

Saint James

James

CATHOLIC CHURCH



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:32-34.

Example from the Calendar for 2021, 1992, 1978-2020

*The community of Saint James,
in the spirit of hope and joyful love,
unites to provide a Catholic model
of serving God by worshipping,
evangelizing, educating and
ministering to the needs of all.*

February 7, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday

7:30 am (First Saturdays Only)

4:00 pm

Sunday

7:30 am (Without Music)

10:00 am

12:00 pm (Spanish)

Rev. Brian Geary, Pastor

Rev. William Schuessler - In Residence

Permanent Deacons: Deacon James Olson

Deacon Steven Johnson

Parish Secretary: Diane Johnson

Bookkeeper: Patti Brenz

Director of Religious Education: Barbara Graybiel

Religious Education Secretary: Maria Lopez

Music Director: Christopher Aune

Parish Office

(815) 547-6397

Parish Fax (815) 547-0607

Religious Education Office (815) 547-7633

Religious Education Fax (815) 544-2294

Catholic Charities—Belvidere Office (815) 544-5434

St. Vincent de Paul Help Line (815) 547-7429

Parish website

stjamesbelvidere.org

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday

2:30-3:30 p.m.

Thursday

5:30-6:15 p.m.

First Saturdays

8:00—9:00 a.m.

or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents need to be registered members of the parish, should be faithful in attending Mass, and are required to attend a Baptismal Preparation Class. The classes are offered in Connolly Hall (Church Basement) at the following times:

~ **First Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in English** (please, no children at the class).

~ **Fourth Saturday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in Spanish** (Please, no children at the class).

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the following days:

~ **Third Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in English**

~ **Second Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in Spanish**

Please call the Parish Office to register for the class and Baptism.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements should be made at least four months in advance of the proposed date. Wedding dates cannot be scheduled over the phone. Couples must meet with the parish priest to set their date and are required to participate in a marriage preparation program.

The Rosary is prayed each morning, Monday through Saturday, at 7:00 am (before the daily Mass).

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 6, 2021—Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs— First Saturday

7:30 am June† & Joe† Moriarity
4:00 pm The Living & Deceased Members of the Council of Catholic Women

Sunday, February 7, 2021—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am The People of St. James
10:00 am John & Gloria Bednar; and Special Intention for Irena Nierzwicki and Jadwiga Sadowski
12:00 pm Hortencia Velasquez and Alberto Hernandez—SP

Monday, February 8, 2021—St. Jerome Emiliani; Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

7:30 am Joan Dobson†

Tuesday, February 9, 2021—Weekday

7:30 am Patricia Ann Wilocki†

Wednesday, February 10, 2021—Saint Scholastica, Virgin

7:30 am Larry Bernier†

Thursday, February 11, 2021—Our Lady of Lourdes

7:30 am Lourdes Lofton†; Rev. Bernard Mullane†
6:30 pm Manuel Perez†, Teresa Gallardo†; Jesus Anguiano†-SP

Friday, February 12, 2021—Weekday

7:30 am Jackie Volk†

Saturday, February 13, 2021—Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 pm James Boxleitner

Sunday, February 14, 2021—Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Clarence, Genevieve, George, & Robert Russell
10:00 am The People of St. James
12:00 pm Antonio Luevano Reyes & Maria Dionicia—SP

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Bernadette Soubirous



If one dream should fall and break into a thousand pieces... never be afraid to pick one of those pieces up and begin again. That's the beauty of being alive... We can always start all over again. Enjoy God's amazing opportunities bestowed on us. Have faith in Him always.

AZ QUOTES



During these trying times, please pray the following prayer to St. Rocco, Patron of Contagion, Epidemics, and Illnesses.

This prayer invokes the aide of St. Rocco, a Catholic Saint and Confessor who was born in 1348 in France. He traveled to Italy during an epidemic of a plague and prayerfully effected numerous and miraculous healings throughout many cities in Italy. August 16th is his feast day; he was a Third Order of St. Francis member whose intercession was invoked especially during the Black Death period.

Prayer to St. Rocco

O great St. Rocco, deliver us, we beseech thee from the scourges of God; through thy intercession, preserve our bodies from contagious diseases, and the contagion of sin. Obtain for us salubrious air, but above all, the purity of heart. Assist us to make good use of health, to bear suffering with patience, and after thy example, to live in the practice of penance and charity, that we may one day enjoy the happiness which thou has merited by virtues, of being with Christ, our Savior, in Heaven.

