

St. James the Apostle Catholic Church

480 S. PARK BOULEVARD • GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137 | PHONE: 630.469.7540 | FAX: 630.469.7590



Belief. Adoration. Reverence.

The National Eucharistic Revival is an effort over a period of three years to revive belief in the True Presence, encourage Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and restore a more reverent celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Learn more at:
<https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/>



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil | 4:00 P.M.
Sunday | 9:00 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday Daily Mass | 8:00 A.M.

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

*On the Holy Day | 8:00 A.M. AND 7:00 P.M.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday | 3:00 - 3:45 P.M.*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday of the Month* | 8:30 - 9:30 A.M.

*UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

CLERGY (630) 469-7540

Rev. Keith Wolfe
kwolfe@stjamesge.org

Rev. Bill Cullen

Rev. John Sebahar

Deacon Steve DeSitter
deaconsteve@stjamesge.org

Topher Otieno
cotieno@stjamesge.org

FOLLOW US

Visit our website: www.stjamesge.org

Facebook: St James the Apostle
Parish in Glen Ellyn
Illinois

Instagram: stjamesglenellyn

Twitter: St. James Glen Ellyn

PARISH OFFICE (630) 469-7540

Monday - Thursday 8:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Friday 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Rubi Garfias
rubi@stjamesge.org

Lisa Gilligan
lisa@stjamesge.org

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wes@stjamesge-school.org

Teresa Jansen
tjansen@stjamesge.org

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ST. JAMES SCHOOL (630) 469-8060

Visit our website: www.stjamesge-school.org

Office Hours: M-F; 8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Paul Kirk
pkirk@stjamesge-school.org

Jennifer Frieling

Jen Guthrie

RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE (630) 858-5646

Laura Tumpane
reo@stjamesge.org

Jen Guthrie

Sunday, December 29, 2024 | Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



Bishop Hicks' Column December 2024

Sacred Steps: Exploring Pilgrimages Near and Far



Have you ever made or wanted to make a pilgrimage to a holy site? Before answering that, let's establish the difference between a vacation and a pilgrimage. A vacation is a leisure trip for a "getaway," usually focused on relaxation, entertainment, and exploration. A Catholic pilgrimage, on the other hand, is a spiritual journey to a sacred site with the purpose of deepening one's faith, seeking divine grace, or fulfilling a religious vow. While vacations prioritize personal enjoyment, pilgrimages emphasize not only some personal enjoyment but also spiritual growth and devotion.

The foundation of a pilgrimage is found throughout both the Old and New Testaments. Examples include Abraham's journey of faith and St. Paul's missionary journeys with and for our Lord. Even the Gospels provide accounts of pilgrimage: each year, Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Feast of Passover. In His adult life, Jesus continued this tradition, journeying throughout the Holy Land and ultimately returning to Jerusalem to face His suffering, death, and resurrection.

One of my favorite pilgrimage sites is the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico. Because I worked in Mexico and lived in close proximity to the sanctuary, I have visited many times and have brought friends and family to this holy site. The basilica and grounds are stunning and reflect vibrant cultural expressions of faith and devotion. This inspirational site is where countless people bring their hopes, struggles, and gratitude. Standing before the image of the Virgin, you can palpably feel the love and trust people have placed in her for centuries.

As we approach the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12, I am certain that many of you would love to travel on a pilgrimage to Mexico to visit her. However, because of distance, time, expense, or other constraints, that possibility may be out of reach. Let me offer some ideas for making a more local pilgrimage, particularly to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

This past October, I had the opportunity to join the Knights and Dames of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher. Their investiture Mass took place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, Wisconsin. It is just a short four-hour drive from the Joliet area. Completed in 2008, this Marian shrine invites pilgrims and visitors to an extraordinarily beautiful place of prayer and devotion. With a variety of chapels and gardens, the 70-acre site evokes similar feelings of love for Our Lady and her Son, Jesus, as I have felt while visiting the shrine in Mexico.

If La Crosse still feels too far to travel, consider "El Cerrito" in Des Plaines, IL. This Sanctuary of Our Lady of Guadalupe includes life-sized statues depicting the apparitions of the Virgin Mary to Saint Juan Diego. These statues are part of a dedicated space within the sanctuary, offering visitors a chance to pray and reflect on this sacred moment.

Perhaps your holiday travels this season unexpectedly bring you close to a shrine. It's convenient to locate various shrines on-line at sites such as www.catholicshrines.org or www.catholicpilgrimagesites.wordpress.com/sites-by-state.

If you prefer staying closer to home for your pilgrimage, consider doing a Visitation of the Seven Churches in your local community during Holy Week. In this Catholic tradition, pilgrims visit multiple churches on the evening of Holy Thursday to reflect, pray, and meditate on Christ's Passion and sacrifice. It may not be a pilgrimage of long distance, yet it certainly embodies the spiritual journey of faith and devotion.

