



Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church Parish Bulletin

December 17, 2023 | The Third Sunday of Advent

Fr. Jaime Zarse, Pastor

Our Parish Mission: *We, the faith community of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, faithful to the teachings of the magisterium, are committed to forming Disciples of Christ by embracing Stewardship through Hospitality, Prayer, Formation and Service.*

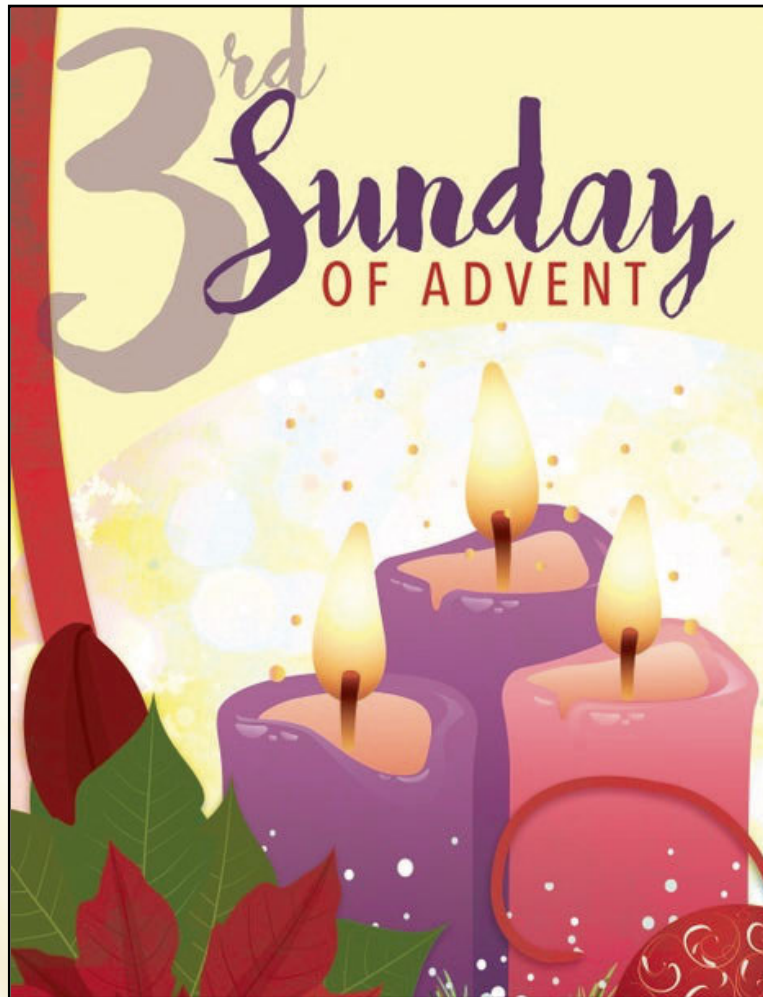
Facebook [@SacredHeart5501](https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeart5501)

www.shoj.org

Youth Ministry Instagram: [@youthshoj](https://www.instagram.com/youthshoj)

WELCOME

*We're
Glad
You're
Here*



Sacrament & Contact Information



BAPTISM

A Baptism preparation class must be completed prior to scheduling your child's baptism. Baptisms are held on Sundays after the 11 a.m. Mass. Please contact **Kathleen Whalen** at **913.422.5700** for more info and to schedule your class.



CONFIRMATION

Preparation begins in August for those students who are in the 8th grade. Please contact **Jen Zans** at **913-422-5700 ext. 247**, for more information.



RCIA (Becoming Catholic)

Our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults sessions meet weekly on Tuesday evenings beginning in mid-September. Contact **Char Mies** **913-422-5700, ext. 241** for more information.



FIRST EUCHARIST

Preparation begins in August for those students who are in 2nd grade. Please contact **Emily Dumler** at **913-422-5520 ext. 202** for more information. First Eucharist will be on Sat., April 22, 2023.