St. Rocco, pray for us. St. Rocco pray for us, St. Rocco pray for us.

The Audacity of Holiness



Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

~ Tracy Earl Welliver; MTS
©LPi



2020 Guide Book & Directory

Do we have your **CURRENT** family membership correct in our records? If not, now is the time to update your records for publication in the annual **Guide Book & Directory**.

Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and included in your parish membership record? Do you want your information published in the Guide Book?

Please call the parish office at 815-547-6397 with any updates to your records so we may have correct information for the upcoming revised **Guide Book & Directory**.

Thank You!



From the Pastor's Desk

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, dedicated this year to St. Joseph. For the next several weeks we will examine his many virtues in order to learn from his saintly example. My reflections are based on a new book called *Consecration to St. Joseph*, written by Fr. Donald H. Calloway, MIC (Marian Press, Stockbridge, MA, 2020). The book is a treasure of spiritual insights into the life and holiness of the one to whom God Our Father entrusted His only-begotten Son.

Even though St. Joseph was not the biological father to Jesus, he was indeed a real father to the Son of God. Pope Benedict XVI wrote that fatherhood is at the service of life and growth, exactly as St. Joseph was to Jesus. He was authoritative, affectionate, protective and faithful toward Jesus and Mary. St. Joseph led the Holy Family in prayer, provided their material sustenance, guarded them when Jesus's life was in danger from the bloodthirsty Herod and merited obedience from Jesus as the God-man grew into adulthood.

Unlike our biological fathers, St. Joseph was chosen by God to rear His only Son because the saintly father had every virtue in its perfection. Our dads did some things very well; St. Joseph possesses every good quality abundantly. Therefore, we should all accept St. Joseph as our spiritual father, especially during this year dedicated to him. We can all benefit from his fatherly love over all the baptized because as father of the Head of the Mystical Body of Christ, he is our father, too.

Allow St. Joseph to father you into sanctity by his gentle but manly direction. We all grow when our father blesses us. As St. Joseph fathered Our Savior into manhood may he also guide us into being the saints we are all called to be.

God bless you,

Fr. Geary

Money Matters

Weekend of January 31, 2021, Contributions:.....\$9,105.03

Thank You and God Bless You for your generous support of St. James Church!



PLEASE PRAY ...

For the sick, especially those nearing life's end:
May they prepare to enter eternal life.



Christ's salvific work on the Cross was completely satisfactory, yet Scripture teaches us to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. What exactly does salvation mean, and what does it *not* mean? Lent begins February 17th,

and this is the perfect opportunity to make room for reflection on this, so great a salvation. *Lectio Salvation* is a remarkable 10-part video series in which Augustine Institute Scripture scholar and theologian Michael Barber provides a thorough, deeply Catholic, and deeply biblical, answer. This will be a digital Zoom group study held on Monday evenings February 22nd through March 29th. We will not meet during the Octave of Easter, but will resume after that to complete the study. God-willing—we will meet in person a couple times as well, for those desiring to do so. Please join us. Text 815-543-4738 with the word: "Salvation," your name and email address to register for links to join. Or, look for an opportunity to register to arrive in your email/text as well.

**PLEASE REMEMBER
ST. JAMES CHURCH
IN YOUR WILL !**

Readings for the week of February 7, 2021

- Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/
1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
- Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and
35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/
Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30
[1a]/Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/
Mk 7:24-30
- Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/
Mk 8:1-10
- Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/
1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45

Observances for the week of February 7, 2021

- Sunday: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita,
Virgin
- Tuesday: St. Scholastica, Virgin
- Wednesday: Our Lady of Lourdes
- Friday: BVM
- Saturday: BVM
- Next Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
World Marriage Day; Valentine's Day



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER HAS GONE VIRTUAL !

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

“He cured many who were sick with various diseases.”

Is your marriage suffering from lack of communication or kindnesses? Are you looking for a way to bring your marriage back to its fullness? Jesus can cure all! Learn more by participating in a virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter from the comfort of your home during Lent, February 18th thru March 31st, once per week for roughly two hours per session.

Upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are April 9 –11 in Brookfield, WI, & June 25—27 in Geneva, IL.

Visit our website at: alifetimeoflove.org or call (888) 574-5653.

Para un fin de semana en español por favor llamen a Candelario y Emilia al 815-375-4250.

“A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned.”



