



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday, September 20, 2020

SAINT JAMES PARISH

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Weekend Mass Schedule

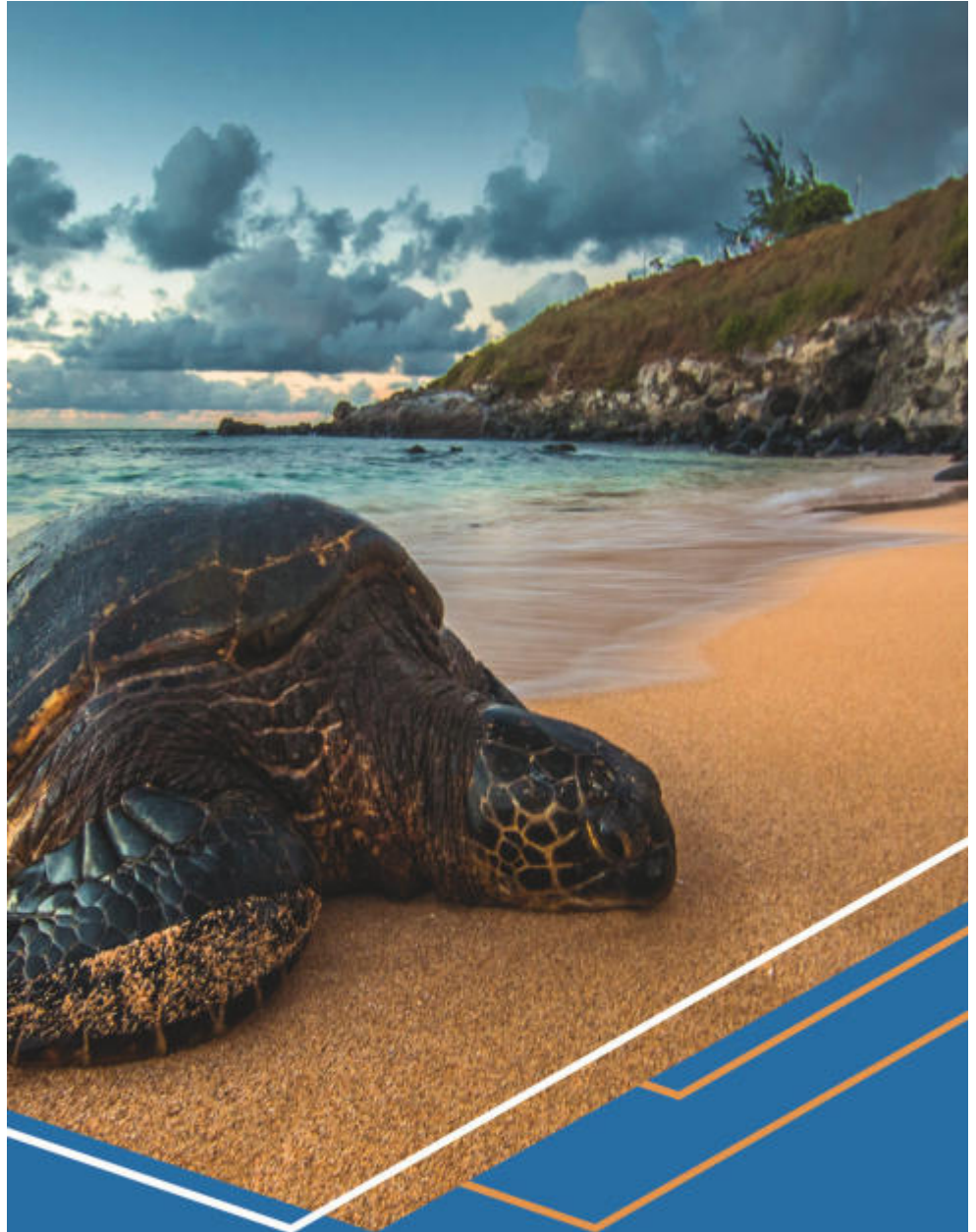
Saturday5:30pm
Sunday9:00am
11:30am Spanish

Rosary

Sunday8:35am
Wednesday .4:00 pm (Halcyon House)
Thursday3:00 pm (McCreedy Home)
Thursday4:00 pm (Care Center)

Confessions

Thursday at 5:30pm-6:00pm and
Saturday at 4:30pm-5:00pm.



25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Are you envious because I am generous?
Thus, the last will be first, and the first
will be last.” - Mt 20:15-16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass: ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Mission Statement

“To Glorify God through Word, Worship and Service”.

