



# SAINT JAMES PARISH

## ARLINGTON HEIGHTS



Matthew 3:1-2

John the Baptist appeared,  
preaching in the desert of Judea  
and saying, "Repent, for the  
kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

DEC 7

2025

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Today's Readings

### First Reading:

The prophet foresees a ruler who will bring justice, peace, and unity, restoring creation so all nations seek God's harmonious reign.

*Isaiah 11:1-10*

### Second Reading:

Christ's mercy unites Jews and Gentiles so all may glorify God together.

*Romans 15:4-9*

### Gospel:

John the Baptist urges repentance, warning of coming judgment, and preparing hearts for the Messiah who brings the Spirit and separates the faithful from the unfaithful.

*Matthew 3:1-12*

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***John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand! Matthew 3:12***

Dear Friends,

On this second Sunday of Advent, the great prophet John the Baptist appears, urgently proclaiming that the Kingdom of Heaven is here. He calls the people to prepare for the Lord's appearance, and to receive a baptism of repentance.

John has answered the call of God to announce the presence of Jesus, the anointed one. His response to God is wholehearted and all-consuming. He doesn't mince words; he holds back nothing. His message is this: salvation is coming to you, but your life must change. Sin must be rooted out from each of us as we turn our hearts over to God.

The Advent season is our annual, "beginning of the year retreat." We have powerful opportunities to prepare, to finally make the changes we have wanted to make for so long. Please come to daily Mass (noon Mass is offered every weekday in addition to the regularly scheduled times).

Along with our regular confession times, there are three Multi-Parish Confession opportunities: Monday, December 15 at

7:00 p.m. at St. Colette in Rolling Meadows, Tuesday December 16 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Cecelia in Mt. Prospect, and Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. here at St. James. This a time of an outpouring of grace as we prepare our hearts for the Lord.

Tomorrow is the solemn feast of the Immaculate Conception, the patronal feast of the United States, and a Holy Day of Obligation. Let's honor Mary and ask for her prayers and intercession for us and for our nation. Masses are at 7:30, noon, and 7:00 p.m.

God bless you,

Fr. Ed

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## ***Retired Men Meeting Wednesday***

The next Retired Men's meeting is on Wednesday, December 10 at 10:00 AM in the Board Room of the Parish Office on the west side of Arlington Heights Road. We will learn about the Shroud of Turin. Hope to see you there, Tom Adam (847-394-4731)



## PARISH NEWS

A classical painting of the Nativity scene. Mary is seated on the right, holding the infant Jesus. Joseph stands on the left, pointing towards the child. Two oxen and donkeys are visible in the background.

# *advent*

## at St. James

First Sunday of Advent - November 30, 2025

Weekday Mass at Noon  
December 1-23

Advent Concert  
December 6

Multi-Parish Reconciliation Services  
December 15-17

 SAINT JAMES PARISH  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

A collection of colorful knitted scarves in shades of green, yellow, and blue.

