

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE A WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, AND LOVING COMMUNITY BY PROCLAIMING AND LIVING GOD'S WORD THROUGH WORSHIP, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE. SAINT THOMAS MORE PARISH

11822 Holmes Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64131 o stmkc.com



February 23, 2025

#### BULLETIN ONLINE

this and last week's at stmkc.com Subscribe at stmkc.com/emailme->

#### MASSES

WEEKDAY: Mon & Fri 8:15am, Tues, Wed, Thu 6:15am & 8:15am First Sat 8:15am WEEKEND: Sat 4pm, Sun, 7:30am, 9am & 11am

MASS ONLINE CONTINUES

#### RECONCILIATION

Individual Confessions: by appointment and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5-6pm Saturdays, 3-3:45pm First Saturdays, 7:15-8am

#### OUR CLERGY

Father Justin Hoye, Pastor Father Pius Wesonga, AJ, Associate Pastor In Residence: Father Paul Sappington

#### AT THE PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 8:45am-1pm, 2-3:30pm\* Tues. & Thurs. 8:45am-1pm, 2-5pm\* Friday 8:45am-1pm

\* lunch hour 1-2pm 816-942-2492

Parish Office 816-942-24 Office directory at stmkc.com and p.9

#### AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Linda Crosthwait Tracy Stewart

Principal Assistant Principal

Office hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8am-3:45pm; Fri., 8:30am-3:30pm

School Office	816-942-5581
School fax	816-941-2450
School email directory at	stmkcschool.org
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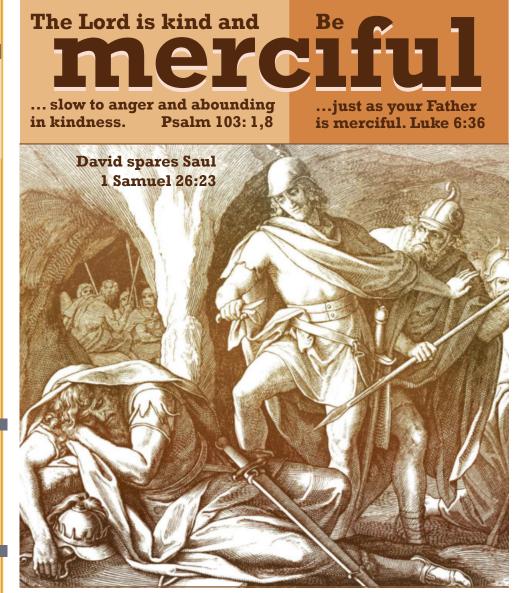
SCHOOL TOURS: contact Principal Linda Crosthwait at 816-942-5581 or crosthwait\_linda@stmcyclones.org

#### SAFE ENVIRONMENT

All employees and volunteers working with minors are required to:

- Create an account at virtus.org
- Attend a Protecting God's Children workshop
- Complete a mandated reporter training
- Submit to a background check
- Read the online Policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry

For more Safe Environment information, including reporting and victim resources, see page 10.





...WILL BE IN THE NARTHEX MARCH 1-2 SEE PAGE 4



# THE PASTOR'S PEN

#### Faithful People of Saint Thomas More,

Last week it was publicly announced that our STM School Principal, Linda Crosthwait, will conclude her time with us at the end of this school year. I speak with much gratitude for the five years of leadership Linda has provided our school community, and look forward to the remainder of her tenure, (and all the fruit that continues to be born from her labors)!

The principal position has been posted (including on our website: STMKC.COM), and an interview committee made up of representatives from our faculty, School Advisory Board, parish staff and non-school parishioners has been created. If you - or someone you know - might be interested in applying for the Principal position, please direct them to the online portal where additional information is provided.

We are just at the beginning stages of a multiyear vision to invest in a number of pillars in our school. Among those is technology, and this week we received a \$50K gift from The McDonnell Foundation, to aid in our tech investments. This gift will help pay for new Smart Boards to be placed in all classrooms during next month's Spring Break. I am grateful for Nan Bone who helped arrange this incredible gift for us!

I want to welcome visitors who are with us during a four day stretch, as STM hosts City Tournament basketball games for the KC Parochial League.

