

# VISITATION PARISH

## THE HOLY FAMILY

### DECEMBER 28, 2025



#### 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

### HOLIDAY PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closed on Thursday, January 1 as we celebrate the New Year. The office will close early on Wednesday, December 31 at 12:00 Noon.

### SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

There will be no 6:45 am Mass on Tuesday or Wednesday this week. There will be no rosary for the sick or adoration on Wednesday, December 31.

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS

Thursday, January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, a holy day of obligation. Please join us for Mass at 10:00 am January 1.

There will be no 8:15 am Mass on this day.

### PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW PARISHIONERS

- Aiden & Erin Murray & son Eamonn
- Ava Selzer & Carson St. Clair
- Tessa Bisges
- Tim & Val Tankard
- Justin Baker
- Olivia Wilmes
- Ann & Edward McLiney
- Jeanine & Tim Osmond

### CONFIRMATION

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade** - Our second retreat date is fast approaching! Please look for emails with information about the retreat on January 4. We will meet at 8:00 am Mass and load the buses right after. Bring your journal and dress for the weather. We will be outside for part of the day.

**Jr. High** - Note the added date on January 12 to go over final details for the Confirmation liturgy. See email for details.

### FOOD BASKET - DON'T FORGET!

Donations to the food basket in the narthex go directly to pantries serving those in need! So, during this season of giving bring a donation of canned goods to Mass each week! Your kindness will help spread joy to all who receive them! Thank you in advance for your generosity.



## PRAYING

## FOR OTHERS

HELPS US STAY CONNECTED  
TO GOD  
AND TO ONE ANOTHER.

### REMEMBER OUR SICK

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

### 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,

The light of Christmas shines these days, even though darkness also remains in the world. Faith is an invitation to believe in the power of the light that cannot be extinguished, that divine presence illuminates hope and shepherds us onward in the midst of darkness. We have divine companionship in our humanity, the light of undying love to warm us, comfort us and show us the way.

I am leaving town this Thursday morning for Cape San Blas, Florida and will be gone until Friday, January 9. This is good solitary time for me to visit the ocean, to give thanks for the past year, to ponder its lessons, celebrate its grace and to look forward to what awaits in the year ahead. 2026 will be another journey of faith for us as a parish community, as a school community, as families and as individuals. It will be a transformative journey in many ways, especially as our Shared VISion project goes from plan to action this summer! Having gotten approval for the project from the Diocesan Building Commission, and having met the mandated diocesan standards (75% of the project total pledged, 50% of the project total collected), we are free to move forward. So once the last day of school ends, Newkirk Novak Construction Partners will move into the school to begin the work of renovating Visitation School and start construction on the Maker Space. I am so grateful to be a part of this journey and commend the generosity of so many in bringing this Shared VISion to life.



Peace,

Fr. Greg

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

*Sponsored by the Visitation Knights of Columbus*

**16th Annual**

# Front Porch Coat Drive

An illustration of various winter clothing items, including a blue puffy jacket, a yellow jacket, a green vest, a red and white checkered scarf, a red knit hat, and a blue knit hat with a pom-pom.

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. 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](mailto: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](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org) for more information.

**MASS INTENTIONS  
DECEMBER 30– JANUARY 4**

Tuesday, December 30  
8:15 am Peggy Massman †

Wednesday, December 31  
8:15 am Dominic Passatino †

Thursday, January 1  
10:00 am Casey Pointer †

Friday, January 2  
8:15 am Agnes Saldino & Marguerite Shortino †

Saturday, January 3  
8:15 am Amy Jeanne Thompson †  
4:00 pm People of Visitation