MARRIAGES

You must be a registered member of the parish for a minimum of six months. Please contact a priest at least six months prior to the anticipated wedding date to begin marriage preparation.



ANointing OF THE SICK

Celebrated the First Thursday of each month within the 6:30 and 8:15 a.m. Masses as well as upon request. Contact the parish office **913.422.5700** for details.

Hospitality

“LET MUTUAL
LOVE
CONTINUE.
DO NOT
NEGLECT
HOSPITALITY,
FOR THROUGH
IT SOME HAVE
UNKNOWNLY
ENTERTAINED
ANGELS.”

– Hebrews
13:1-2



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23

4:30 P.M.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24

4th Sunday of Advent Masses

8:00 A.M.

9:30 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

Christmas Eve Masses

4:00 P.M.

6:30 P.M.

9:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS DAY
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00 A.M.

Why are the 4th Sunday and Christmas Eve Masses on the same day? What is our obligation?

Christmas Day falls on a Monday this year. This means that a vigil Mass on Saturday, December 23 or a morning Mass on Sunday, December 24 fulfills the Fourth Sunday of Advent obligation. A vigil Mass on Sunday, December 24 or Mass on Christmas Day fulfills the Holy Day obligation for Christmas.

Dec-Jan

COMING UP:

Feed His Lambs

Friday, December 22

4th Sunday of Advent

December 23-24

Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Day Mass

Monday, December 25

Week at a Glance

| | MONDAY 12.18.23 | TUESDAY 12.19.23 | WEDNESDAY 12.20.23 |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Mass Times/ Mass Intentions | 6:30 a.m. Marvin D. Cansler † 8:15 a.m. Jimmy Wyle † | 6:30 a.m. Diane Compton † 8:15 a.m. Thomas Malott † | 6:30 a.m. Inten of Elizabeth Welch 8:15 a.m. Katelin Anderson † |
| Daily Gospel Readings | First Reading: Jer 23:5-8 Gospel: Mt 1:18-25 | First Reading: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Gospel: Lk 1:5-25 | 1 st Reading: Is 7:10-14 Gospel: Lk 1:26-38 |
| Reconciliation Times | 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. | 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. | 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. |
| Feast Days or Memorials | | | |

Prayer

Knights Rosary

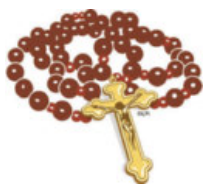
Join the Knights of Columbus at Sacred Heart, each week on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for the rosary and also the last Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m. Respect Life rosary and the fifth Sunday rosary are at Noon and in the rosary garden. All are welcome!

Prayer Requests

Do you have a special prayer request? Sacred Heart has a dedicated group of volunteer "prayer warriors" who will pray for you or your intentions. Simply send your prayer request to this email address: prayerchair@shoj.org.

Rosary Leaders Needed

Sacred Heart is bringing back the rosary before ALL Masses! What better time than Advent (starting December 2) to add this powerful prayer meditation back into our Sanctuary. To do this, we need volunteers to lead the rosary 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass. All instructions are in the sign up link. Thank you for helping us offer this prayer time to our Parish! Click here to sign up: <https://bit.ly/rosary-shoj>



Gospel Meditation

Third Sunday of Advent

Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We've never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we've never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John's Gospel we hear: "There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him." The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also a pattern at work in our lives.


John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God's promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. In my life, the Baptist's spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary, and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let's commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light.

"HAVE NO
ANXIETY AT
ALL, BUT IN
EVERYTHING,
BY PRAYER
AND
PETITION,
WITH
THANKSGIVING
MAKE YOUR
REQUEST
KNOWN
TO GOD."

