



ST. ELIZABETH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAIN STREET AT 75TH STREET WEST · KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64114 · (816) 523-2405 · WWW.STEKC.ORG · REV. GREGORY HASKAMP, PASTOR

DECEMBER 13, 2020
THIRD SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

Sunday Masses

Weekday Masses

**Limited Public Masses; see inside or
our website for more information**

New Parishioners, Welcome!

Please contact Heather Solis at
hsolis@stekc.org to join the parish.
*You must be a registered parishioner for
sacramental preparation.*

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:00pm – 4:00pm or
by appointment with Fr. Greg

Preparation for Infant Baptism

Please contact Deacon Mike McLean at
mmclean@stekc.org to make
arrangements.

Marriage

Registered parishioners who wish to be
married need to contact Deacon Mike
McLean nine to twelve months prior to
the anticipated wedding date.

Our Mission Statement

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church is a vibrant,
Christ-centered community whose primary
purpose is to celebrate the sacred liturgy
and the Sacraments. Empowered by the
Sacraments, we are called to personal
holiness, to spread the word of God, and
to actions of generosity and compassion
toward all of God's people.

Third Sunday of Advent



Artist: Ciara

3rd Sunday of Advent

The third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete" Sunday (coming from the first word of the Latin Entrance Antiphon for this day, meaning "Rejoice") and the color is usually rose instead of purple. This is the Church's way of further heightening our expectation as we draw ever nearer the Solemnity of Christmas.

This Gaudete Sunday calls us to rejoice because the Lord is near. Does your heart rejoice and sing, or are the pressures and burdens of life weighing you down? We can easily become overwhelmed. The weaknesses and sins of life, indeed our own weakness and sin, eat away at the joy and hope God wants us to know. Those who are grounded in their faith and possess deep spiritual lives know that God is near. Realizing this puts life into perspective. We really want to be free from our burdens but do not always know how to achieve this. We keep stumbling and falling. Advent is a time when we can learn to "do life differently," just like John the Baptist instructed the crowds. Joy and hope are the gifts God offers, not anxiety and despair.

Follow the Star Home—Christmas 2020 at St. Elizabeth

Worshiping from home for Christmas this year? As our gift to you, the parish is offering a very special Christmas Eve Star Collection gift bag to enhance your livestream experience (3pm on December 24), and to let you know we are thinking of you even if we can't be together.

Enjoy some hand-picked items, including a specially-made candle, prayer cards, an ornament, plus other special items.



You must register for your Christmas Eve Star Collection. Please note that you do not have to sign up to watch the livestreamed Mass; signup is only required if you would like to reserve and pick up your Christmas Eve Star Collection. Joining us for Mass? We have a limited amount of seating (100) at each of our Masses: 3pm, 5pm, 7pm on December 24 and 7:30am and 10am* on December 25.

Registration for either option is required at www.stekc.org or by calling 816-523-2405.

* Subject to change based on updates to diocesan or civic guidelines.

Stewardship

In today's second reading Paul concludes his letter to the Christian community at Thessalonica by providing it with actions to take as they wait for the return of the Lord. The first action is to rejoice always and give thanks in all circumstances. This does not sound easy in a time of pandemic. The two words that make this task difficult are "always" and "all." This means giving thanks and rejoicing even when our circumstances are not always moments of joy and thanksgiving, or when we are confronted with a broken world. Prayerful stewards rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances, even during these uncertain and stressful times, because they are people of hope. A good reflection this week would be how the season of Advent can give you reason to hope.

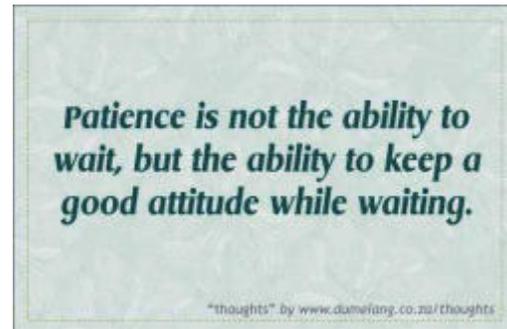
~International Catholic Stewardship Council

Stewardship Shout-Outs:

- To all who continue to serve others in our community during our current health crisis.