**CHASE  
THE  
CHILL**

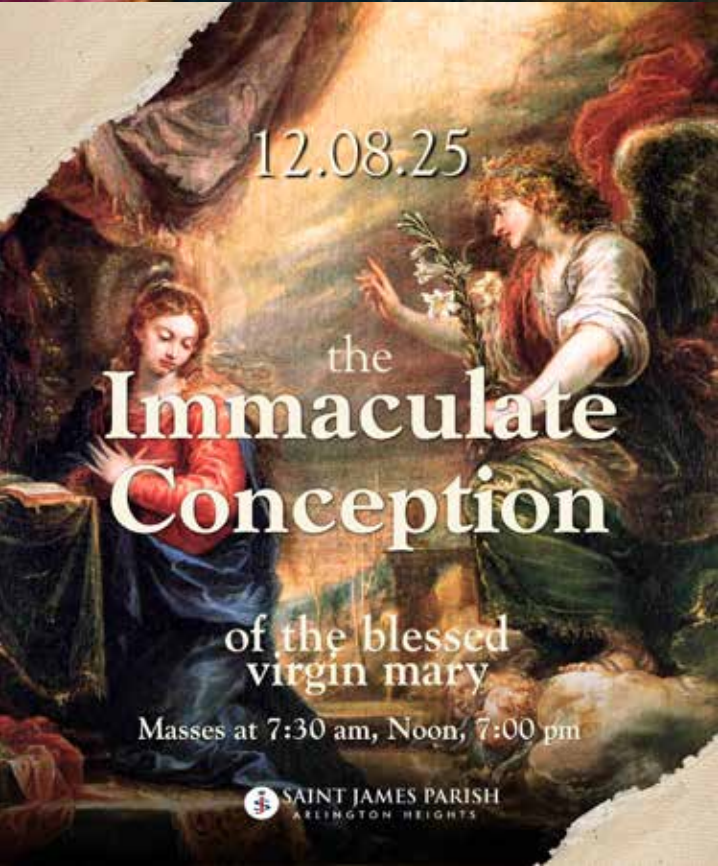
# THANK YOU!

Thank you for creating and donating beautiful 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 for those less fortunate.  
A blessed holiday to you all.

12.08.25

A painting of the Immaculate Conception. The Virgin Mary is seated on the left, holding a book. An angel stands on the right, offering a branch of white flowers. The scene is set against a dramatic, cloudy background.

