St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5, 2026 **Matthew 11:25-30**

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

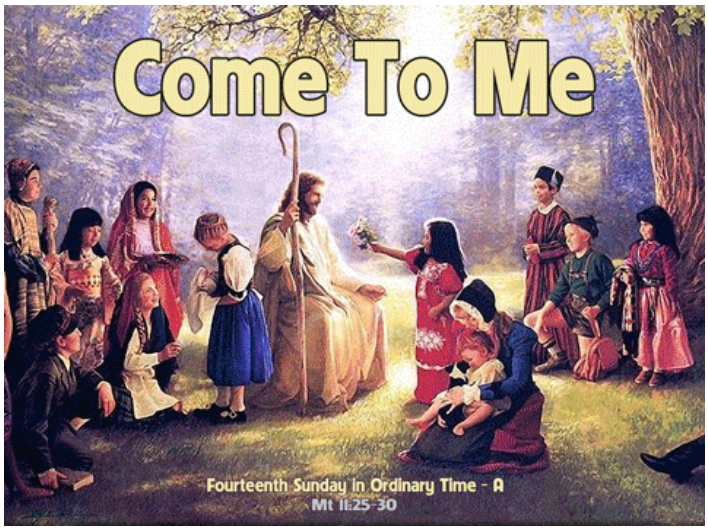
Sacraments:
Confession at 3 pm before Saturday Mass or call for appointment

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	Richard Sambol
Parish Council	Don Taylor
Altar Society	Kelly Moutray
St. John's Club	Ken Yarnevich
	913-371-9690
Prayer Line	*(913) 281-4448*



Keeping In Touch

This past week in many ways has been a quiet, but full week where I have been able to catch up on a few things. July the first was Canada Day which reminded me of the great country in which I was born and raised. On Saturday we will celebrate Independence Day and I am reminded of this great country, of which I am a citizen, and all the many blessings which we enjoy. We pray in gratitude and hopefulness that we will continue to be the great nation that we are that seeks the good of its citizens and is concerned for and a leader in the world in general.

On a sad note we have experienced a schism in the church. This past week the SSPX consecrated four bishops against the will of the Holy Father. This act of grave disobedience has led to the declaration of them being in schism and excommunicated. This declaration is just making clear what took place automatically by the actions they took. This affects not only the bishops involved, but also the priests and all the lay people who regularly attend the SSPX churches. Please join me in praying that those now part of the schism will see their errors and seek to be reconciled to the church.

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, July 5-
9am- Mary B. & John G. Mikesic
Mirica Black
Mr. & Mrs. AJ Persin
Anthony B Pham

Thursday, July 9-
8am- Andjelka J. Radmilic-Jackson
Lola Mae Wade-Stimac

Saturday, July 11-
4pm- ***Mass at Holy Family Church***
People of the Parishes

Sunday, July 12-
9am- John F. Mikesic
Ivan & Danica Vancas
Dragica & Nick Jambrosic
Mike Skrljac

LITURGICAL MINISTRY -JULY

July 5, 2026-
Lectors: M. Viskovic, P. Mikesic
Eucharistic Ministers: A. Kucenic
Blessed Cup: B. Horvat, N. Gasparovic
Servers: none
Sacristans: P. Mikesic, P. Hill

July 12, 2026-
Lectors: S. Glenn, R. Sambol
Eucharistic Ministers: N. Gasparovic
Blessed Cup: W. Stimac, A. Kucenic
Servers: A. Garcia, M. Garcia
Sacristans: H. Rebeck, W. Stimac

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

	Sun.06/28/26
Envelopes:	3080.00
Loose:	34.00
Building Fund:	210.00
Candles:	101.00
Poor Box:	11.00
Peter's Pence:	70.00
Fathers Day:	25.00
Donations:	50.00
Food Kitchen:	20.00
Mass Intentions:	10.00
In Memory Of:	150.00
(Catherine Chontos)	

Visit Our Sunday Visitor online giving at https://osvhub.com/stjohnthebaptistks/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.

Upcoming Events

Coffee and Donut Sunday

The event will be hosted by the **St. John's CC** on ***Sunday July 5th,*** Please come and join the parish for fellowship and updates from other parishioners.

Monthly Senior Luncheon

Senior meeting lunch will be served!. Bring a friend and come join us for fellowship, with bingo and prizes on ***Wednesday July 8th*** starting at 11 am in the church basement.

Food Kitchen

Food Kitchen date is for ***Monday July 13th.*** 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.

St. Bernadette's Circle

Members of the circle are invited to come to the meeting on ***Tuesday July 14th*** *at 6 pm* in the church basement. Not a member, but want to become a member? Call the office for more information 913-371-0627.

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.

