



Working together to create a world without poverty by providing economic opportunity

# The Messenger

SPRING 2024 VOLUME 36 ISSUE 2



## Convenience=\$10!

June 30 is the last day to use PAT (Personal Automated Teller)! As we transition away, make sure that you've downloaded the Holy Rosary Credit Union Mobile App. With our new app, you can bank anywhere, any time. That includes paying loans, transferring money between accounts, transferring money to/from other financial institutions, depositing checks and more – all from anywhere you have access to the internet! For more information on the app and to find a download link, visit:

[HolyRosaryCU.org/mobile-app.html](https://HolyRosaryCU.org/mobile-app.html)

If you need help getting into online and mobile banking, stop by a branch and tell a Member Service Representative you saw this article! We'll help you get set up AND we'll give first-time users a \$10 reward. We want to make sure you've got full control of your finances, no matter when it is or where you are!

## Start saving better with our **NEW** Money Market account!

Building your savings shouldn't mean you lose access to your money. With our new Money Market account, you can earn better interest while keeping full access to your funds! Think of it like the middle ground between a checking and a savings account. You'll get great returns while also being able to withdraw money when you need it. Stay financially flexible without slowing your savings! Plus, with rates as high as 3.75% APY,\* you'll start seeing dividends on your first deposit. There's a \$3.00 minimum balance fee for accounts below \$1,000, and you're allowed six transfers from this account per month.

Looking to build your savings even faster? With our Wealth Builders CD, you can start saving with as little as \$50. You'll also be able to set up periodic automatic transfers to help your account grow faster and faster. Get a higher rate of return than a normal savings accounts with our amazing Wealth Builders CD! Want to open an account? Stop by a branch or call Video Banking to learn more.

\*APY=Annual Percentage Yield.



# Our Annual Meeting Is Almost Here!



Our annual meeting will be on April 24, 2024 @ 7:00 PM at the Don Bosco Community Center – 526 Campbell St, Kansas City, MO 64106. This last year, we offered new and improved loan and savings products, improved business services, upgraded mobile banking, hosted free workshops and promoted our free financial

education services, including Credit Check Plus, Solid Foundations and GreenPath. That's why this year's theme is: "Empower Your Financial Future!" Join us to celebrate another successful year and to get your voice heard on the future of the credit union.

RSVP at:

[HolyRosaryCU.org/rsvp-for-annual-meeting.html](https://HolyRosaryCU.org/rsvp-for-annual-meeting.html)

## 3 Common Social Media Scams (And How to Avoid Them)

Social media revolutionized the way that people interact with each other. Sadly, this also means it revolutionized the way consumers are getting scammed. Here are some common (and sneaky) ways that scammers continue to swindle consumers and how you can make sure to avoid them!

### SCAM 1:

**Fraudulent shops.** Online shopping and social media go hand in hand. Social media allows companies to show off their products without needing a physical storefront or making traditional advertisements. This allows scammers to make fake shops that steal someone's credit or debit card information without ever actually delivering a product. They often show a product, tout a deal that seems too good to be true and disappear without a trace.

**What you can do:** Take some extra time to research the company. Look for reviews, check their website for when it was founded and see if anyone else is talking about it online somewhere. If it's a recent website with no reviews, that might be a massive red flag. If their videos look like stock, don't have real people voicing them or don't line up well with what's on their site, there's a good chance what they're selling isn't real.

### SCAM 2:

**Direct message phishing.** Direct messaging is common on every social media app. Scammers take advantage of this in a number of ways. They often take on the persona of someone you know – maybe a friend, family member or celebrity. Sometimes they look like a business that wants to work with you, give you products or get to know you better. They'll ask for personal information, request money, send you a link with information about a collaboration or do something else along those lines. All they're doing is looking to gain as much information about you as possible that they can use to imitate you or steal access to your accounts by abusing password reset questions.



**What you can do:** The easiest answer is to ignore them. If they seem legitimate, look deeper at their profile. Do they follow people you follow? Do their followers seem real? Does their content seem genuine? Are they getting engagement that seems natural or in line with their follower count? Taking the time to double-check this information could save you from a scammer having access to your personal information.

### SCAM 3:

**Engagement bait.** Spend any amount of time on social media, and you'll see an article or quiz with a catchy headline trying to get you to take part in a quiz, poll or article that will end in fun, shareable information for you to post for your friends to see. The problem is, they often ask for permission to access your account in some way to post the results.

**What you can do:** NEVER give access to one of these sites to do anything on your account. If you take a quiz and want to share results, take a screenshot instead. Share articles by finding them online and pasting the link yourself. Always take the extra step to do the posting yourself instead of giving an untrustworthy website access to your account.

In all these cases, there's one more step you can take – report the accounts. Take screenshots, pile up the evidence and send it all to the FTC at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov). Then, report the accounts to the social media platform. It may sound like a lot of extra work, but you're helping yourself and others keep safe!



