ways to receive a Jubilee indulgence by including participation in works of mercy. This addition invites us to live out our faith by serving others, embodying Christ’s love through tangible acts of compassion and kindness.

How to Participate

- **Visit a Holy Door:** Plan a visit to the Cathedral of St. Peter or a designated Sacred Heart parish in our Archdiocese to pass through a Holy Door.
- **Engage in Works of Mercy:** Dedicate time to volunteer with local charitable organizations or support our parish’s ministries.
- **Pray and Reflect:** Use this time to deepen your prayer life and reconnect with your faith.

For more information, scan the QR codes above to visit the Archdiocese Jubilee Year web page or read the Leaven article on the Jubilee.

Let us embrace this Year of Jubilee as an opportunity of grace and renewed faith, uniting with Catholics worldwide in this sacred celebration.

SILVER SOIRÉE

**BEAT THE WINTER BLUES
BINGO BASH**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH
6:00 - 8:00 PM

B I N G O

All parishioners 60+ are invited to join us for a Mexican fiesta and BINGO night

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$10 PER PERSON

REGISTER HERE: 

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.

TICKETS ON SALE:



AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A
gift

USE IT TO
serve

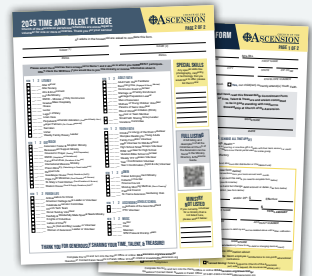
ONE ANOTHER, AS GOOD
stewards

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



“SO, AS WE HAVE RECEIVED, WE GIVE!”

We want to encourage the participation of all our parishioners, so 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.



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.

Thank You!

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, JANUARY 27

- 7:00AM **Baby Robl**
by Q & C Robl
- 12:00PM **+Charlie Gress**
by Gress Family

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

- 7:00AM —
- 12:00PM **+Al Cramer**
by Jeanie Cramer

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

- 7:00AM **Dick Kane**
by Legion of Mary
- 12:00PM **+Bill Nachbar**
by Kim & Steve Mackey

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- 7:00AM **+Evelyn Lipic**
by McGilley Family
- Michael Lipic**
by McGilley Family
- 12:00PM **+Albert Ranweiler**
by Jean Ann Hauslander
- +Thomas Audley**
by Cathy Audley
- +Joan Grandgenett**
by Cathy Audley
- +Albert Rohling**
by Pat & Dotty Healy
- +Bob Cincietti**
by Kathy Zielinski
- +Jill Walo**
by Darleen Porch

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

- 7:00AM **+Laird Simons**
by Knights of Columbus
- 12:00PM **+Jose Antonio Ruiz**
by Courtney Vialle

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 8:30AM **Ascension Parishioners**
- 4:30PM **+Shirley Mae Schaefer**
by Rick & Mary Ann Doran

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- 8:15AM **+Jean Finch**
by Grace Family
- 10:00AM **Msgr. Tom Tank**
by Gress Family
- 11:45AM **+Robert James Sr.**
by Sally Ann & Robert James
- 5:00PM **Ascension Parishioners**

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
Dick Kane
Brian Kellerman
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
John Monteil
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
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
Kathy Glasser
Bob Gleason
Maureen Godar
Anne Hauser
Colleen Heeter
Diana Heintz
Parker Jantz
Sean Kavanaugh
Bruce Kessler
Janet Kostelec-Voght
Maryanne Lally
Dennis Larkin
Patty LeCluyse
Ellen Loschke
Emmalyn Malnar
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
Suzanne Schaffer
Olivia Sims
Tom Sims
Colleen Skinner
Lynn Stephan
Robert Michael Stuteville
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 Noguera 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.



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 Tuesday: 4:00AM, 11:00PM
 Wednesday: 7:00AM, 10:00AM, 1:00PM
 Thursday: 1:00PM Friday: 5:00AM***
 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.



HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Are you homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist?

Contact: Patty at (913) 681-3348



MEALS FOR PRIESTS

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



Contact: Patty (913) 681-3348



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!



Week of January 26, 2025



St. Thomas Aquinas | Catholic Saints

St. Thomas Aquinas was given one of the greatest minds in history. He devoted his life to studying God. Not only did St. Thomas cover almost all of theology, but he also did it while maintaining theological accuracy.



