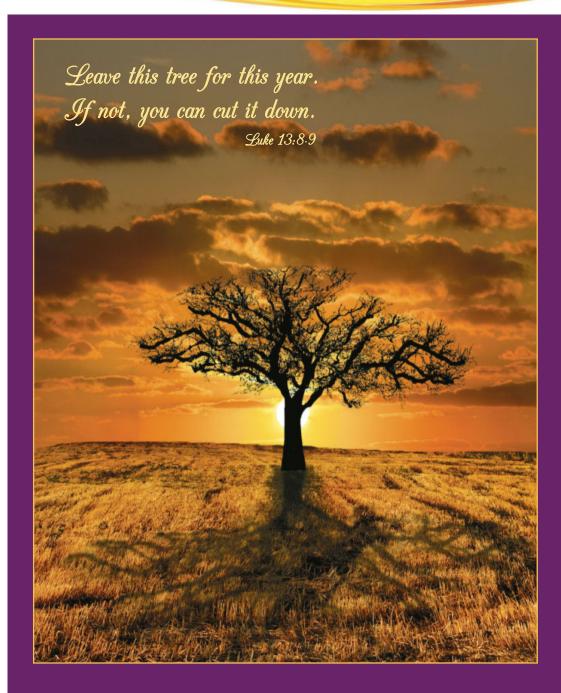
Saint James Catholic Community

Third Sunday of Lent March 23, 2025





St. James Catholic Church

309 S Stewart Road, Liberty MO 64068 Office (816) 781-4343

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am-12:00noon

School (816) 781-4428

On the web @ www.stjames-liberty.org https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/stjamesliberty/

Mass Schedule:

Weekdays: Monday - Friday, 8:15am

Saturday, 5:00pm

Sunday, 8:00am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4pm and Anytime by request

Our Pastoral Team

Rev. Mike Roach, Pastor frmike@stjames-liberty.org	x201
Rev. Michael Volkmer, C.PP.S,	816-349-2844
Senior Priest in Residence	
Deacon Chuck Koesterer	
chuck@stjames-liberty.org	
Katie Klassen, Business Manager	
Katie@stjames-liberty.org	x220
Dir of Liturgy and Music Ministry	
danny@stjames-liberty.org	x207
Stephanie Ladenthin, Dir Religious DRE@stjames-liberty.org	Education
, , , ,	
Sandy Gagnon, Dir of Christian Initia sandy.gagnon@stjames-liberty.c	
Jennifer Smith, School Principal jennifer.smith@stjames-school.or	rgx213
Kirsten Maggi, Office Coordinator	
kirsten.maggi@stjames-liberty.or	gx204
Judy Keisling, Bulletin Editor/Websi	te
bulletin@stjames-liberty.org	
Jeanne Greenwald, Scheduling Coo	rdinator
stjamesoffice@stjames-liberty.org	~ ~~
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Mission Statement

We, the community of St. James, are a prayerful and Eucharistic people who treasure our Catholic traditions.

We strive to grow in our faith by being good stewards of the gifts God has given us; sharing God's truth with all.

As the Body of Christ, we are called to love and serve everyone, especially the marginalized, with joy and hospitality.

Blood Drive ~ March 25 IT TAKES ALL TYPES



Whether you are type A, type O, or anything B⁺ in between, you are the right type to help save lives. We are looking for all types of

healthy individuals age 17+, 16 with parental consent, to ioin us for our next blood drive.

The Community Blood Center will be here on Tuesday, March 25th from 12:30-6:30pm in the Social Hall to welcome donors. Be sure to eat well and hydrate, and bring a photo ID.

Appointments are encouraged and can be made online at savealifenow.org/group using group code ES. Walk-ins will be welcomed if capacity allows. For eligibility questions visit savealifenow.org/eligibility or call1-800-688-0900.

> If you have any questions, or need help with scheduling, contact Nikki at 816-407-1208 or kpower@kc.rr.com.

Thank you for supporting the CBC blood drives at St. James and for saving lives in your community!