NOTES/NEWS

LIVE THE LITURGY

Think for a moment about the most special person in your life. Why do you love them? Many people will answer that question noting character traits they admire about the person, pointing to an indescribable compatibility that exists and describing a deep sense of connection and intimacy or even a sense of rightness about the relationship. In relationships that are authentic and true, rarely are the personal benefits gained from the relationship noted as motivating factors for its pursuit. If we truly love someone we do so simply because it is right and good to do so and not for some other self-serving reason. Why do you love God? The sense of happiness and the gift of mercy that come from that relationship are God's to give, regardless of when in life we come to Him. God's ways are different than ours. ©LPI

FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, September 20th will be our **first day of Faith Formation** at Saint James from 10am-10:30am. Because of the condition of the world, Faith Formation will look different this year. We will be using a family-based diocesan curriculum for elementary grades. You will have the choice to join us for on-site classes with safety and social distancing guidelines observed or via **Facebook Live @ St. James Church & School – Washington, Iowa**. In-person sessions will be held in Tobin Hall with family units consisting of all PreK-5th grade children and one parent. Students in 6th-8th grade will meet in the Tobin Hall basement classroom. Please pick up a registration form at any church entrance or register online at stjameswashington.org.

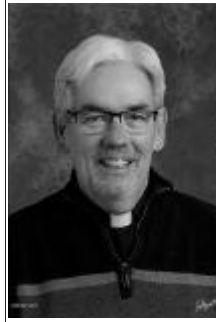
Sacramental Preparation for First Communion and Confirmation. This is the minimum required, it should be your expectation that your children attend Faith Formation every year from preschool through high school and beyond! If your child is in 2nd grade or above and has not received their first Communion, please attend the **Parent In-Service on September 27th at 10:45AM in Tobin Hall or via Facebook Live** to get the schedule and all needed information.

CONFIRMATION

Second Year Confirmation students (10th grade and up) an email & flocknote has been sent regarding confirmation 2020. Please watch you mail for an important packet of materials. Classes begin on September 20th via zoom. Confirmation 2020 is schedule! d for **NOVEMBER 14, 2020 @ 5:30PM with Bishop Zinkula!** Due to the smaller size of our class this year, we will be able to social distance and celebrate Confirmation together with all of our candidates and their families in the church.

A packet will be sent out with important information and details about Confirmation 2020, so families of confirmation students, please watch your mail as it will include required paperwork.

Confirmation 2021: Information will be sent late fall 2020.



We had a wonderful Fall Fest this year! The carry out meals went well. We served at least 560 plates! We ran out of food. The problems with that is that there were no left overs for me to buy and take home. Oh, well next year!

Over the next months well will be having more Fall Fest Events. We don't know when or where yet, but watch for fun and exciting stuff to come.

Fall is just about upon us. That means that yards will need to be cleaned before winter. Check with your neighbors to see if they are in need of help.

As it starts to get colder and people move inside it is important to wear your face covings when you are out and about. The case numbers are going up here in the county. If we all do our part and out of Christian Charity show our concern for the wellbeing of all, we will get through this. Using face coverings is a show of **Respect for Life**.

I want to encourage everyone to get a flu shot this year.

If you know of anyone who would like to start attending Mass again please encourage them to call the parish office to be put on our Mass list. We don't want to miss anyone who wants to attend Mass in person.

CHARITABLE GIVING...DID YOU KNOW?

The latest Coronavirus stimulus package, the CARES Act, was signed into law, creating a temporary Universal Charitable Deduction.

The CARES Act allows for an additional, "above-the-line" deduction for charitable gifts made in cash of up to \$300. If you are not itemizing on your 2020 taxes, you can claim this new deduction.

For the over 9 out of 10 people who no longer itemize their charitable giving, the CARES Act will allow these individual taxpayers to deduct donations to charity of up to \$300 on their 2020 federal tax return, even though they take the standard deduction.

The legislation creates a new above-the-line deduction that applies to all taxpayers for total charitable contributions of up to \$300. The incentive applies to donations made to nonprofits this year and can be claimed on personal income tax filings next year.

SEPTEMBER 2020	Weekly Budget	Week : 9/06/20	Difference
Church Envelopes	\$4,904.00	\$5,117.00	\$213.00
School Envelopes	\$2,596.00	\$2,304.00	-\$292.00
Offertory	\$346.00	\$74.00	-\$272.00
Building & Main	\$356.00	\$81.00	-\$275.00
Other/Holiday		\$30.00	\$30.00
Budget Weekly	\$8,202.00	\$7,606.00	-\$596.00
	YTD SHORTFALL / SURPLUS		-\$7,667.00

Readings for the Week of September 20, 2020
 Sunday: Is 55:6-9, Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 [18a], Phil 1:20c-24, 27a, Mt 20:1-16a
 Monday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13, Ps 119:2-3, 4-5 [5], Mt 9:9-13
 Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13, Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44 [35], Lk 8:19-21
 Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9, Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163 [105], Lk 9:1-6
 Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11, Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17bc [1], Lk 9:7-9
 Friday: Eccl 3:1-11, Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4 [1], Lk 9:18-22
 Saturday: Eccl 11:9—12:8, Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17 [1], Lk 9:43b-45
 Next Sunday: Ez 18:25-28, Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [6a], Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5, Mt 21:28-32



IMPACT YOUTH GROUP

IMPACT Youth Group is now on Instagram! Follow us @stjamesimpactyouthgroup for ongoing inspiration, worship and updates for our middle school and high school IMPACT Youth Group. For more information contact Samantha Brinning at sbrinning@stjameswashington.org.

