

St. James the Greater

Where All are Welcome

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time + January 16, 2022



2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

- Jn 2:1-3



Message from Fr. Tom

Here we are back to Ordinary Time and the “Wearin’ of the Green.” Actually, for our first mass in Ordinary Time on Tuesday morning, I wore white, not because it was a special feast day but because I had forgotten to bring the green vestments down from the storage closet above the parish offices. I’ve gotten into the bad habit of being consistently a couple minutes late for the daily masses, and so I didn’t want to be even more late just to get a green vestment. People seemed to understand. It’s nice when people put up with our weaknesses, though it would be a mistake to take that understanding for granted and not try to be better.

It certainly was great fun having three baptisms last weekend. My one major regret is that during the **Perzichelli baptism** at our 4:30 livestreamed mass, I forgot to mention Peter Weiss, grandfather of baby Lucy, who was watching the livestream from his hospital bed. It really would have been so well received. There’s no turning the clock back, unfortunately. I think many if not all of you would agree that a **major life skill is dealing with our mistakes both mercifully and in a way that helps us do better in the future**. This weekend the **Hundt and Juhn families** present their children for baptism at our 4:30 and 10:00 masses—more joy in the parish! We even have a **baptism scheduled for our daily mass on Thursday, January 20**, so that will be something special for the daily mass crowd. Then, later that day, more joy as I go over to Altoona to help with their school confessions in the afternoon, but not before stopping at the French bakery just down the road from church—ooh la la, très délicieux!

Our Tuesday meeting as part of the worldwide synod to elicit feedback from people about how to best be Church together went well. Eleven people showed up with enthusiasm and sincerity and split into two groups for 90 minutes of spirited conversation. All of you will have the opportunity to participate via an **in-pew questionnaire** you can take and return at your leisure. I also heard talk of sending an **email survey** to folks who won’t be physically in church this weekend. Thanks in advance to all who will participate.

During the next two Wednesday nights, we will be celebrating **First Reconciliation for all of our second graders**. That totals 38. For those of you who have experienced the Sacrament of Reconciliation, **do you remember what you confessed to the priest?** Do you remember the name of the priest? Mine was Fr. Fisher, I was in 4th grade (a better time to make a first confession in my opinion, but I don’t make the rules), and I confessed stealing a Chunky bar. I don’t know if they still make Chunky bars. Basically, they were, chocolate candy bars shaped like a cube. The sad irony is that I had never had a Chunky bar before I stole one, and after I slinked away to a dark corner of the universe to eat the fruit of my sin, I didn’t even like it. I might have liked it if it had almonds or some other nut in the chocolate but the one I stole was had raisins. That should have tasted pretty good, too, so maybe it was due to the circumstances that what should have tasted sweet was bitter in my mouth. Not to compare myself to a saint or anything, but **St. Augustine** had a similar experience in the 4th century when, as a boy, he stole fruit off of someone’s tree. I can’t remember if the fruit tasted good to him or not, but I remember that he was struck by how he didn’t steal the fruit because he wanted to eat it, but simply because he knew it was wrong. The lure of evil. That’s a dark place to be, but an important thing to name if we ever find ourselves wanting something just because it is forbidden and we know it would be wrong to pursue it. That’s where the Holy Spirit within us and the selfish spirit within us have to battle it out. For me it helps to take a few deep breaths and realize that more than I want what is wrong, I want the love and fullness of life that comes from living in conscious communion with God and others. I do believe that’s true, even as I know that deepest desire can easily get lost and muted by the 1001 delights of this world.

Anyway, I’m glad I confessed stealing the Chunky bar, and I hope our second graders are old enough to feel sorry for sins committed without getting lost in shame, and come to know the joy of God’s mercy and forgiveness. I guess I hope that’s true for all of us! Peace.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 16, 2022**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

God delights in you. How do you feel when you hear that? Delight usually comes with an exuberant flow of joy that seemingly arises from one's toes with the expression of great glee. Reflecting upon the deep measure of joy God has in us can be a source of joy for ourselves.

