

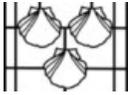
St. James the Greater  
Where All are Welcome  
✝ October 17, 2021



## 29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many." - Mk 10:43-45



Message from Fr. Tom

Hi! Before I forget, let me say that our **next parish book club** meeting will be on Thursday, November 18 at 6:30. I've been meaning to read something by the "up and coming" author, Franciscan priest **Daniel Horan, OFM**, for some time. The title *God is Not Fair and Other Reasons for Gratitude* caught my eye. It's an easier read than the last one and only 131 pages, so I think we can handle it all in one night: Tuesday, November 30, at 6:30.

I attended the Fall Clergy Conference in La Crosse last Monday and Tuesday. It was mostly about money matters: the establishment of the "Western Wisconsin Catholic Foundation," and a capital campaign in the not too distant future to help fund it. It'll be a worthy project—a little ways off but not too distant. That's all I know about that right now.

On a lighter and more joyous note, I'm happy to report that **Fr. Alan Guanella** was an impressive speaker at this conference. Many of you will recall that he lived here at St. James and presided regularly at our masses while he taught at Regis High School. He left St. James in 2014, and in the meantime he went off to get an advanced degree in canon law. He spoke to all the priests about our diocese's and our parish's participation in an initiative of Pope Francis called "A **Synod on Synodality**." What's that? Basically, Pope Francis is trying to have less a "Top-Down" approach to Church life and hear more from people who live out their faith in their parishes and cities. Because Bishop Callahan knows Fr. Guanella is now well-educated in such things, he asked Fr. Guanella to coordinate the participation of the Diocese of La Crosse in this effort. Basically, each parish will have a special meeting of the pastoral council to address ten areas of interest. We're supposed to receive these questions fairly soon. Probably this will be a special meeting in church inviting anyone else from the parish who would like to attend and give input. I'll keep you posted.

Our **Pastoral Council met last week** for usual matters. We prayed with this weekend's Gospel text. Then, to bring new members up to speed, **Christine** reviewed what we had discussed and decided in recent years regarding the interior of our worship space. Then our chair, **Paula Winter**, summarized the **results of her strategic planning interviews** with various parish groups. She needs to finish up with the Finance Council and then we will have a meeting or two to discuss the results with the parish as a whole. This has been a labor of love for Paula, but a labor nonetheless, and the council is very appreciative. Then we had a short discussion about people both joining and leaving the parish and what that might be all about. It seems like a lot of it has to do with Covid-related issue and happiness or unhappiness with how we are coping with it. Then, last, **Jacky Miller** told of our staff discussions in recent weeks about **her desire to retire sometime in the next year or two**. Jacky, as most of you know, has been an invaluable asset to our parish, and she is further serving us by wanting to wait to retire until she knows we can find a really good "fit" of someone to replace her. So, that will be a very important issue to keep in mind these coming months, for all of us.

Next week Sunday/Monday I'm taking my first backpacking trip in seven years—though only a one-nighter in Chippewa County. An old high school friend said he has just the trail for us! So far, it looks like no rain in the forecast, so that's good. Then on Wednesday, I have to go back to La Crosse for a morning meeting of a financial board I'm on. **Fr. Kurzynski** happily agreed to come to St. James for the school mass that day. He has really been working hard for all of us as the Eau Claire Deanery's Dean. If you see him, give him a pat on the back.

I just saw that the **Brewers** lost tonight (it's Tuesday) and so the season is over. That's too bad. Such a see-saw game that raised Brewer-fan hopes before body slamming our spirits on the concrete floor. Well, maybe it wasn't that bad, but you know what I mean. We'll move on to other things, I suppose.

We have a nice run of **Baptisms** coming up. **Jeske's, Gladitch's, Duerwachter/Robinson's, Stewart's, and Walker's** will all celebrate baptisms in their family's before Advent. We may even have more. Also, we have a **wedding** before Advent. **Rita Clark and Victor Spickler** will invite Christ to consecrate their love just before Thanksgiving. All these people bring great joy to St. James with their choices to seek God's sacramental presence within our walls.

May you experience the goodness of God outside our walls as well this week. Peace.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE ©LPI

October 17, 2021

**29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“What do you wish me to do for you?” Whether we realize it, this is a question God is always asking. It’s an important question because the answer we provide will reveal a great deal about where our hearts lie. Our requests of God can often appear very noble and altruistic. They consist of requests for healing for someone in need of prayers, successful resolution of a personal conflict, assistance in overcoming a disease and myriad other desires for both ourselves and others. We are especially concerned about those we love and can easily find ourselves bringing their struggles to God for a hearing in our prayer.

