



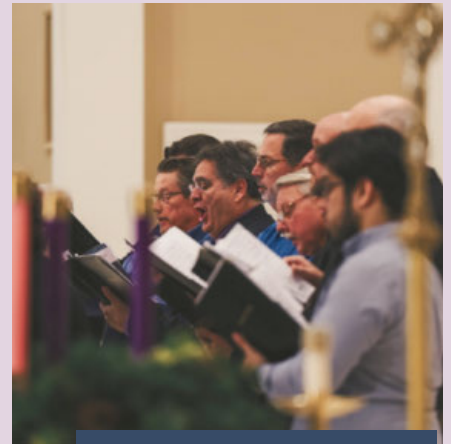
SAINT JAMES PARISH

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

ADVENT



Lessons & Carols, December 2



DEC 10

2023

*BE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.
MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A MESSAGE FROM...

Today's Readings

First Reading:

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! (Is 40:3)

Psalm:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85)

Second Reading:

We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. (1 Pt 1:13)

Gospel:

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. (Mk 16:4)



"I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to make a fresh start."

Dear Friends,

"The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9).

Peter reminds us of the important meaning of this time of repentance and preparation, the season of Advent; firstly, the Lord's desire for us, and secondly, our interior disposition as we prepare.

The Prophet Isaiah, in the first reading, uses earthy language which can be applied to our own hearts: "In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley." (Isaiah 40:3).

Multi-parish Penance Services will be offered this week at the area parishes. All the priests of these parishes will

be available at each location to hear confessions. Please see the schedule in this bulletin on the next page.

There is a necessary humility in confessing our sins in the sacrament, but a powerful grace that comes in a good confession. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to make a fresh start and receive the Lord's abundant forgiveness.

There's a scene in John Powers' delightful novel about growing up Catholic in the 1950s *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?* in which the author leaves church and returns home after going to confession. In his head he hears these joyful words – Free from sin! Free from sin! Free from sin!

God bless you,

Fr. Ed

PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

Prepare Your Heart for Him

Advent Devotions & Events

Noon Mass During Advent

Through December 22

St. James will hold an additional daily Mass each weekday (M-F) at noon.

Reconciliation During Advent

December 13 (Wednesday)

Multi-Parish Reconciliation Service 7:00 p.m. at St. James

One Night in Bethlehem

December 19 (Tuesday)

an event for all families 5-7 pm in the gym.

Sponsored by Children's Formation (see pg. 5)

Advent Taize Service

December 20 (Wednesday) 7 pm

Taizé worship is prayer consisting of meditative singing and periods of silence in order to reach a contemplative state. (see pg. 8)

Advent Penance Service with Confession

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

7:00 p.m. at St. James

Multi-Parish Reconciliation Services (with individual confessions) will also be held:

- 12/12 at St. Edna, Arlington Heights, 3 p.m.
- 12/12 at St. Mary, Buffalo Grove, 7 p.m.
- 12/14 at St. Colette, Rolling Meadows, 3 p.m.

Please note: Thursday 6 pm confessions will not take place at St. James on December 14.



4th Sunday of Advent

Mass Times

This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent is celebrated:

Saturday, Dec. 23 at 5:00 pm

Sunday, Dec. 24 at 7:00 am, 8:30 am,
10:00 am & 11:30 am



Christmas Eve & Day

Mass Times

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule:

Church: 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight

Parish Center (Gym): 3:15 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass Schedule:

Church: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (livestreamed)

12:00 p.m.

'TIS THE SEASON

MERCY BOXES
MERCY BOXES
MERCY BOXES
MERCY BOXES

Remember, if you took home a Mercy Box, it's time to shop and fill the box! Use the list of food items that came attached. Filled boxes are due back to St James on Sunday, December 17 and will be collected in the school parking lot from 8 am to 1 pm.

We are in need of volunteers to receive the boxes on Dec. 17 and place them in our truck for delivery. Visit the signup genius link below if you can give some of your time to this worthy cause.

Box Collection Volunteer Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4FA9AD2FA4FF2-stjames3#/>

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CALLING ALL CHILDREN
OF ST. JAMES: GRADES K-5

ANGELS & SHEPHERDS MASS
CHRISTMAS EVE 2023
3:15 PM IN THE GYM

Please register each child participating.
Open to the first 50 registrations! Sign up soon!

A **REQUIRED** rehearsal will be held
Thursday, Dec 21st, 5-6PM in the Parish Center.