Several priests in the Diocese of Joliet from time to time offer Catholic pilgrimages to various sacred sites around the world. One priest recently shared with me his motivation for leading pilgrimages: "Pilgrimages provide an opportunity to broaden our horizons as the past comes into contact with the present, and we are changed by this interaction. Every pilgrim is called by Jesus to go on a journey of encounter where He introduces us to our larger family as we meet the saints who wait for us at each holy site."

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas, remember that shepherds, kings, and even angels made their pilgrimage to worship and adore our Savior at His birth. As we walk our own journeys of faith and life, may God bless you abundantly as, together, we as a Church continue to make our pilgrimage to our final destination: the heavenly Jerusalem.



“This Is My Body”

THE SHOCKING TRUTH

Jesus said, “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life.” This teaching was so shocking that many of his followers left at that moment! Jesus did not call them back to clarify, because he knew they understood correctly. He was actually telling them to eat his flesh and drink his blood.

As Catholics, we believe Jesus’ words literally, not symbolically. The substance of the bread and wine transform into the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ at every Mass. We call this miracle the Eucharist.



Scan to explore Church teaching on the Eucharist!

eucharisticrevival.org

Mass Intentions & This Week at St. James | December 30 - January 5, 2025

DECEMBER 30/MONDAY

8:00 A.M.

Terry Partridge

REQ. BY VERCUYSSSE FAMILY

DECEMBER 31/TUESDAY

8:00 A.M.

Arnold F. Pyle

REQ. BY THE PYLE FAMILY

JANUARY 01/WEDNESDAY

9:00 A.M.

C.K. Chacko

REQ. SUNNY CHETTIATH

JANUARY 02/THURSDAY

8:00 A.M.

Jim Lambke

REQ. BY THE LAMBKE FAMILY

JANUARY 03/FRIDAY

8:00 A.M.

Billie Cowan

REQ. BY ST. JAMES ROSARY GROUP

JANUARY 04/SATURDAY

4:00 P.M.

Patsy Verderame

REQ. BY GERI DESPARROIS

People of the Parish

JANUARY 05/SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.

Anice Moolayil

REQ. BY FRANCIS MOOLAYIL

11:00 A.M.

John Stachnik, Sr.

REQ. BY BOB AND SUSAN GRADY

This Week@St. James

30/MONDAY

Daily Mass

8 A.M. | CH

Basketball Practice

4 P.M. | GYM

A.A. Meeting

8 P.M. | FL

31/TUESDAY

Daily Mass

8 A.M. | CHURCH

A & E Water Plants

8:30 A.M. | CH

01/WEDNESDAY

Holy Day Mass

9 A.M. | CHURCH

Evening Rosary

7 P.M. | CHURCH

02/THURSDAY

Daily Mass

8 A.M. | CHURCH

Basketball Practice

4 P.M. | GYM

03/FRIDAY

Daily Mass

8 A.M. | CH/ALL

First Friday

Holy Hour

8:30 A.M. | GYM

A & E Water Plants

9:30 A.M. | CH

04/SATURDAY

Cursillo Mtg

7:30 A.M. | PODR/K

Reconciliations

3:45 P.M. | CH/ALL

Mass

4 P.M. | CH/ALL

05/SUNDAY

Mass

9 A.M. | CH/ALL

11 A.M. | CH/ALL

Adult Rec. BBall

7:30 P.M. | GYM



Join Us for the Celebration of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

A Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, January 1st

9:00 A.M.

Readings for the Week | Saints and Special Observances

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18
 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
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/
 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Saints and Special Observances

Tuesday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
 Wednesday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God,
 New Year's Day, World Day of Peace
 Thursday: Sts. Basil the Great
 and Gregory Nazianzen,
 Friday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus
 Saturday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
 Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Wishing You a Blessed New Year!

We Offer Our Prayers

Our Parish Prayer List

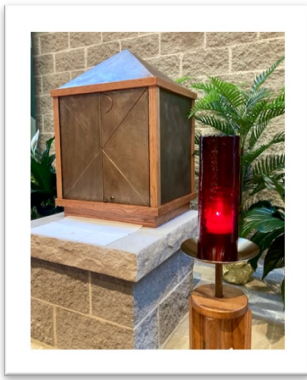
Our comprehensive parish prayer list may be found on our website:

<https://stjamesge.org/our-comprehensive-parish-prayer-list/>

If you would like to add someone to our parish prayer list, please contact Rubi at:

rubi@stjamesge.org

and provide her with the name. Thank you!



ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE PARISH

Flames of Faith

The red Sanctuary Lamp by the tabernacle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. It is a mark of honor.

