



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2026

Matthew 13:24-43

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

Ms. Wendy Stimac, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Tony Locatelli, Music Director

Mass Schedule:

Saturday at 4 pm

(at Holy Family In July)

Sunday at 9 am

Thursday at 8 am

Parish Ministries:

Finance Council

Parish Council

Altar Society

St. John's Club

Richard Sambol

Don Taylor

Kelly Moutray

Ken Yarnevich

913-371-9690

(913) 281-4448

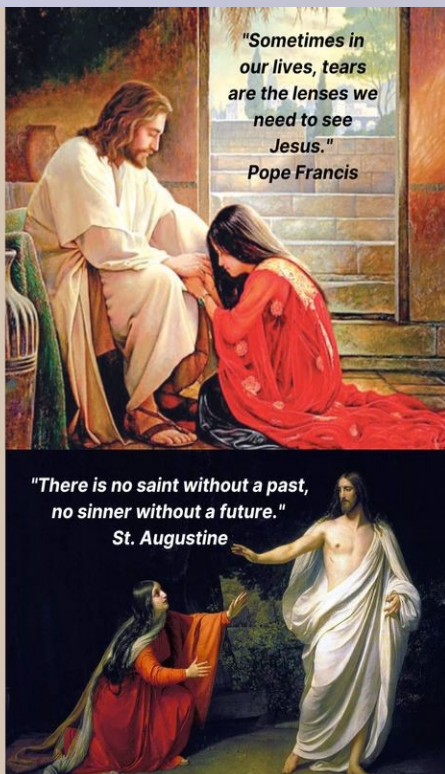
Prayer Line

July 22

Feast day of
St. Mary Magdalene

Beloved St. Mary Magdalene, when everyone cursed you, our Lord blessed you. As soon as He expelled the demons out of you, your flesh had no power over the love you had for Christ. You did not look back but rather up high, contemplating God's face. It is no wonder why you were the first one to see Him resurrected. In moments of temptation, send me tears of repentance like the ones you wiped our Lord's feet with. Please help me when sin is at the door my mind and heart, so that the enemy may not steal my soul.
Amen.

*St. Mary Magdalene,
Pray for us!*



"Sometimes in our lives, tears are the lenses we need to see Jesus."
Pope Francis

"There is no saint without a past, no sinner without a future."
St. Augustine

Keeping In Touch

As I write this I am at the airport waiting to board a flight. I am very happy to say that I am not off to a meeting nor to give a presentation. I am heading to Canada to visit my family. The trip is long (5.5 hr layover in NY and the an overnight in Halifax) as I will only get home on Saturday afternoon. Even though it is long it is familiar and I look forward to it. It will be great to see family and spend time with them. I will be gone for a couple of weeks. There are some great priests filling in for me while I am gone. Be assured that I carry you in my thoughts and prayers.

Blessings in Christ and

St. Augustine ,

Fr. Joseph M. Arsenault, SSA, JV, VF, Pastor



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, July 19-

9am- George & Kate Yuratovich
Katie & George Kucenic
Family of Nikola & Jadranka Gojmerac
John "Ivan" Podrebarac

Thursday, July 23-

8am- Frank, George, Ana Brajkovic

Saturday, July 25-

4pm- *Mass at Holy Family Church*
People of the Parishes

Sunday, July 26-

9am- Mare Turkalj & Lily Rendulic
Tim & Judy Seegar
Zvonko Krstulic, Ana Bert & Her Family
Slavo & Maria Ivicak (1/15/26 Dijamantni Pir)

LITURGICAL MINISTRY -JULY

July 19, 2026-

Lectors: C. Schneider, M. Viskovic
Eucharistic Ministers: G. Garcia
Blessed Cup: M. Garcia, S. Morrow
Servers: A. Garcia, M. Garcia
Sacristans: S. Sandelich, M. Alvey

July 26, 2026-

Lectors: V. Tomasic, W. Stimac
Eucharistic Ministers: M. Tomasic
Blessed Cup: G. Garcia, M. Garcia
Servers: A. Garcia, M. Garcia
Sacristans: M. Garcia, G. Garcia

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Sun. 07/12/26

Envelopes:	3710.50
Loose:	92.00
Building Fund:	215.00
Candles:	128.50
Poor Box:	18.00
Mass Intentions:	20.00
Donations:	50.00



Visit Our Sunday
Visitor online giving at
[https://osvhub.com/
stjohnthebaptists/giving/
funds](https://osvhub.com/stjohnthebaptists/giving/funds)



Prayer Requests

Pope Leo XIV, World Peace, Lynda Thompson, Sarah Skradski-Coleman, John Christ Sr., Milka Subasic, Dianna Stimac, Millie Sambol, James Lipovac, 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.

