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/



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.*

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

*UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

CLERGY (630) 469-7540

SENIOR PRIEST **PASTOR EMERITUS**

PASTOR

DEACON

Rev. Keith Wolfe kwolfe@stjamesge.org

Rev. Bill Cullen

Rev. John Sebahar

Rev. Mr. Steve DeSitter deaconsteve@stjamesge.org

Topher Otieno

cotieno@stjamesge.org

SEMINARIAN

FOLLOW US

Visit our website: :

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St. James Glen Ellyn

(630) 469-7540

PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Thursday

Friday

8:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. 8:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Rubi Garfias : PARISH SECRETARY. rubi@stjamesge.org

Lisa Gilligan lisa@stjamesge.org

Wes Gornacki

wes@stjamesge-school.org

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DIRECTOR OF **MAINTENANCE**

SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR, ext. 206

(630) 469-8060

www.stjamesge-school.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR ext. 207

PRINCIPAL

ST. JAMES SCHOOL

Visit our website:

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

Paul Kirk

pkirk@stjamesge-school.org

Jennifer Frieling

Jen Guthrie

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.

RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE

Laura Tumpane reo@stjamesge.org

(630) 858-5646

DIRECTOR OF REL. ED

Jen Guthrie : ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.

Sunday, March 30, 2025 | Fourth Sunday of Lent

Bishop Hicks' Column March 2025



IF...



The title of this article, "**If**," is so short that it's easy to overlook — yet few words carry so much weight in the Catholic imagination. These two simple letters hold the potential to launch beautiful dreams or plant seeds of destructive doubt.

On the positive side, the word "if" opens possibilities, like saying, "If I work hard, I can succeed." It encourages hope and stimulates creativity, like wondering, "What if we did it this way?" It motivates action by highlighting the rewards, like a teacher saying to their student, "If you study, you'll pass the exam." And it suggests a promising outcome, like me predicting, "If you are reading this article, you are probably a disciple of Jesus."

"If" is the kind of word that sparks dreams — If I trust in God, maybe He will take care of everything. It invites us to imagine what God could do if only we dared to trust and surrender ourselves to His will. Consider the Gospel of Matthew, where Jesus says, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17:20). That tiny word, "if," encourages us to believe in the miraculous, and to trust that God can work wonders through even the smallest act of faith. It does not demand perfection but presents many hopeful possibilities.

There is, however, another side to "if" that can be perilous. When used with doubt or hesitation, "if" becomes a stumbling block. During this Lenten season, we are reminded that Jesus was tempted in the desert by Satan with the word "if" (Matthew 4):

- "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."
- "If You are the Son of God, throw yourself down."
- "All these I will give you, if you kneel down and worship me."

Satan's use of "if" was not just about testing Jesus' power — it was about trying to plant doubt in Jesus' very identity as the Son of God. That is the same tactic the enemy uses against us today, aiming to make us question who we are in God's eyes. But Jesus bravely resisted these "if"-based lies. He knew and fully embraced His identity as the Son of God and remained grounded in His mission, united with His Father and the Holy Spirit.

In moments of trial, we too face the temptation to question God's love or plan: "If God is good, why am I suffering?" We are fallible humans; our faith is often tested during challenging times. But our faith calls us to move beyond these doubts, trusting in God's greater purpose even when we do not completely understand.

Just as Satan tempted Jesus to doubt His own identity, we too can be lured into believing a deceitful lie about our identity. But there is **no "if"** about our aweinspiring identity: we are all made in the image and likeness of God. We are God's beloved sons and daughters. And although we are sinners, Jesus came to forgive us and save us from our sins. We trust that promise. Our faith is founded on that truth.

I have seen too many people accept the lie about their true identity. That lie is often planted subtly through internal narratives like, I cannot really be God's beloved son or daughter because I am not smart enough, not good enough, not holy enough, not attractive, not athletic, not popular, not likable... or even worse, not lovable. We are bombarded daily with subtle lies about our worth — in social media, in relationships, and even in our own thoughts. But God's truth is unwavering: you are His beloved. There's no "if" about it. When we reject that basic lie and live in the light of our identity as a beloved daughter or son of God, we are on the road to true joy and salvation.

I invite you to eliminate any and all doubts about Jesus and yourself. God never says, I will only love you "if" you are perfect. God's love and mercy for you are unconditional.

So, as we journey through this Lenten season, let us reject the "if" of doubt and embrace the certainty of God's love. Pray for the strength to ignore the negative "speak" and to center on the positive truths. With clarity and conviction, we proclaim that Jesus is God. He alone is worthy of our praise, honor, and glory. He is our Savior through His life, suffering, death, and resurrection. He has won the victory over death and offers eternal life to all who believe and follow Him.

You are a beloved child of God. When it comes to God and the divine love freely given to all of us, there is no "if" whatsoever!

