Saint Sabina Catholic Church

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Office Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm, Monday - Thursday and 9:00am-1:00pm, Friday

75 SAINT SABINA
1944-2019
Remember, Renew, Rejoice...

Amanda, Lillie, Raelee, Josie and Maezie at Breakfast with Santa on December 8! More pictures on page 8.

Mass Times

Saturday: 4:00pm in English

Sunday: 8:00am and 10:30am in English, 12:30pm in Spanish

Confessions: Saturdays 3:00-3:30pm

Visit our website for Holy Day and special Mass times.

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Parish Staff/Mass Intentions

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Joe Crayon, Diocesan Ombudsman	816-812-2500	crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org

Wellness Center/Centro de Bienestar

Wendy Mora Cedillo	816-979-3090
Jeannine Midgett	816-979-3093
Patricia Moreno	816-979-3092

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Mass Intentions for the Week

Intentions for December 23-27, 2019

Mon.	8am	Communion Service
Tues.	4pm	†Bob and Shirley Sullivan
Wed.	10am	†Millie Billesbach
	12:30pm	†Alejandro Chavez
Thurs.		No Mass or Communion Service
Fri.		No Mass or Communion Service

Saturday, December 28, 2019

4:00pm	†Jean Rehm Coomer
	Intentions of Our Parish Family

Sunday, December 29, 2019

8:00am	Intentions of Our Parish Family
10:30am	†Nancy Christian
12:30pm Spanish	†Refugio Molina
	†Alfredo Carrasco

From Death to New Life
De la Muerte a la Nueva Vida

†Jerrie Holden, wife of John Holden

†George Bremer, husband of Maxine Bremer, father of Brenda Bremer

Calendar/Information

Sunday, December 22 - Domingo, 22 de Diciembre

11:00am Ensayo del Coro Hispano

1:30pm Las Posadas

Monday, December 23 - Lunes, 23 de Diciembre

10:00am Uplift Cooks

4:00pm Uplift Delivery

Tuesday, December 24 - Martes, 24 de Diciembre

Office Closed/Oficina Cerrada

4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Wednesday, December 25 - Miércoles, 25 de Diciembre

Office Closed/Oficina Cerrada

10:00am Christmas Mass

12:30pm Misa Navideña

Thursday, December 26 - Jueves, 26 de Diciembre

No Scheduled Events

Friday, December 27 - Viernes, 27 de Diciembre

No Scheduled Events

Saturday, December 28 - Sábado, 28 de Diciembre

Christmas Light Recycle/Reciclaje de Luces Navideñas

9:00am Altar Society Church Cleaning

3:00pm Confessions

3:30pm Knights Family Rosary

Sunday, December 22 - Domingo, 22 de Diciembre

Christmas Light Recycle/Reciclaje de Luces Navideñas

7:30am Knights Family Rosary

10:00am Knights Family Rosary

11:00am Ensayo del Coro Hispano

Journey to Bethany Diocesan Healing Program

Our Diocesan Vision, One Family: Restored in Christ – Equipped for Mission, identifies the need for healing and restoration. Bishop Johnston, in collaboration with lay faithful, has established Journey to Bethany, a program designed to address a variety of wounds and broaden awareness of healing resources within our diocese. This program will initially focus on those harmed by clergy sexual abuse. An email survey, titled "Bishop Johnston's Healing Our Family Survey" will soon to be sent to randomly selected parishioners throughout the diocese. Your responses will help identify the manner by which we can assist all of those impacted by clergy sexual abuse. Those who do not receive the email survey will have opportunities to attend presentations to hear results and provide additional input. Thank you for your participation, support and prayers!

From Catholic Charities—Christmas

Catholic Charities of KCSJ would like to wish many blessings of the season on all the parishioners, families and friends of the diocese. It is through your generosity that we're able to meet the needs of so many throughout the year. May this season be filled with joy, love, peace and family.

Holiday Mass Times

Christmas Mass times:
4:00 PM Tuesday, Dec 24 with music and readings prior to Mass beginning at 3:15 PM
10:00 AM Wednesday, Dec 25 with prelude music beginning at 9:40 AM
12:30 PM Wednesday, Dec 25 (Spanish language)

Mass Times for Mary, the Holy Mother of God (holy day of obligation):
4:00 PM Tuesday, Dec 31
10:00 AM Wednesday, Jan 1, 2020

Parish Mission with Fr. Dick Gielow

Save the Dates!