The upcoming August vote regarding whether to return the Kansas Supreme Court judicial selection process to a popular vote is a significant decision for our state. While the Church does not take a position on the outcome of this ballot measure, it does encourage all Catholics to embrace their civic responsibility by participating in this important vote, grounding their decision in Catholic principles and a well-formed conscience. I also encourage respectful and charitable dialogue, especially when opinions differ. May our participation in this election be prayerful, guided by the Holy Spirit, rooted in the dignity of every human person, and a witness to the love of Christ.

Most Reverend Shawn McKnight
Archbishop of Kansas City in Kansas



Upcoming Events

Altar Society Meeting

There will be an Altar Society meeting on **Sunday, July 26th** in the church basement immediately following the 9:00 Mass. We will discuss the Croatian Festival and the Altar Society's responsibilities for the festival and also our annual Fall Apple Strudel fundraiser. All Altar Society members and those interested in joining the Altar Society are invited to attend



Sips for Scholarships

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

CHEERS TO CHANGING LIVES!
SUPPORT FOR NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

August 1, 2026 | 5-8 PM
Boulevard Brewing Co.
2501 Southwest Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64108



Learn more at rcskck.org



Just a few sides Notes....

Altar Servers Needed

Would any of the children, who have made their First Communion, be interested in serving as Altar Servers for either Saturday or Sunday masses or both? Scheduling for each child will be once per month or at your request and since we only have Saturday masses every other month, there are only 6 Saturdays in the year in which they would be scheduled. Sunday scheduling can be up to 12 times for the year. If you are interested, please contact Michelle Garcia at mygarcia@wycokck.org or 913-645-6726. Training will be provided.



Best Choice labels

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



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.



Shepherd Field Group - Holy Land

Our friends from Bethlehem in Holy Land are going to be here at our Parish on Saturday and Sunday, July 18 and 19, 2026.

They come to us to sell the olive wood carvings and crafts that are hand made by the Christians in the Holy Land. This is their main source of income.

We need to support these people by buying their beautiful olive wood carvings and crafts so we can help our brothers and sisters stay in the Holy Land.

Pray for the Christians in the Holy Land and support them so we all can do our part to keep our Christian bells ringing in the Holy Land.

Thank you for support and God bless.

www.shepherds-field.com



Let's keep on rolling!

Ladies and gentlemen

Thursday, August 13th,

is Sarma making day for

St John's festival dinner.

We gather after the 8:00am mass in the school library, behind the auditorium stage/kitchen area.

We suggest you bring your paring knives and aprons.

Questions to
Teresa Kovac
cell 913-401-9346

13TH ANNUAL **PITCHING PRIESTS**

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026

LEGENDS FIELD - KCK

Brought to you by **CATHOLIC RADIO NETWORK**

1800 Village West Parkway, Kansas City, Kansas

GATES OPEN AT 5:00 PM THIS YEAR!

On field events start at **5:20 pm**

First pitch at **6:30 pm**

Priests from the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph vs. the priests of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas to raise funds for and encourage vocations

THIS YEARS EVENT IS **FREE!!!** A FreeWill offering. to benefit **seminarians** will be accepted at the ballpark or you can donate right now using the QR code.

☀ Tailgating

☀ Girls Run

☀ Boys Run

☀ Parachute Pants

☀ Ketchup, Mustard & Relish Race

☀ Baby Crawl

☀ Hot Dog Race

☀ Balloon Bust

☀ Dance off

3:00 pm - Tailgating in the parking lot

5:00 pm - Stadium gates open (an hour earlier!)

5:20 pm - Kids Run (on the field)

6:00 pm - Baby Crawl

6:20 pm - Skydivers land in stadium

6:30 pm - First Pitch

9:00 pm - Game Ends

You can also donate online at catholicradio.com

2026 Croatian Festival

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
on Historic Strawberry Hill
July 17-18 Newsletter



Festival T-shirts

Pre-orders are very strong, so this year's T-shirt design is pretty popular!