Thank you to those supporting our STM Respect Life Committee's Baby Shower this weekend in the narthex. Next weekend, Catholic Charities will be in the narthex, sharing information on the varied ministries they provide to "serve and lift" families in south Kansas City.

#### Father Justin

P.S. Please see this week's feature (page 6) with an overview of the many Lenten offerings. Lent provides a natural on-ramp to spiritual riches for those who find their spiritual lives to be drifting. May we all take advantage of the season to grow in our Christian identity.

#### One Family RESTORED IN CHRIST, EQUIPPED FOR MISSION Healing Our Family



Healing Our Family Tending wounds and accompanying hearts to freedom in Christ

# **Come Home to Communion**



#### **Daily Masses**

Monday, 8:15am Tuesday, 6:15 & 8:15am Wednesday, 6:15 & 8:15am Thursday, 6:15 & 8:15am Friday, 8:15am First Saturday, 8:15am **Sign Interpreted services:** 2nd

Sundays at 11am

Masses are recorded daily; find them at stmkc.com or youtube.stmkc.com.

#### The Light is on for You

Confessions are offered in the reconciliation room.Tuesday, 5-6pmThursday, 5-6pm (not 2/27)Saturday, 3-3:45pmFirst Saturday, 7:15-8amand by appointmentFirst Saturday, 7:15-8am

#### **Eucharistic Exposition at STM**

#### Sundays, Noon-9pm in the Church

Regular time spent with the Lord in Adoration can be life changing! First Sundays, Noon-1pm, has music.

**Be real with yourself.** Holy hours are great, but if you don't have that much time, or if you aren't used to spending that long of a time in prayer, you might need to build up to it. Start with attending for fifteen minutes at a time. The quality of time you spend with our Lord and the frequency of times are often more meaningful than the length.

#### **Church Hours for Private Prayer**

Mon.-Fri., 6am-9pm Sat.-Sun., 7am-9pm

#### Pray the Rosary with Others

#### Sundays, after 9am Mass

Join with the Knights of Columbus in prayer.

Mon.-Fri., after the 8:15am Mass

All are welcome to pray the rosary or the Fatima devotions with others on first Saturdays, after 8:15am Mass.

#### **February Prayer Intentions**

**Pope Francis:** Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

**Bishop Johnston:** Let us pray for those suffering from the effects of a stroke or other debilitating illness, that they find strength and encouragement to live in a deeper communion with Christ.

#### **Courage and Encourage Apostolates**

**Courage** Kansas City is the local chapter of the Courage Apostolate. Spiritual support is offered to Christian men and women with same-sex attractions who desire to live chaste lives in accordance with the teachings of Scripture and Catholic moral teaching.

**EnCourage** offers support for families of those with same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria.

Monthly meetings are held at a location convenient for those throughout the KC metro area. Call 816-714-2371 if you are interested in either support group. Visit kcsjfamily.org/courage-encourage to learn more.

# **Care & Support**

#### **Grief Peer Support Group**

#### 1st & 3rd Wed. (Mar. 5), 4-5pm, Bauman Room

Grief is difficult and can be experienced as a result of any kind of loss. In addition to supporting each other, we use various resources to better understand our grief. Peggy Lucas, Pastoral Associate, facilitates these groups. Attend as you are able. For more info, contact her at peggy@stmkc.com or 816-942-2492 x210. One Family restored in christ, equipped for mission



Using Resources Wisely Aligning God's gifts for the Church's life and mission

#### **Adult Choir Newly Forming**

#### Rehearsals: Thursdays, 7-8:30pm in the Church

A choir with singers high school age and up has begun and is open to new members. Our focus is on living the church's call to "full, conscious and active participation" of the faithful in the Mass by supporting and adding beauty to the sung prayer of all. What we add to that prayer and any additional repertoire will be according to the gifts of those who come forward and the intentions of the Mass.

For those who are blessed by singing from the pews, including our parish "pew choir section leaders," this can be an opportunity for fellowship, renewal, and enriching your prayer.

This choir serves at the 9am Mass except for Saturday of the second weekend of the month. To be closer to our brothers and sisters in the pews (to be able to see and hear and encourage them), we will be serving up front.

We look forward to welcoming, praying and serving alongside you. Questions? Contact Bob Sandford, Music Director, at bob@stmkc.com or 816-942-2492 x212.

