



SAINT JAMES PARISH

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

IN JOY,
WE WAIT



DEC 17

2023

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A MESSAGE FROM...

Today's Readings

First Reading:

I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul.

(Is 61:10)

Psalm:

My soul rejoices in my God.

(Is 61:10b)

Second Reading:

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(1 Thes 5:23)

Gospel:

"I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

(Jn 1:23)



"In our humility, He will fill us ultimately with His glory."

Dear Friends,

The figure of John the Baptist is prominent in the Gospel today. John is the heroic and tragic, and ultimately victorious prophet who was the forerunner to the Messiah.

John was heroic because at the greatest cost he accepted the call of God to prepare the people of Israel for Jesus; tragic, as he was brutally martyred by King Herod for rebuking him for divorcing his wife and marrying his brother's wife; and victorious because of the saving works of Jesus Christ.

John the Baptist famously said, "I must decrease and He must increase" (John 3:30-31). He knew that the eternal radiance of the Lord's glory must be more visible than his passing self.

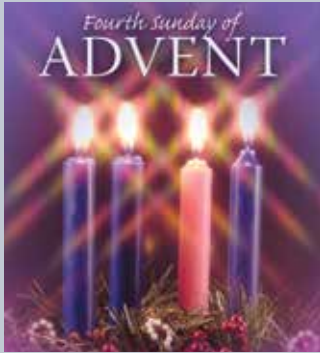
This is true not only for John, but for all baptized disciples of the Lord. In our humility He will fill us ultimately with His glory. Bishop Robert Barron puts it this way: "My life is not about me!"

In just eight days, we will celebrate the humble coming of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, God Himself, into our world, taking on our humanity, walking with us, living our life and dying our death, thus to be glorified in the Resurrection. And for those who belong to Jesus, that Resurrection and glorification will be given.

God bless you,

Fr. Ed

PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS



4th Sunday of Advent

Mass Times

This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent is celebrated:

Saturday, Dec. 23 at 5:00 pm

Sunday, Dec. 24 at 7:00 am, 8:30 am,
10:00 am & 11:30 am



Christmas Eve & Day

Mass Times

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule:

Church: 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 12:00 Midnight

Parish Center (Gym): 3:15 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass Schedule:

Church: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (livestreamed)

12:00 p.m.



SAINT JAMES PARISH
MUSIC MINISTRY

Advent TAIZE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT 7:00 PM

As we await the birth of Christ, the Light of Hope, let our voices be a light for all as we pray through our singing.

Taize worship is prayer consisting of meditative singing and periods of silence in order to reach a contemplative state.

All are welcome to participate in singing and silent prayer.

'TIS THE SEASON

St. James Children's Formation invites you to explore...

One Holy Night in BETHLEHEM

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

please
register
to attend



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



SCHOOL & PARISH NEWS

GIVING SEASON

THANK YOU to our amazing St. James supporters! Your incredible generosity on #GivingTuesday helped us surpass our goal, raising a remarkable \$11,335 to help us continue to raise young men and women of intellect and faith through our St. James Tuition Assistance Program (TAP).



While #GivingTuesday has ended, the opportunity to make a difference doesn't stop there! If you missed the chance to contribute, or if you're still eager to support the St. James Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), it's not too late. Giving season continues!

Donate Here



EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Saturdays before the 5:00 pm Mass December 23 as well as January 6, 13, 20 and 27. 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

search *Eucharistic Congress*

Contact

ecinfo@stjamesah.org

Relevant Radio Updates:

relevantradio.com/ee



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.



MEN'S WELCOME RETREAT JOIN THE JOURNEY

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+
02.25.24

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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'S WELCOME RETREAT

Ut Vitam Habeant



SAINT JAMES PARISH
RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

That They Might Have Life

The Value of Life – The Impact of Just One Person



"If there are millions and billions of persons (each reflecting) the Divine Image, then the loss of any one or a thousand or hundreds of thousands would be as the loss of a falling star. But each one is an unrepeatable act of God; each one brought into being for a specific purpose, a purpose that will not be carried out by anyone else ... This makes every being sacred, very special."

John Cardinal O'Connor
June 1, 1998

or more simply ...

"Strange isn't it? Each man's life touches so many other lives. And when he isn't around, he leaves an awful hole, doesn't he?"

Clarence Odbody
Angel Second Class
It's a Wonderful Life, 1946



In Illinois, **every 5.8 minutes**, an unborn baby is aborted –
each one, an indescribable loss

It's the End of the World as We Know It

*Bible Study: The Book of Revelation
With Fr. Paul*

*Mondays 7:00-8:30pm January 29 – May 20
Board Room in the Office Building
To Register, contact the parish office
Space is limited*



Don't forget that Mercy Boxes will be collected in the school parking lot from 8:00 am - 1:00 pm on Sunday, December 17.