March 7-11, 2020

Information

This Week's Do You Know Video:

In the early church, Christmas was not officially celebrated till the time of Constantine, roughly around the years 325-350. The Romans celebrated a week long festival called Saturnalia in honor of Saturn and the return of the sun and fertility, culminating on Dec 25. The Christian community simply baptized the festival and dedicated it to the coming of God in the person of Jesus, choosing Dec 25 to celebrate Jesus' birth. A period of time was set aside to joyfully prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birth, which would soon become known as Advent. From Dec 17 to Dec 23, the Christian community, using messianic titles from the Old Testament, daily called upon God to come and be with us. Known as the "O Antiphons," these short prayers are still used today on the week before Christmas to invite the Lord to come and be with us always. Make time to view this week's DYK video and learn more about the "O Antiphons" so that you too can use these brief prayers to welcome the Lord to be with you always.

Youth Basketball Tournament

Over the holiday break, it is difficult for CYO and Parochial League teams to practice and play to improve before starting back up their season. The 12th Annual Best of KC Catholic Youth Basketball Tournament is a perfect opportunity for your team to play in some fun, competitive games and improve as well.

- When: December 30, 2019 and January 1, 2020
- Who: Boys and Girls 3rd-8th Grade Teams. Teams of all levels are encouraged to play.
- Where: Avila University, Sion High School, Rockhurst High School, St. Thomas More
- Cost: $150 per team (Registration Deadline is December 17th at Noon)
- Info: http://catholicyouthbasketball.com/
- Questions: Tournament Director Jim Huber at (816) 728-2341 / jim@coachhuber.com

happy birthday

Emma Beaver
Blake Biondo
Chris Campbell
Maria Carpio
Daniel Cartagena
Dani Castillo
Juan Castillo
Yahir Chavez
Aaron Coronado
Cassandra Daldrup
Salvador Duarte Perez
Dustan Dvergsten
Dylan Eppert
James Evans
Javier Franco
Leslie Garcia
Kelsie Giacone
Ann Gomez
Eduardo Guzman
Isabelle Haberstroh
Molly Hafkesbring
Blake Hamilton
David Heide
Axel Hernandez
Lucia Hernandez Beltran
Mannie Herrera
Brisneida Hinojos
Diane Hirt
Leonar Huerta
Vanessa Jaimes
Lillian Jakobe
Letty Keesoon
Jesus Landa
Bridget Lowther
Joshua Mackall
Rachel Martinez
Iveth Martinez
Axel Martinez
Dora Martinez
Brennen McDowell
Mike McDowell
Juan Medina
Maribel Mendoza
Raymond Miederhoff
Robert Miller
Harold Mitts
Edgar Nunez
Dennis O'Reilly
Mitchell O'Reilly
Blair Parker
Clifford Parsley
Belinda Peters
Dianne Porter
Ray Quinones
Josephine Rangel
Marcela Rivera
Benito Rodriguez
Efren Rodriguez
Ken Samson
Victoria Sanchez
Sally Sargent
George Scott
Lois Simpson
Stanley Smith
Mark Storm
Virginia Valenzuela
Marie Van Brunt
Maribel Villa
Amanda Votava
Judith Wantz
Theo Wilson

Happy Anniversary

Richard and Doris Deschenes	67 Years!	12/27/1952
Jack and Julia Davis	54 Years!	12/24/1965
Joe and Susan Lager	54 Years!	12/29/1965
Jeffrey and Sandy Spiller	50 Years!	12/29/1969
Mike and Kris Larkey	32 Years!	12/27/1987
Arturo and Rosa Borja	30 Years!	12/29/1989
Alfredo and Elvia Torres	29 Years!	12/23/1990
Andres and Maria Orozco	28 Years!	12/27/1991
Angel and Maria Rocha	22 Years!	12/26/1997
Jose Castillo and Reina Razo	20 Years!	12/23/1999
Juan and Ampara Aguilera	19 Years!	12/29/2000
Aaron and Karla Coronado	16 Years!	12/27/2003
Tom and Susan Rolli	14 Years!	12/26/2005
José Hernandez and Julia Barrera	7 Years!	12/26/2012

Calling all Marriage Encounter Couples…

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is offering an afternoon of enrichment, for any couple that has experienced a Marriage Encounter Weekend, on Saturday, January 18, 2020 from 1:00 - 4:15pm at the Precious Blood Center, 2130 Saint Gaspar Way, Liberty, Missouri. Entitled "Lighting the Way Together - Castles to Lighthouses", the afternoon will reinvigorate your communication and rekindle the love in your relationship. Mass will be celebrated at 4:30pm with a free willing offering to defray the program costs. For more information or to RSVP, email Rich & Wendy Lorenz at wendyteach3@yahoo.com by January 10th.

