

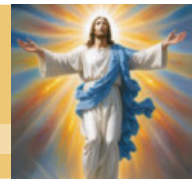


OUR **MISSION** IS TO PROVIDE
A WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE,
AND LOVING COMMUNITY BY
PROCLAIMING AND LIVING GOD'S
WORD THROUGH WORSHIP,
EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE.

SAINT THOMAS MORE PARISH

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

May 4, 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 Hoyer, 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

Parish Office 816-942-2492

Office directory at stmkc.com and p.9

AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Linda Crosthwait Principal

Tracy Stewart 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

SCHOOL TOURS: contact Principal Linda Crosthwait at
816-942-5581 or crosthwait_linda@stmcydones.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.

Mother's Day Carnation Sale

*Next Weekend
after all Masses*

**\$1 EACH,
with proceeds
benefiting
Missouri
Right to Life.**

**Carnation Sale sponsored by
the STM Respect Life Committee.**



Please Pray for our First Communicants

SOR (School of Religion)

First Communion at 11am Mass May 4

STM School

First Communion at 2pm May 4



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Faithful People of Saint Thomas More,

This weekend is First Communion weekend, and we joyfully gather with students from STM School and our School of Religion. A word of thanks to Susan Duerr who oversees our SOR ministry; to Julie Anwander, Noelle Gallic & Gina Spiller, who teach our second grade students; and to our parents who ran this year's Jesus Day, preparing communicants for their encounter with Jesus.

Our 8th graders will celebrate their final days at the school this week, culminating in their Graduation Ceremony this Thursday evening. Please join me in congratulating them, and praying for their transition to high school. We will gather with the majority of them again in just a month, as they celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This past week, we concluded our latest offering of Living Waters, our 20 week ministry that connects Jesus' mercy with the sexual and relational brokenness that every man and woman experiences. I was a small group leader of a band of men for this offering, and was grateful to accompany men in their 20s through 50s, who sought strength and healing for the sake of the people in their lives - spouses, children, parents - who benefitted from their growth. I am also overjoyed at the 50 guests - spouses, siblings, roommates, pastors - who gathered for our final night to hear first-hand testimony on how Jesus ministered to their loved ones this spring. This is one of the most impactful offerings afforded us at STM, and I do hope more consider it for themselves in the future.

Lastly, the Conclave begins this Wednesday for the election of a new Pope. Our 8:15am School Mass that day will use the Mass "For the Election of a Pope" as we join the faithful throughout the world in prayerful expectancy.

Father Justin

Honoring Pope Francis' Life at STM

- Sign up at stmkc.com to pray with the Vocations crucifix. (See p.3).
- Attend 8:15am Mass on Wed., May 7, to pray for the election of a new pope.
- Contribute to the STM Neighbors in Need fund to assist those in need. (See stmkc.com/stewardship for online giving.)
- Read up on "Pope Francis' writings." (Search for these words in quotes to find the writings.)
- Watch Bishop Johnston's interview at kctv5.com, search "Bishop Johnston."

Follow the News

For updates regarding the conclave, visit

- usccb.org and/or usccb.org/newroom
- vaticannews.va
- ewtn.com

Gathering Stories

The diocese is gathering stories from people who have met Pope Francis or who have a special devotion to him. Email Ashlie at hand@diocesekcsj.org.

For Father Paul's story, visit kctv5.com and search "Paul Sappington."



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

Confessions are offered in the reconciliation room.

Tuesday, 5-6pm Thursday, 5-6pm
 Saturday, 3-3:45pm First Saturday, 7:15-8am
 and by appointment

Church Hours for Private Prayer

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

Eucharistic Exposition at STM

Sundays, Noon-9pm in the Church

No Eucharistic Exposition on May 4.

Regular time spent with the Lord in Adoration can be life changing!

Go out of your way. How can you make Adoration a regular part of your weekly rhythm of prayer? It may mean sacrificing other things, such as time online or watching TV. Start searching for more opportunities to sacrifice other things for that prayer time with Jesus—and watch how he blesses you.

