



# SAINT JAMES PARISH

## ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

### *EnKindle* Ignited a Spark with First Meeting



A new St. James ministry called *enKindle* held its first session on Friday, November 17 in the church. The topic was "Forgiveness, or Not!" delivered by Bishop Jeffrey Grob who graciously accepted our invitation as the inaugural speaker. Here are some snippets from the session:

- "We currently live in a society that permits everything and forgives nothing." (attributed to Cardinal Francis George)
- "Not forgiving perpetuates a cycle of pain, a range of negative emotions - resentment, bitterness, anger."
- "Forgiveness is not denial. What happened is real and must be addressed."
- "Forgiveness does not mean excusing the offender. This is not the same as forgiveness, absolving the offender of responsibility. Take responsibility for oneself"
- "Forgiveness does not mean we leave it to God. We cannot abdicate what is ours to do."
- "To err is human, to forgive divine."

Thank you to the over 120 women and men who attended the session and stayed for fellowship afterwards. We will keep you posted on future *enKindle* sessions.

DEC 3

2023

*BE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.  
MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# A MESSAGE FROM...

## Today's Readings

### First Reading:

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you.

(Is 63:19)

### Psalm:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

(Ps 80)

### Second Reading:

The testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(1 Cor 1:6-7)

### Gospel:

"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming."

(Mk 13:35)



"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." (Matthew 13:33)

Dear Friends,

Today begins Advent, the penitential time leading to Christmas. This year Advent is quite short with the fourth Sunday of the season falling on Christmas Eve.

In today's first reading, Isaiah cautions the people of Israel to consider their sin. He warns that they must turn back to God and are in dire need of repentance.

Upon reflection we should realize that the prophet's blunt words apply to the people of our own time as well: "All of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind" (Isaiah 63).

Isaiah doesn't use this language to condemn the people of Israel, but to call them back to faithfulness. This section ends with these tender and hopeful words: "Yet, O Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands." (Isaiah 63).

Let's use the next three weeks to prepare for the Lord's coming, both at Christmas and at his Second Coming at the end of time. During Advent, opportunities for Mass and confession are expanded. Noon Mass will be offered Monday through Friday, and multi-parish penance services with individual confessions will be held the week of December 11. Please see the details in this bulletin.

God bless you,

Fr. Ed



Manger Square and Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem

## Prepare Your Heart for Him

### Advent Devotions & Events

#### Noon Mass During Advent

December 4 - 22

St. James will hold an additional daily Mass each weekday (M-F) at noon.

#### Reconciliation During Advent

December 13 (Wednesday)

Multi-Parish Reconciliation Service 7:00 p.m. at St. James

#### One Night in Bethlehem

December 19 (Tuesday)

an event for all families 5-7 pm in the gym.

Sponsored by Children's Formation (see pg. 7)



**ART & ENVIRONMENT:** The worship environment for this year's Advent Season follows the liturgical tradition of purple colors.

One of the most recognizable symbols of the season is the Advent wreath. It's circular shape is a reminder that God has no beginning and no end; the evergreen branches denote everlasting life; and the four candles symbolize Christ as the Light of the World.

It is our hope that you are inspired during this Advent season to joyfully anticipate what an awesome event is about to unfold—the birth of Christ, Light of the World—on Christmas Day.

**MUSIC:** During Advent the restrained joy of our liturgical music augments the sense of anticipation we feel. The great feast of Christmas awaits us there, but until then we wait in hope. We invite you to take time for this journey: spiritually, visually, vocally. (The destination is awesome.)

Holy Day of Obligation

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

FRIDAY, DEC. 8

**MASS TIMES**  
7:30 AM, 8:40 AM (SJS), NOON, 7:00 PM

## Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Advent Penance Service with Confession

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13**

**7:00 p.m. at St. James**

Multi-Parish Reconciliation Services  
(with individual confessions) will also be held:

- 12/12 at St. Edna, Arlington Heights, 3 p.m.
- 12/12 at St. Mary, Buffalo Grove, 7 p.m.
- 12/14 at St. Colette, Rolling Meadows, 3 p.m.

*Please note: Thursday 6 pm confessions will not take place at St. James on December 14.*



## MINISTRY UPDATES



Are you interested in learning more about the St. James Junior Ambassadors?

St. James Jr. Ambassadors Club invites our children to experience and exercise the corporal works of mercy, as we explore the many ministries at St. James that are feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, and caring for creation. Each time we meet, we will learn about the impact a child can have in this world when they follow Jesus.