Return to Me with your Whole Heart

"Even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."

JOEL 2:12-13

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION | CONTINUING ON APRIL 3

- Holy Hour with Night Prayer at 7 P.M. on Thursdays, April 3, 10
- First Friday Holy Hour on April 4 following 8 A.M. Daily Mass

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS | DESIGNATED FRIDAYS DURING LENT

- Stations led by our school students at 2 P.M. on April (no 4) 11
- Stations at 7 P.M. on April 4 and 11
- Soup and Bread after Stations on April 4 in Sebahar Hall

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION | SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS

- Saturdays, 3 3:45 P.M. on March 29, April 5 and 12
- Sundays, 10 10:45 A.M. on March 30, April 6 and 13

AREA WIDE DAYS OF RECONCILIATION | APRIL 4 & 11

- April 4: Divine Mercy Parish in Lombard from 9 A.M. 9 P.M. In particular, Fr. Keith will be there from 10-11 A.M. offering confessions in both English and Spanish.
- April 11: St. Mark Parish in Wheaton from 9 A.M. 9 P.M. In particular, Fr. Keith will be there from 10-11 A.M. offering confessions in both English and Spanish.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING | THURSDAY, MARCH 27 AT 7 P.M.

Celebration of Fr. Keith's 10th Anniversary of Ordination to the Diaconate

FASTING AND ABSTINENCE DURING LENT

- 1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.
- 2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- 3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.
- 4. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful.
- 5. Lent is the principal season of penance in the Christian year. All of the faithful are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial (in addition to following the Lenten regulations), serious prayer and works of charity and mercy.
- 6. As always, the obligation for fasting and abstinence from meat does not apply to those medically dispensed, for example for the pregnant, diabetic, or elderly.

Mass Intentions & This Week at St. James | March 31- April 6, 2025

MARCH 31/MONDAY

8:00 A.M. Aley Chettiath

REQ. BY SUNNY CHETTIATH

APRIL 01/TUESDAY

8:00 A.M.

Joan Swavely

REO. BY RICHMOND FAMILY

APRIL 02/WEDNESDAY

8:00 A.M.

Deacon Bob Boharic

REQ. BY MARY UPCHURCH

APRIL 03/THURSDAY

8:00 A.M.

The Upchurch Family

REQ. BY MARY UPCHURCH

APRIL 04/FRIDAY

8:00 A.M.

Joseph Rose

REO. BY THE MC MAHON FAMILY

APRIL 05/SATURDAY

4:00 P.M.

Pat Schmidt

REQ. BY THE ASHLEY FAMILY

APRIL 06/SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.

Judy Silberhorn

REQ. BY MARK AND GAIL JOHNSON

People of the Parish

11:00 A.M.

Cathy Fillicho

REQ. BY PHYLLIS SANSONE

This Week@St. James

31/MONDAY

Daily Mass 8 A.M. | CH A.A. Meeting 8 P.M. | FL

01/TUESDAY

Daily Mass 8 A.M. | CHURCH A & E Water Plants 8:30 A.M. | CH

Pastoral Staff Prayer

12 P.M. | CHURCH Pastoral Staff Meeting &

Celebration 12:30 p.m. | SBH2/3 Children's Choir Rehearsal

6 P.M. | SBHl Troop 352 Meeting 7 P.M. | SBHl

02/WEDNESDAY

Daily Mass 8 A.M. CHURCH **Evening Rosary** 7 P.M. CHURCH

KC Meeting 7 P.M. | SBH2/3

> **Eucharistic Glory** 5:45 p.m. | SBHl/K Choir Reh. 6 P.M. CH/ALL Adoration with

> > Niaht Prayer

7 P.M. CH/ALL

03/THURSDAY

Daily Mass

33 Days to

33 Days to

8 A.M. CHURCH

Eucharistic Glory

8:30 A.M. | SBHL/K

3 P.M. | GYM/A/M

04/FRIDAY

Daily Mass 8 A.M. CH/ALL First Friday Holy

Hour

8:30 A.M. | CH/ALL Deanery Day of Reconciliation

9 A.M. DIVINE MERCY PARISH A&E Plant

Watering & Passiontide Pre-Setup

9:30 A.M. | CH/ALL Stations of the

Cross 7 P.M. CH/ALL Soup and Bread 7:30 P.M. | SBHI/K

05/SATURDAY

Cursillo Mtg 7:30 A.M. | SBH2/3 Mass of Christian Burial

10 A.M. CH/ALL A&E Veiling of Crosses and Statues.

11 A.M. | CH/ALL Reconciliations 3 P.M. | CH/ALL

Collection of Old **Palms** 3:30 p.m. | CN

Mass 4 P.M. | CH/ALL 06/SUNDAY

Mass 9 A.M. | CH/ALL 11 A.M. CH/ALL

Reconciliations 10 A.M. | CH Collection of Old

Palms 10 p.m. | CN 12 P.M. | CN

Adult Rec. BBall 7:30 p.m. | GYM

Readings for the Week | Saints and Special Observances

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12a, 13b/[n 4:43-54 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/In 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/

In 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53 Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 3:8-14/

In 8:1-11

Saints and Special Observances

Wednesday: St. Francis of Paola Friday: St. Isidore.

