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REBUILD AND RENEW

St. James Catholic Church

PARISH OFFICE

Phone: 414-761-0480
Fax: 414-761-2208
www.stjames-franklin.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
8:00 AM-4:00 PM
(Closed daily 12:00-1:00 PM)

Closed Saturday and Sunday

ST. JAMES MISSION STATEMENT

To continue Jesus' work of
calling all people into a loving
relationship with God.

ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Bob Betz

ASSISTING PRIEST

Fr. George Gajdos

(414-761-0480, ext. 110—leave message)

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY

SCHEDULE

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
(5 PM & 10 AM Masses will be livestreamed)

Weekdays: Tuesday 8:00 AM

Individual Confession:

Saturday 4:00 PM–4:30 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each month at
Noon-1:00 PM

REBUILD AND RENEW



“For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” Lk 2:11-12

*Merry
Christmas*



7219 S. 27TH STREET, FRANKLIN, WI 53132

www.stjames-franklin.org

DEAR PARISHIONERS...

The tree may be down, the presents put away, along with the outside decorations, but the church continues to celebrate the festive season of Christmas by honoring this weekend, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Like all families, they had their happy and sad moments. Recall Joseph's plan to divorce Mary to protect her from shame when her pregnancy was discovered. Or giving birth in a stable. There was that secret flight to Egypt to avoid Herod's murderous rage. They lost track of Jesus on their way home from Jerusalem. They never gave up. Their faith and trust in God and their love for one another showed us how to handle the storms of life.



Love is what makes a family holy. It is the divine love of God that the Holy Spirit pours into our hearts. "A love that bears all things, hopes all things, and forgives all things." (Romans 5:5)

Today we understand that family is more than husband, wife, and child-the traditional family. There are single-parent families, foster families, blended families, gay families, or just a group of closely linked, mutually supportive persons whom frequently interact. In a time when our world, our country, and even our church is so divided, we need to remind one another that we are all part of one family, the family of God. Every family has a heavenly Father who loves them and delights in teaching them how to love each other. As we thankfully say good-bye to 2020, let us embrace the New Year as a new beginning. Father, pour out your merciful, healing love on every family today and throughout the New Year.

Health and happiness to all our families.

Love, Peace, Joy,

Fr. Bob



Once again St. James congregation outdid itself in the giving department through the Giving Tree Ministry! The amount of gifts collected for Catholic Charities was astounding! This was in addition to the 25 gas cards that we collected along with a number of store cards. All the homebound and bereaved of the parish will receive beautifully designed homemade cards along with a gift card to lift their spirits. Eras Senior Network was blown away by our generosity. We were able to present them with 301 gift cards and 40 books of stamps for the Holiday Giving Program for needy seniors and disabled individuals. A huge thank you to everyone who opened their hearts to others this Advent Season. God bless you all!

Sue,
Giving Tree Representative

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.

-Ruth Carter Stapleton

Our Parish Staff

Pastoral Associate

Fred Hang

761-0480 Ext. 113 or fhang@stjames-franklin.org

Director of Liturgy and Music

Carl Reyes

761-0480 Ext. 112 or creyes@stjames-franklin.org

Director of Administrative Services

Donna Brown

761-0480 Ext. 116 or donna@stjames-franklin.org

Director of Child and Youth Faith Formation

Mary Jo Hennemann

761-0480 Ext. 115 or maryjo@stjames-franklin.org

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Linda Schafer

761-0480 Ext. 110 or schaferl@stjames-franklin.org

Custodian

Jim Campbell

761-0480 Ext. 118 or jcampbell@stjames-franklin.org

Pastoral Council/Trustees

Treasurer-Trustee,

Chuck Calteux (Stewardship).....421-2628

Secretary-Trustee,

Ellen Schuh.....emschuh@att.net

Pastoral Council Chairperson,

Bruce Varick (Finance, Buildings & Grounds) .801-8834

.....bvarick7@att.net

Pastoral Council Vice-Chairperson,

Andrew Weisensel (Human Concerns)

.....andrew@weisensel.com

Pastoral Council Secretary,

Judy Freimark (Outreach, Parish Life).....762-7376

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Pastoral Council Members:

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Ed Pings (Prayer & Worship) edwardpings@gmail.com

Herica Silva (Formation, Technology)

.....hericasilva@sbcglobal.net

Roz Stanke (Formation).....421-5088

Contact one of the above to learn how you can get involved in a ministry here at St. James.

