

Jackson County Catholic Community

Love

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21st, 2025

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Matthew shows how Jesus fulfills Jewish scripture (of which the Christian Old Testament is comprised) by echoing a story of the patriarch Joseph (Genesis 37-50) and citing Isaiah.

God communicates to both Joseph the patriarch and Joseph, Mary's betrothed, in dreams, but sends them in opposite directions. The patriarch dreamt of ruling over his brothers. His boasts about those dreams infuriated his brothers, who sold him into slavery in Egypt. Eventually, years later, God reunited their shattered family. By contrast, Joseph, Mary's betrothed, was about to shatter his family, when God's angel assured him that all would be well. We do not know if Joseph felt unworthy or upset, but his dream renewed his peace and confidence in the Lord.

In an aside to the dream, Matthew refers to the Septuagint (Greek) translation of Isaiah to show that Jesus' birth to Mary was predicted in the passage about the virgin with child. Matthew effectively repeats the original message: Emmanuel's peace extends to God's people. However, a fuller sense also emerges. Jesus brings the peace of Emmanuel. So, like Paul's opening to Romans, Matthew helps readers grasp Christ's identity in light of Jewish scripture. And, recalling the end of Matthew's Gospel, where Jesus sends His disciples across the globe, we see here that Jesus' "Emmanuel peace" extends to people of all times and places.

In Advent, we too participate in the preparatory work God first initiated by directing the chosen people to look forward to Christ's coming. Now, we look for Him to come again.

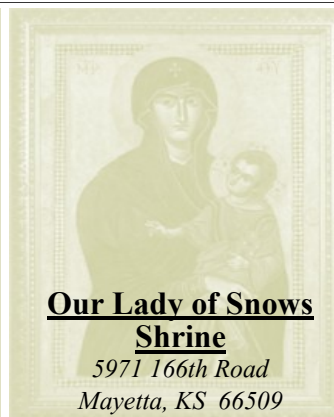
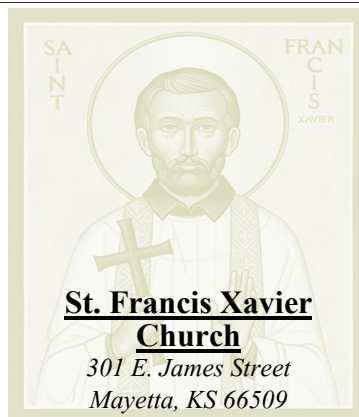
~Eric J. Wagner CR

TODAY'S READINGS:

Reading I: Isaiah 7:10-14

Reading II: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24



PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Jonathan Dizon

jdizon@archkck.org

For sacramental emergencies, please call the Rectory: (785) 362-7026

PARISH OFFICE:

115 E. 5th St., Holton, KS 66436

Phone: (785) 364-3262

Website: <https://jacocatholics.com>

OFFICE HOURS:

8:30 a.m. ~ 1:30 p.m. Tues.~Thurs.

9:15 a.m. ~ 12 noon Friday

PARISH STAFF:

Pastoral Associate: S. Dyann Parks

parish.jacocatholics@gmail.com

Director Parish Life & Faith Formation:

Angie Reith

jacocatholicsre@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: Vera Rioux

Business Mngr.: Marilyn Atkinson

acct.jacocatholics@gmail.com

Custodians: Kenyon Moran (St. D)

Vera Rioux (St. FX)

WEEKDAY MASS Schedule:

St. Francis Xavier:

8:30 a.m. ~ Tues., and Thurs.

St. Dominic:

5:30 p.m. ~ Wednesday

8:30 a.m. ~ Friday

WEEKEND MASS Schedule:

Saturday Vigil

5:30 p.m. ~ @ St. Dominic

Sunday

7:00 a.m. ~ @ St. Dominic

8:30 a.m. ~ @ St. Francis Xavier

8:30 a.m. ~ @ Our Lady of Snows

10:30 a.m. ~ @ St. Dominic

CONFESSION Schedule:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. @ St. Dominic

Weekends, 30 minutes prior to each weekend Mass

(excluding 7:00 a.m. Mass)

ADORATION Schedule:

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. @ St. Dominic

BAPTISM: Those requesting baptism for their children need to be registered parishioners. Preparation classes are required for parents and Godparents prior to event.

