

SAINT JAMES PARISH ARLINGTON HEIGHTS



BE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

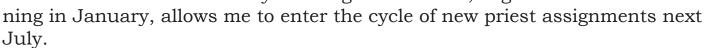
MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

DEC 6 2020



"Fr Matt, what are you doing? What is a Sabbatical?"

I am in the midst of planning a sixth month sabbatical which will allow me to pray, study and visit my family. My first reaction is gratitude. This sabbatical is a gift from the people of St. James and the Archdiocese of Chicago to gain new insight and inspiration before taking on a new assignment in Lake or Cook County. Taking a sabbatical, begin-



I arrived stateside after my fourth deployment in Afghanistan on Memorial Day weekend of 2013. On August 15, 2013 I began as your servant and pastor. I have been blessed every single day praying and serving with St. James parishioners. Having served as a priest for 31 years, I feel a great sense of peace at St. James and very much at home at St. James on Arlington Heights Road.

With the current Covid-19 guidelines my sabbatical plans are currently in a state of flux. My hope is to spend some time in a retreat house, possibly participate in a 30-day silent retreat, participate in mission service, and visit my family in California, New Jersey, and Georgia. I would like to report that I was going to be somewhere incredibly exotic. With the current state of caution, I may end up in Lake County for six months. God's grace will be present wherever I am able to visit.

Reflecting on many of the people I have been blessed to serve, I realize most have not had six days much less six months to pause in their vocations. The opportunity to revitalize soul and mind is a tremendous gift. Know that I will be at St. James through the end of the year. I remain honored and humbled to be your pastor.

LAST CHANCE MASS

JOIN FR. MATT FOR AN OUTDOOR MASS:

DATE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 - NO MASS IF IT RAINS

TIME: 6:30PM

BRING: SOMETHING TO SIT ON, MASK AND 6 FEET OF SOCIAL DISTANCE

LOCATION: ST. JAMES SCHOOL PARKING LOT (WEST SIDE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS RD.)

PLEASE PARK IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT AND WALK ACROSS TO THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT.

THERE WILL BE NO PARKING IN THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT.

ADVENT 2020

Daily Masses Monday-Friday 7:30AM and Noon Saturday at 7:30AM Immaculate Conception Masses Tuesday, December 8th 7:30AM, Noon, 5PM & 7PM Registration required for these masses on our website Confessions Thursdays 7-8PM Saturdays 8-9AM in the Music Room in the basement of the church

FOR TEENS FROM TEENS

A Virtual LIFETEEN Christmas Drive

Mission of Our Lady of the Angels in West Humboldt Park has a mission: to assist the materially poor and to share the Catholic faith. This December, St. James is invited to help! This year, the Sisters are collecting Christmas gifts for teens! Teens are invited to choose, purchase, and send gifts through the Mission of Our Lady of the Angels Gift Registry (click here). You can select one of the items on the list, or send another item you know another teen would love. For more information, please contact our Youth Minister, Christina Hudson at chudson@stjamesah.org.

> PLEASE SEND ALL GIFTS BY DEC 9

The sisters are also collecting items for warmth for familiesblankets, socks, hats gloves, space heaters and large coats. Toys and items for children are also appreciated. All items and gifts can be ordered and sent through their **Amazon Wish List (click here).

To learn more about Mission of Our Lady of the Angels, click here.



RE GRADES 1-5



RE News...

Since our ministry cannot meet in person every week, we have been using a remote learning platform called My Catholic Faith Delivered to bring the message of the Gospel into each family's home. This I earning platform uses a Faith and Life program. This program helps the students and parents in weekly online lessons.

Each assigned lesson consists of an activity taken from the student's workbooks, as well as discussion questions for parents to use to prompt and engage their child in the lesson. We also have extra activities on Google Classroom for families who would like to engage more and go even deeper into each lesson. We are certain that our parents and their students are enjoying the extra time together growing in their Faith.

The Lord is working through this pandemic to find ways to send His Spirit to us. Please pray for our RE families.

If you would like to find out more about our RE program at St James, please contact Kevin Byrnes at kbyrnes@stjamesah.org

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Men - PLEASE JOIN US FOR A Farewell Address by Fr. Matt Friday, December 11th 6:30am Via Zoom

Our goal is to gather 100 men to honor and thank Fr. Matt at this very special event. Fr. Matt will share his thoughts about leaving, his hopes for the Men of St James and his legacy. (The regular Friday Morning Bible Discussion to follow Fr Matt's remarks.)