Knights of Columbus Lenten Fish Fry

The Next Fish Fry is **This Friday March 28** 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Two Ways To Enjoy Your Dinner Dine In - St. James Gymnasium **Curb Side Pick Up - Rear Parking Lot**

See Full Menu on the St. James Website

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

- 1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
- 2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
- 3. If the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, report the suspected abuse to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate at 816.392.0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

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From the Pastor's Pen

Lent is a time of healing. We seek this in our personal lives. What is weak, what is broken, what is in need of healing and reconciliation, what keeps us from the fullness of a disciple's life? That same healing is so desperately needed in our society: broken families; selfishness and greed; war and violence; political divisions; divisions within our Church family. The situation seems so immense that we may want to give up, withdraw into our own little world, and forget about the troubles that lurk around us. Yet we know this is not the way of a disciple. In our own little ways, we need to work for peace and justice, for healing and reconciliation.

The United States Province of the Society of the Precious Blood has a ministry in the area of Chicago known as "The Back of the Woods." It is an area of poverty, frequent violence, and fractured relationships. Priests, Sisters, and lay people work in this ministry and are committed to the work of healing and reconciliation. As ministers of reconciliation, they seek to build relationships, create safe spaces, and promote restorative justice. Their ministry site includes hosting workshops, training programs, outreach to those who are incarcerated and homeless. I hold this up an example of people dedicated to making a difference, being people of hope and healing.

We, of course, do not have opportunities to be involved in such a ministry. Yet each one of us can find ways to reach out to those in need of healing and reconciliation. This work begins in our own lives. During these days of Lent we consider: Is there any situation in my life that needs reconciliation? Is there someone who is estranged from me, from our family or from our parish family? What can I do as a minister of reconciliation to break down the barriers that keep us apart? Do I know someone who has left our parish family or the Church? Can I in some way facilitate a homecoming? We pray for that gift.

My prayers are with you each day.

Fr. Michael

Mass Intentions

Week of March 24 - March 30	
Monday 8:15am	† Steven Keisling CWV Post 1974 Military Heroes
Tuesday 8:15am	† Louis Phistry, Sr. Pope Francis
Wednesday 8:15am	The Annunciation of the Lord Jon Blanck Pope Francis
Thursday 8:15am	†Barbara Bindel Pope Francis
Friday 8:15am	† Deacon Bud McKay
Saturday 5:00pm	† Doug Schuster † Joe Filardo
Sunday 8:00am	† Janie Denning Living & Deceased Members of Over 50s
10:30am	† Virginia Miller † Ambrose Buckman
5:00pm	+Sandra Tompkins



Contact Info

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4pm until finished; any time requested.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Baptismal Preparation Classes: Once a month Contact Kirsten Maggi in the parish office, ext. 204 or kirsten.maggi@stjames-liberty.org

Religious Education: For Preschool through adult spiritual development, please notify office of needs. **New Parishioners:** Please register at the parish office.

We Welcome You!

St. James School: PS-8th grade offered. Call the School Office, to inquire, 781-4428 Sacrament of Marriage: 9 months advance notice

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

To Schedule an event in our Parish Facility:

stjamesoffice@stjames-liberty.org

or call the Parish Office, ext. 202.

All Bulletin articles must be submitted by Monday 12Noon to: bulletin@stjames-liberty.org



Guatemala Mission Trip Invitation

You are invited to travel to Guatemala this summer for a 10 day Mission Work trip hosted by Cindi Lamas, St. James parishioner, with the Guatemala Humanitarian Fun directed by Dr. Martin Kanne.

Date: June 10 - June 19, 2025

Cost is estimated around \$2,000 which includes flight, ground transportation, all meals and lodging. There will be 3 days to help pour concrete,1/2 day at the city market with visits to other Mayan villages ending with 4 day cultural experience in Lake Atitlan and Antiqua.

Contact Cindi Lamas for more information at caravaggiokc@yahoo.com and visit our Facebook page: Guatemala Humanitarian Fund.

Cindi will be at all Masses this weekend.

To learn more about this mission trip, visit with her after Mass in the Parish Hall.

Early Bulletin Deadlines For Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday

In order to meet our Bulletin printer's early deadlines for the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Bulletins. .

