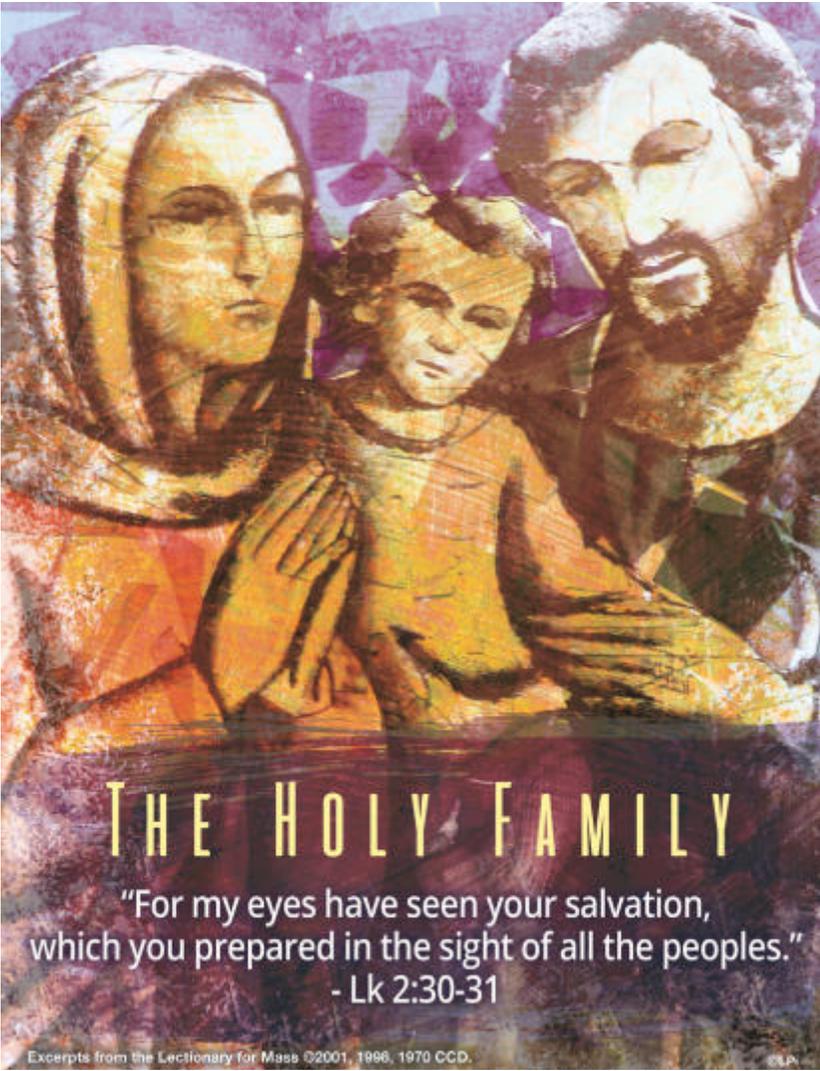


ST. JAMES THE GREATER CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 27, 2020



THE HOLY FAMILY

"For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples."
- Lk 2:30-31

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 9:30am

DAILY MASSES

Mondays & Wednesdays
7:30am in the Church
Fridays
9:00am in the Chapel

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

By appt. only during the pandemic

BAPTISM

Contact the Parish Office.
Families are encouraged
to be registered in the parish.

MARRIAGE

Contact the Parish Office at least 6
months prior the proposed date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you know of someone
homebound, sick, or in the
hospital, contact the Parish Office.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For those in need within our boundaries,
call 314-289-6101 ext. 1152.

OUR PARISH COMMITMENT

As parishioners of St. James the Greater Catholic Church, we strive to follow Jesus Christ in our Eucharistic Community by witnessing God's love for ourselves, our families, and our growing diverse community; particularly in Dogtown, and its surrounding neighborhoods and institutions...sharing our blessings with our new neighbors, and those living on the margins of faith.

6401 Wade Ave. | St. Louis, MO 63139 | 314-645-0167 | www.stjamesthegreater.org

From the Pastor's Pen...



Dear Parishioners,

This is the last Sunday Bulletin of the year 2020. A year that most of us are happy to see come to an end. I wrote here often times this year on the fears and anxieties expressed by Covid. Most of us

know the scope of the pain and we pray for a brighter year to come.

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family. We have an idea about what their holiness looked like. When it comes to our own family's holiness we mostly realize we have a spiritual task ahead of us.

Our ability to be holy comes from God and how we allow God's grace to work in each of us.

The following are excerpts from a recent study of the American Family Survey. The great challenge of our faith is how do we do holiness in the family in light of Covid. As we begin this year of Grace; it is good to think about holiness in a Covid afflicted world.

