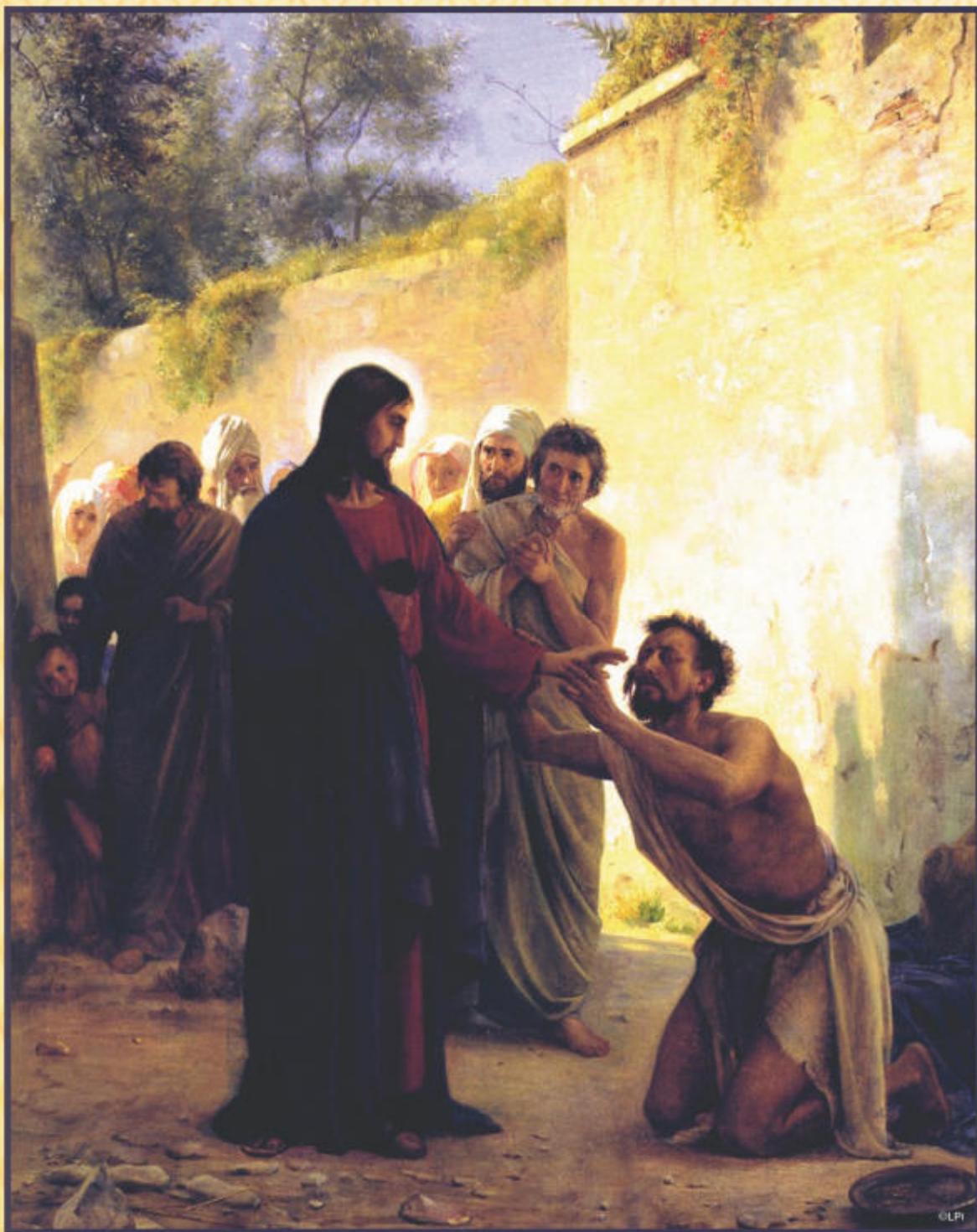


St. James the Greater

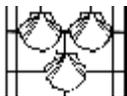
October 24, 2021

Where All are Welcome ✚



30th SUNDAY *in ordinary time*

Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way. - Mk 10:52



Message from Fr. Tom

I'm so sorry I forgot to mention at the masses last week the beginning of this year's **Diocesan Annual Appeal**. Probably you received the "ask letter" from Bishop Callahan this week—or maybe not? In any event, it is a very important fund drive for us that supports the wider Church. As Catholics, our identity goes beyond St. James, and this Appeal funds the operations and ministry priorities—as you can see spelled out in the brochure you will or have received—of our diocese. Can you name the 5 dioceses in Wisconsin? All of them have an Annual Appeal as well. Please be as generous as you are able.

