

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ December 21, 2025



Sunday Reflection



Redemptoris Missio Chapter 1 (continued)

Last week, we concluded that human development must be fueled by faith. Any attempt to separate God from good works is doomed to fail. Today, we move on to the next question: "Does respect for conscience and for freedom take priority over any effort of converting others?"

The Second Vatican Council states: *"The human person has a right to religious freedom.... All should have such immunity from coercion by individuals, or by groups, or by any human power, that no one should be forced to act against his conscience in religious matters, nor prevented from acting according to his conscience, whether in private or in public, whether alone or in association with others, within due limits."*

Proclaiming Christ and bearing witness to him does not violate freedom. Faith demands a free obedience on the part of man, but at the same time faith must also be offered to him, because **the "multitudes have the right to know the riches of the mystery of Christ-riches in which we believe that the whole of humanity can find, in unsuspected fullness, everything that it is gropingly searching for concerning God, man and his destiny, life and death, and truth.... This is why the Church keeps her missionary spirit alive, and even wishes to intensify it in the moment of history in which we are living."**

The term "unapologetic" can rightly be used in the context of faith. Most of time, unapologetic is an adjective used to describe someone who has taken pride in their beliefs and will not feel bad because of them. In the Catholic Church, it is not pride or stubbornness that fuels our unapologetic proclamation of the Gospel, but a true belief that people have a right to the one faith and their lives are forever improved when they choose it. Next Sunday, I would like to offer a practical application of this truth.

Fr. Samuel Brand

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
302 South B Street
Arkansas City, KS 67005
pastor@sacredheartarkcity.org

Mass Schedule

Tues, Wed, Friday	8:00 a.m.
Saturday	6:00 p.m.
Sunday	9:00 a.m.

Misa en español

Jueves	7:00 p.m.
Domingo	11:00 a.m.

Confessions/Confesiones

Tues, Wed, Friday	7:30 a.m.
Mar, Mié - Vie	7:30 a.m.
Jueves	6:30 p.m.
Saturday/Sabado	5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
Sunday/Domingo	8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. 10:30 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

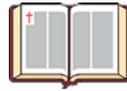
Parish Office/Oficina

302 South B Street
620-442-0566
Monday/Lunes
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday/Martes-Viernes
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
parish@sacredheartarkcity.org
www.sacredheartarkcity.org

School/Escuela

312 South B Street
620-442-6550
tlake@sacredheartarkcity.org

- For the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Matrimony, and Anointing of the Sick contact Fr. Sam Brand @ 620-442-0566
- Couples planning marriage must contact the pastor nine months in advance of the marriage.
- For homebound visits or OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) call the office, 620-442-0566
- Eucharistic Adoration weekly from 9 a.m. Tuesday through 12 a.m. Wednesday in the Chapel.



**Readings for the week of
December 22, 2025**

Tuesday, December 23

8:00 a.m. Special Intention by Alice Erickson

Wednesday, December 24 ~ Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. †Dionicio Lujan and Deanna Davis
by the Lujan Family

8:00 p.m. Celebrant's Intention

Thursday, December 25 ~ Christmas

9:00 a.m. †Wesley Upton by Ron Upton

11:00 a.m. For the people of the parish

Friday, December 26

8:00 a.m. Special Intention by the Fiorentino Family

Saturday, December 27

6:00 p.m. †Melissa Paton by Maria Romero

Sunday, December 28

9:00 a.m. For the people of the parish

11:00 a.m. †Gustavo Francisco by Magdalena Francisco

Monday	1 Sam 1:24-28	1 Sam 2:1,4-5,6-7,8abcd	Luke 1:46-56
Tuesday	Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24	Ps 25:4-5ab,8-9,10 & 14	Luke 1:57-66
Wednesday	2 Sam 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16	Ps 89:2-3,4-5,27 & 29	Luke 1:67-79
Thursday	Isa 52:7-10	Ps 98:1,2-3,3,4,5-6	John 1:1-18
Friday	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59	Ps 31:3cd-4,6 & 8ab,16bc & 17	Matt 10:17-22
Saturday	1 John 1:1-4	Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12	John 20:1a & 2-8
Sunday	Sirach 3:2-6,12-14	Ps 128:1-2,3,4,5	Matt 2:13-15,19-23

