



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

Matthew 3:1-12

Parish Office:

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

Office: (913) 371-0627

Hours: Mon-Thu 8:30am-5pm Fri 8:30am- 4

Web: stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com

Email: 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, JV, VF, 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



Second Sunday of Advent

Keeping In Touch

This past week was an extremely full week. Even on Monday the day we had the snow and the day that is technically my day off, I spent working in preparation for the week ahead.

This week was my week for confessions, mass, and visiting the school which is always a joy. We also had the joy of celebrating First Reconciliation for the children at Resurrection School.

This week we also had the Deanery meeting of priests which had an agenda so full that we went an hour over our normal finish time. Another addition to my calendar this week was celebrating mass at the Chancery offices. Every week we have mass at the Chancery for the staff. Normally the Archbishop resides, however when he cannot be there, those priests that work in the building fill in. This week was my turn.

The final addition to my calendar this week dealt with Canon Law. We had a meeting of the judges to make judgements on cases that were before us. We also had a gathering of all the people that work in canon law from the Archdiocese as well as our neighboring Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. The gathering was hosted by the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. It was a great joy to be together with fellow canonists in fellowship and in learning from one another.

With this week behind me, where I felt I ran from one thing to the next, I look forward and hope to a little bit of a quieter week next week!

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



The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, December 8

Mass Opportunities

8:00 a.m. - Holy Family Church

10:00 a.m. - St. John the Baptist

7:15 p.m. - Holy Family Church Burmese

*Patronal Feast Day
of the United States of America*



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of MARY

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 7- Second Sunday of Advent

9am- Nick & Joe Fabina
Draga Tokic
Michael & Kathy Tomas
Rita Rodina

Thursday, December 11-

8am- Joe Cavlovic

Saturday, December 13-

4pm- **Vigil Mass at St. John the Baptist**
People of the Parishes

Sunday, December 14- Third Sunday of Advent

9am- Mike Suljak
Katherine Suljak & Marica Black
John "Ivan" Podrebarac
Kathy Stancic & Mladen Stancic

LITURGICAL MINISTRY - DECEMBER

December 6-7, 2025-

Lectors: L. Worner ; C. Schneider, M. Garcia
Eucharistic Ministers: S. Morrow ; M. Tomasic
Servers: A. Morrow ; A. Garcia ; M. Garcia
Sacristans: B. Horvat, K. Moutray

December 13-14, 2025-

Lectors: G. Garcia ; M. Viskovic, R. Sambol
Eucharistic Ministers: B. Horvat ; P. Mikesic
Servers: A. Garcia ; I. Dordevic
Sacristans: P. Mikesic, P. Hill

Please submit any bulletin news and events by Wednesday to the Parish office by phone 913-371-0627 or email to ourcroatianparish@gmail.com

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

	<u>Sun. 11/30/25</u>
Envelopes:	1503.00
Loose:	101.00
Building Fund:	820.00
Candles:	82.75
Poor Box:	52.00
Immaculate Conception:	10.00
Donation(s):	50.00

Visit Our Sunday Visitor online giving at
<https://osvhub.com/stjohnthebaptists/giving/funds>



Prayer Requests

Pope Leo XIV, Sarah Skradski-Coleman, John Christ Sr., Diane Boan, Milka Subasic, Dianna Stimac, Kathy Riley, Millie Sambol, James Lipovac, 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, for all the holy souls in purgatory, and anyone else in need of our prayers.

(If you or a family member or a friend requests prayers for someone, we will add them on our Prayer List. Please contact the church office to renew, add, or remove a name from the list.)

Upcoming Event

Coffee and Donut Sunday

The event will be hosted by the **Parish Council** on **Sunday December 7th**. Please come and join the parish for fellowship and updates from other parishioners.

Food Kitchen

Food Kitchen date is for **Monday December 8th**. Desserts may be dropped off in the church basement the weekend before or the day of at the Willa Gill Center (645 Nebraska Ave) after 8:30. There is a desperate need for desserts and volunteers to help serve from 11-12:30. Financial donations can also be made. Checks can be made to St. John the Baptist Church with a designation for the food kitchen.

Ornaments 125th Year Anniversary of SJB

If you haven't had a chance to purchase your St. John the Baptist 125th year anniversary ornament yet then now is the time to do so while the limited supplies last before Christmas! To purchase, you should contact the church office directly as supplies are limited before Christmas. \$20.00

You can reach the church office via:

After Mass on Sunday!(come see Wendy after Mass)

Phone: Call (913) 371-0627

Email: Send inquiries to

OurCroatianParish@gmail.com.

In-Person: Visit the church office at
708 N. 4th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101.