#### Jewelry & Other Accessories Sale

#### Feb. 27-28 (Thu., 7:30am-5pm; Fri., 7:30am-3pm)

St. Joseph's Volunteer Services is hosting this popular event in the lower level of the atrium at St. Joseph Medical Center (SJMC), located at 1000 Carondelet Dr., KCMO 64114. Net proceeds will be donated to various

#### **Please hold in prayer** CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE, BULLETIN@STMKC.COM OR 942-2492 X202, TO ADD OR REMOVE NAMES FROM THE PRAYER LIST. IF YOUR NAME IS DROPPED OFF AND YOU ARE IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL PRAYERS FOR HEALING, CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE. NAMES APPEAR EVERY OTHER WEEK. ...our family and friends in the military: Nick Alder Nathan Butcher TJ Francik Jonathan Kennaley **Christopher Yates Drew Belzer** Logan Elrader-Effertz Luke Jokerst Zach Love ...our parishioners who are sick: Susie Reardon Mary Sue Adams JoAnn Walton **Bill Cusick** Kathy Lawson **Roberta** Aquirre Cricket Hill Linda Neenan **Cathy Terwelp** Bill Young Carol Turner Rita Armstrong Donna Johnson Monica Nelson ...our family and friends who are sick: Stephan Tafuro Marie Dooley Tom Bauer Emily Kurek Carol Shelangouski **Emma Beaver Edward Dulle Denise Adams Mehlo** Stephanie Shaver Pat Wells Scott Caron Chris Frantze Noel Mehlo Peter Szumigala ...our family and friends who have died: Pam Honn; Bernice Migliazzo

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charities whose mission and values are consistent with theirs. Come to find some great deals while supporting worthwhile causes! Call Fred O'Dwyer at 816-812-1198 for more details.

#### **Catholic Charities**

A representative from Catholic Charities will be in the narthex next weekend with information about the many services they provide.

They reach out to the poor, the hungry, and the vulnerable, serving and lifting families in need. Their mission is to help people move to a better life through hope-filled care, services, and advocacy.

Several STM parishioners volunteer at their new Serve & Lift Center, located on Longview Road in the former Saint Matthew's church. There, Catholic Charities provides "one-stop shopping" for those in need of many kinds of services.

#### Hope Ball

#### Saturday, March 29

Get ready for an unforgettable night of elegance, joy, and purpose at Hope Ball 2025! Purchase your tickets, tables or sponsor **by Friday, February 28.** Learn more at catholiccharitiesgala.org/.

#### Food Drive Next Weekend

#### March 1-2, in the Narthex

Our monthly food drive helps people who are struggling to put food on their tables and is distributed by Seton Center and our Red Bridge food pantry.

Please bring the following items for Seton Center: canned tuna, meats, low-sodium soups, vegetables and fruit; pancake mix & syrup, sugar, dry milk, boxed meals, pasta & sauce, peanut butter & jelly, rice, jello, condiments, white beans, laundry soap, toiletry items, and paper goods.

To make a monetary contribution to Seton Center, visit setonkc.org and cick on the donate tab.

#### **Red Bridge Pantry**

We served 18 families and 63 individuals this month! And thanks to everyone's generosity with both the regular and the Souper Bowl food drives, we are low on only a few items.

#### **Special Requests for March**

- Canned veggies: especially peas, mixed veg, carrots, beets, mushrooms, potatoes, peas and carrots, sauerkraut
- Tomato sauce and paste
- Facial tissue (regular size boxes)

A grateful mother wrote a note to the pantry, "Please know how special you are and what a blessing you are!" And that includes all of YOU who make the pantry possible!

#### **Thank You for Participating!**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Valentine's Day activity for the residents of Butterfly Haven. Members of the Faith in Action Team delivered the food, Valentine's Day cards, blankets and adult coloring books this past Saturday. Miss Scarlett has been providing care at Butterfly Haven for over thirty years. She and the residents were very grateful for the food, gifts and cards.

During the Jubilee Year, the Faith in Action Team plans to offer a service activity each month to promote Pope Francis' call to be Pilgrims of Hope. We are in the process of planning an activity in March for Hope Faith Ministries. More details will be forthcoming.

