



# St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

3rd Sunday of Advent  
Gaudete Sunday

December 17, 2023  
John 1: 6-8, 19-28

## Parish Office:

708 N. 4th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101

Office: (913) 371-0627

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-5pm

Web: [stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com](http://stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com)

Email: [ourcroatianparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourcroatianparish@gmail.com)

Facebook: St. John the Baptist Croatian Parish

Instagram: OurCroatianParish

## Sacraments:

Confession at 3 pm before Saturday Mass or call for appointment

## Parish Staff:

Fr. Joseph M. Arsenault, SSA, Pastor

Mrs. Wendy Christ, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Tony Locatelli, Music Director

## Mass Schedule:

Saturday at 4 pm

(at St. John the Baptist in December)

Sunday at 9 am

Thursday at 8 am

## Parish Ministries:

Finance Council

Richard Sambol

Parish Council

Don Taylor

Altar Society

Kelly Moutray

St. John's Club

Ken Yarnevich

913-371-9690

Prayer Line

(913) 281-4448

What is special about the Third Sunday of Advent? For much of the Church's history, this Sunday had a special name: "Gaudete" Sunday. The traditions surrounding this Sunday go back as far as the fourth or fifth century, as does the season of Advent itself. Advent, our preparation for Christmas, was originally a forty-day penitential season like Lent. In fact, since it used to begin on November 12 (just after the Memorial of St. Martin of Tours), it was called "St. Martin's Lent." "Gaudete Sunday" was the Advent counterpart to "Laetare Sunday," which marks the midpoint in Lent. On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, "The Lord is coming." But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, "The Lord is near." This shift is marked by a lighter mood and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation. Liturgically, the colors lighten as well. The priest usually wears rose-colored vestments, a hue seen only on Gaudete Sunday and Laetare Sunday. On this day, we light the third candle of the Advent wreath, which is also rose colored, or if you prefer, pink. The word "Gaudete" is Latin for "Rejoice." In times when the focus of our anticipation is often on the negative and fearful, this celebration is a reminder that God who loves us is still in charge and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy.

## Keeping In Touch

As we enter into the third week of Advent and the last week before Christmas, there is much to accomplish so that we are ready for the Christmas festivities. For me there is lots of work at the Chancery that I am trying to complete before Christmas. There is also lots in the parishes to prepare for the liturgical celebrations. One of the tasks that I have for this coming week will take me out of town for a couple of days. As I have mentioned before, one of the ways that we prepare for the Christmas celebrations is by being reconciled with the Lord. To this end I will be travelling to the Monastery in Oklahoma where I am the Extraordinary Confessor to hear the confessions of the monks. Please keep me in prayer that my travels to the monastery and home will be safe and know as always, I keep all of you in my prayers.

Blessings in Christ and St. Augustine,  
Fr. Joseph M. Arsenault, SSA, JV, Pastor



## Christmas Mass

Sunday December 24th - 4pm Mass

Choral Prelude 11:40 pm

Midnight Mass - St. John the Baptist

Monday December 25th - 9am Mass

Christmas Day - Holy Family

Monday January 1 - 10am Mass

New Year's Day - St. John the Baptist

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

### **Sunday, December 17- Third Sunday of Advent**

**9am-** Bill Modrcin Sr.  
Novica Nikolic  
Vera Mikic  
Deceased of Krisman family



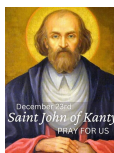
### **Thursday, December 21- St. Peter Canisius**

**8am-** Tom Lally  
Gene Sostarich  
Bette Curtin



### **Saturday December 23 - St. John of Kanty**

**4pm- Vigil Mass at St. John the Baptist**  
St. John & Holy Family parishioners



### **Sunday, December 24- Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9am-** John F. Novak  
James Markovich  
Mary Ann Schneider  
George Gray Jr.



## LITURGICAL MINISTRY - DECEMBER

### **December 16-17, 2023-**

**Lectors:** J. Alvey ; C. Schneider, M. Viskovic  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** B. Horvat ; M. Tomasic  
**Servers:** none ; A. Garcia  
**Sacristans:** J. Lally, C. Kolich ; S. Sandelich, G. Garcia

### **December 23-24, 2023-**

**Lectors:** L. Worner ; G. Garcia  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** R. Worner ; M. Garcia  
**Servers:** none ; A. Garcia  
**Sacristans:** T. Jaksetic, C. Delich ; W. Christ, G. Garcia

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

	<u>Fri.12/8</u>	<u>Sat.12/9</u>	<u>Sun.12/10/23</u>
<b>Envelopes:</b>		1660.00	7888.00
<b>Loose:</b>	114.00	238.00	126.00
<b>Building Fund:</b>		250.00	1490.00
<b>Candles:</b>	26.00	34.50	70.75
<b>Poor Box:</b>			10.00
<b>Immaculate</b>			
<b>Conception:</b>	140.00	70.00	48.00
<b>Christmas Offering:</b>		30.00	10.00
<b>Christmas Flower:</b>	115.00		35.00
<b>Catholic Charities:</b>	10.00		20.00
<b>All Saints:</b>	10.00		
<b>CC Human Development:</b>	5.00		
<b>Ghana Project:</b>			500.00
<b>Mass Intentions:</b>			90.00
<b>Donations:</b>	500.00		1000.00