Pastoral Care

Nursing Home Mass Schedule

Dec 25	Christmas Masses at St. Sabina	
Jan 1	10:00am	Holy Day Mass at St. Sabina
Jan 8	10:30am	Benton House

Bulletin Prayer Request List

Parishioners who are ill, or who have a loved one who is ill, may request to have the person remembered on the bulletin Prayer Request list. Names will remain on the list for two months but may be resubmitted upon request. Please remember permission must be given by the individual before the name can be published. To add or remove a name from the list, contact Marta Roper in the parish office at 816-979-3154 or by email at marta@stsabinaparish.org.

Grieving a Loss Through the Holidays

- Allow yourself to feel your emotions on that special day; don't feel that you need to just "get over it." You may want to write your feelings down.
- Take time with family and friends and share memories of your loved one that died.
- Light a candle in honor of your deceased loved one. Set a picture out and tell stories of his or her life.
- Don't avoid long-standing traditions. Children often find comfort in them. On the other hand, new traditions say you are still a family.
- Be open to good experiences that the holidays may bring.
- Let yourself feel joy; it is not betraying your loved one.

Prayer Requests/Peticiones de Oración

Anna Anderson
Dennis Berg
Jean Berg
John Bidondo
Mary Pat Biondo
Betty Bremenkamp
Maxine Bremer
Sheila Brown
Joyce Callahan
Marge Campbell
John Cikan
Joseph Coots
Toby Coyle
Barry Dougherty
Irene Down
Paula Dull
Terry Eppert
Pat Ford
Jean Frank
Bettianne Gardiner
Butch Geer
Judy Giannini
Rita Ann Hand
Cherie Hatfield
Martha Healy
Beth Heide
Rhonda Henke
Alex Henningsen
Morgan Hilliard
Richard Hoedl
Gale Holsman
John Jongenelen
Don Kueck
Emmy Long
Kristy McClain
Ray Malisos
Laurie Marmon
Bienvenido Martinez
Janet Moorman
Mike Nichols
Bogumila Oczko
Mark Parson
George Panebianco
Monica Peek
Diane Quinn
Larry Rhodes
Agustin Rivera
Michelle Rose
Anna Ryan
Ron Schock
Doris Shields
Jaxton Shipley
Lois Simpson
Don Standley
Rachael Casady Smith
Cleo Srader
Wally Srader
Marie Stinger
Lois Stogsdill
Rita Stout
Jean Tate
Joe Taylor
Priscilla Tristani
Tierney VanMeter
Margaret Vargo
Senny Vigil
Richard Vogel
Mary Westfall
William Jordan Family
Merle Woolworth
Carmitia Yust

Deaf Interpreted Sunday Mass

DEC 29 at St Joseph the Worker Parish, Independence, at 9:30am

Wellness Center

firsthand
HEALTHE COMMUNITIES

And
Suddenly
there was
with the Angel
a multitude of
the heavenly host
praising God and saying
Glory to God
In the highest, and on earth
Peace, goodwill towards men

Luke 2
13-14

Wishing You Joy and Peace
Paty, Wendy, Jeannine and Olivia

Stewardship

Consider a Christmas Gift for the Parish

As you're planning your gift list this Christmas, why not consider one that will continue giving forever? Make a planned gift to our parish, either an outright gift now or a gift from your estate in the future. For more information, contact Kris with questions. Or, contact Laura Gray at gray@diocesekcsj.org, 816-714-2363.

Christmas Shopping & AmazonSmile Donations

Did you know that we are eligible to receive donations based on your Amazon purchases? Last quarter, we received donations based off of over $3000 of your purchases! Please remember this while doing your Christmas shopping! To support us in this way, be sure to do your Amazon shopping through smile.amazon.com and select "St. Sabina Catholic Church, Belton" as your charity of choice.

Contributions for December 15

Due to early bulletin deadlines, the December 15 contributions will be listed in our December 29 bulletin.

