

# Jackson County Catholic Community



Third Sunday of Lent

March 8th, 2026

## REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

The Gospel of John is unique in offering lengthy conversations between Jesus and individuals such as Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, the man born blind, Martha of Bethany, and Pontius Pilate. Indeed, while it seems that they interrogate Jesus, it is actually Jesus who interrogates them as he proclaims the truth. Such conversations are part of John's strategy to call future believers to faith in Jesus, who is the embodiment of truth. And all are measured against the gold standard of discipleship found in the mother of Jesus, who unquestioningly accepted Jesus' word at the wedding feast at Cana (John 2:1-12).

As with other Gospels, John focuses attention on Jesus' mission to His own people, while also hinting that His message has a wider distribution. John 4 is a pivotal moment because the earlier witness that focused exclusively on Jews, such as Nicodemus (John 3:1-21) and John the Baptist (John 3:22-30), now extends beyond Judaism to the world of the Samaritans. This expansion unfolds in the four scenes of today's reading: an initial conversation with the woman, a deeper conversation with the woman, a conversation with the disciples, and the final witness from the Samaritans.

The first scene is dominated by a conversation about water. Jesus contrasts the stagnant water in the well with flowing ("living") water, as He tries to draw the woman out of her narrow focus on the physical task. But His offer makes no sense to her, and she responds with suspicion: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Her suspicion gives way to perplexity, as she addresses Him as "sir" and begins to wonder if He is the equal of her ancestor Jacob. But even Jesus' explanation of water as "welling up to eternal life" means little to her, for she is looking for something to free her from fetching water daily. By the end of the first scene, there is no evidence of faith, but there is evidence of openness.

The second scene moves from the focus on water and the gift of God to a slow uncovering of "the one speaking" to her. Engaging her yet again, Jesus asks her to call her husband and return. The revelation of the details of her life leads her to identify Jesus as a prophet, and it is to emphasize Jesus' prophetic insight (and not to embarrass the woman) that the conversation takes place. Jesus' prophetic power has captured her attention—this is something she can understand, in contrast to the conversation about water. It is at this point that Jesus moves the conversation toward true worship (which is related to the gift of water that she earlier could not understand). These are ideas that go beyond her traditional understanding of ancestry, worship, ethnicity, and even prophecy. Thus, she now ventures to identify Him as the messiah. Jesus responds, for the first time, with John's favored identification for Jesus: *ego eimi* (I AM, in Greek). In truth, Jesus is more than a savior - He reveals God in His very person because He is the Son of God, God incarnate.

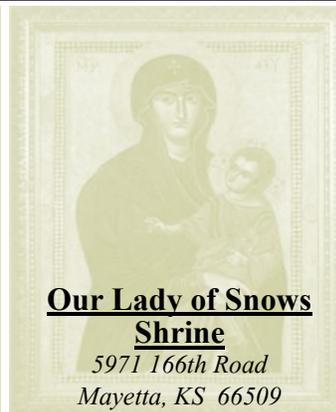
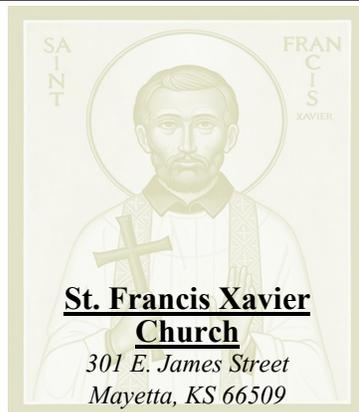
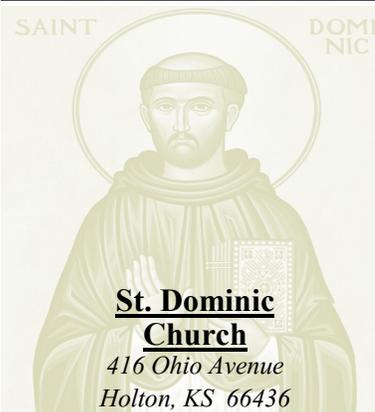
The third scene follows the return of the disciples, which prompts the woman to leave. Astonished at what they see and hear, their conversation with Jesus misunderstands what He says regarding food, nourishment, and mission. Clarifying that His food is to do the will of the Father and bring it to completion, Jesus tells the disciples that they will reap what He has sown. And so it is, as other Samaritans enter in the fourth scene. While the woman's words first motivated them, it is ultimately Jesus' word that brings them to belief. They come to full faith as they profess Him to be the "savior of the world". The Samaritan woman's turn to the Lord bears full fruit in the faith of her people. ~Stephen J. Lampe

### TODAY'S READINGS:

Reading I: Exodus 17:3-7

Reading II: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel: John 4:5-42



### PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Jonathan Dizon

[jdizon@archkck.org](mailto: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](mailto:parish.jacocatholics@gmail.com)