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.

STM Traveling Vocations Crucifix - Easter Season

The STM Vocations Committee invites parishioners to sign up at stmkc.com to receive a traveling crucifix for a week during the Easter Season. Participants will bring up the gifts of bread and wine at a weekend Mass and receive at that time a crucifix and prayers to use during the week, seeking an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.



May Prayer Intention

Bishop Johnston: For all Veterans who carry wounds—physical, emotional, or spiritual—that they experience deep healing and renewed peace of soul.

Care & Support

Grief Peer Support Group

1st & 3rd Wed. (May 7), 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.

Retrouvaille (Retro-vi)

May 16-18 (Friday-Sunday), Kansas City

Not willing to let go of your marriage? There is hope! Retrouvaille is very different than other marriage programs. Some spouses resist the idea of attending out of concern that they will be required to expose their personal lives and their marital problems. That is not true! And most couples find that this program is the very thing that worked when all else failed.

Retrouvaille begins with an immersion weekend led by three couples. The couples then take part in 12 two-hour follow-up sessions that delve deeper into concepts introduced on the weekend.

For more information, visit helpourmarriage.org.

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:

Thomas Edwards
Seth Gulsby

Zachary Henry
John Hylander

Sarah Katz
Brian Owara

Alycia Pouch
Nathan Pouch

John P. Sullivan

...our parishioners who are sick:

Peggy Calhoun
Carol Gretencord
Iva Hamilton

Porter Hovey
Lola Jacobs
Jack Jones

Carol Katzer
Patrick Miller
David Peterson

Laura Rupp
Bill Swartz

Nancy Swartz
Kathy Vervaecke

...our family and friends who are sick:

Duane Brown
Melinda Brown

Scott Caron
Alissa Carter

John Eidson
Glen Horton

Julie Aguirre Johnson
Lester Wells

Pat Wells

...our family and friends who have died:

Donna Donahue; Tom Baker; Brian Hodes, husband of Heather Hodes

Join the STM Prayer Chain and Pray for Others

If you are in need of prayer or interested in praying for those requesting prayer, contact Peggy Lucas, 816-942-2492 x210 or peggy@stmkc.com.

Healing Mass

Thursday, May 8, 7:30pm at Cure' of Ars

The Charismatic prayer groups are hosting this event in the Father Burak room at 9405 Mission Rd, Leawood, KS. Father Anthony Ouellette will preside. Questions? Call 913-649-2026.

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. They help participants increase resilience so they may live life to the fullest, even while experiencing chronic disease. Brochures for May-June 2025 can be found at the north end of the narthex.

They are highlighting their summer programs. One program of interest being provided in May by video is titled "Stress Reduction for Cancer Patients, Survivors and Caregivers." For more information you can also visit TurningPointKC.org or call 913-574-0900.

Holy Hour/Trivia Night "Friendraiser"

Friday, May 23, 5:30-9:30pm

Celebrate our Seminarians and those to be ordained (including Dan Stump)! A Holy Hour to pray for Vocations will be held 5:30-6:30pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception: 416 W 12th St., KCMO. After the Holy Hour, walk on over to the Bishop Hogan Center for Trivia Night, beginning at 7:15pm. Cost for trivia is \$15/person or \$100/table of 8. Donations accepted for concessions and alcohol; BYOB not allowed. Raffle items available. Prize for best table decoration. Seminarians rotate among tables. Free parking. Visit kcpriest.org to register.

Catholic Cemeteries: Preparing for Memorial Day

Masses: Monday, May 26, at 10am at all cemeteries

Grounds crews for the Catholic cemeteries including Mount Olivet, Resurrection, and Mount Saint Mary's are cleaning up now. If work needs to be done on a grave or marker, email inforeq@cemeterieskcsj.org or drop by the office with your request. A work order will be sent to the grounds department.

Decorations may be placed on graves beginning May 5. All decorations will be removed on June 2 for mowing. Visit cemeterieskcsj.org for the Decorations Policy.

Email foreq@cemeterieskcsj.org now if you do not know or are unsure of a grave location.