Thank you to Mia and Ella Tomasic whose artistic talents brought this shirt to life!

The cost is \$25 - and the shirts can be mailed for an additional \$6 each in postage.

Pre-orders continue to be available online with a credit card, or by using the form available on our website.

Visit stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com, click "festival." So sorry, but special orders are no longer available.

For those who ordered shirts, they will be available at the rectory after July 24. If you live in Johnson County, contact Kathy Bareiss for pick-up near 67th and Pflumm (kckcroatianfestival@gmail.com).

Sarma Dinners

Okay. You are waiting until the last minute, or maybe you forgot. But, time's a wastin' - the festival will be here in less than a month. Why, oh, why haven't you gotten that pre-order done?

Did you know that you can order dinners as take-out? Put 'em in the fridge for later in the week.

The dinners are \$25 - you get two sarmas, Croatian potato salad, green beans, bread, cookies and a bottle of water. If the sausage sandwiches are your favorite, no worries, just head down to The Grill.

You have now been reminded. In another week, all the 4:45 p.m. reservations will be filled. Just a thought.

Kiddieland

We want to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has sent toys and goodies for the kids' booth. The more prizes, the longer the kiddos can play

The 2-liter bottles of soda are beginning to appear - and we are grateful to our contributors. To keep the soda ring toss running until 8:30 p.m., we will need about 175 bottles total.

The ladies of St. Bernadette's Circle have already filled 200 treat bags with small toys and candy - all donated by the members. We appreciate this generosity!

We appreciate all who help us with the kids' area - it means that we can keep the price at 50 cents per play because the prizes are donated by YOU!

Sponsorships

We asked - and you definitely answered! Once again, the Support St. John the Baptist sponsorships are a great success!

Please accept our thanks for your support!

There are 63 sponsors who have donated \$55,360 as of July 14.

Sponsorships are available for all budgets. The largest contributions are \$10,000, \$7,500 and \$5,000.

The categories begin at \$50, but we have also had sponsors who gave under Strawberry Pie (name your amount) with smaller amounts.

Right now, we are very close to our goal of \$60,000!

It is difficult to comprehend that the first year of sponsorships in 2017 netted \$11,850. Now, this category is around half of the money collected for the festival.

We will again be printing the banners to be displayed on the rectory. If you would like to be included, the deadline is Aug. 8, at which time, the banners will go to the printer.

A Note of Thanks

Welcome back to our continuing series on "meet the festival team!" When you see these folks at church, singing in the choir or at the club, be sure and say thanks. Better yet, ask how you can help with the festival.

Cathie (Taylor) Burroughs and Cherry Taylor handle the fabulous Strawberry Boutique. Sure they have festival T-shirts, but also so many fun strawberry items. And we appreciate their loyal helpers, Rhonda and Jeri, who volunteer year after year.

Like other team members, they just get it done. If you watch Brit Box, they would say "they just carry on."

Patrice Pemberton Dorian is another classic who oversees the povitica and strudel booths. Behind her stands a quiet army of volunteers who have worked those booths for years because of their loyalty to Patrice.

She became involved with the festival because of her parents, Vince and Georgette, who worked on the sarma dinner for decades.

Theresa Jaksetic is the Altar Society representative for the team. She also holds the group's institutional knowledge, keeping all the notes, facts and figures in order for the

group.

We all know Rich Sambol because he is involved in everything St. John's. Years ago, he suggested adding a 50/50 Raffle to the festival and takes care of all the work. His idea has been a huge money-maker, bringing in a net of \$15,000 each year.

Siblings Max Grisnik and Isabell Grisnik are team newcomers, but both have volunteered for several years. When the team needed a new host for the festival dance this year, they raised their hands. There was

serious discussion about downsizing the dance but the Grisniks saved the day.

The team is also fortunate to have dedicated members who carry boxes, set up tables, volunteer at booths, create artwork and say "yes" to whatever is needed.

They know everyone and everything at St. John's because they are involved in many organizations at St. John's. Thank you to Donald Taylor, Helen Skradski, Ella Tomasic, John Mikesic and Stephanie Taylor Glenn for sharing your time and wisdom.



A fun memory! Making sarma for the festival, 1975.

Money, Money, Money

If you like money, take a chance on winning some with our 50/50 Raffle. It costs \$100 per entry for the opportunity to win up to \$5,000.

