

BE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.



Today's Readings

First Reading:

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD." (15m 1:27-28)

Psalm:

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord. (Ps 84)

Second Reading:

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.
(1 Jn 3:2)

Gospel:

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers. (Lk 2:46)

"Jesus was formed in the faith by Mary and Joseph while he also experienced a deep longing to be with his heavenly Father."

Dear Friends,

Greetings on this feast of the Holy Family! As we continue our celebration of Christmas we are treated to this beautiful commemoration of the family life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The finding of the twelve-year-old Jesus in the Jerusalem temple offers us a few important perspectives.

First, the Holy Family is observing the Law of the Lord in fulfilling their religious obligations. Jesus is being formed in the faith by his parents, an indispensable part of their vocation.

Secondly, Mary and Joseph experience a deep pain and worry at the perceived loss of Jesus as they return home from their pilgrimage. In this passage of Scripture, Mary's tender love for Jesus is clear.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Jesus experiences a deep longing to be with his heavenly Father. Jesus' reply to Mary when she expresses her anxiety ("Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?") hints to us Jesus' mission and vocation.

Blessings to all of you and your families on this joyful feast day. We move forward into the new year with gratitude and hope as we live out our Christian discipleship.

Thank you to all who worked devotedly to make our celebrations of Christmas memorable and beautiful.

A blessed and happy New Year! Fr. Ed



ATTING FOR YOU FOR TWENTY CENTURIES FOR THIS PERSONAL VISIT FROM YOU.

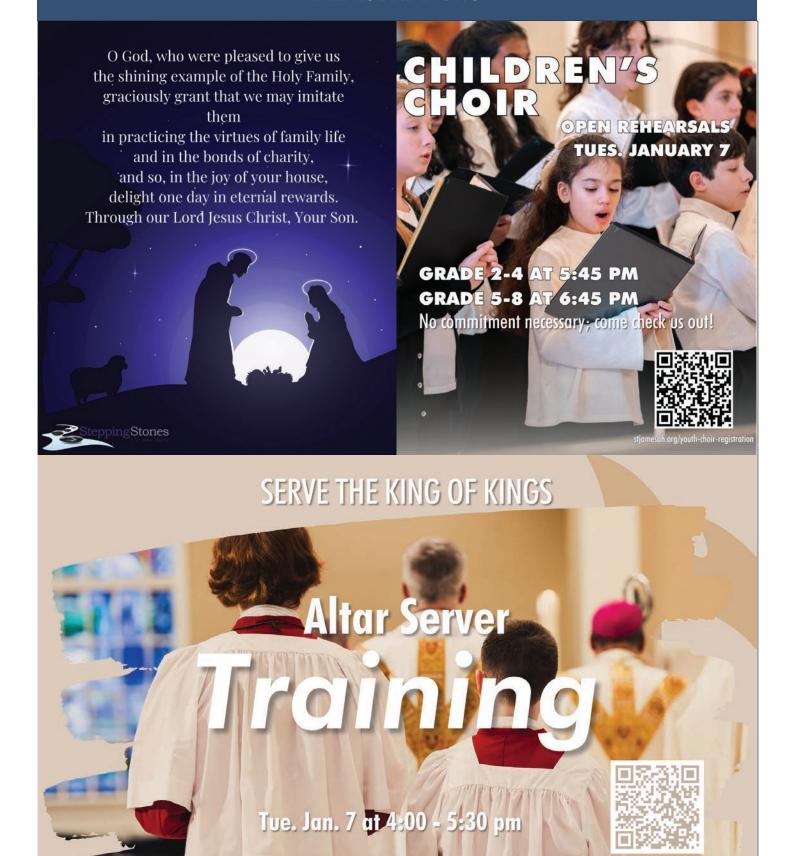






At St. James School, we're proud to foster lifetime friendships while providing a Blue Ribbon Catholic education. Our close-knit community supports students in their faith, academics, and personal growth, helping them build strong relationships and values that last a lifetime.