Food Drive This Weekend

May 3-4, 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 click on the donate tab.

Red Bridge Pantry - Items needed for this month:

- dish soap (out!), toilet paper and paper towels
- boxed dinners (Hamburger Helper type), pancake syrup
- canned: pastas, chicken, fruit (especially pineapple and fruit cocktail, not applesauce), green beans and mixed veggies

Thank you in advance for your support next month!

St. Joseph Medical Center Book & Gift Fair

May 6 & 7 (Tue., 7:30am-4pm; Wed., 7:30am-3pm)

St. Joseph's Volunteer Services is hosting this popular two-day event in the lower level of the atrium. Net proceeds will be donated to Catholic Charities or various other charities with similar mission and values. Come to St. Joseph's Medical Center at 1000 Carondelet Dr., KCMO 64114 to find some very good deals while supporting worthwhile causes! Call Fred O'Dwyer at 816-812-1198 for more details.

Interfaith Prayer Service

Thu., May 15, 7pm at Saint Francis Xavier Church

Meet at 1001 E 52nd St. KCMO 64110 to hear speaker Dan Margolies and to stand in solidarity with immigrants, migrants, and refugees. Questions? Call Tom Bradshaw, 816-316-9170, at The Neighborhood Justice Center.

March Financials

Regular - \$271,322.54	Plate - \$4,002.60
Facilities - \$3,015.00	
Education Fund - \$605.00	School - \$811.17
Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance - \$5,172.00	
Catholic Relief Service	

Thank you for your continued contributions to STM!

Encountering THE SEASON

Easter for the Family

Third Sunday of Easter (C)

Acts 5:27–32, 40b–41

Revelation 5:11–14

John 21:1–19

Ponder & Pray:

What areas of your life remain "potential"?

When have you hesitated to say yes to God's call?

Peter glorified God through both his life and his death. How can you live in a way that prepares your heart to glorify God in all Circumstances?

Poured Out

As Jesus spoke to Peter after his Resurrection, he invited his disciple to leave behind the potential of his youth and embrace a life fully poured out for God's glory. Peter's journey reminds us that potential is valuable only when it is actualized, when it becomes action in service of others and the Kingdom of God. Like Peter, we are called not to cling to our freedom and independence but to use our gifts to glorify God in both life and death.

The Gospel invites us to consider how we are using the gifts and opportunities God has entrusted to us. Are we holding on to potential, waiting for the "perfect" time, or are we stepping forward in faith to say, "Yes, Lord"? True freedom is found not in keeping our lives for ourselves but in giving them away for a greater purpose.

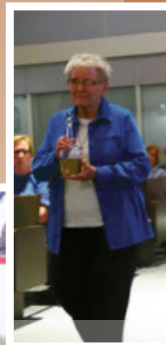
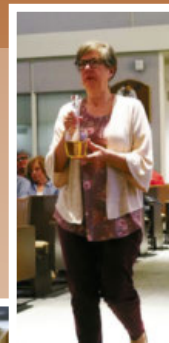
“ ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep.’ ”
—John 21:17

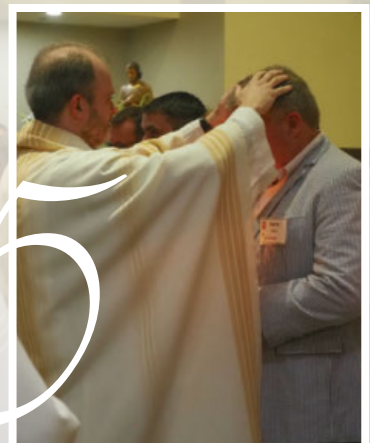
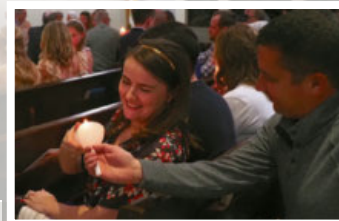


Easter Joy by Mike Moyers

This week, reflect on where God is calling you to be poured out in service. Whether through small daily acts or major life decisions, let your life—and

eventually your death—be a testimony to God's love and faithfulness. Pick your spot, say yes, and let God be glorified through you.





