

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 800 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

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Pastor Emeritus

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Parish Email:

office@ssjpparish.com

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Scott Hahn's Reflection on the Readings

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a trick question.

The "lawfulness" of divorce in Israel was never an issue. Moses had long ago allowed it (see [Deuteronomy 24:1–4](#)). But Jesus points His enemies back before Moses, to "the beginning," interpreting the text we hear in today's First Reading. Divorce violates the order of creation, He says.

Moses permitted it only as a concession to the people's "hardness of heart"—their inability to live by God's covenant Law. But Jesus comes to fulfill the Law, to reveal its true meaning and purpose, and to give people the grace to keep God's commands.

Marriage, He reveals, is a sacrament, a divine, life-giving sign. Through the union of husband and wife, God intended to bestow His blessings on the human family—making it fruitful, multiplying it until it filled the earth (see [Genesis 1:28](#)).

That's why today's Gospel moves so easily from a debate about marriage to Jesus' blessing of children. Children are blessings the Father bestows on couples who walk in His ways, as we sing in today's Psalm.

Marriage also is a sign of God's new covenant. As today's Epistle hints, Jesus is the new Adam—made a little lower than the angels, born of a human family (see [Romans 5:14](#); [Psalm 8:5–7](#)). The Church is the new Eve, the "woman" born of Christ's pierced side as He hung in the sleep of death on the Cross (see [John 19:34](#); [Revelation 12:1–17](#)).

Through the union of Christ and the Church as "one flesh," God's plan for the world is fulfilled (see [Ephesians 5:21–32](#)). Eve was "mother of all the living" (see [Genesis 3:20](#)). And in Baptism, we are made sons and daughters of the Church, children of the Father, heirs of the eternal glory He intended for the human family in the beginning.

The challenge for us is to live as children of the kingdom, growing up ever more faithful in our love and devotion to the ways of Christ and the teachings of His Church.



FR. CHRIS' COLUMN

A GREAT INVITATION

One of the great joys for me of being involved with the St. Louis Cardinals has been to get to know former Cardinal player and 50 year broadcaster Mike Shannon and his wife Laurie. I have spent a good amount of time with them in the KMOX radio booth and was even able to travel with them to Ireland a few years ago. I was invited to join with their family and friends as Mike broadcasts his last regular season game this Sunday at Busch Stadium and his retirement dinner afterwards. Thanks to Fr. Teddy for coming to fill in for me at the last minute.

LIFE CHAIN

Please join with others who support the Right to Life this Sunday from 2:30 until 3:30 on Eldorado Street near St. Patrick Church. There is more information about this later on in the bulletin.

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS

Monday is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. His love of all God's creatures is well known. In honor of his feast day we will have a blessing of pets at 2:30 in the parking lot outside Shamrock Hall. Please park in the lot behind the Church or at the KC hall.

Featured Saint

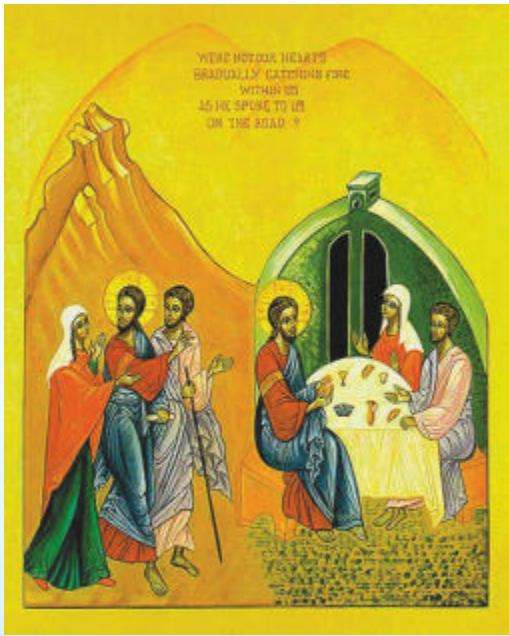
St. Bruno (Oct. 6)

St. Bruno was born in Germany in the year 1030 and became a famous teacher at Rheims. He was appointed chancellor of the archdiocese at the age of 45 and supported Pope Gregory VII in his fight against the decadence of the clergy. He had a dream of living in solitude and prayer, and he persuaded a few friends to join him in a hermitage. He founded the Carthusians religious order, which spent most of its time in prayer, solitude, and copying manuscripts. St. Bruno was never formally canonized because the Carthusians were averse to all occasions of publicity, but Pope Clement X extended his feast to the whole Church in 1674.



Mass Schedule and Sacraments

3



MASS INTENTIONS

Tabernacle Candle
In Memory Of

St. James: Fr. Terence J. Tracey
St. Patrick: Norma J. Dresch

Monday, October 4
No Mass

Tuesday, October 5
8:00 am at St. Patrick
Patricia Slifer

Wednesday, October 6
8:00 am at St. James
Legion of Mary 100th Anniversary
Founded by Frank Duff

Thursday, October 7
No Mass

Friday, October 8
11:15 am at St. Patrick
Benny Romano

Saturday, October 9
4:00 pm at St. James
Bob Bauer
5:30 pm at St. Patrick
Randy DeJaynes

Sunday, October 10
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

III 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.

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

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

Rest in peace: May Stacy Shelton-Watts, parishioners, family, and friends who have died be embraced with God's love forever.