Sunday, January 4  
8:00 am Tim Scholl †  
10:30 am The Protection of the Unborn

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – JANUARY 3-4			
	4:00 PM	8:00 AM	
ALTAR SERVERS	CJ Dimond E. Taylor E. Hall	M. Watts S. Murray G. Malter	H. Braselton C. Braman H. Arthur
EMs	D. Bruegging J. Call K. Reichman B. Roewe C. Roewe M. Shannon G. Smith K. Taylor D. Tietjen M. Tietjen L. Waters	G. Bauman J. Colombo D. Devine J. Grego C. Jackson A. Leimora E. McCann M. McCann C. Schorgl H. Shinn M. Widmer	K. Esslinger A. Florez E. Florez M. Florez C. Fryer G. Herrenbruck J. Johnson T. McCray A. Sonnenberg G. O'Brien J. Waldrup
LECTORS	E. Haines M. Heckman-Crowe	B. Nelson B. Winget	S. Derks
USHERS	C. Maggiorotto W. Maggiorotto NOT FILLED	T. Colburn M. Vrabac NOT FILLED	A. Barber C. Powers T. Ritchie
SACR.	C. Ruiz	J. Palmer	P. Ekerdt

**PARISH BOUNDARIES**

**State Line on the West to Oak St. on the East;  
47th Street on the North to Meyer Blvd on the South**

**PARISH OFFICE, Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM**  
5141 Main St, Kansas City, MO 64112  
Phone 816-753-7422 Fax 816-753-5505  
Web Site [www.visitation.org](http://www.visitation.org)

**PARISH STAFF 816-753-5155 x#**  
Pastor, Fr. Greg Haskamp x1302,  
[frgreg@visitation.org](mailto:frgreg@visitation.org)

Pastoral Associate, Jennifer Greene x1309,  
[jennifer@visitation.org](mailto:jennifer@visitation.org)

Pastoral Associate, Karen Miller x1308,  
[karen@visitation.org](mailto:karen@visitation.org)

Pastoral Associate, Teresa Albright x1306,  
[teresa@visitation.org](mailto:teresa@visitation.org)

Director of Liturgy/Music, Alejandro Manso x1307,  
[alejandro@visitation.org](mailto:alejandro@visitation.org)

Director of Stewardship, Megan Burdolski x1305,  
[megan@visitation.org](mailto:megan@visitation.org)

Business/Financial Manager, Isaac Uzcanga x1313,  
[isaac@visitation.org](mailto:isaac@visitation.org)

Parish Secretary, Joni Chichuk x1301,  
[joni@visitation.org](mailto:joni@visitation.org)

Ministry Scheduler/Bookkeeper, Janet Ridder x1304,  
[janet@visitation.org](mailto:janet@visitation.org)

Priest in Residence, Fr. Charles Rowe

**BULLETIN DEADLINE Noon Monday**

**SACRAMENTS**  
Anointing of the Sick by appointment  
Fr. Greg and Jennifer Greene

Eucharist to Homebound and Hospital, Jennifer Greene

Sacrament of Matrimony, Contact Jennifer Greene to begin marriage preparation.

Sacrament of Confirmation, Youth Jennifer Greene

Sacrament of Infant Baptism, Adult Confirmation and Sacraments of Initiation, *For those who wish to become Catholic.* Teresa Albright

**PARISH COUNCIL 2025/26**

Shelley Carney	Steve O'Neill
Bill Donath	Gary Smith
Fr. Greg Haskamp	Lucy Stella
Linda Judah	Mike Vrabac
Kristie Larson	Katie Wendel
Megan Burdolski, Staff	Kathleen Wiedeman

**School Office**

5134 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64112  
Phone 816-531-6200 ....Fax 816-531-8045

Principal, Dr. Melissa Wagner x3140  
Secretary, Bridget Winget x3136

St. Vincent De Paul Help Line  
816-753-9061

Diocese of Kansas City St. Joseph  
Independent Ombudsman, 816-213-6024  
Victim Assistance Coordinator, Michelle Graff  
816-714-2357

## RACIAL JUSTICE



As we celebrate this 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, we know that Christmas will have passed before the next bulletin. So it is that we offer the words of Howard Washington Thurman (1899-1981), American author and theologian, as our Christmas message to all.

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among all,  
To make music in the heart.*

Christmas blessings to all—The Visitation Racial Justice Committee

## STEWARSHIP

### GIVING AT VISITATION

As the calendar year ends, we want to thank you for your generosity to the parish in 2025. If you still wish to make a year-end, gift, please allow adequate processing time depending on your type of transaction to ensure we are able to credit the donation by December 31, 2025 for possible tax-deduction purposes. Mailed contributions should be dated no later than December 31 and received in the office by January 14, 2025, in order to be credited on your 2025 contribution statement.