Don Bosco: The True Story of the Apostle of Youth

Don Bosco is the inspiring true story of a brave and holy priest. Blessed with tremendous gifts, a creative imagination, and a great sense of humor, Bosco had a winning way with youth and was a brilliant educator.



Ongoing Formation

When it comes to formation, it's easy to be passive consumers. Instead, let's show up, get excited and be proactive about our own faith formation. The focus of this episode is turning down the noise and forming our minds.

FEBRUARY



ST. MARY'S FOOD KITCHEN • FEBRUARY 5

7:30AM, 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 and get set up. We serve the lunch from 11:00AM–12:30PM then return to Ascension. It is a real hands-on experience of serving people in need. We need parishioners to donate foods, cook the hamburger, and servers the day of. Please visit KCAscension.org/GetInvolved/ServiceOpportunities to see full details!

Questions: Dorothy and Michael Eagan 913-526-8314



JIM COSGROVE
Mr. Stinky Feet

We hope your family can join us for a
Mr. Stinky Feet concert!
February 8 at 10:00AM
Parish Hall

To Register



Kid-rocker and author, Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove has been delighting audiences for over 25 years with his high energy, interactive concerts. Come prepared to sing and dance during this fun show that will get the whole family rockin'.

Hosted by **moyc**
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
mother of young children

MR. STINKY FEET CONCERT • FEBRUARY 8

10:00AM, Parish Hall

Kid-rocker and author, Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove has been delighting audiences for over 25 years with his high energy, interactive concerts. Come prepared to sing and dance

during this fun show that will get the whole family rockin'. We hope your family can join us on February 8th at 10:00AM in the Parish Hall

Register: Scan QR code

Hosted by: MOYC (Mothers of Young Children)



Sponsors:
Ascension Knights of Columbus
& Ministry of Care

drive-up Food Collection
Let's Make a Difference

Saturday February 8
10:00AM-2:00PM
PARKING LOT

Suggested Items

- cereal ✓
- canned soup ✓
- canned beans ✓
- dried pasta ✓
- pasta sauce ✓

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

We Accept Unexpired Foods Only

- Can't be here on February 8th? 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.

DRIVE-UP FOOD COLLECTION • FEBRUARY 8

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: cereal, canned soup, canned beans, dried pasta and pasta sauce. We accept unexpired foods only. The Ascension Drive-Up Food Collection is on February 8th 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

Sponsored by: Ascension Knights of Columbus and Ministry of Care



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP • FEBRUARY 8

After 8:30AM 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 February 8th.



WHITE MASS • FEBRUARY 8

10:30AM, *Off-Site* **COMMUNITY EVENT**

The White Mass, so named by the color worn by those in the healing profession of medicine, gathers health care professionals under the patronage of St. Luke to ask God’s blessing upon the patient doctor, nurse, and caregiver alike. Join us on February 8th at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church for Mass. Luncheon Reception to follow in the church basement immediately after Mass. Jack Stack BBQ will provide the lunch menu, an assortment of KC BBQ favorites.

Register: Secretary@CatholicMedKC.org



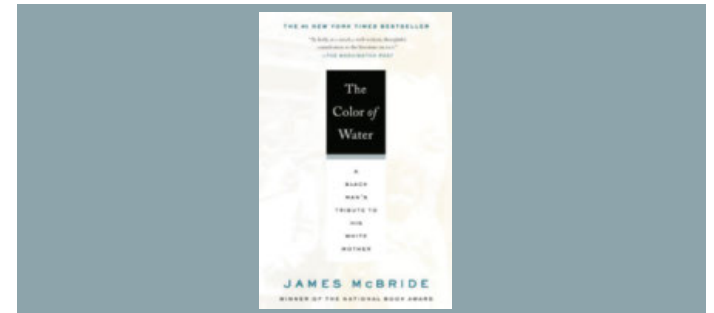
GUADALUPE HOUSE • FEBRUARY 11

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 scan the QR code. Please drop off supplies to the Parish Hall by 4:30PM on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Sign-Up to Donate Supplies: Scan QR code



ASCENSION BOOK CLUB • FEBRUARY 12

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

Our book for February is *The Color of Water*, by James McBride. We will meet on Wednesday, February 12th at 1:00PM in the St. Mark Room.

Details: Linda Cook at 897-3201



MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WITH SEBASTIAN D'AMICO • FEBRUARY 15

9:15AM, *St. Matthew Rm.*

This is a wonderful start to the Saturday for you and your spouse. Topic: Understanding God’s vision for thriving mar-

 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

riages. Nursery care is available (beginning at 9:15AM) for children over one year old. For planning purposes, this must be indicated on your registration. Those under one are welcome to join you at the event.

