

St. James the Greater

Where All are Welcome

Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time ✝ September 5, 2021



## 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34



## Message from Fr. Tom

Happy beginning of a **new school year**! Our teachers at St. James School couldn't be happier to see all their children again. There is the added stress of COVID concerns, but that hasn't dampened their spirits. The whole "mask or no mask" issue is a stressor, as it has been in the parish. Unlike Eau Claire public schools, Regis Catholic Schools has not made masks a requirement, which of course pleases some and displeases others. Regis would have required masks if the county health department has mandated it, but it stopped short of doing so. One family pulled a child from the school because of concern about virus transmission. We probably would have lost a student if they were required. **I understand these decisions** and the good faith of those who make them. It's never been so blatantly obvious that you can't please everyone as it has these last 18 months. So, we pray and try to be smart, and pray to be smart. And I pray for patient endurance with one another amidst all the disagreement. **There is a deeper unity God offers us, you know,** that goes beyond how we feel about masking.

I had a good time on my day off last week, buzzing down for a **quick overnight to Crystal Lake, Illinois** to see my seminary classmate **Fr. Bob Jones**. He is feeling the pain of just leaving a parish he really really loved and where he had been for 12 years. The parish he left is about the size of St. James—1000 families—and his new parish has 3800 families. Wow. I can't imagine being pastor of a parish that size. I have to say that I love his new church. It has eight sections of pews, fanning out from the altar in a semi-circle. The middle four sections are the ones with the most rows of pews and they only have 14. So, even though it holds over twice as many people as St. James, the people in their back row are about as far from the altar as the people in our 8<sup>th</sup> row. Anyway, it's hard starting in a new parish and so maybe you'll join me in saying some prayers for Fr. Bob.

Before I left Illinois, I went on a **feeding frenzy**. My absolute favorite "sweet thing" in the world are the milk shakes at Oberweis Dairy stores. I had to drive a half hour to Lake Zurich to get one, but that was my breakfast Monday morning. Then I stopped at a Jewel/Osco to load up on every variety of "Matt's Cookies" I could find, and then my final stop was the World Market for some British "Digestive Biscuits," some chocolate covered, some not. Those biscuits are like graham crackers, but much less dense. They are good plain or with peanut butter. I acquired a taste for them in 1984 when I studied in London for one semester. I remember wandering the countryside in England one rainy day with no food to be found. Finally, I found a Bed and Breakfast for the night and the kind host put my wet shoes by the fire and then put out some tea with a very large platter of digestive biscuits and jam. She came back thirty minutes later and was a bit shocked to see the biscuit platter and jam bowl completely empty. I couldn't help myself. The World Market also had "Bourbon BBQ" potato chips, which I will share with my priest support group when they come to the rectory for refreshments on September 12. We'll eat biscuits and those chips while the Saints and Packers play in the background.

Do you know that old Hank Williams song "I Saw the Light"? Well, I saw the light, thanks to **Ed Gonstead** coming around and fixing several of our night security lights around school. This was just the latest of many helpful things he has done for our parish and school. Also, I am grateful to **Wayne Rapienski** for researching the best way to clean and seal the concrete part our Last Supper Sculpture. Some superficial cracks were appearing on the table, and so he consulted with **Ryan Buesser** to discern the best cleaning and sealing solutions. His work will keep the little cracks from becoming big cracks. We can rest easy this winter and continue to enjoy this treasure in our midst. It is a true pleasure to see how **many neighborhood people come to the sculpture...**to pray, to lunch, to bring their grandchildren who like to come and give Jesus a loving pat on the shoulder. We had one sad incident of some teen girls treating the sculpture disrespectfully at night, but our good neighbors chased them off. One of the girls told the neighbor man, "Who are you to tell us to go away?" He just said, "It doesn't matter who I am—have a little respect!" It was neat to see neighbors taking some ownership and responsibility for the sculpture. It is always well lit at night, and now we also have a motion-activated camera for it.