	<i>Liturgical Ministers for the Week of December 27 & 28</i>		
	SAT- 6:00 PM ENGLISH	SUN – 9:00 AM ENGLISH	SUN – 11:00 AM SPANISH
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER	Mike Kuffler	Lillie Pankaskie	Minister of Holy Communion- Fr. Sam
LECTOR	Mary Trillo	Devin Metzinger	Martha Esparza
ALTAR SERVER	VOLUNTEER	Fred Bergkamp Lizzy Bergkamp Katherine Bergkamp	Lyzaira Francisco Yahaira Francisco Elizabeth Brookshire
OFFERTORY	Doug & Amy Lawson	Dee Pudden	Jesus & Lety Varelac
GREETERS	Karen Pate & Family	Deanna Miley & Family	Nickelus & Angelina Brookshire
December Gift Counters	Doug & Amy Lawson		
Church Cleaners	Matt Metzinger Family, Mike & Jamie Metzinger		

Our Stewardship of Treasure

December 14, 2025

Envelopes	\$ 4,579.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 870.75
Votive Candles	\$ 236.00
TOTAL	\$ 5,685.75
Budgeted	\$ 11,650.00
Below	\$ 5,964.25



Please keep our parishioners and friends in prayer. If they have recovered, please call the parish office and let us know.

Thank you. (620-442-0566)

Paul & Mary Ramirez, Leola Rippe, Lois Webb, Violet Wagoner, Emily Sims, C.N., Nate Montgomery, Eddie Erickson Jr., Mary Ann Schneider, Ann Erickson, Matthew Aikins, Ted Ford, Mary Wiggins, Lester David Hernandez, Kathy Schmeidler, Catalina del Rosario Batres, Theresa Mata, Eileen Docherty, Jessica Gregory, Joseph Schones, Jerry Old, Sherley Lopez, Donna Prichard, James Martin, Debbie Guerrero, Joe & Donna Rauscher, Lauren McPherson, N.L., J.G., David Schmeidler, Ernest Tauscher, Jeff Schroder, Jeremy Walker, Marcia Trillo, Lori Rudman, Ken Martell, Judah Sonego, J.A.G., Micah Smith, Edd Crittenden, Terri Pressnall, Debbie Walter, Phair Morgan, Joe Woodard, Karen Schmeidler, Todd Cordell, Beverly Schmidt, Donna Bachelor, Freda Klinger



e-Giving with VANCO

If you would like to make your Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card you can sign up with VANCO by

visiting our website at www.sacredheartarkcity.org and choosing the link for E-Giving.

PARISH NEWS



The parish office will close on Wednesday, Dec. 24th at noon and will be closed on Thursday & Friday, December 25 & 26 for Christmas. The office will open at 9 AM on Monday, December 29th. Wishing you a blessed Christmas!



Thank you to everyone who purchased a poinsettia for the altar this Christmas. We will have 65 poinsettias this year to decorate the sanctuary.

Adoration at Sacred Heart



We will not have Adoration on Tuesday, December 23rd due to the holidays and our parishioners traveling.



Prayer & Action Is Open!! – A Week of Faith, Service, and Joy!

This transformative experience encourages participants to relinquish their own designs to the

workings of God. This summer, high school youth are invited to participate in *Prayer & Action*, our diocesan mission program that transforms the local community through hands-on service and transforms hearts through deep prayer. Each day includes Mass, Adoration, inspiring talks, service projects at homes and local ministries, small-group community, and fun activities. Teens will stay at a host parish for the week under the guidance of adult leaders and diocesan staff.

Invite your high school students to encounter Christ, discover their gifts, and become a joyful missionary disciple—right here within the diocese. **Registration opens December 15th, 2025.** Cost per person is \$199.00. To find out more about Prayer and Action go to:

<https://catholicdioceseofwichita.org/faith-formation/prayer-and-action/>

Week one: June 7th-12th

Week two: June 14th-19th

Week three: June 21st-26th

For questions or more information contact: Bonnie Toombs
316 269-3935 or toombsb@catholicdioceseofwichita.org

SACRED HEART

Looking ahead:



NO SCHOOL:
December 19th – January 5th



SACRED HEART SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

Please call Mrs. Hull if you are available or willing to fill in as a substitute teacher at the school.
620-442-6550



PHOTOS REQUESTED

Do you have old photos of the school or students? The office will make copies and return your photos to you. The school office is requesting old photos to start preparing for their Centennial Celebration next year. For more information, please call the school office. 620-442-6550



Knights of Columbus News

Our next meeting is **Monday, January 12th** at 7:30 PM in the council chambers. All are welcome.



St. Vincent de Paul

We invite you to come to our next SVdP meeting **January 8th at 5:30 PM** in the school cafeteria.