#### Thank You from The Little Sisters of the Poor

Thank you so much for thinking of us this past Sunday on the World Day of Consecrated Life. We are so grateful for the delicious Jack Stack! We reflect so often on the wonderful kindness we are shown constantly by our friends and community. Please know we are praying for you and your congregation. May God bless you for all that you do!

> ~ Mother Mary Thomas and all the Little Sisters of the Poor (KC)

#### Thank You! - Called By Name Sunday

STM submitted the names of 15 men and women who our community identified as potentially having the call to the priesthood or religious life. Individuals can continue to provide names by filling out the yellow cards on the dresser in the narthex and depositing them in the collection baskets OR filling out the online form (at stmkc.com) that goes directly to the Vocations Office. Individuals receive a letter from Bishop Johnston, encouraging them in their discernment of the Lord's vision for their lives. Thank you to the members of our STM Vocations Committee for helping oversee these efforts and helping build a culture of vocations at STM!

#### An Invitation to Celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony Saturday, March 1, at STM

The Serra Club of Southeast KCMO invite you to join them at 4pm Mass, followed by a reception and dinner in More Hall. An after dinner presentation will be given by Deacon Justin McMenamy. Please **register by Monday, February 24,** by contacting Diane at 816-756-9464 or dbanksserrasekc@gmail.com. Please give your name and your guest names. Dinner is \$40/person and payment will be handled at the door.

#### **January Financials**

Regular - \$278,513.12	Plate - \$2,724.65
Facilities - \$2,130.00	Christmas - \$10,363.00

Education Fund - \$1,535.00 School - \$1,868.00 Solemnity of Mary - \$1,748.00 Catholic Home Missions - \$3,319.66 **Thank you** for your continued contributions to STM!

One Family RESTORED IN CHRIST, EQUIPPED FOR MISSION Growing God's Family Activating our baptismal call to holiness and being disciple makers

#### **SPRED Class**

#### Monday, February 24, 6:30-8:30pm, More Hall

An adult group for the developmentally delayed meets about every other week to share their faith. Questions? Email Becky at bturner727@yahoo.com.

#### Considering becoming Catholic?

#### Inquiry: Tuesdays, 6:15-7:30pm, More Hall A

**Feb. 25:** Sacraments of Vocation: Marriage & Holy Orders Sessions are for those from other Christian traditions or those with no religious background. Journey with other individuals to learn more about the Catholic Church and to discern God's invitations offered through the Catholic Church. Sessions are open to adults and children, baptized and not. They are also open to Catholics who would like to take advantage of this formation opportunity. Questions? Contact Father Justin, 816-942-2492 x204 or frjhoye@stmkc.com.

#### School of Religion (SOR)

#### Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30pm, More Hall A

School of Religion provides catechesis for grade school children, grades 1-8, who do not attend Catholic school. Visit stmkc.com to register online. Click on the "School of Religion" box. Questions? Email Susan at aquiel2000@yahoo.com.

#### **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

#### 1st & 3rd Sundays (Mar. 2), at 9am Mass

We have expanded this semester to two Sundays per month! Children through 2nd grade are invited to participate! Questions? Contact Joan Sandford, 816-942-2492 x202 or joan@stmkc.com.

#### Protecting God's Children (PGC) Training

#### Monday, March 10, 6-9pm, in More Hall

Our diocese and parish are both committed to having a safe environment for children. To this end, all adults and teens who work with minors are required to take this training and fulfill other requirements.

To sign up for the training, create an account at virtus.org. Choose the Diocese of Kansas City~St. Jo-

esph, then St. Thomas More Parish. You will be directed through the requirements to be safe environment-compliant.

The other requirements include a background check, reading the policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry, and taking Mandated Reporter training.

Questions? Contact Joan Sandford at 816-942-2492 x202 or joan@stmkc.com.

#### Ladies of Charity (LOC) Lenten Prayer Breakfast Thursday, March 13, at Church of the Nativity

All women are invited to Leawood, KS to hear Mary Sweat, a nurse in Vietman in the 1970s. Mary will reflect on her experience there and give an encouraging message for Lenten prayer and meditation. There is no charge but an RSVP is encouraged for the breakfast count. Email signupforLOCevents@gmail.com to sign up.

