



SAINT JAMES PARISH

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

*The seed that
lands on good
ground will
yield a fruitful
harvest.*

PSALM 65

JULY 12

2026

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THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Today's Readings

First Reading

God's word accomplishes his purpose, bringing life and fruitfulness, never returning to him without effect.

Isaiah 55:10-11

Second Reading

Present sufferings are temporary; creation and believers await God's promised glory, redemption, and complete restoration.

Romans 8:18-23

Gospel

Jesus teaches that God's word bears lasting fruit in receptive hearts, while hardened hearts fail to receive or live it.

Matthew 13:1-23

Dear Friends,

In the beloved parable of the sower and the seed, I think you'll agree that the seed we want to be is the one sown on rich soil which will be fruitful. But three other types of seeds are identified as well: the one who hears the word without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was planted in his heart; the seed sown on rocky ground, who hears the word and receives it with great joy, but because it has no root, it lasts for only a short time, and falls away quickly under persecution or tribulation because of the word; and the seed sown among thorns, who hears the word, but bears no fruit as the word is choked by worldly anxiety and the lure of riches.

I might ask which one of these four descriptions of the seed describes me best. One which seems quite accurate is the

third: the seed which is choked by worldly anxiety and the lure of riches. Living in a time and place of vast wealth and the worries that come with it perhaps poses the greatest threat to faithfully living the Gospel. But Jesus doesn't say that the seed has died – only that it has become fruitless.

How do we become the seed sown on rich soil? By opening ourselves up to God's grace through the sacraments and, Scripture. I would also include time in prayer, mortification (putting to death the sinful tendencies within ourselves), the sacrament of Confession, and acts of love: these are the keys to becoming the seed sown on rich soil, hearing and understanding the word, and bearing fruit in a tremendous yield.

God bless you,

Fr. Ed



PLEASE JOIN US!



ST. JAMES THEATRE
PRESENTS

Seussical™

JULY 16-19 | JULY 23-26

EVENINGS 7PM | SUNDAY MATINEES 2 PM

Music
STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Book
LYNN AHRENS &
STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Lyrics
LYNN AHRENS

Co-Conceived by LYNN AHRENS, STEPHEN FLAHERTY, and ERIC IDLE
Based on the Works of DR. SEUSS

Buy tickets now!



Seussical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

stjamestheatrejudas.com

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Hosted by The Chez Paul Rooftop

Upcoming Summer Dates

JULY 22 • AUGUST 6 • AUGUST 20



7-9PM | FIRST DRINK ON US! • MUST BE 21+ TO ATTEND

CHEZ PAUL ROOFTOP



SAINT JAMES PARISH
KILTINGTON HEIGHTS



www.stjamesah.org/tot/

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS



www.stjamesah.org/connect

WOST

Women of St. James

Open Enrollment for the 2026-27 year begins soon!

Enrollment starts July 15th and ends August 15th.
Scan the QR Code to enroll!

Small group leads please review your membership.
Forward updates to Laura Martinez as soon as possible.



St. James
Young Adults

Young Adult Q&A Panel: Vocational Discernment

Thursday, July 30, 7:00pm
St. James Laramie Room (Basement)



www.stjamesah.org/vocations-panel



Fr. Christian Garcia
St. Clare Associate Pastor



Sr. Molly Spiering
Sister of the Holy Family of Nazareth



Mark Jacks
Husband & Marketing Director



Julia Jacks
Wife & Director for Juice Box

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES

enKindle speaker series

Basilica Tour:

Explore Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica



stjamesah.org/basilica-tour

**Tour is limited to the first 40 applicants.
Express your interest today!**

Date: Saturday | August 15 | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM



SAINT JAMES PARISH
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS



WILL YOU SIT IN HIS PRESENCE?

St. James Perpetual Adoration Chapel
needs your help to fill these open
slots:

Monday @ 2 AM

Saturday @ 5 PM

Sunday @ 5 AM

**SCAN HERE
TO SIGN UP:**



or email adoration@stjamesah.org for information



SAINT JAMES PARISH
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES



Marillac BACKPACK DRIVE

Saturday, August 1

1-3 p.m. St. James School Parking Lot



SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Backpacks (no wheels)
- Crayons, Markers, Pencils, Colored Pencils
- White Elmer's Glue, 2 Glue Sticks
- Two Pocket Folders
- Pink Erasers
- 12" Ruler
- 5" Pointed Scissors
- 4 Wide-Ruled Spiral Notebooks
- Black Pens, Highlighters
- Wide-Ruled Loose Leaf Paper

You can give a full backpack or some of the supplies listed above. Monetary Donations will also be accepted by making checks out to Marillac House.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Contact Barbara Heitzman at
bheitzman@comcast.net for more info.