QR Code for Online  
Giving to  
St. John the Baptist



## Prayer Requests

Pope Francis I, James Lipovac, Dianna Stimac, Irene Delich, Ana Piskuric, George Fracul, Karen Novak, Chris Braun, Special Intention, In Thanksgiving, for all those who suffer from homelessness, addictions, cancer, mental health issues, for those who are serving time in prison, and anyone else in need of our prayers.

## Upcoming Events

### **Food Drive**

Food Collection (non-perishable) Items will be collected from **November 19th thru December 31st**. Items can be placed in the vestibule at the back of church or dropped off in the church basement. Proceeds go to **Catholic Charities**. Please check the expiration dates.

### **Pregnancy Maintenance Initiative**

Items will be collected from **November 19th thru December 31st**. Onesies, diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, and baby lotion will be collected to create gift bags for expecting mothers. Proceeds go to the **Catholic Charities**. Items can be placed in the vestibule in the back of the church.

### **Best Choice labels**

Best Choice labels continue to be collected. A box is in the vestibule for you to drop off!



### **USHERS NEEDED!**

If you would like to usher at any of our week-end Masses, please call the church office at 913-371-0627

### **Trash Bags for Sale**

We have trash bags for sale in the rectory. Yellow bags are 39 gal 25/roll, White bags are 15 gal 65/roll, Blue bags are 55 gal 16/roll, cost per roll is \$12.00.



Please stop by the church office during business hours of 8:30am-5pm to get yours! All proceeds will support our Parish. Thank You.

Please submit any bulletin news and events by Wednesday afternoon to the Parish office by phone or email to [ourcroatianparish@gmail.com](mailto:ourcroatianparish@gmail.com)

If anyone is interested in serving as a **Sacristan in 2024** for our Saturday or Sunday Masses, please contact the church office. The time commitment is one hour before Mass preparing the church and altar and about 20 minutes after Mass. Training and written instructions will be provided.





Feast Day-  
December 21

St Peter Canisius had an extraordinary devotion to the Holy Eucharist - his devotion to the Holy Sacrifice was such that people would come from great distances to watch him offer Mass, so devoutly did he celebrate... and he spent hours before the Blessed Sacrament.

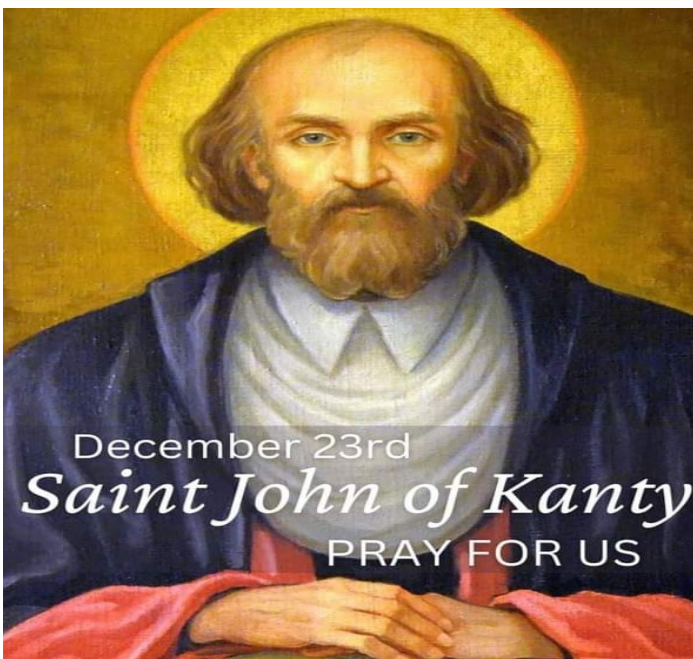
Ven Servant of God Fr John A Hardon S.J.  
(1914-2000) writing of his greatest  
Jesuit inspiration, St Peter Canisius  
(1521-1597) Doctor of the Church

Artist: paul/17



**TASTE OF KCK**  
**January 27, 2024**

An evening of food,  
culture, and  
community benefiting  
the students of  
Resurrection Catholic  
School.



December 23rd  
**Saint John of Kanty**  
PRAY FOR US

*All Saints Parish Presents:*

*"We'll Welcome Him!"*

An Organ-Piano-Vocal Recital with Choral Songs  
Vincent Moran-Music Director  
All Saints Parish Choir  
Christina Cooper-Mezzo-Soprano  
Elena Beatriz Cooper-Soprano



Featuring music by Rodgers and Hammerstein, George  
Frederic Handel, Sally Deford, Vince Guaraldi, Leonard  
Ahlstrom and Eddie Carswell, Matt Redman, Chris  
Tomlin, Ed Cash and more!