St. Vincent Ferrer Saturday:

We Offer Our Prayers

Our Parish Prayer List

Please Pray for: Charlie DeMory Georgianna DeMory Donald Hays Bob Nowakowski Joshua Stethen

- 1) Persons may be added to the prayer list for a time period of two weeks.
- 2) After two weeks have passed, the name will be removed from the list.
- After a time period of three months, you may request the person be added again for another two week period.
- 4) If you prefer to pray from a more comprehensive list, we encourage you to visit our comprehensive prayer list on our website:

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

How to Add a Person to Our Prayer Lists

If you would like to add a person to our parish prayer list or our military list, please contact Rubi at: rubi@stjamesge.org and provide her with the name. Thank you!



Collection of Old Palms

-Begins This Weekend, March 29/30-

Beginning on the weekend of March 29/30, we will be collecting old palms until Palm Sunday weekend. There will be a table located in the narthex adjacent to the St. James statue where they may be placed. Blessed palms are considered sacramental objects and should not be discarded in the trash. We will see to their proper disposal. Thank you!



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 <u>rubi@stjamesge.org</u> 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.

March 31 - April 6, 2025

This week our St. James Flames of Faith are offered: For the Intentions of Fr. Bill Cullen

We Make House Calls!

—Communion for the Homebound—

If you or a loved one are temporarily or permanently homebound and unable to attend Mass, the St. James Ministry of Care can bring Holy Communion to your home on a regular basis. To have a qualified and trained St. James lay parishioner bring Communion to YOUR home, please call Rubi at the St. James Parish Office, 630-469-7540, ext. 201 or email rubi@stjamesge.org

March 30, 2025 | Fourth Sunday of Lent | Page 5

Administration Ministries



The 2025 CMAA Has Begun!

The 2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun! As the Diocese of Joliet launches the 2025 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we are humbly asking all parishioners to pledge their support for this important effort, as together we can make a profound difference.

This year's CMAA theme is Open your heart to God's goodness. Through our support, we ensure that the mission and ministries of Christ's Church are available to everyone. Together, we can help provide safe shelter for the homeless, feed the physical and social needs of those who are hungry, inspire those discerning a life of vocation, and aid in the education of our next generation of Catholics. We benefit directly by the presence of seminarian Topher at our parish.

Our parish goal for the 2025 CMAA is \$78,800 and 70% of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us and used responsibly within our own parish. Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet this month and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal. If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office.

Stewardship Report

March 22/23, 2025

Sunday Collection with EFT: \$14,606.25

Our weekly budget is \$17,115; our shortfall is \$2,508.75

>Preserving Our Father's House w/EFT: \$181

>Educational Assistance: \$185.98

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.

Lost & Found at St. James

As a reminder, there is a lost and found basket at St. James, located in the Coat Room across from the restrooms. If you think you may have left something at church in the past few months, we encourage you to check the basket to see if we found it.

Typical items we find left behind after Masses include gloves or hats, random toys or books and the occasional pair of sunglasses.

The doors to the Coat Room are always unlocked, but there is a magnetized closure, so please give the door a good tug to open it. Once both doors are opened, the lights will automatically turn on.

SAVE THE DATE | OCTOBER 26, 2025 Mass at St. James with Bishop Hicks

The combined 60/25 Anniversary Celebrations will culminate in Mass with Bishop Hicks on Sunday, October **26** at 11am. Please mark your calendars now for this special liturgy!



Registering at St. James the Apostle Parish

Welcome to St. James the Apostle Parish! We are blessed to have you with us today—and every weekend!

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!

Why I Love

St. James the Apostle Parish

In celebration of our 60 years as a parish, we will have a weekly column highlighting comments from those who are part of the St. James Family.