School Corner

December Christskills Patience



Generosity



Pray for the Sick & Homebound

Raul Acevedo, elder and community leader in the Romero Community of El Salvador; **Annette Ahnemann**, sister of George Koppe; **Jim Buckley**; **Olivia Cameron**, granddaughter of Ed & Mary Webb & great-granddaughter of Tom & Joanne Laughlin; **Mark Craig**; **Mike Faeth**; **Cathy Fox**; **Leo Guzman**; **Doug Henry**; **Angela & John Hirte**; **Jan Irick**; **Tina Jinkins**; **Sandy Kauffman**, mother of Matt Kauffman; **Dale Keith**, brother of Joyce Fish; **Lucy Koch**, daughter of Kevin & Beth Koch and granddaughter of Michael & Hanna Cusick; **Lucy Luce**, mother of Kelly Logan; **Joseph Ludwikoski**, son of PJ and Mary Ludwikoski; **Louis Mandl**, stepfather of Nancy Miller; **Marsha Mangold**; **Kathleen Matthews**; **Pearl Mayanja**, daughter of Judith Mayanja; **John Miller**, father of Victoria Blume; **Michaela Neal**; **Butch & Donna Newell**; **Rosie Ragsdale**, daughter of Kelsey & Michael Ragsdale; **Tahlia Riley**; **Don Rizzo**, father of Anna Valdivia; **Ron Rode**, father of Kay Kremer; **Mary Jayneen Ross**, sister of Jim VanDyke; **Bernie Rupp**, brother of Mary McNamara; **Gary Schell**, inlaw of Jerry & Christine Hurlbert; **Chris Storm**; **Lily Todd**, daughter of Kathy Todd; **Heather Volker**, sister-in-law of Staci Courter; **Marie Wood**, sister-in-law of Peggy VanDyke; **Beverly Yancey**, sister of Janet Garnett

Please notify the parish office when a friend or loved one is in need of prayers, Eucharistic Minister, or is in the hospital.

Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners,

I just received my Spotify Year in Review. If you don't use Spotify, the Year in Review is an overview of the artists and songs you've listened to the most over the past year. You get some fun statistics thrown in with the top 5 songs and top 5 artists. What's humorous to me is that my #1 song is 44 years old! I typically listen to current music the most, but everything has been so unusual and different this year, I'm ok with the fact that a song from the mid-70's was at the top of my list: "The Caves of Altamira" by Steely Dan. I'm not surprised that a Steely Dan song was my most listened to song, given the fact that I love their music and had a little online crash course in the history of the band (courtesy of a parishioner who knows his stuff) during the shelter in place last spring. I listened to a lot of Steely Dan in those days, but did so with new ears. I had a better sense of their progression as artists and songwriters, and a deeper appreciation of all they endured on their way to musical success. It's clear from their music that they are purists who love jazz as much as they love rock, but it was good to learn more about their influences and artistic vision.

The more I think about it, the more I appreciate the relevance of "The Caves of Altamira" for 2020. I don't know that I had ever heard it before I listened to The Royal Scam in its entirety (many times through last spring). As far as I can tell, the song tells a story from Donald Fagen's youth about him finding a good hiding place from the world and imagining it to be a cave whose walls were covered with ancient paintings, transforming it into a place of wonder and awe. As an introvert, he savored the place as a haven for his imagination to soar. I did some of that myself during some of those shelter in place days, using the quieter rhythm as a good chance to ponder, reflect and discover some of the deeper richness of life that lives beneath and beyond all the activity.

As this year has been marked by highs and lows, back and forth between good news and bad news, it has demanded a steadiness from all of us that flows from a deeper sense of connection to God. At least that's what it's required from me: trust, gratitude, hope, a realization of my great need and our common bond as a human family. It sounds like one big long Advent, waiting for the arrival of a new world, sitting in darkness but confident that the light would dawn and illuminate the beauty all around us.