~ Pope Francis, Message for the 29th World Day of the Sick 2021 © 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

**Compassion Closet
First Presbyterian Church
St. James Catholic Church**

The *Compassion Closet* is always in need of items for regular food boxes which are distributed year round.

The cost to fill one box is approximately \$25.00.
Items needed for the regular food boxes are:

Saltine Crackers	Ramen Noodles	Jelly
Jell-O or Pudding	Chili with Beans	Macaroni & Cheese
Spaghetti Noodles	Hormel Dinners	Tuna
Pork & Beans	Creamy Peanut Butter	Canned Spaghetti with Meatballs/ Ravioli
Cookie/Crackers	Spaghetti Sauce	Fruit Cocktail

Microwave Popcorn
Teriyaki Noodle Microwave Meal
Soup
Knorr Rice Side Meal
Cans of Vegetables

Monetary donations are also appreciated—checks can be made payable to: **First Presbyterian Church**. Food donations can be dropped off at First Presbyterian Church, 221 N. Main St., Monday thru Thursday from 6:00 a.m. until noon.



Men's Beatitude Series: Session 7, "Blessed Are the Clean of Heart," will be the topic of our Zoom men's discussion early this Saturday morning, 2/13/2021. Please spread the word! Each session is unique so it's alright to join us now. Grab your coffee and join us at 6:30 AM. Text the words "Men's group," your name and email address to 815-543-4738, and we will add you to the list of those receiving the links.

ONLINE GIVING

With so much uncertainty regarding the COVID-19 virus, and increasing recommendations to avoid crowds and take proper safety precautions, we wanted to remind you that Online Giving is available for you to make contributions to the church. This option makes use of current technology and security standards and allows you to easily setup recurring contributions. It also enables our church to take advantage of new tools to become more efficient.

Online Giving is intended to be a convenient tool for you to use, and we strongly support both Online Giving and Offering Envelopes for contributions to the parish. Online Giving is the electronic way to participate in weekly offertory. **Start giving online today!**

Visit our church website at www.stjamesbelvidere.org and click on the online giving link.

1. Create an account
2. Schedule your recurring gifts.

Online Giving is provided by *Our Sunday Visitor*, a Catholic not-for-profit organization serving parishes for more than 100 years.



Prayer for Married Couples

**Almighty and eternal God, You blessed the union of married couples so that they might reflect the union of Christ with his Church: look with kindness on them. Renew their marriage covenant, increase your love in them, and strengthen their bond of peace so that, with their children, they may always rejoice in the gift of your blessing. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

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Respect Life

Due to ongoing restrictions because of COVID-19, in lieu of the "Baby Bottle" campaign held during Lent each year, this year the Respect Life group welcomes monetary donations in a slightly different way. When donating, please put your donations in a sealed envelope marked "Respect Life" which can either be placed in the Sunday collection baskets during Mass or dropped off at the parish office during office hours. Checks may be made payable to "St. James Church" with "Respect Life" noted in the check's memo section.

Thank You!



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Over the next several weeks, we will be looking more closely at each of the Ten Commandments. Beginning this Tuesday at 6:30 pm with the first three, those ordered toward our relationship with God and the respect and dignity due to Him simply because He is God.

Fr. Geary will be teaching and leading us in Connolly Hall. Social Distancing Practiced. Masks Required. Questions about preparing for any of the sacraments of initiation for adults? Call: 815-543-4738.



Available in both English and Spanish comes this top quality feature film production of the story of St. Bernadette and the apparitions of Our Lady of Lourdes. Actress Sydney Penny gives a beautiful performance as Bernadette, and the rest of the cast

is equally superb. Also stars Roland Lesaffre and Michele Simonnet. It is highly recommended by the Vatican as a "sensitive portrayal of a very moving story that deserves a wide audience." Shot on location in France with outstanding cinematography and a beautiful music score, this is the film that was chosen to be shown daily at the shrine in Lourdes. You can watch it using the parish subscription to FORMED. Login and type "Lourdes" in the Search. You will find other titles as well, including animated titles for children and a beautiful audio presentation from the Truth to Inspire series. Something for each day leading up to this celebration of our Lady of Lourdes. Not yet registered for FORMED?

- Visit formed.org/signup.
- Type the parish zip in the box (61008) to bring up St James.

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St. James Council of Catholic Women

Meetings 1st Wednesday of the month
 6:30 pm in Connolly Hall
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