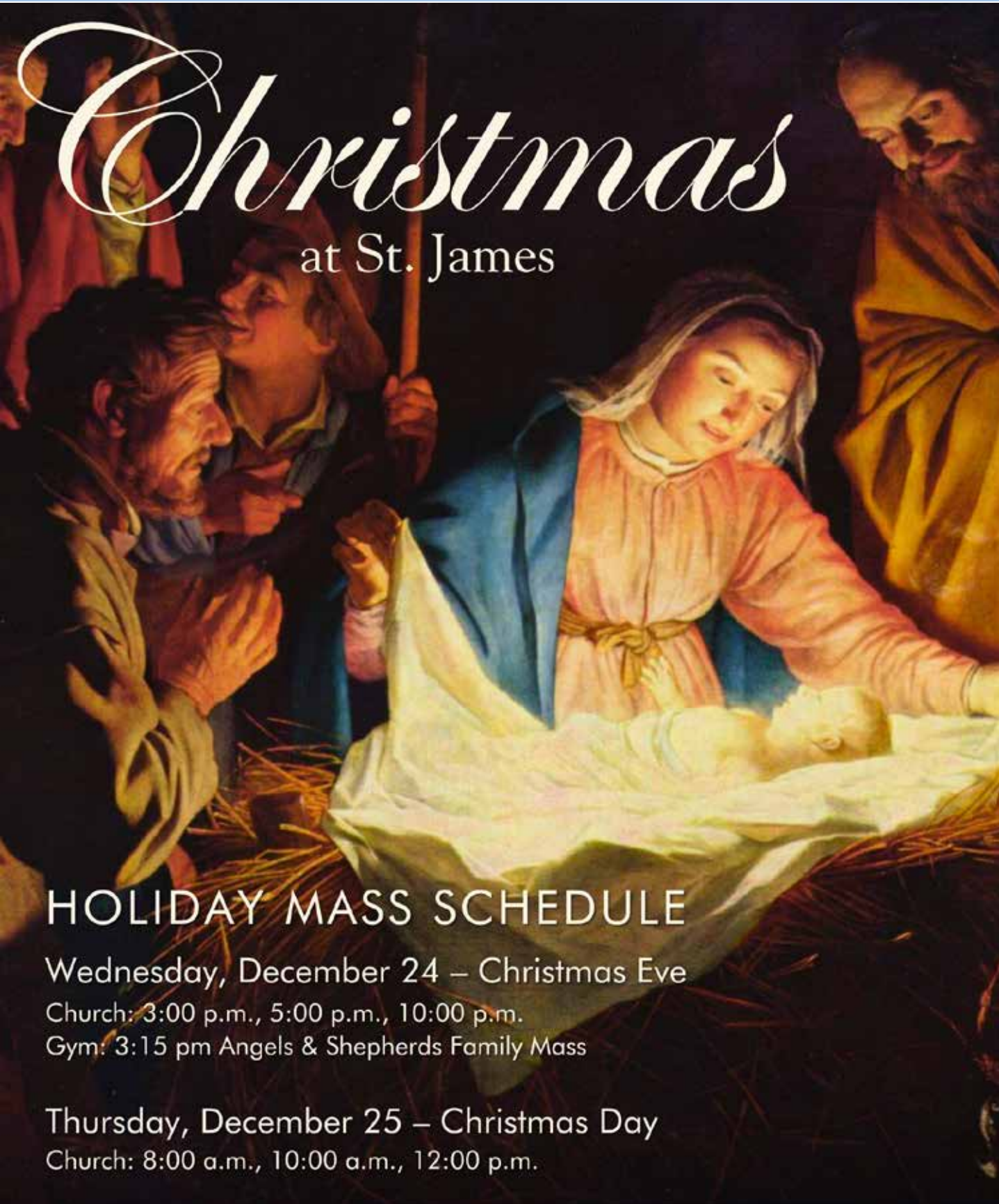
# the Immaculate Conception

of the blessed  
virgin mary

Masses at 7:30 am, Noon, 7:00 pm

 SAINT JAMES PARISH  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS



A classical painting of the Nativity scene. Mary is seated in the center, holding the infant Jesus wrapped in a white cloth. Joseph is on the left, looking down at the child. Several other figures, including shepherds and angels, are visible in the background. The scene is set in a stable with straw on the floor.

# Christmas

at St. James

## HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

Church: 3:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

Gym: 3:15 pm Angels & Shepherds Family Mass

Thursday, December 25 – Christmas Day

Church: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.



## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

*You are cordially invited to the*

# CHRISTMAS Senior Luncheon

When - December 17 @ 11am - 1pm

Where - Laramie Room

Prayer and Carols

Please RSVP by December 10 to Flo Trunk  
[parishoffice@stjamesah.org](mailto:parishoffice@stjamesah.org) or 224-345-7200



DO YOU HAVE

## TANGLES OF BROKEN CHRISTMAS LIGHTS?

The Jr. Ambassadors are collecting your old Christmas lights. Don't toss those lights; bring them to Mass and we'll recycle them!

JUNIOR AMBASSADORS

## CHRISTMAS LIGHT COLLECTION

SAT. & SUN, DEC. 13-14  
AFTER ALL MASSES



— DATE CHANGE —

**Monday, Dec. 8 | 8:30-9:30am**

Calling all Baby Bulldogs 0-4yo! Come to play and mingle. All are invited. You do not have to be a St. James family to attend. Bring a friend!



*Please enter through the main office doors.*

REGISTER HERE



St. James School | 820 N. Arlington Heights Rd. | Arlington Heights, IL 60004

## SEASONAL OPPORTUNITIES

# Hallow

Join the St. James Community as we walk this journey

*THE SEASON OF ADVENT.*

Reflect on what it means to

*"BE STILL".*

<https://hallow.com/communities/1693/>



SAINT JAMES PARISH  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

MERCY BOXES  
MERCY BOXES  
MERCY BOXES  
MERCY BOXES  
**MERCY BOXES**  
MERCY BOXES  
MERCY BOXES  
MERCY BOXES  
MERCY BOXES  
MERCY BOXES

New Option This Year:  
Donate cash & let us  
shop for you!

Scan the QR code to learn  
more, or contact Bill at  
[bev51064@gmail.com](mailto:bev51064@gmail.com)

Return boxes on  
Sunday, December 14!

Fill a box, feed  
the hungry,  
this December.