Is that really all that prayer is about? The woman in today’s Gospel, having been put in her place by Jesus, was only looking out for the wellbeing of her sons. She was doing what mothers do, protecting and securing the livelihood of her children. But she was sadly mistaken, her request was not granted. We all make this same misguided mistake from time to time. The goal of prayer is not to convince God of the worthiness of our agenda or to gain a hearing. Sometimes we believe that the more we multiply our prayers or discover the right combination of supplications that we will receive more of God’s attention. That’s not how it works. Even though God desires to hear, know, and be an intimate part of what is on our minds, it goes much deeper.

What we need from God is a relationship. It’s a relationship that guides and immerses us in the very stuff of life and in the direction of the Gospel. This relationship sees God’s kingdom and agenda, not our own, as what is most important. It builds the strength of character necessary to bring God’s Gospel into a world that may not receive it with open arms. It may cause us discomfort and suffering. We are asked to heroically journey with God through suffering, hardship, ridicule, and even death! Ultimately, our desire from God must become our desire for God. It is only when this happens that the powerful words “thy will be done” will be found with sincerity and humility on our lips. Whatever God wishes becomes what we wish as we see this glorious union of wills. Our humble lives will then become powerful witnesses, and what happens to us in God’s eternal kingdom the result of his mercy. We become true servants and find ourselves discovering

God’s definition of success. That definition has nothing at all to do with status, income, or privilege.



  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021**  
 The Florian Gardens | Eau Claire

Tickets are available for the 2021 Regis Catholic Schools Auction! Can't attend in-person? Register to bid on our great silent auction items online. (Online bidding will open Thursday, November 11 at 9 a.m.)

<https://regiscatholicschools.ejoinme.org/2021rcsauction>

The Regis Catholic Schools Auction is the single biggest fundraiser for our St. Benedict Tuition Assistance Scholarship Program, which makes tuition at our schools affordable for all families.

**Pork Steak Dinner**

St. John's Catholic church, Cooks Valley, will host their annual pork steak, sauerkraut, dumpling, and mashed potato dinner on Sunday Oct. 31 from 10:30 AM—1:30 PM. Cost is \$11 per meal. All meals are available as carry-outs, drive-through only. Enter the drive-thru line at the west parking lot entrance. Enjoy a delicious meal, leave the cooking to us! The church is located on Hwy. 40 between Bloomer and Colfax, 4540 State Hwy 40, Bloomer.

**Eau Claire Eucharistic Adoration:**

It is a great gift to spend time praying in the presence of our Eucharistic Lord. For a number of years the Eau Claire Deanery had the Benedictine Adoration Chapel in the St. Patrick's school building. That moved to Mondays at Sacred Heart-St. Patrick Parish when the school building became unavailable. **At this time, we would like to survey the parishioners of the Eau Claire Deanery to gauge the desire for Eucharistic Adoration so that opportunities are available.** If you participate in Eucharistic Adoration, or are interested in doing so, please take the time to fill out the survey found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R3G6QT2> by Nov. 1. Thank you! Fr. Dan Oudenhoven and Ann Werner

**Eau Claire Catholic Women's Club**

On Monday, Oct. 18, the Eau Claire Catholic Women's Club will host a Spiritual Evening at Wildridge Golf. Social starts at 5:00 PM, dinner 5:30. Our featured speaker will be Tina Morning presenting: Why Female Friendships Are Important. Cost for the evening is \$22.00 which includes dinner, dessert, coffee and water. Checks payable to Eau Claire Catholic Women's Club, Mail to: Judy St. Arnault, 3718 Gables Court Eau Claire, WI. 54701. Please bring non-perishable food item for the St. Francis Food Pantry. Bring a friend and join us for a spiritual evening!

St. James will be hosting the **IM (Inclusive Ministry) Church** for the month of October and due to the pandemic, we will be doing a mailing. The theme will be the blessing of the animals and St. Francis. I am so grateful to Fr. Tom for a video to be sent to the IM Church Facebook page and to Deborah Skalecki for planning the activity. A packet of dried apple cider will also be included! We are trying to keep in touch with everyone during these difficult times and are so anxious for when we will be able to meet in person. *Submitted by Shirley Rossano*

**Scrap Metal Drive!** Bring in your old scrap metal! October 16-24. NO air conditioners or refrigerators. Please put batteries by the can cage. Thanks!

