

Saint James

CATHOLIC CHURCH



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. - Mk 1:44-45b

*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 14, 2021
Sixth 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 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 James
12:00 pm	Antonio Luevano Reyes & Maria Dionicia Garcia Garcia—SP
Monday, February 15, 2021—Weekday	
7:30 am	Earl Anderson†
Tuesday, February 16, 2021—Weekday	
7:30 am	L’Era Kotecki† & Patrick Kennedy†
Wednesday, February 17, 2021—Ash Wednesday	
7:30 am	The Holy Souls in Purgatory
8:45 am	Tom Rakoczy†; Billie O’Malley†
12:00 pm	Liturgia de la Palabras—SP
5:30 pm	Patricia Askin Gravunder†
7:00 pm	Liturgia de la Palabras—SP
Thursday, February 18, 2021—Thursday After Ash Wednesday	
7:30 am	Bill Schriver†
6:30 pm	J. Carmen Perez† (Anniversary)-SP
Friday, February 19, 2021—Friday After Ash Wednesday	
7:30 am	Charlie Gebhardt†; Lorraine Babcock†
Saturday, February 20, 2021—Saturday After Ash Wednesday	
4:00 pm	Joan Dobson; Marty Marcuccilli
Sunday, February 21, 2021—First Sunday of Lent	
7:30 am	Ken Kohley
10:00 am	Jesus Ruiz, Danil Garcia
12:00 pm	The People of St. James



LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days for fast and abstinence. Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence.

FASTING is to be observed by all, 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one’s needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

ABSTINENCE is observed by all, 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted. (CCL, Nos. 1251-1252)

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.



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

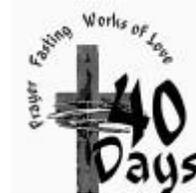
This prayer invokes the aide of St. Rocco, a Catholic Saint and Confessor who was born in 1348 in France. He traveled to Italy during an epidemic of a plague and prayerfully effected numerous and miraculous healings throughout many cities in Italy. August 16th is his feast day; he was a Third Order of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

ALMSGIVING DURING LENT



“The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on “almsgiving,” which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is “a witness to fraternal charity” and “a work of justice pleasing to God.” CCC:2462” ~ USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

In reference to sacrificing and “Almsgiving,” Lent is a good time to bring to mind the seven *Corporal Works of Mercy*. In the Lenten weeks ahead, look for items here on the works of mercy and sacrificing to help enable us to be the stewards God intended. Suggestions from the USCCB:

FEED THE HUNGRY

There are many people in this world who go without food. When so much of our food goes to waste, consider how good stewardship practices of your own food habits can benefit others who do not have those same resources.

Having delicious food at your Easter dinner? Think about donating to a food pantry so everyone can have something to eat.

~ Research, identify and contribute financially to organizations that serve the hungry.

~ The next time you make a recipe that can be easily frozen, make a double batch and think about someone who may be alone and would appreciate having a homecooked meal.

~ Try not to purchase more food than you are able to eat. If you notice that you end up throwing groceries away each week, purchasing less groceries would eliminate waste and allow you to donate the savings to those in need.



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners of St. James:

Praised be Jesus Christ!

This year dedicated to St. Joseph allows us to consider his virtues as a model husband to the Blessed Virgin Mary as written of by Father Donald H. Calloway in his book, *Consecration to St. Joseph* (Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception, 2020). Sacred Scripture calls St. Joseph the "husband of Mary" (Mt. 1:16,19). If God chose St. Joseph to marry Our Lady, then he must have been the best of husbands.

St. Joseph "took Mary his wife into his home" (Mt. 1:24). In obedience to the angel, St. Joseph received Mary with great humility as his wife. He provided a home for her and the Incarnate Son of God. He sacrificed willingly and joyfully for his wife and foster Child. He loved Mary and would do anything for her. He accompanied Mary to the census in Bethlehem, made provisions for the birth of the Christ, accompanied his wife to the circumcision, the presentation in the temple and was at her side constantly until they found the 12-year-old Son of God in the temple. Wives flourish when their husbands support them. St. Joseph is an excellent model of constancy in love for his wife.

