

# Presentation Press



*Our Vision: Our Lady of the Presentation is a vibrant, Eucharist-centered community offering all Catholics participation in sacraments, social action and Christian education. Our Mission: To share our gifts by providing opportunities for spiritual growth in worship, service, education and community activities.*

## Experiencing God's Grace Through Service by Christy Gruenbaum, Director of Youth Ministry

What is your favorite thing about summer? Maybe it's a time when your family schedule slows down just a bit, or perhaps you enjoy the outdoors and the warmer temperatures?

Some of our parish teens and adults participate in the annual Service Mission Trip with Catholic Heart Workcamp. Watching them experience God's grace through that experience is one of my favorite times of summer. Our young men and women answer the call to serve, learn about themselves and the gifts they have to share, then spend the week using those gifts to better the lives of others. While working at various agencies and charities, they learn from people who have dedicated their lives to serving others, they bond with the people they serve, listen to their stories and hear how God is present in their lives. Our teens also serve side by side with other Catholic teenagers from across the United States and get a sense of strength from experiencing our larger Church.

"All that we are, and all that we have, and all we will ever be is God's." I've heard our Stewardship Director, Jane O'Brien, mention this several times at Mass. It is also a quote from the book our staff is reading, "Forming Generous Hearts" and it is a reminder that we are stewards of the gifts God has given us and those gifts are meant to be lovingly shared.

How have you experienced God's grace in service this year? Maybe summer is a good time for you to try something new! Our Lady of the Presentation is a wonderful faith community blessed with many opportunities for us to share our gifts. You can do something simple or more involved, whatever is easiest for you to take that next step. We offer "Celebrating Stewardship" weekends eight times during the year after all Masses highlighting various ministries. Parishioners can meet representatives and learn more about ministry opportunities.

You may consider the simple, more indirect opportunities such as doing laundry for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd or Lenten Fish Fries; baking a dish for our funeral luncheon ministry; cooking or baking for Uplift; bringing a donation for drives on behalf of our service partners such as Operation Breakthrough or Lee's Summit Social Services.

We also offer many opportunities for direct service, a chance to serve those in need face to face. Our parish takes a team of 17 volunteers twice a month on first Thursdays and third Tuesdays to One City Café at Bishop Sullivan Center. One City Café serves the homeless and working poor in a restaurant setting with made-from-scratch, healthy meals. We take a group of eight volunteers every second Monday to Uplift Organization in downtown Kansas City. Uplift takes care and compassion to the homeless by delivering supplies and warm meals to homeless camps.

Do you know who else needs Christ's love and gifts now more than ever? Our very own youth. Consider sharing your gifts as a co-teacher for our Children's Faith Formation program, our Confirmation program, or an adult leader for youth group events. Our music ministry has many



opportunities for various ages too. You can learn more about other opportunities via our website, parish newsletter or by calling the Parish Office.

In our service, we honor the dignity of every person. We grow in gratitude and generosity and ultimately grow into a more intimate and personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Thank you for the ways you already share your gifts and strengthen our parish and share the love of Christ in our world.



## Causes We Support

## Stewardship

As a Catholic faith community, Presentation Parish strives to respond to God's call to serve those in need just as Jesus served. We do this knowing that every person is our neighbor and we respond to their needs with mercy, humility and the servant heart of Jesus. Over the past year, our parish community has supported our Mission & Outreach Partners through generous contributions of time, talent and treasure.

Following is a summary of the financial gifts given to those in need:

### *Crazy Cash Raffle*

Parish Emergency Assistance Fund: \$3,520  
Uplift Organization: \$3,520

### *Catholic Charities Second Collection*

\$4,952.10

### *Catholic Charities Hope In Motion*

\$14,412

### *St. Joseph Table – OLP School 6th Grade Service Project*

Uplift Organization: \$4,500

### *Little Sisters of the Poor Weekend Collection*

\$10,452.03

There are also countless volunteer hours shared through Bishop Sullivan Center One City Café, Lee's Summit Social Services and Uplift Organization. In addition, many parishioners volunteer in support of our Lenten Fish Fries that fund our annual Youth Mission Trip.

