

Welcome to St. James Catholic Church

Thoughts by Father Davis:

This Sunday is known as Laetare Sunday. The word *Laetare* comes from the Latin word from the introit, entrance antiphon, chant for the mass. In Latin, laetare means rejoice. The translation of the introit chant for the mass would be "Rejoice Jerusalem and all you who exalt, all who were in the mourning," and so on this Sunday the Church calls us to rejoice. Why? Jerusalem is a symbol for the Church. We are getting closer to Easter, the day of our Lord's triumphant victory over death. The Church, symbolized by Jerusalem, calls her children and all of the nations of the world to rejoice with her. On this Sunday you see the color of rose. This is a liturgical color for joy. The tradition of this color goes back to ancient times. The popes used to send the leaders of nations golden roses on this Sunday. The roses would be perfumed, and incense was placed in the center of the rose, in the middle of the petals amidst the hand crafted golden rose petals. Imagine papal ambassadors traveling long distances and hand delivering this precious gift to foreign dignitaries, to kings and queens. This symbolic gesture of the giving of a golden rose showed to the nations' leaders the Church's message of peace that it offers to the world through the Gospel. Christ's message of peace is like the sweet smell of incense to the world. This is the message that Christ announces to the world on Easter Sunday. By following the Gospel, peace will reign. On this Sunday, we rejoice before entering into the final weeks of Lent when we will hear readings about the Passion of Christ, His suffering and death, and the darkness of Good Friday. We must therefore also announce to the world the message of joy that Christ and the Church bring.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday, March 14

4:30: Rodney Heckadon

Sunday, March 15

9:00: † Meishel, Runtemunt, Buchtemann, Behrens, and Dunnin families

12:45: † Casey Piatkowski

Monday, March 16

8:00: † Buddy Helsel, Carl Kunzler, David Moore

Wednesday, March 18 St Cyril of Jerusalem

8:00: † Thomas Masson

Thursday, March 19 (St. Joseph)

8:00: Murray and Korte Families, Living and Deceased

Friday, March 20

NO MASS THIS WEEK

Saturday, March 21

4:30: † Father Evan Patrick Harkins

Sunday, March 22

9:00: Rodney Heckadon

12:45: † Carol Riefkohl

The Parish Office is now open 9-4, Mon-Fri.

To register as a parishioner, please contact the parish office at 816-238-0853 or office@saintjamescatholic.church.

GIVING SUMMARY

| | Weekend of 3/8 | Month of March |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| General: | \$7,284.25 | \$19,123.25 |
| Building/Repair: | \$12,461 | \$13,569 |

Thank you for supporting our parish!

To give safely and easily, please visit

saintjamescatholicchurc3.flocknote.com/give

or scan the QR code to securely donate from your phone! You may set up automatic recurring giving there as well.



Prayers for the Sick and Homebound

Gina Smith, Justine Schroff
Joyce Thomas, Dianne Pulley, Vanessa Dozier
Judith Reed, Josie Gilbert, Ezra Penney
Steve Steiner, Susan Zuptich, Karen Unzicker
Richard Coleman, Denice Weinmann,
Henry Saulan, Patricia Saulan, Ron McDaniels
Rex Smith, Melissa Riches

| Mass Date | 3/21 | 3/22 |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------|
| Lector | Monica Purdy | Mike Chappell |
| MC | Josh Green | Charlie Bartulica |
| Acolyte 1 | Connor Pearce | Peter Bartulica |
| Acolyte 2 | Brian Daughterty | Patrick Wohletz |
| Thurifer | | Evan Wohletz |

If you are interested in joining our choir on 4th Sundays and Holy Days, please contact Olivia Vanderbol at 217-430-7320.

Parish News and Upcoming Events

St. James Youth Group and Bible Course

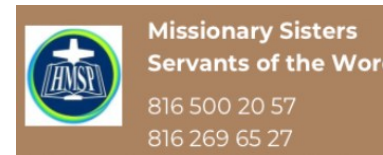
When: Every Tuesday 6:30-8 pm

Where: St. James Church basement

Who: 12-17-year-olds

What to bring: A Bible, a notebook, and an open heart!

