

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
VISITATION PARISH
DECEMBER 25, 2022



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed Monday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday and Monday, January 2 for the New Year's holiday.

FRONT PORCH COAT DRIVE

Our Visitation Knights' Annual Front Porch Coat Drive is underway. Drop off your donations of coats, gloves, hats, blankets and other winter items in the large boxes on the front porches of the Vasquez (5415 Baltimore), Steinert (5818 Central) and Fedinets (433 W. 69th St.) homes through January 7. Please clean out your basements, closets and kids' rooms to show the generosity for which Visitation is always known.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM

Do you have a vehicle (car, truck, motorcycle, boat) that you would like to dispose of? Donating a vehicle to our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society can make a difference in the lives of so many of the poor and needy we serve. The process is simple. We do the work for you, and in return you will receive a tax receipt for your generous donation. Please call 701-6902 for more information.



that you would like to dispose of? Donating a vehicle to our parish St. Vincent de Paul

Society can make a difference in the lives of so many of the poor and needy we serve. The process is simple. We do the work for you, and in return you will receive a tax receipt for your generous donation. Please call 701-6902 for more information.



WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY

PRAYING FOR OTHERS
HELPS US STAY CONNECTED TO
GOD AND TO ONE ANOTHER.

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Erin Kallman

Pamela Atherton
Maggie Quirarte Bates
Marilyn Frechin Blank
Leonardo Borders
Chase Brundridge
Bernice Campbell
Mike Caraway
Shari Caraway
Marianne Carl
Beverly Cascone
Mary Beth Cicchetti
Olivia Connealy
Jean Cummings
Allie May Dudenhoeffer
Bill Fuss
Shana Gadt
Brooke Kuechler Harris
Darlene Henninger
Mike Henninger
Bill Hodes
Joe Irwin
William Jewell
Jaquie Kallman
Shirley Kempker
Marriane Kersten
Kevin Koch
John Langle
Bryan Larson
Betsy Lazere
Jeanne Lendabarker
Anthony Lipari, Sr.
Mary Lipari

Jorge Maldonado

Scott Martens

Priscilla McInnes

Tim McNamara

Thomas McNamara

Tricia Melland

Birdie Mendence

Andy Metzler

Lionel Morgan

Dede Murphy

Jennifer Olson

Charles Oppenlander

Nicholas Parscale

Nicola Pistone

Kat Potter

Peggy Pruitt

Ruth Quirarte

Quinn Regan

Theresia Ritchie

Ellie Rose

The Ryan Family

The Saalberg Family

Fran Schuetz

Barbara Schulte

Marialice Searcy

Aimee Sesler

Sandra Sharp

Special Intention

Jeannie Sullivan

Salvador Valldeperas, Sr.

Annabelle Whalen

Dave Witrock

Leigh Ann Zeller

The parish community continues to pray for parish members and their families who are serving in the armed services: Major Philip Martin, Ft. Leavenworth, KS; Maj. Chris Oppenlander, Hill Airforce Base; Maj. Gisselle Oppenlander, Hill Airforce Base; Staff Sgt. Louis Perez, San Diego, CA.

FUNERAL MEAL TEAMS

On Deck: Team 9 (Marx/Jett)

On Alert: Team 12 (Batz/Banes)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 27-JANUARY 1, 2023

Tuesday, December 27

6:45 am Amy Thompson †
8:15 am Jim Lynch †

Wednesday, December 28

6:45 am Beatrice Santner †
8:15 am William Sharp †

Thursday, December 29

6:45 am Michael Siragusa †

Friday, December 30

8:15 am Beattie Muraski

Saturday, December 31

8:15 am Florence Farley †
4:00 pm John Jurcyk, Jr. †

Sunday, January 1, 2023

8:00 am For the People of Visitation
10:30 am Casey Pointer †

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**

PARISH STAFF 816-753-5155 x#

**Pastor, Msgr Brad Offutt x1302,
msgroffutt@church.visitation.org**

**Pastoral Associate, Christine Sanders x1309,
chris@church.visitation.org**

**Pastoral Associate, Karen Miller x1308,
karen@church.visitation.org**

**Pastoral Associate, Teresa Albright x1306,
teresa@church.visitation.org**

**Director of Liturgy/Music, Alejandro Manso x1307,
alejandro@church.visitation.org**

**Director of Stewardship, Megan Burdolski x1305,
megan@church.visitation.org**

**Business/Financial Manager, Isaac Uzcanga x1313,
isaac@church.visitation.org**

**Parish Secretary, Joni Chichuk x1301,
joni@church.visitation.org**

**Ministry Scheduler/Bookkeeper, Janet Ridder x1304,
janet@church.visitation.org**

**Priest in Residence, Fr. Charles Rowe
BULLETIN DEADLINE Noon Monday**

"Into this world, this demented inn in which there is absolutely no room for him at all, Christ comes uninvited.

