

St. Mary's Catholic Church

www.saintmarysparish.org | www.facebook.com/stmaryscatholicchurch | Office Phone: 816-252-0121

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm | Friday Office Closed

600 N Liberty Street | Independence, MO 64050

Mass Times

Monday: 12 noon (OF)

Tuesday: 12 noon (OF)

Wednesday: 12 noon (EF)

Thursday: 6:00 pm (EF)

Friday: 12 noon (EF)

Saturday: 5:00 pm (OF)

Sunday:

8:00 am (OF)

11:00 am (OF)

5:00 pm (EF)

OF - Ordinary Form

EF - Extraordinary Form

Confessions are 30 minutes
before every Mass



Outreach Agency

Food and Prescription
Medication Assistance

HOURS:

Wednesday &
Thursday 9:00am -
3:00pm

(816) 252-8649
(By appointment
only)

*Donations of food
may be brought to the
Ministry Center
Monday - Thursday by
12:00 noon

December 13, 2020: Third Sunday of Advent

PRAYER OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

Almighty eternal God, behold, I come to the Sacrament of your Only Begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, as one sick to the physician of life, as one unclean to the fountain of mercy, as one blind to the light of eternal brightness, as one poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth. I ask, therefore, for the abundance of your immense generosity, that you may graciously cure my sickness, wash away my defilement, give light to my blindness, enrich my poverty, clothe my nakedness, so that I may receive the bread of Angels, the King of kings and Lord of lords, with such reverence and humility, such contrition and devotion, such purity and faith, such purpose and intention as are conducive to the salvation of my soul. Grant, I pray, that I may receive not only the Sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood, but also the reality and power of that Sacrament. O most gentle God, grant that I may so receive the Body of your Only Begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ, which he took from the Virgin Mary, that I may be made worthy to be incorporated into his Mystical Body and to be counted among its members. O most loving Father, grant that I may at last gaze for ever upon the unveiled face of your beloved Son, whom I, a wayfarer, propose to receive now veiled under these species: Who lives and reigns with you for ever and ever. Amen.

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday December 12

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a;
12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19
[15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
4:30pm - Confessions
5:00pm - Mass - (Adeline &
Richard Drexler+)

Next Sunday December 13

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48,
49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes
5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
7:30am - Confessions
8:00am - Mass - (Brendan
Teevan+)
10:30am - Confessions
11:00am - Mass - (Parishioners)
4:30pm - Confessions
5:00pm - Mass - (EF) - (Julia
Hicks Family)

Monday December 14

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6
and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
11:30am - Confessions
12:00pm - (Luigi Nannani+)

Tuesday December 15

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7,
17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt
21:28-32
11:30am - Confessions
12:00pm - Mass - (Poor Souls in
Purgatory)

Wednesday December 16

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab
and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk
7:18b-23
11:30am - Confessions
12:00pm - Mass - (EF) - (Bob
Trusty+)

Thursday December 17

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab,
7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
5:30pm - Confessions
6:00pm - Mass - (EF) - (Bob
Trusty+)

Friday December 18

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19
[cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
11:30am - Confessions
12:00pm - Mass - (EF) - (Andrea
Altman & T.J. Rende)

Saturday December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a,
5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-2
4:30pm - Confessions
5:00pm - Mass - (Gene Stone+)

Next Sunday December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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
7:30am - Confessions
8:00am - Mass - (Van & Ruby
Baker+)
10:30am - Confessions
11:00am - Mass - (Nick, Rachael,
& Dom Anderson)
4:30pm - Confessions
5:00pm - Mass - (EF) -
(Parishioners)



Contact Information

Rev. Matthew Bartulica - Pastor ext 104

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Tony Douglas - Contributions, Parish
Registrations ext 101

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Angelina Gearke - Music Ministry
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Tami Routh - Secretary, Sacramental
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catherineanderson2@comcast.net

Dan Swarts - Knights of Columbus

djswarts1@gmail.com

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

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PARISHIONERS and FRIENDS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Elmer Albert, David Anderson, David Barrett, Augie Cruz, Jeffrey Derk, Brodie Gorbet, Donald Kemps, Jeffrey Klenklen, Joyce Klenklen, Harold Mitchell, Annie Moran, Ke Hun Ngo, Eric Palmer, Eric Parvin, Mark & Maryann Polina, Marie Ramirez, Anthony Rizzi, Michelle Rohaus, Harold Stewart, Betty Underwood, Frank Velasquez, Peggy Vincent

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY MEN & WOMEN:

SFC. Christopher Kinnaman - Wainwright, Fairbanks AL. (Grandson of Betty Kinnaman)
Fr. CPT. Brian Klingele - Kreech AFB & Nellis AFB, Nevada, (Nephew of Ken & Karen Klingele)
ICSN Josiah Smith -(Grandson of Mary Smith) & IC3 Christina Smith - Virginia (wife of Josiah)
Airman Tommy Romano - Ariano, Italy (Nephew of Sr. Teresita)

Altar Servers

5:00pm - A Talato, J Collins, J Rider
8:00am - M & T Holden, A Rincon, T & T Spooner
11:00am - J Combs, E&J Diamond, T Gearke, R Howe, A Talato, L Uresti
5:00pm - N Leete, N Smith, A Talato

Lectors

Fr. Bartulica will be doing the readings at this time.

Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday derives its name from the opening prayer of the Mass for this day, where we pray, "Gaudete in Domino semper" (Rejoice in the Lord Always). So in the midst of Advent fasting and devotions, we rejoice because the time we have been preparing for is almost at hand. You may see rose-colored vestments and additions to the church environment due to the special Sunday.

Gospel Reflection by Dr. Scott Hahn

The mysterious figure of John the Baptist, introduced in last week's readings, comes into sharper focus today. Who he is, we see in today's Gospel, is best understood by who he isn't.

He is not Elijah returned from the heavens (see [2 Kings 2:11](#)), although like him he dresses in the prophet's attire (see [Mark 1:6](#); [2 Kings 1:8](#)) and preaches repentance and judgment (see [1 Kings 18:21](#); [2 Chronicles 21:12-15](#)).

Not Elijah in the flesh, John is nonetheless sent in the spirit and power of Elijah to fulfill his mission (see [Luke 1:17](#); [Malachi 3:23-24](#)).

Neither is John the prophet Moses foretold, although he is a kinsman and speaks God's word (see [Deuteronomy 18:15-19](#); [John 6:14](#)). Nor is John the Messiah, though he has been anointed by the Spirit since he was in the womb (see [Luke 1:15, 44](#)).

John prepares the way for the Lord (see [Isaiah 40:3](#)). The baptism he performs is symbolic, not sacramental. It is a sign given to stir our hearts to repentance.

John shows us the One upon whom the Spirit remains (see [John 1:32](#)), the One who fulfills the promise we hear in today's First Reading (see [Luke 4:16-21](#)). Jesus' bath of rebirth and the Spirit opens a fountain that purifies Israel and gives to all a new heart and a new Spirit (see [Zechariah 13:1-3](#); [Ezekiel 36:24-27](#); [Mark 1:8](#); [Titus 3:5](#)).

John comes to us in the Advent readings to show us the light, that we might believe in the One who comes at Christmas. As we sing in today's Responsorial, the Mighty One has come to lift each of us up, to fill our hunger with bread from heaven (see [John 6:33, 49-51](#)).

And as Paul exhorts in today's Epistle, we should rejoice, give thanks, and pray without ceasing that God will make us perfectly holy in spirit, soul, and body—that we may be blameless when our Lord comes.

Readings for Third Sunday of Advent



Lectionary: 8

Reading 1

IS 61:1-2A, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God. I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

Responsorial Psalm

LK 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54.

R. (Is 61:10b) **My soul rejoices in my God.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked upon his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

R. **My soul rejoices in my God.**

the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

R. **My soul rejoices in my God.**

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

R. **My soul rejoices in my God.**

Reading 2

1 THES 5:16-24

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of
God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit.

Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything;
retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and
may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved
blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also
accomplish it.

Alleluia

IS 61:1 (cited in LK 4:18)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

JN 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,'" as Isaiah the prophet said." Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

This happened in Bethany across the Jordan,
where John was baptizing.

Alma Redemptoris Mater

**Alma Redemptoris Mater, quae pervia caeli
Porta manes, et stella maris, succurre,
cadenti,
Surgere qui curat, populo: tu quae genuisti,
Natura mirante, tuum sanctum Genitorem
Virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore
Sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere.**

Weekly Contribution Income Annual Contribution Income

December 6

Envelopes: \$ 3943.00	December Actual: \$ 4513.00
Plate: \$ 97.00	December Budget: \$
Online: \$ 473.00	
Total Contributions: \$ 4513.00	Year-to-Date Actual: \$ 100,020.00
	Year-to-Date Budget: \$

(Fiscal Year is July 1 through June 30)

Don't carry cash or checks? Contact Father to set up tithing through automatic direct deposit, or sign up for one-time or recurring donations on our website at the Online Giving tab at the top of the page.

A Gift to St. Mary's Church for Christmas

Please consider a gift to the parish for Christmas this year. Use the purple envelopes in the baskets for your monetary gift and place them in the collection baskets at Mass. Your generosity to your parish is appreciated and keeps on giving to the whole community. If you have any questions, call the Ministry Center at 252-0121

THANK YOU for your continued support of St. Mary's. There are baskets in the vestibules for your contributions or you may send it via the church website under the **Online Giving** tab.

Come and help decorate the church for Christmas on Tuesday, December 22nd!

We'll start at 9am and go until finished, dividing up into different areas of the church so that everything runs smoothly.



Please consider helping us out for a few hours in making our church beautiful for the birth of Our Lord.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 24th
4:00pm Vigil Mass and 12 Midnight Latin Mass

Friday, December 25th
10:00am Christmas Morning Mass

Congregational and choral singing of carols 30 minutes before all Christmas Masses

Please remember to send in your Christmas Flower Memorials and Honorariums so they can be included in the bulletin on December 20th.

Please consider supporting the **Benedictines of Mary,**



Queen of Apostles in Gower, MO with their award-winning Music CD's. They offer beautiful Advent & Christmas music.

Advent at Ephesus \$15

Caroling at Ephesus \$15

Christmas at Ephesus \$15

Orders can be placed on-line at:

benedictinesofmary.org

or

mailed to:

Abbey of Our Lady of Ephesus
Po box 303, Gower, MO 64454

BULLETIN DEADLINE CHANGES FOR THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS:

December 20 bulletin deadline -

Friday, December 11, @noon
AND

December 27 bulletin deadline -

Thursday, December 17 @noon