Love Thy Neighbor Team

Would you be interested in helping meet the needs of our parish community and the greater community? The Love Thy Neighbor team at St Sabina meets regularly to plan and facilitate events that support our community, like our annual diaper drive. We also act as a care team, seeking to assist with the needs of our parish community. We'd love to have you be a part of our team! If you are interested, or have any questions, please contact Bridget Hernandez in the church office.

Green Team Tip of the Week

Several MO and KS locations are collecting toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, floss containers, deodorant, mouthwash bottles, razors and razor blades for recycling until February 28, 2020. Learn more https://www.theresilientactivist.org/recycle-your-dental-and-shaving-products-waste/.

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home."

Matthew 1: 22-24

As our Advent preparations draw to a close and Christmas fast approaches, it is fitting that today's readings demonstrate the intensity of the Father's perfect and passionate love for each of us, culminating in the gift of His own Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas Day. In response to such an overwhelming gift, what can we do except offer our lives as gift in return, embracing a stewardship way of life with all the love and strength we have to give? In our Gospel passage from Matthew, we find an unparalleled example of one who embraced this way of life in St. Joseph, as he obeys God's call to him through the message of an angel. Let us imitate St. Joseph, then, as good stewards, giving our very lives to those around us in love and gratitude to God, who has given us everything we have, especially His own Son, Jesus Christ. — See more at www.catholicsteward.com/blog/.

Poinsettias in Memory/Honor of our Loved Ones

Poinsettias have been placed in the sanctuary in memory of the following: Irena Oczko, Edward and Halina Pawlus, Robert and Stefania Papez, John C. Mayabb, L. James Wolfe, Dorothy, Rita, Annie, Joyce, Carl Parrott, Ralph and Ruth Richardson, Theo Suwito, Felix Suwito, Frank P Henke, Joan Biondo, Dolores Biondo, Fran Birkner, Wm. P. Birkner, Phil Moore, Walter Zmuda, George Pierce, Robert Meiron, Barbara Pierce, Casey Pointer, Albert and Loritta Verhulst, Darrell Littler, Francis Storm, Albert Storm, Judy Kemper, Joe and Dodie Maurer, Jack Shatford, Marjorie and Le Witulski, Paul E. Hughes II, Ko and Chieko Hongo, Rita H Miller, Justin Chrane, Robert Humphrey, Logan Cannon, Vernon Cook, Joseph Falco Sr., Ursula Buell, Keith Buell, Veronica Yust, Raymond Yust, Buttercup, Joe and Gloria McLaughlin, Marie Potyandy, William Firner, John Healy, Maurine, Pat Rose, Jean Wasleski, and the souls in Purgatory.

Poinsettias have also been placed in the sanctuary in honor of the following: Al and Kathleen Gebauer and The Anthony Family.

Stewardship/Parish Happenings

Online Giving

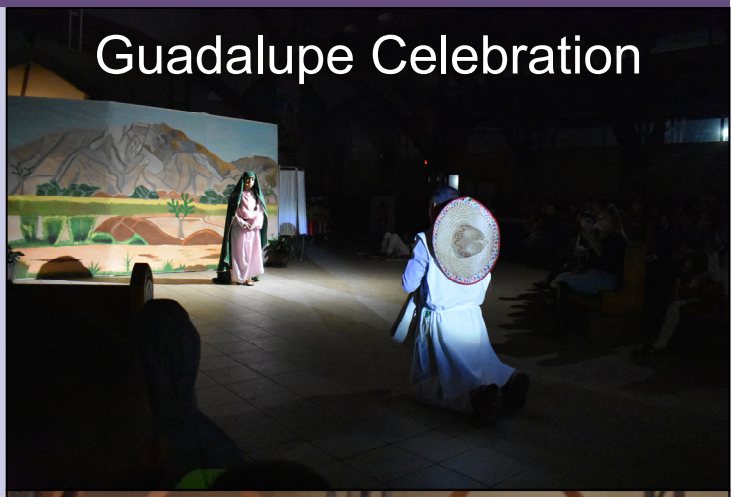
St. Sabina offers an online giving option for parishioners and visitors. This is an easy, safe and secure way to make contributions online. To set up a one-time or recurring contribution: go to our parish website at www.stsabinaparish.org, click the "Online Giving" button in the top right section and fill out the online contribution form.

Retirement Fund for Religious - Dec 22

Our second collection today is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders.