MARRIAGE: Preparation begins with initial consult with parish priest. Please allow at least six months notice to fulfill the Archdiocesan marriage requirements.

ANointing of the SICK: Call the office during business hours. Call the rectory after hours or for emergencies. If no answer, call (785) 364-7402.

DECLARATION of NULLITY:

Please call the parish office for details.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE: next week

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Dec. 27th & 28th	Sat. 12/27 @ 5:30 pm SD	Sun. 12/28 @ 7:00 am SD	Sun. 12/28 @ 8:30 am SFX	Sun. 12/28 @ 10:30 am SD
SACRISTAN	Wanda Weldin		Vera Rioux	Josh Shupe
MUSIC	Cody Utz		Andrea Bailey Patricia Goering	Kenneth Kietzman Dyann Parks
LECTOR	Alberta Lierz	CANCELLED	Catherine Holthaus	Mike Tanking
GREETER- USHER	Rick & Katie Heinen		Thad & Paige Holthaus	Lee & Pam Doyle
EMHC	D'Ann Decker		Joann Walker	Theresa Watkins
Acolytes			Nick Rioux (CB) Zack Rioux, Hannah Holthaus	Julia Keling Jack Keling, Emmy Pruett

Homebound Communion Ministers: Niki Meerpohl (*St. Dominic*), Marceta Reilly (*St. Francis Xavier*), and Darrin Reith (*Nursing Homes*)

CALENDAR of EVENTS

December 22nd, Monday

Parish Office is Closed

7:00 p.m. **K of C Mtg.**

St. Dominic Parish Hall

December 23rd, Tuesday

8:30 a.m. **NO MASS**

St. Francis Xavier

11:00 a.m. **Funeral**

St. Francis Xavier

December 24th, Wednesday

5:30 p.m. **MASS**

St. Francis Xavier

7:00 p.m. **MASS**

St. Dominic

6:00 p.m. **NO Adoration OR Reconciliation**

St. Dominic

6:30 p.m. **NO Religious Ed.**

St. Dominic Hall

December 25th, Thursday (Office will close at noon)

10:30 a.m. **MASS**

St. Dominic

6:00 p.m. **NO O.C.I.A.**

St. Dominic Hall

December 26th, Friday

8:30 a.m. **MASS**

St. Dominic

December 27th, Saturday

5:00 p.m. **Confession**

St. Dominic

5:30 p.m. **Mass**

St. Dominic

December 28th, Sunday

7:00 a.m. **NO MASS**

St. Dominic

8:00 a.m. **Confession**

St. Francis Xavier

8:30 a.m. **Mass**

St. Francis Xavier

9:30 a.m. **NO Religious Ed.**

St. Francis Xavier

8:30 a.m. **Mass**

Our Lady of Snows

10:00 a.m. **Confession**

St. Dominic

10:30 a.m. **Mass**

St. Dominic

December 29th, Monday

Parish Office is Closed

PASTORAL COUNCILS		FINANCE COUNCILS	
St. Dominic	St. Francis Xavier	St. Dominic	St. Francis Xavier
Jenea Chartier	Jeri Albright	Barb Heideman	Mary Lou Koch
Jessi Deters	Marie Burdick	David Ashcraft	Sharon Cole
Cathy Haug	Ben Ehrhart	Diane Gross	Farrell Holthaus
Wayne Leiker	Chris Everts	Mark Starr	Donald Sunday
Niki Meerpohl	Mike Henry		
Joshua Shupe	Marquerite Mzhickteno		
Theresa Watkins			


NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

The St. Dominic, St Francis Xavier & Our Lady of Snows Catholic Communities
Extend Their Sincerest Sympathies And Heartfelt Prayers to the families of

Dot Sosna

St. Francis Xavier Parishioner

**ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD AND LET PERPETUAL
LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.**



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For more information contact:
pilgrimages@worldvillages.org
www.worldvillages.org

Archbishop Emeritus Joseph F. Naumann of the Archdiocese of Kansas City

Fr. Anthony Salki, Vice-Chancellor, Director of Canonical Services Kansas City, Rector at Cathedral of St. Peter

Fr. Luke Prihoda of St. Rose of Lima Parish Schulenburg, Texas

CONGRATULATIONS!!