[stjamesah.org/mercy-boxes/](http://stjamesah.org/mercy-boxes/)



SAINT JAMES PARISH  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS



## SEASONAL OPPORTUNITIES



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

### **Angels & Shepherds Mass** Christmas Eve 2025 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  
Sunday, December 21, 12:30-1:30pm  
in the Parish Center.



Register here!

Questions???  
Contact-Bethany Larson  
blarson@stjamesah.org



## Follow the Star

### An Advent Experience for Families

All families of St. James are  
warmly invited to journey through  
the story of Jesus' birth.

**Tuesday, December 16th**  
**5:00pm-7:00pm**  
**St. James Parish Center**

This is a self-guided, drop-in experience  
designed to take approximately 30 minutes.  
Families will explore key moments leading up to  
the birth of Christ through interactive stations.  
Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Contact: blarson@stjamesah.org





## PARISH CHOIR NEWS

### Parish Youth Choirs Perform!



Congratulations to the St. James Parish Youth Choirs on a wonderful performance at the Lutheran Home on 11/23!



2026 Winter/Spring Session

# YOUTH CHOIR REGISTRATION

Open now for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester!

**SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR:**  
**CHILDREN'S CHOIR - GRADE 2-4**  
**CELESTIAL VOICES - GRADE 5-8**

Use the  
link for  
more  
information



[stjamesah.org/youth-choir-registration/](https://stjamesah.org/youth-choir-registration/)



## PARISH OPPORTUNITIES



### JOIN US ON A **PATH TO SUNDAY**

SUNDAY GOSPEL  
REFLECTIONS TO CARRY  
YOU TO SUNDAY AND  
THROUGH THE WEEK

READ THE  
REFLECTIONS  
HERE



[STJAMESAH.ORG/PATH-TO-SUNDAY/](https://stjamesah.org/path-to-sunday/)

We are seeking singers for the  
**Verdi Requiem**

# Sing *With Us!*

Concert at 7 pm on Thursday March 12, 2026  
Rehearsals begin January 8, 2026.

Contact Tamaron Conseur  
[tconseur@stjamesah.org](mailto:tconseur@stjamesah.org)

sacred sounds  
*concert* series

 SAINT JAMES PARISH  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS



# OUR PRAYERS & INTENTIONS

## Mass Intentions and Observances

### Saturday, December 6

5:00 Marcin Bukowski

### Sunday, December 7 2nd Sunday of Advent

7:00 Rosalie Constertina

James Valvoda

Marie Valvoda

8:30 Frank A. Fichter  
Anthony & Brent Viola  
Roland Ley

Mark Krause

10:00 For the people of the parish

11:30 Jane Klein

Janet Richards

Lisa Lapinski

Alan Hoppe

5:00 Mark Anthony Baron

Roger Anthony Baron

Larry Theodore Baron

James Elden Baron

### Monday, December 8 The Immaculate Conception of the B.V. Mary

7:30 Alice Matthews

Marion McDermott

John F. Kordek

12:00 William Cronin

Gretchen Cronin

Ronald Spinabella

7:00 For the people of the parish

### Tuesday, December 9 St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

7:30 Kathleen O'Donnell

Shirley Stabler

Albert H. Sigmund

Faustino Dionisio Jr.

12:00 Eugene Pham

### Wednesday, December 10 Our Lady of Loreto

### Thursday, December 11 St. Damasus I

### Friday, December 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:30 Meggan McDermott

Gertrude Pietrolonardo

### Saturday, December 13 St. Lucy

## In Loving Memory

John Vincent

## Please pray for our sick

Norine Naselli

Nicolas Leonardo

Andy Kaplan

Lucy Dettlesen

Melinda C.