Philippians

4:6



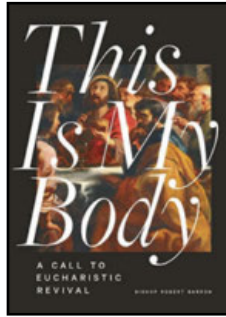
| THURSDAY 12.21.23 | FRIDAY 12.22.23 | SATURDAY 12.23.23 | SUNDAY 12.24.23 |
|---|--|--|---|
| 6:30 a.m. Trista Brownell † 8:15 a.m. Inten of Carol Green | 6:30 a.m. Mike Collins † 8:15 a.m. Harold and Lucille Jacobs †† | 8:15 a.m. Dona Harrity † 4:30 p.m. Bill Swanson † | 8 am The Holy Souls in Purgatory † 9:30 a.m. Inten of Cami Friedrichs 11:00 a.m. Sacred Heart Parishioners |
| First Reading Sg 2:8-14 Gospel: Lk 1:39-45 | First Reading: 1 Sm 1:24-28 Gospel: Lk 1:46-56 | First Reading: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Gospel: Lk 1:57-66 | 4:00 p.m. Robert & Jeanne Ozburn †† 6:30 p.m. Richard & Marjorie Burns †† 9:00 p.m. Inten of the Clevinger Family |
| | 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. | |
|  | |  |   |

Adult Formation

Book Study w/Fr. Zarse in January!

“I, THE
LORD, YOUR
GOD, TEACH
YOU WHAT
IS FOR YOUR
GOOD, AND
LEAD YOU ON
THE WAY YOU
SHOULD GO.”

– Isaiah
48:17



Fr. Zarse is gifting you this book! Pick up a copy in the Narthex before or after Mass this weekend. Please take only 1 copy per family.

Come and join Fr. Zarse in a 3-week book study where he will guide us through Bishop Robert Barron's book, "This is My Body." Fr. Zarse generously gifted this book to the parish. The book serves as a valuable resource to help us gain a deeper understanding of the sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood, especially during this time of Eucharistic Revival. Its purpose is to help us grow in our love for the Lord. Don't miss out on this opportunity!

When: Jan 25 - Feb 8, 2024 (6:30 pm - 8:00 pm)

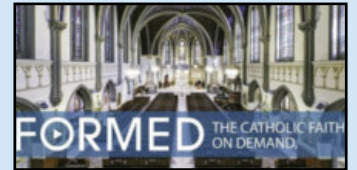
Once a week on Thursdays, 3 sessions. Scan here!



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Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained **The Sign of Peace**



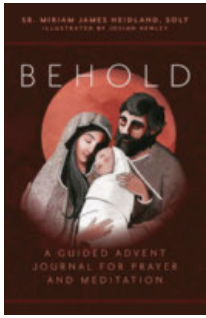
Question: Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?

Answer: The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord's Prayer.

Inspired by the Jesus' words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in heaven..." In this prayer, we call for the coming of God's kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs — "Give us, this day, our daily bread" — to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of heaven. It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God. We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion — united in love and peace — with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist. So, the next time you're at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life."

Advent Corner

Book or a Movie this Advent



BEHOLD: A Guided Advent Journal For prayer and Meditation

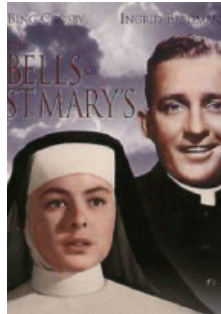
"Let the Holy Family be your light through Advent as you receive the healing power of Christ.

In this beautiful guided journal for prayer and meditation, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT—author of

the bestselling book *Restore*—will walk with you as you explore familial wounds with the help of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Free weekly companion videos, a downloadable discussion guide, and other resources make this book perfect for parish-wide, individual, and book club use leading up to Christmas.

The Bells of St. Mary's

"Father O'Malley, the unconventional priest from 'Going My Way,' continues his work for the Catholic Church. This time he is sent to St. Mary's, a run-down parochial school on the verge of condemnation. He and Sister Benedict work together in an attempt to save the school, though their differing methods often lead to good-natured disagreements."



