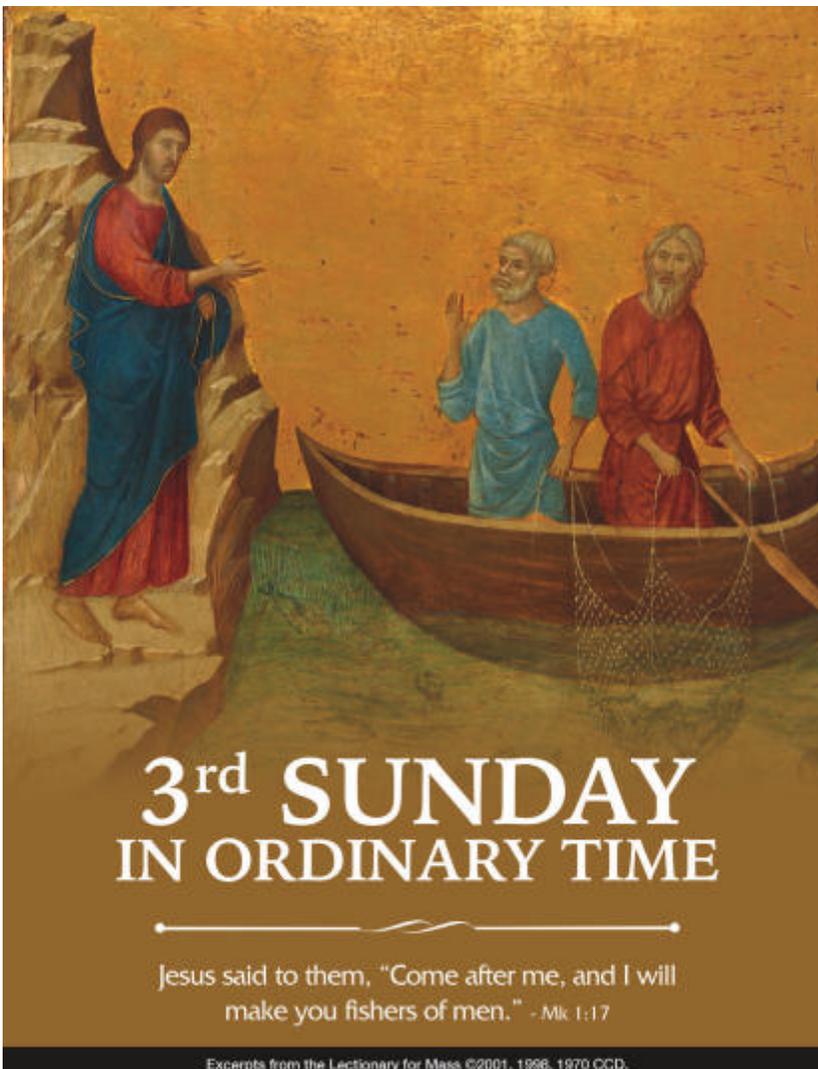


# ST. JAMES THE GREATER CATHOLIC CHURCH

## JANUARY 24, 2021



### 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](http://www.stjamesthegreater.org)

# From the Pastor's Pen...



Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis has designated the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time as the Word of God Sunday.

As we begin a new year, it is good to keep in mind that the day to day routines of our lives should, as best we can, reflect the Word of God (the Scriptures, the Bible). The Word of God should be the foundational source for our thoughts and behavior.

The following quotes come from a homily Pope Francis gave in January 2020. Given the multiple choices in our society (eg., social media) focusing on God's spoken word is a great challenge to the exercises of faith.

How did he begin? With a very simple phrase: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (v. 17). This is the main message of all Jesus' sermons: to tell us that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. What does this mean? The kingdom of heaven means the reign of God, that is, the way in which God reigns through his relationship with us. Jesus tells us that the kingdom of heaven is at hand, that God is near. Here is the novelty, the first message: God is not far from us. The One who dwells in heaven has come down to earth; he became man. He has torn down walls and shortened distances. We ourselves did not deserve this: he came down to meet us. Now this nearness of God to his people is one of the ways he has done things since the beginning, even of the Old Testament. He said to his people: "Imagine: what nation has its gods so near to it as I am near to you?" (cf. Dt 4:7). And this nearness became flesh in Jesus.