2025

GIFT: Growing in Faith Together

Tuesdays, 9-10:30am, Bauman Library

Women gather each week to break open the Sunday readings. All are welcome to join in! Questions? Email Becky at bturner727@yahoo.com.

Ignatian Weekend: Becoming Pilgrims of Hope

Saturday, May 3, 9am-4pm, Rockhurst University

Join in a reflection on Becoming Pilgrims of Hope. The day will end with Mass in the Mabee Chapel at Rockhurst University at 3pm. Visit ignatiancenterkc.org/ and click on "Events" for more information or to register.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

May 4 & 18, at 9am Mass

Children through 2nd grade are invited to participate in CLOW on 1st & 3rd Sundays in May. After the opening prayer, children are dismissed to hear the readings on their level. They rejoin their families after the homily. Questions? Contact Joan Sandford, 816-942-2492 x202 or joan@stmkc.com.

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun., May 4 - Monthly Food Drive
 Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9am Mass
 School of Religion First Communion, 11am Mass
 STM School First Communion, 2pm, Church
 Mon., May 5 - Living Waters, 7-9:30pm, Church
 Tue., May 6 - GIFT, 9-10:30am, Bauman Library
 Wed., May 7 - Grief Peer Support, 4-5pm, Bauman
 Thu., May 8 - STM School Graduation, 5:30pm, Church
 Knights of Columbus mtg., 7:15pm, More Hall
 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Church
 Sun., May 11 - Mother's Day
 World Day of Prayer for Vocations
 Tue., May 13 - GIFT, 9-10:30am, Bauman Library
 Thu., May 15 - Choir Rehearsal, 7pm, Church
 Sun., May 18 - Tomorrow's Priests Vocation Fund
 Children's Liturgy of the Word, 9am Mass

Saint Michael the Archangel High School Golf Classic

Friday, May 30, 8:30am Shotgun Start

Meet at the Winterstone Golf Course for a day of contests, giveaways, food and beverages, and raffle prizes. Pricing is \$1,100/Guardian sponsor, \$750/foursome, \$500 or \$250/hole sponsor; other opportunities also available. Proceeds benefit SMA athletics and activities. To register, visit smacatholic.org.

Saint Mary's All School Alumni Reunion

Saturday, June 21, 6-10pm

The reunion will be held at 622 N Main, Independence MO. No charge for entry, donations accepted at the door. BYOB and appetizer to share, along with ice and soft drinks. Questions? Contact Debbie at 660-473-4064 or debemo@gmail.com.

STM School

Linda Crosthwait, Principal
 816-942-5581 STMKCSCHOOL.ORG



School Registration

New Families: Please email Jill Brennan for a tour and/or registration info: brennan_jill@stmcyclones.org. Register today! Grades are filling quickly!

School Dates

Sun., May 4 - School First Communion, 2pm
 Tue., May 6 - 8th Grade Retreat
 Wed., May 7 - 8th Grade Mass & Passing the Light
 Thur., May 8 - 8th Grade Graduation
 Tue., May 13 - School Adoration, 2-3pm
 Home & School mtg., 6:30-8:30pm, More Hall C
 Fri., May 16 - Fun Day; 12:30pm Dismissal

Upcoming Dine Out!

Friday, May 2, at Red Bridge Sonic! Students will be car hops for an evening!

Assistant Principal for 2025-26 School Year Named

Dan Garrison, our current middle school literature teacher, and adjunct faculty member at Avila University, has been named the new Assistant Principal for the next academic year!

From the Principal's Desk (April 25)

We welcomed more than 50 bright-eyed future Cyclones to Kindergarten Roundup! The 4- and 5-year-olds spent time with next year's teachers, explored our school, and got their first taste of the STM spirit. We can't wait to welcome them officially in August!

Our 8th graders exemplified servant leadership during their Day of Service, spreading out to eight different sites across our community. They prepared and served meals, packed hygiene and food products for those in need, and cared for God's creatures at animal shelters - living out our call to love and serve others.

