

O COME  
LET US  
*Adore*  
H I M .



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

### This Week's Mass Intentions

Monday, December 22

*1 Sm 1:24-28...1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd...Lk 1:46-56*

8:30 AM Mass - Patrick Schiesl +

Tuesday, December 23

*Mal 3:1-4, 23-24...Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14...Lk 1:57-66*

6:15 AM Mass - Patty Culver +

Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Vigil

*Is 62:1-5...Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29...Acts 13:16-17, 22-25...*

*Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25*

4:00 PM Pontifical & Mittens and Socks Mass  
with Bishop Johnston

Thursday, December 25 - The Nativity of the Lord

*Is 9:1-6...Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13...Tl 2:11-14...Lk 2:1-14*

12:00 AM Midnight Christmas Mass

9:00 AM Christmas Mass

Friday, December 26

*Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59...Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17...*

*Mt 10:17-22*

8:00 AM Mass - Helen Joyce +

Saturday, December 27

*1 Jn 1:1-4...Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12...Jn 20:1a, 2-8*

8:00 AM Mass - Terri Modlin +

4:00 PM Mass - Leo Stock +

Sunday, December 28 - The Holy Family

*Sir 3:2-6, 12-14...Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5...Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17...*

*Mt 2:13-15, 19-23*

8:30 AM Mass - Greg Knapp & Joan Knapp +

11:30 AM Mass - Jimmy Robertson +

*Father Stephen Hansen, Father Benjamin Fenlon, Father Duc Nguyen, Deacon Joshua Fultz, and the Parish, School, and St. Gianna Early Childhood Center staffs are keeping you in their prayers for a safe and blessed Christmas Season and New Year!*

*"They shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" (Matthew 1:23). Mary's trust in God's plan is a model for all vocations. Could God be inviting you to priesthood, consecrated life, or holy matrimony, living fully for Him to bring His presence to others? Embrace His call with courage. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 800-246-1850, ext. 273.*

**Volunteers are needed to deliver the Angel Tree gifts, at your convenience before Christmas, to our parish homebound, and drop off gifts at our local nursing care/assisted living facilities for the Catholic residents. Stop by the Parish Office by Tues., Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, call 816-232-7763, or text Terri at 816-271-3434.**

If you have not yet made a financial gift to the **Annual Catholic Appeal** and would like to do so before the end of the year, now is the time. No contribution is too small, but everyone's participation is important. We are close to reaching our goal, but still need your help! **Thank you** to those who have already contributed to the **ACA**!

The collection taken up next weekend, **December 27-28**, will be the **last collection** posted for **2025**. Anything received after next weekend will be posted for **2026**. If you have a change of address, please notify the **Parish Office** at [ecobb@cathedralsj.org](mailto:ecobb@cathedralsj.org) or 816-232-7763.

### This Coming Week's Activities

Monday, December 22 (No Adoration; No School)

Confessions - Cathedral

Mass - Cathedral

Food Pantry - Rectory Basement

2<sup>nd</sup> Gr. BB Practice (Culver) - Gym

Kindergarten BB Practice (Briscoe) - Gym

Community Chorus Concert & Reception - Cathedral

Rosary - livestream only

Tuesday, December 23 (No Adoration; No School)

Mass - Cathedral

Decorating Church - Cathedral

Mass - St. Mary Church

BB Practice (Limle) - Gym

Rosary - livestream only

Wednesday, December 24 (No Adoration; Parish Office/School/Food Pantry/St. Gianna Early Childhood Ctr closed)

Mass (not Christmas Mass) - St. Mary Church

Confessions - Cathedral

Pontifical & Mittens/Socks Mass - Cathedral

Confessions - St. Mary Church

Mass - St. Mary Church

Confessions - Cathedral

Thursday, December 25 (No Adoration; Parish Office/School closed; St. Gianna Early Childhood Center closed)

Midnight Mass - Cathedral

Confessions - Cathedral

Mass - Cathedral

Mass - St. Mary Church

Rosary - livestream only

Friday, December 26 (No Adoration; Parish Office/School/Food Pantry/St. Gianna Early Childhood Ctr closed)

Confessions - Cathedral

Mass - Cathedral

Rosary - livestream only

Saturday, December 27 (No Adoration)

Confessions - Cathedral

Mass - Cathedral

Confessions - Cathedral

Rosary - Cathedral

Mass - Cathedral

Confessions - St. Mary

Mass - St. Mary Church

Rosary - livestream only

Sunday, December 28 (No Adoration; No coffee/donuts, Catechism classes, or OCIA session.)