Here To Help

St. Vincent de Paul Intake Office

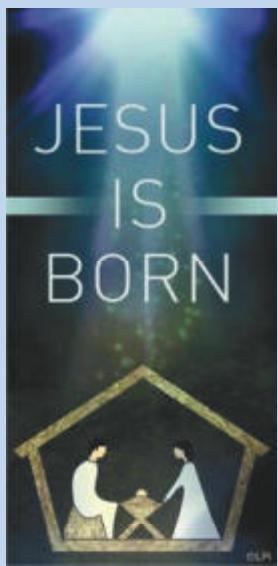
For assistance with Shelter/Lodging/Rent, Utilities/Shutoffs, Furniture and Clothing

Phone.....414-462-7837

For Emergency Food.....211

ERAS (formerly Interfaith Neighborhood Outreach)

.....414-488-6500



December 25, 2020

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day)

In today's Christmas Mass at dawn we have the Gospel reading that God has entered quietly into the world. Not into the great city of Jerusalem, but into a small village about five miles south. Not into a noble family, but to an outcast couple keeping the newborn in a manger. Not announced by royal edicts, but to common shepherds, the first human heralds of Christ's birth. As Christian stewards we simply allow Christ to live in us no matter what our circumstances happen to be. We allow Christ to share his love with us and reflect that love out to others. We now are the heralds of Christ's Incarnation. What an unimaginable gift from a generous Lord. Good stewards rejoice in this gift and give glory to God.

The Catholic Steward

December 27, 2020

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Today, we celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Just as the Holy Family is holy, we are also called to be holy. This holiness is achievable by living as disciples of Christ.

St. Paul calls us to put on "heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience... as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do." Let us "give thanks to God the Father" by being good stewards of His love and mercy to all our family members.



Today's Gospel says a lot about trust and surrender to our Lord. When Simeon and Anna prophesized about what was to come, Jesus' parents were "amazed at what was said about him." We can imagine that two parents would be taken back by these words! Yet, the Holy Family surrendered their lives to God and had unwavering faith and trust in His plan.

God's plan will fulfill our hearts more than we could have ever imagined. Like the Holy Family, we just need to trust, surrender and be attentive to God's voice.

~The Catholic Steward

2020 Contributions

Per IRS regulations, charitable contributions must be applied to the year in which they are received or postmarked. If a donor has not mailed or submitted a check by year-end, no matter what date is on the check, it may not be attributed to that year.

Any financial stewardship received after Thursday, December 31, will be credited to 2021 contributions.

Thank you all for your continued financial support.

Prayer and Liturgies**December 27 through January 3**

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6,12-14

Col 3:12-21

Lk 2:22-40

8:00 AM - †Susy Majewski

10:00 AM - Living and Deceased
Members of St. James

Monday: The Holy Innocents

1 Jn 1:5—2:2

Ps 124:2-5,7c-8

Mt 2:13-18

Tuesday: Saint Thomas Becket

1 Jn 2:3-11

Ps 96:1-3,5b-6

Lk 2:22-35

8:00 AM - Living and Deceased
Members of St. James

Wednesday: Sixth Day Within the Octave
of the Nativity of the Lord

1 Jn 2:12-17

Ps 96:7-10

Lk 2:36-40

Thursday: Saint Sylvester I

1 Jn 2:18-21

Ps 96:1-2,11-13

Jn 1:1-18

4:00 PM - †Susy Majewski
Mass of Anticipation for the
Holy Day

Friday: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy
Mother of God (*Holy Day of Obligation*)