Entry money is shared between the church and the winners.

In the Maxi Raffle, the prize can be up to \$5,000. Additional winners are possible if there are more than 100 entries.

For the Mini Raffle, the prize can be up to \$2,500 with additional winners possible after 50 entries.

Forms are available in the church and at the rectory. Or, find all festival forms and information on the church website: stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.com, click Festival on the front page.

The website will also take you to the Festival page with forms plus our secure online credit card payment page.



2026 Support St. John's Sponsorships

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
on Historic Strawberry Hill



Strawberry Cheesecake Delight

The Gorsky Family

Chocolate-Dipped Strawberries

The Worner Family

Strawberry Fields

Kathryn A. Lastelic Zunick

Anonymous

Strawberry Hill

Chris Horn & Family

Strawberry Patch

In Memory of Joseph & Catherine Podrebarac

In Memory of Joseph N. Modrcin

In Memory of Chris Braun & Bob Braun Sr.

In Memory of Helen Kolich Wells

In Memory of Nick Kucenic

Kathy Dumovich Kovac

Marie Kolich

Skradski & Sambol Families

Marty Yadrack

Mike & Karen Svetlic

Jerry Cindric

Strawberry Plant

Charles & Mary Ann Trzok-Laundy

In Memory of Pete, Dorothy & Pat Novosel

John & Beckie Mikesic - Sarah & Brian Wilhelm

St. John the Baptist Altar Society

The Kovac & Krupich Families

Hal & Andrea Skradski Thomas

The Kladusan & Heshner Families

John & Veronica Gasparovich

St. John's Seniors

Loren & Kathy Lally Bareiss

Walter & Mary Rendulic



The Lally Family

Bob Janesko

Christine Allen

The Tomasic Family

Strawberry Shortcake

The Boan & Kovac Families

Ivana Morris & Dave Martin

Rick & Susan (Zunick) Robards

In Memory of Rita Rodina & Sam Stice

The Tim & Cindy Cavlovic Family

In Memory of John Ivan Podrebarac

In Memory of Mary Ann Schneider

John F. Mikesic Family

The (Stimac) Juresic Family

Mike & Annie Kucenic

Patti Kratofil Hill

Anita Gasparovic

Anonymous

Strawberry Plant

Charles & Mary Ann Trzok-Laundy

In Memory of Pete, Dorothy & Pat Novosel

John & Beckie Mikesic - Sarah & Brian Wilhelm

St. John the Baptist Altar Society

The Kovac & Krupich Families

Hal & Andrea Skradski Thomas

The Kladusan & Heshner Families

John & Veronica Gasparovich

St. John's Seniors

Loren & Kathy Lally Bareiss

Walter & Mary Rendulic



The Lally Family

Bob Janesko

Christine Allen

The Tomasic Family

Strawberry Shortcake

The Boan & Kovac Families

Ivana Morris & Dave Martin

Rick & Susan (Zunick) Robards

In Memory of Rita Rodina & Sam Stice

The Tim & Cindy Cavlovic Family

In Memory of John Ivan Podrebarac

In Memory of Mary Ann Schneider

John F. Mikesic Family

The (Stimac) Juresic Family

Mike & Annie Kucenic

Patti Kratofil Hill

Anita Gasparovic

Anonymous

Strawberry Preserves

In Memory of Carol & Otto Kaifes

In Memory of Ike & Kata Modrcin

Courtney Mikesic & Dave Mikesic

In Memory of Joseph Rahija

Malnar & Urkevich Families

Michael & Maegan Thomas

Joe Jerome & Janet Kolich

Pam & Ted Rusovick

Catherine Delich

Mike & Linda Aleksaites

R. & A. Nastav Family

In Memory of Kristina & Joseph Horvat

Ron & Linda Verbeck

In Memory of Barbara Palcher

In Memory of George, Tate & Ainsley Brajkovic

Frank & Ljubica Kozar

The Frank & Josie Anzek Family

The Yarnevich Family

Edward Jones - Matt Winterhalter

The Eugene Sostarich Family

The Roper Family

Strawberry Seed

CJ & Mallory Krug

Bernadette Acinger West

Ann & Matt Modrcin

Daniel Cindrach

Anonymous

Mary Gasparovic

Strawberry Pie

In Memory of Willie & Barbara Jaksetic