News from Manos Amigas

As we prepare for Christmas this Advent please remember our neighbors in Anapra. Winter is a hard and expensive time of year in Anapra. It is cold and sometimes snows. Homes are made of cinder blocks with cement or dirt floors. There is no insulation and people heat their homes with propane, electric space heaters or burn scrap wood. Heating expenses cut into the food budget which leaves very little for a Christmas celebration. Manos Amigas provides a food basket to 70 families and elderly people for Christmas. The food basket includes items for the family to make tamales, a traditional Christmas meal. It also includes staples such as cereal, pasta, milk, soap and toilet paper. For $55 you can provide a food basket and a brighter Christmas for a family in Anapra. You can donate online at manosamigas.org or designate Manos Amigas on the St Sabina website. You can also send checks to Manos Amigas, 700 Trevis Ave, Belton, MO, 64012. Please follow us on facebook to see pictures of families that receive food baskets on December 21 and elderly on December 23. Thank you for your continued support of the Manos Amigas mission!



Parish Information/Youth Ministry

PSR News

First Reconciliation will be Tuesday, January 21st at 7pm. Parents are asked to accompany their children to this service and arrive 10 minutes early to check in with their teachers in the gathering space.

Youth News

Junior High Youth! Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 8 at 7pm.

Confirmation Candidates! Our next Sponsor Night will be January 15 from 7-8:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Confirmation Search Retreat! All youth in the Confirmation program are required to attend this retreat on February 14th through the 16th. Details will be sent directly to your home and will include your permission slip, packing list and information for your parents.

Search Team Meetings! All Peer Ministers and Adult Chaperones for this retreat are required to attend the meetings before the retreat on each Sunday of January from 3-5pm as well as February 2nd and 9th, 3-5pm. If any returning Peer Ministers would like to join the Team for Search this year, please contact Kirstie Roberts immediately.

Child Safety

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

All volunteers with youth and children must attend one Protecting God's Children workshop, submit to a background check and sign the policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry, (EIM). More info at https://kcsjcatholic.org/the-office-of-child-and-youth-protection/

The Little Ones Jim Burrows

Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which translated means, "God with us." Mt 1:23

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Scripture from the New American Standard Bible ® (NASB), © by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. www.Lockman.org

Reflection on the Readings

We have arrived at the Fourth Sunday of Advent. All four candles on our Advent wreath are lit. The fullness of Advent light is now complete. We wait to celebrate the presence of the Lord in our midst. **We can finally proclaim with Responsorial Psalm 24, "Let the Lord enter. He is the king of glory." Psalm 24 affirms that our God is the creator of all things, the one who continually brings order and life out of chaos and death**. Indeed, God is the king of glory. It is this God that we invite into our lives and world.

How have you prepared a place for the Lord to enter during this Advent season? Throughout these days of Advent, we have been encouraged to make room for God in our lives. **The Advent Sunday readings have given various directives that would allow us to make real the presence of the Lord, by encouraging us to act in the manner that the Lord modeled for us**. How have you brought order and life out of the chaos and darkness of your life, your family, your community, your world?

Most of the directives from the Advent Sunday readings have led us to this Sunday and the upcoming celebration of Christmas. **In today's readings, the coming of Jesus is heralded by two names: the name "Jesus", and the name "Emmanuel". Both Isaiah and Matthew play on the name Emmanuel, meaning "God with us."**

Isaiah, while admonishing and counseling king Ahaz to trust in the Lord, speaks of a sign from God about a virgin or young woman who is soon to have a son who will be named Emmanuel. **While Isaiah is speaking about events that are to take place in his own lifetime, Christians have applied this passage to the coming of Jesus**. In today's gospel reading, Matthew understands this passage from Isaiah to be fulfilled in the annunciation and birth of Jesus to Mary.