FAMILY LIFE

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE
Help St. James reach out to parishioners in need. If you are aware of someone who needs a card of encouragement or concern call Charlotte Lindmeier at 653-6274.



BE SURE TO LOOK THE PART

I used to coach my oldest son in soccer when he was younger. As he got older, he would go to tryouts for select and high school teams. I was no longer the coach, but I always shared with him one piece of advice before any tryout: Be sure to look the part. I told him that if he showed up looking like a soccer player, there was an increased chance of him being seen as a soccer player. If he showed up looking like a kid that plays soccer in video games as opposed to the real thing, he might not be taken seriously. As he grew older, that same advice was then applied to getting a job. It's advice I have heeded myself all my life. You can even say it is like another common phrase: "Fake it till you make it."

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we certainly do not want to fake it, but we do need to look the part. The world looks at those of us who proclaim to be Christians to see if there is anything to this way of life. If they see us looking and acting like people transformed by Jesus Christ, they will be more likely to take Christianity seriously. If they look at us and see nothing different, then they can easily conclude that there is nothing different about Jesus Christ. He just becomes simply another religious figure of history. Can the world see the power of Christ in you? How will do you look the part?
 – Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPi

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN
To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, the Victim Assistance Coordinator, 563-349-5002; vac@diodav.org or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722.

This week at St. James . . .

Remember, all Masses are reserved seating to accommodate social distancing guidelines.

Thank you!

Monday, September 21

NO MASS

Tuesday, September 22

MASS-The People 8:00 am (CH)

Wednesday, September 23

MASS-Sister Marie Vittetoe 8:25 am (CH)

Confession 6:00 pm (CH)

Thursday, September 24

MASS-Shawn Jirak 8:00 am (CH)

Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 pm (CH)

Friday, September 25

MASS-Ian Stakland 8:00 am (CH)

Saturday, September 26

MASS-Paul & Juanita Hammen 5:30 pm (CH)

Sunday, September 27

MASS-Josephine Triplett 9:00 am (CH)

MASS-The People 11:30 am (CH)

First Communion MASS 1:00 pm (CH)

**KEY: THB-Tobin Hall Basement,
TH-Tobin Hall, CH-Church,
CHB-Church Basement,
KC-KC Hall, CR-Conf. Room,
GYM-SJ School Gym,
YR-Youth Room**

PARISHIONER INFORMATION UPDATE

Have you remembered to notify the parish of an email or phone number change? Perhaps you had a change of address recently? Please take a moment to keep us informed. Return this form in the collection basket, or at the parish office.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

- I prefer electronic communication.
- I would like to join St. James Parish.
- I'm moving away, please remove me from roster.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

If I work for five hours, I expect to get paid for five hours. If I work for two, I expect to get paid for two. What if we worked for a company that paid everyone the same amount regardless of how long they worked? How would we feel going home with the same pay for working eight hours as my co-worker did for working only two hours? Secular wisdom would have a huge problem with this and a visit to the Labor Board would quickly pursue. But this is God's wisdom and God's ways.

We sometimes think that if we pray more, better, or more fervently and go over and above with the practice of our faith, God will somehow reward us and present us with some kind of merit badge. We are so wrong. Spiritual practices have only one true purpose: to deepen our love for God. In deepening our love for God, we also increase our ability to see God's presence around us, living life more purposefully and contemplatively. What if God chooses to treat someone who has come on the scene of faith later in life the same as someone who has devoted their whole lives to it? Does it really matter? If we have the merit badge notion of faith, we can find ourselves feeling a little arrogant and even jealous of folks who have not followed the same path that we have. We can even see ourselves as the privileged few who have a corner on the faith and fully possess it.

That thinking doesn't square with God. God is all about mercy in abundance and is ready to take anyone to himself regardless of when they come. He is only happy that they have come home and delights in their return. After all, if you really and truly love someone, does it matter what they will give you in return or what you receive as a benefit? If relationships were assessed based upon productivity, they would lack authentic love. We invest too much self interest in our prayer and neglect to see it as an opportunity to pursue our Lover and deepen the intimate bond we have with God.

When we breathe our last, all that is of consequence is union with God. If my love for God is real, I am going to want to live the Gospel, abide by the commandments, practice my faith, forgive and love my neighbor, and care for the environment, regardless of how much time it takes or benefits me. We want God to think and behave as we do, and in doing so, we set ourselves up for disappointment. God has a totally different agenda and that's okay. ©LPi



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