Confessions - Cathedral

Mass - Cathedral (also livestreamed)

Confessions - St. Mary Church

Mass - St. Mary Church

Confessions - Cathedral

Mass - Cathedral

Rosary - livestream only

The St. Joseph Community Chorus presents *"Christmas at the Cathedral"*, on Monday, Dec. 22, at 7 pm in our Cathedral. This year's concert features special guest, Kansas City's Rebound! Handbell Ensemble. For tickets: [www.stjoechorus.org/tickets](http://www.stjoechorus.org/tickets) or purchase at the door. Tickets are: \$25 (+ \$3.52 fee) for adults, \$20 seniors (55+); free for all students/children.

Tom Smith will give a candlelight organ concert on Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 PM in our Cathedral. All are invited to come spend some time in our candlelit Cathedral listening to beautiful music.

Please help us wrap up the decorations in our Cathedral for Christmas! Volunteers are needed on Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00 AM, to arrange Christmas flowers in the sanctuary area. No experience is needed, but your help is! God Bless you during this Christmas Season...Chris 816-294-7435

Weekly Offertory Income		
Monthly Budget Goal \$67,000		
Offertory	Aged, Sick & Poor	
Week 1	\$ 24,397.00	\$ 1,283.00
Week 2	\$ 12,830.50	\$10,155.00
Total	\$ 37,227.50	\$11,438.00

### Message from Father Stephen Hansen

It seems like just yesterday I began a Bulletin article introducing Advent with the words "*COME LORD JESUS, COME...*" Here we are at the end of Advent, and this article is for Christmas, too! **COME LORD JESUS, COME... THANK YOU FOR COMING, LORD JESUS!**

First, I want to follow up on a couple things from my last article (November 30<sup>th</sup>). I had introduced a young man, Daniel Anderl, whose Cause may be opened. This week another Cause advanced in the Church, that of Servant of God Enrico Ernesto Shaw, lay faithful, father, and businessman. A miracle was attributed to his intercession, so he'll be Beatified! What a model and example for all of us. Raise a family, work in business, and become a Saint!

The other follow up, was that we have four categories we're addressing in our budget, that are leaving us with a deficit as we finish the first half of the operational year. I'm grateful for those who reached out with questions and for those who told me of their extra year end gift. Personally, I've said this before, I give back, divided between Cathedral and St. Mary's, 5% of my gross salary. This year end I'll give another \$500. Any extra year end gifts would be appreciated. If you're interested in donating stocks... hesitate not to email Preston at [prinne@cathedralsj.org](mailto:prinne@cathedralsj.org) or call him at (816) 232-7763 x106.

After the first of the year, we'll have pledge forms for you to fill out. Please consider them when they're available as this will help with our budgeting. After the first of the year, I'll additionally return to the Precepts of the Church, and there are three more I wanted to address.

These Advent days I've been going back again to something I learned in my early days of priesthood, that of praying with the manger, the Nativity Scene. The tradition of the Nativity Scene in the Church dates back over 800 years to St. Francis. In the Scene, one can find a wealth of "things" to pray over. My invitation to you is to pick a character, one that catches your attention, imagination, and talk to God about it. Why this one today? What must it have been like to Adore the creator of the Universe who became man? How did he get here? Who said yes along the way? What dangers did he go through? How did he handle the cold? How did he accept such humble surroundings (a manger)?

After your time of prayer on the character for 5-10 minutes, try to make a resolution. What did you learn about yourself, God, and how will you serve Him differently. Don't get discouraged if it seems hard to make a resolution then and there, sometimes the light for the resolution(s) will come later, when you least expect it. God's ways are our ways; the Scriptures tell us.

This practice of praying before a manger Scene will bear fruit in your soul and in your Christmas Season!  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

We have a **long-time parishioner** who can no longer drive, and needs a ride to weekend Mass. If you are interesting in helping, please contact our **Parish Office, 816-232-7763**.

We will not have **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** during Cathedral School's Christmas Break. Adoration will resume on **Tues., January 6<sup>th</sup>, 8 am-3 pm**. Sign up at <https://signup.com/go/RDQxqsu> or on the sheet in the **Adoration Chapel**.

**Food Pantry:** During the holiday season, when school is out and kids are home without access to school lunches, all food and support go a long way to helping our community neighbors. **Thank you** for your ongoing generosity and prayers.

**Coram Deo** is meeting on **Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**, for **Mondays on the Bluff!** Meet at our Cathedral for a walking rosary, followed by pizza + drinks at **River Bluff Brewing** All young adults aged 22-35 are invited to attend. We hope to see you there! If you have questions, please contact Ally Gabler at [allygabler@gmail.com](mailto:allygabler@gmail.com).