### Time Well Spent?

Can you believe it? It is only 21 days until Christmas; so much to do, so little time. Thank God Amazon delivers. While Advent is a busy time in which we prepare for Christmas by cleaning, decorating, and shopping, perhaps we should also prepare... just in case Jesus comes back.

Can you imagine Christmas morning, Jesus knocking on your door and saying: "I heard you are having a party for my birthday, mind if I join you?" While it may seem far-fetched, we truly don't know when Jesus is coming back. He tells us in today's gospel: "You do not know when the time will come."

If Jesus did come, would we wish that we had more time to prepare? More time to volunteer, more time to help our neighbor, more time to pray, read the bible... anything to prepare for his coming? I doubt we would wish that we had watched more episodes of our favorite TV show or YouTube and TikTok videos.

I bet we would wish that we had given Jesus more of our time. We can start by giving our time here at St. James.

~ Fr. Paul Stein

MEN'S  
**WELCOME**  
RETREAT

JOIN THE JOURNEY

02.24.24  
+  
02.25.24

RENEW YOUR RELATIONSHIP  
WITH CHRIST  
EMBRACE YOUR  
IDENTITY AS A SON OF  
GOD  
JOIN YOUR BROTHERS  
IN CHRIST

SCAN HERE FOR  
MORE INFO OR TO  
REGISTER

SAINT JAMES PARISH  
MEN OF ST. JAMES

### Save the Date!

#### *Celebrating Women Mass*

**Friday, January 12 @ 7 p.m.**  
**St. James Church**

Join us for our annual WOSJ  
Celebrating Women event, where we  
gather with other women in our  
community and give thanks to God.

Fr. Michael will be celebrating Mass,  
followed by a reception in the Laramie  
Room (lower level of the church).

**This event is open to all adult  
women, guests are welcome!**



# Welcome Newly Arriving Refugees

**Sign up now** to greet and provide a warm welcome to a refugee family (or individual) when they first arrive in our community!

**Refugees often arrive** in Chicago with only a few personal possessions. Help turn an empty apartment into a home by collecting and delivering all the basic household items the very first day they arrive. All items must be new. Collection will be 12/10-12/14. More details on the signup link.

**<https://signup.com/go/VAzrzWi>**



*Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world...I was a stranger and you invited me in."*

*Matthew 25:34-35*

Peace & Justice invites you to join us! We meet the last Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. Contact us at [peaceandjustice@stjamesah.org](mailto:peaceandjustice@stjamesah.org)



We are thrilled to announce that the St. James Annual Mercy Box program will be a part of our Christmas charities again this year.

The spirit of Christmas is alive as these food boxes benefit a diverse group of our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

We will deliver our filled "Mercy Boxes" to our friends at: St. Malachy, St. Agatha, St. Gall, and The Kolbe House, all in Chicago.

Mercy Boxes will be distributed after all Masses this weekend! The boxes come unassembled, with a list of food items needed attached to the box. Please tape the box, and fill with the requested items after doing your shopping. Some folks like to include a small treat or holiday card as well.

Filled boxes are due back to St James on Sunday, December 17 and will be collected in the school parking lot from 8 am to 1 pm. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



# One Holy Night in Bethlehem



Tuesday, December 19, 2023  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
St. James Parish Center



↑  
PLEASE  
REGISTER  
TO ATTEND

**One Holy Night in Bethlehem** welcomes all children from St. James and their families to explore Bethlehem at the time of Jesus' birth. Through hands-on experiences you'll learn about the birth of Jesus and how we can live out His mission for us!

One Holy Night in Bethlehem is a FREE event open to ALL CHILDREN OF OUR PARISH & their families. This is NOT a drop-off event. All children need to be accompanied by an adult. Expect to spend 45 minutes exploring all of Bethlehem!

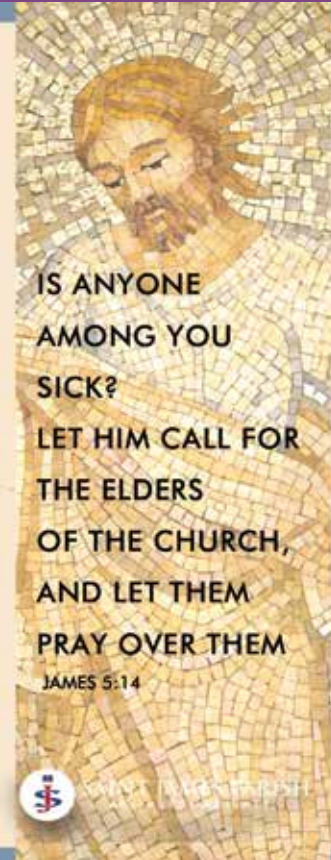
VOLUNTEER TO  
MAKE BETHLEHEM  
COME ALIVE FOR  
ONE HOLY NIGHT!



contact: [blarson@stjamesah.org](mailto:blarson@stjamesah.org)



## THIS WEEK



### Meeting Mental Health With Grace

*A mental health ministry for Our Lady of the Wayside, St. Edna, and St. James*

Join us...