Articles and information for April 13 (Palm Sunday) must be submitted no later than end of day Thursday April 3.

Articles and information for April 20 (Easter Sunday) must be submitted no later than end of day Wednesday, April 9.

Senior Real Estate Property Tax Relief Program Clay County Residents - Deadline to File March 31

March 31 is the deadline for enrollment in the program that effectively freezes property taxes at the 2024 level starting in 2025. You are eligible if you are or will be age 62 or older this year, own and live in a home in Clay County that is your principle residence.

To apply, or for more information: Visit the Clay County Courthouse, or call 816-407-3580, or go to their website at https://www.claycountymo.gov

Someone is Watching and Wondering



Discernment with respect to giving alms; What does this mean to the way I live?

The United States of America is considered the wealthiest nation on earth. The practice of "super

sizing" is witnessed in not only food servings but also in our houses, vehicles used for transportation, closets built larger than entire homes in many parts of the world, and expenditures for entertainment/vacations/ leisure. Yet our nation's cultural wars, at least to me seem to focus on protecting our abundance while forfeiting our responsibility as followers of Christ to care for the millions who struggle for sufficient food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and safe drinking water. I hesitate to mention the lack of education and a safe environment. I am not pointing the finger at any one individual, as many people and institutions provide aid in so many ways. Rather I am suggesting that as faith filled people, we get caught up in the herd mentality that reasons it is okay to take care of personal wants at the expense of standing in solidarity with those who struggle to care for themselves and their families. I know I have been guilty of placing my personal safety and security first, giving monies, but not truly giving myself to the work of God's care for humanity.

I am sure most of you have seen a picture similar to the one above of Mother Theresa feeding the poor. Perhaps you consider this Saint as the perfect example of caring for the poor and forgotten. I have read about her journey in faith and wondered how someone who gave so much of herself could feel the absence of God, even as she prayed and continued her work. I realize I and my call are different, but perhaps my struggles are similar. With the aid of amazing mentors, I believe I grow closer to God, but I feel confused about how I am to give alms. In Catholic teaching almsgiving is a mark of compassion, generosity, and social responsibility that aligns people's hearts with the selfless love of Jesus. This is the source of my confusion: How can I continue a supersized standard of living and also live up to my social responsibilities, aligning my heart with Jesus' teachings?" I have served in ministry at St. James for almost 30 years. I taught at Penn Valley Community College for almost 30 years. I have been a mother for over 50 years, caring for my family. I have journeyed with many facing personal crisis and I continue my work in spiritual direction. Still I am forced to ask: "Where/how have I sacrificed for others? How have I been socially responsible? How have I stood in solidarity with the poor and disenfranchised?" I am facing my personal reality that giving alms has centered around writing the checks and I seek God's help to change from supersizing to simplicity/solidarity.

Your Sister in Christ, Sandy Gagnon

St. James Fundraiser Grand Screen Movie Night!



TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED HERE

Visit bit.ly/4kt0n3x or scan the QR code to secure your seats today!



Saturday, April 12 4 PM \$10 Per Person B&B Theatres Liberty 12

Join us for a special **Grand Screen** showing of King of Kings!

\$5 from every ticket goes directly to the new playground for St. James School!

This **PG-rated** film is perfect for all audiences —come enjoy a great movie with fellow St. James parishioners while supporting a great cause!

Get your tickets today and help us build a better playground for our Community.



The Rite of Sending Celebrated Saturday, March 8

On Saturday evening March 8 our St. James Catechumens and Candidates celebrated the Rite of Election with Bishop James Johnston at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

During this Liturgy the Catechumens declare their intention to be among the **Elect**, those chosen by God to receive the Sacraments of Initiation, and the Candidates declare their desire to continue in the faith, in full communion with the Catholic Church.