In the spirit of Labor Day, I'll close with a lovely prayer from our funeral rites: *"Blessed are those who die in the Lord. Let them rest from their labors, for their good deeds go with them."* Peace.

### St. Mary's 2021 Fall Festivities

Sept. 12: Family Fun Day! 12-3 PM. Concessions, kid's games, Kevin's balloons

Sept. 19: Adult Night Out, Kids Night In! 5-9 PM.

Outside: Beer tent, BBQ concessions, music

Inside: Children's movie, pizzas and piñata

Grand prize raffle: \$1500. Tickets \$5 each.

Sept 26: Chicken Dinner Finale! 11:30 AM-3 PM

Silent Auction, Cake Walk, Country Store, Raffle Drawing

**St. Paul's Catholic Church in Bloomer** will be having their Fall Festival on Sunday, Sept. 26. Charcoal Chicken Dinner with all the trimmings will be served from 10:30 until 2:00 PM. Activities include giant thrift sale, raffles, children's games, silent auction, cake walk and produce stand. Please come, enjoy the day with us.

### St. John's Cook Valley Fall Festival

Sunday, Sept. 12, 11 AM-5 PM

Live Auction, Silent Auction, Raffle Drawing, Charcoal Chicken Dinner (adults \$10, children \$5, carryout \$10), Cake Walk, Grocery Game, Craft Sale, Country Store, Fames, Food Stand, religious items for sale.

### Holy Ghost Parish Picnic

Holy Ghost Parish in Chippewa Falls is hosting its' 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Picnic Weekend on Sept. 11 and 12! A delicious roast beef sandwich meal will be served after the 5 PM Mass on Saturday, and the full picnic with fair style food, Bingo, games, raffles, and silent auction will be held on Sunday after the 11 am Mass. We hope to see you there!

### Knights of Columbus Trinity Council #10774

FISH DINNER St. Raymond of Peñafort Church  
SERVING: Deep Fried and Baked Cod Loins, Au gratin Potatoes, French Fries, Bread Pudding and more. **Friday, September 24, 2021.** Serving Hours: 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Carryouts Available: (715) 877-3400. PRICES: 3-piece Dinner: \$12.00, 2-piece Dinner: \$11.00, Ages 6-11: \$ 6.00 South of Brackett or North of Foster on Highway 53 Turn East on Mallard Road (address: E10455 Mallard Road). Check out and buy a chance on the Parish Council of Catholic Women Bake Sale!

### Eau Claire Catholic Women's Club

On Monday Sept. 20, we will begin our new year with a welcome back lunch 11:45 to 1:15 at River Prairie Park in Altoona (large pavilion by the pond) Please bring your own brown bag lunch. Sanitizer, bottled water, napkins, plates and dessert will be provided. We will eat at noon, have a short meeting, followed by door prizes. All Catholic women of the Eau Claire area are invited to join us. We meet Monday's six times from September to May, gathering to share our faith, food and fellowship. Our funds are used to support Catholic Schools and other local charities in need. If you have any questions call Judi Teske at (715-835-6861)

### Catholic Teaching on Labor

#### Question:

As we celebrate Labor Day, can you tell me about Catholic teaching regarding labor?

#### Answer:

One of the most important principles of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Four encyclicals address this foundational social teaching: *Rerum Novarum* (1891) by Leo XIII, *Quadragesimo Anno* (1931) by Pius XI, *Laborem Exercens* (1981), and *Centesimus Annus* (1991) by John Paul II. They address both the theology and dignity of work. In Genesis, God takes the initiative in creating the world, calling forth human beings to be faithful stewards of creation. We are thus formed to share in God's continuing creative activity by partnering with God in finishing the world and helping bring it to completion and fulfillment. From this perspective, work can be spiritually understood in terms of sharing in God's ongoing activity to build, create, and transform the world. Human beings are co-creators with God. This vocation demands self-discipline.