*But because he cannot be at home in it,
because he is out of place in it,
and yet he must be in it, His place is with the others
for whom there is no room.*

*His place is with those who do not belong,
who are rejected by power,
because they are regarded as weak,
those who are discredited,
who are denied status of persons,
who are tortured, excommunicated.
With those for whom there is no room,
Christ is present in this world."*

Thomas Merton

SACRAMENTS

**Anointing of the Sick by appointment
Msgr. Offutt and Chris Sanders**

**Eucharist to Homebound and Hospital, Chris
Sanders**

**Sacrament of Matrimony, Contact Chris Sanders to
begin marriage preparation.**

Sacrament of Confirmation, Youth Chris Sanders

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

PARISH COUNCIL 2022-23

Bill Dunn	Ryan Larson
Dave Ekerdt	John Legg
Jim Erlacker	Msgr. Brad Offutt, Pastor
Mary Gigliotti	Christy Spadafore
Eddie Greim	Cindy Spaeth
Sara Keenan	

Megan Burdolski, Staff Liaison

**School Office
5134 Baltimore, Kansas City, MO 64112
Phone 816-531-6200Fax 816-531-8045**

**Principal, Mary Kallman x3140
Vice Principal, Bridget Gronninger x3141
Secretary, Bridget Winget x3136**

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

**Diocese of Kansas City St. Joseph
Ombudsman, Joe Crayon 816-812-2500
Victim Assistance Coordinator,
Whitney True-Francis 816-392-0011**

STEWARDSHIP

MY THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP & CHRISTMAS

Since I was a little girl, Why the Chimes Rang, by Raymond MacDonald Alden has been one of my favorite Christmas stories. Written in 1909, the story still resonates with me to this day as an example of stewardship, a story of love and hope. I shared a synopsis of this story several years ago in this column but want to do so again this year in hopes that it will inspire all of you this holiday season:

Once upon a time in a faraway country there stood a beautiful church. At the top of the church's tower were Christmas bells that were said to ring only when the greatest gift was laid on the altar on Christmas Eve. No one in the town had heard the bells for years and some believed that the wind had made them ring while others thought that angels had sent them swinging. Each year, people would bring their offerings in hopes of making the chimes ring. Every Christmas Eve, thousands of people from miles around would crowd into the church in hopes of hearing the bells ring.

Pedro and his little brother lived in a small village a few miles from the city. They knew very little about the Christmas chimes but had heard of the service in the church on Christmas Eve and decided to go see the beautiful celebration. It was a bitterly cold day and there was a hard white crust on the ground. They began walking in the afternoon in order to get to the church in time for the service. As they neared the city's gates, they came upon a woman who had fallen and was too sick to reach shelter. As everyone had already gone to church, Pedro gave his instructions to his little brother to go to church for the service and, when he returned, to bring someone back who could help the woman. Pedro would stay behind and try to keep the woman warm. He told his brother to "see and hear everything twice, once for you and once for me. And if you get a chance, take this silver piece of mine and lay it down for our offering."

The church looked beautiful and the sound of the organ and people singing filled the building. As the service came to a close, the procession began to bring the gifts to the altar. One by one, people brought gifts of jewels, gold and other valuables and lay them on the altar. A famous writer laid down a book he had been writing for years and the King of the country laid his royal crown on the altar. Everyone expected to hear the church bells ring but they didn't. The cold wind was all that was heard in the tower.

The procession was over and the choir began the closing hymn when, suddenly, the organist stopped playing because the chimes were ringing. Everyone stopped singing and stood to see what great gift had awakened the long-silent bells. But all that any of them saw was Pedro's little brother, who had crept silently down the aisle when no one was looking and laid Pedro's coin on the altar.

Wishing all of you a most blessed and joyous Christmas!

GIVING AT VISITATION

As we near the end of the calendar year, we would be grateful if all 2022 pledges were fulfilled by year end. For those of you who are uncertain of your remaining pledge balance, feel free to contact Megan Burdolski to check. Please allow adequate mail or processing time depending on your type of transaction to enable us to credit the donation by December 31, 2022 for possible tax-deduction purposes. There are numerous ways to contribute:

- Drop an offertory envelope in the collection at Mass.
- 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 bank.
- Use the online giving tab on our parish website for a one-time gift: www.visitation.org.
- Donate appreciated assets.
- Make a charitable distribution from your IRA.