**Wednesday, December 20th at 7 p.m.**

**All Saints Parish**  
**811 Vermont Avenue**  
**Kansas City, Kansas 66101**

-Free Admission-

\*Donations will be accepted\*

(All donations will go toward our All Saints Choir Music Ministry)

### 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 22nd** - Sacred Heart Catholic Church,  
Sabetha KS from 7 pm-10 pm

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



## New Year Reflection and Planning Retreat

### Christ's Peace House of Prayer

22131 Meager Rd., Easton Kansas

Friday, January 5th at 5:30pm-

Sunday, January 7th at 4:30pm

Join us for our Annual New Year's Spiritual Reflection and Planning Retreat. Set aside time to reflect on what matters most in life, prioritize the most important things first and map out pathways for the new year. The structure of the retreat will allow ample time for you to do work on your plan; we will provide resources and ideas to incorporate in your plan. There are conferences, spiritual direction, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, Confession and time for private prayer, reflection and walking. Please bring your own personal items that will aid in the process such as: bible, notebook, agenda, journal, catechism, laptop (if this helps you plan better), etc. Cabins/Courtyard Rooms: \$170 Single/\$250 Couple or Single Guest Rooms: \$100 (Meals Included). To attend, fill out the Individual Retreat Form at [ChristsPeace.com](http://ChristsPeace.com) or call 913.773.8255.

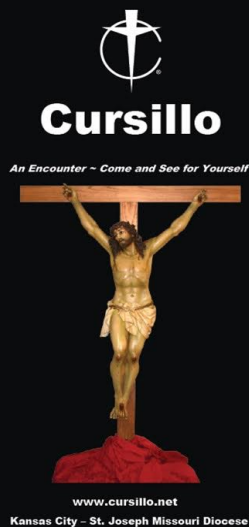
### Cursillo Epiphany Celebration Save-the-Date

**Date:** Thursday,  
Jan. 11th, 2024 @ 6:30pm

**Location:** St. Andrew's Parish Hall

**Details:** Please join us to Celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany by joining your fellow Cursillistas, sharing your favorite dish, and your latest Apostolic Action!

*We look forward to seeing you!*



[www.cursillo.net](http://www.cursillo.net)  
Kansas City - St. Joseph Missouri Diocese

## BUILDING A CIVILIZATION OF LOVE

Official Family Newsletter of the Archdiocese of KCK



CHECK OUT OUR NEWSLETTER!



## HEALING RETREAT FOR ADULT CHILDREN

*of divorced,  
separated or  
never-married  
parents*

**JANUARY 12-14, 2024  
KANSAS CITY, KS**

at Savior Pastoral Center

\$150 (Commuting)  
\$250 (Single room)  
\$220 (Double room)

Limited scholarships available  
for residents of the Archdiocese  
of Kansas City in Kansas.

### HEALING

The Life-Giving Wounds retreat gave me space to grieve and be understood in this wound. It also gave me tools that integrate humanity and spirituality to lead me to forgiveness and healing. - Kevin

### SPACE

This retreat was a beautiful, intentional space to be seen and heard, without judgment, in all my messiness. - Maggie

### INSIGHT

So many "aha!" moments, especially in unpacking this wound with the sacraments. - Anonymous

### FREEDOM

Learning about this basic, fundamental loss that was known but never understood gave me freedom from unhealthy patterns of behavior I didn't even know I was doing. - Anonymous

**SPACE IS LIMITED.  
REGISTER TODAY!**



This peer-led weekend includes insightful talks, optional small group and one-on-one discussion, Eucharistic adoration, Mass and the opportunity for Reconciliation.

Life-draining wounds can become a **LIFE-GIVING MISSION.**

[archkck.org/LGW](http://archkck.org/LGW)

[bdupont@archkck.org](mailto:bdupont@archkck.org)

OFFICE OF MARRIAGE  
AND FAMILY LIFE

**catholic charities**  
OF NORTHEAST KANSAS



IN THE PAST YEAR, NEARLY

**60,341**

of the most vulnerable in our communities received help, hope and hospitality through one of our more than 30 programs throughout the 21 counties of our Archdiocese.

*Thank You*



MORE THAN

**\$8.6 MILLION**

worth of food, including 421,042 lbs of food donated by parishes and schools, was distributed through our eight food pantries to families and individuals unable to afford the rising cost of groceries.



**\$1.3 MILLION**

in Direct Financial Assistance kept the utilities on and rent paid for families facing homelessness, eviction or disconnection.

Learn how your donation helps families:

[catholiccharitiesks.org/impact](http://catholiccharitiesks.org/impact)

[@CCNEK](https://www.facebook.com/CCNEK) [@catholiccharitiesks](https://www.instagram.com/catholiccharitiesks)

