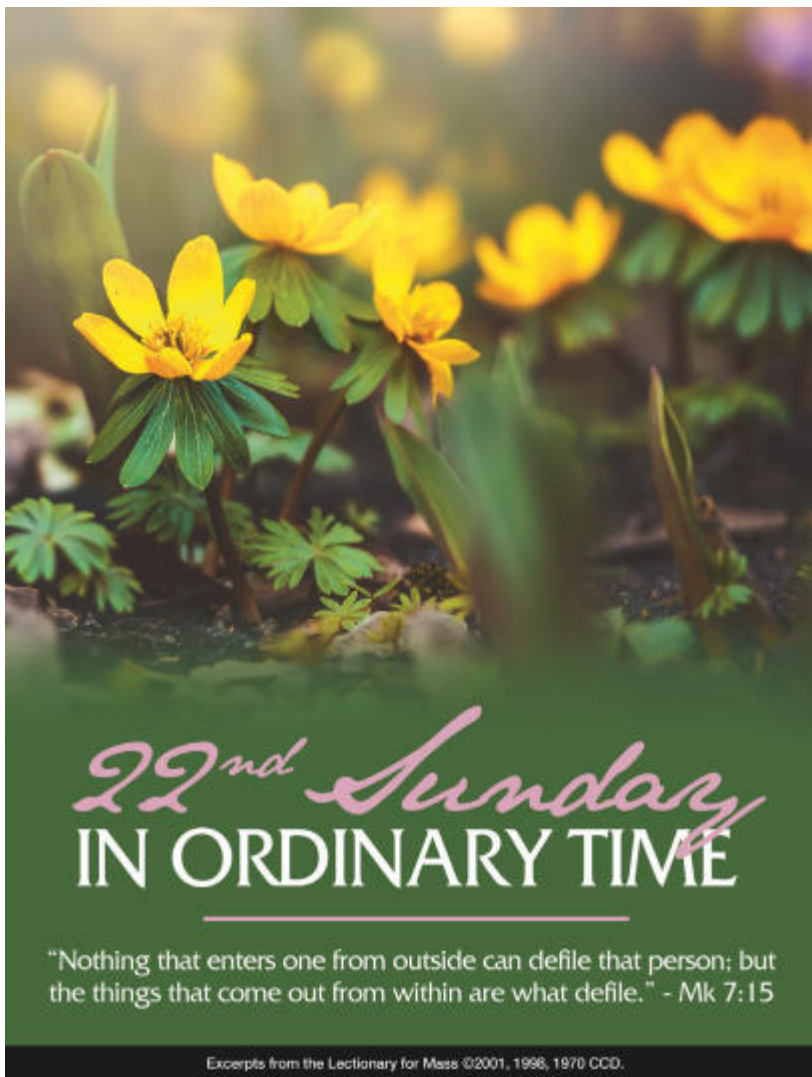




ST. JAMES THE GREATER CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 29, 2021



22nd Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

"Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." - Mk 7:15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 9:30am

DAILY MASSES

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

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

A Pastor's Reflection by Fr. Quirk, Ph.D.



Dear Parishioners,

I recently read an article, [Three Spiritual Exercises for Facing a Long Future with Covid-19](#) by Jim McDermott.

As all of our anxieties about Covid continue, and in some ways increase, I hope you will find this excerpt prayerful.

Blessings,
Fr. Quirk, Ph.D.

I am struggling with this myself. And these are three spiritual exercises that I am trying to use to help me find my way through it.

1. Center yourself in your own present-day experience. During the pre-vaccine era of the pandemic, we each made incredible sacrifices. To be confronted with the fact that we may still get the virus and transmit it to others is dispiriting and not a little bit frightening.

So what if we were to take some time to sit in the presence of God and listen to what is going on inside us, to give our feelings a chance to speak, without judgment or need to respond? Maybe we discover that we need some space to grieve the death of our belief that we were just about out of the woods, or to sit with our outrage toward others who will not get vaccinated, or to cope with our fears of getting sick.

