

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

VISITATION PARISH



OUR MISSION

Visitation, a community of communities, is committed to a way of life based on Christ's teaching and our Catholic tradition by being dedicated to life-long conversion in faith, healing sanctuary in our sacraments and relationships, an educational environment for our children which emphasizes Catholic values and is committed to excellence, awareness and responsiveness to the needs of our neighbors and our society.

MASSES

Sunday Masses

Saturday..... 4:00 pm

Sunday..... 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Confessions

Saturday 3:00 pm

Weekday Masses (St. Joseph Chapel)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.....6:45 am

Tuesday, Friday..... 8:15 am

Saturday..... 8:15 am

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW PARISHIONERS!

- ♣ Jake & Meredith Maag, daughter Hattie
- ♣ Andrew & Annie DeGreeff
- ♣ Christopher & Jaimie Crawford, son Banks
- ♣ Jaclyn & Jordan Schwenk, son Bennett
- ♣ Angel Troung & Mason Mead
- ♣ Jason & Donna Claes, daughter Nona
- ♣ Leon & Theresa Witt
- ♣ Michael & Karen VanDyke

2025 ANNUAL APPEAL

By now you should have received your 2024-2025 Annual Report and a letter from Fr. Greg inviting you to make an offertory pledge for calendar year 2026. After reading the report and letter, please take time to prayerfully consider your offering to Visitation for the next year. Pledges may be made by returning the paper pledge form or online at <https://tinyurl.com/VisPledge2026>. If you have any questions, please contact Megan Burdolski at megan@visitation.org or 816-753-5155 x1305.

FAITH & GRIEF GATHERING IN TIGHE HALL WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3AT 12:00 NOON SPEAKER: REV. JAY MCKELL

December is filled with delightful holiday activities. There are office parties, shopping outings, bright lights and big dreams for the young and the old. But December can also be a tough time, particularly when there is an empty place at the Christmas dinner table.

There is still time to join!
Scan here to learn more about offerings or to RSVP for this event.



CONFIRMATION

HIGH SCHOOL: Meet for 8:00 am Mass on Sunday, December 7. We will then load on the bus and go to our retreat from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm offsite.

JR. HIGH: We will meet at 5:30 pm on Monday, December 8.

WEDDINGS

The parish extends prayers and congratulations to Erin Salsich and Ian Thompson, who were married on November 15 at St. Mary of Scotland Church in St. Louis; and to Alyssa Woodman and Jack Hitzemann, who were married on November 22.

OUR SYMPATHY

We mourn the loss of our parishioner, Jane Leifer.

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Earl Adam	Tricia Melland
Pamela Atherton	Virginia Moffett
Jack Baker	Jack Myre
Bill Blanck, Sr.	Jen O'Neill
Bill Fuss	Mary Ann Oswald
Ed Growney	Peggy Pruitt
Brooke Kuechler Harris	Ellie Rose
Kristin Heyer	Kathy Scaglia
Megan Hoefer	Gary Schafer
Margaret Howard	Barbara Schulte
Joe Irwin	Aimee Sesler
William Jewell	Sandra Sharp
Bryan Larson	Kathy Sims
Jeanne Lendabarker	Cenza Spadafore
Bob Lystad	Special Intention
Scott Martens	Salvador Valldeperas, Sr.
Thom McNamara	Dave Wittrock

SICK LIST

Please call Jenny Greene at 816-753-5155 x1309 to request an individual be added to our list. We ask that you leave a contact name and number. We will follow up with each request quarterly to keep the list current and to offer any additional support if needed.

MILITARY

The parish community continues to pray for parish members and their families who are serving in the armed services: Major Philip Martin, Fort Leavenworth, KS; Major Chris Oppenlander, Hill Air Force Base, UT; Major Gisselle Oppenlander, Hill Air Force Base, UT; Major Thomas Raniere, Ellsworth Air Force Base, SD.

FUNERAL MEAL TEAMS

On Deck: Team # 12

On Alert: Team # 4

PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Parishioners,

I write this every year at the start of Advent: the days ahead are precious and will go quickly. Do your best to savor them. And it's a good mindset for the beginning of a new liturgical year. Advent is a call to prepare, to be ready for the Lord's arrival, both now and at the end of time. The routine of life can easily lull us into complacency. Advent issues a call to alertness and vigilance, to be ready for God to arrive in a new way, to be ready to welcome God in a new way. This is always happening. Advent gives us a way of living into it.



