

On September 8th we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Mary! It is a day of great joy, the day on which Mary who was immaculately conceived, was born. She is like the light of dawn before the coming of the rising sun. Remember to tell Mary happy birthday on that day. Perhaps in our homes we can even sing "Happy Birthday" to her together and maybe even have a cake with candle(s) or even some ice cream! I think we all like cake and ice cream, so why not celebrate our Blessed Mother's birthday? Let us thank God for the gift that He gave us, that Mary would be our mother also. While Jesus was hanging on the cross He looked down at St. John and Mary together and said to His mother, "Woman behold your son," and to John He said "Son behold your mother." At that moment John represented all of mankind, and so Jesus gave His mother to us. Below is part of a homily by Saint Andrew of Crete, bishop, (650-740 A.D.) on the Nativity of Mary.

The fulfillment of the law is Christ Himself, who does not so much lead us away from the letter as lift us up to its spirit. This is the highest, all-embracing benefit that Christ has bestowed on us. This is the revelation of the mystery, this is the emptying out of the divine nature, the union of God and man, and the deification of the manhood that was assumed. This radiant and manifest coming of God to men most certainly needed a joyful prelude to introduce the great gift of salvation to us. The present festival, the birth of the Mother of God, is the prelude, while the final act is the fore-ordained union of the Word with flesh. Today the Virgin is born, tended and formed and prepared for her role as Mother of God, who is the universal King of the ages.

Justly, then, do we celebrate this mystery since it signifies for us a double grace. We are led toward the truth, and we are led away from our condition of slavery to the letter of the law. How can this be? Darkness yields before the coming of the light, and grace exchanges legalism for freedom. But midway between the two stands today's mystery, at the frontier where types and symbols give way to reality, and the old is replaced by the new.

Therefore, let all creation sing and dance and unite to make worthy contribution to the celebration of this day. Let there be one common festival for saints in heaven and men on earth. Let everything, mundane things and those above, join in festive celebration. Today this created world is raised to the dignity of a holy place for Him who made all things. The creature is newly prepared to be a divine dwelling place for the Creator.

Mass Schedule and Intentions for This Week

Saturday, September 5 (St. Teresa of Calcutta)

Mass: 5:30pm († Mary Ann Belz Loy)

Sunday, September 6

Mass: 9:00am (For the People)
1:00pm († Bozica Bartulica)

Monday, September 7

Mass: 8:00am († Charles and Betty Kovac, Shawn Kovac)

Wednesday, September 9 (St. Peter Claver)

Mass: 8:00am († Janet Guardado)

Friday, September 11

Mass: 8:00am (All Souls Away from the Catholic Faith)

Saturday, September 12 (The Most Holy Name of Mary)

Mass: 5:30pm († Belz-Derc Family)

Sunday, September 13

Mass: 9:00am († Carol Riefskoh)
Mass: 1:00pm (Rileigh Wohletz and her Sisters at Carmel)

Confessions

Weekdays: 30 minutes before Daily Mass
Monday Holy Hour 6-7pm
Saturday: No Confessions
Sunday: 8:00-8:50am, 12:30-12:50pm

ADORATION: NO Adoration on 9/7 (Labor Day). The Church will be open for public prayer. There will still be Holy Hour at 6PM.

The Parish office will be closed 9/7 (Monday) and 9/9 (Wednesday)

This weekend we welcome Fr. Emmanuel, O.P., a priest from the Dominican Province of Nigeria, to give his mission appeal. For more information visit www.nigopmissionsusa.org May God bless their missionary work!

CCD: Classes are starting soon! These are for any children who do not attend Catholic school, beginning in the first grade. Sacrament preparation for First Holy Communion and Confirmation are also available. The diocese requires all parishioners, regardless of how they are educated, to participate in The Way in order to be Confirmed. More information and forms are available in the back of the church.

Giving Totals	Aug 28/29	Month of Aug
General:	\$13,840	\$45,386.75
Building/Repair:	\$1,161	\$3,479.52

Additional weekend servers are always welcomed!

Contact the office if your son would like to be trained!

Mass	9/12	9/13
Lector	Jennifer Dittimore	Holy Name
MC	Jack Short	Charlie Bartulica
Acolyte 1	Ben Allison	Peter Bartulica
Acolyte 2	Brian Daugherty	Patrick Wohletz
Thurifer		John Welchert

Parish Activities

St. James Youth Group and Bible Course

When: Every Tuesday 6:30-8 pm
Where: St. James Church basement
Who: 12-17-year-olds
OR
When: Every 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sunday 2:30-3:45
Where: Casper Erk/Gym
Bring a Bible, notebook, and an open heart!
Please email hmspstjoseph@gmail.com for more information.

BIBLE STUDY

Begins October 1st!

"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ" - St. Jerome

THURSDAYS

4:30 pm & 6:30 pm

Allow God to enlighten your life!

CASPER ERK ROOM

IN THE PARISH CENTER

Bring: bible, notebook & an open heart

SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

5814 KING HILL | SAINT JOSEPH, MO

Contacts:

816 500 2057

816 269 6527

Please join us for the 2nd annual

Saint James Parish Picnic

SEPTEMBER 27

2:30pm at Hyde Park

Hot dogs & hamburgers provided. Scan the QR code to sign up for side dishes, desserts, and various volunteer opportunities! Please bring your own lawn chairs and drinks! Visit the Facebook event for more information!

Point of contact:
Melissa Cox (816) 248-1746
Laura Welchert (816) 259-6434
Rachael Wohletz (785) 633-0623
Or contact the Parish Office

See you there!

Parish and School News

Southside Clean-Up

Sponsored by South St. Joseph Progressive Association

September 12, 2026 8-11AM

Hyde Park East Parking Lot

No appliances, televisions, or chemicals.

Will take tires and batteries.

OCIA Coming Soon!

Informational session

September 16th at 6pm in the Casper Erk room.

Classes begin September 23rd, same time and place!

If you are interested in joining our choir please contact our music director, Olivia VanderBol:

(217) 430-7320

This weeks Altar flowers for September 5/6 are provided in loving memory of Cecil and Lucille Vanover and Dick and Shirley Angst.