

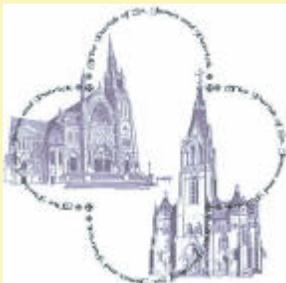
Saints James & Patrick Parish

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 & Tu 8:00 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. 10:15 am
Office HoursM-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



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34

Parish Email:
office@ssjpparish.com

Parish Website:
www.ssjpparish.com

Like us on Facebook
Saints James and Patrick Parish
(Page with logo)

Scott Hahn's Reflection on the Readings

The incident in today's Gospel is recorded only by Mark. The key line is what the crowd says at the end: "He has done all things well." In the Greek, this echoes the creation story, recalling that God saw all the things He had done and declared them good (see [Genesis 1:31](#)).

Mark also deliberately evokes Isaiah's promise, which we hear in today's First Reading, that God will make the deaf hear and the mute speak. He even uses a Greek word to describe the man's condition (*mogilalon* = "speech impediment") that's only found in one other place in the Bible—in the Greek translation of today's Isaiah passage, where the prophet describes the "dumb" singing.

The crowd recognizes that Jesus is doing what the prophet had foretold. But Mark wants us to see something far greater—that, to use the words from today's First Reading: "Here is your God."

Notice how personal and physical the drama is in the Gospel. Our focus is drawn to a hand, a finger, ears, a tongue, spitting. In Jesus, Mark shows us, God has truly come in the flesh.

What He has done is to make all things new, a new creation (see [Revelation 21:1-5](#)). As Isaiah promised, He has made the living waters of Baptism flow in the desert of the world. He has set captives free from their sins, as we sing in today's Psalm. He has come that rich and poor might dine together in the Eucharistic feast, as James tells us in today's Epistle.

He has done for each of us what He did for that deaf mute. He has opened our ears to hear the Word of God and loosed our tongues that we might sing praises to Him.

Let us then give thanks to our glorious Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Let us say with Isaiah, "Here is our God, He comes to save us." Let us be rich in faith, that we might inherit the kingdom promised to those who love Him.



FR. CHRIS' COLUMN

FROM BISHOP PAPROCKI:

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Debates about mask mandates and required vaccinations are much in the news in light of Governor Pritzker's [Executive Order](#) seeking to slow the spread of COVID. In the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, our schools are already complying with the governor's prior Executive Order regarding masks, and **our parishes are asked to follow the new mask mandate in indoor public places**. Our parishes will also continue other safety measures as COVID cases, hospitalization rates, and ICU admissions have risen rapidly in recent weeks.

The Executive Order's face covering requirement for indoor public places applies to "all individuals in Illinois who are age two or over and able to medically tolerate a face covering (a mask or cloth face covering)." Noting that some people may be excused from wearing a face covering for medical reasons, no one is to be excluded from attending Mass for not wearing a face covering. The obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation is paramount since eternal life is the most important consideration. As Pope Pius XII said in his Nov. 24, 1957, address to Catholic physicians and anesthesiologists, "Life, health, all temporal activities are in fact subordinated to spiritual ends."

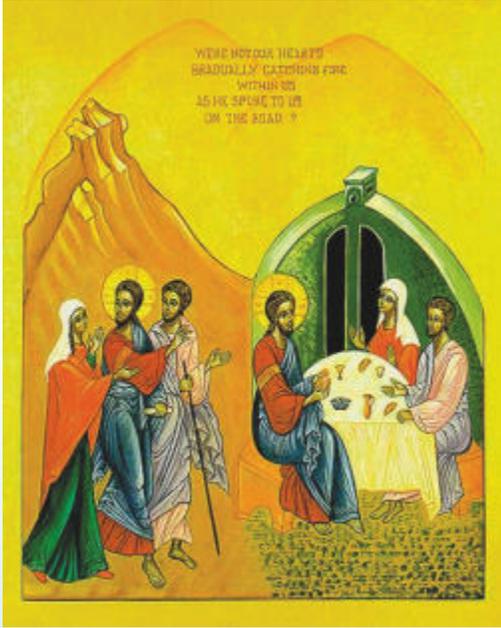
Also, since the sanctuary of the church is not a public place — in that people are not free to walk through the sanctuary area where the altar, ambo, and tabernacle are located — priests, deacons, and lectors are not expected to wear face coverings while fulfilling their functions at Mass, since this would interfere with their public speaking and the performance of their liturgical roles.