*Thank you for your generosity! We Give Because We Are Blessed!*

## Detergent & Diaper Drive

To Benefit

OPERATION

Breakthrough

- ❖ Can you imagine not doing laundry because you can't afford detergent?
- ❖ Can you imagine not being able to change your baby's diaper because you don't have enough diapers to get through the week?

This could be the reality for many families served through **Operation Breakthrough**, one of our parish **Mission & Outreach Service Partners**, without the community's help. Please join us in helping provide these basic items for families in need.

## Collection Weekend: June 8 & 9

**Drop off donations of laundry detergent & diapers  
(Sizes 5 & 6 are most needed) at all Masses.**

**Financial Contributions will also be accepted, make checks payable to "Operation Breakthrough."**

*With a core mission of preparing children in poverty for school success, Operation Breakthrough provides early childhood education for 290 children ages 0 to 5 and academic enrichment for 130 children ages 6 to 14 every weekday at their Center in midtown KC, 31st & Troost. Following the lead of Co-Founders Sister Berta and Sister Corita, the Center's staff takes a two-generation approach to helping children reach their potential.*

**To find out more, visit their website: [www.operationbreakthrough.org](http://www.operationbreakthrough.org)**

*~We Give Because We Are Blessed ~*



## Introducing James Wagner



James Wagner will be joining the staff at Presentation as Director of Liturgy and Music in July 2019. He is excited to get to know the parishioners and is looking forward to the opportunity to share his gifts and talents with the community.

James brings with him many years of experience. He has been Director of Liturgy and Music at St. Peter's Parish in Kansas City since 2010. Prior to his position at St. Peter's, he was the Director of Music at Christ the King Parish for five years. James has also served as an accompanist at various parishes in the Kansas City area: St. Catherine's, Coronation, St. Regis, Nativity (Leawood, KS), and Theatre at Vis. James currently occupies a seat on the Executive Board of National Pastoral Musicians: Kansas City-St. Joseph Chapter as Secretary and Treasurer.

When he isn't working, James enjoys spending quality time with his wife, Alaina, and daughter, Elizabeth. He also enjoys playing and watching sports, and traveling with his family. James is looking forward to serving the people of Our Lady of the Presentation and integrating his family into the life of the parish.

# Construction for the School Addition Has Started!



### May 28: Site work begins!

- Site & pavement demo
- Remove existing roof & install temporary waterproofing
- Move & store HVAC units

### During the month of June:

- Move utility lines
- Rework the rain/water subsurface drainage
- Footings completed
- Additional stairwell steel set
- 2nd floor framing & deck
- Scheduled July work
- Continued work on 2nd floor
- 3rd floor framing & deck

### August planned work:

- Roof completed
- HVAC Startup
- Continued Exterior & Interior work



**Onsite crew:**  
Dan Jeffries  
& Robbie Lytle



**Our Lady of the Presentation Church**  
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# SUMMER

## June

- 1: Spaghetti Dinner & Variety Show
- 1-2: LSSS Food Drive  
Free Blood Pressure Checks
- 3 & 10: Bishop Baron Pivotal Players
- 4: Women's Scripture Study (5 weeks)
- 6: Bishop Sullivan One City Café
- 8-9: Operation Breakthrough Detegent & Diaper Drive
- 10: Uplift Volunteers
- 13: Widows Group Retreat
- 17: Exegesis 101
- 18: Bishop Sullivan One City Café
- 20-21: Farewell Reception for David Armstrong after Masses
- 27: Come & See Ignatian Spirituality

## July

- 4: Fourth of July Mass, 9am
- 6-7: LSSS Food Drive  
Free Blood Pressure Checks
- 10: Uplift Volunteers
- 12: Young Adults at Royals Game
- 16: Bishop Sullivan One City Café  
Women's Scripture Study (5 weeks)
- 18: Widows Monthly Gathering
- 20-28: Youth Service Mission Trip

## August

- 1: Bishop Sullivan One City Cafe
- 2: Community Blood Drive
- 3-4: LSSS Food Drive  
Free Blood Pressure Checks
- 12: Uplift Volunteers
- 15: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day Masses:  
6:30am, 8:15am, 6pm  
Assumption Festival, after 6pm Mass
- 17-18: Celebrating Stewardship Weekend with Divine Donuts
- 20: Bishop Sullivan Center Food Kitchen
- 27: Young Adults Holy Hour & Confession