Speaking of the bishop, last week, while reviewing our parish Facebook page, I was surprised and happy to see that **Bishop Callahan** watched my Mid-Week Chat and "Loved" it. It didn't seem like something he'd spend his time on, however, so I clicked on the link to his name and found that it was **an account that someone set up to mock him**. The postings on that page were unkind and unfair in an attempt to make fun of him, and from what I can gather were posted by supporters of a priest from our diocese whom the bishop removed from his pastoral duties. Sad. Without getting into any details, I can tell you that Bishop Callahan has been only charitable and fair with this priest.

The **Parish Finance Council** met last week. Again, Paula Winter from the Pastoral Council joined us to facilitate the goal setting stage of our strategic planning. Our chair, Rob Sorensen, expressed how the time of this planning could not be better because we are currently in a very sound financial position but need to use this time to plan for leaner days. Out of these discussions came some priorities, a lot of them buildings and ground related:

We need a "Snowman"! We need someone to brush or **plow our sidewalks** with our own good John Deere equipment. There is financial compensation offered for this.

We need a Building and Grounds Committee chair who can coordinate discussions and bids for necessary projects—for example, our church roof that needs replacing next year.

We would like to increase online giving 5-10% each year

We would like to have our building inspected thoroughly, perhaps professionally, in advance of the diocese-wide capital campaign that is only about 10-22 months in the future.

Anyone with any interest in helping with any of this would be warmly received!

I bought my **Ravioli Dinner tickets**, three of them, online last week. This will be happening on Sunday, November 7, over the lunch hour. I believe it is take-out only but can confirm this later. Meals are **HOMEMADE** ravioli, sausage and tiramisu. It's really so good. **You can order from the link on our website or Kelly's weekly email, or phone in your order to the office.**

Last week I went to hear confessions of high school seniors during a Regis retreat at St. Raymond's. That in itself was worth the trip, but I also did a necessary errand on my way home. A couple weeks earlier I left the head cover for my driver at the Valley Golf Course in Mondovi. It was a beautiful day so I drove west instead of north toward Highway 37. **What a gorgeous drive!** I hope to go to that area for one of my YouTube "Mid-Week Chats" very soon. There was one view that honestly stunned me as I turned at the top of a hill on Town Hall Road. That is some beautiful country.

Speaking of beautiful country, you might recall that I said I was going on an **overnight backpacking trip** on the Ice Age Trail with an old pal last Sunday. On the upside, it was probably the most beautiful non-mountain scenery I've ever hiked. In the 7.5 mile-stretch from trailhead to tent site, we must have passed twenty lakes, most of which had yellow or orange trees and bluest sky framing them. On the down side, my pal remembered this trail as being only 5 miles long and completely flat. Not only was it 50% longer than he remembered but it was considerably more hilly, so we were both pretty spent when we crawled to the familiar comfort of our driver's seats. I exaggerate our exhaustion...a bit. But it's funny that he probably mis-remembered the strenuousness of the hike because he was a much younger man the last time he hiked it. **There is a difference between what strains a 37-year-old versus a 57-year-old.** Lesson learned! The only real problem was that at night the temp went down to 34 degrees. Most of my body stayed warm but my feet and face stayed pretty cold. I'll have to work to regain their trust.

Hang in there everyone. The virus is still out there and still dangerous. Please take precaution, but don't let it dampen your spirits. God needs your Light to shine. Peace.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

Written by Liturgical Press Inc.

October 24, 2021

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When we see God with true sincerity of heart and God passes us along our way, it is only then that we will be able to cry out, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me!" We have to truly want to be healed by, and in union with, God in order for us to reach out to him. If God is only an abstract idea, theory, or someone found in the pages of a book, there is no motivation for a relationship and no desire to seek him. God needs to be real in order for faith to be real. It's all about the journey.

St. Augustine reminds us that "to fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him the greatest adventure; to find Him the greatest human achievement." We strive after many things and mercy is not always one of them. We think that we can find fulfillment and healing in other things only to discover that we are still short and empty. From the moment human beings were created, God has been calling us and seeking us. He has been walking right beside the human story from the minute He first breathed life into the first human soul. Are we able to recognize God as He walks with us? At some point we have to realize that there is only one way to satisfy the deepest longings of the human heart and that is in relationship with our Creator. We are called to this. However, we make the huge error of thinking that what we are hearing is coming from somewhere else. We become confused. Every human being would certainly profit with wisdom if they realized Who calls them and to Whom they belong.