After-school activity for all children of the parish

YOUTH CHOIR REGISTRATION

Open now for Fall, 2026

**SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR:
BOYS & GIRLS IN GRADE 2-8**

Use the
link for
more
information



stjamesah.org/youth-choir-registration/

PATH TO SUNDAY

July 12, 2026 • 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Everyone seems to have an opinion about what's wrong with the Church—and usually an opinion about how to fix it. Someone once asked Mother Teresa that very question. Her answer was simple:

"I am." As holy as she was, she still recognized that she was a sinner in need of God's grace. She understood that renewal in the Church begins with personal conversion. That insight helps us understand today's Gospel.

In the parable of the sower, the farmer scatters seed everywhere: on the path, among rocks, into thorns, and onto rich soil. He seems either reckless or extraordinarily generous. Of course, Jesus is describing God's generosity. In Baptism, God freely plants the seed of Christ, the Word, in our hearts. We become adopted sons and daughters of the Father, filled with the Holy Spirit, and cleansed of sin. However, Baptism is not the end of the journey; it is the beginning. God's goal is to transform us into the image of Christ.

The challenge is that we often resist that transformation. Some of us are like the path, where God's Word struggles to take root. Others are like rocky soil, enthusiastic at first but quick to fall away when faith becomes difficult. Still others are like thorny ground, allowing anxiety, comfort, pleasure, or worldly priorities to choke the life of grace within us. Yet Jesus also speaks of rich soil that bears abundant fruit—thirty, sixty, even a hundredfold. The difference is not the power of the seed but the receptivity of the soil.

That is where cooperation with grace becomes essential. Through prayer, confession, Scripture, works of mercy, fasting, and faithful discipleship, we allow God to remove the rocks and weeds from our hearts. If we're

honest, each of us contains a little of every kind of soil. Like Mother Teresa, we can say, "I am" part of what's wrong with the Church. But by cooperating with the Holy Spirit, we can also become part of what is right with the Church: saints who bear abundant fruit for the Kingdom of God.

Reflection Questions:

- How does Mother Teresa's humble perspective challenge the way I think about the Church's problems? Am I more focused on changing others, or allowing God to change me?
- In Jesus' parable of the sower, which type of soil best describes my heart right now? Are there rocks, thorns, or hardened places that are preventing God's Word from taking deeper root?
- What is one concrete step I can take this week—through prayer, confession, Scripture, an act of mercy, or another spiritual practice—to cultivate the soil of my soul and bear greater fruit?

*For more Gospel reflections visit
stjamesah.org/path-to-sunday*



CAN YOU HELP?

God is Calling

Pretty sure it's not going to voicemail...

Ever wonder who sets the table (altar) before Mass? Come to Mass regularly and think, "I could help out around here"?

Well, here's your chance!

We're always looking for happy, smiling faces to serve God and our parish family as Sacristans and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs).

Maybe you've been waiting for an invitation. The wait is over! Here it is!

Being a Sacristan is kinda like setting the table for dinner at home. You don't want guests hunting for plates when supper starts, do ya? Table setters (sacristans) make sure Father isn't searching for the dish (okay, the ciborium) five minutes before Mass begins.

And if feeding the family sounds more your speed, consider becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Help nourish our parish family one Communion line at a time.

No experience needed. Training provided.

Grace supplied by God.

So c'mon—you know you've thought about it. Join us, serve the Lord, support your parish community, and finally learn what all those mysterious drawers in the sacristy are actually for!