Fire Within: Kindled for Transforming Union Silent Retreat

Christ's Peace House of Prayer
22131 Meagher Road - Easton, KS 66020

Friday, July 10th, at 5:30pm – Sunday, July 12th, at 4:30pm

This silent retreat invites you into the depths of contemplative prayer through the rich teachings of Fr. Thomas Dubay's Fire Within. Relying on the wisdom of St. Teresa of Ávila and St. John of the Cross, this retreat explores the transforming action of the Holy Spirit, who purifies, illuminates, and draws the soul into profound union with God. Participants will learn how to respond to God's invitation to deep prayer—moving beyond distraction and self-effort into the quiet openness where the Lord Himself becomes the Teacher. Fr. Dubay's insights on contemplation will help illuminate the stages of the interior life, the call to holiness, and the purifying fire of divine love. This retreat offers a peaceful space to be renewed, to listen, and to allow the Lord to kindle the flame of His transforming love in your heart. Pricing: · Cabins/Courtyard Rooms: $180 Single / $270 Couple · Single Guest Rooms: $110 (All meals included) To Register: Fill out the Individual Retreat Form at **ChristsPeace.com** or call 913-773-8255.

Broc Henry, son of **Kristen** and **Brad Henry** and grandson of **Ivana Morris**, graduated on ***May 15*** from **Fort Hayes Tech Northwest** in Goodland, KS. Broc received a degree in **Civil Engineering Technologies**.

Congratulations, **Broc Henry**!

The parishioners of **St. John the Baptist** extend their heartfelt congratulations to **Broc Henry,** son of **Kristen** and **Brad Henry** and grandson of parishioner **Ivana Morris**, on graduating from **Fort Hays Tech Northwest** in Goodland, Kansas, with a degree in **Civil Engineering Technologies**.

We celebrate your hard work and achievement and wish you God's abundant blessings and continued success as you begin this exciting new chapter.

Congratulations and best wishes for a bright future!

Lower Your Income and Taxes with an IRA QCD Gift to the Parish:
With an IRA QCD (*qualified charitable distribution*) gift to the parish endowment fund, you can support your parish and its long-term financial health, without impacting your cash flow and benefitting from lower taxes. For more information, contact the **Catholic Foundation of Northeast Kansas** at 913-647-3062 or **cfnek@archkck.org**.

2026 Jubilarians

Congratulations to the following School Sisters of **St. Francis of Christ the King** in Lemont, Illinois, who recently celebrated their milestone jubilees on *Sunday, June 28, 2026*. The celebration for the sisters began with Holy Mass at 11:00 a.m. in the little Mass Chapel at Mount Assisi Convent, with a dinner luncheon following at
The Dom, Slovenian Catholic Center in Lemont, Illinois. Over 165 people celebrated with the sisters consisting of family and other guests.

Sr. Barbara Markovich, OSF – 60 years

Sr. Germaine Sulak, OSF – 70 years

Sr. Francine Hribar, OSF – 70 years

Each Sister above had a special connection at Holy Family and St. John parish and schools. We would like to recognize **Sr. Barbara Markovich** in particular, who is a daughter of **St. John the Baptist** parish and grew up in the Croatian neighborhood of Strawberry Hill.

Thank you to all the Sisters for your service to our parishes over the years!

Eighteenth Annual

SLOVENEFEST 2026

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Celebrating over 118 years of Slovenian heritage on Strawberry Hill

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

274 Orchard Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101

HOLY MASS: 4:00 p.m. FESTIVITIES: 5-10:00 p.m.

Festivities at Msgr. Mejak Hall, Gym, & School Grounds
513 Ohio, KCK

- TRADITIONAL SLOVENIAN DINNER
- MINI SILENT AUCTION
- MEGA MONEY RAFFLE
- CHILDREN & ADULT GAMES
- CULTURAL BOOTH & SOUVENIRS

MUSIC & DANCING FEATURING:

The Brian McCarty Band & Hrvatski Običaj

For more information, visit our website at www.holyfamilychurchkck.org, find us on Facebook or contact the church office at 913-413-0022.
All proceeds to benefit Holy Family Church.

2026 Croatian Festival

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church on Historic Strawberry Hill

July 3-4, 2026

Strawberry Basket

The person who wins the Strawberry Basket get more than just a little basket of stuff. We often do not even have a container that fits everything. And when you add up the retail value of all the items, well, it is worth more than $1,100.

Every year, the contents of the basket change because the donations are very different.

The basket winner receives a festival T-shirt, a povitica and an apple strudel. But more, there are plates and cups along with many kitchen items decorated in strawberries.

This is the Strawberry Basket haul from two years ago when Joanne Lally won.

Other items might be music CDs, books, kids' items and who knows what else!

So, take a chance. Entries are $3 each, or 4 for $10. Bring or mail your tickets forms, or visit our online credit card form - and we will fill out the tickets for you.