Delight is infectious. A very young brother and sister were playing on the beach when the all too familiar ice cream truck made its daily rounds. The boy shook with excitement and delight as he took his sister's hand and exclaimed, "The ice cream man is here, isn't it great!" As they ran off toward the truck, one could hear the girl reply, "Yeah, I can't wait!" The experience of a child's delight in something so simple as ice cream, lifts our spirits from our burdens and transports us to the lighter, more innocent side of life.



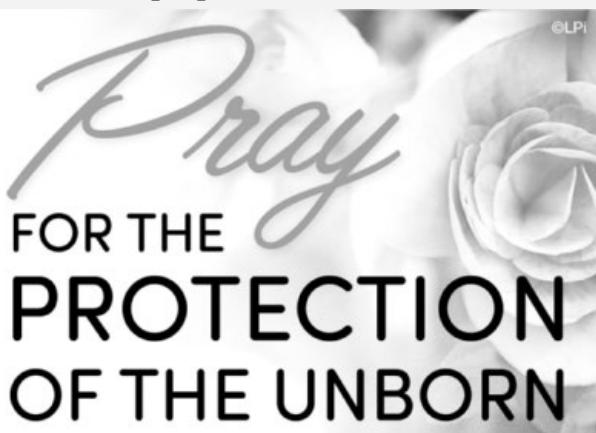
Life is not meant to be a burden. Believe it or not, God actually wants us to be happy! In fact, the wedding feast at Cana shows us that God even puts His blessing on our happiness. It is okay to celebrate the wonder of ourselves and others. Life is good. It is always interesting to note that Jesus saves the good wine until last. You would think it would be the other way around. The superb quality of Jesus' wine points to the superior quality of life we find in Christ. It is not a life of burdens but a life of wonder and delight! In Christ, we are lifted from the superficial and mundane to a life of purpose, hope, and love.

God is with us through the long haul, through the challenges and sorrows as well as the successes and accomplishments. In spite of the fact that we often wander from the path, God's celebratory delight in us remains. As spouses are asked to remain faithful to each other through whatever life brings, God remains faithful too. This promise remains through this life and into the next. All we have to do is take the advice of Jesus' mother to heart when she says, "Listen to him." This wisdom saves us from foolishly giving in to the illusion that we can make better wine than Jesus.

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Women's Retreat - Christ Is Our Hope and Our Peace:

Ladies you are invited to renew and deepen your faith on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022 at St. Paul's Catholic Church, 1222 Main Street, Bloomer from 9:00 AM until NOON. Come listen to a presentation by Gina Bauer, a dynamic and entertaining speaker. Gina captivates and engages her audiences with lively stories and humor. She is able to convey Catholic teachings in a compassionate, down-to-earth style that reaches the hearts of listeners. Join us for this inspiring speaker, music, refreshments and fellowship. Please invite a friend. Call or email Diane Kuba (715-568-2388 kuba@bloomer.net) or Kathy Zwiefelhofer (715-568-3942 zeefmly@bloomer.net) to reserve seats. Cost of the retreat is \$10 per person.





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Preschool Open House

St. James Elementary School

Tuesday, February 8 | 4 to 6 p.m.

St. Mary's Elementary School

Thursday, February 10 | 4 to 6 p.m.

Kindergarten Preview

<p>St. James Elementary School</p> <p>Tuesday, February 8 6 p.m.</p> <p>Friday, February 11 1 p.m.</p>	<p>St. Mary's Elementary School</p> <p>Thursday, February 10 6 p.m.</p> <p>Friday, February 11 10:30 a.m.</p>
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Immaculate Conception Elementary School

Tuesday, February 15 | 6 p.m.

RSVP online to save your spot!
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Stand in the Light Memory Choir

"Where words fail,, music speaks" People in the early to mid-stages of memory loss, their care partners and singing volunteers come together to share their love of music! No experience necessary. I Will Sing" choir rehearsals: Thursdays 10-11 AM, Jan. 6-Apr. 21. Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Proof of vaccination and masks required; zoom option available. For more information call 715-210-4165 or email standintheelightchoir@gmail.com

A Time to Heal: Grief Retreats at St. Anthony's

Mar. 25-27. one weekend, two options.

Where There is Despair, Hope: a retreat for people who have experienced the suicide of someone they know. The retreat addresses the grief and healing process through spiritual, theological, and psychological dimensions, and allows for both quiet reflection and a chance to connect with others left behind.