### Grace Prayer Circle

A monthly prayer service on the 1st Wednesday of the month for those living with mental health concerns and their loved ones.

Submit a name. We will pray. Join us.

Prayer requests can be submitted to the multi-parish ministry via  
voicemail: 847-253-5390  
email: [mentalhealthministry@stjamesah.org](mailto:mentalhealthministry@stjamesah.org)

All are welcome to join us as we pray:

**Wednesday, December 6th from 7:00 - 7:30 pm**  
St. James School Chapel

Find resources and support materials on our Mental Health Ministry webpage at  
[stjamesah.org/mentalhealthresources](http://stjamesah.org/mentalhealthresources)

## EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

In the spirit of Eucharistic Revival the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place next Saturday (12/9) before the 5:00 pm Mass. All are invited to sit in the presence of our Lord. St. James will continue this practice on select Saturdays as we and Catholics from all over the country approach the Eucharistic Congress next summer in Indianapolis.

### Eucharistic Congress | July 17-21, 2024

Come make history with us in Indianapolis at the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, where we will gather at the feet of Jesus for the first time in nearly a century, boldly anticipating a new Pentecost. Your life—and our Church—will never be the same. A group from St. James will attend. More details to come. See resources below to learn more.



### Learn More

[stjamesah.org](http://stjamesah.org)

search *Eucharistic Congress*

Contact

[ecinfo@stjamesah.org](mailto:ecinfo@stjamesah.org)

Relevant Radio Updates:

[relevantradio.com/ee](http://relevantradio.com/ee)





FOR CHILDREN



BY GOLLY • BE JOLLY  
*Meet Santa*

December 8 | 5:00-7:00pm  
@St. James Parish Center  
photos • crafts • and fun

We are collecting new unwrapped  
toys supporting Toys for Tots

**TOYS FOR TOTS**

VOLUNTEER 

REGISTER 



CALLING ALL CHILDREN  
OF ST. JAMES: GRADES K-5

**ANGELS & SHEPHERDS MASS**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE 2023**  
**3:15 PM IN THE GYM**

Please register each child participating.  
Open to the first 50 registrations! Sign up soon!

A **REQUIRED** rehearsal will be held  
Thursday, Dec 21st, 5-6PM in the Parish Center.

Questions???

Contact-Bethany Larson  
blarson@stjamesah.org





## Over 50 Group Christmas Luncheon

**Wednesday, December 13 - Noon**

Rob Roy Clubhouse  
505 E Camp McDonald Road  
Prospect Heights

**Choose 1 of 3 Entrees:**

Chicken Piccata Twice Baked Potato & Green Beans | Salmon Twice Baked Potato & Green Beans | Vegetable Lasagna

**Each meal also includes:**

Garden Salad and Carrot Cake and Lemonade, Coffee, Iced Tea, or Hot Tea

Cash Bar will be available

Cost: \$35 (includes tip)

We are planning a "White Elephant Gift Swap." Just bring a treasure from home that you have no need for anymore (silly or serious) gift wrapped, so it will be a surprise for the lucky recipient.

RSVP by December 1 with menu selection to Frank 847-398-2233  
or email [stjamesclub@yahoo.com](mailto:stjamesclub@yahoo.com)



## Christmas Remembrances

NEW: REQUEST AND DONATE ONLINE ⇨



If you would like to create a tangible remembrance of a loved one, you are invited to help fund the Christmas season décor in the church. A donation of \$25 *per remembrance* would be appreciated. The names will be published in the 12/24 bulletin. To participate, please do one of the following:

- Online: Scan the QR code above or visit [www.stjamesah.org/christmas-remembrances](http://www.stjamesah.org/christmas-remembrances) to request and donate.
- Drop Off: fill out the form below and drop with your donation in the Sunday Collection using an envelope.
- Mail: fill out the form below and mail it with your check to the parish office.

### Christmas 2023 Remembrances (return by Friday, 12/8)

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In Memory of: (Please print)

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Remembered by: (Please print)

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Donor Email Address:

Donor Phone Number:

*Make checks payable to St. James Parish. Our mailing address is 820 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60004.  
Send to attn. Natalie Conseur, Bulletin Editor*

## OUR PRAYERS & INTENTIONS

### In Loving Memory

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Velma Voglein  
Martin Mulkerrin

### Please Pray for Our Sick

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Howard "Russ" Walker

### Rose for Life

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The Blomquist family in loving memory of Elizabeth Arens on her birthday.