Of course we all get really busy over the next few weeks. Social gatherings, school functions, family and work parties, preparations for Christmas all pull us in exciting directions. Enjoy that! But also try to find a way to listen in the midst of it all. Pay attention to what might inspire you, comfort you, awaken you or even trouble you. That's often how God arrives, how God gets our attention: something new that wakes us up, puzzles us or beckons us to engage further. It might be a moment of wonder and awe at the night sky, a phrase or word from Scripture that speaks in a new and powerful way, the longing for a renewed and transformed world, a well-formed question put forth by one of our children. Try to notice how God seeks your attention...and listen, turn, respond. It promises to bring the blessing we need.

Peace,

Fr. Greg

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sponsored by the Visitation Knights of Columbus

16th Annual

Front Porch Coat Drive

Drop off your donations of coats, gloves, hats, blankets and other winter items at these locations:

- Vasquez home - 5415 Baltimore
- Steinert home - 5818 Central
- Fedinets home - 433 W. 69th St.

Inside Tighe Hall!

Charity and service are at the heart of what we do as Knights. **We will hold a Pancake Breakfast on December 7 in support of The Little Sisters of the Poor.**

If works of charity and service are important to you, perhaps the Knights of Columbus is for you. If you'd like more information on the Knights, visit the Visitation website under the "Get Involved" tab or call/text Bob Steinert at 816-729-2748 or Mark Blanck at 816-419-7171.

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. 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: 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 If the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, report the suspected abuse to the Diocesan Ombudsman, ombudsman@ombudsmankcsj.org or 816-213-6024. 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 816-714-2357 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS DECEMBER 2-7

Tuesday, December 2

6:45 am Michael Messina †
8:15 am Deceased Members of the St. Teresa's Academy Class of 1968

Wednesday, December 3

6:45 am Margaret Sonnenberg †
8:15 am Carol Spachman †

Thursday, December 4

6:45 am Diane Welch †

Friday, December 5

8:15 am Daniel Bray II †

Saturday, December 6

8:15am Jerry Handley †
4:00 pm The Protection of the Unborn

Sunday, December 7

8:00 am People of Visitation
10:30 am Tadeusz Zakrzewski †

ALTAR SERVERS

EMS

LECTORS

SACR. USHERS

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – DECEMBER 6-7

4:00 PM

8:00 AM

10:30 AM

K. King G. Malter C. McCoy	H. Affolter C. Bock E. Cessor	P. Munce K. Lynch E. Hall
A. Eckels J. Evett M. Garrett S. Garrett E. Haines M. Hodes A. Holewinski K. Hughes M. Innes M. Kirwan M. Lising	G. Bauman P. Clarke J. Colombo D. Devine J. Dickmeyer P. Ekerdt J. Grego M. Heckman-Crowe L. Hughes A. Leimora F. Lester	J. Johnson B. Jones T. McCray T. McGhie L. McLiney G. O'Brien J. Olivas K. Osbern M. Roach B. Roewe C. Roewe
P. Fanning T. Fanning	B. Nelson A. Hughes	G. Starman
P. Dunlay C. Keller K. Keller S. Otto	K. Banes T. Colburn	Matt Gunter K. Kelly J. Swafford
R. Steinert	J. Palmer	J. Roach

STEWARDSHIP

GIVING AT VISITATION

As we near the end of the calendar year, the parish would appreciate 2025 pledges being fulfilled by year end. If you did not make a pledge but consistently give a year-end gift, we value your past support and appreciate any contribution you make this year. Please allow adequate mail or processing time depending on your type of transaction to enable us to credit the donation by December 31, 2025 for possible tax-deduction purposes.

There are numerous ways to contribute:

- Drop an offertory envelope in the Sunday collection.
- Mail a check to the parish office.
- Call us to set-up a one-time or regular, automated gift using your bank account or credit/debit card.
- Send your contribution via the online banking offered by your financial institution.
- Use the online giving tab on our parish website for a one-time gift: <https://www.visitation.org>.
- Donate appreciated assets.
- Make a charitable distribution from your IRA.

Please keep in mind that we distribute offertory envelopes based on your giving preferences. Please contact the parish office if you are wish to change those preferences.

If you have any questions regarding your pledge balance or how to initiate an automated withdrawal, gift of stock or any other type of transaction, please contact Megan Burdolski, Director of Stewardship, at 816-753-5155 x1305 or megan@church.visitation.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

THE SHAMROCK SNAPSHOT

SPOTLIGHTING FAITH AND LIFE AT VISITATION SCHOOL

ANNOUNCING, VISITATION SCHOOL'S
BIGGEST HOME GAME OF THE YEAR!



As the biggest annual fundraising event in the Visitation community, the school auction takes a full team effort!