Then and only then will we realize that it is only our Divine Master who can give us true vision and heal us. Once we recognize and reach out for the merciful presence of our loving Maker, we will be able to see with our soul, understanding the true nature and depth of all things. God's mercy is always available. It doesn't matter how far we have strayed or how blind we become, God patiently waits to console us, guide us and heal us. All we need to do is desire Him. Once we reach out, we also realize that there is no greater love to be found than God's, no human adventure that comes even close to the thrill of a spiritual search, and no human achievement even remotely as satisfying as union with Him. This is where we belong. This is salvation.

©LPi



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.



An evening of song to benefit JONAH, Saturday Nov. 6 at 6:30 PM

On November 6 Carrie Newcomer is coming to Eau Claire in a benefit concert for JONAH.

Tickets can be purchased at: <https://volumeonetickets.org/events/carrie-newcomer-11-6-2021>

Seating is limited! More information below...

Carrie Newcomer is a songwriter, recording artist, performer and educator. She has been described as a "prairie mystic" by the Boston Globe and one who "asks all the right questions" by Rolling Stone Magazine.

Carrie has 19 nationally released albums on Available Light & Concord/Rounder Records including *Until Now*, *The Point of Arrival* and *The Beautiful Not Yet*. Newcomer has released three books of poetry & essays, *A Permeable Life: Poems and Essays*, *The Beautiful Not Yet: Poems and Essays & Lyrics*, and *Until Now: Poetry by Carrie Newcomer*. Her song "I Should've Known Better" appeared on Nickel Creek's Grammy-winning gold album *This Side*, and she earned an Emmy for her PBS special *An Evening with Carrie Newcomer*.

An evening of song, led by a great artist who can through her music help us find ways to ground ourselves when the world seems to have gone crazy; find light, help and grace even in the darkest places; claim a new story and let go of the ones that have outgrown any truth or usefulness; unite us as spiritual companions in active hope, inspiring us to action for social justice.

Sponsored by members of Eau Claire Friends Meeting, Grace Lutheran Church, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation, First Presbyterian Church, and JONAH.

Masking is required, as is COVID vaccination or proof of negative test.

Tickets: \$25 advance, \$30 at the door

For more information: <http://ecquakers.org/Carrie>

Ruby's Pantry

Volunteers are welcome and needed at Ruby's Pantry the first Thursday of each month between 2-6 PM. Volunteers are outside until we cannot be, so dress warm, have closed toe shoes, and join us for whatever time you can.

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.	Oct. 23	4:30 PM Daryl Rihn and Antonio Alama
Sun.	Oct. 24	8:00 AM Shirley Brindle 10:00 AM People of St. James
Tue.	Oct. 26	Liturgy of the Word w/Communion
Wed.	Oct. 27	James Connolly
Thu.	Oct. 28	Eddie Barnett
Fri.	Oct. 29	Liturgy of the Word w/Communion
Sat.	Oct. 30	4:30 PM Ron Hunter
Sun.	Oct. 31	8:00 AM People of St. James 10:00 AM Charles Martenson NOON Mass on the Grass

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

Sermon on the Amount

October 10, 2021

Sunday Adult Envelopes (153)	\$11,256.33
2020 same week (133)	\$9,895.00
Students	\$2.00
Plate	\$244.00
Total	\$11,502.33

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. 10 was \$325.00 for a total since July 1, 2021 of \$8,665.00.

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.



Last week: liturgy committee and next year's Easter Candle, Tom K making something beautiful of a tree stump at the rectory, and our 9th grade confirmation class



Beacon House

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

They used to have volunteers stay overnight but now have to use staff, and are asking the volunteer churches to cover the cost. If you are interested in helping to cover the requested donation, contact Anne or Christine at the parish office.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, Nov. 1, NOON to 6 PM. Please call 1-800-73392767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: St. James to schedule an appointment, or call Anne at the parish office. Give something that Means Something. Give Blood.

Italian Dinner!

Nine of our 5-cheese ravioli with red sauce
Homemade Italian sausage
Breadsticks
Tiramisu
\$15
November 7 11 AM-1 PM pickup time



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 11/1.

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



Please help the Catholic missions across the world make a difference in people's lives.

St. James Social Concerns group is partnering with **Habitat for Humanity** Building Homes, Communities, and HOPE!

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 \(cvh4h.org\)](http://ChippewaValleyHabitatforHumanity.org) for a current schedule.

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