We can now understand the direct demand that Jesus makes: "Repent", in other words, "Change your life". Change your life, for a new way of living has begun. The time when you lived for yourself is over; now is the time for living with and for God, with and for others, with and for love. Today Jesus speaks those same words to you: "Take heart, I am here with you, allow me to enter and your life will change". Jesus knocks at the door. That is why the Lord gives you his word, so that you can receive it like a love letter he has written to you, to help you realize that he is at your side. His word consoles and encourages us. At the same time it challenges us, frees us from the bondage of our selfishness and summons us to conversion. Because his word has the power to change our lives and to lead us out of darkness into the light. This is the power of his word.

Here there is a message for us: the word of salvation does not go looking for untouched, clean and safe places. Instead, it enters the complex and obscure places in our lives. Now, as then, God wants to visit the very places we think he will never go. Yet how often we are the ones who close the door, preferring to keep our confusion, our dark side and our duplicity

## Parish Office

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

Office hours are:  
Monday - Friday 8:30am-3:00pm

Rev. Richard Quirk Ph.D., Parochial Administrator  
[rquirk@stjamesthegreater.org](mailto:rquirk@stjamesthegreater.org)

Deacon Michael A. Nicolai

Katie Ryan, Parish Manager  
[kryan@stjamesthegreater.org](mailto:kryan@stjamesthegreater.org)

Andrew Donovan, Music Minister  
314-255-8414



Mrs. Angela White, Teacher  
[awhite@stjamesthegreater.org](mailto:awhite@stjamesthegreater.org)

Mrs. Melissa Strohmeyer, Assistant

Mr. Ed Bozesky, Assistant

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## Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who helped take down the Christmas decorations. Your help was very much appreciated!

# Parish Highlights

hidden. We keep it locked up within, approaching the Lord with some rote prayers, wary lest his truth stir our hearts. He knows that his mercy alone can heal us, his presence alone can transform us and his word alone can renew us. So let us open the winding paths of our hearts – those paths we have inside us that we do not wish to see or that we hide – to him, who walked “the road by the sea”; let us welcome into our hearts his word, which is “living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword... and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart” (Heb 4:12).

That is why we need his word: so that we can hear, amid the thousands of other words in our daily lives, that one word that speaks to us not about things, but about life.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us make room inside ourselves for the word of God! Each day, let us read a verse or two of the Bible. Let us begin with the Gospel: let us keep it open on our table, carry it in our pocket or bag, read it on our cell phones, and allow it to inspire us daily. We will discover that God is close to us, that he dispels our darkness and, with great love, leads our lives into deep waters.

Blessings,  
Fr. Quirk, Ph.D.



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says: “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men”. As disciples, we are called to continue God's work on earth. Taking care of God's poor is indeed living gospel values.

For the year 2020, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist 38 families, providing \$ 4,600 in food, \$ 5,500 for utilities, \$ 4,800 for rent and \$ 5,000 in other bills.  
May God Bless You!



January 17, 2021

Weekly Collection: | \$1884.00

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

Our church code is MO54.

*Thank You. ❤️*



January

- 25th~ Joe Barbay (Church 7:30am)
- 27th ~Donald Eggleston, Sr. (Church 7:30am)
- 29th ~ Albert & Margaret Hofstetter (Chapel 9:00am)
- 30th ~ Tom Corbett (Church 4:30pm)
- 31st ~ The Paternosters (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          | Donna Frank        |
| Judy Allen          | John Kelley        |
| Jean Bohler         | Pam Kellogg        |
| Maureen Brine       | Jennifer Ohm       |
| Casey Brownfield    | Lisa Perez-Painter |
| Barbara Ann Burke   | Joe Putney         |
| Michelle Donaldson  | Sr. Rosalie        |
| Bill Ellingham, Jr. | Steve Unland       |
| Pat Ellingham       | Ruth Whitmore      |

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please email  
[contactchurch@stjamesthegreater.org](mailto: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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