MINISTRY NEWS



COMING SOON

MEETING
MENTAL HEALTH
WITH GRACE mental health ministry through
St. James, St. Edna & O.L.W.

CTACC

Prayer

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Wednesday, Jan. 8 7:00 - 7:30 pm

Location: St. James School Chapel

This month's topic: Finding Light in the Darkness

Join us to pray for those living with mental health concerns and their loved ones.

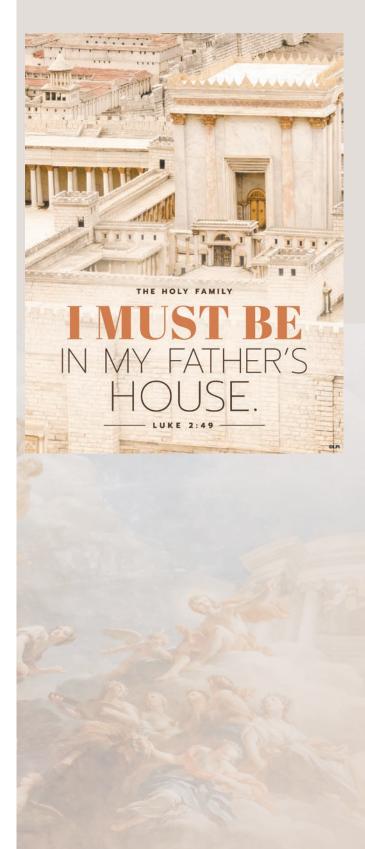
Submit prayer requests to: 847-253-5390 or mentalhealthministry@stjamesah.org



stjamesah.org/mentalhealthresources



PATH TO SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION



n today's Gospel, we encounter a rare glimpse into Jesus' childhood, offering us a profound reflection on both His humanity and divinity. At twelve years old, Jesus stays behind in Jerusalem, engaging with the teachers in the temple. When Mary and Joseph return to find Him, they are understandably confused and anxious. But Jesus responds, "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" This statement reveals His deep understanding of His divine identity—He is the Son of God, with a special relationship to the Father.

This passage highlights the reality that Jesus, though fully divine, was also fully human. He grew in wisdom, age, and favor before God and man, just like any other child. He wasn't performing miracles or showing off His divine powers; rather, He was simply a young boy learning and growing, living a life free from sin. His humanity was not a façade; He experienced real childhood, with moments of wonder. growth, and confusion, just as we do.

At the same time, this story hints at something greater— Jesus' divine mission. The three days spent searching for Him may symbolize His future death and resurrection, pointing to the ultimate mission He would fulfill. Jesus' identity as both God and man

invites us to reflect on His deep understanding of our human struggles. He truly knows us because He lived as one of us, yet He is also the Savior who offers us salvation.

Questions for Reflection:

- In your prayer, ask: How does knowing that Jesus experienced childhood and grew in wisdom like I do help me understand His compassion for my own struggles and growth?
- Reflect on this: Jesus knew His identity as the Son of God even as a child. How can I grow in my own understanding of my identity as a child of God?
- Consider in quiet reflection: What does it mean for me to seek "my Father's house" in the midst of my daily life, and how can I cultivate a deeper relationship with God through my actions?

MINISTRY MEET-UPS



Women of St. James

01.10 | 7 PM | St. James Church Reception to follow

Bring a friend and 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









OUR PRAYERS & INTENTIONS

In Loving Memory

Josephine Gillespie Patrick Houlihan

Please pray for our sick

Wes Stephen Marty Galis David Loch Norine Naselli Albino Martinez Julian Kowalczyk Andy Kaplan Lucy Detlefsen Steve Kelly

Recent Baptisms

Lina Alexandra Small, child of Shane Small and Lesly (Beron) Small

Greyson Ryan Kelly, child of

Ryan Kelly and Stephanie (Tinaglia) Kelly

Camden Grey Callero, child of

Nicholas Callero and Kayli (Williams) Callero

Rose for Life

Donated in loving memory of Ed Cahill

Celebrant Schedule, Jan. 4-5

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

Readings for the Week of December 29

1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52 **Sunday:**

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18 Tuesday:

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28 Friday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34 Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 28 5:00

Marcin Bukowski Jean Zywiciel (36th Anniv.)