You can buy them on festival night at the Strawberry Boutique, but do you really want to miss the fun while you stand there and fill out forms?

Online: stjohnthebaptistcatholicchurch.org; Click the "Festival button."

A Note of Thanks

Last week, we introduced you to some of our festival rock stars. Many festival team members return year after year to help with our parish's biggest fundraiser.

Not only do they give time (and a lot of it), but also spend their own money on supplies.

Without further ado, let's meet another group of festival folks.

Karolyn Tomasic is the lady behind the Strawberry Basket, the facepainting booth, the jewelry and 200 pounds of Croatian potato salad. She focuses on the kids to make sure there are lots of fun bracelets, earrings and decorated head-bands in their price range.

Mia Tomasic tells everyone that Festival Day is her favorite holiday! She began volunteering with her grandmother as a preschooler. Mia helped design this year's T-shirts; sets up our technology; helps with povitica and strudel making; and organizes the delicious cookie booth. (So, so good. Better get there before me.)

Sarah Soptic, with help from husband Greg (Brillo) and sister Stephanie Sandelich, oversees the povitica and strudel making sessions - making more than 100 of each. Sarah uses her Grandma's recipe and ensures that the delectable Croatian goodies are just right. Can't you just taste the treats?

Kenny Yarnevich and Rick Braun, along with an army of helpers, oversee the beer and spirits. From the order to parking the truck and serving the cold ones, Kenny and Rick are there to make sure you thirst is quenched on a hot night. Remember the tip jar....all that money goes right to the church.

You can see the big brigade behind the festival fun! It could not happen without them. More to come next week.

Support St. John the Baptist Festival Sponsorship

So...what is a sponsorship? It is a donation to the church. In the past few years, sponsorships have accounted for more than half of festival income.

The sponsorship can celebrate your family or memorialize a loved one who has died. It can be an advertisement for businesses.

We have a very large sponsorship banner each year that is posted (usually on the rectory) for several weeks. You can check it to see who you know on the list.

Installing new windows on our church.

It is easy to be a sponsor. And there are donation categories to fit every budget. If you would like to give an amount that doesn't fit the suggestions listed on the form, then choose Strawberry Pie for any amount.

What happens to the money?

Running a church is a lot like living in a house (but no taxes....) There are the typical bills for lights, air-conditioning, snow melt, insurance and supplies.

And building upkeep. Not exciting, but needed.

Take tuck-pointing the bricks on the auditorium. You probably don't see a huge difference, right? But that needed work prevents water damage and preserves the structural integrity of the place we have soccer watch parties, the Mother's Day breakfast, the sarma dinners and where we ate lunch.

And that is only one of many projects on the work-needed list.

When you make donations to the church or through the festival, your funds are used to continue this sacred place that our Croatian grandparents built for us.

Money Raffle

The money raffle was the mainstay of the Croatian Festival, formerly known as the St. John's Ice Cream Social.

For years, the tickets were printed by Skradski Funeral Home in little books of 10 and mailed to every house.

Today, the tickets arrive in sheets (cheaper to mail) and are available online.

Think 50 years back, when the first prize was a color television. That was big time.

These days, the prizes are cash - $30, $50, $75, $100, $250 and $500, totaling $1,000.

For just $1, you can buy a chance to win big. So, don't forget those tickets. And if you purchase them online, someone else will fill them out and deliver them to the rectory.

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 Hill

Chris Horn & Family

Strawberry Patch

Marty Yadrick

In Memory of Joseph & Catherine Podrebarac

In Memory of Joseph N. Modrcin

Mike & Karen Svetlic

Jerry Cindric

In Memory of Chris Braun & Bob Braun Sr.

Marie Kolich

Kathy Dumovich Kovac

Skradski & Sambol Families

In Memory of Helen Kolich Wells

Thank you, Sponsors! Together, you have raised $37,450 of our $60,000 goal - as of July 2, 2016. Banner deadline is Aug. 8, 2026.

Information: Kathy Lally Bareiss at kckcroatianfestival@gmail.com

Strawberry Plant

Charles & Mary Ann Trzok-Laundy
In Memory of Pete, Dorothy & Pat Novosel
The Kovac & Krupich Families
Loren & Kathy Lally Bareiss
Hal & Andrea Skradski Thomas
The Tomasic Family
The Lally Family
Bob Janesko
Christine Allen

Strawberry Shortcake

The Boan & Kovac Families
Ivana Morris & Dave Martin
Rick & Susan (Zunick) Robards
Anita Gasparovic
In Memory of Rita Rodina & Sam Stice
Mike and Annie Kucenic
The Tim & Cindy Cavlovic Family

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

Strawberry Seed

CJ & Mallory Krug
Bernadette Acinger West