

Jackson County Catholic Community



DO WE HAVE THE
EYES TO SEE HIM?

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 15th, 2026

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

As we saw last week in the story of the Samaritan woman at the well, John's Gospel skillfully employs significant encounters to deepen the faith of those who believe and to spark faith in those who are seeking insight. While the historical facts of the scene are lost to us, its revelatory power is not.

Many of the characters and features of last week's Gospel reading are present: the disciples, neighbors, and an individual who begins with misunderstanding and comes to insight. Other elements are new: the day is a Sabbath during the celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles, the healing occurs near the Pharisees, and later "the Jews", are interlocutors as well.

The account begins with a frequent occurrence; the disciples ask a question. Their question is based on the common belief that because physical affliction can not come from God, it must be the result of some sin. But whose? Their question has several results: it draws attention to the man born blind, it enables Jesus to move beyond the concrete reality, it is an opportunity for Jesus to direct others to God's glory, and it allows the disciples to witness a miracle. Following the opening of the story and Jesus' healing of the man, two trajectories emerge. First, the man born blind moves from blindness to physical sight to spiritual insight into Jesus' identity. Second, the neighbors, the Pharisees, and "the Jews" are riven with division and progressive blindness. All of this unfolds amid rich symbolism.

With their question, the disciples draw attention to the man born blind. Based on his declaration that "the works of God might be made visible" through the blind man, Jesus spits, makes clay, and smears it on the man's eyes. He then instructs the man to go and wash. When the blind man complies with Jesus' request, he is able to see when he comes back! But this is no ordinary miracle. Notice that the man is instructed to go to the pool of Siloam, "which means Sent". It is not the pool that is "sent", nor does it heal. What heals the man is Jesus' power as the one who is sent by the Father and who is life-giving water. Such rich symbolism is, of course, lost on the man, who only knows that the man called Jesus has accomplished this. Importantly, however, he humbly recognizes his lack of insight: "I don't know". Thus, through his subsequent interactions with neighbors, the Pharisees, and "the Jews", and ultimately with Jesus Himself, the man's physical sight expands to spiritual insight. He realizes that Jesus is a prophet, a devout man who does God's will, and one who comes from God. Ultimately, the man recognizes Jesus as the Son of Man who has come to make God known. Having professed his faith, the man born blind's final posture is one of worship.

The man's journey from blindness to sight to spiritual insight is contrasted with the progressive blindness of others. Whereas the man realized his lack of insight, others are divided by their knowledge. The neighbors cannot decide if the healed man was the one who begged or someone who just looked like him. The Pharisees are divided over the fact that the man's healing was the result of work on the Sabbath by a sinful man. The "Jews" (a Johannine euphemism for those who reject Jesus' messiahship, and not applicable to Jews in general) attempt to undermine the man's claim of healing by questioning whether he was born blind. Later they question Jesus' origins, determining that both he and the healed man are sinners. In the end, confronted with a manifestation of God's healing power, they cling to what they "know" and sink deeper into blindness.

The story concludes with two encounters, one between Jesus and the man who has come to sight, and a more general encounter between Jesus and the Pharisees. While He Himself does not judge, His presence as light of the world does clarify and identify. It illuminates those who stubbornly cling to what they already "know", and have no openness to what Jesus reveals, and who remains "blind".

~Stephan J. Lampe

TODAY'S READINGS:

Reading I: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Reading II: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

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. 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