Sunday, December 29 The Holy Family

For the people of the parish

James Burke 8:30

Candace Duggan

10:00 Barbara Cygan

Anne Frankiewicz

11:30 Salvatore Divita (40th Anniv.)

Monday, December 30

7:30 John Kordek

George Mulcahy

Tuesday, December 31 St. Sylvester I, Pope

Richard & Catherine Lyons

Ed Cahill Louise Gehrke **Edward Gehrke**

Wednesday, January 1 Mary, The Holy Mother of God

7:30 Loretta Connor (1st Anniv.)

> Aldo Cecchin Thomas Dussman Eddie & Michelle Svegelj Patricia & Norm Cooper

Marcia Burns **Robert Duffer**

12:00 Louise Gehrke

Edward Gehrke Dolores Hathaway

Thursday, January 2 Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

James Lee

Patrick Kett

Friday, January 3 The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Lois Carlson

Raffaella Colucci (1st Anniv.)

Saturday, January 4. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

PARISH INFORMATION

Beyond Sunday be

Sacrament of Confession:

Thursdays 6pm Saturdays 8am

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

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 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

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

Music Ministry We strive to create music that is rich with quality, enthusiasm, and participation. Join one of our ensembles to be part of our musical community. tconseur@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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry 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 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.

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

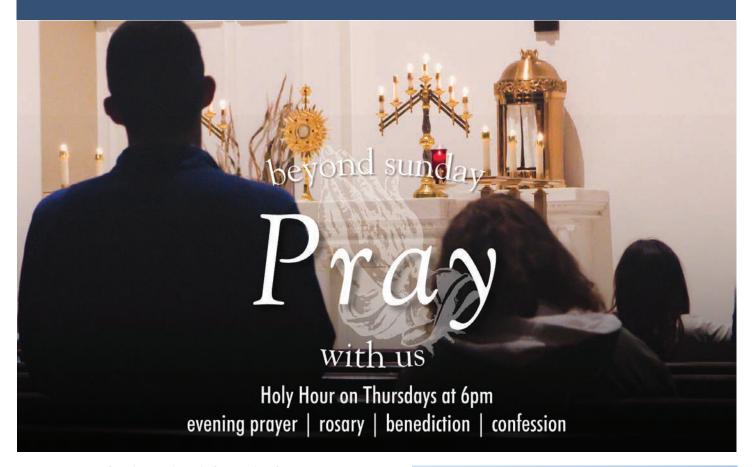


Start e-giving today on FAITH DIRECT Ways to get started

- Enroll online at Faith.Direct/IL859
 Text "Enroll" to 224-313-4345
- Use the QR code for easy donating



YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN



ST. EDNA, ARLINGTON HEIGHTS



Sunday, January 5, 2025

The Music Ministry of St. Edna church will present a concert of holiday music on Sunday, January 5, 2025 at 2:30pm in the church.

Our 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 and its music surround you.

> St. Edna Church is located at 2525 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Hts, IL.

> > Hope to see you there!



Calendar Update

For those who have enjoyed receiving a calendar around this time each year, we have an update.

St. James Parish will not be receiving Catholic Extension appointment calendars for 2025. The generous donor that has provided them for the parish for many years did not order them again this year.

We are grateful for the many years of calendars we have received.



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

Last Rites/Anointing of the Sick: call (224) 345-7200 ext. 8510 (24 hours a day, seven days a week)



PARISH OFFICE HOURS - HOLIDAY

Monday & Thursday 9 am - 8 pm

(CLOSED Tues. & Wed.December 31 & Jan. 1)

Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

WEEKEND 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

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.

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

The Perpetual Adoration Chapel open to the public M-F 6:30 am - 8:30 pm; Sat & Sun 6:30 am - 6:30 pm or 24 hours a day for those with access code.

ST. JAMES PARISH & SCHOOL STAFF

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

Rev. Bill Zavaski, Pastor Emeritus

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

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