Peace,
Fr. Greg

Pray for our Military

We remember in our prayers the loved ones of our parish family who serve in the military:

Major James Harris, son-in-law of John and Kieran Cullinan; **John Kelly**, son of Joe Kelly; **Luis Moen**, son of Gary and Bridget Moen; **Pvt. Michael Muraski**, nephew of Phillip Muraski; **Ross Ryan Nigro**, grandson of Gloria Nigro; **Jeremy Rice**, son of Mike and Catherine Rice

Please notify the parish office when a loved one is serving in and returning home from the military.

Building Our Legacy



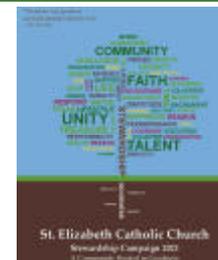
Pledged: \$5.68 Million
Total Collected: \$4,910,980

We recently asked the ECC Teachers what they love about the new building. We will be sharing their responses here in the upcoming weeks.

Q: What do you love about the new ECC?

A: I love our beautiful windows. I love to see students looking up and waving during carpool! I am so thankful for the student bathroom and multiple sinks inside our classroom. My classroom is my second home and although it's been a stressful year with Covid, I am so thankful for a safe, accommodating, and beautiful room to teach in! Thanks to everyone who made this possible!
-Lindsay Martin, Kindergarten Teacher

Stewardship Campaign



Goal: \$1,830,000
Pledged: \$860,295

The legacy of this community grows ever deeper, and as stewards of God's blessings, we bring all we have and are to bear on the future of this community. We are called to maintain and deepen the beauty and goodness of what we have inherited. We ask you to claim your part in this story and if you have not already done so please return your pledge to St. Elizabeth Parish today. Let your energy and treasure, your talents and faith, be a part of the story of this community. Join with those who have gone before us in faith, those who follow, and those here today, by offering your God-given blessings for the mission of St. Elizabeth Parish.

Dollars and Sense

In an effort to increase awareness and understanding of our parish's finances, each week in this column we will provide updates and information regarding a variety of topics:

Tithing Update

2020 vs 2019 Actual

July - November 2019 Collected:	\$740,181
July - November 2020 Collected:	\$666,494
Difference	(\$73,687)

Parish News & Notes

Public Mass Information

We resumed the public celebration of Mass with necessary restrictions (<https://kcsjatholic.org/coronavirus-updates/liturgical-guidelines/>).

Here are some important things to note:

- We continue to limit the number of people who may attend weekend Mass to practice social distancing. Pre-registration and check-in is required.
- As instructed by the diocese, the faithful are obliged to wear a mask the entire time you are inside the church. **Masks will be required for EVERYONE entering the building.**
- All four Diocesan bishops in Missouri have dispensed the faithful from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday. **This applies to EVERYONE.**
- **Those who are symptomatic or who have been exposed to another with the virus within 14 days are not permitted to enter the church, in accordance with diocesan, national, state, and local health directives.** All attendees are asked to check their temperature at home before coming to church.
- **Those who are at risk because of an underlying health issue or who are 60 or older are strongly encouraged, for their own health, to avoid the risk of attending public celebrations of the Mass.**
- **We will continue to livestream Mass for as long as needed so that those not attending in person may maintain a spiritual connection with St. Elizabeth.**
- For everyone's health and safety, resumption of public Mass must be slow, deliberate, and limited.
- We are celebrating 7am Daily Mass on Tuesday and Friday mornings. All Masses are held in the church and **you do not need to register to attend. Masks are required the entire time you are inside the church.**
- **Our Livestream Mass will now always be at 4:30pm on Saturday.** All livestreamed and recorded Masses are accessible through our YouTube channel at https://bit.ly/STChurch_School

Mass procedures and guidelines, including mask usage and communion distribution, plus registration links can be found on our website at www.stekc.org.

Thank you to everyone for your ongoing patience, grace and flexibility as we continue to adapt and adjust to the fluid nature of gathering for Mass in the midst of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Fr. Greg and the staff are working hard to keep this experience healthy and holy for all who choose to attend.



Parish News & Notes cont.

Social Services Notes

Thank you for your continued support. Your generosity helps us provide weekly food to our neighbors in need during the busy holiday season.

