Saints James & Patrick Parish

To Remain in Christ and Reveal Christ to Others

Saint James Church
742 E. Clay • Decatur, Illinois 62521

Masses ... Sat 4:00 pm, Sun. 8:30 am
Office Hours ..M-Th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Office ..... (217) 428-7733
Fax ..... (217) 429-8206

Saint Patrick Church
407 E. Eldorado • Decatur, Illinois 62523

Masses.. Sat. 5:30 pm, Sun. 10:00 am
Office Hours ... M-F 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Office .....(217) 429-5363
Fax.....(217) 429-8206
School.....(217) 423-4351

Parish Staff

Pastor
Fr. Chris Comerford

Pastor Emeritus
Fr. John C Burnette

Office Manager
Anita Olson

Office Assistant
Robin Canary

Parish Communications
Tom Prior

Financial Secretary
Carla Hahn

Ministry Scheduler
Sue Miller

Maintenance
Pete Brosamer

Organist
Kate Tiemann

School Staff

Principal
Nicholas Blackburn

Secretary
Michelle Gillespie

Parish Email:
office@ssjpparish.com
Parish Website:
www.ssjpparish.com
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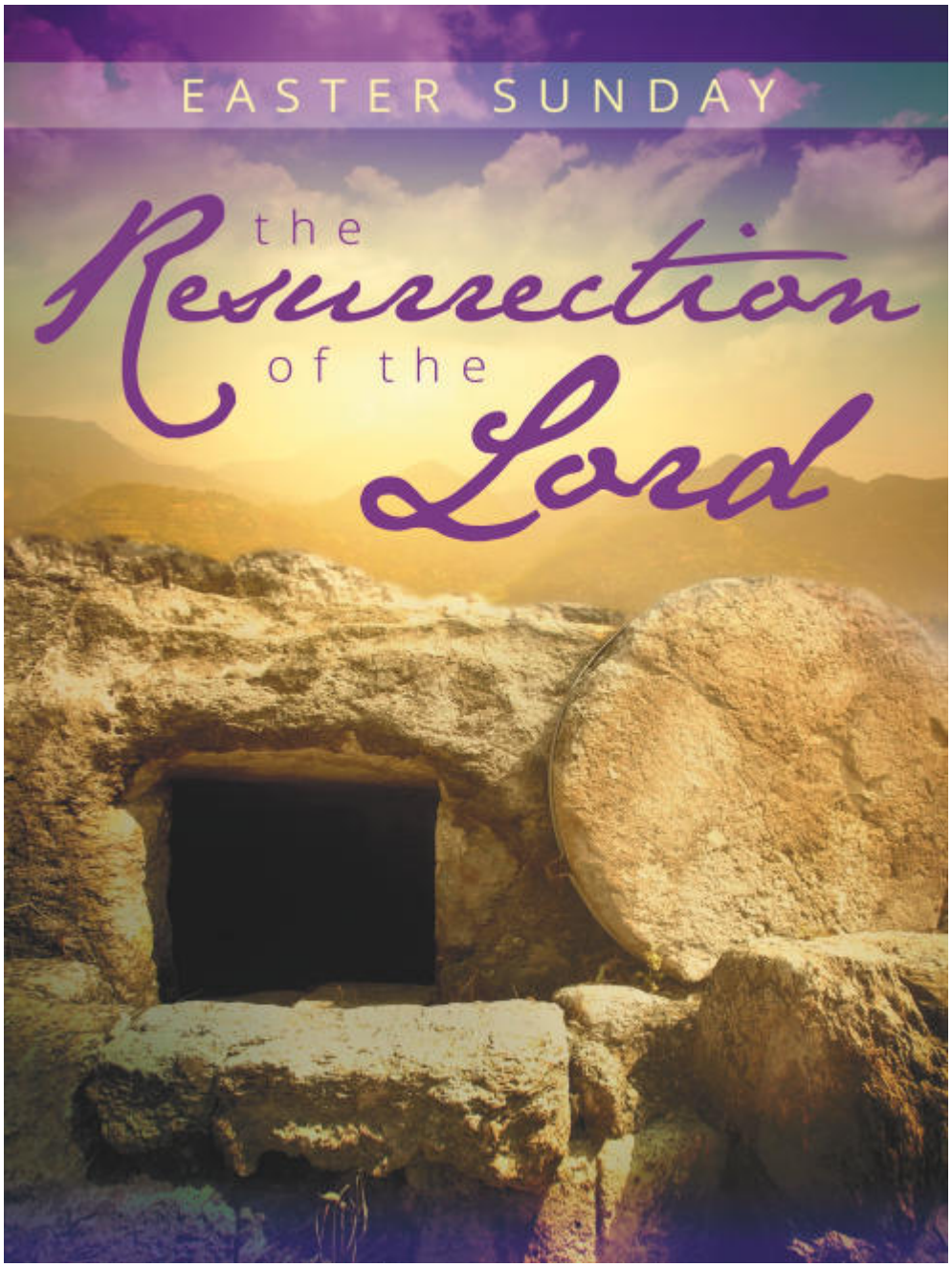
Saints James and Patrick Parish
(Page with logo)