Featured Saint

St. Peter Claver (Sept. 9)

St. Peter Claver was born in Spain in 1581 and left his homeland in 1610 to be a missionary in the colonies of the New World. He was ordained in 1615 in Cartagena, a rich port city in the Caribbean that was used as a route for the slave trade. As soon as a slave ship entered the port, Peter boarded the ship to minister to ill-treated and exhausted passengers. After slaves were removed from the ship and put in nearby yards, he continued providing them medicine and food. With the help of interpreters, he gave basic instructions and assured them of their human dignity and God's love. During the 40 years of his ministry, Peter instructed and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves. He was canonized in 1888 and is a worldwide patron of slaves.





MASS INTENTIONS

Tabernacle Candle
In Memory Of

St. James:
St. Patrick:

Monday, September 6

8:00 am at St. James
Margaret Stafford

Tuesday, September 7

8:00 am at St. Patrick
Jim Gollings

Wednesday, September 8

8:00 am at St. James
John Buzan

Thursday, September 9

No Mass

Friday, September 10

11:15 am at St. Patrick
Wilma & Charlie Bell

Saturday, September 11

4:00 pm at St. James
Bob Nalefski
5:30 pm at St. Patrick
JoAnn Brown

Sunday, September 12

8:30 am at St. James
All Parishioners

10:15 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 10:00am - 11:00am

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 **Michael Donovan**, parishioners, family, and friends who have died be embraced with God's love forever.

Congratulations to **Eugene Mennel** and **Linda Calabro** on their recent celebration of the sacrament of marriage.



Daily Marriage Tip:

Is life overwhelming right now? Take a deep breath, and remind yourself of your blessings, especially your faith and your marriage. This

too shall pass!

www.foryourmarriage.org

Gift of Treasure *Thank you for your generosity!*

Fiscal 2020-2021	Week	Year to Date	FY19-20
August 21/22 (8)	\$12,627	\$110,845	\$93,894
Needed	\$18,500	\$148,000	
Over (Under)	(\$ 5,873)	(\$ 37,155)	

Building \$95 Calvary Cemetery \$149 Misc \$130

Have you considered giving online? *Thank you for all those who give online or send in their donation.*

Check out the possibility at: www.ssjpgparish.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

EPIC youth group - The city wide youth group will hold meetings at Holy Family Parish Center at the following times: High School Sept 12, Sept 26(6:30 -8pm) and Junior High Sept 5, Sept 19 (6:30-8pm). Information following about upcoming social times for both groups. If you would like to help with the group or donate food, please contact Deena at 217 855-9845 or Ivy at 217 412-5188. All are welcome!

Families of Faith - Saints James and Patrick Parish and Holy Family will work together this year to educate our students. We will meet on Wed nights from 6:15-7:15 at Holy Family. The first night will begin with an opening Mass on Sept 8 at 6:15pm with registration to follow (registration fee is \$30 per child). If you will be attending this year, please contact and let us know so that there will be enough books on hand for students. Please contact Anita at office@ssjpparish.com or 217 429-5363.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) will begin on Sept 14 at 6:30pm at St. James Parish House. If you are interested in becoming Catholic or have questions about your faith, you are welcome to attend. If you are interested in helping on the team with the RCIA process, please call or email the office to let us know.

Give Aid to Haitians Affected by Earthquake - A powerful 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti on Saturday, August 14. Thousands are injured and many more have lost their homes and loved ones. Your gift will help provide essential relief, likely to include clean water, sanitation, shelter, and emergency supplies, giving immediate aid to families affected. To donate go to: <https://support.crs.org/donate/haiti-earthquake>

Knights of Columbus Cookout - A cookout will be held prior to the September meeting, and all members are encouraged to bring a Catholic gentleman who may want to learn more about and/or join the Knights of Columbus. The meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 8 at 7:00pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, with the cookout starting at 5:30pm. Please bring lawn chairs. Food and beverage provided by Council 577. Scan the QR code to the right with the camera on your phone for the online application.



Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive - Members of Knights of Columbus Council 577 will be present after all Masses the weekend of September 11-12 to collect donations for our annual Intellectual Disabilities Drive, more commonly known as the Tootsie Roll Drive. Council 577 contributes all funds raised every year to Special Olympics Region I and the Illinois Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc., a non-profit charity. The nearly 1,500 athletes in Region I compete in 16 sports and rely on our support every year to assist with expenses with year-round training and hosting events, competitions and other activities. Donations can also be made by mailing a check to the Knights of Columbus Hall at 520 E. North St., Decatur, IL 62523 or by contributing with Paypal or a debit or credit card by scanning the QR code to the right with your phone camera.



3 Steps to Donate via QR Code

1. Open the camera app on your phone
2. Hover the camera over the QR code below
3. A notification pop-up will appear on your phone. Click the link to be taken to our online donation page.



CANCELLED

Annual Night at the Movies "JOSEPH OF NAZARETH"

Because Covid conditions have changed and we want to protect the health of our listeners, the St. Joseph movie is cancelled at this time, with the intent to have the movie at a later date. For questions please call WDCR at 217-464-1099

St. Teresa Class of 1971 Reunion

Homecoming weekend, 9/24/2021
pregame at Curlys, attend the game,
Winery after the game
9/25/2021 Golf, tour of school, Dinner
at Taproot (5:30pm)
9/26/2021 attend 8:30 Mass at St.
James Church. For more information:
Pam (Smith) Cox at
pscox53@hotmail.com or Doug
McCarthy at
doug7161953@gmail.com

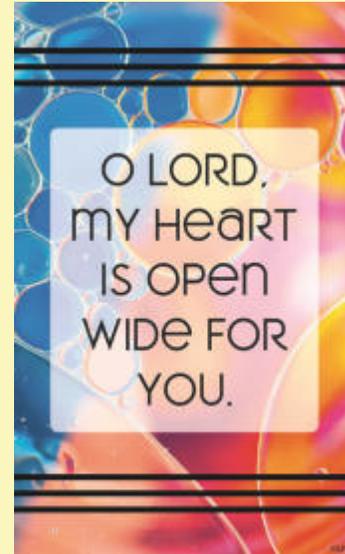
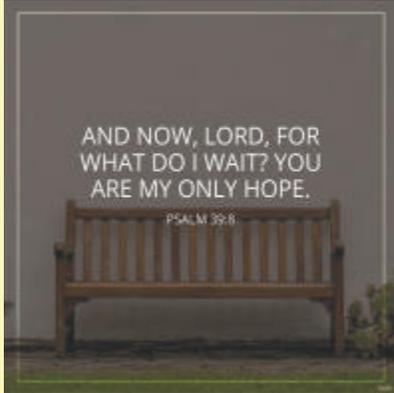
Protecting God's Children - We will be having a session for protecting God's Children on Thursday, Sept 9 at 6:30pm at St. James Parish House. Each person who is in a ministry or would like to volunteer, needs to take a session one time. Please call 217 429-5363 or email office@ssjpparish.com to register. Online sessions are also available. Please call the office for details.

Wednesday, Sept. 8 - Families of Faith Opening Mass

6:15pm @ Holy Family

Thursday, Sept. 9 - Protecting God's Children

6:30pm @ St. James Parish House



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 5 September 2021

Isaiah 35:4-7a. Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10. James 2:1-5. Mark 7:31-37.

Be Opened! Jesus heals a deaf and mute man today who immediately speaks plainly. Before the Baptism of adults and after that for babies and children, the Church imitates Jesus with the Ephphetha Rite [EF-fah-thah]. In opening the ears and mouth, we pray for the grace to hear the word of God and to profess it every day.

