Let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body.

Colossians 3:15
“And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger” (Luke 2:7).

Jesus was placed in a manger, which resided in a stable, in a town called Bethlehem. This is one of the most beautiful truths of our Catholic faith. Jesus could have been born in Nazareth in a perfectly built house and placed into a flawless crib made by his carpenter father. However, He was born in a filthy stable. He entered into this messy world in a very literal way. Jesus continues to show us throughout His life and throughout ours, that He is never afraid to enter into our mess. He is not scared to break through the messiness of our lives. He does this in a very real way in the Eucharist.

Each week we are given the opportunity to receive the body and blood of Jesus in the Eucharist. Scripture foreshadowed this in the most incredible way. Bethlehem is a Hebrew word that literally means “House of Bread”. He was born in a stable where animals resided, animals that we eat. He was then placed in a manger which, in French, means “to eat” and is used as a trough for animals. Food sustains life; without it, we would perish. So it is with our souls. We feed our souls by praying, singing praise, and attending Mass where we receive Jesus and he dwells within us to feed not only our bodies, but our souls. This was His plan all along. He enters our mess and resides there and cleanses it.

We are so blessed here at St. James to have a perpetual adoration chapel where we can come to the Lord in person at any minute of the day. We also have “Adore” every Thursday from 7:00-8:00pm in the Church where we are able to worship Jesus while listening to praise songs, hearing a witness, and attending the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I pray that we have a renewed love for the Eucharist this Christmas. I pray that we allow Jesus to enter our messy lives.

- Jonathan Blevins
My faith journey has been an ongoing series of deepening encounters with the person of Jesus Christ. It began when I made friends with a man named Thomas who not only shared the gospel message with me, but he also took the time to accompany me as a friend and mentor. He was very patient and did what he could to answer or help me find answers to my many questions. He challenged and encouraged me in the things that matter most—a relationship with Christ through daily prayer, striving to grow in virtue, running to the Eucharist & Confession often, and ultimately be willing to share my faith with others through his example.

Thomas invited me to attend a conference where I had my first profound encounter with Jesus during Adoration. Jesus put on my heart a deep awareness of His unconditional love for me in a very personal way; that He gave his life to save me and that I was made to be in relationship with Him. I had a powerful experience of Reconciliation and left that conference with a great desire to share that encounter with others, inviting others to seek Him also.

While serving as a FOCUS missionary, I met my beautiful wife Christi. We are now raising four children who bring a great amount of joy to our lives and call us to be better. We have also journeyed through the loss of three children which has chipped away any sense of control in our hearts and challenged us to love and care for one another more than ever. In God’s providence, we learned about two of Christi’s miscarriages on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Many told us that this time of year was going to be so difficult for us going forward. Instead, the joy of Christmas has never shouted so loudly in our hearts! Mary was inviting us to share in her suffering and those experiences of loss, as painful as they were, in turn strengthened our faith and most especially gave us a deeper sense of the reality of what it meant to prepare for the birth of our Savior.

We trust that God brings good from all things, even though we don’t fully understand everything this side of Heaven. I have the great privilege of sharing how God is working in my life to spread the joy only He can give. God deeply desires that we know His love and mercy personally. As missionaries, we invite others to know the love of the Father by looking for opportunities to grow in friendship, sharing our very selves, hoping to inspire witness and ultimately, make disciples.

We will soon celebrate the greatest gift of all time: Jesus came among us, to meet us where we are and invite us to grow in relationship with Him. What can you and I do to better prepare our hearts to receive this gift? My prayers are with you, friends, this Advent and Christmas season!

-Matt Marcheschi

A Christmas Carol

By G.K. Chesterton

The Christ-child lay on Mary’s lap,
His hair was like a light.
(O weary, weary were the world,
But here is all aright.)

The Christ-child lay on Mary’s breast,
His hair was like a star.
(O stern and cunning are the kings,
But here the true hearts are.)

The Christ-child lay on Mary’s heart,
His hair was like a fire.
(O weary, weary is the world,
But here the world’s desire.)