### Recent Baptisms

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**Lucy Kelley Rubel**, child of  
Nicholas Rubel and Danielle (Pallasch) Rubel

**Audrey Ann Underys**, child of  
Lucas Underys and Kathryn (Harney) Underys

**Mary Brigid Menges**, child of  
William Menges and Bridget (Flood) Menges

**Benjamin Patrick Drugan**, child of  
Brandon Drugan and Kristina (Biljan) Drugan

**Declan Dwyer Schomig**, child of  
Connor Schomig and Michaela (Dwyer) Schomig

### Celebrant Schedule, Dec. 9-10

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5:00	Fr. Michael
7:00	Fr. Paul
8:30	Fr. Paul
10:00	Fr. Ed
11:30	Fr. Ed
5:00	Fr. Michael

### Readings for the Week of December 3

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<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
<b>Monday:</b>	Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37
<b>Thursday:</b>	Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27
<b>Friday:</b>	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
<b>Saturday:</b>	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

### Mass Intentions

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#### Sat., Dec. 2 The Blessed Virgin Mary

5:00 James Moran  
Helen Hertvik  
Eric Slezak  
Anne Uhrina\*

#### Sun., Dec. 3 1st Sunday of Advent

7:00 For the people of the parish  
8:30 Frank and Victoria Bosco  
Copp Family  
Patrick Keane  
10:00 Roland Ley  
Bob & Andy Jarosz  
Anthony Coglianese  
Louis Samartino  
11:30 Zenaida Barrows  
Christine Walek

#### Mon., Dec. 4 St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

7:30 Marcin Bukowski  
Esther Clarke (1st Anniv.)  
Joseph Mariano  
Stella Favia  
Anthony Coglianese  
John F. Kordek

#### Tues., Dec. 5

7:30 Patrick Dyra (1st Anniv.)  
Linda Mackey  
Buddy DiLegge (2nd Anniv.)  
Will Newgard

#### Wed., Dec. 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop

7:30 Margaret Dawson  
Helena Jochaniewicz  
John LaMonica  
Ryan Howell  
12:00 Clement Juris

#### Thurs., Dec. 7 St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:30 Frank A. Fichter

#### Fri., Dec. 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 Meggan McDermott

#### Sat., Dec. 9 St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

7:30 Mike Chavich  
Mary Ann Wines (1st Anniv.)



## NOVEMBER COLLECTIONS REPORT

Sunday Collections	Budgeted	Actual	Variance
	\$178,670	\$178,266.52	(\$403.48)
		Envelopes 74,471.35	
		Online Giving \$103,795.17	

11.1 Holy Day Collection	Budgeted	Actual	Variance
	\$2,250.00	\$2,638.00	\$388.00

### PARISH MINISTRIES

**Earth Shepherds** provides opportunities to learn about the relationship between Scripture, Catholic Social Teaching and our responsibility to be stewards of God's Creation.  
[searthshepherds@gmail.com](mailto:searthshepherds@gmail.com)

**Grief Support Ministry** is about overcoming your grief. Are you struggling with a loss? Having a hard time coping? We meet twice per month. Please email the address below for more details.  
[griefsupport@stjamesah.org](mailto:griefsupport@stjamesah.org)

**Loaves and Fishes Ministry** provides lunches for those experiencing homelessness in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood.  
[stjameslandf@gmail.com](mailto:stjameslandf@gmail.com)

**Men of St. James** provides opportunities for Christian fellowship through social, spiritual and service activities for men of the parish at least 21 years of age.  
[msj@stjamesah.org](mailto:msj@stjamesah.org)

**Mental Health Ministry** provides support, education and awareness to our parish communities on issues related to mental health. Strives to provide resources of support, education and hope.  
[tsherva@gmail.com](mailto:tsherva@gmail.com)

**Ministers of Care** bring the Holy Eucharist to parishioners who are unable to leave their homes or are in care homes. Ministry volunteers must complete a mandatory training session and follow Archdiocesan guidelines.  
[ministryofcare@stjamesah.org](mailto:ministryofcare@stjamesah.org)

**Ministry of Praise** gives members the opportunity to offer their prayers to God for special intentions to help others in their need.  
[ministryofpraise@stjamesah.org](mailto:ministryofpraise@stjamesah.org)

**Moms Plus** provides support and fellowship to Catholic moms. This group is part of Women of St. James.  
[momsplus@stjamesah.org](mailto:momsplus@stjamesah.org)