Questions???
Contact-Bethany Larson
blarson@stjamesah.org



One Holy Night in Bethlehem



Tuesday, December 19, 2023
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
St. James Parish Center



↑
PLEASE
REGISTER
TO ATTEND

One Holy Night in Bethlehem welcomes all children from St. James and their families to explore Bethlehem at the time of Jesus' birth. Through hands-on experiences you'll learn about the birth of Jesus and how we can live out His mission for us!

One Holy Night in Bethlehem is a FREE event open to ALL CHILDREN OF OUR PARISH & their families. This is NOT a drop-off event. All children need to be accompanied by an adult. Expect to spend 45 minutes exploring all of Bethlehem!

VOLUNTEER TO
MAKE BETHLEHEM
COME ALIVE FOR
ONE HOLY NIGHT!



contact: blarson@stjamesah.org



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



Are you interested in learning more about the St. James Junior Ambassadors?

St. James Jr. Ambassadors Club invites our children to experience and exercise the corporal works of mercy, as we explore the many ministries at St. James that are feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, and caring for creation. Each time we meet, we will learn about the impact a child can have in this world when they follow Jesus.



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REGISTER



SAINT JAMES PARISH
MEN OF SAINT JAMES

Can You Help the Homeless?

St. James PADS has been open and housing guests for two full months and the numbers continue to increase each week.

PADS is grateful to all the volunteers who are generously giving of their time to make this possible. Thanks to all returning and new volunteers who have been taking on extra shifts to fill in the gaps.

We are still in need of volunteers to fill in the overnight shifts, whether it be once a week, once a month, or a couple of times during the PADS season. Please consider becoming part of this ministry.

PADS Volunteer Contact:
st.james.pads@gmail.com

Christmas Senior Luncheon

Wednesday, December 20
11am - 1pm - Laramie Room

RSVP by 12/15

Call Theresa 224-345-7213

SCHOOL & PARISH NEWS

GIVING SEASON

THANK YOU to our amazing St. James supporters! Your incredible generosity on #GivingTuesday helped us surpass our goal, raising a remarkable \$11,335 to help us continue to raise young men and women of intellect and faith through our St. James Tuition Assistance Program (TAP).



While #GivingTuesday has ended, the opportunity to make a difference doesn't stop there! If you missed the chance to contribute, or if you're still eager to support the St. James Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), it's not too late. Giving season continues!

Donate Here



EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Saturdays before the 5:00 pm Mass December 16 and 23 as well as January 6, 13, 20 and 27. All are invited to sit in the presence of our Lord. St. James will continue this practice on select Saturdays as we and Catholics from all over the country approach the Eucharistic Congress next summer in Indianapolis.

Eucharistic Congress | July 17-21, 2024

Come make history with us in Indianapolis at the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, where we will gather at the feet of Jesus for the first time in nearly a century, boldly anticipating a new Pentecost. Your life—and our Church—will never be the same. A group from St. James will attend. More details to come. See resources below to learn more.



Learn More

stjamesah.org

search *Eucharistic Congress*

Contact

ecinfo@stjamesah.org

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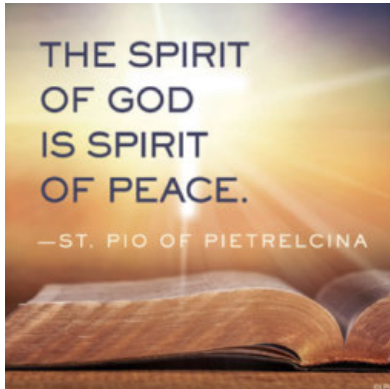
UPCOMING EVENTS

Retired Men's Group Meeting

The Retired Men's Group will meet at 10:00 am on December 13 in the Teen/Senior room in the Church basement.

Bishop Barron will teach us about St. Bartolome' de las Casas. All are welcome.

Questions to Tom Adam at 847-394-4731



HOSPITALITY

Weekend!

JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY!

Following Sunday morning Masses on December 17, head downstairs to enjoy donuts and coffee with one another.



SAINT JAMES PARISH
MUSIC MINISTRY

Advent TAIZE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT 7:00 PM

As we await the birth of Christ, the Light of Hope, let our voices be a light for all as we pray through our singing.

Taize worship is prayer consisting of meditative singing and periods of silence in order to reach a contemplative state.

All are welcome to participate in singing and silent prayer.

PATH TO SUNDAY



Our gospel reading for today is curious in that it begins: "the beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God." It then continues to reference the prophecy of Isaiah (Isaiah 40:1-5) regarding the coming of the messiah (Jesus) to be announced by his forerunner (John the Baptist).