The Christ-child stood at Mary’s knee,
His hair was like a crown.
And all the flowers looked up at Him,
And all the stars looked down.
By G.K. Chesterton

Merry Christmas from your Religious Education Family. We are praying for you this holiday season. May it be restful, joyful, and bring you closer to our Lord Jesus Christ.

God bless,
Kevin Byrnes
Theresa Storto
DO YOU ❤️ A CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION?

Tax season is quickly approaching. This year please consider the Tax Credit Scholarship Program that may provide you a tax credit and allow children without means to attend St. James School. Please visit this link for further information on how you help St. James School’s Tuition Assistance program.

https://schools.archchicago.org/donating-to-a-tax-credit-scholarship

Thank you, St. James, for your generous stewardship during November!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stewardship Month of November</th>
<th>$118,093.95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Envelope Donations</td>
<td>$118,093.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online Donations</td>
<td>$79,438.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2019 Sunday Collections</td>
<td>$197,532.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Did you know? That if you are age 70 1/2 or older you can donate up to $100,000 per person, per year, from your IRA or other tax deferred account to St. James Parish and not have to pay income taxes on the money? It’s called a Qualified Charitable Distribution or QCD. In fact, using a QCD is the only way you can guarantee getting all the tax benefits from your donation regardless of whether you itemize your deductions. Some parishioners have found it to be tax advantageous to bundle their plate donations and make a lump sum QCD donation at any time, even in advance for 2020. This donation can be all or part of your RMD (required minimum distribution). Please consult your tax advisor. Thank you for your generosity!

“Give, and it will be given to you.” Luke 6:38

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF ST. JAMES!
Christmas Greeters Needed!

We are expecting large crowds for the first Christmas in our beautiful new church. We want to make every person that enters feel the warmth and joy of our Saint James family! Would you and your family like to join our dynamic greeting squad for these very special masses? We need an army of smiles to make an impact! Men, Women and families are welcome! Please sign-up at www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c4ba4a62ca6fb6-christmas or contact the head of our Greeting Ministry, Chris Avell christine.avell@comcast.net to sign up.

JOIN IN THE CHORUS!!!

For our Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, we are calling ALL community members to join the choir to celebrate the birth of Jesus. You don’t have to be a St James Choir member to participate - all are welcome and invited to JOIN IN THE CHORUS! Please contact Tam Conseur, Director of Music and Liturgy, at tconseur@stjamesah.org for more information.

As we prepare our hearts during these final days of Advent, let us remember that the Christ Child comes to bring love, hope, and joy to all! May His bountiful blessings be upon you and your families this Christmas season!

Tamaron Conseur

ST. JAMES SCHOOL

St. James Presents 3rd Annual
DENIM & DIAMONDS
Daddy Daughter Dance

Dads grab your denim and your daughters for a night of dancing, photos and refreshments.

January 24, 2020
7pm-9pm
Pre-K - 8th Grade
Parish Center
**PARISH RESOURCES**

**St. Vincent de Paul** - is an emergency source for food and short-term financial help for those living within parish boundaries, please call 224-345-7200, ext. 8517.

**Wheels to Worship** – Those who need a ride to Mass or wish to be a volunteer driver, please contact Deb Amann at damann57@yahoo.com.

**Stepping Stones** - If you or someone you know may be in an abusive relationship, a path to safety exists. Get help. Call the NV Hotline at 800-799-SAFE, or locally, call WINGS 24-hour Hotline at 847-221-5680.