Daily Marriage Tip:

Lift high the Cross! Do you have a crucifix in a prominent place in your home? Seeing Jesus' sacrifice is a great reminder of the love spouses are called to every day.

www.foryourmarriage.org

Gift of Treasure *Thank you for your generosity!*

Fiscal 2021-2022	Week	Year to Date	FY20-21
September 18/19 (12)	\$12,726	\$179,318	\$153,973
Needed	\$18,500	\$222,000	
Over (Under)	(\$ 5,774)	(\$ 42,682)	
Building	\$100	Hurricane Ida	\$2,212
		Misc	\$111

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

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

EPIC youth group - The city-wide youth group will hold meetings at Holy Family Parish Center at the following times: Junior High tonight (6:30-8pm).

All Junior High students are invited to join us for the EPIC Junior High Youth **group campfire** on Saturday, October 9th from 6-9pm at Spitler Woods. We will have hot dogs, s'mores, games, music, and lots of fun. We hope to see you there! For more information, please contact Deena at 217 855-9845 or Ivy at 217 412-5188.

Stand for Life - The Right to Life of Decatur invites you to join them this afternoon from 2:30-3:30pm to stand in the life chain. Signs will be distributed from St. Patrick Church basement beginning at 2:00. Please pick up your sign and stand on Franklin or Eldorado Street for one hour to help make this highly visible testimony to life a success.

Rosary - We will recite the rosary before each Mass during the month of October. If you would like to help, please call Bill at (217) 422-9508.

Annual Respect Life Mass and Rosary Walk - This year's annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass and Rosary Walk is scheduled for Saturday, October 9 at Holy Family Parish in Granite City. Bishop Paprocki will celebrate Mass at 9am, then lead a rosary walk around the abortion facility in Granite City. Lunch and a speaker will follow the rosary walk.

Tour Our Beautiful Churches - Come learn through slides of pictures of the building of our churches, a walking tour of each building, and 'tour guide' information of specifics in the churches, including the sanctuary, windows, sacristy, and sacramentals. Learn more about our parish churches, the truths of our faith what they represent and the faith and devotion of those who built them. St. Patrick Church – Sunday October 10 at 3pm. St. James Church – Sunday, October 24 at 3pm. Each event with slides and tour will last about 1 1/2 hours.

Dealing with Loss - Those who have experienced the loss of a loved one often find healing and support by sharing with others who have similar experiences. Our parish is hosting a grief session on Tuesday, October 12 at 5:30pm at the parish house at St. James. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Donna at (217) 422-4534.

World Mission Sunday - We will celebrate World Mission Sunday on Sunday, October 24. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious, and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers.



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.



Rosary Rally - The Legion of Mary will be holding a nationwide rosary rally on October 16, 2021 at noon on the front steps of St. Patrick Church. The rally is to pray for the end to abortion and for sinners. You are welcome to bring a chair to sit while praying. For questions, please call Tim 217 454-7967.

Volunteers Needed - The Southside Improvement Association (SIA) project is looking for volunteers to work on revitalization around St. James Church. People will work in teams to contact home owners about needed repairs or clean ups. You may attend the meeting to find out more information: contact Jeremy at 217 474-5007 or Jeremy@jmorisenterprises.com

Faith in Action is in need of those with a serving heart to volunteer in the following ways: driver, shopper, friendly phone caller/visitor. For more information, please contact Sarah 217 428-0013 or ssanchez_dec@cc.dio.org

Decatur Catholic Radio
WDCR 88.9/96.5

Parish Calendar & Events

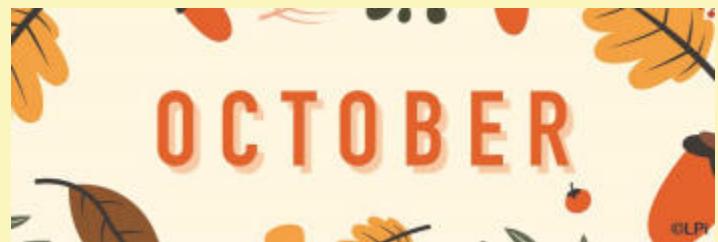
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at St. James

at St. Patrick

Sunday, October 3 - Life Chain

Signs distributed at 2pm in St. Patrick Church Basement



Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 3 October 2021

Genesis 2:18-24. Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6. Hebrews 2:9-11. Mark 10:2-16.

Making, Testing, and Deciding. There are at least three take-aways from the readings today. In the making of man and woman in this second creation story, God builds them up from the same stuff. In the first creation story, read during the Easter Vigil, they are made into God's own image and likeness (Genesis 1:27). Made as equals. In the testing of Jesus, the Pharisees try to trip him up with legal loopholes. Jesus does not play that game. In deciding who belongs to the Kingdom of God, it is Jesus and not his handlers who choose. Children are important. So is everyone else.

How will I avoid loopholes and, instead, tell the truth?

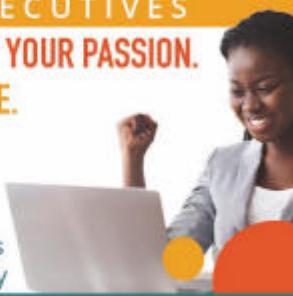
Just like Jesus, how will I treat everyone the same as equal members of God's Kingdom?

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