The arts were alive and well this week, too. Our student musicians filled Flanagan Hall with beautiful

sounds during the band performance, showing the talent and discipline they've developed all year. Then our 5-th-7th grade music students offered something truly special: performing songs using sign language, combining music and meaning in a powerful way.

In the midst of all this activity, our students have also been lifting up Pope Francis in daily prayer. At our all-school Mass, we held a short prayer service in his memory, including the tolling of the church bells - a moving moment of reflection on his humble leadership, kind heart, and lasting impact on the world.

MO Scholars Tax Credit

Maximize your impact on Catholic education in Missouri, at no cost to you. You can redirect up to 50% of your state income tax liability to the Bright Futures Fund, providing vital scholarships to qualifying students in our diocese.

For more information, visit BrightFuturesFund.org and click "Reserve Your MO Tax Credits Here" (linking to the MO State Treasurer's website). Please call Christy at 816-714-2338 with any questions.

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School

Registration opens in May! ✨



WHERE: STM PARISH
WHEN: JUNE 23- 27. 9AM-NOON
WHO: CHILDREN AGES 6-11

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOLERS & PARENT VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED! INTERESTED VOLUNTEERS CONTACT
HAYLEY AT HAYLEY@STMKC.COM

Parish Office Staff

	Sharon Arnett Liturgy Coordinator x208 sharon@stmkc.com		Bob Sandford Publications & Music Director x212 bob@stmkc.com
	Mary Begnaud Receptionist x201 mary@stmkc.com		Joan Sandford Office Manager x202 joan@stmkc.com
	Scott Dulle Building & Grounds Director dulle_scott@stmcydones.org		Father Paul Sappington In Residence frsappington@smacatholic.org
	Father Justin Hoyer Pastor x204 frjhoye@stmkc.com		Hayley Shaver Evangelization & Discipleship x223 hayley@stmkc.com
	Jyllan Hudson Funeral & Wedding Liturgist jyllan@stmkc.com		Tim Waris Business Manager x218 tim@stmkc.com
	Becky Johnson Finance Coordinator x224 becky@stmkc.com		Father Pius Wesonga, AJ Associate Pastor x203 frpwesonga@stmkc.com
	Peggy Lucas Pastoral Associate/Outreach x210 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 Gregg
Stefanie Bresette
Laura Christopherson
Parishioner volunteers serve for three-year terms.
Questions? Email FinanceCouncil@stmkc.com.

Diocesan Ombudsman

816-213-6024 or ombudsman@diocesekcsj.org

Victim Assistance Coordinator

816-714-2357 x516 or 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 at ombudsman@diocesekcsj.org or 816-812-2500.

The diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator at victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org or 816-714-2357 x516.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, contact:

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: 8:15AM John Redmond[†]
5/5
Tues: **6:15AM Blake Mathews**
5/6 8:15AM Virginia Esser[†]
Wed: **6:15AM Joellen Wright**
5/7 **8:15AM William Heft[†]
Thur: **6:15AM Deacon Mike Dennis[†]**
5/8 8:15AM Virginia Gioia[†]
Fri: **8:15AM Ivan & Carol Katzer**
5/9
Sat: 4:00PM Nino Gurera[†]
5/10
Sun: **7:30AM Cheryl Hur**
5/11 9:00AM Our Parishioners
11:00AM BJ Spalding Jr[†]

[†] Deceased

**School Mass

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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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St. Thomas More, Kansas City, MO

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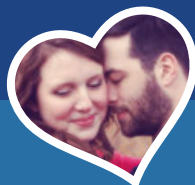


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JEFFREY J. Thompson, D.D.S., M.S. Parishioner

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Mobile: (816) 835-3230
TinaGaughan@gmail.com
TinaGaughan.com
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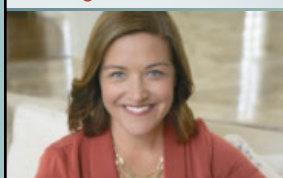
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