Register: Scan QR code

Hosted by: MOYC (Mothers of Young Children)



LINE DANCING LADIES' NIGHT

Women of Ascension

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18
6:30-9PM | PARISH HALL

OPTIONAL PRACTICE DATES/TIMES:
JANUARY 21, JANUARY 28 AND FEBRUARY 7
AT 7:00 PM IN THE PARISH HALL

EVENT IS FREE
REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR
PLANNING PURPOSES



LINE DANCING LADIES' NIGHT • FEBRUARY 18

6:30PM, Parish Hall

Join Women of Ascension for the 4th annual line dancing event in the Parish Hall. We'll provide the instructor, snacks and drinks. This event is FREE. Get energized, a little exercise and make new friends! OPTIONAL Practice Nights in Parish Hall: 1/21, 1/16, 1/28 and 2/7 from 7:00PM–8:30PM. Please let us know which nights you would like to attend if interested.

Register: Scan QR code

Question: Debbie Engel at DeboraSuzanne@gmail.com



SILVER SOIRÉE

BEAT THE WINTER BLUES BINGO BASH
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH
6:00 - 8:00 PM

B I N G O

All parishioners 60+ are invited to join us for a Mexican fiesta and BINGO night

REGISTRATION FEE IS \$10 PER PERSON

REGISTER HERE: 

SILVER SOIREE: BINGO BASH • FEBRUARY 19

6:00PM, Parish Hall

All parishioners 60+ are invited to come out and beat the winter blues with a Mexican fiesta and bingo night. Wednesday February 19th from 6:00PM–8:00PM in the Parish Hall. A catered nacho bar and drinks will be provided, along with bingo games and prizes. Our special guest Fr. Stull will give a brief talk at intermission. The registration fee is \$10 per person. We hope to see you there!

Register: Scan QR code



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.



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CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP • FEBRUARY 19

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



COVERED IN PRAYER • FEBRUARY 20

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

Covered in Prayer is the “blanket making” ministry of Church of the Ascension. We gather on the 4th Thursday of the month at 6:00PM to make blanket kits, separate fabric, talk and generally enjoy each other’s company! You can come and pick up material and take it home, or you can stay and learn how to make blankets. We send over 300 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!



HOPE FAITH BREAKFAST FOR THE HOMELESS • FEBRUARY 22

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.

KC Archdiocese presents

ENCOUNTER

Attend with:
Ascension Youth Ministry

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



GROW IN FAITH
BRING A SACK OF APPLES OR ORANGES
FREE T-SHIRT

ENCOUNTER: MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH RALLY • FEBRUARY 23

7:00AM, *Off-Site* **COMMUNITY EVENT**

Encounter is a one-day event at Prairie Star Ranch, which aims to transform students through engaging activities, inspiring talks, and worship. We will leave from Ascension at 7:00AM and return at 6:00PM. We will provide a t-shirt, but participants can receive a bonus shirt by donating a bag of apples or oranges for Catholic Charities on the day of the event. We are also looking for parent chaperones. If you are interested, please email or text Mary Beth (785) 221-1063

Register: Scan QR code



CYO SPRING REGISTRATION

Spring Registrations are now open for the sports below!

Boys/Girls Track & Field - Girls Flag Football

You can register at <https://CYOjwa.org/current-programs>



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. Also, please join other Ascension Knights attending the Kansas Pro-life March & Rally on Wednesday, January 29th in Topeka, KS.

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

- Council Meeting: Monday, January 27th, 7:00PM, *Parish Hall B*, preceded by the Knights Vocation Holy Hour and Rosary at 6:30PM.
- Officers' Meeting: Sunday, February 2nd, 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

- **JANUARY 26:** Annual Ascension Knights of Columbus Free-throw Contest, 9:00AM, *Ascension Gym*
- **JANUARY 29:** Kansas Pro-life March & Rally, *Topeka, KS*
- **FEBRUARY 8 & 9:** Food Collection for Catholic Charities
- **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

- 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?



In 2024, our Ascension Knights collected 35,558 pounds of food and additional cash donations with our monthly collections for Catholic Charities.

Thank you to the Ascension parishioners for your generosity in this endeavor.