Andrew Schnell

Barbara Reed

Barb Chidalek

Bruce Swanson

## Wedding Banns

III. Vincent OBrill and Elizabeth Crutchfield

## Recent Baptisms

Lucy Alexandra Shaw, child Joseph Shaw and (Amanda (Cardone) Shaw

## Readings for the week of December 8

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

## Celebrant Schedule

### Immaculate Conception - December 8

7:30 Fr. Paul

12:00 Fr. Paul

7:00 Fr. Ed

### December 13-14

5:00 Fr. Paul

7:00 Fr. Michael

8:30 Fr. Michael

10:00 Fr. Ed

11:30 Fr. Ed

5:00 Fr. Paul



## PARISH INFORMATION

Beyond Sunday  
**Worship**  
with us during the week

**Advent Daily Mass**  
Monday - Saturday at 7:30am  
Monday - Friday at Noon

### PARISH GROUPS AND APOSTOLATES

**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](mailto:sjearthshepherds@gmail.com)

**Grief Support Group** is about helping with 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)

**Jr. Ambassadors** is a group for all children of St. James to practice their faith in service to others and as an example of our Catholic faith to everyone. Jr. Ambassadors act as representatives and promoters of our faith while learning about the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and Catholic Social Teaching.  
[kcoughlin@stjamesah.org](mailto:kcoughlin@stjamesah.org)

**Loaves and Fishes** 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 Group** 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)

**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)

**Mondays with Mary** small group of men who pray the Rosary every Monday morning in the Teen Room at 7:00 a.m., then attend Mass together. New members are welcome. A remote option is available for those unable to attend in person.  
[mike\\_smigiel@msn.com](mailto:mike_smigiel@msn.com)

**Over 50 Social Club** provides social outings, speakers, and parties 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** 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.

**Prayer Shawl Group** creates a wide variety of shawls for anyone in need of prayers or blessings. We pray as we knit or crochet, and meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month to bless the fruits of our labors.  
[prayershawlministry@stjamesah.org](mailto:prayershawlministry@stjamesah.org)

**Respect Life** 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.  
[respectlife@stjamesah.org](mailto:respectlife@stjamesah.org)

**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)

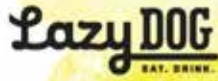
**St. Vincent de Paul** provides emergency, short-term financial help for anyone living within the parish boundaries. For information on volunteering for or using this service, call the Parish Office followed by x8517. All requests kept confidential.

**The Table** meets the second Sunday of each month after the 10:00 am Mass in the Teen Room (LL of the church). For anyone who is curious about the Catholic faith. This is a time to ask questions and engage in conversation with others.

**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)



## PARISH EVENTS & NEWS



# FUNDRAISER

St. James School

Invites you to join them for a

*fundraiser*

by ordering a meal from Lazy Dog.

Print this flyer, give it to your server and 15% of your total bill will be donated back to the organization. Ordering takeout?

Just visit [lazydogrestaurants.com](http://lazydogrestaurants.com), select the participating location noted below, and enter the coupon code at the bottom.

Here's when, how and where to order from so the organization gets credit for your order:

*date:*

Wednesday December 10th

*time:*

All Day

*location:*

51 McHenry Rd

Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

*coupon code*  
(so we can track it)

BG01

## Over 50 Group CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Deadline for reservations December 7 | Wednesday, December 10, 2025 - Noon

Giacomo's Ristorante, 740 N Wolf Road, Des Plaines

### **Family Style Dining**

Chicken Parmesan

Pasta with Meatballs

Soup or Salad

Coffee Tea & Soft Drinks

Spumoni Ice Cream

**RSVP:** Kathy 847-506-9295

Cost: \$39 per person Check made out to St James dropped off at Church Office with "Over 50 Christmas" in memo section.

# Be disciples of Christ

820 N. Arlington Heights. Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
(224) 345-7200  
[www.stjamesah.org](http://www.stjamesah.org)



SAINT JAMES PARISH  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

# Make disciples of Christ

## MASS SCHEDULE

ADVENT Daily Mass: Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., Sat. 7:30 a.m.

