



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 25, 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

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:

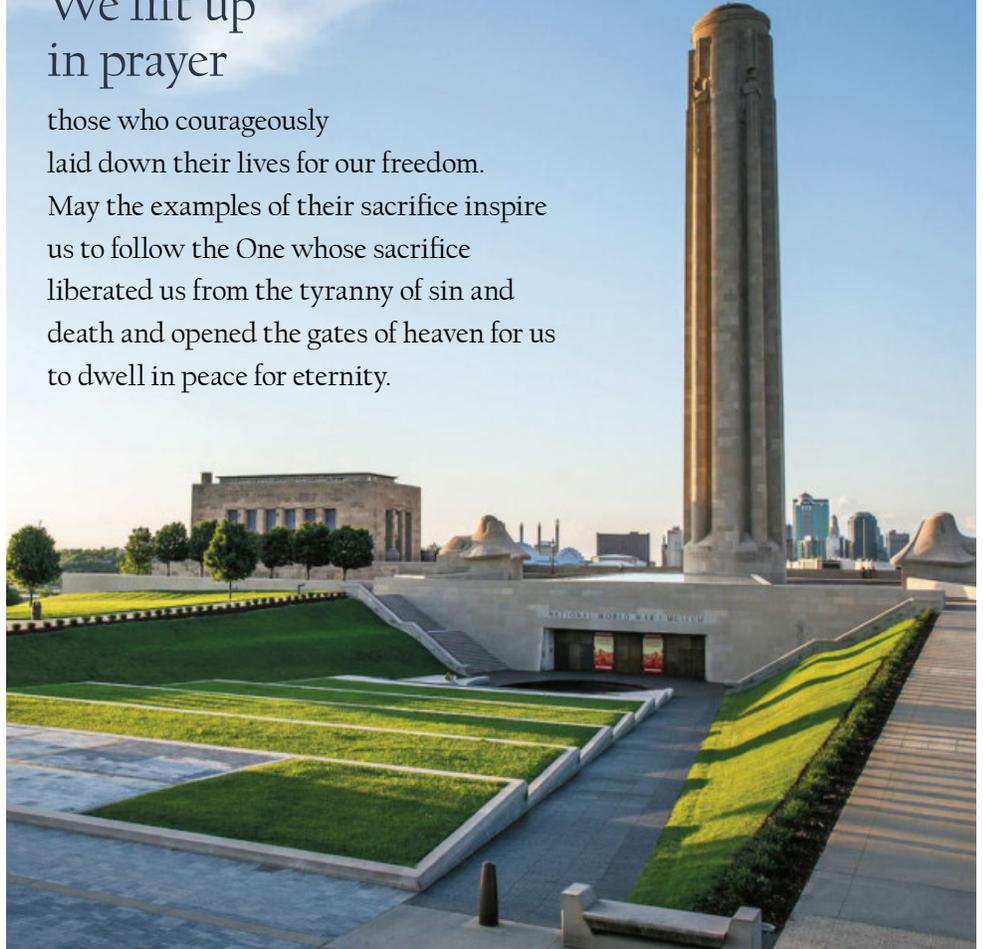
- Create an account at virtus.org
- Attend a Protecting God's Children workshop
- Complete a mandated reporter training
- Submit to a background check
- Read the online Policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry

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

REMEMBER MEMORIAL DAY HONOR

We lift up
in prayer

those who courageously
laid down their lives for our freedom.
May the examples of their sacrifice inspire
us to follow the One whose sacrifice
liberated us from the tyranny of sin and
death and opened the gates of heaven for us
to dwell in peace for eternity.



MEMORIAL DAY MASS 9AM

BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT • BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Confirmation 2025

Please pray for our youth
being confirmed on

8th graders Monday, June 2, 2025 7:00PM

9th graders Monday, June 6, 2025 7:00PM



• BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

• BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

• BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT • BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Faithful People of Saint Thomas More,

This is my last bulletin column before I depart this week for my sabbatical in Oregon. Father Paul Sappington will take on responsibilities as parish administrator beginning on Tuesday.