Holiday Stress?
MEETING MENTAL HEALTH WITH GRACE

It's the most wonderful time of the year. Yet, for many of us, it's the most stressful time of the year. Here are 3 things to try when stress creeps up on you.

1. Pause to Pray.

Treat stress or worry as a signal to pray. Take 15 seconds and **pray**. When you do, "the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds." (Philippians 4:7)

2. Time for Thanks.

Every time you feel worry or stress, take 5 or 10 seconds just to **thank God** for the answer you need. Prayer with thanksgiving is powerful!

3. Be a Blessing.

The world of the **generous** gets larger and larger... (Proverbs 11:24). Finding someone to **bless** with a small note or an encouraging word puts life in proper perspective.

A simple **prayer**, a word of **thanks**, or an act of **generosity** are three amazing tools against worry and stress. Use them often. God's peace flows abundantly through these mighty forces.

SAINT JAMES PARISH
MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY



Can You Help the Homeless?

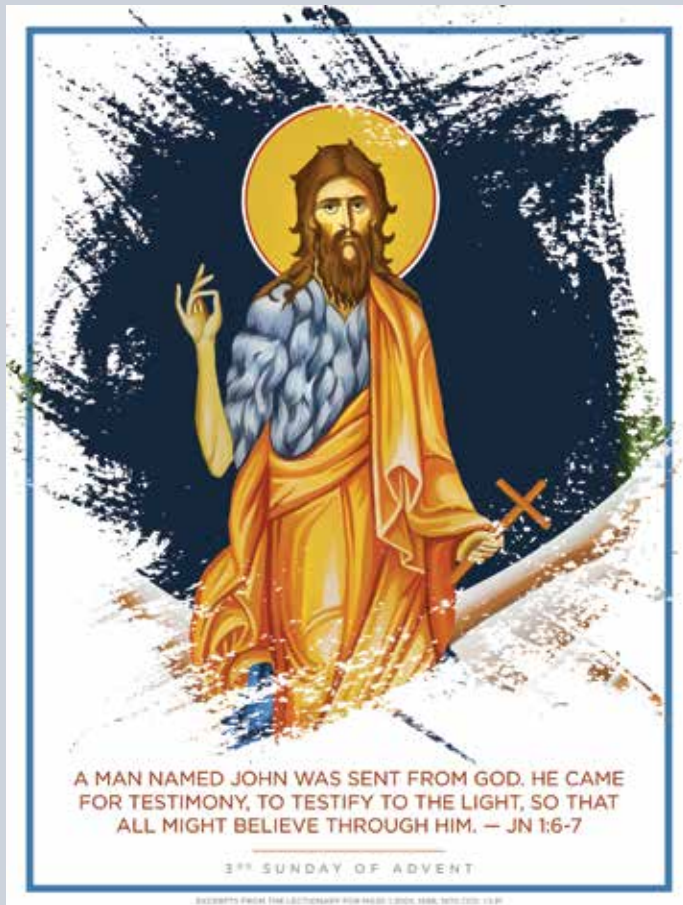
St. James PADS has been open and housing guests for two full months and the numbers continue to increase each week.

PADS is grateful to all the volunteers who are generously giving of their time to make this possible. Thanks to all returning and new volunteers who have been taking on extra shifts to fill in the gaps.

We are still in need of volunteers to fill in the overnight shifts, whether it be once a week, once a month, or a couple of times during the PADS season. Please consider becoming part of this ministry.

PADS Volunteer Contact:
st.james.pads@gmail.com

PATH TO SUNDAY



In today's gospel reading, the "Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites" to ask John the Baptist, "who are you?" Didn't they know he was John the Baptist?

They knew his name, but wanted to know if he was one of the three persons whose arrival they were anticipating. In the first century AD, the Jewish people expected:

(1) A Davidic messiah figure (i.e. in Greek, the *christos*). This was to fulfill God's promise to King David that one of his descendants would always sit on the throne (2 Sam 7:11-13):

Moreover, the LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you: when your days have been completed and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, sprung from your loins, and I will establish his kingdom. He it is who shall build a house for my name, and I will establish his royal throne forever.

(2) That Elijah (who never died but was taken up into heaven in a chariot of fire – 2 Kings 2:11) would come back and prepare the way for the Messiah (Malakai 4:5): "See, I am sending you Elijah the prophet before the day of the Lord comes, that great day, greatly to be feared."

