December 20, 2015

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Scripture Readings: Micah 5:1-4;
Psalm 80:2-19;
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." **(Luke 1:44)**

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained?

Liturgical Assignments for Next Week
December 26/27

	Lectors	Communion Ministers
4:30 p.m.	Susan Przybylski Archie George	Archie George
8:00 a.m.	Chris Roberts John Keys	Sharon Lynch
11:00 a.m.	Shane McDonald Mike Chappell	Shane McDonald
	Altar Servers	
4:30 p.m.	Trevor and Treyton Mull	
8:00 a.m.	Ryan Hanway / James Koch	
11:00 a.m.	Jakob Barron / Quinten Fuson/ Matthew Aberer	
Weekday	School Servers	

Money Counters: Mike Lynch
Sharon Lynch
Communion Calls: Father Harkins

Financial Report for Last Week

Envelopes		$8,862.00
Plate		591.92
Votives		124.62
Religious Retirement Fund	Not in budget	876.00
Misc.		2,710.50
TOTAL		$12,289.04

Average Weekly Expenses (Parish/School) ***$18,694.29***

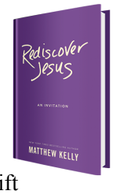
ANNOUNCEMENTS

This weekend the second collection will go to the repair/utility fund.

We need lectors and altars servers for Christmas morning Mass at 9AM.
Please call the office if you can help.

St. James Parish Christmas Caroling
WED, DEC 23 at 7PM
Meet in the church basement. Evangelize and spread some Christmas cheer to our neighborhood!

Would You Like a Chance to Bring New Energy and Faith to St. James Parish?



Let's give everyone who comes to Christmas Mass a book by Matthew Kelley called, **"Rediscover Jesus"**. Many Catholics come for Christmas Mass who aren't here otherwise. If you'd like to make a small gift toward this effort, any amount would be helpful. Mark your donation "*Christmas Book*" and place the envelope in the collection basket or mail to the parish office.

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Remember Your Parish this Christmas
St. James Parish greatly relies on your generous Christmas offering. Thank you and God bless you!

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Please support *"Blessed Are the Merciful"*, the 2016 Annual Catholic Appeal (in past years, the Bishop's Annual Appeal). The annual appeal supports over 30 ministries serving the Catholic community and our neighbors throughout the diocese. Social Services and Outreach, Education and Faith Formation, and Pastoral Life are all important means to our Catholic Christian witness. For more information and to make a donation, go to www.kcsjgives.org or use the form available in the Catholic Key. To make a gift of appreciated stock, mutual fund shares or gifts of grain, call Greg Vranicar at 816.714.2363.
All registered parishioners should have received a pledge request in the mail. The diocesan goal for each parish is participation of one third of households. **Our parish currently has 16 out of 500 households pledged.**

St. James Christmas CDs

We still have the Christmas Music CDs from years past in the parish office. **ONLY $5 EACH**

THIS WEEK AT ST. JAMES

Sunday, December 20	Confirmation Class – 9:15AM, School CCD – 9:30AM, School RCIA – *History of the Church* – 9:30AM – MMHall Curia – 2:30PM, C. Erk Rm
Monday	Legion of Mary – 8:30AM, C. Erk Rm
Tuesday	Confessions/Holy Hour – 6PM
Wednesday	**Office Closes at Noon** Rosary/Chaplet – 6PM, Church Christmas Caroling – 7PM, MMHall
Thursday	**Office Closed**
Friday	9AM Christmas Mass **Office Closed**
Saturday	Be a Man – 6AM, MMHall
Sunday, December 27	NO CCD Class RCIA – 9:30AM, C. Erk Rm *Mary and the Saints*

From the Principal's Desk
"The giving of gifts is not something man invented. God started the giving spree when he gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of His Son" ***- Robert Flatt***.
We had a great final week before Christmas break with our Preschool Christmas Program on Monday evening followed by our K-8th Grade Christmas Program on Tuesday evening. The students did a fantastic job and their teachers did an excellent job in preparing them. I do think the students enjoyed their Christmas parties the end of the week the best.
As we enter into this final week of Advent, and recess for the preparation and celebration of Christ's Birthday I leave you with this thought. *"The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God"* ***- C. S. Lewis***.
The **St. James School Staff** wishes you a **MERRY CHRISTMAS** and **HAPPY NEW YEAR** too!
In the Peace of Christ**, Mr. Soetaert**

SCRIP – Pre-paid gift cards are available in the back of church. Great for Christmas shopping! Avoid the long lines in the stores and help out your parish/school at the same time!

Giving Tree
Our giving tree will be in the back of church this year. Please take an angel from the tree, which has suggested donations for Birthright.

Novena to the Infant King – December 17-25
The Novena Prayer is now in the booklet in back of the Pew Missal.
Please contact the parish office if you would like a candle lit for your intention. $3 each

The 23rd annual **"SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS"** Benefit Dinner is dedicated to Our Lady of Kibeho, Rwanda, and the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary, Friday, January 29, 2016 at a NEW LOCATION. This event benefits seminarians from the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas, the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph and Conception Seminary College. It promises to be an evening filled with fun and laughter, celebrating our Catholic faith, dining on wonderful food, and socializing with our priests and seminarians! We have a wonderful speaker this year, Monsignor Stuart Swetland, President of Donnelly College, Kansas City, KS. S.O.S. will be held at the **Union Station**, 30 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108. The reservation price is $175.00 per person at tables of ten people. To reserve your place, or an entire table, or donate to the marketplace or VIP silent auction, contact Martha Hodes at 913.207.9893 or mmmh66@sbcglobal.net.

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse: 1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and 2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and 3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Jenifer Valenti, at 816-812-2500 or JeniferValenti@att.net, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Victim Assistance Coordinator at 816-714-2387 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 21
St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Dr. of the Church
8:00 a.m. - *Evelyn Stevenson* ✚

Tuesday, December 22
Late Advent Weekday
8 a.m.- *Andy Strahm*

Wednesday, December 23
St. John of Kanty, Priest
8 a.m. – *Betty Strahm*

Thursday, December 24
Late Advent Weekday
9 a.m. – *Richard Girard*
4:30 p.m. – *E.B.* ✚

Friday, December 25
The Nativity of the Lord
12 a.m. – *People of St. James*
9 a.m. - *Laudy and Genny Przybylski*

Saturday, December 26
St. Stephen, The First Martyr
8 a.m. – **NO MASS**
4:30 p.m. – *Charles and Mary Hanway* ✚

Sunday, December 27
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8 a.m.- *Smaich and Bingaman Family* ✚
11 a.m.- *People of St. James*
(A cross indicates that the Mass intention is for a deceased loved one.)