#### Turning Point Programs for People with Serious Illness

Turning Point educates and supports individuals, families and friends living with a wide variety of serious or chronic physical illnesses through classes, activities and education. Turning Point helps participants increase resilience so they may live life to the fullest, even while experiencing chronic disease. Brochures for March-April 2025 that list their upcoming programs can be found in the magazine rack at the north end of the narthex.

A highlighted program being offered is the importance of reducing fall risks by increasing balance. There are many other programs listed covering a variety of issues such as creative expression, body movement, nutrition and support and educational groups for families, teens and children as well. For more information you can also visit TurningPointKC.org or call 913-574-0900.

#### City On A Hill (COAH) Young Adult Events

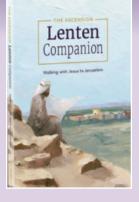
Visit kansascityonahill.org/ for more info. Click on Get Involved to sign up for The Loop, a weekly email. Undivided Retreat 2025

#### March 7-9 (Friday–Sunday) at Prairie Star Ranch

Join COAH as we seek a life in Christ, wholly and undivided! The core of this year's retreat will not only help you recognize the beauty of living well, but the tools and next steps for living a happy, fulfilled life. This retreat is for anyone searching for meaning, yearning for change, or simply looking for the way forward. Questions? Email Moses & Kate Tinio, retreat coordinators, at encounter@kansascityonahill.org.

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# Lent 2025



Small Group Studies Has your relationship with

God grown stale? Has it lost its spark? Are you plagued by a particular sin? Something you can't shake? Are you just tired of the day-to-day grind of your life? These all show that God wants to give

you more.

This Lent, experience deeper peace and healing as Father Mark Toups immerses you in Christ's final journey to Jerusalem, inviting you to reflect on Jesus' suffering and death, and inspiring you to celebrate in his resurrection.

During this Lenten journey, you will fall in love with Jesus, learning to see with his eyes and love with his heart. More than just a journal, The Ascension *Lenten Companion* will guide you, day by day, to an encounter with the person of Christ and help you arrive at Easter transformed by God's love.

STM is hosting multiple small group settings (mornings, afternoons & evenings, weekdays & weekends, beginning the week of March 10) of *The Lenten Companion* that will meet weekly for an hour and half. Specific days and times will be coming soon. Contact Hayley Shaver for more info: Hayley@stmkc.com or 816-942-2492 x202.

#### Ash Wednesday Masses - March 5

6:15am, 8:15am, 6pm (There will be a separate school Mass.)

#### Stations of the Cross Fridays of Lent at 5pm in the Church

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Stations of the Cross will be led by a different STM ministry each week. You are also welcome to walk the journey with Jesus when the church is open, using the texts found by each Station.

#### **Fish Fry Fridays**

#### March 7, 14, (NOT 21), 28 and April 4 & 11 5-7pm in More Hall

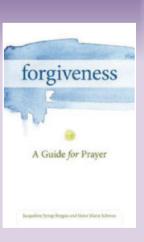
Details are coming soon, but you can count on delicious food provided by the Scouts! The Boy Scouts are hosting the fish dinner while the Girl Scouts have wonderful desserts available.

#### **Lenten Bulletin Feature Pages**

The pages, based on the Sunday readings, have discussion questions and activities for families, friends or individuals to do together or individually.

#### Six Week Lenten Prayer Series Wednesdays (March 5-April 16), 1-2pm, Bauman Room

To honor the Jubilee Year of "Pilgrims of Hope" as proclaimed by Pope Frances, Peggy Lucas, Pastoral Associate is offering this guided prayer group opportunity using the book *Forgiveness - A Guide for Prayer* by Jacqueline Syrup Bergan and Sister Marie Schwan.



Pope Frances writes in his letter on the Jubilee, asking us to pray in a way, "..that makes it possible for every man and woman in this world to turn to the one God and to reveal to him what lies hidden in the depths of their heart." Exploring forgiveness can be a way to turn to the one God and find hope in forgiveness.

This is an opportunity to grow deeper in relationship with God and with others "through a prayerful focus on forgiveness." Every week the book will provide scripture to pray with and suggested approaches to pray for that day. Then, to support and help each other grow in forgiveness and hope, there will be an opportunity for sharing our journeys in the weekly group sessions.