(3) There will be a prophet like Moses who will explain and clarify the law (Deuteronomy 18:15-18):

"A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you from among your own kindred; that is the one to whom you shall listen... I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kindred, and will put my words into the mouth of the prophet; the prophet shall tell them all that I command."

Thus, while John was not literally (1) the messiah/Christ, (2) Elijah, or (3) the prophet, Jesus identified him as a figure like Elijah (Matt 11:14), preparing the way of the Lord.

Your Brother in Christ, Fr. Paul



Following Sunday morning Masses on December 17, head downstairs to enjoy donuts and coffee with one another.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Confronting Antisemitism

In a recent address, Pope Francis said “Yet again violence and war have erupted in that Land blessed by the Most High. The spread of anti-Semitic demonstrations, which I strongly condemn, is also of great concern. Not weapons, not terrorism, not war, but compassion, justice and dialogue are the fitting means for building peace.

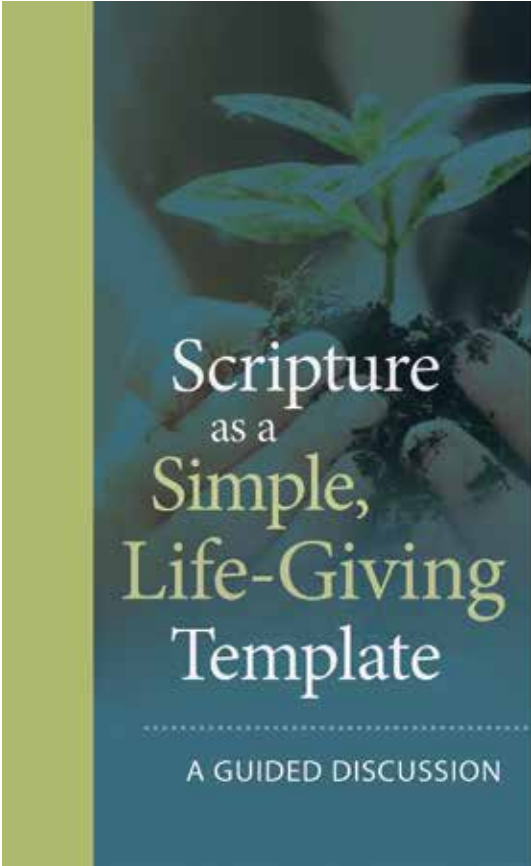
The dialogue with Judaism is particularly important for us Christians, because we have Jewish roots. Jesus was born and lived as a Jew; he himself is the first guarantor of the Jewish heritage at the centre of Christianity. We need Judaism to understand ourselves better. Our religious traditions are tightly interwoven...one could say that ours is more than an interreligious dialogue. It is a *family* dialogue.”

Online Program Here and Now—Antisemitism Today

December 19, 2023 12:00 pm Online Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center

In the month following the October 7 Hamas terrorist attacks in Israel, there was a 388% increase in antisemitic incidents in the US. This alarming explosion of anti-Jewish hate requires each of us to act. But before one can work to combat antisemitism, there must be an understanding of what it is. What does – and does not – qualify as antisemitism? How has anti-Jewish hate transformed throughout history? Join renowned scholar **Mark Weitzman**, COO of The World Jewish Restitution Organization and senior U.S. delegate to the International Holocaust Remembrance Authority (IHRA), as he explores the roots of antisemitism to its current manifestations. Free; Register at [Illinois Holocaust Museum website](https://www.illinois-holocaust-museum.org/).

Peace & Justice invites you to join us! Last Tuesday of the month 7 pm Contact us at peaceandjustice@stjamesah.org



Scripture as a Simple, Life-Giving Template

A GUIDED DISCUSSION

Join us for an insightful exploration of Micah 6:8,
a timeless guide for navigating faith journeys.
Discover its wisdom as a living template to address challenges
and embrace opportunities in our families, communities,
and the broader world.

Marianne Dilsner has a Bachelor's Degree in sociology and a Master's Degree from Loyola University, and has dedicated her career to social service, advocating for children in foster care, facilitating adoptions, and currently, as a case manager at Viator House for young men seeking asylum. Prior to her work at Viator House, she served as a Pastoral Associate at St. James Parish for 14 years. Marianne's extensive travels, including work in Ethiopia/Kenya and visits to NPH Orphanages, reflect her lifelong commitment to advocating for the marginalized, where she has strived to act with justice, love tenderly and walk humbly with God.



Saturday, January 27 | 1:00 p.m.