I want to thank the community for allowing me to accompany you these nine years as the 7th pastor. STM afforded me the chance to live with numerous seminarians and priests in the rectory, to stretch my homilistic skills away from tightly-constructed deliveries to more extemporaneous offerings, and to grow in the responsibilities of shepherding.

Within the first few months of arriving in 2016, Father Pat Rush, (STM's 3rd Pastor), asked how I was doing. My reply: "I'm learning new skill sets." And that was very, very true. Serving STM is challenging and often complicated, and the fruit born from the engagements has been meaningful and instructive. Thus, my time with you has been a gift to me, and I trust has fashioned me into a better instrument to meet the demands of my future assignments.

Please welcome, enthusiastically, your new priests in July. They have gifts that only they can share, and communities are enriched when we trust that pastor and congregation have been brought together by God's design. I am grateful that we were together.

And, finally, to quote our patron, Saint Thomas More: "Pray for me, and I will pray for you, that we might merrily meet in heaven."

Father Justin

P.S. May it not be lost in these transitions...STM will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation **twice** in the next few weeks...next Monday, June 2nd for our 8th graders, and Monday, June 9th for our 6th graders. Please pray for these young men and women as they are sealed with the Holy Spirit!

Assignment Changes at STM This Summer

To summarize:

Those Leaving STM

Fr. Justin Hoye - Granted a sabbatical beginning May 27th to pursue a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Unit. Upon returning to diocese September 1st, assigned as Pastor of St. Mary's in Higginsville, and retaining Vicar for Priests role.

Fr. Pius Wesonga, AJ - Assigned as Parochial Vicar (Associate Pastor) of Our Lady of the Presentation in Lee's Summit, beginning July 1st.

Fr. Paul Sappington - Assigned as Parish Administrator of St. Thomas More while Fr. Justin begins his sabbatical, beginning May 27th. Assigned as Administrator of Our Lady of the Coronation in Grandview, and retaining part-time chaplaincy responsibilities at UMKC and St. Michael the Archangel H.S., beginning July 1st.

Those Staying/Coming to STM

Dcn. Tyrone Gutierrez

Assigned to STM beginning May 15th

Fr. Matt Rotert

Assigned as Pastor of STM, beginning July 1st.

Fr. Sam Miloscia

Assigned as Parochial Vicar (Associate Pastor) of STM, beginning July 1st.



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

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

Stay practical. It might not be possible for you to get to your church whenever you feel like it. But maybe you can arrive early for Mass and spend time with Jesus. Or perhaps you could arrange your schedule so that you (and even a spouse, child, or friend with you) can stop in as you're driving past the church. Even a few minutes can change your week for the better.

Perpetual National Eucharistic Pilgrimage

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is stopping in Kansas City on Tuesday, May 27. Join the pilgrims for Eucharistic Adoration at Saint Monica Catholic Church (1616 The Paseo, KCMO) at 4:30pm.

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.

May Prayer Intentions

Pope Leo XIV: Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

Bishop Johnston: For all Veterans who carry wounds—

physical, emotional, or spiritual—that they experience deep healing and renewed peace of soul.

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.

Masses at Catholic Cemeteries

Monday, May 26, 10am

Masses will be held at Mount Olivet, Resurrection, and Mount Saint Mary's, all in KCMO. At Mount Olivet Cemetery, Mass will be followed by a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial at 11:20am.

Care & Support

Grief Peer Support Group

1st & 3rd Wed. (June 4), 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.