**Coram Deo's Moms' Group** is meeting this **Tues., Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 9:30 AM**. Please reach out to Ally Gabler for the address. Hang out with fellow moms while your kids play! See you there!

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 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, at [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 [victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org](mailto:victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org) or 816-714-2357 for more information.

#### Cathedral Parish, School, St. Gianna Center, and SJCA News

- Many blessings to Rosemarie Gabler, who received the Sacrament of Baptism on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Many blessings to Nujana Marew, Akre Mateus, Neva Mateus, Christaleen Santa, and Chisana Suka, who received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation on November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- **Trivia Night: Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>, gym. Doors open at 5 pm, trivia begins at 6 pm.** Gather a team of 10, or join a team when you arrive. Cost: \$10/person. Bring some extra cash – there will be opportunities to buy out of a round! Proceeds will support our school's Technology Fund. The school is currently in need of additional Wi-Fi ports to improve connectivity throughout the building.
- **Cathedral's Legacy Event** is scheduled for **Saturday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>** at the **Knights of Columbus Council 5067 Hall at 1205 N. 49<sup>th</sup> Terr.** Join us to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> birthday of our Cathedral School with this gala. Formal attire suggested but not required. Cocktail hour 5:30 pm, dinner 6 pm. Includes live/silent auction, plus raffles.

We hope many families are able to attend the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass with Bishop Johnston. We know many will bring a new pair of mittens or socks so their children may participate in the presentation of gift to the manger. If you can, please bring an extra pair since there may be some children at Mass who do not know of this tradition or forgot to bring a pair of mittens or socks.

Serra Club has their raffle winners! 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$5,000 **Mary Nold**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$500 **Michael and Laura Curry-Mathews**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$250 **Julie Schiermeyer**. Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket. The funds go to promote Vocations and support our Priests, Seminarians, and Religious. Come and see what we are all about. The next meeting is **Wed., Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>**, at **Our Lady of Guadalupe Church**. Prayer begins at **6:00 PM** followed by the Speakers, **Little Sisters of the Lamb**, and will close with a short business meeting ending by **8:00 PM**.

**Rachel's Vineyard Retreats** are a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Please contact **Teresa O'Donnell** at **816-679-4973** or [rvkcmo@gmail.com](mailto:rvkcmo@gmail.com) for more information.

# Poinsettia Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who supported our poinsettia service project and sales! In addition to the 76 poinsettias that were purchased for pick up, there were 68 poinsettias donated in memory of loved ones to decorate the Cathedral this Christmas. A special thank you to Penrod's Greenhouse of Kearney, MO who helped make this project a success!

<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory Of</u>
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	David Adams
	Tom Hesselmann
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Kathy Bonnes .....	Kenneth & Margaret Bonnes
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Dennis & Ann Gronniger .....	Deceased members of Gronniger & Schieber families
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Linda Huber .....	Ernest Huber
Angela Hurst .....	James & Mary Ann Hurst
	Artie & Wally Martin



**Ladies . . .**

**Everyday life can be demanding and draining.**

**The Women's Welcome Retreat will give you a break.**

**You'll have the opportunity to connect with other women in our Catholic community, to grow in your relationship with Jesus, and to become a-better-version-of-yourself.**

**Sounds interesting?**

**You are invited to join us on the next Welcome Retreat Weekend on March 7-8, 2026, at our Cathedral of St. Joseph.**

**Ladies can go home Saturday night and return Sunday morning or stay on campus overnight and sleep in the Convent.**

**Cost: Free Will Donation.**

**For more information, questions, or to reserve your spot, email us at: [CathedralWelcome@gmail.com](mailto:CathedralWelcome@gmail.com), or contact Melanie Francis at 816-351-8870, or Catherine Partamian at 816-641-0337.**

#### **Welcome Retreat Team Members:**

**Chris Den Ouden  
Courtney Eiberger  
Melanie Francis  
Mary Menschik  
Nikki Page  
Catherine Partamian**

**Francie Rau  
Julie Schiermeyer  
Tracy Schilly  
Janet Smith  
Terri Teschner  
Jami Wells**

**We look forward to seeing you in March!**

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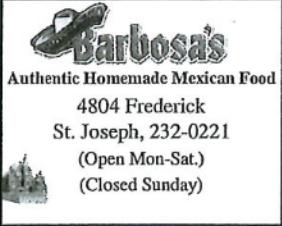
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