Reflection on the Readings provided by:
Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

My brothers and sisters, Jesus is risen from the dead! Alleluia! He has conquered sin and death! Let us rejoice!

The dying and rising of Jesus is the foundation of our faith, the reality on which our hope is built. We have been made new in baptism. Jesus has shared his risen life with us. We have become his brothers and sisters, children of the Father, gifted with the presence of the Holy Spirit.

And we are destined to share the fullness of divine life in eternity.

While we are here on this earth, we are to keep our eyes on the things above as we go about living our daily life in sincerity and truth. Because we are a new creation, we have the power to live a life that reflects God's loving presence in our world. Like our brother Jesus, we are to live for the good of others. We are to make God's compassion, mercy, healing and empowerment evident for all to see in the way you and I choose to live.

Today we are invited to put aside our past ways of living and let the yeast of Jesus' death and rising rise within us and change us.

As we look around us and see the signs of new life in the trees and the flowers, we can use them as a reminder of the newness we want to bring to our daily living: the greens of compassion and patience, the reds of zeal for justice and truth, the whites of simplicity, the yellows of hope and joy, the purples of forgiveness and healing.

As we renew our baptismal promises this morning, let us go deep within our heart to get in touch with the divine life flowing in us. Let us remember that we are beloved children of our God, brothers and sisters of Jesus who has died and risen for us. Let us resolve to be newness of life to all we meet today and tomorrow, and every day.

My brothers and sisters, Jesus our brother is risen! Let us rejoice and be glad!

FR. CHRIS' COLUMN

HE IS RISEN!!! ALLELUIA ALLELUIA ALLELUIA

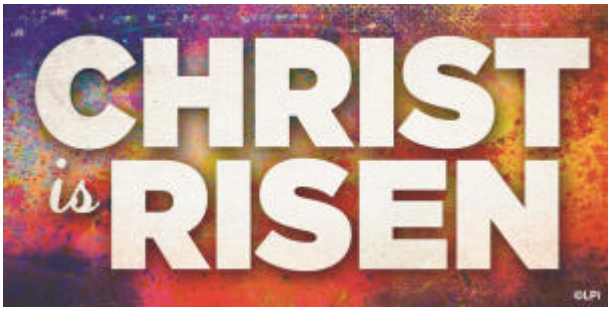
What a great day of joy. We have completed the days of penance and sacrifice and now it's time to celebrate. Jesus has defeated the power of sin and death. May our hearts be filled with his love.

Thanks to everyone who helped with all of our Holy Week services. It was great to return several of our ministries and feel a little more normal in our celebrations. Thanks to those who helped decorate our beautiful Churches.

It fills my heart to see so many people coming back to mass. The obligation for Sunday mass returns for most people next weekend. If you have any questions about this, please read the letter from Bishop Paprocki that is linked to our website, or give me a call.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