"BLESSED ARE
THOSE WHO
HUNGER AND
THIRST FOR
RIGHTEOUS-
NESS, FOR
THEY WILL BE
SATISFIED."

– Matthew
5:6

INVITED to ADORE!

We are inviting you and your families to commit to a permanent weekly holy hour this Advent! The goal is to have a minimum of two adorers in the Adoration Chapel every hour of every day! The potential of such a spiritual practice to enrich and uplift each adorer as well as the entire Sacred Heart faith community is immeasurable! You will never regret this time spent with our LORD. Scan the code to register or visit the information desk!



Advent Dates for Couples, Week 3

Christmas Lights Walk

- Choose a night to take a stroll through a neighborhood known for its Christmas lights. Enjoy the festive decorations and the sense of community.
- As you walk, discuss the symbolism of light during Advent and its representation of the coming of Christ into the world.
- Find a quiet spot along your route to pause and pray together, expressing gratitude for the light of Christ in your lives and asking for guidance in the coming season.

<https://archkck.org/family/life/>



Sacred Heart School

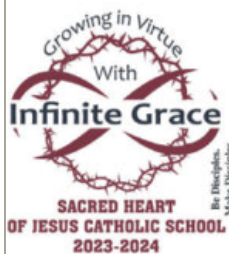
DECEMBER

VIRTUES:

SINCERITY

AND

TRUSTWORTHINESS



Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School

Community Spotlight

Deo Gratias 2023

2023-24 GROWING IN VIRTUE WITH INFINITE GRACE

"Deo Gratias": Thanks be to God. The Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas (CFNEK) is an Archdiocesan group that exists to gather financial support for parishes and organizations to carry out the mission of the Church. Sacred Heart School was blessed to be a recipient of a CFNEK grant that allowed us to host our "Thankful Thursday" event November 9th. This event celebrated the domestic church with a family meal, prayer



time, and games. Prizes for the games were religious icons to be displayed and shared in the homes of our school families as a reminder of our Catholic faith.

As a recipient of a grant, we were invited to the annual dinner. We were excited to see that Mr. and Mrs. John and Claudia Caton, in-laws of Mrs. Caton, SHOJ 4th Grade teacher, (family picture here) were the 2023 Deo Gratias distinguished family honorees.

Grateful to the Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas and the generous donors for investing in the Sacred Heart community.



First Graders Love Furry Friend, Cali

"Nothing is so strong as gentleness - nothing so loving and gentle as strength."- St. Frances DeSales

Last week, Cali (4 legs, pictured in front locking eyes with the camera) stopped by one our 1st Grade Classrooms. Cali's "dad", David Caton of KC Elite Dog Training, has taught Cali lots of tricks. Our favorite trick captured in this picture is simultaneously bringing joy and peace to the hearts of these sweet 1st grade souls.



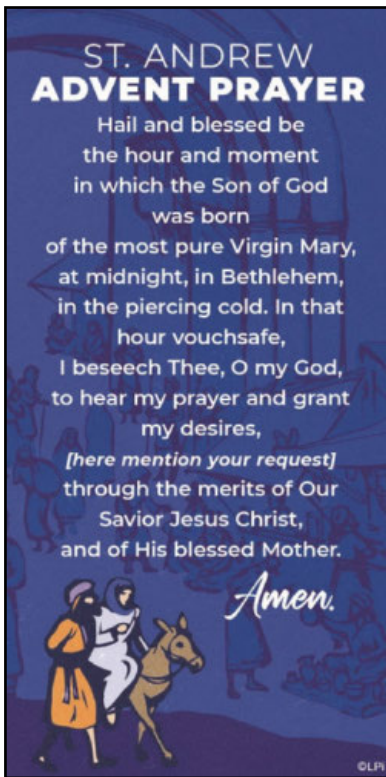
Formation

December D-A-S-H Meeting

Are you the father of young children or expecting your first child? The responsibilities of raising children and leading a family can feel overwhelming. Dads at Sacred Heart is a network of support and accountability built on friendship with young fathers that are going through similar circumstances and challenges. In an effort to help fortify and equip men to lead their domestic church, each session includes a short presentation relevant to fatherhood, small group discussion and socialization. Meetings are every 3rd Thursday of the month. Contact Kevin Friedrichs for more info: 913-333-1847.