Moving through Grief to Gratitude: Grief is the heart's response to loss. This retreat is designed to help us make space for our feelings and recover our bearings after the loss of a partner, so as to be able to rejoice in the life we shared and to honor that life with gratitude. \$70

Both retreats: Friday 5:45 PM to Sunday noon, \$210.

Moving through Grief to Gratitude Saturday only option \$70.

St. James Social Concerns Committee January

Drive: Sleep in Heavenly Peace shpbeds.org

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a national organization that builds beds for children who do not have a bed. We would be supporting the local Eau Claire Chapter. They are in need of sheets, blankets, comforters and pillows for twin beds. They need to be new.

You can also make financial donations: the cost for a complete bed including the mattress is \$250.00. They also need volunteers to help build and deliver beds. Volunteers need to call or text Les Munnik at 715-533-8273 if they are going to help with the build. The build will be at a warehouse owned by Market & Johnson on Galloway Street starting at 8:30 AM on Saturday, Jan. 22. Volunteers need to fill out paperwork the day of the build. They provide masks, following COVID safety measures, and provide a box lunch.

Baptism Classes:

A required Pre-Baptism class is offered *January 30 and February 13*. Please let Ruth Ebert, the instructor, know if you plan to attend:

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
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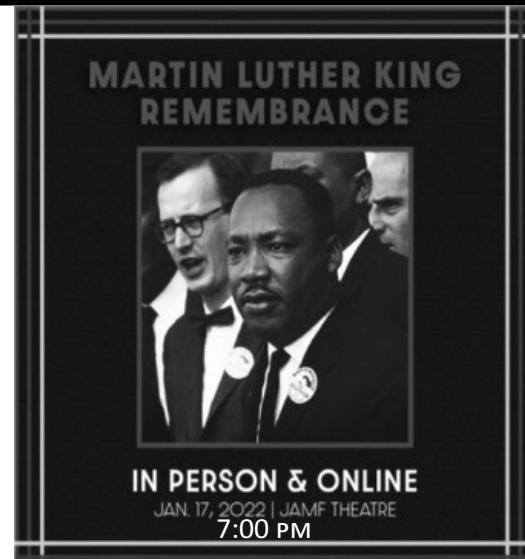
Mass Intentions & Schedule

Weekday masses are at 9:00 AM Tuesday-Friday.

Wednesdays are school masses.

Rosary and Adoration are available after the Tuesday Mass until 10:30 AM.

Sat.	Jan. 15	4:30 PM Ron Hunter
Sun.	Jan. 16	8:00 AM People of St. James 10:00 AM Chuck Zabrowski
Tue.	Jan. 18	Francis and Rosalie Schilling
Wed.	Jan. 19	Peter Brindle
Thu.	Jan. 20	William Keegan
Fri.	Jan. 21	Liturgy of the Word w/Communion
Sat.	Jan. 22	4:30 PM Carl Robelia
Sun.	Jan. 23	8:00 AM People of St. James 10:00 AM Eddie Barnett



Sermon on the Amount

January 2, 2022

Sunday Adult Envelopes (142) \$17,372.50

2020 same week (122) \$14,412.50

Students	\$0.00
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Plate	\$88.25
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Total	\$17,460.75
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Mary, Mother of God	\$375.00
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Year to date Adult Env./CPL Income through Dec. 31, 2021:

Actual (July 1-Dec. 31)	\$347,720.63
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Budgeted (July 1-Dec. 31)	\$338,483.29
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Long term maintenance & facilities improvement fund and Past*Present*Future Campaign income for Jan. 2 was \$120.00 for a total since July 1, 2021 of \$19,245.00.

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.



St. James is an active parish! Ladies Crafting weekend, Wedding of Hannah and Daniel, Baptisms for Martin, Bohlinger, and Perzichelli families!

Cheese making class!

Interested in learning how to make homemade mozzarella cheese in just 30 min? 8 spots left open on January 23 at 1:30 PM for this cheese making class. \$35 to cover groceries and take a half pound of cheese home with you! Contact Elizabeth Cerny at elizabethcerny@hotmail.com to sign up.



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