In prayer we allow God to be present to us. And maybe in this prayer he can help us to be present to ourselves, to be caring and gentle with ourselves in the same way we would be to a child or loved one that is scared or suffering.

2. Consider the big picture. The first thing that stands out to me is the degree to which reports about the pandemic are all over the place. Some in the press are blasting scary statistics and burying the more important (and generally far less scary) details far down in their articles. Meanwhile, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other generally trustworthy medical outlets seem inconsistent in their recommendations and have yet to define the seriousness of the breakthrough issue.

The awareness of these inconsistencies in guidance also makes me reconsider some of my own choices. Maybe I should avoid going to restaurants, theaters or other places that don't require masks or proof of vaccination. Maybe I need to get tested every week or couple weeks just as a matter of course.

Parish Office

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

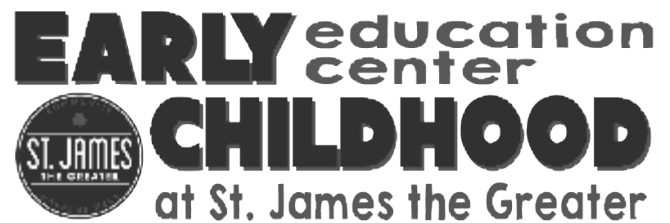
Office hours are:
Monday - Friday 8:00am-3:00pm

Rev. Richard Quirk Ph.D., Pastor
rquirk@stjamesthegreater.org

Deacon Michael A. Nicolai

Katie Ryan, Parish Manager
kryan@stjamesthegreater.org

Andrew Donovan, Music Minister
314-255-8414



Mrs. Toni Gissy, Director
tgissy@stjamesthegreater.org

Mrs. Angela White, Teacher
awhite@stjamesthegreater.org

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August 22, 2021

In Pew Collection: | \$7049.00

July 2021

In Pew & Faith Direct Collection: | \$22,247.63

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

Our church code is MO54.

Thank You. ❤️

Parish Highlights

An even bigger thing that I notice when I try to look out on the big picture is the billions of people who have not yet had the benefit of one shot, let alone the opportunity for a booster.

the point of the exercise is awareness. What is this world that I am living in? The more I can stay grounded in that reality, the more I open my own life to other people's needs and to the possibility of being able to help in some way.

3. Look ahead with acceptance (and maybe hope). The thing that I find hardest to accept right now is the possibility that rather than just a couple terrible years of our lives, Covid may be here to stay in one form or another—and with it, things like masks and variants and sickness and lockdowns. I don't want to believe that. I hope I'm wrong.

Sometimes I find a simple mantra can help me accept the world as it is. It's just three words that I repeat to myself quietly. "Now. Here. This."

In one sense all three words serve the same purpose. They ground me in the present. Now. Here. This.

It also holds a strange kind of anticipation. This that stands before us, this is the life in store for us. It is not a life we would have chosen—God, no. But here it is. Now. And who knows what it may hold?



Please pray for the soul of Rich Neaf who passed away on July 29, 2021. May the perpetual light shine upon him.

Labor Day Mass

Mass will be at 9:00am on Labor Day. There will be no 7:30am Mass.

Parish Office

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 6.



August 28th and 29th - Haiti Special Collection

Please participate in a second collection at all Masses this weekend of August 28th and 29th, 2021. The funds collected in this special appeal will become part of the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund and will be used to support the efforts of Catholic Charities USA and/or Catholic Relief Services, the office relief agencies of the U.S.



August - September

30th ~ John Italiano (Church 7:30am)

1st ~ Mary Jane Eggleston (Church 7:30am)

3rd ~ Tom Wessel (Church 9:00am)

4th ~ Jay Keeley (Church 4:30pm)

5th ~ Greg Hoegemeier (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

Judy Allen

Pam Kellogg

Penny Brennell

Sr. Rosalie

Barbara Ann Burke

Steve Unland

Michelle Donaldson

Lynne Einig

Bill Ellingham, Jr.

Pat Ellingham

Donna Frank

John Kelley

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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