

HOPE notes

catholic  charities
OF NORTHEAST KANSAS

Take the Lenten Challenge!

Give up **40 items for Lent** and donate them to one of our three TurnStyles Thrift stores. Sort through those shirts, jeans and shoes that you no longer wear. Clear out those kitchen pots, pans and gadgets that are taking up cabinet and counter space. And while you're at it, you might as well tackle that storage room filled with unused treasures.

TurnStyles Thrift

Get your family involved. Challenge your friends, co-workers and groups you're involved in to do the same. Make this a meaningful Lent.

Why donate to TurnStyles Thrift?

It is a ministry of Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas. Your 40 items will help neighbors in need who count on TurnStyles Thrift as an affordable shopping destination. Sale proceeds from your 40 items will also impact those who rely on Catholic Charities' crucial programs and services, spanning from the beginning to life's end.

Challenge accepted?

Grab those bags and get started. Donation drop off hours are 10 am – 5 pm, Monday-Saturday. Need us to pick up? Call: 913.909.2735



TurnStyles Thrift locations:

TurnStyles Thrift – 87th St.
9750 West 87th St., Overland Park, KS

TurnStyles Thrift – 135th St.
11310 West 135th St., Overland Park, KS

TurnStyles Thrift – Mission
5304 Martway, Mission, KS

EXPERIENCE THE IMPACT OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES WITH A BUS TOUR



Join Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas for coffee, bagels and an interactive bus tour. Experience firsthand the impact of your generosity on Catholic Charities in our community. During the tour, you'll be able to engage with Catholic Charities leadership and travel to its local mission operations to learn about a variety of its ministries, including Pregnancy Counseling & Adoption, Emergency Assistance Centers, Food Pantries, TurnStyles Retail Thrift Stores, Shalom House Men's Shelter, Refugee & Immigration Services, Catholic Community Hospice and more!

Check our [website](#) for upcoming tour dates. RSVP is required.

[Bus Tour Schedule and Sign Up](#)

ST JAMES ACADEMY BUILDS A WAY TO HELP FEED THE HUNGRY



It may have been cold outside, but inside St James Academy the annual Construction competition was heating up.

For weeks prior, students brought in canned food, cereal and boxes of Mac &

Cheese in preparation for the event. Then, each school community banded together to erect a structure from their food contributions.

With every "canned castle turret" and "sky high bean tower," the students kept their eye on the prize--the beloved Thunder Cup.

Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas and the people we serve were the ultimate Construction winners. After the school's competition, St. James Academy donated **19,417 pounds of food** to help stock the shelves in our food pantries and supplement the inventory on the mobile resource bus which serves our rural population.

Thank you, St. James Academy community, for your dedication and generosity!



VITA PROGRAM HITS THE ROAD



When Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas' Mobile Resource Bus rolls into some of our rural communities over the next couple of months, there will be a new service on board – free income tax help for families in need.

"The IRS has emphasized that the rural communities have very limited resources for tax support," explains Amelia Reyes, MSW, Director of Asset Development. "As a result, some get behind and don't file their taxes, or if they do, they miss out on important tax credits because of a lack of awareness."

So this year, Catholic Charities is taking its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program on the road with stops in Emporia, Holton and Osage City now through April 10th. In addition, the program continues to be offered at Emergency Assistance Centers in Atchison and Leavenworth, and has now expanded to include Lawrence.

Through VITA, IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to those who make \$55,000 or less or persons with disabilities who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. Last year, through Catholic Charities' VITA program, 238 tax returns were filed, generating refunds totaling \$326,637. There was also a total savings of \$41,412 in tax preparation fees, based on an estimated average cost of \$174 per tax return.

"VITA enables low- to moderate-income individuals and families to maximize their refunds and avoid unnecessary fees," adds Reyes. "More importantly, the program helps them increase their financial stability."

For Catholic Charities' VITA locations and schedules, visit: <https://catholiccharitiesks.org/taxes-filed-free-vita/>



Faith + Family Night

Catholic Charities Fundraiser and Mac and Cheese Drive

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

7:05pm VS. 



PURCHASE TICKETS HERE:

[KCMVERICKS.COM/CATHOLIC](https://kcmavericks.com/catholic)

POST GAME SKATE NIGHT!

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF KANSAS CITY-ST. JOSEPH
CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHEAST KANSAS

Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas and Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph are teaming up for a Faith and Family Night with the Kansas City Mavericks on Friday, March 1st. Game tickets are \$20. For every ticket sold, 10 boxes of Mac and Cheese will be donated to feed hungry families. In addition, collection bins will be on-site for those who would like to support our drive by donating additional boxes of Mac and Cheese. Join in the fun!

[Purchase Tickets](#)

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

Ways to Make a Difference



Tired of Old Man Winter? Will Spring cleaning actually make Spring come faster? It can't hurt to try! Get some extra space back in your garage by donating your vehicle to Cars4KC! Whether it's a car, truck, boat, motorcycle, or RV—running or not—we make it easy.

Visit <https://catholiccharitiesks.org/cars4kc/> to schedule your free pick-up. Your generous donation will help Catholic Charities serve neighbors in need.

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OF NORTHEAST KANSAS

9720 West 87th Street | Overland Park, KS 66212
catholiccharitiesks.org | 913.433.2100

[DONATE](#)