"BLESSED ARE
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3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

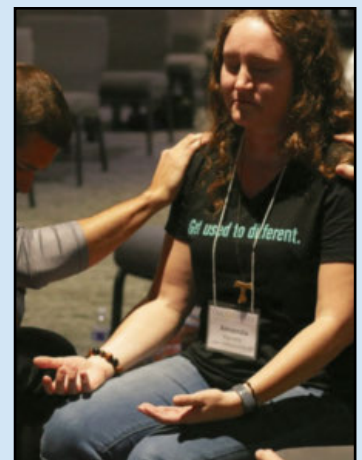


Encounter City-Wide Healing Services

Are you in need of prayer for physical healing - chronic conditions, broken bones, pain, cancer? Encounter School of Ministry is hosting two upcoming healing services. We have an expectation and faith for Jesus to work physical healing miracles on these nights. The night will consist of a time of worship, gospel presentation on healing, corporate prayer for healing, and individual prayer for healing. We encourage anyone in need of physical healing to come as well as anyone wanting to encounter manifestations of God's presence. This is an open event - no cost or registration. Jesus still heals today and desires to demonstrate the truth of the Gospel through healing.

December 22 - Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Sabetha KS from 7 pm-10 pm

January 12 - Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Overland Park KS from 7 pm-10 pm



Service

"I, THE
LORD, YOUR
GOD, TEACH
YOU WHAT
IS FOR YOUR
GOOD, AND
LEAD YOU ON
THE WAY YOU
SHOULD GO."

– Isaiah
48:17



Serve with Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas serves people of all faiths throughout the 21 counties of Northeast Kansas.

Volunteers are EXTREMELY VITAL to the success of the programs and services they offer to people in need. The best way to learn how you can serve is to send an email to: ccnekvolunteers@catholiccharitiesks.org. Opportunities are available for students, families, and individuals.

Current options available:

Food Pantries
Hope Distribution Center
TurnStyles Thrift Store
Refugee & Immigration Services
Shalom House



Ongoing Service Opportunities

2nd Tuesday of the Month

Every second Tuesday of the month, Sacred Heart helps feed the hungry through the **St. Mary's Food Kitchen**. Look for pans the weekend before (in the narthex) to cook and bring back a dish by Tuesday at 8:45 a.m. OR help serve the food that morning at 9:00 a.m. at the Willa Gill Center, 645 Nebraska Ave. KCKS. Contact Ryan and Lynsey Hammeke for further details at 913-422-8228.

4th Friday of the Month

Do you like to bake? Every 4th Friday of the month (see sign up genius for exact dates) Sacred Heart provides cookies for **Feed His Lambs** community organization which provides meals to families in need in the Bonner Springs and Edwardsville communities. To donate go to: <http://bit.ly/FeedHisLambs-SHOJ>

Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments **Testimony**

When my grandmother heard the news that my cousin had fallen from a second-story window, she immediately went and washed her hair. Grandma had been sitting alone in her house, listening to the morning radio when the announcer shared a news bulletin stating that the previous night, a little boy with the same name as her grandson, living in the same community and of the same age, had fallen onto the pavement from a window on the second floor of his house. He had been rushed to the hospital but miraculously survived his injuries. She thought she was hallucinating and wanted to look pretty when the "men in white coats" came to take her away. Thus, the hair-washing. As it happens, the whole story was true — it was her grandson, but this was before the age of mobile phones and had happened so late at night that his parents had been unable to notify any family members before the whole thing showed up on the news.