You may also contribute by:

- Dropping an offertory envelope or check by the parish office—drop through the mail slot in the front door if the office is not open.
- Call us to set up a one-time or regular, automated contribution using your bank account or credit/debit card.
- Request a gift from your donor-advised fund before year-end.
- Use the online giving tab on our parish website for a one-time gift before midnight on December 31:  
[www.visitation.org](http://www.visitation.org).

We also accept donations of appreciated assets or distributions from your IRA, but these may require additional processing time so may not be applicable at year-end.

Please keep in mind that we distribute offertory envelopes based on your giving preferences. Please contact the parish office if you wish to change those preferences or notate your preference on the 2026 pledge form.

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@visitation.org](mailto:megan@visitation.org).

## SOCIAL CONCERNS

### PEACE TREE THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who contributed gifts to the Advent Peace Tree this year! Your generosity was overwhelming and because of it, all 15 non-profit organizations we supported were better able to serve those in need.

A special thank you to everyone who helped move packages, load and sort gifts, and especially to Marny Sherman and Janie Palmer. Your hard work made this another successful effort. Great job to you two and great job, Visitation!



### MADRE

**Sponsorship Payments are Due Now!** If you sponsor a child and are unsure if you have made your 2025 payment, please call Karen in the parish office at 816-381-6914 - be on the lookout for an email requesting payment. Donations can be made online. Funds will be sent to El Salvador by the end of the year!

### JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

#### *So what exactly is Human Trafficking? And what can I do to help?*

Good questions! Human Trafficking covers a LOT and first you need to be aware that it is happening in the US, even in our area. Every year, millions of men, women and children are lured by force, fraud or coercion to work as slaves or perform commercial sex acts. Any community is vulnerable and victims can be any age, race, gender or nationality. To build your awareness, go to [www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign](http://www.dhs.gov/bluecampaign) for more background. You can find out how to avoid buying products made with forced labor, and get ideas to help with this problem by checking out the US Catholic Sisters website: [www.alliancetoendhumantrafficking.org](http://www.alliancetoendhumantrafficking.org). It's easy to raise awareness if you wear blue on January 11 and make social posts to spread the word. You can also join us in Tighe Hall on January 11 to help label soap which will in turn be taken to local motels. Let's free the victims and end Human Trafficking.

#### **Your Help Is Needed to label soap for the Soap Project!**

All ages and abilities are welcome. Please join us in Tighe Hall after each Mass on Sunday January 11 to label soap and learn about the good work being done to combat Human Trafficking by the Soap Project. The SOAP Project Outreach is a unique, hands-on opportunity that allows groups of any size to fight human trafficking locally and potentially recover victims. Human trafficking has been reported in both poverty-stricken urban area motels as well as in suburban upscale hotels. With that in mind, we aim to educate those working in these locations on the signs of trafficking, arm them with the resources to fight it, and give victims a way out. But to do this, we need your help.



# THE SHAMROCK SNAPSHOT.

SPOTLIGHTING FAITH AND LIFE AT VISITATION SCHOOL

In the  
Stable at  
*Bethlehem,*  
Heaven  
and Earth  
*Meet.*  
POPE BENEDICT XVI



## A Season of Light and Joy

Shining Bright at Visitation

Throughout December, our school was filled with the joy, beauty, and meaning of the Christmas season. From the K-4 Christmas Program centered on light and hope, to the whimsical creativity of our seventh graders' Whoville hallway they crafted for our school, and the sacred student artwork displayed throughout our halls, our children experienced daily reminders of God's presence and love. We are deeply grateful for our parish community whose continued support allows us to form young hearts in faith, creativity, and joy.

## Moments of Faith That Shape Our Days

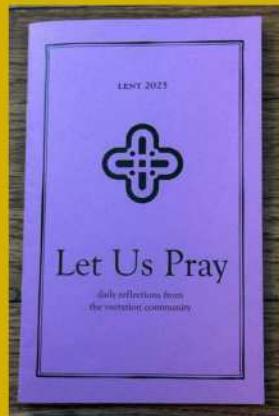
This season, our students encountered faith all around them—through artwork, sacred spaces, and moments that made God's love visible. A true gift, and one we hope you experienced as well in small glimmers of joy and hope.