Limited Edition only #125 made



Božićna Pšenica/Christmas Wheat

In Croatia and in other Eastern European nations, wheat is planted on *December 13*, St. Lucy's Feast Day. This ancient tradition dates back to the time when agriculture was Croatia's main industry and serves as a symbol of fertility, new life, and renewal. Also, while testing the viability of the seed, the sprouted wheat is a predictor of sorts: if the wheat grows dense, tall, and lush, the next year will be fruitful and successful. In some parts of Croatia, people observe the growing wheat each day until Christmas. It is believed that the weather of each month in the upcoming year will mirror the weather on each of the days in the period from Sveta Lucija, St. Lucy's Day, to Christmas.

Plant wheat in a small dish, bowl, or small pot of soil and keep it lightly watered. By Christmas the sprouted wheat will be tall enough to be decorated with the *hrvatska trobojnica* (Croatian tricolor) around the wheat. The tricolor is a ribbon with red, white, and blue stripes. Place it near the Nativity where it will remind all that Christ, the Bread of Life, was born in Bethlehem, whose name means "House of Bread." The wheat recalls the Eucharist which is made from wheat and brings to mind Christ's parables about wheat.

The Croatian custom of growing St. Lucy's or Christmas wheat, *Božićna Pšenica*, was revived by deceased parishioner **Matthew B. Thomas** and has become tradition at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. It continues as such and is carried on in his honor by his loving siblings **Ivana Morris** and **George Thomas**. Seed packets are available at each church exit; take a packet or two and keep the tradition growing.



SAVE THE DATE

Christmas

PARTY

DEC 13, 2025 @ 5:00 PM

MSGR. MEJAK HALL
513 OHIO AVE.
KANSAS CITY, KS. 66101

TACO BAR DINNER

PLEASE BRING A HOLIDAY DESSERT TO SHARE



CHRISTMAS MUSIC
VISIT BY SANTA

PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING A SMALL GIFT FOR
SANTA TO PRESENT TO YOUR OWN CHILD

DONATIONS ACCEPTED FOR KSKJ
LIFE SUPPORTING SOLDIERS
NATIONAL INITIATIVE

EVENT CO-SPONSORED BY ST. VERONICA
LODGE #115 & HOLY FAMILY SOCIAL CLUB

RSVP JULIE SCHNELLER VIA TEXT @
(816) 797-8623



SKRADSKI
FUNERAL HOME

Annual Holiday Remembrance Service

DECEMBER **16** 6:00 PM

340 N. 6TH ST.
Kansas City, KS 66101

*The holidays are a difficult time for those who are grieving.
We invite you to our Remembrance Ceremony where we will
remember those we have lost with a name reading ceremony,
video, candle lighting and light refreshments.*

Please RSVP by December 10th to 913-371-1404 or
directors@skradskjfh-kc.com

Experience An Olde World
Christmas at
The Strawberry Hill
Museum

Now Opened for Guided Tours
Tickets available online:
<https://strawberryhillmuseum.org>

720 N. 4th Street Kansas City,
Kansas 66101



POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE OF KCK

Sarma Dinner

Christmas Fundraiser

ORDER A TRADITIONAL CROATIAN
CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR FOUR!

**SARMA ROLLS,
POLENTA & CABBAGE**

\$40

TO ORDER, EMAIL ella@palkck.org
OR CALL/TEXT (816)876-4260



THE CULTURE PROJECT

Advent Adoration

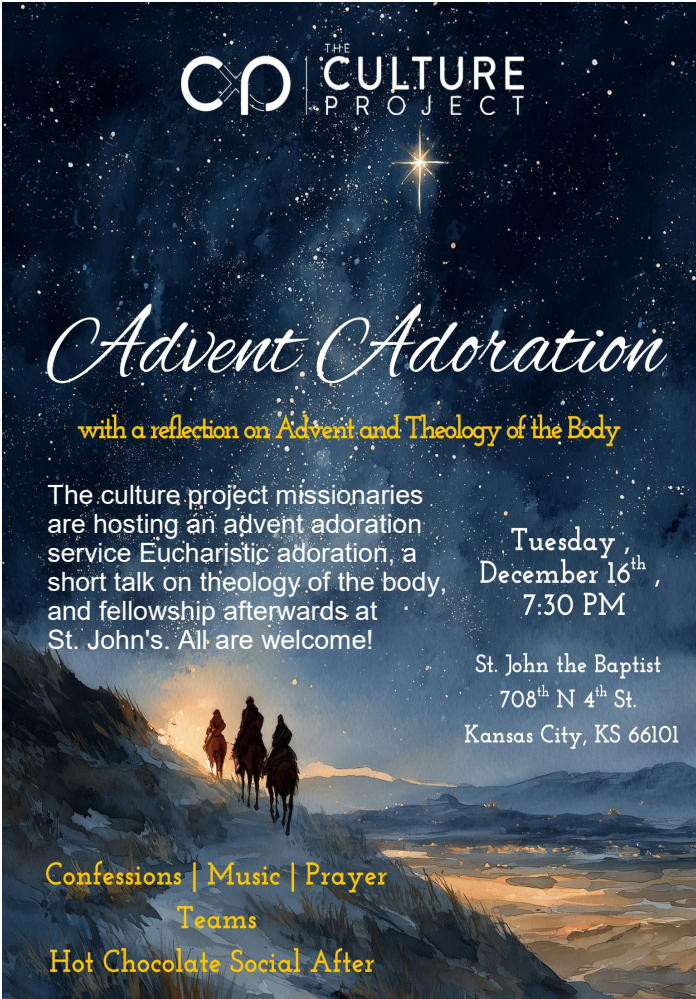
with a reflection on Advent and Theology of the Body