Nm 6:22-27

Gal 4:4-7

Lk 2:16-21

Saturday: Saints Basil the Great and
Gregory Nazianzen

1 Jn 2:22-28

Ps 98:1-4

Jn 1:19-28

4:00 PM Individual
Reconciliation5:00 PM - Living and Deceased
Members of St. James

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6

Eph 3:2-3a,5-6

Mt 2:1-12

8:00 AM - †Austin Roth

10:00 AM - Living and Deceased
Members of St. James

FOR OUR PARISH & COMMUNITY

Lifelong—Growing Faith

This past month I was blessed by attending a Desert Day Retreat at the Redemptorist Retreat Center, and started reading the new book called Let Us Dream by Pope Francis. In it, he states, “*COVID has unmasked the other pandemic, the virus of Indifference, which is the result of constantly looking away, telling ourselves that because there is no immediate or magic solution, it is better not to feel anything...This attitude ends up armor-plating the soul: that is, indifference bulletproofs it, so that certain things bounce off. One of the dangers of this indifference is that it can become normal, silently seeping into our lifestyles and value judgements...Indifference blocks the Spirit by closing us to the possibilities that God is waiting to offer us. Indifference doesn't let you feel the motions of the Spirit that this crisis must provoke in your hearts. It blocks the chance of discernment...That's why we must become aware of this so-whatism and open ourselves to the blows that reach us now from every corner of the globe. When that happens, we are flooded by doubts and questions...in asking these questions—not rhetorically, but silently, with attentive hearts, perhaps before a lit candle—we open ourselves to the actions of the Spirit. We can start to discern, to see new possibilities, at least in the little things that surround us, or that we do each day. And then, as we commit to those small things, we start to imagine another way of living together, of serving our fellow beloved creatures. We can begin to dream of real change, change that is possible.”*

With a new calendar year beginning this week, I invite each of us to re-read Pope Francis' words, silently reflecting on how indifference has permeated our own lives, and opening ourselves up to the Spirit of discernment—helping us to see where change must be made, asking for God's help in making this change, and persevering so this change can become a reality.

Blessings,

Mary Jo



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Eras Senior Network

Eras needs volunteers, like you, for special projects.

Volunteers are still needed for driving.
 Volunteer needed for painting 7 windows, 2 doors and a garage door.
 Volunteer needed for cell phone assistance.
 Volunteer needed for gutter cleaning.
 Volunteer needed for rod and bracket installation in bathroom.
 If interested call Suzy at 414-488-6930, ext. 6504.

Call Betty at 414-488-6500, ext. 6507 if you are able to help with snow removal.

Volunteers for stockbox deliveries at Wilson Park to low income seniors can call Melva at 414-488-6931.



St. Vincent de Paul Society

The pantry will be closed on Friday, December 25th and Friday, January 1st, 2021.

Alternate hours will be Wednesday, December 23rd from 9:00-11:00 AM.

The pantry will resume regular Friday hours on January 8, 2021 from 9:00-11:00 AM.

Pray For

We remember the special needs of St. James parishioners, family and friends, especially:



The Sparapani Family

(Relatives of Marge Schell)

Mike Corgiat

(Friend of Linda Schafer)

Rodney Werlinger

Judy Freimark

Lisa Rohde (Friend of Marge Schell)

Loretta Michalski (Friend of Marge Schell)

Jackie Metzke (Mother of Tammy Metzke)

Tammi Johnston (Wife of Glen)

Joe Willman (Brother of Fran (Mike) Spanke)

Kathy Campbell (Wife of Jim)

Alan Schubert (Friend of Bernie Bellin)

Bob and Barb Senzig

(Relatives of Sue Malone)

Trudi Bellin (Wife of Bernie)

Dan Nolan

Linda Guzman de Cardona

(Sister of Marie Guzman)

Terry Cindric

Kathy Singley (Sister of Terry Cindric)

Dennis Cindric (Brother of Terry Cindric)

Lois Wendt (Friend of Terry Cindric)

Maryanne Kehoe (Relative of Rose Oliva)

James Griffin (Son of Debby Fischer)

Howard Forley (Friend of Teresa Pentimalli)

Pat Spanke (Brother of Mike (Fran) Spanke)

Jeanette and Cheryl Odegard

Joel Prusinski

(Son of Nanci and Bob Prusinski)

Mary Brazeau

By our prayers, we offer support.