Matthew is unique in having the annunciation of Jesus' birth occur to Joseph and not Mary. The angel tells Joseph that he is to name his son Jesus, meaning "God saves." Since

biblical names typically indicate identity and vocation, both the Emmanuel title and the name Jesus tell us who Jesus is and what is required of his disciples if they are to make God's presence a living reality. **Jesus, "God saves" and Emmanuel, "God with us" highlight both Jesus' mission and ours.**

Christians should always be aware that our God is a God who has a universal will and desire to save all people. The documents of the Second Vatican Council clearly and strongly affirm this fact. God became human in the person of Jesus to show us the path to salvation by modeling what being human is about. **Being human involves care and concern for all without distinctions or boundaries**. Jesus' coming elevates humanity, and all of creation, to a dignity and worth beyond measure. **As Jesus followers, we are to care for each human person, and for all creation, the way we would care for Christ.**

God, in the person of Jesus, is also our Emmanuel. Jesus came to be with us and has promised to be with us till the end of time. **Each time we choose to act like him, we make him present once more, in our lives and in the lives of all we touch**. Often, the only way others will know of Christ's faithful presence among us is in the way we show love for one another. **If we act with love and justice, we can be certain that we have made Jesus, our Emmanuel, present once more in the ordinary and everyday events of life.**

As we close the season of Advent and enter the Christmas season, how will you make Christ present as you invite the Lord to enter fully into your life and the life of the world?

Biagio Mazza
Pastoral Associate

Readings

Sunday, December 22
1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14
Psalm: Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)
2nd Reading: Romans 1:1-7
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

Sunday, December 29
1st Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Psalm: Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (1)
2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-21
Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

Bible Study

Catholics are mostly exposed to the Bible through the Sunday Lectionary Readings. In order to help us all enter into the Bible through the Sunday readings, we offer study sessions that provide an opportunity to read, to study background to the readings, and to reflect on how to apply the readings to our lives. **Our next Bible Study dates are Sundays, January 12 and 26 at 10:30am in the conference room.** All are welcome; bring a Bible. To register, call Biagio at 816-979-3153.

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Reflexión Sobre las Lecturas

Hemos llegado al cuarto domingo de Adviento. Las cuatro velas en nuestra corona de Adviento están encendidas. La plenitud de la luz del Adviento ya está completa. Esperamos celebrar la presencia del Señor entre nosotros. **Finalmente podemos proclamar con el Salmo Responsorial 23, "Va a entrar el Señor: Él es el rey de la Gloria." El Salmo 23 afirma que nuestro Dios es el creador de todas las cosas, el que continuamente saca el orden y la vida del caos y la muerte**. De hecho, Dios es el rey de la gloria. Es este Dios el que invitamos a nuestras vidas y al mundo.

¿Cómo ha preparado un lugar para que el Señor entre durante esta temporada de Adviento? A lo largo de estas cuatro semanas de Adviento, hemos sido animados a hacer espacio para Dios en nuestras vidas. **Las lecturas de los domingos del Adviento han dado varias directrices que nos permitirían hacer real la presencia del Señor, animándonos a actuar de la manera que el Señor modeló para nosotros**. ¿Cómo ha sacado el orden y la vida del caos y la oscuridad de su vida, su familia, su comunidad, su mundo?

La mayoría de las directrices de las lecturas de los domingos del Adviento nos han llevado a este domingo y a la próxima celebración de Navidad. **En las lecturas de hoy, la venida de Jesús es heraldo por dos nombres: el nombre "Jesús", y el nombre "Emmanuel". Tanto Isaías como Mateo juegan con el nombre Emmanuel, que significa "Dios con nosotros".**

Isaías, mientras amonesta y aconseja al rey Ajaz a confiar en el Señor, habla de una señal de Dios acerca de una virgen o joven que pronto tendrá un hijo que será nombrado Emmanuel. **Aunque Isaías está hablando de eventos que pasarán en su propia vida, los cristianos han aplicado este pasaje a la venida de Jesús.** En la lectura del evangelio de hoy, Mateo entiende este pasaje de Isaías para ser cumplido en la anunciación y el nacimiento de Jesús a María.

Mateo es único en tener la anunciación del nacimiento de Jesús a José y no a María. El ángel le dice a José que debe nombrar a su hijo Jesús, que significa "Dios salva". Como **los nombres bíblicos típicamente indican identidad y vocación**, tanto el título de Emmanuel como el nombre Jesús nos dicen quién es Jesús y qué se requiere de sus discípulos si quieren hacer la presencia de Dios una realidad viva. **Jesús, "Dios salva" y Emmanuel, "Dios con nosotros" destacan tanto la misión de Jesús como la nuestra.**

Los cristianos deben ser siempre conscientes de que nuestro Dios es un Dios que tiene una voluntad universal y el deseo de salvar a todas las personas. Los documentos del Concilio Vaticano II afirman claramente y firmemente este hecho. Dios se hizo humano en la persona de Jesús para mostrarnos el camino a la salvación modelando lo que es ser humano. **Ser humano implica el cuidado y la preocupación por todos sin distinciones ni fronteras**. La venida de Jesús eleva la humanidad, y toda la creación, a una dignidad y valor inconmensurable. **Como seguidores de Jesús, debemos cuidar a cada persona humana, y a toda la creación, de la manera en que cuidaríamos a Cristo.**