Eli Barnett and Emerson Irene Schuster
Son and daughter of
Michael & Amanda Schuster

Baptized on December 14th, 2025

PARISH STEWARDSHIP December 13th & 14th, 2025	St. Dominic	St. Francis Xavier
Envelopes (Incl. November Dir. Dep.)	\$2,610.00	\$1,225.00
Plate	531.00	158.00
TOTAL	\$3,141.00	\$1,383.00
Week of December 6th & 7th	\$7,950.50	\$3,593.75
Week of November 29th & 30th	\$3,189.48	\$1,397.00

PRAYER INTENTIONS

INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV FOR DECEMBER:

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

INTENTIONS OF FR. JONATHAN FOR DECEMBER:

For a meaningful and fruitful observance of the season of Advent.

PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS:

Parishioners:

Barbara Bausch	Bill Berns	Bob Butts	Mary Devader
Steve Devlin	Mildred Eisenbarth	Sheila Fernkopf	Freda Galer
Martin John Hamm	Mary Harris	Pat Hasenkamp	Ed Hrenchir
Carolyn Koger	Karen McClaskey	Mike McClaskey	Don Morford
Mary Morford	Richard Mulroy	Mike Myers	Joe Purcell
Larry Reilly	Ramona Robinson	Barb Schussler	Kade Sides
Arneil Springer	Evelyn Sullivan	Ray Zeller	

Relatives of Parishioners:

Jorgan Beck	Christopher Brown	Roger Brown	James DeVader
Don Dillner	Brad Fiedler	Dennis Fiedler	Jennifer Fiedler
Mike Fiedler	Sherri Fiedler	Warren Fiedler	Van Fuqua
Allan Gibson	Gladys Gibson	Kase Glassel	Jamie Goldman
Vickie Goodman	Dan Gruber	Eric Harris	Floyd Klein
Carrie Lierz	Felicia Nicholes	Lainey Parks	Leonard Riley
Danyell Russell	Butch Schiffbauer	Linda Schiffbauer	Anna Segenhagen

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM:

US Army: MP ANG Therron Fox SSgt. Matthew Zeller **US Marines:** Maj. JP Turner

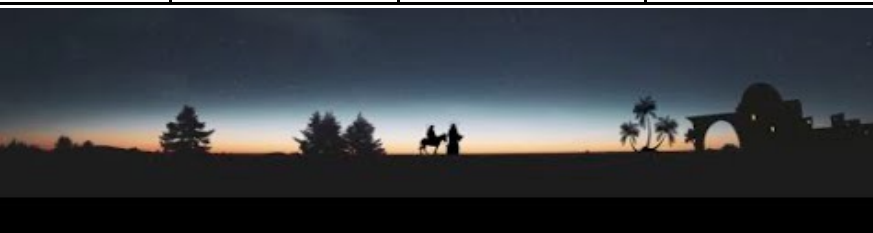
US Navy: E-5 Dennis Reed Potter **US Air Force:** MSgt. Dylan Parks, TSgt. Nicole Parks

To place or remove someone's name on the prayer list, please call the Parish Office.

SPECIAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve., and Day

	Wed., 12/24/25 5:30 p.m. @ St. FX	Wed., 12/24/25 7:00 p.m. @ St. D	Thurs., 12/24/25 10:30 a.m. @ St. D
SACRISTAN	Joann Walker	Wanda Weldin	Terry Ludvick
MUSIC	Ken Kietzman & Choir	Cody Utz, Michelle Niehues, Dyann Parks	Leigha Sweet Jenea Chartier
LECTOR	Thad Holthaus	Darrin Reith	Tim Henry
GREETERS/ USHERS	Chris Harris and Farrell Holthaus	Kenyon & Carolyn Moran	Gary & Annette Schreiber
EMHC	Kathy Devlin	Jenny Lancaster	Judy Arnold
ACOLYTES	Lanna Brown (CB) Dalton Cole Paige Holthaus, Maddie Everts	Bennett Lancaster Xavier Howard, Amelia Larkins	Ambree Leiker Axyl Deters Calvin Henry