St. Joseph is also a model of purity and complete command of his appetites. Tradition tells us that he was a virgin before marriage and, certainly, during his marriage with the ever-virgin Mary. St. Joseph is a model for husbands in safeguarding the virtue of their wives. Even though married Christians do not take vows of virginity, they nonetheless are responsible to guard their spouse's dignity in dress, language, courtesy and sexual relations. St. Joseph teaches husbands how to be pure, chaste, modest and sacrificial toward their wives.

We owe God (and our wives) pure love. Ask St. Joseph to help you as a husband to love your wives like he did and to love Jesus and Mary with similar constancy and devotion.

God bless you,

Fr. Geary

Money Matters

Weekend of February 7, 2021, Contributions:.....\$10,699.82

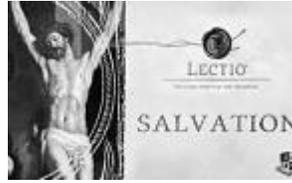
Thank You and God Bless You for your generous support of St. James Church!



PLEASE PRAY ...

For all married couples:

That they may witness to the generous love of God, through the openness to new life by joyfully welcoming the gift of children.



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, check your email box for invitations and the link to register that have already been sent out.

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

Readings for the week of February 14, 2021

- Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/
1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45
- Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21 [14a]/Mk 8:11-13
- Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10 [11b]/Mk 8:14-21
- Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/ Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/
Lk 9:22-25
- Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/
Mt 9:14-15
- Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/
Lk 5:27-32
- Next Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/
Mk 1:12-15

Observances for the week of February 14, 2021

- Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day; Valentine's Day
- Monday: Presidents' Day
- Tuesday:
- Wednesday: Ash Wednesday
- Thursday:
- Friday:
- Saturday:
- Next Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent



In Recognition of

PRESIDENT'S DAY,

The parish office will be closed on Monday, Feb. 15th, and will re-open at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16th.



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER HAS GONE VIRTUAL !

“Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.”

Does your marriage give glory to God? Learn how to let your Sacrament shine on an upcoming virtual Worldwide Marriage encounter from the comfort of your home. There is a virtual experience during Lent, February 18—March 31, once per week for roughly two hours each.

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

For more info go to: 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.

**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 8, "Blessed Are the Peacemakers," will be the topic of our Zoom men's discussion early Saturday morning on, 2/20/2021. 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.



This Lent, we invite you to journey with Dr. Tim Gray by signing up for Daily Lenten Reflections. Each day you will receive in your inbox a short video (2 – 3 minutes) which features Dr. Gray commenting on the daily Mass readings, explaining the Scriptures, and providing you with concrete ideas on how to apply them to your Christian life. Available for free on FORMED. **Register at formed.org/lent**. If you already receive daily reflections from FORMED, you do not need to register, you are automatically opted in for this 40 day Holy Spirit-led journey to grace and glory!



The Fourth Commandment is not just for children. The wisdom literature of the Scriptures speaks often and frankly about the virtue and benefits of keeping this commandment, as well as the ills that befall one who does not. Our Lord gives us the best example in having been subject to Joseph and Mary and then all the way through to the cross in giving His Mother to us. You are likely to be surprised at what this seemingly simple commandment entails. Fr. Geary will be teaching and leading us in Connolly Hall on this topic this Tuesday at 6:30 pm. Social Distancing Practiced. Masks Required. Questions about preparing for any of the sacraments of initiation for adults? Call: 815-543-4738.



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!

As we celebrate Catholic Press Month, may we continue to appreciate and support the good work of evangelization done for us through our diocesan publications, *The Observer and El Observador*.
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DIVINE MERCY PRINT

If you would like a free canvas Divine Mercy print, please call the parish office at 815-547-6397 and we will take your name and telephone number and notify you when the prints are available.

Thank You!



Fulfilling Our Promise Campaign
As of January 15, 2021



Amount We Still Owe.....	\$ 1,876,919.29
Interest We Have Paid.....	\$ 949,427.94
Principal We Have Paid.....	\$ 2,951,520.12
Total Interest + Principal We Have Paid...	\$ 3,900,948.06

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