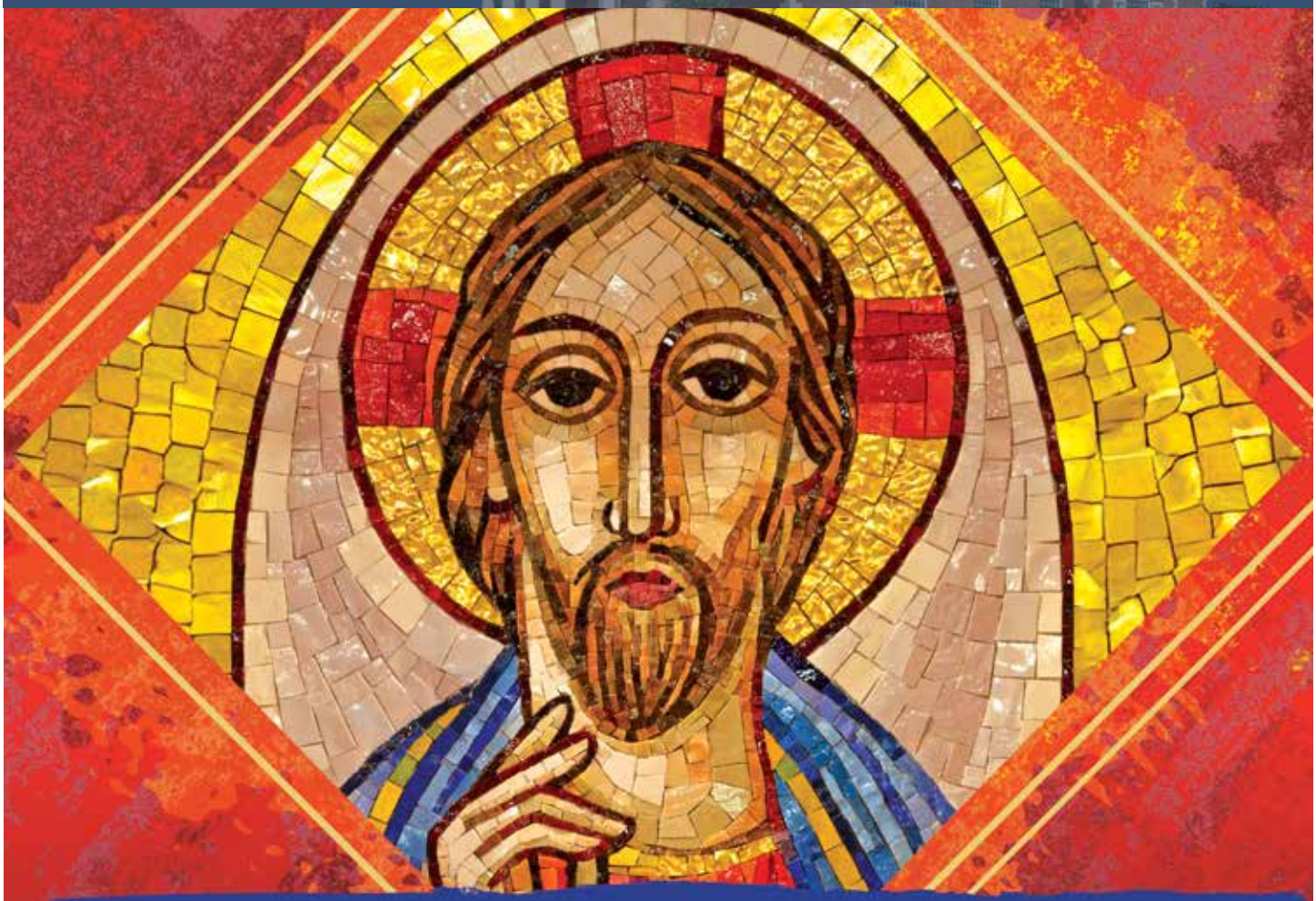
SAINT JAMES PARISH

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping."
- Mk 13:36

NOV. 29

2026

In This Issue...

- *Pastor's Letter..... pg. 2*
- *Our Prayers and Intentions..... pg. 10*
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THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Today's Readings

First Reading
God's people cry out for His presence and mercy, acknowledging their sins while trusting Him as their Father, Creator, and Redeemer.
Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

Second Reading
St. Paul thanks God for His grace and blessings, encouraging believers to remain faithful as they await Christ's return, strengthened by God's faithfulness.
1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel
Jesus urges His followers to stay alert, watchful, and prepared, for no one knows when He will return.
Mark 13:33-37

Dear Friends,

"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming."