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:

Drew Belzer
Nathan Butcher

Logan Elrader-Effertz
TJ Francik

Luke Jokerst
Jonathan Kennaley

Zach Love

Christopher Yates

...our parishioners who are sick:

Mary Sue Adams
Roberta Aguirre
Rita Armstrong

Bill Cusick
Cricket Hill
Donna Johnson

Kathy Lawson
William Thomas Myers
Linda Neenan

Dustin Rogge
Carol Turner

Anita Wagner
JoAnn Walton

...our family and friends who are sick:

Tom Bauer
Emma Beaver
Edward Dulle

Chris Frantze
Emily Kurek
Katherine Markes

Denise Adams Mehlo
Noel Mehlo
Judy Rogge

Carol Shelangouski
Stephanie Shaver

Peter Szumigala
Stephan Tafuro

...our family and friends who have died:

Peter Garcia

...our family and friends who are hospitalized:

St. Luke's, Plaza : Cathy Terwelp

A Love That Never Fails

Marriage Encounter: June 13-15 (Fri.-Sun.)

Every marriage has the capacity for enduring love. Attend the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience to discover the graces of your sacrament of matrimony and to explore the tools and daily practices that lead to enduring love.

This weekend does not include an overnight stay and will be held at the Precious Blood Renewal Center, 2120 Saint Gaspar Way. Visit wwme4youandme.org to apply. There is a \$125 application fee, and a free will donation will be accepted. Email greaterkc.wwme@gmail.com with any questions.

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.

One Family RESTORED IN CHRIST, EQUIPPED FOR MISSION



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

Pill Bottle Collection

May 24-25 (Saturday-Sunday)

For the pet shelters, STM is collecting prescription pill bottles with the labels removed. They will be taken to the shelters on Monday, May 26. **They will not be accepted after May 25!**

Food Drive This Weekend

May 31-June 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:

For May we provided food and necessities for 15 families, with 50 individuals! As always, your generosity is so appreciated. Thank you!

For June, the following items are specifically needed. But anything you donate is wonderful and helpful! Thank you again!

- low-sugar jams and cereals, regular jelly, old fashioned oatmeal
- canned: fruit (except applesauce; Harvesters helped us out.), chilis and stews, pasta

Help Wanted: Our Red Bridge Food Pantry

One of the couples who helps take food to this pantry is needing to step back. Coverage is needed the first Sunday of the months of June, September and November. After the 11am Mass on the STM food drive Sunday, folks pick up an SUV's worth of food and deliver it on Monday around 10 am to First Baptist. (The pantry coordinator helps with both loading and unloading.) If interested, call Tarah at 816-942-1751. Thanks!

Walk for Life

Saturday, May 31; 8am Check-in

Two Lines Pregnancy Clinic (formerly Advice and Aid) is hosting this 2-mile walk. It will start at the clinic (near College and Roe, at 10901 Granada Lane) at 8:30am. There will be additional entertainment, food, games, and prizes. Visit unexpectedlovekc.com for more info and to register.

April Financials

Regular - \$213,537.36	Plate - \$5,599.76
Facilities - \$725.00	
Education Fund - \$2,330.00	School - \$958.95
\$20 for Lent - \$8,949.00	
Neighbors in Need - \$4,420.00	

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

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 btturner727@yahoo.com.

LAUDATO SI' WEEK MAY 24-31

WHAT IS LAUDATO SI'?

Pope Francis published *Laudato Si' Care for Our Common Home* in May 2015. Written for "every living person on this planet," it addresses the ecological crisis in ways that are both spiritual and pragmatic. *Laudato Si'* has gained worldwide acclaim from those seeking understanding and hope for the future of the earth and all its inhabitants.

READ, PRAY, GROW, HEAL

The full text of *Laudato Si'* is available by googling *Laudato Si'*.

See also laudatosi.org for a readers guide and more.

CELEBRATE LAUDATO SI' WEEK

BY PARTICIPATING IN SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS WITH FAMILY AND/OR FRIENDS!



For prayer this week, read and prayerfully reflect on quotes from *Laudato Si'*. The document can be found at papalencyclicals.net. Look for the title on the list.



Watch the documentary "We're All Plastic People Now" found at greennewton.org and decide on ways that you can reduce the use of plastic in your home.



Try not to use plastic for one day.