The culture project missionaries are hosting an advent adoration service Eucharistic adoration, a short talk on theology of the body, and fellowship afterwards at St. John's. All are welcome!

Tuesday,
December 16th,
7:30 PM

St. John the Baptist
708th N 4th St.
Kansas City, KS 66101

Confessions | Music | Prayer
Teams
Hot Chocolate Social After



Taste of KCK

Tomorrow's Legacy Begins Today



RAISING FUNDS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
CLASSROOM SUPPORTS

January 24, 2026

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL
425 NORTH 15TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KS 66102

		
Social Hour 6:00 PM	Ethnic Dinner 7:00 PM	Program 8:00 PM
Drinks & Appetizers School Tours Student Projects	KCK diversity on a plate.	Honoree Student Speaker Performances

Best Choice labels

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



Trash Bags for Sale

We now have trash bags for sale in the rectory. Yellow bags are 39 gal 25/roll, white bags are 15 gal 65/roll, and the 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.



Year End Gifting Now is the ideal time to consider year end gifting to our church. Those aged 70 and a half and older with an IRA account can take advantage of a savvy way to make a donation and save money on taxes. A Qualified Charitable Distribution direct from your IRA account to the church when handled properly would not be considered ordinary income and potentially lower your income bracket. Please contact your financial advisor or tax preparer for further information. The church office can offer limited assistance.

Just a few sides Notes....

Request for Photos of Fr. Joseph's 25th Anniversary Celebration

We're gathering photos of Fr. Joseph's 25th Anniversary Mass and Reception to create a special collection of memories in a book for Fr Joseph and his family. If you wish to share any photos taken during the celebration, please send them to our parish email address: ourcroatianparish@gmail.com.

125th Anniversary Books

Thanks to everyone who purchased the 125th Anniversary Books! We are very excited to share the book and its many memories with everyone. We have been told we will have them in the next week for delivery, Questions? sjb125years@gmail.com.

We have 5 Salamis left from this year's festival that are available for sale at \$30 a piece. Please call Wendy at the rectory, 913-371-0627, if you want to make a purchase. Thank you.

Sacristans 2026

If anyone is interested in serving as a Sacristan in 2026, please contact the church office. The time commitment for Saturdays is generally one Mass per month. It is for the six months in the year that St John's has a Saturday Mass. The commitment is the same for our Sunday Mass except it is for all twelve months of the year. Time spent as a Sacristan is one hour before Mass preparing the church and altar for Mass and about 20 minutes after Mass. Training and written instructions will be provided

Help feed the hungry! Donate non-perishable food items such as tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter, soups, vegetables, beans, canned fruit, crackers, rice, cereal, etc.

Also, personal hygiene items such as toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, soap, and toothpaste. **Expired items and opened packages will not be accepted.** All the items you donate will be taken to Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

180 lbs. was
donated on
11-25!
Please keep
donating!
Thank you



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

BABY SHOWER DONATION DRIVE

In Honor of the Christ Child

The St. John Altar Society is sponsoring their annual Baby Shower Donation Drive from November 15 through January 4, 2026.

Suggested items to donate:

- Diapers
- Wet Wipes
- Baby Shampoo
- Baby Wash
- Baby Lotion
- Pacifiers / Baby Bottles
- Onesies / Sleepers
- Diaper Rash Ointment

Bring your donations to the church when you attend mass or bring to the parish office at 708 N 4th St.

All the items donated will be given to Kansas City Pregnancy Clinic, 636 Tauromee Ave., Kansas City, Kansas.



Feast Day—December 12