It wasn't until my grandmother received a phone call from another relative corroborating the story that she realized it hadn't been a figment of her imagination. What a waste of styled hair, no hospital committal for her that day. There are certain truths that we cannot accept unless they are supported by the testimony of others. We find them to be unbelievable without the reassurance of another person whispering, "It's okay. I see it, too." This is the value of testimony, and the purpose of John the Baptist and every saint who ever died with the name of Jesus Christ on their lips. And this is the sacred duty of all the baptized, to give testimony with our words and our actions. How will you testify today?

Eucharistic Revival

From Sister Alicia Torres, F.E.

Managing Editor of the Eucharistic Revival Newsletter



Dear Friends,

I have to be honest with you, it feels like only yesterday we were celebrating the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Fr. Tim Oudenhoven shared his

first essay on her connection to the Eucharist with our Heart of the Revival community. Now a year later, we have Fr. Tim writing monthly reflections for us and so many graces to thank Our Lady for as her motherly intercession bears so much fruit across the country for Eucharistic Revival. Don't miss Fr. Tim's new essay below!

Around 70 years ago, Our Lady also inspired a young girl from Louisiana who in every way was just an "ordinary Cajun girl." Today, that ordinary girl, Charlene Richard, is on the path to canonization because she learned to unite her sufferings to Jesus, who speaks to us through our priests at every Mass during the consecration, "This is My Body..." We, too, are called to offer our whole selves, our bodies, in loving, self-sacrificial service to one another. I hope you take time to read Colleen Schena's moving essay in our Eucharistic Witnesses series and share the printables created by Katie Bogner with the children in your life.

We are nearly two weeks into the Advent Season. I have been reflecting on Mary's openness. It is impossible to understand everything that happens in our lives—whether these are unexpected blessings or distressing sufferings. So often, in the face of uncertainty, we ask God "why?" Relying on the intercession of Our Lady, like Charlene did in her life, I am starting to shift my perspective. Instead of asking God why he allows certain things, I am turning to him and simply offering my experience, my joys and sorrows, and saying, "Be with me in this; share your peace with me in this, Jesus."

I am nowhere near perfect at this, but I can say there is a lot more peace in my life when I openly accept whatever God allows. This is only deepened each time I encounter our Savior Jesus in the Eucharist.

This Advent, let's open our hearts more fully like Mary did, asking for her intercession under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to help us draw closer to Jesus in the Eucharist as we approach the celebration of our Savior's birth on Christmas Day!



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– Matthew
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Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Staff

Priests/Deacon:

Fr. Jaime Zarse, Pastor.....ext. 204

Deacon Nicholas Moragues.....ext. 276

Main Parish Office: 913.422.5700

Parish Fax Number: 913.422.5723

Parish School: 913.422.5520

Ministry Staff:

Mindy Boor, Music Coordinator, ext. 237

Emily Dumler, Director of Religious Ed K-5, ext. 202

Megan Dusselier, Director of Preschool, ext. 256

Tara Green, Hospitality Coordinator, ext. 253

Kathy Guthrie, Liturgy Coordinator, ext. 229

Kerry O'Keefe Owens, Miss Discipleship Coord, x250

Char Mies, RCIA and Adult Retreat Coord., ext. 241

Kathy Rhodes, School Principal, ext. 206

Kathleen Whalen, Dir of Missionary Discipleship, ext. 252

Jen Zans, Youth Ministry & Confirmation Coordinator, ext. 247

Administrative Staff:

Jessica Adams, Marketing Coordinator, ext. 248

Mike Billquist, Director of Facilities, ext. 268

Julie Krause, Business Manager, ext. 205

Jennifer Peavler, Executive Assistant to Pastor & Business, ext. 225

Mike Pfitzner, Maintenance Coordinator

Parish Financials

Year-End Tax Savings: Helping YOU and Sacred Heart!