**SPRED (Special Religious Education)** - Faith development for young adults with special needs to help nurture the presence of God in themselves. SPRED is held every other Wednesday Oct. to May 7-8:30PM in the St. James School SPRED Room. Contact d.desmond@comcast.net for information.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**

**Christmas Eve Masses**
- Angels & Shepherds Masses
  - 2 PM Fr Matt Parish Center
  - 4 PM Fr Ryan Parish Center
- 2 PM Fr Ryan Church
- 4 PM Fr Matt Church
- 6 PM Fr Matt Church
- 12 AM Fr Ryan Church

**Christmas Day Masses**
- 8 AM Fr Matt Church
- 10 AM Fr Ryan Church
- 10 AM Fr Matt Parish Center
- 12 PM Fr Ryan Church

**New Year’s Eve Mass**
- 5 PM Fr Matt Church

**New Year’s Day Masses**
- 8 AM Fr Matt Church
- 10 AM Fr Ryan Church

**COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

Alcoholics Anon. 312-346-1475
Alanon/Alateen 847-358-0338
Narcotics Anon. 708-848-4884
Families Anon. 847-795-8320.

**St. Mary’s Services** - Offers free, confidential counseling to assist women with an unplanned pregnancy, post partum depression, grief and loss over a miscarriage, or post abortion. Call 847-870-8181 for an appointment or to volunteer.

**For Post-Abortion Counseling Help** – call
- Project Rachel at Catholic Charities: 312-337-1962
- www.hopeafterabortion.com

**Office for Protection of Children and Youth**
- www.archchicago.org or call 312-534-5254

**NAMI**—National Alliance on Mental Illness—847-899-0195

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**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

**Week of December 29**

**Eucharistic Ministers: A Team**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass Times</th>
<th>Presider</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat 5:00pm</td>
<td>Fr. Matt</td>
<td>Rebecca Howe St. Joanne Grib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00am</td>
<td>Fr. Ryan</td>
<td>Joe Ruane Peter Sokop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30am</td>
<td>Fr. Matt</td>
<td>Janet Lee Jim Flemming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Fr. Ryan</td>
<td>Cathy Colleran Maria Serur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30am</td>
<td>Fr. Ryan</td>
<td>Jim Bertucci Chuck Stenzel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 5:00pm</td>
<td>Fr. Matt</td>
<td>Pat Farrell Chris Jarosz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please pray for our sick...
Bob Teeghman, Jim Mackey, Martha Wrobel, Helio Perez

In Loving Memory
Jennifer “Jeni” Alicia Reiprich is survived by her daughter, Kathwren Reiprich; father, Jurgen Reiprich; sister, Kristie (Chris) Hein; niece, Sophie Hein; uncle, James (Kathy) Klein.

Theodore E. Smith, Jr., husband of Rose Smith, Ne. father of Laura Ratliff, Kevin, Louis, and Karen (Tom) Meyer.

Baptisms
Jack Willis Shaw child of Robert and Katherine (Mijal) Shaw

Rose for Life
This week’s Rose for Life is donated by Peg Hanahan in loving memory of her husband Jack, and Jack’s brother, Andrew Hanahan.

Remembrances
Saturday Evening/Sunday, December 22
Santo Perrotta, Robert Hallberg, JT Foley, Leonard Waller, U.C. Pereira John Glueckert Sr., Robert Prochko, Dorothy Heinz

Monday, December 23
Brohuis Uhderys, Dana Mangi, John Micheli, Jason Michael Saccone, Mary McDonald, James Ryan

Tuesday, December 24
Edward L. Gehrke, Dana Mangi, Margaruerite Sinclair, Edward Gablicki, Louis Metzger, Patricia Cooper

Wednesday, December 25
Raymond J. Bieniasz, Edward L. Genrke, Meggan McDermott, Richard & Catherine Lyons, Dana Mangi, William Destiche, Vincent Mangi, Joanne Mangi, Joanne Destiche, Marjorie McDonnell, Donald Seiler, Sharon L. Seiler Scanlan

Thursday, December 26
Ann Elizabeth Searce

Friday, December 27
Conor O’Flynn

Saturday, December 28
Richard Foley, JT Foley, Mary Ann Foley, Mary Ellen Bannon, Helen Bailitz, Jeffrey Helminski

Saturday Evening/Sunday, December 29
Jeff Helminski (17 yr Anniv.), Dana Mangi, Candace Duggan, Vito Quaranta (9 yr Anniv.) Dr. Alejandro Aldana, Mary Lou Bowen, Jeffrey Helminski, Lorraine Anderson