With these words of Jesus from Mark's Gospel, we are introduced to the new liturgical year and the Season of Advent. Jesus' words are a powerful warning to us that the end times are coming. The Son of Man will come to judge the living and the dead. Let's get ready.

The word "Advent" means "coming." This coming in this holy season carries two meanings: the second coming of the Lord at the end of time, and the first coming of the Messiah at Christmas. As we progress through the season, our focus will shift from end times to the coming of Jesus into world here and now.

St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." Here is highlighted the desire of the Lord for us: fellowship with Jesus Christ.

So we approach this season not with fear or despair, but with confident hope in the love and faithfulness of God for us, his people. Let's heed the very words of Jesus: Watch, therefore!

God bless you,

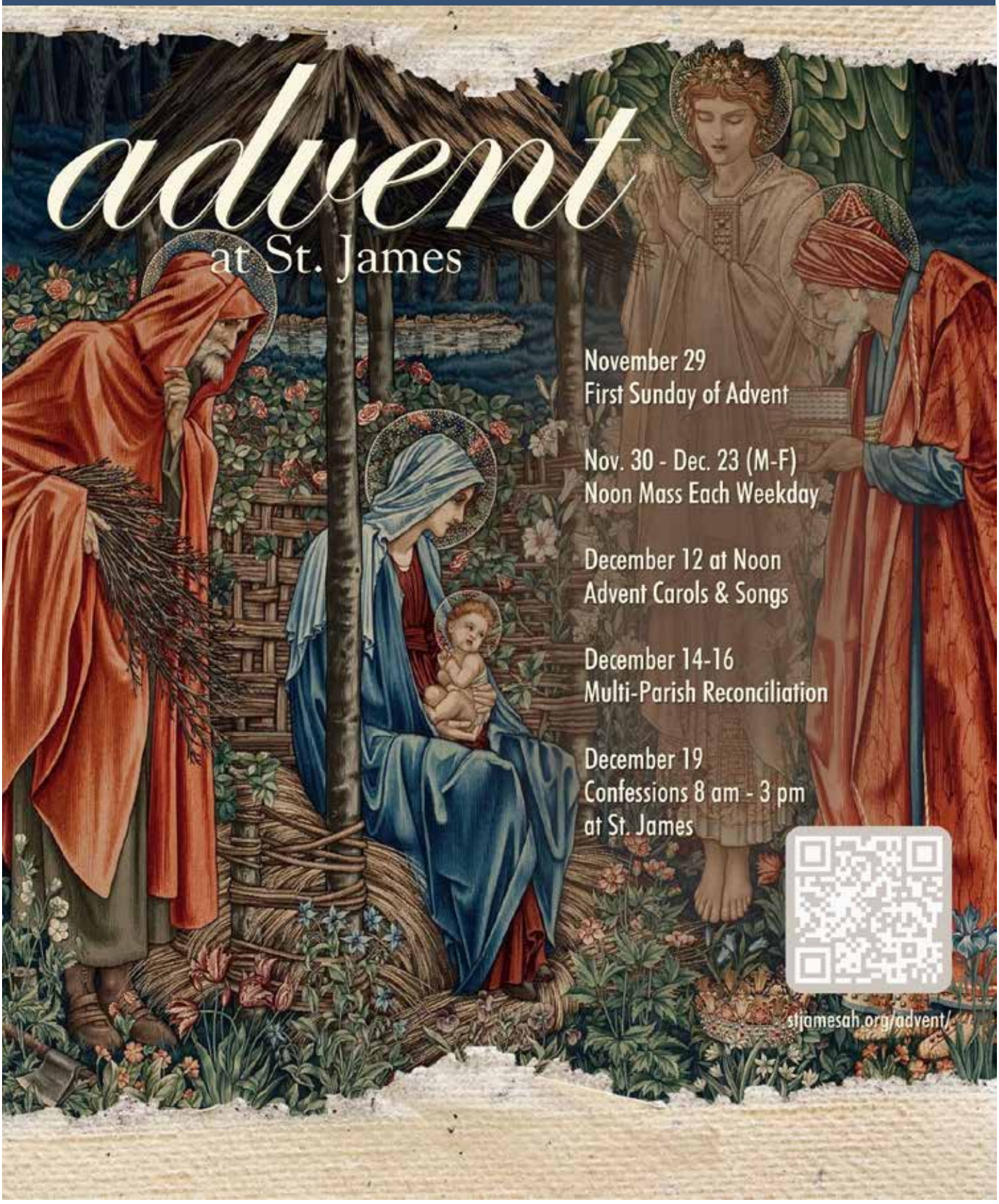
Fr. Ed

Holy Day of Obligation: The Immaculate Conception

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Masses will be held at 7:30 am, Noon and 7:00 pm

THIS HOLY SEASON





One Dozen Reasons to Attend the Advent Carols And Songs Concert on 12.12 At 12!