Why does St. Mark start by writing, "The beginning of the gospel..."? Can you imagine Dickens starting *A Christmas Carol* by writing, "The beginning of the Christmas Carol of Charles Dickens?"

When St. Mark writes "the beginning," it isn't because he lacks creativity and should have written "once upon a time." To understand, it helps to know that the word "gospel" is from the Greek New Testament text as εὐαγγέλιον (euangelion); it means "good news." Jesus himself is the good news; he is the savior. St. Mark tells Jesus' story. Add to this, the phrase "The beginning" recalls Genesis, the first words of which are, "In the beginning" (from the Hebrew word b'reshit). It is in the first chapters of Genesis that we hear about Original Sin and humanity's need for salvation. Thus, the gospel is, in a sense, the answer to Genesis.

We see in the prophet Isaiah, an expectation of the messiah, the Hebrew mashiach or "anointed one." This word is rendered into Greek as christos (Χρίστος). Christ is not Jesus' last name; Jesus did not have a last name. "Christ" is a title, as in Jesus the Christ. While the Jewish people were expecting a messiah of the line of King David, they thought he would simply come to save Israel from the power of the pagan Roman Empire. They didn't expect that he would save the world from sin and death. They also didn't expect him to be God incarnate, the Son of God.

Your Brother in Christ,

Fr. Paul

Foundation for Children in Need Update on Recent Event

"We had a gathering of 100 persons suffering from muscular dystrophy at an FCN home. FCN distributed \$125 each and Christmas gifts.

"Local donors and school children donated blankets, groceries, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes. It was a big gathering and a long day."

Thank you, St. James community for your support of the Foundation for Children in Need.

www.fcn-usa.org



OUR PRAYERS & INTENTIONS

In Loving Memory

Gerald Piontek
Marilyn Piontek

Please Pray for Our Sick

Howard "Russ" Walker
Bunny Velasco
Anita Burnett

Rose for Life

Donated by the Helminski family in loving memory of their son and brother, Jeffrey, on the 21st anniversary of his death

Wedding Banns

Zach Fick and Amanda Kowalski (Dec. 30)

Recent Baptisms

William Paul Patricoski, child of
Adam Patricoski and Elizabeth (Stefanowski) Patricoski

Luciana Maria Columbia, child of
Paul Columbia and Maria (Candelas) Columbia

Cecilia May Alexanko, child of
Nicholas Alexanko and Emily (Wine) Alexenko

Parker John Puksza, child of
David Puksza and Meghan (Henry) Puksza

Estelle Ann Rampey, child of
Tyler Rampey and Laura (Czopek) Rampey

Leo James Kocanda, child of
Matthew Kocanda and Kathryn (Baronti) Kocanda

Willow J. Schwab, child of
Josh Schwab and Sara (Feldman) Schwab

Nicolas Anthony Martinez, child of
Ciro Martinez and Nicole (Aiello) Martinez

Celebrant Schedule, Dec. 16-17

5:00	Fr. Ed
7:00	Fr. Michael
8:30	Fr. Michael
10:00	Fr. Paul
11:30	Fr. Paul
5:00	Fr. Ed

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 9

5:00 Carl DeLio

Sunday, December 10 2nd Sunday of Advent

7:00	Lucy McGrath
8:30	For the people of the parish
10:00	Patricia Coughlin Theresa Losch Roland Ley Kathleen Camarena
11:30	Gail Stanuch Julie Gotsch

Monday, December 11 St. Damasus I, Pope

7:30	Marcin Bukowski Jim Santo Jim McGrath, Sr. Lee Basye Lloyd Benjamin Mary Bannon John F. Kordek
12:00	Gina Hammond

Tuesday, December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:30	Meggan McDermott Gertrude Pietrolonardo Sue Ferrini Frann & Darrell Griffin
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Wednesday, December 13 St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

7:30	Jerry Farrell
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Thursday, December 14 St. John of the Cross

7:30	Andrew Szott Edward Doherty (17th Anniv.) John Velasco (2nd Anniv.) Dr. Robert J. LeVeau Sheila Corrigan
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Friday, December 15

7:30	Bill Pietrolonardo
12:00	Francois Pasquier

Saturday, December 16

7:30	Kevin & James Houlihan Halina Zawadzki (1st Anniv.)
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PARISH UPDATES

PARISH MINISTRIES

Earth Shepherds provides opportunities to learn about the relationship between Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching and our responsibility to be stewards of God's Creation.

sjearthshepherds@gmail.com

Grief Support Ministry is about overcoming your grief.