If you or any of your relatives need
prayers, call 761-0480.



REBUILD AND RENEW

REJOICE

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:5

This exceptionally difficult year has brought significant fear, anxiety, uncertainty, hardship, illness and disappointment into the lives of so many people. Yet, this is not the end of the story. The good news is God loves us so much He sent his only son, Jesus, into the world, so we don't have to be alone or afraid. He is our light, no matter the present darkness. We invite you to take a moment to turn to Him, speak with Him, and simply, be with Him.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus, help me to be present to You in this moment.

Jesus, help me to be still and at rest.

Jesus, help me to know You see me, know me and love me.

Jesus, help me find Your peace amidst my anxieties and worries.

Jesus, help me to have courage in the midst of all of my fears.

Jesus, help me to recognize the ways I have turned away from You.

Jesus, help me to seek Your forgiveness.

Jesus, help me discover my life's purpose.

Jesus, help me to know I belong to Your family, the Church.

Jesus, help me recognize Your Presence at Mass.

Jesus, help me to worship well, recognizing You are God and I am not.

Jesus, help me to follow You with my whole life.

Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen.

Merry Christmas!



Love in the Time of COVID

This marriage enrichment series has been designed especially for St. James Parish. These three, one hour Zoom sessions will offer married and engaged couples support and guidance for living and loving while navigating the added challenges which a pandemic brings.

Topics: Handling Conflict (Jan. 21), Back to Basics (Feb. 18), and Forgiveness & Healing (Mar. 18). All sessions run from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM.

Facilitators for this series:

Ron Irwin and Laurie Kovacic: Active parishioners at St. James, they have been married 35 years and have 5 children, ages 18-31.

Jill and Jim Serpe: They have been presenting marriage enrichments for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and Worldwide Marriage Encounter for 13 years. Celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary in July 2020.

Rev. Dick Mevissen, CSSR: A Redemptorist priest since 1966. His priestly ministry has included various family life ministries: youth, engaged and married couples; separated, divorced, widowed; and LGBT Catholics.

Fred Hang: Pastoral Associate, St. James Parish

Register with the parish office by **January 15**. There is no cost. Invite others.

Parish Calendar

Sunday, December 27

Monday, December 28

Tuesday, December 29

7:00 PM AA

Wednesday, December 30

Thursday, December 31

4:00 PM Mass of Anticipation for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Friday, January 1

Parish Office Closed

Food Pantry is NOT OPEN

Posting-Theme of the Month (Courage)

Adoration is re-scheduled to January 8

Saturday, January 2

Next Sunday, January 3

9:00 AM First Communion Class
(Zoom)



(Rm. 7)

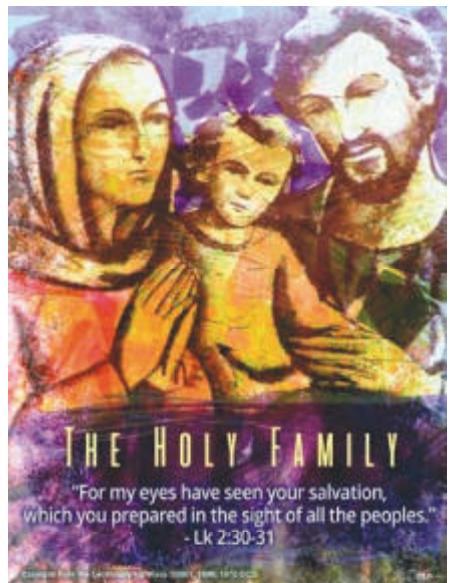
OFFICE HOURS FOR DECEMBER 28-JANUARY 1

Office hours may vary this week.

We ask that you call before coming to the office to insure a staff member is available to help you.

Please use the mail slot located on the left side of the office door for your stewardship donation or flower memorial form.

Thank you.



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