HELP US LOAD THE BASES!
EVERY SPONSORSHIP AND DONATION BRINGS US
CLOSER TO A GRAND SLAM FOR OUR STUDENTS!

Sponsorships
available from
\$1,000-\$10,000



Auction item
donations need
big and small

ENTER RAFFLES FOR A CHANCE TO WIN

A pew just for you, or a front row view!

PEACE TREE

*Help us support those
in need this holiday!*

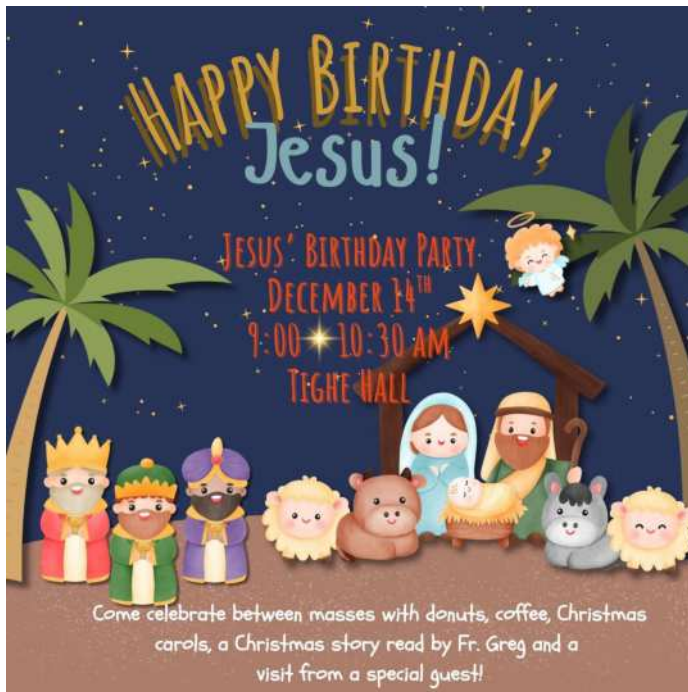
Advent Peace Tree

*Return gifts/gift cards unwrapped, with tag
affixed, by 8:00 am on Sunday, December 7.*

*All who participate are invited to select an
ornament from the tree in gratitude for your gift.*



MOTHERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN



- ◇ Adult volunteers will lead the children and student volunteers through a children's version of the following parts of Mass:



- ✦ Responsorial Psalm
- ✦ Alleluia
- ✦ Gospel Reading
- ✦ Small group discussion questions
- ✦ Creed sing along with hand motions
- ✦ Prayers of the Faithful
- ✦ Genuflect, line up, and hand out crayons and coloring sheet
- ✦ Student volunteers walk children back after the presentation of the gifts

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

- Who?- All children age 4 (PreK) through 1st grade
- When?- December 7, December 14 and December 21 during 10:30am Mass
- What?- a children's version of the Liturgy of the Word in order to practice prayerful behavior and participate in parts of the Mass.
- How?-
 - ◇ Fr. Greg will dismiss children for Children's Liturgy after the opening prayer.
 - ◇ 6th and 7th grade Confirmation candidates will escort children from each wing of the congregation to the St. Joseph Chapel.

Mother of Young Children are beginning their Advent Children's Liturgy program on Sunday, November 30 through Sunday December 21 during the 10:30am Masses. All children ages 4 or PreK through 1st grade are welcome to participate!



Scan here to volunteer!

RACIAL JUSTICE

The Catholic Church sets aside the month of November to honor the history of Black Catholics in our country. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is the primary source for the information in this bulletin. Although these men and women are on the road to sainthood in the Catholic Church, it is also true that they experienced exclusion and discrimination throughout their lives from within and outside the Catholic community.



Servant of God Sr. Thea Bowman, FSPA (1937-1990)

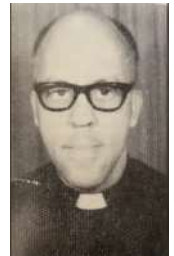


Sr. Thea Bowman, FSPA was the only child born to middle-aged parents, Dr. Theon Bowman, a physician, and Mary Esther Bowman, a teacher. At birth, she was given the name Bertha Elizabeth Bowman. She was born in 1937 and reared in Canton, Mississippi. As a child, she converted to Catholicism through the inspiration of the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration and the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity who were her teachers and pastors at Holy Child Jesus Church and School in

Canton. During her short lifetime, many people considered her undeniably close to God as she lovingly invited others to encounter the presence of God in their lives. She is acclaimed as a “holy woman” in the hearts of those who knew and loved her and continue to seek her intercession for guidance and healing. For more information on Sr. Thea Bowman's cause, check out the <https://www.sistertheabowman.com/>.