1. Enjoy a free concert in our beautiful church.
2. Experience a program of Advent hymns and Christmas carols.
3. Hear unique choral arrangements directed by Tam Conseur.
4. Sing along with the Sacred Sounds Choir and Parish Youth Choir accompanied by a chamber ensemble.
5. Reflect on scripture readings for the Advent season.
6. Be inspired by the mission of our Charity Partner, Gerry's Café.
7. Prepare your heart for the celebration of Christmas.
8. Step away from holiday stress for a peaceful hour.
9. Bring friends and family to enjoy this meaningful concert.
10. Stay afterward for a reception with cocoa and coffee; decorate a sugar cookie!
11. Snap a Christmas photo in our gathering space.
12. Support the Music Ministry and Sacred Sounds at St. James





Christmas Remembrances

Honor your loved one's memory and help fund the Christmas season décor in the church by making a contribution this season. A donation of *$25 per remembrance* would be appreciated. Contributions received by December 4 will have their names printed in the Christmas bulletin. . To participate, please do one of the following:

- Online: Scan the QR code or visit **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, 2026 Remembrance (return by December 4)

In Memory of: (Please print)

Remembered by: (Please print)

Donor Email Address: Donor Phone Number:

Make checks payable to St. James Parish. Mail to 820 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60004. Send to attn. Natalie Conseur

stjamesah.org/christmas-remembrances/

Christmas Gift Giving Tree

to support St. Gall Food Pantry Families



Help make Christmas brighter for families of the St. Gall Food Pantry at Father Matt Foley's church!

Please take an ornament gift tag from our Christmas Gift Giving Tree in the Gathering Space after all Masses this weekend.

Purchase the item(s) suggested on your tag and return the gift to the Church the weekend of December 12–13.

Thank you for your generosity!

This is a parish-wide service opportunity sponsored by the Women of St. James
Questions? Please contact Becky Dufern - beckydufern@gmail.com or Cara Malcolm - malcolm.cara@gmail.com

WOSJ Women of St. James





UPCOMING EVENTS



BY GOLLY BE JOLLY

Meet Santa & Mrs. Claus!

December 4 | 5-7pm
@ St. James School

photos • crafts • and fun

We are collecting new unwrapped toys supporting Toys for Tots

Register Here

Christmas
SENIOR LUNCHEON

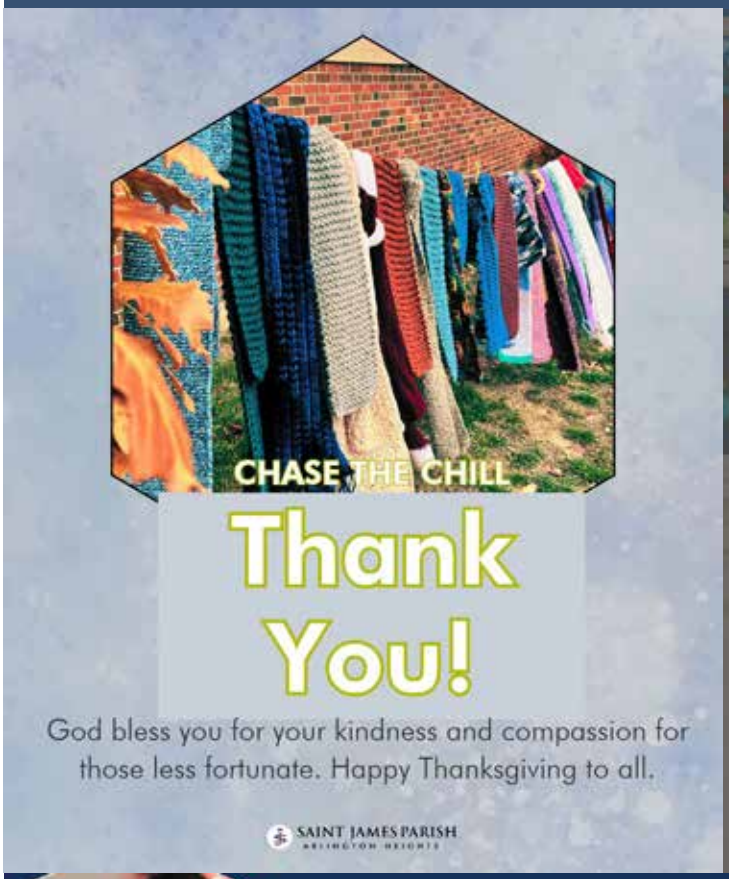
Wednesday, December 16
11:00 am 1:00pm
in the Laramie Room