Current food pantry needs are: *no immediate needs*

St. Elizabeth Christmas Stars

By purchasing a gift or contributing a monetary gift, you have helped to make the Christmas season joyful for many of our neighbors.

This year, 47 families were assisted because of your generosity!

Thank you and Merry Christmas!



St. Elizabeth Advent Reflection Booklet

Have you seen our Advent Reflection Booklet yet? A digital copy is available for download or printing on our website at www.stekc.org. Spend a moment each day of Advent as we prepare for our Lord. You can also enjoy the reflections shared on our Facebook page each morning at <https://www.facebook.com/StElizabethChurch/> (give our page a "Like" while you're there!)



Have a blessed Advent!

El Salvador Corner

Annual Scholarship Appeal \$20,000 match!

In 2020, STE sponsored 114 students (62 Catholic grade school, 31 high school and 21 university). With your help, we hope to fund even more scholarships in 2021. To help meet this goal, an anonymous group of donors will be matching all donations up to \$20,000!! For more information or to donate online, please visit www.stekc.org



Because the Salvadoran school year begins in February, your year-end gift to the STE El Salvador Scholarship Fund will immediately impact the lives of these children and their families. There is no gift that is inconsequential; every gift is meaningful!

Art Supplies needed for Romero Community Art Therapy Program: Please see the parish website for a link to the El Salvador Wish List on Amazon.

Parish News & Notes cont.

Mothers of Young Children Ministry

Are you a mother with kids under 5? If so, we would LOVE to meet you! We meet every 2 weeks, and our next meeting is **Wednesday, December 16 at 7pm via Zoom**. This ministry will help connect moms of the parish who are in a similar life stage of raising young children, through shared friendship and faith.

For more information or to receive the Zoom link, contact Monica Lagos (mismert@gmail.com 816-510-3280) or Ashley Heyburn (ashleyheyburn@gmail.com 917-723-0098)

Life Corner

Presented by The Respect Life Ministry (RLM) of St. Elizabeth

Thank you to everyone who donated gift cards to The LIGHT House through the Christmas Stars program. The LIGHT House provides women facing unplanned pregnancies emotional, spiritual, and material support as they choose to carry and raise these precious lives.



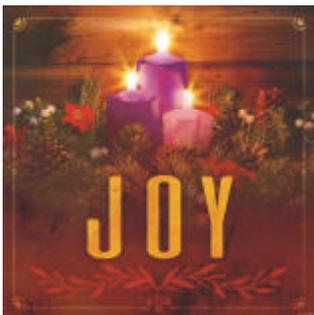
Interested in the Catholic Church? Join Us!

We continue our classes for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Our next class meets this **Tuesday, December 15, from 7:00 - 8:30pm** via Zoom.

For more information, email Deacon Mike at mmclean@stekc.org. All are welcome!

Live the Liturgy—Inspiration for the Week

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.



In Loving Memory

We remember in love our parishioners and family members who have died in the light of faith:

Kathleen Stubbers

Please pray for the family members and friends who mourn. May they be comforted in their grief and find solace in prayer and happy memories.



Fear not, I am with you.

Be not dismayed, I am your God.

I will strengthen you, and help you, and uphold you...

Isaiah 41:10

2021 Annual Catholic Appeal



St. Elizabeth Goal: \$86,000
Pledged: \$74,517

We would like to thank all of our Parishioners who joined together as one family in pledging their gift to the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal, "One Family...Walking Together in Faith." If you have not made your commitment, please prayerfully consider to do so. Every gift is very important. Thank you for your generosity. For more information on the impact of your support for the appeal, visit www.kcsj.catholic.org. Thank you!

Area News

End of Year Tax Write Off/Cars4KC

This is a perfect opportunity to reflect on the time, talent, and treasure you have shared over the past year. With 2020 quickly coming to a close, you still have an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those in our communities. One option is a donation to Cars4KC. If you have a vehicle you do not want anymore—in any condition, anywhere in the U.S.—donate it to Cars4KC. You will avoid the hassle of trying to trade, sell or junk it, and you can get a tax deduction that may reduce your tax burden this year. The proceeds benefit valuable Catholic Charities programs and services across the region. Cars4KC is a joint program between Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph and Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas. Together, the two agencies serve about 250,000 people across the region every year. If you would like more information on donating a car, contact Patrick Savageau, Donor Development Specialist, at psavageau@ccharities.com or 816-659-8243.