Dios, en la persona de Jesús, es también nuestro Emmanuel. Jesús vino a estar con nosotros y ha prometido estar con nosotros hasta el fin de los tiempos. **Cada vez que elegimos actuar como él, lo hacemos presente una vez más, en nuestras vidas y en las vidas de todos los que tocamos**. A menudo, la única forma en que otros sabrán de la fiel presencia de Cristo entre nosotros es en la manera en que demos amor mutuo. **Si actuamos con amor y justicia, podemos estar seguros de que hemos hecho que Jesús, nuestro Emmanuel, vuelva a estar presente en los acontecimientos ordinarios y cotidianos de la vida.**

Al cerrar la temporada de Adviento y entrar en la temporada navideña, ¿cómo hará presente a Cristo al invitar al Señor a entrar plenamente en su vida y en la vida del mundo?

Biagio Mazza
Asociado Pastoral

Lecturas

Lecturas del Domingo, 22 de Diciembre
Primera Lectura: Isaías 7:10-14
Salmo: Salmo 23:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6
Segunda Lectura: Romanos 1:1-7
Evangelio: Mateo 1:18-24

Lecturas del Domingo, 29 de Diciembre
Primera Lectura: Eclesiástico3:2-6, 12-14
Salmo: Salmo 104:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9
Segunda Lectura: Colosenses 3:12-21
Evangelio: Mateo 2:13-15, 19-23

Ministerio Juvenil/Información

Noticias de la Escuela de Religión

La primera reconciliación será el martes 21 de enero a las 7pm. Se les pide a los padres que acompañen a sus hijos a este servicio y que lleguen 10 minutos antes para registrarse con sus maestros en el espacio de reunión.

Noticias de los Jóvenes

¡Jóvenes de la Middle School! Nuestra próxima reunión será el 8 de enero a las 7pm.

¡Candidatos de la Confirmación! Nuestra próxima Noche de Padrinos será el 15 de enero de 7 a 8:30 pm en el Salón Parroquial.

¡Retiro de Confirmación Search! Todos los jóvenes en el programa de Confirmación deben asistir a este retiro del 14 al 16 de febrero. Los detalles serán enviados directamente a su hogar e incluirán su hoja de permiso, lista de empaque e información para sus padres.

¡Reuniones del Equipo Search! Se requiere que todos los Ministros jóvenes y Chaperones adultos de este retiro asistan a las reuniones antes del retiro cada domingo de enero de 3 a 5 p.m., así como los días 2 y 9 de febrero de 3 a 5 p.m. Si alguno de los Ministros jóvenes del año pasado quisiera unirse al Equipo Search este año, comuníquese con Kirstie Roberts de inmediato.

Seguridad Infantil

La Diócesis de Kansas City-St. Joseph esta comprometida a luchar contra el abuso sexual en la Iglesia. Si usted es victima de abuso sexual, o si usted *observa o sospecha* de abuso sexual, por favor:

1) **Llame a línea directa de Abuso Infantil en Missouri al 1.800.392.3738 (si la victima tiene menos de 18 años de edad), y**
2) **Póngase en contacto con su departamento de policía local o llame al 911, y**
3) **Después de informarle a las autoridades de la orden civil y de leyes, reporte el *abuso sexual del menor o del adulto vulnerable* a Joe Crayon, Defensor del Pueblo Diocesano al 816.812.2500 o crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org si el abuso implica a un sacerdote, diacono, empleado o voluntario de la Diócesis de Kansas City-St. Joseph.**

La Diócesis tiene un sincero compromiso con los recursos del cuidado y la curación para las victimas de abuso sexual y a sus familias. Por favor póngase en contacto con la Defensora de Victimas, Kathleen Chastain al 816.392.0011 o chastain@diocesekcsj.org para mas información.