To what right behavior do I turn a deaf ear, a closed mouth?

What needs opening so I may hear the word of God?

What needs opening so I may speak truth?

Please Support Our Advertisers

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES
BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION.
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community

Contact us at careers@4lpi.com
www.4lpi.com/careers



GROW YOUR BUSINESS WHILE SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL PARISH.

Purchase a bulletin ad today!

ST. TERESA HIGH SCHOOL
COLLEGE PREP.
LIFE READY.

www.chooseSTT.com

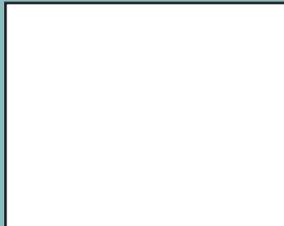
COMPLIMENTS OF
TOP QUALITY ROOFING CO.
1293 S. State Highway 121
Mt. Zion, IL 62549
217-864-9483

Jerger Pediatric Dentistry
drbretjeds.com
• PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY • ORTHODONTICS
875-3080

B & W II
ASPHALT PAVING & SEALCOAT CO.
877-8362
P.O. Box 448 Forsyth, IL

3103 N. Charles Street
Decatur, IL 62526
Phone (217) 428-3641
1-800-543-5376
Fax (217) 428-0239
Mobile (217) 853-7735
www.rdmcmillennet.com

Lindsey Minton
Sales Representative
lmcmillen@rdmcmillennet.com



TCR Systems
Sheet Metal Fabrication & Installation
217-877-5622

Busey's right beside you.

309.676.0521 Member FDIC

BuseyBANK

FREE ESTIMATES

ROOFING SPECIALISTS
217-424-8900
LC 104.016085, 105.005542
promaxconstruction.com



DEL CARMEN'S PIZZA

(217) 330-7485
 Order Online at DelCarmensPizza.com
 2855 N. Water St. • Decatur, IL 62526

Tues - Fri 11am - 9pm
Sat 4pm - 9pm - Sun - Mon Closed

NOAH'S PLUMBING & COOLING

From Drips to Floods,
 Weather Hot or Cold,
 You can count on Noah's!

201-NOAH (6624)
 Commercial • Residential
 New Construction • Remodels
 24 Hour Service
 Matthew 24:37-44

Davis Chiropractic

Springboard Pediatrics

2888 N Monroe Street • Decatur, IL

Martin Okpalike, MD
217-876-8000
admin@springboardpeds.com
www.springboardpeds.com

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community
- Paid Training
- Some Travel

Contact us at: careers@4lpi.com | www.4lpi.com/careers

Dr. Suzanne Kistner-Davis
 PARISHIONER

625 W. McKinley Ave
 Decatur, IL 62526

(217) 877-2704

CALLED to CARE.

HSSt. Mary's Hospital



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

EAGLE RIDGE

An affordable Assisted Living Community for the older adult.

Schedule a visit! (217) 872-1282
 875 W. McKinley Ave., Decatur
www.eagleridgeslf.com

Managed by Garant Management Solutions

Ground Management - Custom Landscaping

Waltrip Lawn & Landscape Inc.

GARY WALTRIP

Licensed Insured 2032 Baltimore
 422-1866 Decatur, IL

"ENJOY THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S EARTH"

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Your Best Choice During Your Worst Time

Brintlinger AND Earl FUNERAL HOMES

Dan Brintlinger Randy Earl, CFSP

2827 North Oakland Ave. • Decatur
 875-1283
www.brintlingerandearl.com

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider | **SafeStreets** | **1-855-225-4251**

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Trey Hill** to place an ad today!
thill@4LPi.com or **(800) 950-9952 x2613**

Ready. Safe. Go.

dmh Decatur Memorial Hospital

A Memorial Health System Affiliate

Don't put off getting the care you need!
 Decatur Memorial Hospital is keeping you safe.

See how at SafeWithMemorial.com

We've Missed You!
 Welcome Back to Mass

Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

Graceland/Fairlawn

www.gracelandfairlawn.com

217-615-0769

Moran & Goebel

www.moranandgoebel.com

217-615-0793