MASS INTENTIONS for the WEEK

December 20th (Sat) 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	4th Sunday of Advent Bob Krogman+
December 21st (Sun) 7:00 a.m. St. Dominic	4th Sunday of Advent NO MASS
8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	Gene Stallbaumer Family, Living and Deceased
10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	Ronald H. Collins+
December 23rd (Tues) 11:00 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	St John of Kanty, Priest Dot Sosna+
December 24th (Wed) 5:30 p.m. St. Francis Xavier	Christmas Eve. Linn & Elsie Beam
7:00 p.m. St. Dominic	Dale Reed+
December 25th (Thurs) 10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	Nativity of the Lord Suffering Souls in Purgatory
December 26th (Fri) 8:30 a.m. St. Dominic	St Stephen, 1st Martyr Kay Ludvick+ Darrel G. Meyer+
December 27th (Sat) 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph Ben & Marge Fox+
December 28th (Sun) 7:00 a.m. St. Dominic	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph NO MASS
8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	Dan Henry Family, Living & Deceased
10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	Jerry McGuffin+ All Parish Members, Living & Deceased

The St. Dominic, St Francis Xavier & Our Lady of Snows Catholic Communities extend their sincerest sympathies and heartfelt prayers to the family of

T.A. Parks

Mother of Tim Parks

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let your perpetual light shine upon them.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

Angie Reith, Director of Religious Education
(785) 364-5941 or jacocatholicsre@gmail.com

Religious Education (CCD) Times:

St. D. Wed.: 6:30 pm **St. FX Sun.:** 9:30 am

UPCOMING DATES OF IMPORTANCE...

Christmas Break:

*NO Religious Ed. Classes or OCIA
on the following dates...*

December 24th, 2025 - January 8th, 2026

Class will resume...

Jan. 11th → **St. FX** and Jan. 14th → **St. D**

January 7th, 2025:

Catechists' Appreciation Dinner

Please, RSVP to Angie by January 1st

THEMES: FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT, YEAR A

The 4th Sunday of Advent continues a time of waiting and hope. The readings show God's promise, Jesus' coming, and our call to trust.

- ♦ **God's Promise:** God promises a sign through Isaiah, showing He is with His people. Jesus' birth is the fulfillment of that promise.
- ♦ **Faith and Trust:** Ahaz struggles to trust God, but Joseph listens and obeys. Faith means believing even when we do not fully understand.
- ♦ **Jesus as Emmanuel:** The name Emmanuel means "God is with us". Jesus comes to be close to His people and bring them hope.
- ♦ **Obedience to God:** Joseph follows God's message despite fear and uncertainty. Trusting God often requires action, even when it is hard.
- ♦ **God's Plan for Salvation:** Paul reminds the Romans that Jesus' coming is part of God's plan. Salvation is a gift meant for all people.
- ♦ **Hope in Waiting:** Advent is a time of waiting for Jesus. The readings remind us that God's plan unfolds in His time.

Advent invites people to prepare for Jesus with faith and hope. The 4th Sunday of Advent year A reminds us that God keeps His promises.

(YoungCatholics.com)

formed
Forming Catholics for Life

This Week on Formed

Week of December 21, 2025



The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special

In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.



Christmas | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they look at the painting Adoration of the Shepherds by Gerard van Honthorst to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord. This famous painting reveals the Christ Child as the light that has come into the world and also depicts the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph, and the shepherds to be models of adoration to our humble Lord who came as a helpless baby.



What Catholics Believe About Christmas: Traditions, Santa Claus

Join Dr. Michael Barber as he answers some of the Internet's most popular questions about Christmas. What are the 12 days of Christmas? Was Santa Claus a real person? What is Advent?

Our parish has a Formed subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

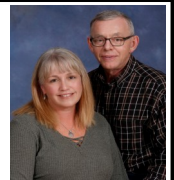
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