The group will be limited to 12 and the book will be provided. Please RSVP by Saturday, March 1st, so we can order the books to be handed out at the first session. To RSVP or ask questions, contact Peggy at 816-942-2492 x210 or Peggy@stmkc.com.

#### Fresh Fire Eucharistic Adoration Fridays (Mar. 28., Apr. 25), 7-9pm



Looking for a wonderful experience of prayer with others? Fresh Fire is an evening

of candlelit Eucharistic Adoration with praise and worship music, personal testimony, and prayer teams.

Experience the power of Jesus' healing presence!

# Sunday Q&A

Your Faith in Focus

# NEW WAYS TO GIVE THIS LENT

# What should I do this Lent?

In addition to fasting and sacrifice, the Church invites us to pray and give in new ways during the Lenten season. Colin MacIver gives us seven ideas we can follow:

# 1. Daily Mass ... With a Twist

Whether you are already a daily Mass-goer or not, resolve to go during Lent. To add an element of specific intercession and self-gift, pick someone in your life to offer up your Mass for each time you go. Afterward, send that person a simple, personalized note or text letting her or him know about it.

# 2. Pray It Forward

Pray the Rosary daily (or on specific set days) for the intentions of someone in your life and give the person you prayed for the rosary you used. Invite him or her to do the same.

# 3. "Staycation" Pilgrimage

Maybe you can't get to the Holy Land or to a major shrine during Lent, but consider taking a trip to your diocesan cathedral or setting aside a day to visit a series of churches, chapels, and holy places near your community.

### 4. I Was in Prison ...

Christ directly prescribes ministry to those in prison. Find a way to get involved. It might begin with a call to your parish and lead to having a pen pal, prayer partner, or even visiting a prison.

# 5. Tithe Time

We are all busy, and time is at a premium. What about making a specific weekly service commitment for the season of Lent. It could be in your parish, at a nursing home, or at a local outreach. Make the commitment specific and, if possible, actually sign up so you will be accountable.

# 6. Good Samaritan Bags

Get twenty to thirty reusable bags and pack them with healthy snacks, toiletries, socks, and other helpful items. Keep them in your car and make it a goal to hand them out to people in your community who could use them.

# 7. Stay Awake and Keep Watch

Want to get serious about your Holy Hour? Consider signing up for a slot at midnight or later at your local Adoration chapel for one night a week during Lent.

# Parish Calendar of Events

Sat.-Sun., Feb. 22-23 - Baby Shower for St. Mary's Home for Mothers, Liberty, MO - in the Narthex Mon., Feb. 24 - SPRED, 6:30-8:30pm, More Hall B/D Living Waters, 7-9:30pm, Church Tue., Feb. 25 - GIFT, 9-10:30am, Bauman Room OCIA, 6:15-7:30pm, More Hall A Wed., Feb. 26 - School of Religion, 6:15-7:30pm Thu., Feb. 27 - Isaiah 49, 1-2:30pm, More Hall Choir Rehearsal, 7pm, Church Sat.-Sun., Mar. 1-2 - Catholic Charities in the Narthex Monthly Food Drive Sun., Mar. 2 - Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9am Mass Mon., Mar. 3 - STM Serves at One City Cafe Living Waters, 7-9:30pm, Church Tue., Mar. 4 - GIFT, 9-10:30am, Bauman Room OCIA, 6:15-7:30pm, More Hall A Wed., Mar. 5 - Ash Wednesday Masses at 6:15am, 8:15am, 6pm Grief Peer Support, 4-5pm, Bauman School of Religion, 6:15-7:30pm Thu., Mar. 6 - Isaiah 49, 1-2:30pm, More Hall Choir Rehearsal, 7pm, Church Knights Officer mtg., 7pm, More Hall Fri., Mar. 7 - Stations of the Cross Fish Fry, 5-7pm, More Hall Sat., Mar. 8 - OCIA Rite of Election Sun., Mar. 9 - 1st Sunday of Lent **Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Appeal** 

# **STM School**

Linda Crosthwait, Principal



#### **School Registration**

Current families should have received an email with registration instructions. New families will need to contact the school to set up a tour, before registration information is sent to them.