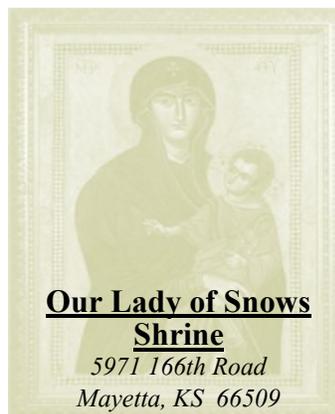
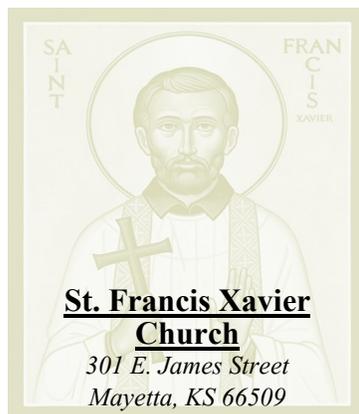
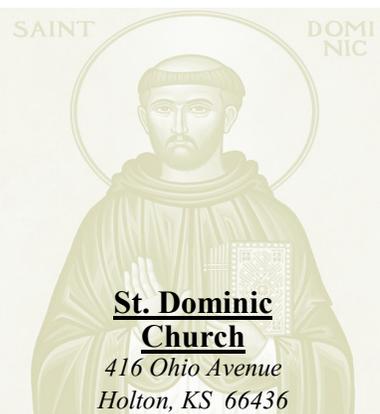
the office during business hours. Call the

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

5th Sunday of Lent

March 21st & 22nd	Sat. 03/21 @ 5:30 pm SD	Sun. 03/22 @ 7:00 am SD	Sun. 03/22 @ 8:30 am SFX	Sun. 03/22 @ 10:30 am SD
SACRISTAN	Wanda Weldin	Cancelled	Vera Rioux	Darrin Reith
MUSIC	Dyann Parks		Andrea Bailey Patricia Goering	Jenea Chartier
LECTOR	Vickie Pruett		Alice Zeller	Mike Tanking
GREETER- USHER	Rick & Katie Heinen		Steve Devlin, Ben Ehrhart	Gary & Debbie Kelly
EMHC	Pat Doyle		Kathy Devlin	Wayne Leiker
Acolytes			Nick Rioux (CB) Charlii Brown, Zack Rioux	Colton Grisell (CB) Colby Grisell, Emmy Pruett

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

CALENDAR of EVENTS

March 16th, Monday	
Parish Office is Closed	
6:00 p.m. BEATITUDES Mtg.	St. Dominic Hall
6:30 p.m. Rosary Fellowship	St. Dominic Hall
March 17th, Tuesday	
8:30 a.m. MASS	St. Francis Xavier
6:00 p.m. Penance Service	St. Francis Xavier
March 18th, Wednesday	
5:30 p.m. MASS	St. Dominic
6:00 p.m. Penance Service (No Adoration)	St. Dominic
6:30 p.m. NO Religious Ed.	St. Dominic Hall
March 19th, Thursday	
8:30 a.m. MASS	St. Francis Xavier
6:00 p.m. NO O.C.I.A. Class	St. Dominic Office
March 20th, Friday	
8:30 a.m. MASS	St. Dominic
5:30 p.m. 24 Hour Adoration Begins	St. Dominic
5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross	St. Dominic
5:00-7:00 p.m. Fish Fry	St. Francis Xavier
March 21st, Saturday	
4:00 p.m. Confession	St. Dominic
5:30 p.m. MASS	St. Dominic
March 22nd, Sunday	
8:00 a.m. Confession	St. Francis Xavier
8:30 a.m. Mass	St. Francis Xavier
9:30 a.m. BEATITUDES Mtg	St. Francis Xavier
9:30 a.m. 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
March 23rd, Monday	
Parish Office is Closed	
6:00 p.m. BEATITUDES Mtg.	St. Dominic Hall
6:30 p.m. Rosary Fellowship	St. Dominic Hall

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2026 (Deadline = May 1st, 2026)

*Archdiocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration
June 7th, 2026, 2:00 pm, Church of the Nativity/Leewood*

*To receive your invitation from Archbishop McKnight,
Please call the parish office and give us your name, address,
phone number and date of your wedding.*

Please do this as soon as possible.