December 19/20

Lectors

4:30pm Timothy Dowdle
 7:30am Phillip Martin
 10:00am Jane Brummel

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4:30pm Lorene Faulconer
 7:30am Sue Rhodes
 10:00am Jim Millard

Sacristan

7:30am Kerm Fendler

Usher (additional volunteers needed for all Masses)

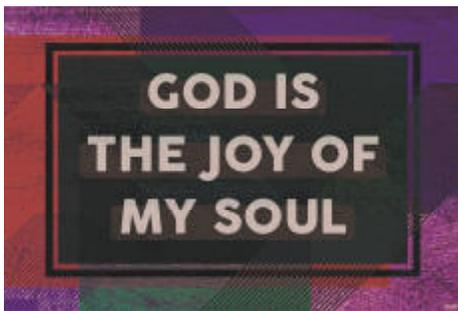
4:30pm Paul & Leslie Kies
 7:30am Doug Kinney, Noah Sturr
 10:00am George Koppe, John Roseburrough

Check-In Table

4:30pm Mary Cary
 7:30am Ryan Brennan
 10:00am Volunteer Needed

Cleaners after Mass

4:30pm Mary Cary, Additional Volunteers Needed
 7:30am Molly Pease, Jim & Joanie McLaughlin, Kathy O'Toole



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 Diocesan 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 the Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

Schedule of Events

**December 14 – December 20
 All Events Suspended**

Monday	December 14
Tuesday	December 15
7:00am	Mass (in-person/no signup required)
7:00pm	RCIA
Wednesday	December 16
Thursday	December 17
Friday	December 18
7:00am	Mass (in-person/no signup required)
Saturday	December 19
3:00pm	Confessions
4:30pm	In-person Mass—signup required
4:30pm	Livestream Mass on YouTube
Sunday	December 20/4th Sunday of Advent
7:30am	In-person Mass—signup required
10:00am	In-person Mass—signup required
12:00pm	Christmas Eve Star Collection Gift Bag Pickups—Church Parking Lot

Mass Observations December 14 – December 20

Monday	St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	
Sunday	4th Sunday of Advent

Readings for the Week of December 14, 2020

M: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
Tu: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
W: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
Th: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
F: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
Sa: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Remember: "God is our refuge and our strength, always ready to help in times of trouble."

~ Psalm 46:1

Church/School Directory

Parish Office: 2 East 75th St. Kansas City, MO 64114
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8am – 4:30pm

Website: www.stekc.org

Office.....(816) 523-2405
 Fax.....(816) 444-9858

Pastor

Fr. Greg Haskamp.....ext. 3149
 Email.....ghaskamp@stekc.org

Pastoral Associate

Dcn. Mike McLean.....ext. 3154
 Email.....mmclean@stekc.org

Secretary

Beth Cressey.....ext. 3170
 Email.....bcressey@stekc.org

Business Manager

Vicky Kinney.....ext. 3157
 Email.....vkinney@stekc.org

Director – Music/Liturg

Susie Adams.....ext. 3155
 Email.....sadams@stekc.org

Director – Stewardship/Development

Heather Solis.....ext. 3147
 Email.....hsolis@stekc.org

Social Services

Teresa Medina.....ext. 3148
 Email.....tmedina@stekc.org

School of Religion

Amy Wantz.....awantz@stekcschool.org

Confirmation

Erin Gabert.....eringabert1977@gmail.com

RCIA

Mary Cary.....(816) 333-6036

School Office

14 West 75th St., Kansas City, MO 64114

Website: www.stekcschool.org

Office.....(816) 523-7100

Fax.....(816) 523-2566

Principal

Mike Riley.....mriley@stekcschool.org

Assistant Principal

Joann Aubuchon.....jaubuchon@stekcschool.org

Administrative Assistant

Pat Dennis.....pdennis@stekcschool.org

Receptionist

Kay Barrett.....kbarrett@stekcschool.org

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