For more information, contact:

Gary Hammelmann –

gah818@yahoo.com

Katie Sowa – ksowa@stjamesah.org



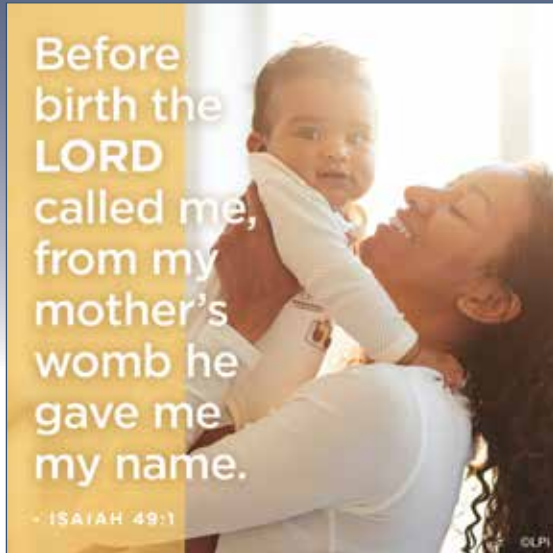
"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."

— 1 Peter 4:10

MINISTRY MESSAGES

Thank You, St. James!

Stepping Stones is grateful to everyone who donated goods and monies to the Mother's Day Collection benefiting moms and their little ones who are served by WINGS. Pam Dagen, In-Kind Program Distributions Supervisor at WINGS, related that, on receipt at their "pantry," your gifts were immediately sorted and transported to their emergency shelters and transitional housing sites. Your contributions of diapers, wipes, hygiene items, bottles, formula, onesies, etc. are helping the mothers to give care to their children. Thank you for blessing them with your generosity and support!



Ut Vitam Habeant

 **SAINT JAMES PARISH**
RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

That They May Have Life

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are



Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness ..."

"America, your deepest identity and truest character as a nation is revealed in the position you take towards the human person. The ultimate test of your greatness is the way you treat every human being, but especially the weakest and most defenseless ones... Every human person - no matter how vulnerable or helpless, no matter how young or how old, no matter how healthy, handicapped or sick, no matter how useful or productive for society - is a being of inestimable worth created in the image and likeness of God. This is the dignity of America, the reason she exists, the condition for her survival - yes, the ultimate test of her greatness: to respect every human person, especially the weakest and most defenceless ones, those as yet unborn."

St. John Paul II, Detroit, 9/14/87

OUR PRAYERS & INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions and Observances

Saturday, July 11

5:00 Kevin & Patrick Houlihan
Phyllis Bauer
Bob Duffer

Sunday, July 12 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 For the people of the parish

10:00 Albert & Jane Klein
John Vincent
David Anthony Freda
Thomas Jennings

12:00 Judy Schmueser
Christopher Burnett

5:00 Bebing Navarro

Monday, July 13 St. Henry

7:30 Lewis Minaglia
Bebing Navarro
John F. Kordek
Ryan Popp

12:00 Helen & Maury Healy
MJ Healy

Tuesday, July 14 St. Kateri Tekakwitha

7:30 Margaret Moriarty
Vincent and Catherine Villinski
Bebing Navarro
Don Aldrich
Norbert Opon

Wednesday, July 15 St. Bonaventure

7:30 Dennis R. Delaquila
Lawrence Lehnis
Jose Novales
Dr. Ricardo Cruz
Gene Dougherty
Bebing Navarro

12:00 Judith Eckert
Lyle Micheli
Astra Antonini

Thursday, July 16 Our Lady of Mount Carmel

7:30 Bebing Navarro
Leo Bruno

Friday, July 17

7:30 Catherine Sabay
Meggan McDermott
The Bosco Family
Bebing Navarro

Saturday, July 18 St. Camillus de Lellis

7:30 Jeff Helminski
Bebing Navarro

In Loving Memory

William Gaske
Norbert Opon
Marguerite Huff
Zenon Cudak

Please pray for our sick

Norine Naselli
Andy Kaplan
Lucy Detlefsen
Lucille Krajnik
Barbara Reed
Owen Patricoski
Sr. Joanne Grib

Wedding Banns

II. Paul Jacks & Marisa Pollastrini
I. Aric Faller & Nicole Judd

Recent Baptisms

Zoe Teresa Herkli, child of Joseph Herkli and Eleanor (Meyer) Herkli

Readings for the week of July 13

Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 12abcd, 16/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21
Next Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-16/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43

Celebrant Schedule, July 18-19

5:00 Fr. Paul
8:00 Fr. Ed
10:00 Fr. Paul
12:00 Fr. Paul
5:00 Fr. Ed

**Indicates Living*

PARISH INFORMATION

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



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

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

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

Loaves and Fishes 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 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.
tsheva@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

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

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

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

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. All requests kept confidential.