Todas las personas que son voluntarios con los jóvenes ó niños de nuestra parroquia deben atender a un taller llamado Protegiendo a los Niños de Dios, también necesitaran someterse a una verificación de antecedentes y deberán firmar la póliza sobre Éticas e Integridad en el Ministerio (EIM). Más información en https://kcsjcatholic.org/the-office-of-child-and-youth-protection/

Corresponsabilidad/Información

Compras Navideñas y Donaciones de AmazonSmile

¿Sabía que somos elegibles para recibir donaciones basadas en sus compras en Amazon? ¡El último trimestre, recibimos donaciones basadas en más de $3000 de sus compras! ¡Recuerde esto mientras hace sus compras navideñas! Para apoyarnos de esta manera, asegúrese de hacer sus compras en Amazon a través de smile.amazon.com y seleccione "St. Sabina Catholic Church, Belton" como su organización benéfica preferida.

Platicas Pre-Bautismales - 11 de Enero

Normalmente cada segundo Sábado del mes de las 10 am a la 1 pm. (Sólo para niños de 0-6 años.) Salón doble del área de la escuela. Para niños mayores de 7 años requerirán una formación especial.

PRÓXIMOS BAUTISMOS: llamar a Kris al 816-979-3151. Favor de llenar su aplicación para asistir a las platicas con anterioridad. **No se ofrece cuidado de niños.**

Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos - 22 de Dic

Nuestra segunda colecta está asignada al Fondo para la Jubilación de Religiosos. Muchos miembros mayores en comunidades de religiosas, religiosos y sacerdotes de órdenes católicas sirvieron con poco o ningún pago. Hoy día, esas comunidades a menudo carecen de ahorros suficientes para cubrir las necesidades de su jubilación. Su donativo ayuda a proporcionar fondos vitales para medicamentos, enfermeros y más, para cientos de miles de religiosos ancianos. También ayuda a asegurar que los miembros más jóvenes puedan continuar el buen trabajo que iniciaron sus mayores.

Considere un Regalo de Navidad para la Parroquia

Mientras planea su lista de regalos esta Navidad, ¿por qué no considerar una que continuará dando para siempre? Haga un regalo planeado a nuestra parroquia, ya sea un regalo directo ahora o un regalo de su patrimonio en el futuro. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Kris si tiene preguntas.

En Nuestro Video ¿Sabes…? de Esta Semana:

En la iglesia primitiva, la Navidad no se celebraba oficialmente hasta la época de Constantino aproximadamente en los años 325-350. Los romanos celebraron un festival de una semana llamado Saturnales en honor de Saturno y el regreso del sol y la fertilidad, que culminó el 25 de diciembre. La comunidad cristiana simplemente bautizó el festival y lo dedicó a la llegada de Dios en la persona de Jesús, eligiendo el 25 de diciembre para celebrar el nacimiento de Jesús. Se apartó un período de tiempo para prepararse alegremente para la celebración del nacimiento de Jesús, que pronto se conocería como Adviento. Desde el 17 de diciembre hasta el 23 de diciembre, la comunidad cristiana, usando títulos mesiánicos del Antiguo Testamento, invoca diariamente a Dios para que venga y esté con nosotros. Conocidas como las "Antífonas de Adviento", estas cortas oraciones todavía se usan hoy durante la semana antes de Navidad, para invitar al Señor a venir y estar con nosotros siempre. Tómese un momento para ver el video ¿Sabes? de esta semana y aprender más acerca de las "Antífonas de Adviento" para que usted también pueda usar estas breves oraciones para darle la bienvenida al Señor para estar siempre con usted.

Misas Navideñas

4:00PM martes, 24 de diciembre con música y lecturas antes de la misa (3:15 PM).
10:00 AM miércoles, 25 de diciembre con música de preludio que comienza a las 9:40 AM. ¡Todos, de 1 a 99 años, están invitados a traer cascabeles para tocar durante la última canción en esta misa!
12:30 PM miércoles, 25 de diciembre (Español)

Abajo aparecen algunos de los matachines quienes bailaron en la Misa en honor a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el jueves 12 de diciembre.

Parroquia Católica de Santa Sabina

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Horarios de la Oficina: 9:00am-5:00pm, Lunes - Jueves y 9:00am-1:00pm, Viernes

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¡Gracias a todos los que ayudaron con nuestra obra, los matachines, la Misa y la celebración en honor a nuestra Señora!

Horarios de Misa

Sábado: 4:00pm en Ingles

Domingo: 8:00am y 10:30am en Ingles, 12:30pm en Español

Confesiones: Sábados, 3:00-3:30pm

Visite nuestra página web para el horario de Misas especiales y Días Santos.

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