We are now offering the opportunity to offer these Flames of Faith burning in memory of a loved one, to honor a special occasion, or a special intention. The cost of the candle is \$30. It will burn for one week. The dedication will be published in the bulletin.

Please stop by or contact Rubi at the Parish Office, (630) 469-7540 or rubi@stjamesge.org to inquire about open dates and to obtain a card you may share with the person being honored or with the family whose loved one is being remembered.

December 30 - January 5, 2024

This week our St. James Flames of Faith are offered:

In Loving Memory of Terry Partridge

Requested by: *The Vercruysse Family*

A Prayer for the New Year

*Remember us, O God:
from age to age
be our comforter.
You have given us
the wonder of time,
blessings in days and nights,
seasons and years.
Bless your children
at the turning of the year
and fill the months
with the bright hope
that is ours in the coming of Christ.
You are our God,
living and reigning,
forever and ever. Amen!*

—from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Wishing a Blessed and Happy New Year to You and Yours from Fr. Keith Wolfe, Fr. Bill Cullen, Deacon Steve DeSitter, Seminarian Topher and the entire staff of St. James the Apostle Parish and School!



All are Welcome to Join Us for a FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

Friday, January 3rd

Immediately following the 8 A.M. Mass

As we continue the National Eucharistic Revival, we invite you to grow closer to Jesus and His Real Presence in the Eucharist through participating in our Holy Hour.

Administration Ministries

Stewardship Report

December 14/15 2024

►Sunday Collection with EFT: \$13,625.65

Our weekly budget is \$17,115; *our shortfall is \$3,489.35*

►Preserving Our Father's House w/EFT: \$290.

Thank you to our parishioners for continuing to be good stewards. As you try to live within your household budget, please consider helping St. James live within theirs.

CMAA: Your Gift Makes a Difference!

An Update on Our Parish Progress

Our Parish Goal is \$79,600

Donor Count: 317

Amount Pledged: \$125,217

Amount Paid to the Diocese: \$122,907

Balance Due: \$2,310

2024 Rebate to Parish: \$30,315

If you have not yet made a gift to the CMAA, please reflect on God's gifts to you and prayerfully consider doing so. A gift to the CMAA, no matter the amount, will make a difference!

2025 Parish Calendars Available

All parish families are invited to take home a copy of our 2025 Parish Calendar. The calendars may be found in the church narthex. We would like to thank Leonard Memorial Home for their contribution towards the cost of the calendars.



Welcome to St. James!

We are blessed to have you with us today—and every weekend! Our liturgies are enhanced by your presence and participation. We hope that you find the experience here at St. James to include a warm and inspiring celebration of the Eucharist and the faith that we profess.

If you would like to register as a new parishioner, you can either stop by the Parish Office for more information or visit our website to download a fillable registration form: <https://stjamesge.org/become-a-member-of-st-james/>

We would love for you to join our St. James family!



End of the Year Giving

Please note that all 2024 Weekly, Christmas and additional offerings received in the Parish Office after December 31st, will be credited to your 2025 parish contribution account. Thank you for your continued generosity!!

Save the Date: Tuesday, February 26 2026 Mass Book Opens

On Wednesday, February 26, the 2026 Mass Book will open for your intentions. Please watch for more information in the February editions of the bulletin.



Please Note: Upcoming Parish Office Closures

Beginning Monday, December 23rd, the Parish Office is closed for Christmas and New Years. The office will reopen on Monday, January 6th at 8:30 A.M.

Emergency calls for the Anointing of the Sick may be directed to our emergency line: Please call 630-469-7540 and follow the prompts to leave a message.

Christian Education Ministries



St. James
the Apostle Catholic School

End of Year Giving Opportunity

Your help is needed. For the 2024-25 academic year, we have the need to raise \$75,000 in scholarships. It costs approximately \$6600 per year to attend St. James the Apostle School.

Please consider funding a child in need at St. James the Apostle School.

Make your end of year gift count! To give a child a Catholic School education at St. James, please use the QR code below or link to the Give Central website to make your donation today:

<https://www.givecentral.org/location/1441>



St. James Apostle School Mission

At St. James the Apostle School, we are called to grow spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, and physically as members of our school, parish and the greater community.

By combining our Catholic beliefs, strong academics, Christian service, liturgy and prayer, we will become people of faith and lifelong learners who serve the broader community.

For more information, contact Principal Paul Kirk: pkirk@stjamesge-school.org
630.469.8060

Christian Service Ministries

Buying a New PC for Christmas?

Is your PC/Laptop running Windows 11? As of Oct. 2025, Microsoft is dropping support for Windows 10 and many PCs do not have the hardware to run Windows 11.