Normally, a distribution from your IRA is taxed as ordinary income, but a special IRS provision allows those who are 72 or older, to make a direct gift from your IRA to any qualifying charity, federal tax free. Your gift counts toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). You can make a gift in any amount up to \$100,000 per year to charities you support including your parish, the Archdiocese, a local Catholic school, institution or ministry, an endowment or fund at the Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas, or any 501(c)3 charity without paying federal income tax on the distribution.

This is an especially smart way to give to charities if you take the standard deduction rather than itemizing deductions, since gifts made this way can reduce your adjusted gross income (AGI). This can also reduce taxes on your Social Security benefits. Consult your tax advisor about

your unique situation.

1. To qualify the donor must be over age 72 (70½ if you reach 70½ before January 1, 2020) and required to make an IRA distribution under IRA rules. The distribution qualifies toward your annual required minimum distribution (RMD).

2. The IRA distribution must be a direct charitable gift and not a distribution to a donor-advised fund, a charitable remainder trust or for a charitable gift annuity.

3. Distributions to charity cannot exceed \$100,000 in a taxable year.

4. The distribution must be from your IRA, not a 401(k) or other retirement plan.

5. Contact your IRA custodian or representative before making a gift to arrange for the proper transfer of funds from your IRA directly to the Church and other qualified charities. The check issued from the IRA must be made payable to the charity.

6. If you have elected to have income tax withheld from your normal IRA distributions, advise your IRA administrator not to withhold taxes from distributions to charity.

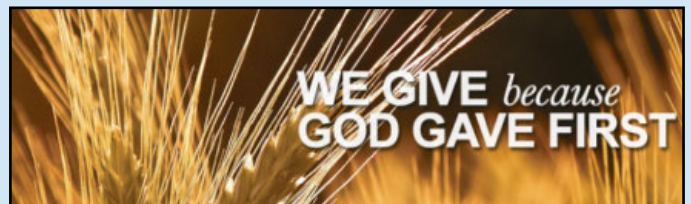
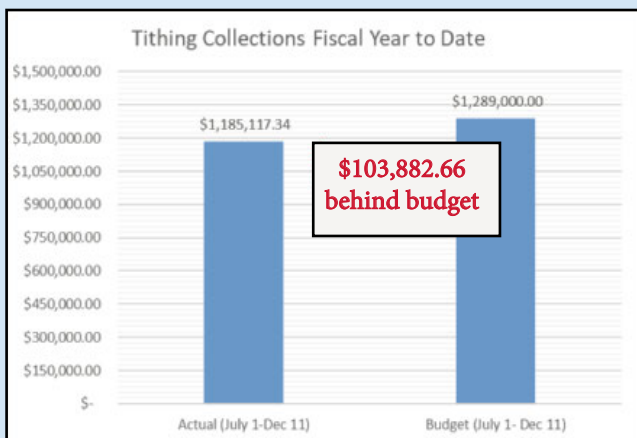
7. Consult your tax advisor for the tax reporting of the special election described above.

For more information about how you and the Church can benefit from an IRA charitable rollover, contact your financial advisor.

These helpful tips are only for your information on this change in the IRA tax law and are not to be considered as legal, tax or financial advice. You should consult with your legal, tax and financial advisors to implement the benefits of the IRA charitable rollover law and related matters.



Parish Weekly Financials



"For God so loved the world, he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." John 3:16

*Life is too precious, do
not destroy.
Life is life, fight for it.*
St Mother Teresa of Calcutta

learn.
grow.
soar.

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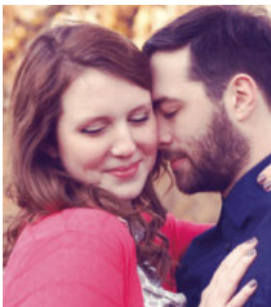
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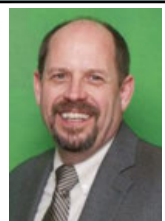
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