Are you struggling with a loss? Having a hard time coping? We meet twice per month. Please email the address below for more details.

griefsupport@stjamesah.org

Loaves and Fishes Ministry provides lunches for those experiencing homelessness in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood.

stjameslandf@gmail.com

Men of St. James provides opportunities for Christian fellowship through social, spiritual and service activities for men of the parish at least 21 years of age.

msj@stjamesah.org

Mental Health Ministry provides support, education and awareness to our parish communities on issues related to mental health. Strives to provide resources of support, education and hope.

tsherva@gmail.com

Ministers of Care bring the Holy Eucharist to parishioners who are unable to leave their homes or are in care homes. Ministry volunteers must complete a mandatory training session and follow Archdiocesan guidelines.

ministryofcare@stjamesah.org

Ministry of Praise gives members the opportunity to offer their prayers to God for special intentions to help others in their need.

ministryofpraise@stjamesah.org

Moms Plus provides support and fellowship to Catholic moms. This group is part of Women of St. James.

momsplus@stjamesah.org

Over 50 Social Club provides social outings, game days, cards, speakers, parties, current events/news and spirituality to any parishioner over the age of 50.

stecstan@sbcglobal.net

PADS Outreach provides safety, temporary shelter and services to the unhoused.

st.james.pads@gmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council serves as a representative body of the St. James parish community, guided by the Holy Spirit.

PPC@stjamesah.org

Peace & Justice Ministry educates the faithful on the Catholic social teachings, supports and complements parish ministries and empowers people to transform lives and society, both locally and globally. Meets the last Tuesday of each month.

peaceandjustice@stjamesah.org

Respect Life Ministry strives to transform society into a Culture of Life where every human being is valued and protected from the moment of conception until natural death.

mschoney@astound.net

Stepping Stones raises awareness, promotes understanding and prevents relational violence by educating communities and providing referrals to victims and survivors of emotional, financial, physical and sexual abuse. (IL Domestic Violence Helpline: 877-863-6338).

steppingstones@stjamesah.org

St. Vincent de Paul provides emergency, short-term financial help for anyone living within the parish boundaries. For information on volunteering for or using this service, call the Parish Office followed by x8517. Please leave a message and one of our volunteers will call you back. All requests kept confidential.

Wheels to Worship drives people to church and shares in the Mass with St. James parishioners who cannot drive themselves.

wheelstoworship@stjamesah.org

Women of St. James provides support to Catholic women who are committed to growing and sharing their faith through sisterhood and service.

wosjministryleads@gmail.com

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN

BGHS Music Department Winter Concert, Dec. 15-16

The Buffalo Grove Music Department presents a musical storytelling of *Christmas Vacation* by the band, choir and orchestra students. Performances are Friday, December 15 at 7:00 pm and Saturday, December 16 at 4:00 pm. Tickets are \$5 each, available at tickets.d214.org or at the door while supplies last. Following the performance, audience members can create a craft, enjoy concessions, visit the Instrument Petting Zoo and meet Santa.

To Be Joyful Again Meetings

First and third Thursdays of each month; 7 p.m.; non-denominational support group for widows, widowers or anyone else who has lost a significant other meets at Holy Family Parish, 2515 Palatine Road, Inverness; all welcome; contact Peggy Emerson at 224-595-3613 or Bob Boho at 847-438-2884 for more information.

DON'T FALL BEHIND

STAY CURRENT WITH THIS WEEK'S EVENTS
AND WHAT'S COMING UP AT ST. JAMES

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Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm Praise & Worship Ensemble
Sunday 7:00 am Cantor and Organ
Sunday 8:30 am Traditional Choir & Organ
Sunday 10:00 am Contemporary Choir
Sunday 11:30 am Contemporary Choir
Sunday 5:00 pm Praise & Worship Ensemble

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday – Saturday, 7:30 am
Monday & Wednesday, Noon

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 8:30 pm
Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Sacraments & Devotions

Baptism - Please call the Parish Office with preferred date at least one month in advance.

Marriage - At least six months prior to your wedding date, please contact the Parish Office about setting a date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation - in the church

Thursday – 6:00 - 7:00 pm (**CANCELED 12/14/23**)
Saturday – 8:00 - 9:00 am following daily Mass

Holy Hour - Thursday 6:00 - 7:00 pm in the church for procession of the blessed sacrament, evening prayer, rosary

The Perpetual Adoration Chapel is open to all from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm daily, and 24 hours a day for committed adorers with access code. Contact adoration@stjamesah.org for the opportunity.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the altar in church occurs on select Saturday evenings prior to the 5:00 pm Mass. Upcoming dates include: December 16 and 23, January 6, 13, 20 & 27.

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