If you have any questions regarding your pledge balance or need assistance with any type of gift transaction, please contact Megan Burdolski, Director of Stewardship, at megan@church.visitation.org or 816-381-6911.

BAPTISM



The Epiphany of the Lord

Sunday, January 8, 2023
10:30 a.m. Mass

You're Invited to a...

Blessing of the Newly Baptized



For all Children of God baptized in 2022.



Join us for 10:30 a.m. Mass and receive a special blessing for the new year. Submit a favorite baptism pic for a slideshow during the hospitality reception following Mass to teresa@church.visititation.org



SOCIAL CONCERNs

THANK YOU NOTE FROM JERUSALEM FARM

Dear Visitation Church,

Thank you so much for your kind and generous support of Jerusalem Farm. I'm excited about the relationship that continues to form and grow here in the Northeast, and you help make this possible. Wishing you all a happy Advent and a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

YOGA AT VIS



Linda Heinen will be teaching yoga classes for the Visitation community during the months of January and February. Linda earned the RYS200 Yoga Certification in July 2020 through KC Yoga Kula and has been teaching a variety of classes since. She has been subbing for Sally Johnson at Visitation since April 2022 and will be teaching all classes January 4, 2023 - February 28, 2023. Sally will resume teaching in March. Current class offerings are Mondays and Wednesdays at 8:30 am in the Choir room.

Gentle Hatha, Mondays 8:30 am - In this class we blend breath and movement with an emphasis on alignment. Students build endurance and strength while improving flexibility. We focus on the poses that build the foundation of our yoga practice, learn basic stretches, breathing techniques, and proper alignment in a relaxed setting. This class is great for beginners and those who want to move at a gentle pace or work on the foundation poses.

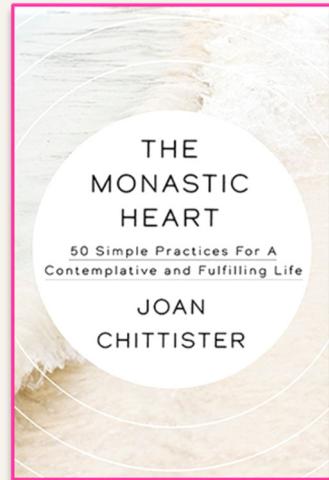
Vinyasa, Wednesdays 8:30 am - Vinyasa emphasizes flowing movement, incorporating Sun salutations, breathing techniques and more complex poses. Students improve stamina, strength and flexibility. Variations will be offered, but some yoga experience is recommended.

(All participants must be able to move from standing to the floor and from the floor to standing on their own.)

FAITH FORMATION

This Year's Parish Book is NOW AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX!

ABOUT THE BOOK: This book carries the weight and wisdom of the monastic spiritual tradition into the twenty-first century. Sister Joan leans into Saint Benedict, who, as a young man in the sixth century, sought moral integrity in the face of an empire not by conquering or overpowering the empire but by simply living an ordinary life extraordinarily well. This same monastic mindset can help us grow in wisdom, equanimity, and strength of soul as we seek restoration and renewal both at home and in the world.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Joan Chittister is a Benedictine Sister who has served as president of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and president of the Conference of American Benedictine Prioresses. And for 12 years, she was prioress of her community, the Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Pennsylvania

VISITATION FAITH FORMATION SUPPER SERIES

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THE CREED

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January 18, 2023 | Session 2: "God the Father, Almighty"

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Session 1: November 16, 2022
Session 2: January 18, 2023
Session 3: April 19, 2023

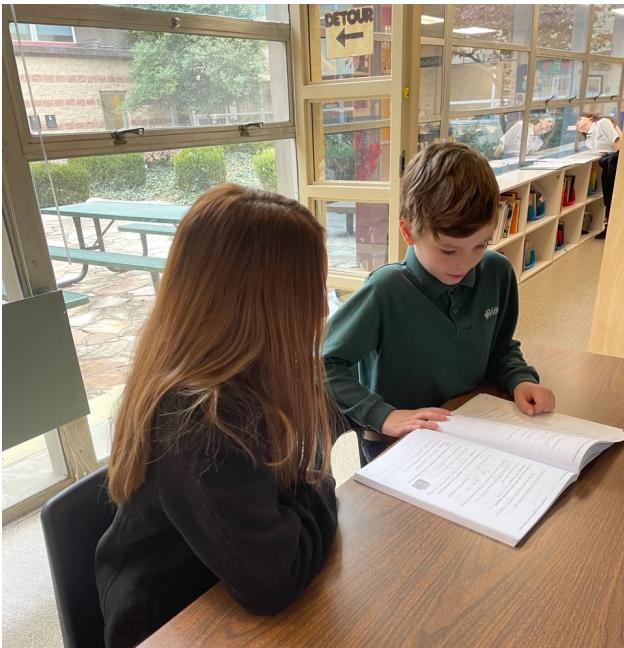
TIGHE HALL

6:00 p.m.—Doors Open
6:15 p.m.—Simple Supper Served
6:30 p.m.—Program Begins

PERFECT FOR:

Students of the Faith
Teachers and parents
Lovers of science and philosophy
Friends from other Christian traditions





CRISTO REY INTERN UPDATE

This is the second year that Visitation Parish has been able to offer four Cristo Rey students internships to work in our parish school. The generous contributions of 76 parish households/families have made this possible. With thanks to our parish donors and Racial Justice committee members Nancy Hesse who coordinates the Vis program and Matt Gunter and John McGurk who initiated this project, we offer this Cristo Rey update to the parish.

The Cristo Rey interns are settling in well this year. They each have a set schedule for the day which helps the interns and teachers get to know each other. Our interns have been working to help students with reading, math, Spanish and other tasks. They have also been helping the teachers prep a multitude of different activities for the classroom.

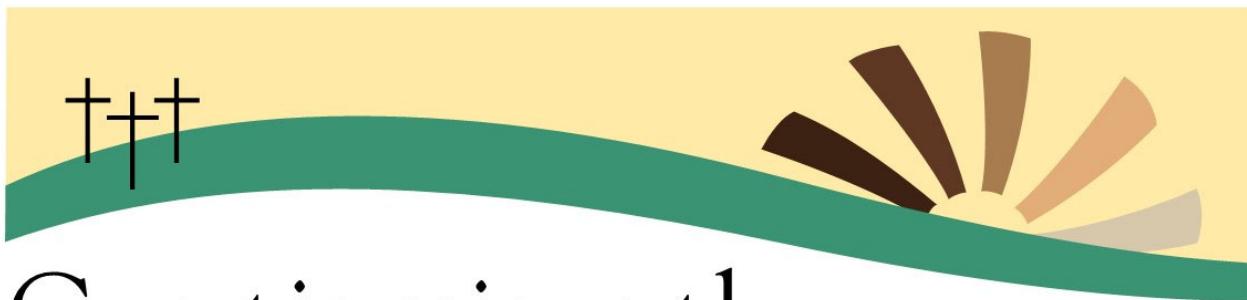


Our 2022-23 Cristo Rey interns are Andrea Hernandez: Freshman - first year at Vis; Carla Alcantar: Sophomore - first year at Vis; Ashli Ramirez (pictured): Junior - second year at Vis and Julio Banuelas: Senior - second year at Vis.

- Nancy Hesse

We hope to continue our relationship with Cristo Rey for years to come. If you would like to make a contribution to support our internship program (\$30,000 per year for four students), please contact Megan Burdolski in the parish office (megan@church.visiation.org)





Continuing the Conversation about **RACISM AND OUR FAITH**

Following up on our September 2022 conversation, we will reflect on how a vibrant Catholic school impacts the surrounding community and the Church as a whole. We will discuss what it will take to open a Catholic School that serves the families on the east side of Kansas City. And tables will compose a question or comment for Bishop Johnston when he joins us for our April 13th "Conversation."

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Visitation Catholic Church, Tighe Hall  5141 Main St., KCMO 64112

Doors Open at 6:30 p.m.

Program begins at 7:00 p.m.



RSVP appreciated



BAPTISM



Visitation Choir Epiphany Concert

January 8 at Visitation
Church, 4:00 pm

Please join the Visitation Music Ministry for an evening of song celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany.
Concert begins at 4:00 pm and a reception will follow in the narthex.

SCHOOL OF RELIGION



Mrs. Maureen Noonan
tells an Advent story
during Monday's
School of Religion on
December 5.



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 3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816-812-2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Whitney True-Francis, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816-392-0011 or true.francis@diocesekcsj.org for more information.



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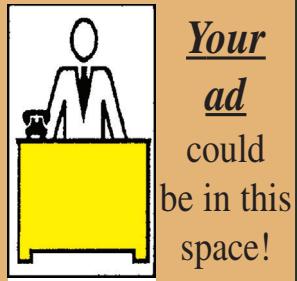
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PEACE TREE



Marny Sherman,
Peace Tree
Coordinator,
sorting gifts on
Sunday.

PEACE TREE

Over 800 gifts were sorted, loaded and delivered to 15 organizations that help families in need this Christmas! Thank you to everyone who shopped for items, loaded the vehicles and delivered the gifts!



8TH Grade National Honor Society students helped load delivery cars.



Volunteers moving items from storage to organize by the color of each agency tag.