Besides an exercise in self-discipline, work is also the means by which we develop and fulfill ourselves. In work, we shape the world and our environment. Through work, we also shape ourselves. Pope John Paul II summarized this point in *Laborem Exercens* #6, "the value of work is not primarily the kind of work being done, but the fact that the one who is doing it is a person."

Labor Day offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on how we view work in light of our Catholic social teaching.

©LPi

Pregnancy Loss 

Memorial & Walk 2021

Options  
for Women  
MENOMONIE

Our Babies-  
We want to  
remember them



Saturday,  
September 25, 2021

10am - 12pm



Cedarbrook Church - N6714 470th St, Menomonie, WI 54751

Register at [friendsofwomenomnie.org](http://friendsofwomenomnie.org)

This is for anyone who has lost a baby through miscarriage, stillborn, early infant loss and abortion.  
Our hearts hold grief not judgment.

**St. James Elementary**

Monday, September 6, no school- Labor Day  
 Tuesday, September 21, Jeans for Jesus  
 Tuesday, September 28, Regis Spirit Day  
 Friday, September 24, No School-Diocesan In-Service

**Preschool Open House Events****St. James Elementary School****Monday-Thursday Afternoon Class**

Tuesday, September 7 (Anytime Between 12:45 and 3:15 PM.) \* First Day 9/08

**Tuesday & Thursday Morning Class**

Tuesday, September 7 (Anytime Between 8:30 and 11 AM.) \* First Day 9/09

**Monday/Wednesday/Friday Morning Class**

Wednesday, September 8 (Anytime Between 8:30 and 11 PM.) \* First Day 09/10

**Parent Orientation Night**

Tuesday, September 14 | 6 PM. (Child Care Not Available)

**St. James the Greater Mission Statement**

We, the people of St. James the Greater Parish in Eau Claire, are a community of Catholic believers. We nurture our relationship with God and others through prayer, worship, Scripture, evangelization and education. We are committed to spiritual growth, service and stewardship. We embrace the diversity of gifts and needs of all people.

**Volunteers for Rural Life Day****Wednesday Sept. 22**

**Needed;** Setting and decorating tables: 8:00 AM  
 Help parking cars: 8:00 to 10:00 AM  
 Resetting chairs after Mass for lunch 11:00 AM  
 General Cleanup 2:00 to 4:00 PM

**If Interested: contact:**

Sharon Bussard 715-379-5542, sbuzz2304@gmail.com  
 Need names by September 7

**Apple Pregnancy Care Center Walk for Life**

Apple PCC's Walk for Life, held on Sept. 18, enables us to continue to serve. We count on this important fundraiser to stand for life in this community. We educate, support and mentor women and men in the Chippewa Valley every year, and we can't do it without the support of this community. Please go to [www.friendsofapple.org](http://www.friendsofapple.org) to register, get more information on the walk, or donate. Thanks for all you do to support Apple PCC.

**Parish Staff**

Phone: 715-835-5887

Fr. Tom Krieg	Pastor	tom4664@aol.com
Christine Warloski	Pastoral Associate	christine@stjameseauclaire.org
Jacky Miller	Pastoral Minister	jacchuck@yahoo.com
Anne Henriksen	Office Manager	stjameseac@aol.com
Mary Kolstad	Crd. of Liturgical Music	kolstadmary@gmail.com
Kelly Beaudrie	Dir. of Religious Ed.	beaudrie.kelly@gmail.com
Beth Cerny	Crd. of Religious Ed	elizabethcerny@hotmail.com

**Mass Intentions & Schedule**

Weekday masses are at 9:00 AM Tuesday-Friday.  
 Rosary and Adoration are available after the Tuesday Mass until 10:30 AM.