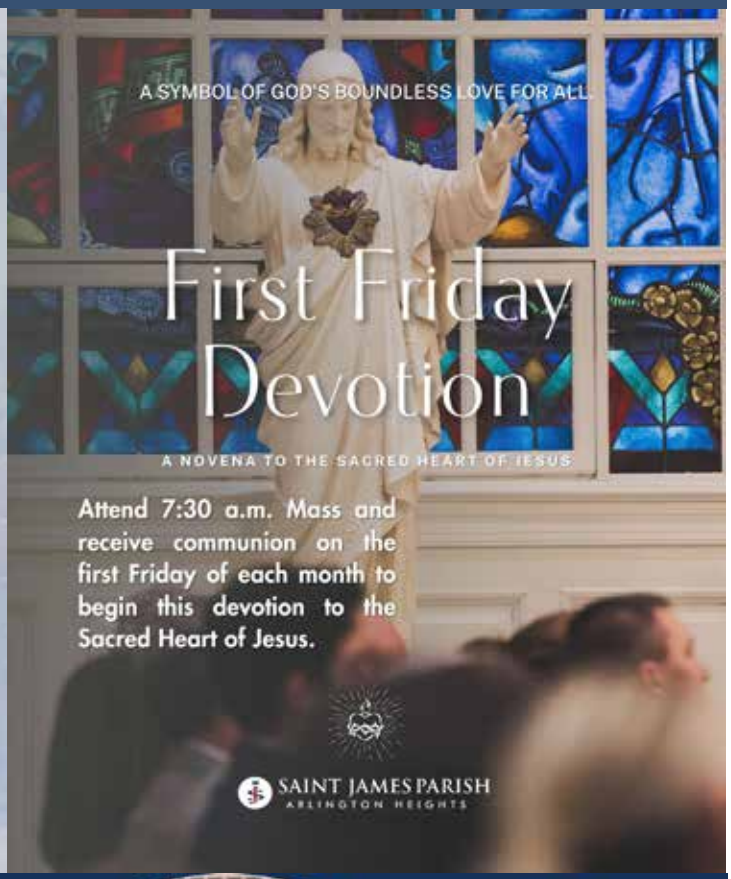
Speaker & Topic

Chris Nagle
Passing the Torch: Sharing the Gift of Faith That Carried You

RSVP by Friday December 11
Contact Carly White at
224.345.7213 or cwhite@stjamesah.org

PARISH UPDATES







YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN

Over 50 Group

Christmas Cheer Luncheon

La Zingara Trattoria

Friday, December 4 at Noon

Enjoy a Full Italian Feast!
(Cash Bar Available)

Cost: $42 per person
(Check made out to St James &
dropped off at Church Office
with "Over 50" in Memo Section)

White Elephant Gift Swap
Bring a (wrapped) treasure from home that you have no need for anymore (silly or serious).

RSVP to Mary Jo: 847-259-3560
or email stjamesclub@yahoo.com

SAINT JAMES PARISH
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Stepping Stones collaborator
Domestic Violence Outreach invites you to

Light Up for HeaRT

Experience the Brookfield Zoo Lights with a special VIP Experience

DECEMBER 4
5:00-8:00 P.M.

Zoo Admission and Parking valid 3- 9PM
Kids activities in DC lobby prior to event

THE SAVANNAH BALLROOM
AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

Tickets
Brookfield Zoo Members:
Adults: $65
Kids 4-12: $45

Non-Members:
Adults: $85
Kids 4-12: $65



Dinner DJ Heated Ballroom Premier Parking

Join us in support of HeaRT, Domestic Violence Outreach's healthy relationship education program helping prevent domestic and dating violence before it begins.

GET TICKETS OR DONATE HERE:

GIVEBUTTER.COM/LIGHTUPFORHEART

A Helping Hand This Christmas!

The Junior Ambassadors of St. James Parish are happy to lend a helping hand this holiday season!
If you are a senior parishioner or someone with a busy schedule who could use a little extra help with Christmas decorating, or with taking down decorations in January, our Junior Ambassadors may be able to assist.
We would love to help make your holiday season a little brighter!
To request assistance, contact kcoughlin@stjamesah.org



JUNIOR AMBASSADORS
HOLIDAY HELP
WHEN YOU NEED IT!