Director Parish Life & Faith Formation:

Angie Reith

[jacocatholicsre@gmail.com](mailto:jacocatholicsre@gmail.com)

Bookkeeper: Vera Rioux

Business Mgr.: Marilyn Atkinson

[acct.jacocatholics@gmail.com](mailto: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. D: **Cancelled until further notice.**

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 St. FX and St. D weekend Masses

### 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

4th Sunday of Lent

March 14th & 15th	Sat. 03/14 @ 5:30 pm SD	Sun. 03/15 @ 7:00 am SD	Sun. 03/15 @ 8:30 am SFX	Sun. 03/15 @ 10:30 am SD
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Wanda Weldin	Cancelled	Joann Walker	Terry Ludvick
<b>MUSIC</b>	Cody Utz		Marguerite Mzhickteno Charlii Brown, Ken Kietzman	Jenea Chartier Robin Sides
<b>LECTOR</b>	Darrin Reith		Marceta Reilly	Susan Schirmer
<b>GREETER- USHER</b>	Bob Fox, Jean Lierz		Jim & Marsha Seematter	Cullen & Nikki Jackson
<b>EMHC</b>	D'Ann Decker		Sharon Cole	Karen Leiker
<b>Acolytes</b>			Dalton Cole (CB) Hannah & Paige Holthaus	Bennett Lancaster (CB) Calvin Henry, Xavier Howard

Homebound Communion Ministers: Niki Meerpohl (*St. Dominic*), Alice Zeller (*St. Francis Xavier*), and Paula Morris (*Nursing Homes*)

CALENDAR of EVENTS

<b>March 9th, Monday</b> <b>Parish Office is Closed</b> 6:00 p.m. <b>BEATITUDES Mtg.</b>	<b>St. Dominic Hall</b>
<b>March 10th, Tuesday</b> 8:30 a.m. <b>MASS</b>	<b>St. Francis Xavier</b>
<b>March 11th, Wednesday</b> 5:30 p.m. <b>MASS</b> 6:00 p.m. <b>Adoration and Confession</b> 6:30 p.m. <b>Religious Ed.</b>	<b>St. Dominic</b> <b>St. Dominic</b> <b>St. Dominic Hall</b>
<b>March 12th, Thursday</b> 8:30 a.m. <b>MASS</b> 6:00 p.m. <b>O.C.I.A.</b>	<b>St. Francis Xavier</b> <b>St. Dominic Office</b>
<b>March 13th, Friday</b> 8:30 a.m. <b>MASS</b> 5:30 p.m. <b>Stations of the Cross</b> 5:00-7:00 p.m. <b>Fish Fry</b>	<b>St. Dominic</b> <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> <b>St. Dominic Hall</b>
<b>March 14th, Saturday</b> 5:00 p.m. <b>Confession</b> 5:30 p.m. <b>MASS</b>	<b>St. Dominic</b> <b>St. Dominic</b>
<b>March 15th, Sunday</b> 8:00 a.m. <b>Confession</b> 8:30 a.m. <b>Mass</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>BEATITUDES Mtg</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>NO Religious Ed.</b> 8:30 a.m. <b>Mass</b> 10:00 a.m. <b>Confession</b>	<b>St. Francis Xavier</b> <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> <b>St. Francis Xavier</b> <b>Our Lady of Snows</b> <b>St. Dominic</b>
<b>March 16th, Monday</b> <b>Parish Office is Closed</b> 6:00 p.m. <b>BEATITUDES Mtg.</b> 6:30 p.m. <b>Rosary Fellowship</b>	<b>St. Dominic Hall</b> <b>St. Dominic Hall</b>

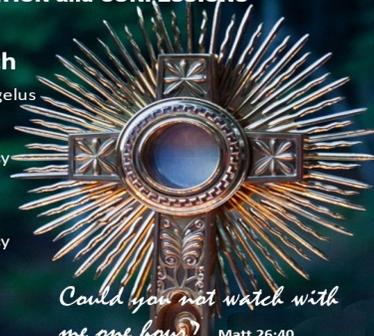
NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**24 HOURS with the LORD**  
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION and CONFESSIONS

MARCH 20 - 21, 2026

St. Dominic Catholic Church

6:00 pm	Solemn Exposition/Angelus
8:00 pm	Confessions
9:00 pm	Rosary
12 midnight	Chaplet of Divine Mercy
6:00 am	Angelus
9:00 am	Rosary
12 noon	Angelus
3:00 pm	Chaplet of Divine Mercy
4:00 pm	Confessions
5:00 pm	Solemn Benediction



*Could you not watch with me one hour?* Matt 26:40

**SFX Lenten ALMSGIVING tree**

To practice the Lenten discipline of almsgiving, we are encouraging everyone to pick a tag off of our Lenten almsgiving tree. Each colored tag represents an item that can be donated to one of four charitable programs:

- JCMA Food Pantry
- JaCo Crisis Pregnancy Center
- JCMA Essential Bags
- Mayetta Blessing Box

Items can be dropped off in the lobby area of St. Francis Xavier. Thank you for your generosity.