## Spring Clean Your Finances

This spring, you should look forward to doing spring cleaning! If you're preparing to buy a home but need to do some extra saving, cleaning up your finances is the best place to start. There are a number of ways you can start saving, and some are definitely easier than others. Good places to start are adjusting your budget, understanding what you can afford and increasing your credit score.

Inefficient budgeting could be a large barrier stopping you from being able to afford a new home. Take a step back to evaluate if your budget is working for you. A common budgeting practice is known as the 50-30-20 rule. That's where you put 50% of your budget towards things you need, 30% towards things you want and the remaining 20% towards savings. If your savings are lower than you'd like, make sure you're not spending more than 30% of your income on things that aren't necessary. With these percentages, you can also do the math to know how long you'll have to save before you can afford a home. Find help with budgeting at: [HolyRosaryCU.org/budgeting-saving.html](https://HolyRosaryCU.org/budgeting-saving.html)

Speaking of math, knowing what you can afford is a big piece of the puzzle. When it comes to homebuying, you probably have a lot of numbers floating around in your head. There's the cost of the home, down payments, monthly payments and more. If you're getting confused as to where you are in the process, we're here to help! Set up a FREE Solid Foundations session and a personal counselor will help you



figure out exactly where you're at, and what you still have to do. You can sign up for your Solid Foundations session at: [HolyRosaryCU.org/solid-foundations.html](https://HolyRosaryCU.org/solid-foundations.html)

Cleaning up your credit score is another way you can make the homebuying process easier. Simply put, lower credit scores usually mean higher loan rates. When you take the time to pay off debts and increase your credit score, you can save yourself hundreds, maybe even thousands, on monthly home payments! You can visit [HolyRosaryCU.org/credit-check-plus.html](https://HolyRosaryCU.org/credit-check-plus.html) to sign up for a free personalized Credit Check Plus session to learn how to raise your credit score.

Spring cleaning doesn't have to mean tidying up your home – it can also mean preparing for purchasing one! Take the time to get your finances in order and understand the costs of homeownership, and you'll have a much smoother homebuying experience.

**UPCOMING WEBINAR: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17 @ 2:00 – 2:45 PM**

## Demystifying Financial Counseling

Seeking guidance on different aspects of your life can require vulnerability. Finances are often one of the most private aspects of your life, so reaching out to a financial counselor may feel intimidating, overwhelming or full of unknowns.

If you are considering talking with a financial counselor – whether it's someone at Holy Rosary Credit Union or at GreenPath – join us for a webinar to determine if financial counseling is a good fit for you.

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Anyone with a financial goal
- Anyone with a financial concern
- Anyone who is curious if financial counseling can help them

### WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- How financial counseling works
- Who benefits from financial counseling
- What you can expect when speaking with a financial counselor



**Interested in joining?**

Scan the QR code to register for free!



## Debit and Credit Card Conversion Updates

Thank you all for your patience as we converted to a new processor for debit and credit cards in March! We hope that you've had a good experience with your new cards. Should you require any assistance, please call us, reach out on video banking or visit one of our branches for assistance.

We are working with our card processor to bring you additional features! Please watch our newsletter and other communications to learn more about the availability of:

- **Digital Wallets** – Use your card via Apple Pay®, Google Pay™, and Samsung® Pay.
- **CardNav** – An app that puts controls in YOUR hands. Set notifications and travel alerts based on your preferences.

*We look forward to sharing more with you about these exciting features and their availability!*



## Business Educational Workshops

We've got a handful of free business workshops coming up! Join us for some great advice (and a free lunch!) at any of the following workshops:

**April 25:** Business Financing

**May 23:** Marketing Fundamentals for Small Businesses

**June 25:** Navigating Social Media for Your Business

**August 22:** Business Growth Accelerator Workshop

If you're interested in attending any of these workshops, reach out before it's too late! You can RSVP by emailing [info@holyroscopyu.org](mailto:info@holyroscopyu.org).

## HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Holy Saturday  
Saturday, March 30

Memorial Day  
Monday, May 27

Juneteenth  
Wednesday, June 19

For your convenience, our Mobile and Online Banking, bill pay, ATMs and open Shared Branch locations are available for your use on holidays. If you aren't yet enrolled, please contact us to see how to take advantage of these valuable services.

## Locations

### Main Office

533 Campbell Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106

### St. Joseph

1002 N. 4th Street  
St. Joseph, MO 64501

### Independence

#### Community Services League

404 N. Noland Road  
Independence, MO 64056

#### Hawthorne Place – OPENING SOON

16995 E. Dover Lane  
Independence, MO 64056

Local Phone: 816.221.2734

Local Fax: 816.221.4264

Online Banking: [HolyRosaryCU.org](http://HolyRosaryCU.org)

HRCU Toll Free: 844.456.3211

Voice Response PAT: 1.855.327.8910

Lost/Stolen Debit Cards: 1.800.500.1044

Lost/Stolen Visa® Credit Cards:

1.866.604.0381

For the hours of operation for each branch, please call or visit our website.

[HolyRosaryCU.org](http://HolyRosaryCU.org)



[facebook.com/HolyRosaryCU](https://facebook.com/HolyRosaryCU)



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