Catechumens (now the Elect) Back: Jaylen Taylor, Libbi Noeller, Cody Noeller, Zachary Elias, Brady Orwick, Michael Crable

Front: Vincent DeHaro, Kaitlyn Zweimiller, Kira Rebecchi, Silas Crable, Kymnlee Robertson, Eleanor Wilson, Nalani DeHaro, Santiago Riquelme Megan and Zoe Treml - (not pictured)



Candidates: Sarah Crable, Mia Estrada, Rogelio Quiroz, Scotty O'Leary, Isaac Forbis, Thomas Rebecchi, Dzu Pham, Emmett Starkey, Mark Wood, Edgar Villa, and Robert Wilson

Please pray for these our brothers and sisters, pictured here, as they continue their journey through Lent, to reception of the Initiation Sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD ~ MARCH 25



The Annunciation (from Latin annuntiatio), also referred to as the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Annunciation of Our Lady, or the Annunciation of the Lord, is the Christian celebration of the announcement by the Archangel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she would conceive and become the mother of Jesus, the Jewish messiah and Son of God, marking His Incarnation. Gabriel told Mary to name

her son Jesus, meaning "YHWH is salvation".

According to Luke 1:26, the Annunciation occurred "in the sixth month" of Elizabeth's pregnancy with John the Baptist.

This event is served with the Feast of the Annunciation on March 25, an approximation of the northern vernal equinox nine full months before Christmas, the ceremonial birthday of Jesus.

The Season of Lent

Prayer + Fasting + Almsgiving

Stewardship of Treasure

Here are the financial numbers for our YTD (July 1, 2024 - Feb 28, 2025)

Operating Income (actual): \$2,827,035

Operating Expenses (actual): \$2,321,367

Thank you for your commitment and vision to our community. The Time, Talent and Treasure poured out by our parish is a wonderful thing.

A huge THANK YOU to all the volunteers who help with the grounds, décor, ministries – You truly are a blessing to our parish and the community at large.

Capital Improvement balance: \$210,556

As you can see, people continue to support our vision for remodeling the north side of the property. The diocese gave permission to start the process. A committee was formed, an architect has been chosen, and we will begin to get information on design and dollars needed to move forward.

We will need to have half the estimated cost on hand and 75% pledge before we can start actual renovations. This is the same financial controls used when we started the new church building. This practice strengthens us to be fiscally responsible with the funds trusted to us.

The blue envelope marked Capital Improvements can be used if you wish to continue to support these efforts.

If you have any questions and/or concerns about any financial numbers, please feel free to contact me, Katie, in the parish office.

Katie Klassen

Knights of Columbus March 14 KofC Fish Fry - 50/50 Raffle Winner

The winner of the 50/50 Raffle at the first fish fry on 3/14/25 was Kathy Trusler. Her 50% = \$318. She, decided to donate it back to the Knights. Because of her kind donation, the Knights can donate the full 100% or \$636.00 to help with costs for the youth travelling to Steubenville Conference this summer.

NCAA Men's Basketball Championship Watch Party



A \$20 Ticket Blues Your

- Game watch on an 86-inch screen!
- All you can eat wings and beer compliments of The Landing.
- A chance to win \$500 in HOPE gift cards.

Tickets are available using this QR code, and after Masses March 29-30 and April 5-6. Bring a friend for fun and fellowship!



April 7, 2025

St. James Event Space — 6:30-10:00 PM (the former St. James Sanctuary) Sponsored by the St. James Do-Dads



Serra Club Vocation Support Raffle Win \$10,000 and Support Local Vocations!

1st prize is \$10,000; 2nd \$1,000; Third \$500.

Only 300 tickets will be sold across all Northland parishes! Tickets are \$100 each. Raffle proceeds will support seminarians, priests and consecrated religious in the Kansas City - St. Joseph Diocese and Northland parish activities.

Drawing will be held April 24th and you need not be present to win.

For information on purchasing a ticket or any questions, please contact Phil Blahut 314-420-6311 or purchase tickets from St. James parishioner Rick Grindel. *ragrindel@aol.com* or 816-222-4662.

Thank you for your support of vocations!

Join The St. James Lawn Mowing Team

Spring will be coming real soon and our lawn mowing teams need some fresh talent. Starting no later than mid-April, we will want to have our lawn mowing teams up and running.