Go for a walk in a park or on a nature trail and thank God for the beauty of creation.



Read about six Catholics who have been killed while trying to protect natural areas and indigenous lands. Their stories can be found on the website ecomartyrdom.net.



Look into ways you can compost either at home, by taking your compost to the recycling center located at Red Bridge Road and 71 Highway, or through a company like KC Can Compost. (Check out epa.gov/recycle/composting-home.)



Volunteer at an agency that ministers to people who are poor and vulnerable. STM is connected to Seton Center, Community LINC, Journey House, reStart, Uplift, Red Bridge Food Pantry and others. Contact Peggy Lucas at peggy@stmkc.com or 816-942-2492 x210 for more info.



GREEN TEAM

Because we cannot do this alone

LAUDATOSI.ORG

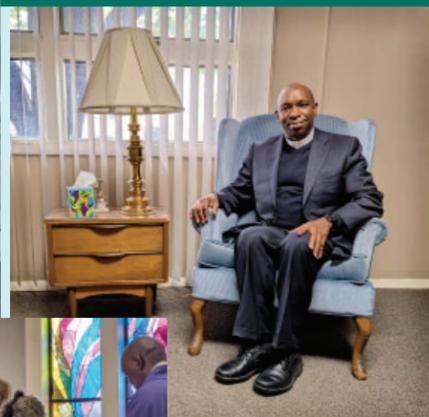
Thank you

Father Justin, Father Pius and Father Paul

for bringing the

Light of Christ

into our lives



The adventures of "Flat Father Justin"

Pitching for Priests homerun champ



Fr. Justin places St. Catherine of Siena altar stone in STM altar

Fr. Justin blesses St. Catherine of Siena statue



Summer Book Series - *Birth - A Guide for Prayer*

Two offerings: June 19 - August 7

Thursdays, 10-11am or Thursdays, 5:30-6:30pm

This summer, Peggy Lucas, Pastoral Associate, is offering two group sessions for journeying with the book *Birth - A Guide for Prayer*. The book follows the format of daily reflections for six weeks:

"The meditations invite contemplation of the earthly life of Jesus, from his incarnation through his public ministry," with the intent to "know, love and follow Jesus more closely" in our daily lives. We will get together as a group to discuss our journey with the meditations.

Please RSVP to Peggy, peggy@stmkc.com or 816-942-2492 x210, or by Friday, June 6, so books can be ordered. Groups are limited to 12 members per session.

Protecting God's Children (PGC) Training

Tuesday, June 17, 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. Joseph, 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.

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun., May 25 - Pill Bottle Collection, Narthex

Mon., May 26 - Memorial Day

Parish Office closed

Tue., May 27 - GIFT, 9-10:30am, Bauman Library

Thu., May 29 - Choir Rehearsal, 7pm, Church

Sat., May 31 - 8th Grade Confirmation Rehearsal, 9am

Sat.-Sun., May 31-June 1 - Monthly Food Drive

Mon., June 2 - First Guatemala Travelers leave

STM Serves at One City Cafe, 4:15pm

8th Grade Confirmation, 7pm

Tue., May 20 - GIFT, 9-10:30am, Bauman Library

Wed., June 4 - Grief Peer Support, 4-5pm, Bauman

Thu., June 5 - Choir Rehearsal, 7pm, Church

Knights Officer mtg., 7pm, More Hall

STM School

Linda Crosthwait, Principal

816-942-5581 STMKSCHOOL.ORG



School Office Hours

May 27-29 (Tue.-Thu.) - open 7:30-11:30am

June 2-5 (Mon.-Thu.) - open 7:30-11:30am

June 9-12 (Mon.-Thu.) - open 7:30-11:30am

June 13-July 31 - closed

For assistance, email

steffens_christina@stmcyclones.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

Mon., June 2 - 8th Grade Confirmation, 7pm

Mon., June 9 - 6th Grade Confirmation, 7pm

Jerseys Available

Feeling nostalgic about the STM School days? Old jerseys are available at the parish office for whoever would like to have one: long ago grads, recent grads, current students. Come, pick one up! If not picked up soon, they will be taken away. Questions? Contact Tim Waris, tim@stmkc.com or 816-942-2492 x218.



