



## Episcopal City Mission Sunday

Feb. 19, 2023

**Why “Episcopal City Mission Sunday?”** In recognition of our 65 years of ministry to children (ages 11-18) in St. Louis’ Juvenile Justice System, at their 2019 convention, the Diocese of Missouri established “ECM Sunday.” The Last Sunday of Epiphany (“Transfiguration Sunday”) was chosen because the readings appointed for that day focus on transformation.

*“And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2)*

ECM’s chaplains and volunteers bring Christ’s love and grace to the children in St. Louis’ juvenile detention centers and at Missouri Hills (a Division of Youth Services facility). The caring, listening presence of our chaplains and faith-based dedication of our volunteers reminds each child that they are beloved by God and transforms their despair and anger into hope and healing. Our chaplains and volunteers help us see the glory of Christ shining through these children – regardless of their circumstances. Through our work, we endeavor to reflect God’s transformational love and glory back into their lives.

We can never know the full impact of our ministry in the children’s lives; nevertheless, we have faith that it matters. This poem expresses our hope for making a long-lasting difference in their young lives.

### **You Never Know**

*You never know when someone might catch a dream from you.  
Or something you say may open up  
the windows of a mind that seeks light.  
The way you live may not matter at all.  
But you never know, it might.*

*And just in case it could be that another’s life, through you,  
might possibly change for the better,  
with a better and brighter view,  
it seems it might be worth a try  
at pointing the way to the right.  
Of course, it may not matter at all.  
But then again, it might.*

~ Unknown

## Episcopal City Mission Sunday

### Weekday Prayer Cycle

Prayer matters! Praying is an important way you can love and support others during times of trouble. Prayer also helps us to see the glory of God at work in the lives of others and in our own lives. Seeing God’s glory in the world requires spiritual discipline on our part. Please consider making this cycle of prayer part of your discipline during Lent, praying to see the children transfigured in their circumstances.

#### **Monday**

Pray for the children at the City Detention Center and their families; for ECM Chaplains: The Rev. Kevin Aldridge and The Rev. Clive Samson; for Detention Center Staff, Supt. Amanda Williams, Asst. Supt. Ralph Jones, Program Coordinator Nikeisha Fortenberry-White, and Secretary Michelle Elliot.

#### **Tuesday**

Pray for the children at the County Detention Center and their families; for ECM Chaplains The Rev. Deborah Burriss and Norman Malloyd, Jr.; for Detention Center Staff, Director Cleveland Jackson, and Program Coordinator Kim Birdwell.

#### **Wednesday**

Pray for the children at the Missouri Hills Division of Youth Services’ facility and the families of these children; the staff of Missouri Hills and Assistant Regional Administrator Audrey Helfrich.

#### **Thursday**

Pray for those children in the Juvenile Justice System in St. Louis who are certified to stand trial as adults, and for their families.

#### **Friday**

Offer prayers of gratitude for ECM Board President The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson; for our supporters and volunteers: Board Chair Jane Mayfield, members of the Board and Advisory Council, Parish Ambassadors and Birthday Celebration hosts; and for ECM’s Executive Director Nathan Ivy and Development Assistant Angela Breeher.



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