We have quite a few guys returning from last year but we need at least ten or more people to step up and help. Just like last season, we plan on having three teams (Red, White and Blue). Each team will be placed on a 3 week rotation.

There is no need for anyone to bring up mowers or other equipment. We just need them to volunteer approximately 3 hours every 3 weeks. If they can run a push mower or a riding mower then we can use their help. The schedule is dependent upon the weather but usually mowing is done from Thursday through Saturday.

Contact Dan Bacon at bacon.dan324@gmail.com

Parish Religious Education

PreK-5th Grade

Students were in full swing with crafts and learning as we finished the last class before spring break. PreK made bracelets and talked about the birds God has created. Kindergarten was busy sharing stories about pets, while 1st grade talked about promises and how hard those can be to keep, especially during Lent. Our 2nd grade class continues to prepare for First Communion, while the 3rd and 4th grade classes were busy learning more about the rosary, the prayers, and the mysteries.

Parents of 1st, 4th, and 5th graders, please check your email regarding a parent meeting to discuss sacraments for next year.

Middle School

Please note – we will be adding a class on Sunday, April 6th from 6-7:15. Parents – please be on the lookout for communication regarding Confirmation preparation.

We are planning a parent meeting to share information and begin the registration process soon. Have a safe and fun Spring Break!

Camino

Enjoy your Spring Break! We will see you back on April 6th.

First Sacraments

Please continue to work with your child to complete the Received videos and workbook. At home, we encourage you to continue to practice receiving communion and understanding the Communion Rite portion of Mass, including prayers and responses. Please be sure to sign up for a First Communion mass if you have not already done so.

Confirmation

Congratulations to all our teens, their sponsors, and families on their Sacrament of Confirmation! We are proud of the time you spent preparing for the sacrament. We welcome you all to continue this faith journey by joining us in our Camino program or sharing of your talents with our parish.

Next classes

PreK-5th

April 6: 9:10-10:20am in the school Middle School

April 6: 6-7:15pm - Parish Hall (this is an added class)

Camino

April 6: 6-7:30pm in the School Cafeteria

Questions?

Contact Stephanie Ladenthin, RE Director at DRE@stjames-liberty.org

Praying During Lent

The goal of Lent is to build new virtues or good habits in our lives through prayer, fasting and/or almsgiving. By doing this we are learning to live a life in which we honor, glorify and thank God for the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus. This week let's talk about prayer.

Prayer is simply talking and listening to God. Your prayers don't have to be perfect. Just talk and express your concerns, your hopes and dreams, your needs. After all, prayer helps to build a personal relationship between you and God. Prayer can take many forms as you will see in the ideas below.

- Take 15 or 30 minutes each day in quiet time by yourself to pray. Get a notebook and write a letter to God each day thanking Him for all His blessings and telling him your concerns and needs.
- Read about the virtue of and pray for humility. Seek out opportunities to humble yourself in your relationship with others by giving someone else credit or recognition throughout each day.
- 3. Take some time to read the daily Mass Scripture

- readings each day. Read Bishop Robert Barron's thoughts each day for better understanding at www.wordonfire.org. There's also a link on this website to the daily readings.
- 4. Go to Eucharistic Adoration each week on Tuesday or Thursday in the chapel. You can make a short visit or try to stay for an hour.
- 5. Forgive those who have offended you and pray for those who have hurt you.
- 6. Go to Mass every day. Invite someone who doesn't regularly attend Mass to come to church with you one day during the week.
- Make a conscious decision before work, chores or study to offer up whatever you are doing in love to God. Do these with joy, not grumbling or griping.
- 8. Give thanks daily for the trials in your life with the confidence that God will turn them to good.
 - Continually look for the big and small blessings in your life. Keep a gratitude journal.

Birthdays this week: Today we celebrate all that you with God's help, have accomplished.