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Ensemble  
Sunday 7:00 a.m. Cantor and Organ  
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Traditional Choir & Organ  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Choir  
Sunday 11:30 a.m. Contemporary Choir  
Sunday 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Ensemble

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the Parish Office (224) 345-7200 as soon as possible when your loved one is dying or has just begun hospice. Please use extension 2 after hours. The Anointing of the Sick may be administered to those dying as well as those who are not dying but are dealing with serious illness, major surgery, or advanced age. (The Last Rites includes Anointing, as well as Confession and Communion.) A person may be anointed more than once if needed.

## PARISH STAFF AND PERSONNEL

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

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

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

Rev. Bill Zavaski, Pastor Emeritus

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

Johnny Burnett (Susan), Deacon  
[jburnett@stjamesah.org](mailto:jburnett@stjamesah.org) • 847-707-3360

School Principal, Dr. Greg Scalia  
[principal@stjamesesschoolah.org](mailto:principal@stjamesesschoolah.org) • 224-345-7145

Director of Operations, John Maher  
[jmaher@stjamesah.org](mailto:jmaher@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7207

Finance Director, Judith Mulvihill  
[jmulvihill@stjamesah.org](mailto:jmulvihill@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7203

Assistant Finance Dir./VIRTUS Administrator, Katie Sowa  
[ksowa@stjamesah.org](mailto:ksowa@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7239

Music & Liturgy Director, Tamaron Conseur  
[tconseur@stjamesah.org](mailto:tconseur@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7204

Stewardship & Development Director, Julie Jacobson  
[jjacobson@stjamesah.org](mailto:jjacobson@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7212



## SACRAMENTS & DEVOTIONS

**BAPTISM** - Please contact the Parish Office with a preferred date one month in advance.

**MARRIAGE** - At least six months prior to your wedding, please contact the Parish Office to set a date.

**HOLY HOUR** - Thursday 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the church for procession of the blessed sacrament, evening prayer, and rosary

**FIRST FRIDAY** - Devotion to the Sacred Heart after the 7:30 a.m. Mass on the first Friday of each month

**CONFESSION** - Thursdays at 6:00 pm & Saturdays at 8:00 am

**THE ADORATION CHAPEL** - Open to the public, M-F from 6:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Sat & Sun 6:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Or sign up for a time at [adorationpro.org/jamesil](http://adorationpro.org/jamesil)

Religious Education Coordinator, Bethany Larson  
[blarson@stjamesah.org](mailto:blarson@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7152

High School Ministry Coordinator, Joshua Jones  
[jjones@stjamesah.org](mailto:jjones@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7214

Middle School Ministry Coordinator, Dora Mendoza  
[dmendoza@stjamesah.org](mailto:dmendoza@stjamesah.org)

Director of Digital Evangelization, Aurelio Garcia  
[agarcia@stjamesah.org](mailto:agarcia@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7218

Administrative Assistant, Carly White  
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Campus Minister, Marisa Pollastrini  
[mpollastrini@stjamesah.org](mailto:mpollastrini@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7223

FOCUS Parish Missionary, Matt Marcheschi  
[mmarcheschi@stjamesah.org](mailto:mmarcheschi@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7210

Reception & Front Desk, Flo Trunk  
[fttrunk@stjamesah.org](mailto:fttrunk@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7200

Open Doors Ministry Coordinator, Kathryn Coughlin  
[kcoughlin@stjamesah.org](mailto:kcoughlin@stjamesah.org)

Campus Maintenance Engineer, Mike Tomasiewicz  
[mtomasiewicz@stjamesah.org](mailto:mtomasiewicz@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7200 ext. 6128

Print & Digital Communications Specialist, Natalie Conseur  
[nconseur@stjamesah.org](mailto:nconseur@stjamesah.org) • 224-345-7217



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OUR PARISH



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to you?**  
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for your  
future together.



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Calendar**

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*i live  
by faith.*  
2 Corinthians 5:7

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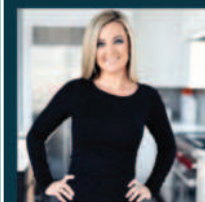


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