Sacred Heart Youth Groups



Bullpups (Grades 6-8) will meet on the first and third Wednesdays from 7 -8 PM (**January 21**)

Bulldogs (Grades 9-12) will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays from 7-8 PM (**January 28th**)

CONFIRMATION CLASSES



Grades 5-7: class will meet on Sunday, **January 11th at 7 PM.** Please meet in the cafeteria.

Grades 8-12 will have class on Sunday, **January 18th at 7 PM.**



PSR CLASSES

Sunday, December 21 – NO CLASS
Sunday, December 28 – NO CLASS

21 de diciembre ~ Cuarto domingo de Adviento

Redemptoris Missio Capítulo 1 (continuación)

La semana pasada, concluimos que el desarrollo humano debe estar impulsado por la fe. Cualquier intento de separar a Dios de las buenas obras está condenado al fracaso. Hoy, pasamos a la siguiente pregunta: "¿Tiene el respeto a la conciencia y a la libertad prioridad sobre cualquier esfuerzo de conversión de los demás?"

El Concilio Vaticano II afirma: "La persona humana tiene derecho a la libertad religiosa... Todos deben gozar de tal inmunidad de coacción por parte de individuos, grupos o cualquier poder humano, de modo que nadie sea forzado a actuar contra su conciencia en materia religiosa, ni impedido de actuar según su conciencia, ya sea en privado o en público, solo o asociado con otros, dentro de los límites debidos".

Proclamar a Cristo y dar testimonio de Él no viola la libertad. La fe exige una obediencia libre por parte del hombre, pero al mismo tiempo, la fe también debe serle ofrecida, porque las "multitudes tienen derecho a conocer las riquezas del misterio de Cristo, riquezas en las que creemos que toda la humanidad puede encontrar, en una plenitud insospechada, todo lo que busca a tientas sobre Dios, el hombre y su destino, la vida y la muerte, y la verdad... Por eso la Iglesia mantiene vivo su espíritu misionero, e incluso desea intensificarlo en el momento histórico que vivimos".

El término "sin complejos" puede usarse con razón en el contexto de la fe. La mayoría de las veces, "sin complejos" es un adjetivo que se usa para describir a alguien que se enorgullece de sus creencias y no se siente mal por ellas. En la Iglesia Católica, no es el orgullo ni la obstinación lo que impulsa nuestra proclamación del Evangelio sin complejos, sino la verdadera convicción de que las personas tienen derecho a la única fe y que sus vidas mejoran para siempre cuando la eligen. El próximo domingo, me gustaría ofrecer una aplicación práctica de esta verdad.



Santa Misa con Padre Machado Domingo, 4 de enero @ 11:00 AM

El padre Machado está ofreciendo una clase de Biblia en la cafetería después de la misa de las 11 am



SAN VICENTE DE PAUL

Lo invitamos a venir a nuestra próxima reunión de SVdP el **8 de enero (jueves) a las 5:30 pm** en la cafetería. Por favor considere unirse a nosotros en esta reunión.

CLASES DE PSR

Domingo, 21 de diciembre – NO HAY CLASES
Domingo, 28 de diciembre – NO HAY CLASES



CLASES DE CONFIRMACIÓN

Alumnos de 5.º a 7.º grado: la clase se impartirá el domingo **11 de enero a las 7 PM**. Nos reuniremos en la cafetería.

Alumnos de 8.º a 12.º grado: la clase se impartirá el domingo **18 de enero a las 7 PM**. Nos reuniremos en la cafetería.



La oficina parroquial cerrará el miércoles 24 de diciembre al mediodía y permanecerá cerrada el jueves 25 y el viernes 26 de diciembre con motivo de la Navidad. La oficina reabrirá el lunes 29 de diciembre a las 9:00 a. m. ¡Les deseamos una feliz Navidad!

Noticias de la Escuela Sagrado Corazón:

Mirando hacia el futuro:



NO HAY CLASES:
Del 19 de diciembre al 5 de enero



Reunión de hombres de Emaús
Lunes de 7 a 9 PM en la cafetería



Reunión de Mujeres de Emaús
Domingos de 12 a 2 PM en el Colegio Sagrado Corazón

Grupos Juveniles del Sagrado Corazón



Los Bullpups (6.º a 8.º grado) se reunirán el primer y tercer miércoles de cada mes de 7 a 8 PM (**21 de enero**).

Los Bulldogs (9.º a 12.º grado) se reunirán el segundo y cuarto miércoles de cada mes de 7 a 8 PM (**28 de enero**).

Adoración en la Iglesia del Sagrado Corazón



No habrá Adoración el martes 23 de diciembre debido a las fiestas navideñas y a que muchos de nuestros feligreses estarán de viaje.