St. James Church | 831 N. Arlington Heights Rd. | Arlington Heights, IL

Questions? Kathy Squared at kk_ek@msn.com

Hosted by CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGY for WOMEN
at St. James Parish, Arlington Heights, IL

OUR PRAYERS & INTENTIONS

Please Pray for Our Sick

Howard "Russ" Walker
Bunny Velasco
Anita Burnett
Mike Resch

Rose for Life

In loving memory of Jack and Peg Hanahan, and Jack's brother, Andrew Hanahan

Wedding Banns

II. Zach Fick and Amanda Kowalski (Dec. 30)

Recent Baptisms

Emilia Janina Maniak, child of
Piotr Maniak and Amanda (Fredian) Maniak

Celebrant Schedule, Dec. 23-25

4TH SUN. ADVENT (Dec. 23-24)

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

CHRISTMAS EVE (Dec. 24)

3:00 pm Fr. Ed
3:15 pm Fr. Michael
5:00 pm Fr. Paul
Midnight Fr. Ed

CHRISTMAS DAY (Dec. 25)

8:00 am Fr. Paul
10:00 am Fr. Ed
12:00 pm Fr. Michael

Readings for the Week of December 17

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)
1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45
Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 16

5:00 Gretchen Cronin
Carl DeLio
Richard & Catherine Lyons
Richard Kowall
John Schliessmann

Sunday, December 17 3rd Sunday of Advent

7:00 Carl DeLio
Alba Biancalana (40th Anniv.)
8:30 Meggan McDermott
Hughes Family
Janet Richards
10:00 For the people of the parish
11:30 Theresa Losch
Michael Giannelli
Benedict Jacks *
5:00 Al Madden *

Monday, December 18

7:30 Marcin Bukowski
Genevieve Waller
John F. Kordek

Tuesday, December 19

7:30 Thomas Rothfus
Cornelius Vanderwiel
Beth Klopp Lansing
John O'Doherty, Jr.

Wednesday, December 20

7:30 Simon Ulahannan *
Patrick Bushnell
12:00 Will Newgard
Kathy Stanzizewski
Debra O'Connor

Thursday, December 21 St. Peter Canisius, Doctor of the Church

7:30 Kathie Camarena
Mary E. McDonald

Friday, December 22

7:30 John Flynn (1st Anniv.)

Saturday, December 23 St. John of Kanty, Priest

7:30 Bronius Underys

* Indicates Living

PARISH UPDATES

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.

sjearthshepherds@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

Loaves and Fishes Ministry provides lunches for those experiencing homelessness in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood.

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

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

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

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

Moms Plus provides support and fellowship to Catholic moms. This group is part of Women of St. James. 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

PADS Outreach provides safety, temporary shelter and services to the unhoused. 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

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

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

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

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

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

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN

To Be Joyful Again Meetings

First and third Thursdays of each month; 7 p.m.; non-denominational support group for widows, widowers or anyone else who has lost a significant other meets at Holy Family Parish, 2515 Palatine Road, Inverness; all welcome; contact Peggy Emerson at 224-595-3613 or Bob Boho at 847-438-2884 for more information.

Sing Gloria! Sing Noel! Holiday Concert in Arlington Heights

The Music Ministry of St. Edna church will present a concert of holiday music on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 2:30pm in the church (2525 N. Arlington Heights Road). The Adult Choir, Children's Choir, and Cantor Ensemble will provide you with an entertaining and joyous afternoon of beautiful music and a bit of laughter, too. This is a concert the whole family will enjoy. Now that the rush of preparations are over, sit back and let the peace of the Christmas season surround you. , Arlington Hts, IL. Come one, come all!

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





SAINT JAMES PARISH
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

820 N. Arlington Hts. Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60004 (224) 345-7200 www.stjamesah.org



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 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 include each Saturday in January and February, 2024.

ST. JAMES PARISH AND SCHOOL STAFF

Rev. Edward J. Pelrine, Pastor
224-345-7222 frpelrine@stjamesah.org

Rev. Paul Stein, Associate Pastor
224-345-7215 frstein@stjamesah.org

Rev. Michael Grzesik, Associate Pastor
224-345-7201 frgrzesik@stjamesah.org

Rev. Bill Zavaski, Pastor Emeritus

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

Johnny Burnett (Susan), Deacon 847-707-3360
jburnett@stjamesah.org

Sam Resch (Kari), Deacon 847-991-2778
samresch@sbcglobal.net

Executive Dir., Parish Operations, Deacon Matthew Hahn
224-345-7207 mhahn@stjamesah.org

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224-345-7204 tconseur@stjamesah.org

Liturgy Assistant, Katie Sowa
224-345-7239 ksowa@stjamesah.org

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

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224-345-7210 mmarcheschi@stjamesah.org

FOCUS Parish Missionary, Sarra Stanley
224-345-7203 [ssstanley@stjamesah.org](mailto:sstanley@stjamesah.org)

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