To join this event, please RSVP to Dave or Mike at msj@stjamesah.org

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT



WE CARE FOR OUR LUTHER VILLAGE FAITHFUL



Fr. Matt & Fr. Ryan continue to serve our parishioners at Luther Village by offering Mass Wednesdays at 10:15am and occasionally staying on for events and to visit with the residents. Our faithful say they love staying in touch through the printed bulletins and watching masses online. Please pray for







Introducing Deacon candidates Johnny Burnett (L) and Sam Resch (R). Both Johnny and Sam have been instituted as Acolytes. You may see them serving over the next months as they prepare for ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. Johnny will be ordained in May of 2021, and Sam in May of 2022. Let us pray for Johnny and Sam and their wives and families: God our Father, we thank you for sending your only Son to us for our salvation. Jesus also came "to serve, not to be served." We ask that you strengthen Johnny, Sam, their wives, and families as they continue to study and prepare for ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. Give them a zeal

for being the visible servant Christ. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.



the good health

at Luther Village.

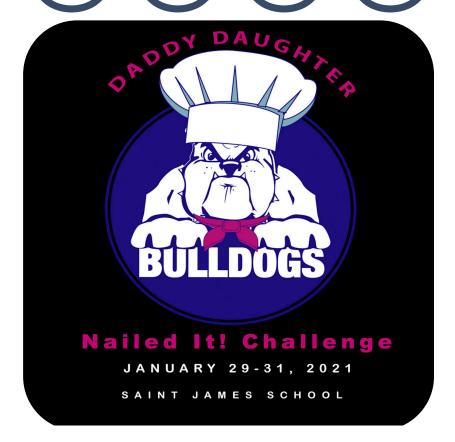
of our friends



Join us for our 3rd St. James Trivia Night! What started as something fun to pass the time in Shutdown has quickly become a St. James experience you don't want to miss! Get your team of about 6 fun and/or smart people together and have your team captain sign up here. No limit on number of teams or criteria for who they're comprised of! Got family all over? Great! Have a local group of friends you haven't seen in a while? Perfect! All are welcome!

This special Christmas edition of trivia, we've partnered with local parishioner-owned dining establishments to make your night in extra special! Order from CoCo & Blu and 20% of the sales will go to St. James School. Phone in your order to Nino's Pizzeria for 20% off your total. Check back at the Facebook Event (found on the St. James Facebook page) for a special from Scratchboard Kitchen! THANK YOU to CoCo & Blu, Nino's, and Scratchboard for your generosity and making this our best trivia night yet!

If you've never played before, we recommend getting your team together in person or via zoom so you can all 'hang out' together, then watch the event streamed on Facebook Live! Once you register, your team captain will receive your team's answer sheets via email just prior to the event.



Dads & Daughters - get your spatulas ready, preheat those ovens, and please join us for the Daddy Daughter Nailed It Challenge!

Each Daddy/Daughter team will be tasked to create their own version of a Bulldog-themed cake from the comfort of your own kitchens! You'll be provided a video with expert cake-making instructions, courtesy of the pastry chef at Scratchboard Kitchen, along with basic ingredients to bake your cake and other fun items to ensure a sweet time is had by all!

Oh & every challenge needs a winner, right? We have compiled an expert panel of sweet-toothed SJS staff to help determine the best bakers in a few TBD categories!

The Nailed It kits can be picked up from 2:30p-4:30p on Friday, January 29th at the church entrance. Official rules and more instructions will be e-mailed the last week of January. Please contact Megan Baum or Lisa O'Reilly at stjamesdaddydaughterdance@gmail.com with any questions.



Did you know that the **Invest in Kids Act** helps children from low-income households in Illinois access scholarships that cover up to 100 percent of a Catholic school's tuition? Thousands of students are gaining knowledge and building on their faith in Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools thanks to this program. Your support during these challenging times would help educate the next generation in Catholic students while building on a brighter future for all.

What is a tax credit scholarship?

Tax Credit Scholarships cover up to 100 percent of tuition and fees for the 2021/22 school year. Students from low-income households can qualify for tax credit scholarships if their family income is less than \$72,900. More than 9,000 students qualified for a scholarship last year and 6,300 were left waiting without one.

www.archchicago.org/tcs

Cut tax liability

Individuals and corporations may receive a credit for their Illinois state taxes equal to 75 percent of donation.