#### Thursday, February 20 through Monday, March 24 Grades K-8

Registration Fee - \$2,200/student, capped at 4 children Fundraising Fee - \$500/family (Football Frenzy) Tithing - Registered parishioners with 2025 pledge Tuition (non-parishioners) - \$7400/student

#### Pre-school/Pre-K (ages 3-4)

Registration Fee - \$450/student Tuition - 3-day: \$5,000; 5-day: \$7,400

#### Financial Dates at the parish office

Thu., Feb. 27, 9am-1pm & 2-5pm Fri., Feb. 28, 9am-1pm Fri., Mar. 14, 9:30am-1pm or by appointment

#### **MO Scholars Scholarships**

Your student could be eligible for up to \$6,375 in scholarships! The Bright Futures Fund is a certified Educational Assistance Organization. Scholarship applications for the 2025-26 school year are available NOW at brightfuturesfund.org.

Donors to this fund are able to receive MO tax credits for contributions. Visit brightfuturesfund.org for more information.

#### **School Dates**

Sat., Feb. 22 - Bags Tournament Sun., Feb. 23 - 1st Grade Class Party, 1:30-3pm Thu., Feb. 27 - Crazy Hat Skate, 6-8pm Sun., Mar. 2 - PreK Experience, 1-2:30pm Wed., Mar. 5 - Papa John's Dine-Out Night for STM Thu., Mar. 6 - Bingo for Books, 6:30-8pm, Flanagan Hall

#### It's Bags Tournament Time!

#### Saturday, February 22, in STM School Gym

Get ready to toss, spin, and maybe even dance your way to glory—our annual Bags Tournament is back and better than ever! This year, we're mixing it up because teams need to be CO-ED—grab your best guy/gal pal and show us your bean bag skills! Pods will be assigned at check-in so if you want to be in the same or close pods as friends, arrive at the same time.

 Cost: \$30 (bringing your own bags? \$33, want to come watch and drink beers \$15)

• Prizes: Bragging rights (and actual prizes too)! Whether you're a cornhole champ or just here for the snacks and laughs, we can't wait to see you there. To register, visit givebutter.com/2025Bags.

#### **Crazy Hat Skate**

#### Thursday, February 27, Skate City in Overland Park

Admission is \$7 and skate rental is \$2. A \$5 special includes 2 slices of pizza and a small drink. See you there!

#### CYO: Girls' Flag Football This Spring - Grades 3-8

Families pay and register directly from the website: cyojwa.org/current-programs.

Regular Registration: Now–Mar 28

Late Registration: Mar 29–Apr 11

Program Duration: Mar 10–May 24

Season runs Apr 5–May 24

Games played on weekdays as needed and available Saturdays. 6 game season (5 game guarantee). Divisions dependent on registration totals/grade.

#### **PLKC Spring Sports Sign-ups**

#### Now through Saturday, March 8

Visit plkc.org to sign up for the spring sports. Boys Volleyball is open for grades 4-8. Register early so we can secure coaches. Coaches are needed for 4th and 8th grades. Please reach out to Jenny Smith. If tryouts are needed, the grade will be notified.

Track and Field is open to grades 3-8. Email Cathy with any questions: ccisetti@bsd124.org.

#### **Trivia Night: STM-for-All Fundraiser**

#### Saturday, March 1, 7pm, Flanagan Hall (STM School)

Join STM School parents for this Trivia Night benefiting STM-for-All and the BMA Foundation. Get your teams or buy your tickets now. The cost of \$35/person, \$50/couple, or \$250/team of 8 includes beer, wine and soda. Show up with your favorite snack to share, additional cocktails, and trivia skills.

To register, venmo @Tim-Heather-Reidy or email Tim at treidy@rockhursths.edu. Bring cash for raffles, mulligans, and games. This is an event you don't want to miss!

venmo

#### Save The Date: Bingo for Books!

#### Thursday, March 6, 6:30-8pm in Flanagan Hall

Home and School is hosting this 3rd annual event. The cost is \$20/family and \$5 for extra cards OR bring in gently used or new book(s) for the prize table and receive an extra card(s).

We will also accept gently used and new board game donations for indoor recess! Teacher game wish lists will also be available.