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — You will be given this sign: The virgin shall conceive and bear a son (Isaiah 7:10-14).
Psalm — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).
Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).
Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:18-24).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16, Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7, Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Hab 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4, Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2, Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
"Generations of our Family proudly serving Generations of your Family"

(847) 253-0168 | GlueckertFH.com
1520 N. Arlington Heights Rd. Arlington Heights
Weekend Masses - All Masses held in Church

- Saturday: 5:00pm Contemporary Group
- Sunday: 7:00am Traditional Cantor
- Sunday: 8:30am Traditional Choir
- Sunday: 10:00am Contemporary Choir
- Sunday: 11:30am Contemporary Choir
- Sunday: 5:00pm Contemporary Group

Weekday Masses (Church)

- Monday – Saturday Mass at 7:30AM
- Saturday Confessions 8-9AM

Holy Day Liturgy

Please see special schedules for Holy Days.

St. James Parish Council Contact:
Amanda Noascono PPC@stjamesah.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9:00am—8:00pm
Friday
9:00am—6:00pm
Saturday & Sunday
9:00am—1:00pm

Bulletin Submission:
Editor@stjamesah.org

St. James School:
224-345-7145

Please follow us on:
@stjamesah @StJamesParishAH

Sacramental Celebrations

Baptism - Please call the Parish Office with your preferred date at least one month in advance.

Marriage - At least six months prior to your wedding date please contact the Parish Office about setting a date.

Reconciliation - Saturdays 8-9 AM and Thursdays 7–8 PM or call for an appointment anytime at 224-345-7200.

ADORÉ - Join us Thursdays in the Church for Eucharistic Adoration, procession of the blessed sacrament, a witness talk, meditative praise and worship music, silent prayer, and confession.

ST. JAMES PARISH AND SCHOOL STAFF

Rev. Matt Foley, Pastor
224-345-7222 frmatt@stjamesah.org

Rev. Ryan McMillin, Associate Pastor
224-345-7201 frryan@stjamesah.org

Rev. Bill Zavaski, Pastor Emeritus

James Bannon (Laura), Deacon 847-577-6328

Matthew Hahn (Zuly) Deacon 847-222-1944

Paul Schmidt (Paulette) Deacon 847-253-3656

Pierce Sheehan (Midge) Deacon 847-259-1743

Principal, Michael Kendrick
224-345-7145 mkendrick@stjameschoolah.org

Marketing Dir., Kathleen Kennedy
224-345-7149 kkennedy@stjameschoolah.org

School Spiritual Formation Dir., Patricia Farrell
224-345-6132 pfarrell@stjameschoolah.org

Evangelization and Formation Dir., Jonathan Blevins
224-345-7211 jblevins@stjamesah.org

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224-345-7204 tconseur@stjamesah.org

High School Ministry Coord., Christina Hudson
224-345-7214 chudson@stjamesah.org

Middle School Youth Ministry Coord., Matthew Lawson
224-345-7208 mlawson@stjamesah.org

Children’s Formation Coord., Kevin Byrnes
224-345-7217 kbyrnes@stjamesah.org

Evangelization & Formation Team Administrator
Theresa Storto 224-345-7213 tstorto@stjamesah.org

FOCUS Parish Missionary, Matt Marcheschi
224-345-7210 mmarcheschi@stjamesah.org

FOCUS Parish Missionary, Sarra Stanley
224-345-7203 ssstanley@stjamesah.org

Controller, Barbara Krawczyk
224-345-7239 bkrawczyk@stjamesah.org

Operations Manager, Liz Czajkowski
224-345-7205 lczajkowski@stjamesah.org

Office Manager, Flo Trunk
224-345-7206 parishoffice@stjamesah.org

Development Dir., Julie Cohen
224-345-7212 jcohen@stjamesah.org

Campus Maintenance Engineer, Mike Tomasiewicz
224-345-7200 ext. 6128 mtomasiewicz@stjamesah.org