Couple Response Google Form - This link is available for couples, if they would like to submit their information to the archdiocese office.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1FAIpQLSdgmGRXBJAvnbFMBtjGrPjyh4OzGwF7OD5kXHLTro>

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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 <small>ARCHDIOCESAN CALL TO SHARE (as of March 6th, 2026)</small>	Saint Dominic	St Francis Xavier
	Target Goal	\$18,000.00
Total Committed	\$17,590.00	\$3,180.00
Goal Progress	98%	64%
Participation %	28%	24%

 PARISH STEWARDSHIP March 7th & 8th, 2026	St. Dominic	St. Francis Xavier
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Envelopes	\$2,875.00	\$4,225.00
Plate	515.00	216.00
TOTAL	\$3,390.00	\$4,441.00
<i>Week of February 28th, March 1st</i>	\$10,830.00	\$2,382.00
<i>Week of February 21st & 22nd</i>	\$5,999.50	\$2,282.25

PASTORAL COUNCILS

FINANCE COUNCILS

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

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



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) by March 20 if you're interested. First come, first serve.

MASS INTENTIONS for the WEEK

March 14th (Sat) 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	4th Sunday of Lent All Parishioners, Living & Deceased
March 15th (Sun) 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier 10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	4th Sunday of Lent Corky Albright+ Gail Schmitz+
March 17th (Tues.) 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	St Patrick, Bishop Bob Bausch+
March 18th (Wed) 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	St Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop, Doctor Dan Gruber+ Dustin Tabor+
March 19th (Thurs) 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier	St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary Debbie Larkin+ Don Hrenchir+
March 20th (Fri) 8:30 a.m. St. Dominic	Lenten Weekday Joan Schiffbauer+
March 21st (Sat) 5:30 p.m. St. Dominic	5th Sunday of Lent Danielle Nelson+
March 22nd (Sun) 8:30 a.m. St. Francis Xavier 10:30 a.m. St. Dominic	5th Sunday of Lent All Parishioners, Living & Deceased John & Barbara Grau Family Living & Deceased

St. Dominic Knights of Columbus



March Knight & Family
Mark & Elyse Starr

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

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

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.

THEMES: 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

The readings for this Sunday invite us to reflect on seeing with the eyes of faith. The readings show how God looks at the heart, brings light to darkness, and heals spiritual blindness.

- ◆ **Seeing as God Sees:** God chooses David because of his heart, not his appearance. This reminds us to value inner goodness and to look beyond outward appearances.
- ◆ **Light and Darkness:** Believers are called to live as children of light. This means rejecting sin and letting Christ's light guide our actions.
- ◆ **Spiritual Blindness and Sight:** Jesus heals the man born blind, revealing spiritual blindness in those who refuse to believe. This shows the importance of faith and openness to God's truth.
- ◆ **Faith and Conversion:** The blind man's journey from physical healing to faith in Jesus shows a deep conversion. This challenges us to grow in faith and recognize Jesus as the Son of God.
- ◆ **God's Choice and Calling:** God chooses David, the unlikely shepherd, to be king. This shows that God often chooses the humble and overlooked to fulfill His plans.
- ◆ **Courage to Witness:** The healed man boldly defends Jesus before the Pharisees. His courage inspires us to stand up for our faith, even when challenged.

The 4th Sunday of Lent, Year A, challenges us to open our hearts to God's light and see with faith. It calls us to grow in trust, courage, and love for Christ. (YoungCatholics.com)

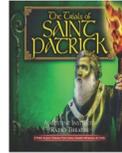


This Week on Formed
Week of March 15, 2026



Joseph of Nazareth

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



The Trials of Saint Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.



Patrick: Brave Shepherd of the Emerald Isle

Fun-loving Patrick had it easy at his parents' seaside villa. At 16, he thought he had it made for life—that is, until the day riders kidnapped him to nearby Ireland. Now a slave and shepherd, Patrick faced a bleak and uncertain future. To survive, he'd have to conquer cold, hunger, wild beasts, and even worse enemies.

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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President

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Dr. Amy Sunday, DVM

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