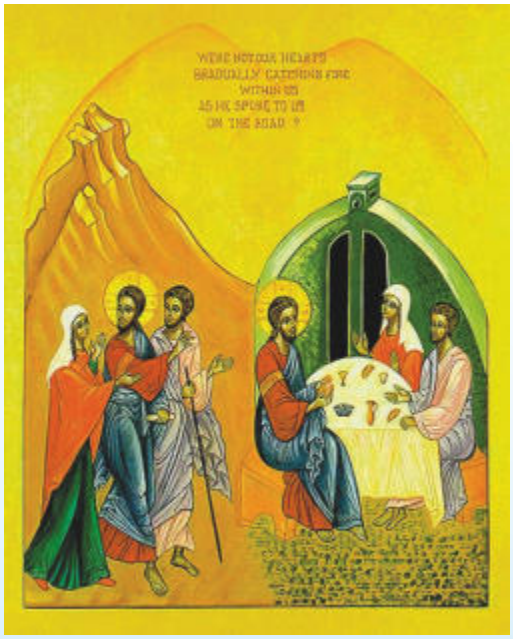
The feast of Divine Mercy will be celebrated at 2pm Sunday April 11 at St. Patrick Church. The Divine Mercy service includes Adoration and Confession from 2-3pm and then the praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. From St. Faustina's Diary: "The Octave day of Easter is noted as chosen by Christ as a day of extraordinary graces, a complete outpouring of his mercy upon all who approach him with great trust and expectant faith." Please join us.



Featured Saint

St. Crescentia Hoess (April 6)

St. Crescentia was born into a poor family in Augsburg, and later in life she entered the convent of the Tertiaries of St. Francis. She reputation in spiritual matters spread wide, and she was soon consulted by princes, bishops, and cardinals. She eventually lost the ability to walk, and her hands and feet gradually became crippled. Despite her sufferings, she was filled with peace and joy as she died on Easter Sunday in 1744.



MASS INTENTIONS

Tabernacle Candle
In Memory Of
St. James:
St. Patrick:

Monday, April 5
8:00 am at St. James
Carl B. Horine

Tuesday, April 6
8:00 am at St. Patrick
Dorothy & Charlie Comerford

Wednesday, April 7
8:00 am at St. James
Mary Brown

Thursday, April 8
8:00 am at St. Patrick
Joseph & Dorothy Mickey

Friday, April 9
11:15 am at St. Patrick
David Slade Sr

Saturday, April 10
4:00 pm at St. James
Jim Dickerson

5:30 pm at St. Patrick
Harvey Phillips

Sunday, April 11
8:30 am at St. James
All Parishioners

10:00 am at St. Patrick
Deceased members of the Drischel family

BAPTISM
Before an infant may be baptized, the parents are required to attend a Baptism Class. Please contact the Parish Office. Baptisms generally take place on a Sunday, the day of the Resurrection.

MATRIMONY
Arrangements must be made six months in advance with the Pastor.

PENANCE (Reconciliation) Anytime by appointment or:

at St. James:
Monday 7:30-7:45am
Wednesday 7:30-7:45am
Saturday 3:15-3:40pm

at St. Patrick:
Friday 10:30-11:00am
Saturday 11:00am- 12:00 Noon

Ill or Hospital Bound?
Please call the office so Father can anoint you if you have not been anointed recently. When you go to the hospital please register as a parishioner of Ss. James and Patrick. If you have not been visited by a priest within two days, please call the office.

"St Patrick School admits students of any race, color, sex or national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate based on race, color, sex, or national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and school administered programs"

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation: (217) 321-1155.

Welcome New Parishioners: Please register at the office during the week.

Rest in peace: May **Norma Jean Smith**, parishioners, family, and friends who have died be embraced with God's love forever.

FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Daily Marriage Tip:
Have a "Remembering Night." Together, reminisce about the first time you saw each other, your first date, when you first realized he or she might be "the one," and the night before your wedding.
www.foryourmarriage.org

Gift of Treasure *Thank you for your generosity!*

Fiscal 2020-2021	Week	Year to Date	FY19-20
March 20/21 (38)	**$14,010**	**$638,066**	**$688,485**
Needed	$18,500	$703,000	
Over (Under)	($ 4,480)	($ 65,934)	

Building Fund $190 Catholic Charaties $100
Catholic Relief $295 Easter Flowers $290 Misc $195

Have you considered giving online?
Check out the possibility at: www.ssjpparish.com

Long may you live, but please remember our parish in your will.

Parish School News

www.decaturstpatrick.org
And on Facebook through the school website

Thanks to the generosity of so many parishioners and friends, we celebrate our 165th year!