**Over 50 Social Club** provides social outings, game days, cards, speakers, parties, current events/news and spirituality to any parishioner over the age of 50.  
[stecstan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stecstan@sbcglobal.net)

**PADS Outreach** provides safety, temporary shelter and services to the unhoused.  
[st.james.pads@gmail.com](mailto:st.james.pads@gmail.com)

**Parish Pastoral Council** serves as a representative body of the St. James parish community, guided by the Holy Spirit.  
[PPC@stjamesah.org](mailto:PPC@stjamesah.org)

**Peace & Justice Ministry** educates the faithful on the Catholic social teachings, supports and complements parish ministries and empowers people to transform lives and society, both locally and globally. Meets the last Tuesday of each month.  
[peaceandjustice@stjamesah.org](mailto:peaceandjustice@stjamesah.org)

**Respect Life Ministry** strives to transform society into a Culture of Life where every human being is valued and protected from the moment of conception until natural death.  
[mschoney@astound.net](mailto:mschoney@astound.net)

**Stepping Stones** raises awareness, promotes understanding and prevents relational violence by educating communities and providing referrals to victims and survivors of emotional, financial, physical and sexual abuse. (IL Domestic Violence Helpline: 877-863-6338), [steppingstones@stjamesah.org](mailto:steppingstones@stjamesah.org)

**St. Vincent de Paul** provides emergency, short-term financial help for anyone living within the parish boundaries. For information on volunteering for or using this service, call the Parish Office followed by x8517. Please leave a message and one of our volunteers will call you back. All requests kept confidential.

**Wheels to Worship** drives people to church and shares in the Mass with St. James parishioners who cannot drive themselves.  
[wheelstoworship@stjamesah.org](mailto:wheelstoworship@stjamesah.org)

**Women of St. James** provides support to Catholic women who are committed to growing and sharing their faith through sisterhood and service.  
[wosjministryleads@gmail.com](mailto:wosjministryleads@gmail.com)

# DON'T FALL BEHIND

STAY CURRENT WITH THIS WEEK'S EVENTS  
AND WHAT'S COMING UP AT ST. JAMES

SCAN HERE TO  
JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST





## Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm Praise & Worship Ensemble  
Sunday 7:00 am Cantor and Organ  
Sunday 8:30 am Traditional Choir & Organ  
Sunday 10:00 am Contemporary Choir  
Sunday 11:30 am Contemporary Choir  
Sunday 5:00 pm Praise & Worship Ensemble

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday – Saturday, 7:30 am  
Monday & Wednesday, Noon

## Parish Office Hours

**Monday-Thursday** 9:00 am - 8:30 pm  
**Friday** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
**Saturday & Sunday** 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

## Sacraments & Devotions

**Baptism** - Please call the Parish Office with 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.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation - in the church

Thursday – 6:00 - 7:00 pm  
Saturday – 8:00 - 9:00 am following daily Mass

**Holy Hour** - Thursday 6:00 - 7:00 pm in the church for procession of the blessed sacrament, evening prayer, rosary

**The Perpetual Adoration Chapel** is open to all from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm daily, and 24 hours a day for committed adorers with access code. Contact [adoration@stjamesah.org](mailto:adoration@stjamesah.org) for the opportunity.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** on the altar in church occurs on select Saturday evenings prior to the 5:00 pm Mass. Upcoming dates in 2023 include: December 9, 16, 23 and 30.

## ST. JAMES PARISH AND SCHOOL STAFF

Rev. Edward J. Pelrine, Pastor  
224-345-7222 [frpelrine@stjamesah.org](mailto:frpelrine@stjamesah.org)

Rev. Paul Stein, Associate Pastor  
224-345-7215 [frstein@stjamesah.org](mailto:frstein@stjamesah.org)

Rev. Michael Grzesik, Associate Pastor  
224-345-7201 [frgrzesik@stjamesah.org](mailto:frgrzesik@stjamesah.org)

Rev. Bill Zavaski, Pastor Emeritus

James Bannon (Laura), Deacon 847-577-6328  
[jbannon@archchicago.org](mailto:jbannon@archchicago.org)

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[jburnett@stjamesah.org](mailto:jburnett@stjamesah.org)

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FOCUS Parish Missionary, Sarra Stanley  
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## UNDERSTANDING MEDICARE



**John H. Larson**  
Independent Broker

Medicare Solutions Source

Phone: **847-368-8545**

As a local independent insurance broker specializing in Medicare coverage and, incidentally, someone who himself has been on Medicare for over 10 years, I offer 50 years of experience and knowledge in the medical insurance field as your personal guide through the Medicare maze.

### All My Services Are 100% FREE

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area.

Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.

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