Blessings,
Fr. Quirk, Ph.D.

Many marriages have emerged stronger from the pandemic, as couples turn toward one another for support. According to the AFS, 51 percent of husbands and wives (aged 18-55) say the pandemic has deepened their commitment to their spouse or partner, versus only 8 percent who disagree. A majority, 58 percent, also report that this year's challenges have made them appreciate their spouse more.

Families are also doing better in other ways. Unsurprisingly, married people in the survey were less likely to report loneliness than their single peers. More families report eating dinner together up from 49 percent in 2019 to 54 percent in 2020.

More good news: couples who do get married are far less likely to divorce today than during the divorce revolution of the 1970s. In fact, divorce has been declining since the 1980s, dropping about 20 percent over the last decade to a point near the 1970 rate.

The AFS report indicates that the divorce rate is unlikely to rise because of Covid; the share of married people reporting trouble in their marriages has fallen from 40 percent in 2019 to 29 percent in 2020.

Like divorces, non marital births have been falling since the Great Recession, dropping from record highs: the rate of unmarried births decreased

Parish Office

6401 Wade Ave., St. Louis, MO 63139
314-645-0167

Office hours are:
Monday - Friday 9:00am-2:00pm

Rev. Richard Quirk Ph.D., Parochial Administrator
rquirk@stjamesthegreater.org

Deacon Michael A. Nicolai

Katie Ryan, Parish Manager
kryan@stjamesthegreater.org

Andrew Donovan, Music Minister
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January 1 - 9:00am

All Masses will be in the church.



HOLIDAY HOURS

No Mass

There is no 7:30am Mass on December 30th.

Parish Office

The Parish Office will be closed
December 30th - January 3rd. We will be open
on December 28th and 29th.

Livestreaming

There will be no livestream on January 2nd.

Parish Highlights

from 41 percent in 2009 to 39.6 percent in 2018.

The good news about family in America, then, is that a clear majority of marriages today will go the distance and the share of children being born and raised in stable marriages is rising. But there is some bad news that should trouble those concerned about the future:

Uncertainty of 2020 has placed enormous stressors on many, especially among those who suffered job or income loss. These economic blows have hit working-class and poor families hardest. Overall, about 34 percent of married Americans (18-55) in the AFS survey report that Covid has caused relationship distress.

There are also indications that the marriage rate, already at a record low, will continue to decline as a result of the pandemic.

This means that a large minority of Americans will not enjoy the financial, practical, and emotional benefits of marriage and parent hood at least for some time.

America is increasingly divided by class when it comes to the structure and quality of family life, with marriage a luxury embraced by the highly educated and affluent, who are more likely to marry for life and raise their kids in marriage. Poor and working-class Americans are more likely to cohabit and raise their kids in less stable unions, with enormous consequences.

If we do nothing to address the growing marriage divide, which seems to have deepened in the wake of Covid, we will witness deepening economic and social inequality as the educated and affluent reap the myriad benefits associated with stable marriage - not just more money but greater happiness - while the less privileged are increasingly consigned to unhappy, unstable families or permanent singledom.

"The Best of Times, the Worst of Times." Plough, www.plough.com/en/topics/life/marriage/the-best-of-times-the-worst-of-times.



December 20, 2020

Weekly Collection: | unknown at publication

To sign up for online giving, the link for Faith Direct is: <https://membership.faithdirect.net/MO54>

Our church code is MO54.

Thank You. ❤️



December - January

28th ~ Joe Barbay (Church 7:30am)

1st ~ John & Norma Hofstetter (Church 9:00am)

2nd ~ Albert & Elsie Bedolli (Church 4:30pm)

3rd ~ Reno Meneghetti (Church 9:30am)

Please consider a Mass Intention for our deceased families and friends as well as special intentions.

Mass Intentions are \$10.00 each.

Please contact the Parish Office for a Mass Intention Card or visit our website at <https://www.stjamesthegreater.org/mass-intention-request> to submit your request.



All are invited to:

REMEMBER
in your prayers

Joan Acton

John Kelley

Jean Bohler

Pam Kellogg

Maureen Brine

Lisa Perez-Paintner

Barbara Ann Burke

Sr. Rosalie

Michelle Donaldson

Steve Unland

Bill Ellingham, Jr.

Ruth Whitmore

Pat Ellingham

Jozie Emmerich

Donna Frank

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please email

contactchurch@stjamesthegreater.org

To add a name, you must have permission from the person you are adding to the prayer list.

Names will be honored for 4 weeks in the bulletin, then the request must be made again.

Thank you.

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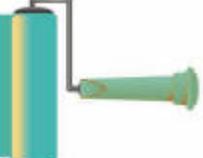
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