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

Beyond Sunday be
Forgiven

Sacrament of
Confession:
Wednesdays 6pm
Saturdays 8am

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN

Share Your Child's Creativity

Catholic Climate Covenant Announces Art Contest

In celebration of the Jubilee of St. Francis of Assisi!

Young people are invited to submit original artwork inspired by the theme *Creation Sings!* Children in Kindergarten through High School are eligible and will be judged by age group.

All forms of original art, including visual art, media, poetry, and other literary works, are welcome. AI-generated pieces of any kind will not be accepted. Cash prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each age category.

Important Dates

- Submission Deadline: September 25, 2026
- Winners Announced: October 19, 2026

Parents or guardians should:

- Go to catholicclimatecovenant.org to complete the registration form
- Email a digital copy of the artwork (photo, video, or document) to: kayla@catholicclimatecovenant.org

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



DIOCESE OF JOLIET



QUO VADIS DAYS

Sunday, July 26 – Thursday, July 30, 2026
Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL

Quo Vadis is a camp led by Chicago and Joliet Seminarians, open to young men who have graduated middle school and have an openness to growing in discipleship and fraternity, and learning more about the priesthood.



For information and registration, visit:
chicagopriest.com/events/quo-vadis-days.

ENCOUNTER
CHICAGO CAMPUS



Register
Today!



SUMMER Intensive

AUG. 6 - 8, 2026
Thursday & Friday
6 PM - 9 PM
Saturday 9 AM - 6 PM

Experience A taste of the first 4
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Experience a taste of our two-year Encounter School of Ministry in this transformative 3-Day event. You will learn basic, foundational teaching in Kingdom identity, healing, the prophetic gifts, and inner healing – all from the first 4 quarters of ESM.

St. James Arlington
Heights
Laramie Room

ENCOUNTERSCHOOL.ORG/CHICAGO

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Vicariate I | Fall 2026

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Are you an adult who missed receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Preparation for Confirmation:

An 8-week preparation session for Vicariate I parishioners will meet on Mondays beginning **August 31, 2026, 7–9 p.m.**

St. Edna Parish, Arlington Heights

Confirmation Mass on November 4, 7 p.m.

Registration closes on Monday, August 10, 2026.

Cost: \$70/person.

Contact Lorie Crepeau for information and registration:
lcrepeau@stedna.org or **847.398.3362, ext. 325**.





Be disciples of Christ

820 N. Arlington Heights. Road
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www.stjamesah.org

Make disciples of Christ



SAINT JAMES PARISH
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: Mon. - Sat. 7:30 a.m. | Mon. & Wed. 12:00 p.m.

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship Ensemble

Sunday 8:00 a.m. Traditional Choir & Organ

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Choir

Sunday 12:00 p.m. Contemporary Music

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 • 224-345-7222

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

Rev. Michael Grzesik, Associate Pastor
ON SABBATICAL

Rev. William Zavaski, Pastor Emeritus

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

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

School Principal, Dr. Greg Scalia
principal@stjamesschoolah.org • 224-345-7145

Director of Operations, John Maher
jmaher@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7207

Stewardship & Development Director, Julie Jacobson
jjacobson@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7212

Director of Music & Liturgy, Tamaron Conseur
tconseur@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7204

Associate Director of Music, Dr. Leah Kang
lkang@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7221

Finance Director, Judith Mulvihill
jmulvihill@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7203

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

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 - First Wednesday of the month 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

FIRST SATURDAY - Rosary & Devotion to Our Lady after the 7:30 a.m. Mass on the first Saturday of each month

CONFESSION - Wednesdays 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

Director of Digital Evangelization, Aurelio Garcia
agarcia@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7218

Religious Education Coordinator, Christine Nagle
cnagle@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7152

Family Faith Formation Director, Monica Barc
mbarc@stjamesah.org

High School Ministry Coordinator, Joshua Jones
jjones@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7214

Middle School Ministry Coordinator, Dora Mendoza
dmendoza@stjamesah.org

Campus Minister, Marisa Pollastrini
mpollastrini@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7223

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

Admin to Pastor/Liturgy Coordinator/VIRTUS Administrator, Katie Sowa
ksowa@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7239

Reception & Front Desk, Flo Trunk
ftrunk@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7200

Print & Digital Communications Specialist, Natalie Conseur
nconseur@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7217

Administrative Assistant, Carly White
cwhite@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7213

Sacramental Records, Patty Reilly
preilly@stjamesah.org

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