SAINT JAMES PARISH
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

OUR PRAYERS & INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions and Observances

Sat. Nov. 28
5:00 Patrick & Kevin Houlihan
Richard & Catherine Lyons

Sun. Nov. 29 1st Sunday of Advent
8:00 Mary Ann Fink
John Vincent (1st Anniv.)
Marty Galis
Ruth Pommier
Roland Ley (4th Anniv.)
10:00 John Vincent
Alex Tsourmas
Tony Cirrincione
Antonietta Norma Smith (5th Anniv.)
12:00 Gretchen & Bill Cronin
Edward Smetana
Leonides Rodriguez
Russel and Dianna Werba
5:00 For the people of the parish

Mon. Nov. 30 St. Andrew
7:30 Michael Bochenek
Frank Karlovits
John F. Kordek
Therese McLoraine*
12:00 Paul & Jane Nelson Family
Rebecca Halvorson Family
Timothy & Amy Nelcon Family
Lisa Nelson Family
Jenny & Matt Walls Family

Tues. Dec. 1
7:30 Jessica McNamara
12:00 Special Intention

Weds. Dec. 2
7:30 Walter Kowalski
Dr. Ricardo Cruz
The Bosco Family
JoAnn Ignoffo
TJ Grant
Virginia Wood (9th Anniv.)
Michael Robbins (9th Anniv.)

Thurs. Dec. 3 St. Francis Xavier
7:30 Special Intention
12:00 Special Intention

Fri. Dec. 4 St. John Damascene
7:30 Fr. Edward Pelrine*
Fr. Paul Stein*
Fr. Michael Grzesik*
Shirley Stabler
Ann McCabe*
Joseph Marino
Stella Favia
12:00 Special Intention

Sat. Dec. 5
7:30 Alois (Lou) Simeth
Concezio Di Legge (5th Anniv.)
Maria Martines and Juan Morales

In Loving Memory

Maureen Brandt

Please pray for our sick

Andy Kaplan
Lucy Detlefsen
Sr. Joanne Grib
Carl Laub
Norine Naselli
Ashley Abraham
M. Schoot
Marcia Fung
Donna Meskan
Rick Austin

Rose for Life

in remembrance of John Vincent who passed on November 29, 2025

Wedding Banns

I. Joseph Heaney & Erin Johlie

Recent Baptisms

Rocco James Rupert, child of
Logan Rupert and Gianna (Chu) Rupert

Anthony Jacob Piscitelli, child of
Jacob Piscitelli and Chiara (Heinz) Piscitelli

Weekly Readings

Monday:
Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday:
Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday:
Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday:
Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday:
Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday:
Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday:
Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Celebrant Schedule, Dec. 5-6

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





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. **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**

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**



UPCOMING EVENTS



2026 Rotary Club of Arlington Heights presents

Santa Run

December 5

Join the "St. James Striders" team!

St. James presents a

Book Discussion

For those with

Adult Children

who may have fallen away from faith

Come for encouragement. Leave with hope.

Join us for a book talk and discussion on how to lovingly accompany your adult children, and others in your life, back to a relationship with Christ and the Church, especially throughout this Advent season.



3 DATE OPTIONS
Tuesday 12/1 @ 9am
Thursday 12/3 @ 6pm
Saturday 12/12 @ 8am

HERE AT ST. JAMES
Laramie Room

BOOK DISCUSSION - SHARE - PRAYER
Light refreshments will be served

Questions?
mbarc@stjamesah.org

SAINT JAMES PARISH
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Independent Reflection Guide



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.

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.
Hours are subject to change on Major Holidays
You may commit to a scheduled time at **adorationpro.org/jamesil**

PARISH STAFF AND PERSONNEL

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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

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jbannon@archchicago.org • 847-577-6328

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

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principal@stjamesschoolah.org • 224-345-7145

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jmaher@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7207

Stewardship & Development Director, Julie Jacobson
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Director of Music & Liturgy, Tamaron Conseur
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Associate Director of Music, Dr. Leah Kang
lkang@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7221

Campus Maintenance Engineer, Mike Tomasiewicz
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Religious Education Director, Christine Nagle
cnagle@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7152

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

Campus Minister, Marisa Jacks
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FOCUS Parish Missionary, Matt Marcheschi
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Reception & Front Desk, Flo Trunk
ftrunk@stjamesah.org • 224-345-7200

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

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2 Corinthians 5:7

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