ACTS ARCHDIOCESAN CALL TO SHARE (as of Feb. 27th, 2026)	Saint Dominic	St Francis Xavier
	Target Goal	\$18,000.00
Total Committed	\$11,905.00	\$2,730.00
Goal Progress	66%	55%
Participation %	18%	20%

PARISH STEWARDSHIP February 28 & March 1, 2026	St. Dominic	St. Francis Xavier
<b>Envelopes</b> (Includes Feb. Direct Deposit )	\$10,415.00	\$2,515.00
<b>Plate</b>	415.00	317.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$10,830.00	\$2,382.00
<i>Week of February 21st &amp; 22nd</i>	\$5,999.50	\$2,282.25
<i>Week of February 14th &amp; 15th</i>	\$3,716.05	\$1,287.00

PASTORAL COUNCILS

FINANCE COUNCILS

<u>St. Dominic</u>	<u>St. Francis Xavier</u>	<u>St. Dominic</u>	<u>St. Francis Xavier</u>
Wayne Leiker	Ben Ehrhart	Barb Heideman	Mary Lou Koch
Bethany Henry	Marie Burdick	David Ashcraft	Sharon Cole
Leigha Sweet	Chris Everts	Diane Gross	Farrell Holthaus
Cody Utz	Marguerite Mzhickteno	Mark Starr	Donald Sunday
Niki Meerpohl	Jeri Albright		
Joshua Shupe	Mike Henry		
Theresa Watkins	Tina Bailey		

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

### INTENTIONS OF POPE LEO XIV FOR MARCH:

#### For Disarmament and Peace

Let us pray, that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy, instead of violence.

### INTENTIONS OF FR. JONATHAN FOR MARCH:

For all members of our parish, to make good and honest effort to fulfill our Lenten disciplines as we look forward to the Easter festivities.

### PARISH PRAYER INTENTIONS:

#### Parishioners:

Barbara Bausch	Bill Berns	Jim Bowhay	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:

Bill Albright	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	Eric Harris	Floyd Klein
Felicia Nicholes	Lainey Parks	Leonard Riley	Danyell Russell
Butch Schiffbauer	Linda Schiffbauer	Anna Segenhagen	Hannah VanHorn
Susana Dizon			

### 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:** Andrew Morris, McClain Morris,  
 MSgt. Dylan Parks, TSgt. Nicole Parks

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

## MASS INTENTIONS for the WEEK

<b>March 7th (Sat)</b> 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	<b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b> Oswin Johnson Family
<b>March 8th (Sun)</b> 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier 10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	<b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b> Dot Sosna+ All Parishioners, Living & Deceased
<b>March 10th (Tues.)</b> 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	<b>Lenten Weekday</b> Larry Larkin Marian Paulsen
<b>March 11th (Wed)</b> 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	<b>Lenten Weekday</b> Alicia Quigley+ Charlene Herbers+
<b>March 12th (Thurs)</b> 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	<b>Lenten Weekday</b> Rick Cole+ Anna Wilder+
<b>March 13th (Fri)</b> 8:30 a.m. St. Dominic	<b>Lenten Weekday</b> Susana Dizon Barbara Berg
<b>March 14th (Sat)</b> 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	<b>4th Sunday of Lent</b> All Parishioners, Living & Deceased
<b>March 15th (Sun)</b> 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier 10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	<b>4th Sunday of Lent</b> Corky Albright+ Gail Schmitz+

JOIN US THIS LENT FOR A FOUR-PART SMALL-GROUP EXPERIENCE  
 DESIGNED TO DEEPEN YOUR ENGAGEMENT IN THE FAITH AND OUR PARISH

**ST. DOMINIC**  
 MARCH 2, 9, 16 & 23 (MONDAYS @ 6PM) SD PARISH HALL  
**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER**  
 MARCH 8, 15, 22 & 29 (SUNDAYS @ 9:30AM) SFX PARISH HALL

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

**Angie Reith**, Director of Religious Education  
 (785) 364-5941 or [jacocatholicsre@gmail.com](mailto:jacocatholicsre@gmail.com)