Popsicles for the highest class attendance! BYOB and a dessert or snack to share. Look forward to seeing all of you there! Email kdavis7915@gmail for questions or donations.

#### **16th Annual School Bell Breakfast**

#### Thursday, April 3, 7:30-9am

Save the date for this Bright Futures Fund's breakfast, to be held at the Westin Kansas City at Crown Center. Come for a morning of inspiration and celebration, including an insightful fireside chat between Bishop James V. Johnston, Jr. and special guest, Dr. Jonathan Doylend, a devout Catholic and physicist. Learn more about Dr. Doylend in the current issue of Catholic Key magazine, catholickey.org.

Rita and Lamar Hunt, through their charitable organization, the Loretto Foundation, will match every School Bell Breakfast donation up to \$200,000. Please visit brightfuturesfund.org for details.

#### **Parish Office Staff**





x201 mary@stmkc.com Scott Dulle **Building & Grounds Director** 

dulle scott@stmcyclones.org





**Evangelization & Discipleship** 

x223 hayley@stmkc.com

Publications & Music Director

x212 bob@stmkc.com

Bob Sandford

Joan Sandford

Office Manager

Hayley Shaver

Tim Waris

**Business Manager** 

Associate Pastor

x218 tim@stmkc.com

Father Pius Wesonga, AJ

x203 frpwesonga@stmkc.com

Father Justin Hoye Pastor x204 frjhoye@stmkc.com Jyllan Hudson **Funeral & Wedding Liturgist** jylian@stmkc.com

> **Becky Johnson Finance Coordinator** x224 becky@stmkc.com

Peggy Lucas Pastoral Associate/Outreach x 210 peggy@stmkc.com

#### Parish Office Hours (until further notice)

Office Hours: M-W 8:45am-3:30pm; T-Th 8:45am-5pm F 8:45am-1pm

#### **Finance Ministry Team**

Justin Hicks, Chair Mark Meierhoffer Bruce Greag

Stefanie Bresette Laura Christopherson

Parishioner volunteers serve for three-year terms. Ouestions? Email FinanceCouncil@stmkc.com.

Diocesan Ombudsman Joe Crayon crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org or 816-812-2500

Victim Advocate

#### 816-392-0011or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org

#### To register as a member of Saint Thomas More Parish...

...go to stmkc.com/registration, contact the parish office or pick up a registration form on the Information table in the church narthex.



# Safe Environment Information

The Diocese of Kansas City~Saint Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse:

- Call the MO Child Abuse Hotline, 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), or KS Protection Report Center, 1-800-922-5330, and
- Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
- After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities...if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph report suspected abuse to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816-812-2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org.

The diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate at 816-392-0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org.

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, contact:

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Joan Sandford, Parish Safe Environment Coordinator, safety@stmkc.com or 816-942-2492 x202, OR Tracy Stewart, School Safe Environment Coordinator, stewart\_tracy@stmcyclones.org or 816-942-5581.

# **Mass Intentions**

Mon: 8:15<sub>AM</sub> Paul Gallegos<sup>+</sup> 2/24

- Tues: 6:15AM Mary Gillespie Spicer<sup>+</sup>
- 2/25 8:15AM Charlie Krebs<sup>+</sup>
- Wed: 6:15AM Stefany Arenel
- 2/26 \*\*8:15AM John Altergott<sup>+</sup>
- Thur: 6:15AM Thomas Fahey
- 2/27 8:15AM Mr. & Mrs. Tran Do<sup>60th Anniversary</sup>
- Fri: 8:15AM Patricia Neal<sup>+</sup>
- 2/28
- Sat: 8:15AM Morris & Vivian Albers<sup>+</sup>
- 3/1 4:00рм Tom Steffens<sup>+</sup>
- Sun: 7:30AM Nicholas Arello<sup>+</sup>
- 3/2 9:00AM Jack Looney<sup>+</sup>
  - 11:00AM Our Parishioners
- <sup>+</sup>Deceased \*\*School Mass

To request a Mass intention, stop by the parish office or call 816-942-2492. Suggested donation per Mass is \$10.

**S C R I P T U R E R E A D I N G S** For the daily readings, visit usccb.org/bible/reading. Have the readings sent to your email each day, hear the readings read to you, or watch a video with a reflection based on the readings.



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