Sat.	Sept. 04	4:30 PM Theresa Maenner
Sun.	Sept. 05	8:00 AM People of St. James 10:00 AM Mark Brantner
Tue.	Sept. 07	Earl Keller
Wed.	Sept. 08	Marion Barnes
Thu.	Sept. 09	Tom BaDour
Fri.	Sept. 10	Souls of Aborted Babies
Sat.	Sept. 11	4:30 PM James Connolly
Sun.	Sept. 12	8:00 AM Pat Johnson 10:00 AM People of St. James Noon MASS ON THE GRASS

**40<sup>th</sup> Annual Rural Life Day 2021**

Wednesday, September 22 at 10 AM

Diocesan event in the Eau Claire Deanery this year!

Carla Kostka & Barry Kostka

Castle Rock Organic Farms

S12360 Young Road, Osseo, Wisconsin

Members of St. Raymond of Peñafort Parish

Mass will be celebrated by His Excellency Bishop William Patrick Callahan

We gather to...Praise God for providing an abundant food source to sustain our lives. Appreciate and celebrate the farmer in our midst who are good stewards of these resources. Educate and demonstrate the connection we have with agriculture in our daily lives.

**Sermon on the Amount**

August 22, 2021

Sunday Adult Envelopes (105)	\$7,734.00
2020 same week (98)	\$9,287.00
Students	\$2.00
Plate	<u>\$37.00</u>
Total	\$7,773.00
Mission Coop	3,958.91

Year to date Adult Env./CPL Income through July 31, 2021:

Actual (July 1-July 31)	\$57,557.75
Budgeted (July 1-July 31)	\$50,000.00

Long term maintenance & facilities improvement fund and Past\*Present\*Future Campaign income for Aug. 22 was \$75.00 for a total since July 1, 2021 of \$5,925.00.

**St. James School** Phone: 715-830-2277

Jackie Lutz Principal,  
 jlutz@regiscatholicschools.com  
 Shanna Donkers, Administrative Assistant,  
 sdonkers@regiscatholicschools.com  
 Linda Schultz, Commission Rep.-RCS,  
 linda1735@gmail.com  
**Bulletin deadlines:** end of day Mondays.



### PCCW first meeting of the year!

September 9 Meeting of Parish Council of Catholic Women at 6:30 PM, in the Gathering Space, preceded by recitation of the Rosary at 6:15.

St. James  
Elementary  
School  
Faculty and  
Staff

### St. James Golf Outing

The golf outing has been rescheduled to Sept. 26 at 1 PM. Please contact Jim Whiteside for more info, 715-225-3276.

**Help reclaim the rectory grounds.** We'll be meeting on September 11 at 9am, meeting in front of the Gathering Room doors to get organized. Bring your own tools, like kneeling pads, rakes, weed-pullers, gloves, etc. Phone # 715-831-3352, and email, [whitelroach@gmail.com](mailto:whitelroach@gmail.com) for any questions.



The sunlight cast a beautiful image outlining the Bass -- let God's light surround us. Remember we ALL are beautiful in his eyes!

ALSO - LOVE IS ALIVE - so is the music@ St. James. It is time to start thinking about becoming a choir member or cantor or instrumentalist? It is soooooooooooooo easy! Just talk to Mary Kolstad, email [kolstadmary@gmail.com](mailto:kolstadmary@gmail.com) or talk to one of the current musicians. We will JOYFULLY welcome you!!

### Interested in becoming Catholic?

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about becoming a member of the Catholic Church, we will begin RCIA classes on October 3. RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a process that enables the study of Scripture, Catholic Christian teaching and traditions, liturgy and sacraments, morals, and social justice. It is the deepening of a life of prayer and action with the support and involvement of the local parish community. The RCIA is more than a course of instruction. It is a process of conversion, designed to meet the unique and individual needs of the participants. It is:

- For adults who have never been baptized and are seeking to join the Catholic Church
- For baptized adults who desire to be received into full communion with the Catholic Faith
- For adults, baptized Catholic, but never catechized or fully initiated

Please contact Jacky Miller, Pastoral Minister for questions/details or to register [jacchuck@yahoo.com](mailto:jacchuck@yahoo.com), (835-5887, #3)

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