Teri Balicki Corey Biswell Leteria Davis **Emily Donnici** Jude Elliott Simon Elliott Nicholas Hager Brooke Helin Carly Hentschke Wesley Jones Jeffrey Kessler Christina Knox Philip Maher McKinley Mason Christina Reliford Steve Seggerman Susan Angles Maverick Brimer Maya Gatzemeyer Marilyn Kelsey Barbara Knox Scott Lakebrink Tina Luchtefeld Ashlynn Solberg Elias Swanson Courtney Watson Angela Wendel Nicholas Zicarelli Kimberly Burns Tyler Clark Angela Frizzo Ralph Glaza Noah Hill

Hadlieanne
Hubble
John Jamboretz
Justin Madison
Jeffrey Murphy
Leslie Pfriem
Natalie Schultz
Sophie Siedlik
Kennedy Smith
Hannah Tritz
Knox Westhoff
Alaina Begulia
Reese Gabriel
Cambell

Grosdidier Matthew Hummel Connor Jensen Emma Lollar Jennifer Lollar Brittnee Maggio Heather Mesh Jordan Mesmer Ronda Novitski Rachel Pearson Linley Phillips Ricardo Quiroz **Braden Stacy Emmett Starkey** Kara Vulje Giavonna Amaro **Emma Bowles** Celia Hancock Michelle Leone

Kevin Lewczyk Denise Mahon Rogers Nyberg Scott Page James Sandt Jennifer Schuele Alexa Spurlock Thomas Stanley Maxine Vazquez Anna Awasom Tim Buckholz Alexander Gibson Lucas Mulac Jeff Parrish Carrie Phillips Ryan Redshaw Madelyn

Sulkowski
Joseph Aguirre
Andrew Beltran
Crystal Cogswell
Logan Davis
Ana Dolsky
Matt Jordan
Bobbi Krim
Ava Martin
Holly Merricks
Michael Morris
Isaiah Sprung
Nathan Stanley
Kristin Wiegert
Whitney Yoder

St. James School News



ST. JAMES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WWW.SJSLIBERTY.COM

Service to Others

At St. James Catholic School we believe in preparing each child for service to the local and global community. One way we do this is through volunteering in our community. This year, our 8th graders spent the day on a leadership/service retreat at St. Mary's Home for Mothers. They participated in a Eucharistic celebration, a Rosary fellowship, Stations of the Cross, and a lot of hard work indoors and out.





Schedule a Tour

Call: 816-781-4428

Email: info@stjames-school.org

We Pray to our Lord Jesus for healing

Collin and Karen Bill Sherman **Danial Kunst** Casey Anthony Jim B Judy Kirwan Paul Mike Sheeley Stacy Baby William Kimberly Schott Emma Shay **Brentley** Warren Lopicka Charlie Moubry Theresa Bacon John Fessler Sarah Josi Gusman Michael Touhy Stephanie Chadwick Lindsey O. Jordan & Logan Lopicka Mary Margaret Spark Cooper & Maury Maddox John Marshall Phyllis Michelle Dan Triplett Tammy Rodriguez Steve & Deb Thompson Suzanne Jay & Tracie Murphy Family Joy Brecht Michelle

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Join Us In Prayer Rosary For Healing Thursdays at 6:30pm

Maggie Mike and Chuckie

Dan

Mary Margaret Parrish



Did you know that there are many in our parish who are struggling with serious health issues? Some are on our prayer chain. And then, there are others we don't know about - they prefer to keep their health issues private.

We invite all to become "prayer warriors" and join us every Thursday at 6:30pm in the church as we pray the rosary for all those who are in need of healing prayer.

You Are Invited To Eucharistic Adoration



Jesus invites you to meet with Him in the Chapel every Tuesday and/or Thursday from 9am-9pm.

Please come for a few moments or for an hour or anytime that works best for you.

Please notify us to remove your name from our prayer lists when it is time.

In respect of HIPAA we will add names to the prayer list only by request of the person or immediate family.





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Maintaining good relationships is a challenge, even in the best of times.

If you would like to explore how to do this better, consider counseling. Fr. Garry Richmeier is a Licensed Professional Marriage and Family Therapist, offering family, marital, and individual counseling, as well as Spiritual Direction.

He has offices in Liberty and in midtown Kansas City, and takes donations in lieu of set fees.

> For more information or to schedule an initial visit contact Fr. Garry at 816-415-2998 (no text) or garrycpps@gmail.com



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