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Dealing with Loss - Those who have experienced the loss of a loved one often find healing and support through sharing with others with similar experiences. Our parish is hosting a grief session on Tuesday, April 6 at 5:30 pm in the sacristy of St. Patrick Church. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Donna at 422-4534.

Divine Mercy Devotion - As we approach Divine Mercy Sunday, the week after Easter, we invite you to an evening session on that devotion, where we'll view the movie, 'Face of Mercy'. Learn more about the Divine Mercy devotion, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the Divine Mercy image - which has recently been added to our churches, and Saint Faustina who received the messages. We'll conclude the evening by praying the Divine Mercy chaplet together. This session will be on Wednesday, April 7 at 6:00 pm at St. James Church. Hope you can join us!

Welcome Back to Mass - Effective April 11, the general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days will be modified to be limited to the following groups: Those 65 years of age or older; Those at risk for severe illness due to underlying medical conditions as described by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Those who care for the sick, homebound, or infirmed; Those women who are pregnant; Those who cannot be accommodated at Mass because the church was at safe-distancing capacity. Those who are sick or came in contact with someone with COVID-19/flu are obligated to stay home and are therefore excused. All other Catholics not in those categories are obligated to attend Mass. More information can be found at dio.org/backtomass

Catholic Men's Breakfast w/ Fr. Chris - Join our Catholic brothers for a free breakfast with Fr. Chris Comerford on Saturday, April 17 @ 7:30am in the St. Patrick Church basement. You'll meet other Catholic men and hear about the following topic: Major League Chaplain, Fr. Chris Comerford and the St. Louis Cardinals. The breakfast is hosted by the Knights of Columbus Council 577. The link to register is on the homepage of our parish website.

Dive Deep - Running for a Higher Purpose - Eight steps to spiritual and physical fitness – that's the theme of Bishop Thomas John Paprocki's new book, *Running for a Higher Purpose*, now available for purchase at holygoalie.net. Perfect for runners, Bishop Paprocki joins Dive Deep to explain why the book may be exactly what you need to give your spiritual and physical well-being a boost. Go to dio.org/podcast to listen and to register to win a free, signed copy of the book!

The pain and sorrow of a past abortion need not endure for a lifetime. Call Project Rachel for a confidential, non-judgmental referral to those who can help: 1-877-RACHEL-5.

2021 St Teresa Mega Raffle - Tickets are $100.00 and available to purchase online at www.sttmega.com. Super Early Bird Drawing will held on Friday April 9, 2021 - one lucky winner will receive $10,000. The Grand Prize drawing for $100,000 will be held on Friday May 21, 2021. For more information, phone St. Teresa at 217 875-7950.

Construction Near St. James Church - Romano in coordination with the City of Decatur will perform work on various streets, sidewalks, and driveways in the neighborhood surrounding St. James Church between March - November. Please be careful when driving to Mass.

Please join us for
WDCR DECATUR CATHOLIC RADIO'S
10th Anniversary Virtual Celebration

To WATCH: wdcrradio.com and click
10th Anniversary Celebration Link
Or LISTEN on 88.9 / 96.5 FM

Thursday, April 15, 2021 – 6:30 PM

***Keynote Speaker*: "Father Rocky"**
Exec Dir/CEO of Relevant Radio

Decatur Catholic Radio
WDCR 88.9/96.5

at St. James

Wednesday, April 7 - Divine Mercy Devotion
6:00pm @ St. James Church

at St. Patrick

Tuesday, April 6 - Dealing with Loss
5:30pm in sacristy of St. Patrick Church

Thursday, April 8 - Nelson's Dinner Pick-up
3-5pm in St. Patrick Church Basement

Sunday, April 11 - Feast of Divine Mercy
2-3:30pm in St. Patrick Church

Easter Sunday of The Resurrection of the Lord – 4 April 2021

Acts 10:34a, 37-43. Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. Colossians 3:1-4. John 20:1-9.

"Clear Out the Old Yeast." St. Paul speaks these words to us today. Get rid of old yeast to make a fresh batch of dough. Shed, he says, the old yeast of malice and wickedness and use, he says, the new yeast of sincerity and truth. For Christ is risen.

What do I need to shed?

What truth will I tell – kindly yet boldly?

My new yeast will be _____?

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