Win a Custom Handmade 60th Anniversary Quilt!

STM-for-All invites everyone to purchase raffle tickets to win this one-of-a-kind handmade quilt, lovingly created by parishioner Kelli Reidy to celebrate the parish's 60th Anniversary and to represent the beautiful stained glass windows of St.



Thomas More. All proceeds will support STM-for-All inclusive education at Saint Thomas More School. Tickets will be on sale this weekend and next weekend after Mass or email Tim Reidy at treidy@rockhursths.edu. Tickets are \$10/ticket or \$20/3 tickets and the drawing will take place Monday, June 9.



WHERE: STM PARISH
 WHEN: JUNE 23- 27. 9AM-NOON
 WHO: CHILDREN AGES 6-11
 COST: \$20 PER CHILD \$50 MAX PER FAMILY



Scan the QR Code to register!



or visit: stmkc.com/vbs

To make VBS happen, adult volunteers are needed to serve as:

Station Leaders – Lead the same station (Glacier Games, Sticky Scriptures, etc.) each day, and the best part is that **all planning and supply gathering is done for you!** Each station comes with a clear manual that walks you through exactly what to say and do. If you can read and manage a group of kids, you've got what it takes!

Decorating Helpers – If crafting and design are more your speed, help bring More Hall to life! Supplies will be provided. Creative minds are needed to help dream up the vision and set up to bring it to life.

Behind the Scenes help - This would look like helping with preparing the daily snack, helping the kids transition from station to station, and doing other behind the scenes work as needed. Super easy!

We also welcome children 12 and older as volunteers! Service hours will be provided.

If interested in assisting, contact Hayley Shaver at 816-942-2492 x223 or hayley@stmkc.com.

Parish Office Staff

	Sharon Arnett Liturgy Coordinator x208 sharon@stmkc.com		Peggy Lucas Pastoral Associate/Outreach x210 peggy@stmkc.com
	Mary Begnaud Receptionist x201 mary@stmkc.com		Bob Sandford Publications & Music Director x212 bob@stmkc.com
	Scott Dulle Building & Grounds Director dulle_scott@stmcyclones.org		Joan Sandford Office Manager x202 joan@stmkc.com
	Dcn. Tyrone Gutierrez Deacon dcntyron@stmkc.com		Father Paul Sappington In Residence frsappington@smacatholic.org
	Father Justin Hoyer Pastor x204 frjhoy@stmkc.com		Hayley Shaver Evangelization & Discipleship x223 hayley@stmkc.com
	Jylian Hudson Funeral & Wedding Liturgist jylian@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

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 Pat Burns†
5/26

Tues: **6:15AM Thomas Fahey†**
8:15AM Bill Waris†
5/27

Wed: **6:15AM Ann Appleyard**
8:15AM Carol Blum†
5/28

Thur: **6:15AM Donna Murray†**
8:15AM Mike Rhoades†
5/29

Fri: **8:15AM John Redmond†**
5/30

Sat: 4:00PM Jim Owens†
5/31

Sun: **7:30AM Mary Kate Hughes†**
9:00AM Our Parishioners
6/1

11:00AM Susan Smith†

† 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.

  <p>TJ BRENNAN - Parishioner 816.394.2224</p> <p>• HOME • AUTO • BUSINESS • LIFE tjbrennan@cekinsurance.com www.cekinsurance.com</p>	<p>WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!</p>	<p>The Genuine. The Original.</p>  <p>Overhead Door Company of Kansas City™ A SPACER Company</p>
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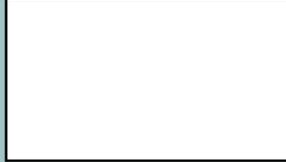
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