Join today:





Magnificat is a monthly publication designed for daily use, to encourage both liturgical and personal prayer. It can be used to follow daily Mass and can also be read at home or wherever you find yourself for personal or family prayer. If you would like to join the parish bulk order or renew your subscription which gives you close to 50% off the individual order price, you can sign up by filling out your information on a Magnificat subscription envelope available in the gathering space and including your check made out to Church of the Ascension for \$28.00. Place

it in the wooden box in the gathering area this weekend through the end of February. All subscriptions are due on February 27. Your first issue will arrive in May.



Magnificats can be picked up in the back of the church each month. *For questions, contact Sharon Weems at 913-681-3348 or sweems@kcascension.org.*

MINISTRY NEWS

NEW YEAR..... NEW NAME! FROM RCIA TO OCIA!

For years you have heard of “RCIA” – The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. It is the process we use to welcome Adults into the Catholic Faith.

This faith-filled journey is the same but the name has changed! It is now officially known as “OCIA” the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. This change was made to reflect more completely that it is a series of “Rites” that make up the whole process. Each Rite is intended to be a point of encounter with God.

Please pray for the 25 Adults in this year’s RCIA...I mean OCIA!

If you or someone you know is interested to learning more about the OCIA process, contact Liz Willman, Pastoral Associate for Adult Faith at lwillman@kcascension.org or (913) 681-3348 ext. 139

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER: IN VIGIL

Do the vigils matter? Ester Garcia is a coordinator for Rachel’s Vineyard in Texas and New Mexico. Rachel’s Vineyard is a national organization that provides post abortion counseling and healing. It is an increasingly critical service as more women experience the horrors of the abortion pills on a most personal basis. Ester says “the best approach to healing after abortion is for it to be unnecessary in the first place” which is why it’s so critical to hold vigil in front of abortion facilities. Ester relates stories of women who arrived to have abortions but left because somebody was out there in prayer. They came back another day but the prayer warriors were still there, so they didn’t go in but on the day the prayers were not present the women went in.

For women who do go forward and have abortions, the vigil participants play a vital role in initiating the healing process. Just as those prayer warriors stand as the last sign of hope before a woman goes through with her abortion, they also serve as the first sign of mercy after the abortion. After the abortion, Ester advises vigil participants: “Just tell them God loves them no matter what and let them know you’re here for them and that you’re here praying for them.” She says “that’s powerful. It’s very important, and we hear it in the (women’s) testimonies.” (Source: *Day 41 “A Bitter Pill to Swallow” by Steve Karlen, Winter 2024-2025*).



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'25-'26 ENROLLMENT BEGINS

January 15 Parish Families
January 17 Open to All Families

3 y/o PRESCHOOL
Tues/Thurs.
8:00 - 11:00 AM or
12:00 - 3:00 PM

4 y/o PRE-K
Mon/Wed/Fri
8:00 - 11:00 AM or
12:00 - 3:00 PM

FULL DAY PRE-K
(ages 4 turning 5)
Mon-Fri
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM



INQUIRE HERE!

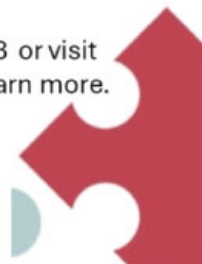
Special Needs Youth Faith Formation

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!







INTRODUCING

 **THE ROSE PROJECT**

Expecting? Trying to Conceive? Experienced a child loss?

We want to pray for you!

This January, under the Sanctity of Life bulletin board, notice the roses. If one of the below situations apply to your family, please take a rose from the basket with the appropriate color and place it in the vase. You may also complete a card so we can pray for you by name.

-  **RED** roses: honoring pregnancy and unborn babies
-  **WHITE** roses: grieving with families suffering a loss (due to miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, infant or child death)
-  **YELLOW** roses: birth, fostering, or celebrating adoptions
-  **PINK** roses: praying for those desiring to conceive, adopt, or those experiencing infertility

Let us Pray!

HEAVENLY FATHER, we ask that You extend your protective hand over the mothers and women desiring to be mothers of our parish. Please guide them and strengthen them as they continue to fulfill their vocation of self sacrifice and love. May your comfort guide those grieving the loss of a child and your mercy uphold those battling infertility. We pray that they are showered with maternal graces through the intercession of our Heavenly Mother and Saint Gerard. AMEN



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



TICKETS ON SALE!

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2025

Garden GALA

CELEBRATE ASCENSION



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

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.

BREATHE

RESPIRE CARE

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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