Merry  
Christmas

From  
Visitation School



## FAITH FORMATION



### “LET US PRAY” FOR OUR LENT BOOK WRITERS

Each year, more than 40 Visitation parishioners volunteer to write a reflection for our annual “Let Us Pray” Lent Book. These reflections provide thoughtful, sometimes intellectual, sometimes deeply personal, and always powerful meditations each day as we move together through the Season of Lent.

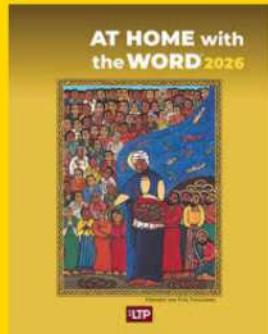
This year’s 45 writers are working diligently on their reflections for this coming Lent. Keep each of them in your prayers as they spend time contemplating, studying, preparing, and sharing.

“Let Us Pray” Lent Books will arrive in mailboxes the week before Ash Wednesday

### AT HOME WITH THE WORD BOOK SALE

Be sure to pick up your copy of the 2026 *At Home with the Word* scripture study guide! 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.

Books are available for purchase on the bookshelf in the Narthex | Cost: \$5  
(Follow instructions on the bookshelf sign to submit payment)



### JANUARY 12 | SUPPER SERIES SESSION 4: GOSPEL VALUE OF INCLUSION

At our fourth Supper Series event focused on Catholic Social Teaching, we will explore two principles - “Call to Family, Community, and Participation” and “Rights and Responsibilities.” In this session, we’ll hear from a variety of speakers about their experiences supporting and being supported by the Visitation ministries and committees that embody the value of inclusion. All are welcome. Come be nourished in body, mind, and spirit.

Next Event: January 12 in Tighe Hall | 6:15 pm - Doors Open | 6:30 pm - Dinner Served | 7:00 pm - Program

## ABOUT TOWN

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# PASTORAL CARE

## FAITH & GRIEF GATHERINGS IN TIGHE HALL

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7 AT 12:00 NOON**



Speaker: Rev. Sally Wright

Sacred Memory: **How to Weave Loved Ones Into Everyday Rituals**

As we begin the new year, Sally will share more about the healing power of small daily rituals and offer suggestions for spiritual practices that help keep memories alive.

NEW ! Faith & Grief Online Caregiver Support Gathering

Fourth Monday of each month from 1:00 - 2:00 pm. Register on the Faith and Grief website. Join this monthly offering online for sharing experiences, encouragement and support from others who understand. Register at [www.faithandgrief.org](http://www.faithandgrief.org). Visit [faithandgrief.org](http://faithandgrief.org) or scan the QR code to RSVP for a gathering and learn more about all our grief programs online and in-person.



## NEW! Grief Support Group, Facilitated by Ryan Speed, LMSW

First Tuesday of each month | 6:00-7:00 pm

Starting January 6, 2026! Village Church on Mission Rd.

Grief is a natural, complex response to loss—and no two experiences are the same. This monthly group provides a compassionate, confidential space to share, listen and heal alongside others who understand. Facilitated by therapist **Ryan Speed, LMSW**, the group offers support, reflection and practical tools for navigating the emotional and spiritual challenges of grief.

Here is a link for info about Ryan: <https://www.prairieskycc.org/ryanspeed>

Village Presbyterian Church  
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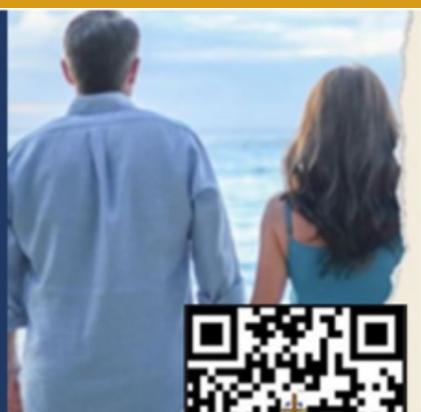
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## RETROUVAILLE

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