Servant of God Friar Martin de Porres Maria Ward (1928-1999)

Friar Martin de Porres passed away on June 22, 1999, at the age of 81. He had dedicated 51 years of his life to the Conventual Franciscan Friars, much of which was spent in Andrelândia, Brazil. Friar Martin became the first African American Conventual Franciscan in North America. Shortly after his ordination to the priesthood on June 4, 1955, he volunteered for missions in Brazil. He was well-known in his religious community and among the people he served for his cheerful, charitable and humble demeanor. He dedicated himself to the people of Andrelândia, particularly the poor. Additional information about Servant of God Friar Martin de Porres Maria Ward can be found at <https://nbccongress.org/>.



For more information on Servant of God Friar Martin de Porres Maria Ward's cause, check out <https://www.olaprovince.org/locations/the-cause-for-fr-martin-de-porres-maria-ward-ofm-conv-2/>.

On Saturday, November 1, seven Visitation parishioners attended the Becoming Beloved Community's third annual Racial Justice Summit. Keynote speaker Reverend Dr. William Lamar IV spoke of giving voice to the voiceless, noting that erasure of people's perspectives is always a pretext to violence. He urged congregants to rage against the erasure and animosity of our world, and called for a holy rage against the false gods of America – greed, racism, misogyny, etc. Break-out sessions led participants in understanding a range of topics, including challenging political conversations, immigration, literacy, economic justice, reparations, housing and workers rights. Mark your calendars for the next Racial Justice Summit, Saturday, November 7, 2026.



FAITH FORMATION

AT HOME WITH THE WORD | BOOK SALES THIS WEEKEND!

Don't forget to pick up your copy of the **2026 At Home with the Word** scripture study guide!

Sales will take place after Masses this weekend. This annual book includes daily Bible readings, insights, and reflection questions to help you deepen your understanding of and connection to scripture throughout the liturgical year. **Cost is \$5.**

FAITH FORMATION IN ACTION!

On November 17, parishioners came together in Tighe Hall for our third Supper Series focused on Catholic Social Teaching. Jenny Greene hosted, and the panelists were exceptional! Thank you to everyone who participated and attended. What a beautiful evening.



DECEMBER 7 | OCIA RITE OF ACCEPTANCE & WELCOME

On Sunday, December 7 at the 10:30 am Mass, please help our community welcome eight baptized Candidates and accept one Inquirer into the Order of Catechumens at this first ritual on their way to full initiation into the Catholic church. The rite includes the candidate's public declaration to continue on this path toward the Easter Sacraments, a beautiful ritual of signing with the cross to signify their commitment to the process, and the affirmation by the community. This rite marks the formal beginning of the period of catechumenate for these individuals. The parish community's role is crucial, as they promise to help and support the candidates on their faith journey.

Please hold Bridget, Joey, Joe, Cole, Annie, Erin, Jack, Jenney, and Jordan in your prayers as they move closer to the Easter Sacraments.

Sunday, December 7 | 10:30 Mass

SUNDAYS DURING ADVENT | ADVENT SMALL GROUP

The Faith Formation Team is happy to be hosting our second annual Advent Small Group between the Masses each Sunday during Advent. Come celebrate hope, peace, joy, and love with us through reflection, discussion, and prayer.

Every Sunday during Advent | Between the Masses | Retreat Room (head to Tighe Hall and look for the sign)

SAVE THE DATES! FOR FULL CALENDAR GO TO VISONMAINKC.COM

- **November 22-23 & November 29-30:** At Home with the Word Book Sales - after Masses
- **November 30:** Annual Advent Wreath-Making Event - 9:00-10:30 am
- **December 7:** OCIA Rite of Acceptance and Welcome - 10:30 Mass

Questions about Faith Formation events or joining the Faith Formation team? Contact Teresa Albright: teresa@visitation.org

FINANCIAL

October Contribution Income showed a strong rebound and came in over budget for the month by \$38,892, or 12.79%.

Other Income – which includes ministries, program fees, miscellaneous one-time donations, school tuition, registration fees, aftercare fees – exceeded budget by \$41,888. This favorable variance was driven primarily by a one-time donation to the school and the receipt of Bright Futures payments for the MO Scholars enrolled at the school. As a result, Total Operating Income reflected a budget surplus of \$80,780 for the month.

Parish Expenses in October were over budget by \$39,856, primarily due to personnel costs (a three-week pay period) and increased Facilities expenses. The combined impact of these factors resulted in a Parish Net Budget Surplus of \$40,924 for the month.