It's time to donate your old PC. We can find a new home for it with local Catholic Charity family. This is a way to empower a family in need, to connect with information that can help them in their language. Each refurbished PC has links to help students with home work, links to organizations, Google translate and other helpful information. We request a \$20 contribution come with each PC so that we can include additional memory, faster SSD drive with the transfer. We will clean the hard drive. Please include the operating system windows 10 key to help reduce our transfer costs. If you know of helpful web sites and APPs, send them along also. Contact Chuck Reiss 630-363-1865 or creiss@ameritech.net

Glen House Food Pantry Top Needs

Thank you for taking care of our neighbors in need. For more information, about this week's top needs, visit the food pantry's website:

<https://www.glenhousefoodpantry.org/>

Your non-perishable donations may be brought to the containers located inside each set of exterior doors of the church.



KNIGHTS CORNER



Busy, Busy, Busy!!! That sort of sums up the Knights of Columbus Council #9806 this season. But, before that, the first picture shows a recent award that this council received. In that picture, District Deputy Dick Clish is shown presenting Grand Knight Vinnie Romano with the Star Council award. This award recognizes accomplishments from the past year in recruitment and in programs focusing on Faith, Family, Community, and Life.

The second picture shows Knight Kurt Padera along with Knight Vince Spinosa at the recent semi-annual Blood Drive. Once again, under the leadership of Kurt, our council surpassed our goal in the number of units collected. THANK YOU to all those volunteers who gave blood and to the Knights who helped with the collection process. This drive comes at a time in the year when blood levels are critically low and these collection efforts are much appreciated.



The next picture shows program director Knight Mike Progar and Grand Knight Vinnie Romano as they prepare to enroll parishioners in the annual Christmas Basket Program. This program is a highlight of parish life at St. James the Apostle and is done in connection with Catholic Charities. The final picture shows some of the Knights and volunteers who collected and distributed the many packages and presents given to this program by the St. James parishioners. Pictured are Knight Mike Progar and his wife Kristin who lead this program, Knights Manny Cortez, Ray Klein, Jim Rossman, Vinnie Romano, and volunteers Rose M. and Madison C.



St. James the Apostle Young at Heart

JOIN US FOR LUNCH & AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM



—DON'T GET SCAMMED!—

The Latest in Senior Scams

featuring Officer Alisson Ramirez

COMMUNITY EDUCATION OFFICER OF THE GLEN ELLYN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Wednesday, January 8th

12:00 - 2:00 P.M.

Sebahar Hall: Enter Door 10

Please park in North Lot on Park Blvd.

—COST IS \$15 AND PAYABLE AT THE DOOR—

PLEASE RSVP TO LISA ORWIG

ON OR BEFORE MONDAY, JANUARY 3RD

lisa.mirabella007@gmail.com or 630-559-5500

A HIGHLIGHT OF OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

We invite you to save the date for some of our upcoming parish events. Some are a continuation of our parish's participation in the three year National Eucharistic Revival. Others are in celebration in 2025 of our 60th Anniversary as a parish and our 25th Anniversary in our church.

JANUARY 2025

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD | JAN. 1 AT 9 A.M.
FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION | JAN. 3 FOLLOWING 8 A.M. MASS
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD | JAN. 4 AT 4 P.M.; JAN. 5 AT 9 AND 11 A.M.
BAPTISM OF THE LORD | JAN. 11 AT 4 P.M.; JAN. 12 AT 9 AND 11 A.M.
CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEKEND | JANUARY 25/26

FEBRUARY 2025

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION | FEB. 7 FOLLOWING 8 A.M. MASS
LENTEN ADULT FAITH PROGRAM BEGINS | FEB. 27; DETAILS TO FOLLOW

MARCH 2025

ASH WEDNESDAY | MARCH 5; DETAILS TO FOLLOW
FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION | MARCH 7 FOLLOWING 8 A.M. MASS
EVENINGS OF PRAYER & REFLECTION | MARCH 13, 20, 27 AT 7 P.M.
ST. PATRICK'S/ST. JOSEPH'S CELEBRATION | SATURDAY, MARCH 15 AT 4 P.M.

APRIL 2025

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION | APRIL 4 FOLLOWING 8 A.M. MASS
EVENINGS OF PRAYER & REFLECTION | APRIL 3 & 10 AT 7 P.M.
PALM SUNDAY | APRIL 12 AT 4 P.M.; APRIL 13 AT 9 AND 11 A.M.
HOLY WEEK | BEGINS APRIL 14; DETAILS TO FOLLOW
EASTER | VIGIL ON APRIL 19 AT 8 P.M.; APRIL 20 AT 7, 9 AND 11 A.M.
DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION | APRIL 27; DETAILS TO FOLLOW

MAY 2025

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION | MAY 2 FOLLOWING 8 A.M. MASS
MASS IN THE GRASS, MAY CROWING & PIZZA PARTY | MAY 4 AT 11 A.M.