For more information:



Lent Activities

Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 4:30pm

St. James School invites all parishioners to attend the Stations led by the middle school at 2:30 on 3/27

Fish Fry Date: 3/20 at 5:30 in the gym.

Price: Adults \$15, Kids \$6

Lenten Recollection: Saturday, 3/28, beginning at 10AM. Free! Register by calling the office. See flyer for more information!

Monday Adoration

*There is a need for a second adorer for the 1-2pm slot. Please contact the office to sign up.

**Everyone* is welcome in Adoration at any time from 8:30a-7p! There needs to be at least one person (preferably two) at all times while the Lord is exposed. Otherwise, please make use of this precious time with Jesus at your convenience!

*On the first Monday of every month, the Holy Hour from 6-7p is dedicated to a petition for more vocations to the priesthood. Please come before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament as we unite in asking God to send us many holy priests! St. Alphonsus Liguori, pray for us!

Bible Study

Sister Catalina and Sister Elizabeth offer Bible Studies on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:30 and 6:30, and Sundays at 4. Please email hmspstjoseph@gmail.com for more information!

Societies of St. James

Holy Name: Meets 2nd and 4th Sundays at 8AM. Any practicing Catholic man, who is a St. James parishioner, is welcome!

The Legion of Mary: For the welfare of the one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, doing every form of social service and Catholic action with the guidance of the parish priest. Join our meetings on Wednesdays at 9AM in the Casper Erk Room!

Knights of Columbus: The last Fish Fry of Lent is next Friday!

The Altar Society: Will have a meeting after the 9AM Mass on March 15th in the Church Basement.

The 2nd Collection this weekend is for the Catholic Relief Service

School and Community News

2026-2027 MoScholars Scholarship Applications

Now Open!

Applications for the 2026-2027 school year are now open for grades K-12. **New Applicants:** If you want your child to get a Catholic education at no cost please visit brightfuturesfund.org and complete the pre-qualification form. If eligible, you will then be given a link to FACTS. (Note: this is a new link for 2026-2027; you cannot apply using a previous FACTS application.) **Current Recipients (2025-2026):** You do not need to reapply. If you are applying for a sibling, you will need to remove the current recipient's information from the student section of the new application.

***Applications for the Leblond Scholarship are due by May 1. Custodial Job Available**

Please visit <https://recruiting.paylocity.com/Recruiting/Jobs/Details/3901829> to apply!

Young Women's Lenten Retreat

Women aged 18-39 are invited to take time at the beginning of Holy Week for prayer and renewal with the Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Eucharist. This retreat will be based on the Little Office of the Passion of St. Francis of Assisi and will help you enter into the Paschal season in the spirit of St. Francis. Retreat begins on March 27 and concludes after Mass on March 29. Cost is \$125. Scholarships available for those with financial need.

Contact Sister Colette with any questions sr.colette.marie@gmail.com Register at osfholyeucharist.org/events or call 816-838-1403.

Coram Deo

Coram Deo is a Eucharistic-centered Catholic group which exists to meet the needs of young adults in the St. Joseph area, and to provide opportunities for spiritual growth and fellowship. *Coram Deo* is meeting **Monday, March 23 for Mondays on the Bluff!** Meet at the Cathedral in St. Joseph for a walking rosary followed by pizza and drinks at River Bluff Brewing. All young adults aged 22-35 are invited to attend. We hope to see you there! Questions? Please contact Ally Gabler at allygabler@gmail.com. *Coram Deo's* **Moms' Group** is meeting this **Tuesday, March 17, at 9:30am**. Please reach out to Ally Gabler for the address. Hang out with fellow moms while your kids play! See you there!

Mir House

Adorers needed! See mirhouseofprayer.weadorehim.com/en/signup for more information, or call Ellen Johnson at 816-383-0445.

Saint Monica Club

Founded in 2021 to pray for priests, vocations, and those away from the Church. Join us in praying the Rosary and Litany of the Saints on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 6:20-6:45pm at St. James Church.

Easter Lily Memorial

If you would like to honor your loved one's memory with a \$10 lily to adorn the Church this Easter, you may place your donation in an envelope and drop it in the collection plate, visit saintjamescatholicchurc3.flocknote.com/give/31750, or scan the QR code.



BEFORE 3/23!