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#### Upcoming Dates

**March 15: Spring Break- No Class @ St. FX**

**March 18: Spring Break- No Class @ St. D**

**April 11: 1st Communion Retreat, BOTH  
 Parishes, @ St. Dominic Parish Hall**

**April 25: First Communion @ St. Dominic**

**April 26: First Communion @ St. Francis**

**April 29th: LAST CLASS @ St. Dominic**

**May 3rd: LAST CLASS @ St. Francis Xavier,**

**May 3rd; Graduation Sunday,**

**May 3rd; May Crowning**

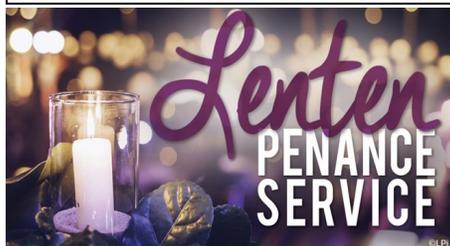
### CLASS TIMES

**St. Dominic:**

**Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

**St. Francis Xavier:**

**Sundays 9:30–10:30 a.m.**



### TOPEKA REGION

Mar 7 Sat	9:30AM	Most Pure Heart of Mary
Mar 8 Sun	2:00PM	Mother Teresa of Calcutta
Mar 9 Mon	7:00PM	Sacred Heart / Our Lady of Guadalupe
Mar 10 Tue	7:00PM	Christ the King
Mar 11 Wed	7:00PM	Saint Matthew
Mar 12 Thu	7:00PM	Mater Dei (Holy Name)

## 2026 SCHEDULE

### JACKSON COUNTY

Mar 17 Tue 6PM St Francis Xavier  
 Mar 18 Wed 6PM Saint Dominic



The **CHRISM MASS** will be celebrated on **March 31 (12 noon)** at **Corpus Christ Catholic Church** in Lawrence, Kansas. Two (2) attendees from **each parish** is allowed.

Please email Fr. Jonathan ([jdizon@archkck.org](mailto:jdizon@archkck.org)) by March 20 if you're interested. First come, first serve.

## THEMES: 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

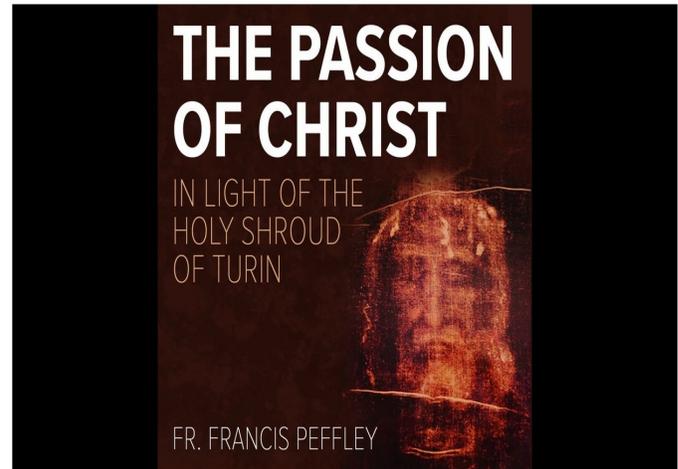
This week focuses on themes of faith, conversion, and God's desire to fill us with new life. The readings show us God's response to human needs and how He calls us to turn to Him with open hearts.

- ◆ **Spiritual Thirst:** The Israelites thirsted in the desert, and the woman at the well thirsted for something deeper in life. God wants to satisfy our thirst for meaning and truth.
- ◆ **God's Faithfulness:** God provides water to the Israelites in the desert and offers living water through Jesus to the Samaritan woman. These stories remind us that God is always faithful, even when we struggle to trust Him.
- ◆ **Repentance and Conversion:** The Samaritan woman's encounter with Jesus changes her life. Lent is a time to repent and let God transform us just as He transformed her.
- ◆ **God's Love for Sinners:** Jesus meets the Samaritan woman where she is, despite her sins and past. God does not turn away from us but invites us to receive His mercy.
- ◆ **Jesus, the Living Water:** Jesus speaks of the living water that brings eternal life. He alone can fulfill our deepest longings and give us life that never fades.
- ◆ **Witness and Evangelization:** After meeting Jesus, the Samaritan woman goes back to her town and shares her experience. Her witness shows us that sharing our faith can lead others to seek Jesus.
- ◆ **Peace Through Reconciliation:** St. Paul writes about the peace we have with God through Jesus. Lent calls us to seek this peace by being reconciled to God and others.

*Durning Lent, we are reminded that the Church invites us to open our hearts to God's love and mercy. This Sunday's readings encourage us to deepen our faith and let God refresh our spirits.*

(YoungCatholics.com)

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## The Passion of Christ in Light of the Holy Shroud of Turin by Fr. F. Peffley

The Holy Shroud of Turin was called the greatest relic in Christendom by Pope St. John Paul II. Fr. Peffley presents new, detailed scientific and medical evidence for the authenticity of the Holy Shroud.

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An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

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