Triple your impact

Donate to a school or all archdiocese schools between Dec. 1 and Feb. 28, 2021, and, thanks to a few generous donors, your donation will be matched and maximized threefold! Limitations apply.

HOW IT WORKS

We use \$10K in this example, but any amount is needed.

DONATE \$10,000

After following the step-bystep guide, a taxpayer can donate \$10,000 to Empower Illinois, the Scholarship Granting Organization working with the Archdiocese. Designate the archdiocese's Catholic schools or a specific group of schools as beneficiary.

TAX REWARD CAN EQUAL \$7,500

You are eligible to claim a \$7,500 tax credit on your state taxes -75 percent of your gift!
This has the potential to eliminate your 2020 tax liability.

MATCHING ANGELS: Your \$10,000 gift becomes \$30,000 in student scholarships

Each dollar you give between Dec. 1 and Feb. 28, 2021, will be matched 2 for 1 by a handful of generous donors, tripling the scholarship amount and making a bigger impact on students who need your help. Limitations apply.

FORMING DISCIPLES



St. James has touched all areas of my life and most importantly has helped bring Christ to the center of it. One of the ways I've felt especially enriched has been through discipleship with FOCUS. The Holy Spirit has brought amazing women into my life that have walked with me as we grow together in faith and friendship. We have explored our faith and love for Christ on a deeper level. These women are a source of encouragement and joy, which I treasure.

St. James parish has been such a gift to my faith and family life.

We are not meant to walk this challenging road to sainthood alone, so God gives us the Sacraments, His grace and the people we need to aid us on our journey. I'm forever grateful for the disciples He has put in my life and the St. James community.

- Melissa B.

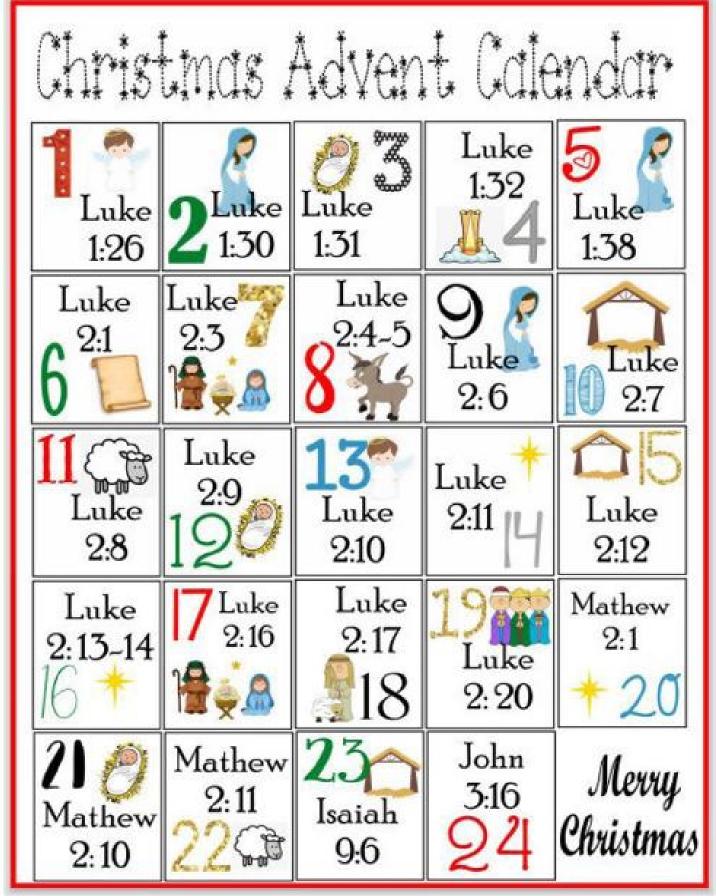
MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

This Christmas Season, St. James Liturgical Environment Ministry invites you to be a part of our annual "remembrance" in honor or memory of someone special in your life. Your donation will be used to purchase flowers for the Christmas décor of the Church. The names of those being remembered will be published in the Dec 27th bulletin, the Feast of the Holy Family.

To create a Christmas Remembrance, please fill out the form below place it in an envelope marked "Christmas Remembrance." We kindly ask for a monetary donation of \$25 per remembrance. You may include cash or check (made out to St James Parish with Christmas Remembrance noted) with your submission. Submissions may be dropped in collection boxes at church or the parish office or can be mailed in no later than December 21st. Thank you, St James Liturgical Environment Ministry

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	M. had not better	

In memory of:	
(Please Print)	
Remembered by:	
(Please Print)	



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Thank You To All the Knitter and Crocheters Who Participated in Chase the Chill 2020!