**Beacon House**

St. James will be serving meals at Beacon House the week of October 24. If you would like to prepare a meal or serve it, please contact Jan Legge at jan.l@att.net or 715-835-8563.

**Coat Drive**

The Social Concerns Committee is sponsoring a winter coat drive for Chippewa Valley Street Ministry during the month of October. Bring your gently used warm winter coats to the bins at the entrances.

**Music Musings:**

As we move through Covid, the various voices singing the liturgy are hoping it soon will end. **“HOPE”** is needed for all of us! **HOPE**, that a new perspective of patience, love, care and **THANKFULNESS** for family, friends, all our parishioners young and old, is recognized. Thank you for your continued support and appreciation of the people and music @ St. James. It wouldn't happen without your love of Liturgy!!!



One of the songs from last week: “Cry of the Poor” with the text: *The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Blessed be the Lord.* Let your heart speak and DO if you can to help the needy in our community. Thank You St. James, for acknowledging the needy through the Coat Drive, Food collection, Street Ministry, Habitat 4 Humanity, and many others as we continue Covid and the upcoming months ahead. Please take this with you as you move through the weeks of Covid and find strength in the **WORD** and **MUSIC**  
*Submitted by Mary Kolstad* ❤️

**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. | Oct. 16 | 4:30 PM Elliot Campbell                                 |
| Sun. | Oct. 17 | 8:00 AM People of St. James<br>10:00 AM Tom Bye         |
| Tue. | Oct. 19 | Widows and Widowers of St. James                        |
| Wed. | Oct. 20 | Tom BaDour  |
| Thu. | Oct. 21 | Marjorie Weinfurtner                                    |
| Fri. | Oct. 22 | Pat Johnson   |
| Sat. | Oct. 23 | 4:30 PM Daryl Rihn and Antonio Alama                    |
| Sun. | Oct. 24 | 8:00 AM Shirley Brindle<br>10:00 AM People of St. James |

St. James Social Concerns group is partnering with **Habitat for Humanity** Building Homes, Communities, and HOPE! Work days are: **Wednesday, Thursdays, & Saturdays 9:00 to late afternoon.** If you are interested in helping prepare a HOME. Email or call Mary Kolstad kolstadmary@gmail.com 715-577-6678 OR go to: Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity (cvh4h.org) for a current schedule.

**St. James Card Games Small Group**

A group of parishioners who want to play cards is getting together—do you want to join them? They will be meeting on Thursday 10/21 at 1 PM. **NOTE: this group is still forming.** If not enough people come on the 21<sup>st</sup> or contact Christine with interest if that day or time doesn't work, it will be put on hold for now. Let us know if you are interested, and/or come on the 21<sup>st</sup>!

**Sermon on the Amount**

October 3, 2021

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Sunday Adult Envelopes (158) | \$19,711.50    |
| 2020 same week (157)         | \$12,836.50    |
| Students                     | \$41.00        |
| Plate                        | <u>\$91.00</u> |
| Total                        | \$19,843.50    |

Year to date Adult Env./CPL Income through Sept. 30, 2021:

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Actual (July 1-Sept. 30)   | \$162,534.00 |
| Budgeted (July 1-Sept. 30) | \$163,483.29 |

Long term maintenance & facilities improvement fund and *Past\*Present\*Future Campaign* income for Oct. 3 was \$500.00 for a total since July 1, 2021 of \$8,340.00.

**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     |

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

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Jackie Lutz Principal,                    | jlutuz@regiscatholicschools.com   |
| Shanna Donkers, Administrative Assistant, | sdonkers@regiscatholicschools.com |
| Linda Schultz, Commission Rep.-RCS,       | linda1735@gmail.com               |

**Bulletin deadlines:** end of day Mondays.

NET team retreat



Snow Removal Person Needed!

St. James needs someone to clear sidewalks during the winter.

This is a paid position. Must be available when it snows, whether weekday or weekend.

We have snow removal helpers, but we need a primary person. Won't you please consider helping out in this critically important role. If interested talk to Anne in the parish office.



Bible Studies

Men's bible study: first and third Monday at 7 PM. Next meeting 10/18

Women's bible study: second and fourth Thursday at 10 AM. Next meeting 10/28



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OCTOBER 30 4:00-6:00 PM

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