Extraordinary Income for the month of October was over budget by \$103,986, primarily due to donations received for the Shared VISION Capital Campaign. There were no Extraordinary Expenses, bringing the Net Parish Surplus to \$144,910.

Even with the rebound presented in October, year-to-date (YTD) Contribution Income remains below budget by \$29,936 (2.8%). Other Income is ahead of budget by \$231,059 (64.9%), resulting in an Operating Income budget surplus of \$201,123.

Operating Expenses for the YTD are over budget by \$106,401 (5.2%), resulting in a Parish Net Operating budget surplus of \$94,722.

Extraordinary Income is over budget by \$894,196, of which \$892,986 is donations to the Shared VISION Capital Campaign. Extraordinary Expenses total \$52,792 for the fiscal year-to-date.

Prior Year Comparison – Compared to the same period in fiscal year 2024–2025, Contribution Income for 2025–2026 is lower by \$18,733, while Other Income is higher by \$435,395, resulting in a Total Operating Income surplus of \$416,622. Parish Expenses are higher than last year by \$189,225, producing an overall YTD budget surplus of \$227,397.

Month of October 2025			
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Contribution Income	\$ 342,858	\$ 303,966	\$ 38,892
Other Income	\$ 81,402	\$ 39,514	\$ 41,888
Total Operating Income	\$ 424,261	\$ 343,480	\$ 80,780
Operating Expense	\$ 527,171	\$ 487,315	\$ (39,856)
Net	\$ (102,910)	\$ (143,834)	\$ 40,924
Extraordinary Income	\$ 105,186	\$ 1,200	\$ 103,986
Extraordinary Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Net Non-Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 105,186	\$ 1,200	\$ 103,986
Total Net Parish Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 2,275	\$ (142,634)	\$ 144,910

Fiscal YTD (July-October)			
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Contribution Income	\$ 1,028,600	\$ 1,058,536	\$ (29,936)
Other Income	\$ 1,080,550	\$ 849,491	\$ 231,059
Total Operating Income	\$ 2,109,149	\$ 1,908,027	\$ 201,123
Operating Expense	\$ 2,137,497	\$ 2,031,096	\$ (106,401)
Net	\$ (28,347)	\$ (123,069)	\$ 94,722
Extraordinary Income	\$ 897,596	\$ 3,400	\$ 894,196
Extraordinary Expense	\$ 52,792	\$ -	\$ 52,792
Total Net Non-Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 844,805	\$ 3,400	\$ 841,405
Total Net Parish Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 816,457	\$ (119,669)	\$ 936,127

	Fiscal YTD This	Fiscal YTD Last	Difference
Contribution Income	\$ 1,028,600	\$ 1,047,372	\$ (18,773)
Other Income	\$ 1,080,550	\$ 645,155	\$ 435,395
Total Operating Income	\$ 2,109,149	\$ 1,692,527	\$ 416,622
Operating Expense	\$ 2,137,497	\$ 1,948,271	\$ (189,225)
Net	\$ (28,347)	\$ (255,744)	\$ 227,397

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SHARED VISION



\$50,000 Match for Giving Tuesday to Benefit Shared VISION Campaign!

Giving Tuesday is December 2. On this national day of giving, there is an opportunity for your generosity to go twice as far!

Thanks to a generous school family, the first \$50,000 in Giving Tuesday gifts and pledges to our Shared VISION Capital Campaign will be matched dollar-for-dollar! Even better, the Giving Tuesday match will be available until Sunday, December 7, 2025.

We're doubling the impact of your kindness so that, together, we can ensure the legacy of Visitation's most enduring ministry.

- ♣ Haven't yet shared a gift? Now is the perfect time to leverage the \$50,000 match to double the impact of your generosity.
- ♣ Already pledged or donated? You can maximize the challenge by contributing to your pledge or by sharing an extra gift that will be matched!

Keep an eye on your inbox or the Visitation social media channels for ways to support Giving Tuesday to benefit the Shared VISION Campaign.

To share a gift of stock or appreciated assets, please reach out to Megan Burdolski at 816-381-6911 or megan@visitation.org.

GOLDEN SHAMROCKS

Visitation Golden Shamrocks

ST. NICHOLAS LUNCHEON

Friday, December 5 12:00 Noon Tighe Hall

Join us for a tasty soup & salad luncheon, including bread & dessert. After lunch, White Elephant Bingo is back!! Bring a wrapped "white elephant" item for our gift table, if you'd like, but all may play!

RSVP to 816-753-7422