Thank you for making all your beautiful scarves for our PADS guests this November. We collected hundreds of scarves! We will indeed Chase the Chill for so many this winter, thanks to you! Your generosity will warm both hearts and bodies.

As Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." God Bless You for your kindness and compassion.



DEVELOPMENT

Attention 70 1/2-Year-Olds.... Have You Heard the Good News?

Many parishioners who are required to make yearly Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) have been satisfying their RMD and directly making a charitable contribution to St. James using a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). A QCD allows IRA owners who are age 70 % or older to directly transfer up to \$100,000 annually from an IRA to charity, tax free.

Now during the pandemic, the IRS has *waived* the RMDs for 2020 via the Cares Act. Therefore, some taxpayers may think that they can no longer (in 2020) make charitable contributions using QCDs, or that doing so will not give them the same tax advantages as before. This is not true. The *good news* is that taxpayers who could otherwise make charitable contributions using QCDs can still do so. QCDs will still be excluded from gross taxable income, adjusted gross income, and taxable income as before. So taxpayers who are eligible to make QCDs, including those newly eligible for 2020, should strongly consider using QCDs for making their charitable contributions to St. James in 2020.

Remember, by using QCDs, and not having to include this distribution in your adjusted gross income, taxpayers can potentially avoid the loss of exemptions, deductions, credits and phase outs, AMT (alternative minimum tax), the 3.8% surtax on net investment income, and the increase in Social Security premiums for Medicare Part B and Part D.

A win-win for using QCDs! Please consult your tax advisor for your individual financial circumstances.

Thank you for remembering St. James this year. We are grateful for your continuous support!



WEEKLY READINGS

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

Psalm — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

Gospel — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26 Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the **Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712**

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

WEEKLY INTENTIONS

Please pray for our sick...Norine Naselli

Rose for Life was donated by The Schaefer Family in loving memory of their husband and father, Don Schaefer on his birthday.

Wedding Bans December 31, 2020 Benjamin Frobish and Erin Moreau

Baptisms

Philip Harrison Miller child of Kevin Miller and Olivia (Rendone) Miller

Remembrances

Saturday Evening/Sunday December 5/6 Sharon L. Seiler Scanlan, Donald Seiler, Bob Jarosz, John Glueckert Sr., John LaMonica, Mildred Burnf

Monday, December 7th Walter Zare, Mary Ann Foley, Mildred Burnf, Andrew Clark, Richard Martin, Catherine Flannery

Tuesday, December 8th Harold Bernard Simons, Robert Lump Wednesday, December 9th Bernice Juris, Michael McLain

Thursday, December 10th Sandra Jean Sutter (1st yr anniv), Lucy McGrath, Mary Anderson (1st yr anniv), Gerald Turner, Regina Tay

Friday, December 11th Dana Mangi

Saturday 7:30am, December 12th Linda Mackey, Meggan McDermott, Gertrude Pietrolonardo, Helen Marie Bailitz

In Loving Memory
Frances Leonardo wife to Joseph A.
Leonardo, sister of Angeline, mother
Katherine A. Barone, Angela L. (Phil) Stubbs,
Joseph D. (Jane) Leonardo, and Dana A.
(Matt) Wycoff; "Nana" to Johnny (Kristen)
Barone, Jordan Barone, Joey Leonardo, Sam
Stubbs, Gianna Leonardo, Danny Wycoff,

Ruth Griffin wife of John. Mother of Amy Viachos and Patrick and Michel Griffin. Cherished grandma of Griffin Viachos, Rosie Griffin, and Patrick Griffin Jr. Dearest daughter of the late Charles and Grace.

and Rocco Leonardo.



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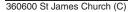
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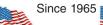
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Saturday 5:00pm Contemporary Group 7:00am **Traditional Cantor** Sunday 8:30am **Traditional Choir** Sunday 10:00am Contemporary Choir Sunday Sunday 11:30am Contemporary Choir Sunday 5:00pm Contemporary Group

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 & Kristina Galis at PPC@stjamesah.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:00am—8:00pm Friday

9:00am—6:00pm

Saturday & Sunday 9:00am—1:00pm

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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.

ADORE - 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.



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