If you would like to participate, please share your thoughts about why you love our parish by submitting an email to Brigid@BrigidDuffield.com or completing an online form available at: https://stjamesge.org/our-60th-anniversary/

"I moved to Wheaton in 2004 from Brooklyn, NY. I came to St. James for Mass with my brother and family. I met some parishioners. Everyone was so welcoming and friendly. It made me fell so welcome, like I was home and I feel this way today. I'm home." —Vinnie Romano, parishioner since 2004

"It's like a family. We all come from different upbringings and have difficult experiences, but when we are together — we have the same love. All are welcome." —Nicole Geissal, parishioner since 2005

"The wonderful, welcoming people. And Father Keith bringing back of a lot of former traditions from our Catholic Faith." —Cheryl Helberg, parishioner since 2013

Up Next:

Are you looking to volunteer for our family oriented 60th Anniversary Events? We need volunteers for the following:

May 3: Mass in the Grass* and Pizza Party (*weather permitting) August 24: Ice Cream Social and Sock Hop October 26: Anniversary Mass and Parish Picnic

For more information or to get involved, email or call:

Vince Romano: VJRomano 952@gmail.com OR 630-877-1383 Brigid Duffield: Brigid@BrigidDuffield.com OR 630-235-6134

Prayer for Our 6oth Anniversary

All-knowing and loving God, we give you thanks for your blessings upon Saint James the Apostle Church.

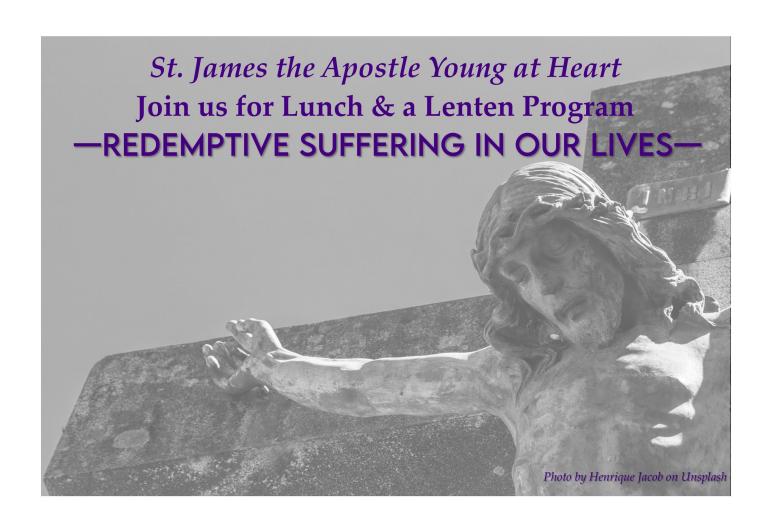
For 60 years as a parish and 25 years in our church, we have been receiving and celebrating the sacraments for our salvation.

In thanksgiving for your real presence in the Eucharist, and with gratitude for the life and service of those who have gone before us, we recommit ourselves to honoring and renewing our parish entrusted to them, to us, and to future generations.

Relying on the intercession of our patron, Saint James the Lesser, and Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Eucharist, may our parish continue to exist to renew all things in Christ, now and in the years to come.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**





Join us as we gather for lunch and a special Lenten program offered by our very own Deacon Steve DeSitter, entitled, "Redemptive Suffering In Our Lives".

After the presentation, we will have discussion, and an opportunity for Questions & Answers with Deacon Steve.

Wednesday, April 9th from 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, APRIL 7TH lisa.mirabella007@gmail.com or 630-559-5500

Christian Service Ministries

KNIGHTS CORNER

As Winter starts to leave us and Spring is just around the corner, the Knights continue to spread God's Kingdom here at St. James the Apostle Parish. This first picture shows Knights Jim Rossman,

Ray Klein, and Jim O'Malley as they begin to dish up the first of the soup and bread meals that follow the Stations of the Cross on various Friday evenings in Lent. There is one remaining event planned for this Lent on Friday, April 4. Come and pray the Stations of the Cross and then join other St. James parishioners in Sebahar Hall for a simple meal of soup (meatless, of course) and bread.

Eight of our Council #9860 Knights represented our parish at the recent Men's Silent Retreat at the Bellarmine Retreat Center in Barrington. This three-day retreat has been a staple for many of our Knights in recent years, especially when it occurs during Lent.

The second picture show some of the Knights who volunteered their help at the recent St. Pat's/St. Joseph's dinner held in Sebahar Hall. Grand Knight Vinnie Romano, along with Knights Kurt Padera, John Borello, Jim O'Malley, Rich Daca, Vince Spinosa, Steve Gawron, Jim Rossman, and Bill Scheidhauer were some of the Knights that worked as bartenders and other sundry jobs in order to help make this parish event a grand success.

The Knights were again present at this year's Confirmation ceremony, acting as an Honor Guard for the Bishop. The third picture show Knights Matt Sirmon, Ed Pohl, Jim Rossman, Rich Daca, Chris Florek, and Grand Knight Vinnie Romano immediately before forming the Honor Guard for Bishop Kane, retired Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The Knights of Columbus act in many capacities for the St. James the Apostle parish. If you are a male, eighteen years or older, why don't you join this group and help out your parish.







Join Us for a Simple Supper of Soup and Bread on Friday, April 4th

The Knights of Columbus Council #9860 will again be hosting a "Simple Supper of Soup and Bread" after Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 4. Join us as we first pray the Stations of the Cross and then convene in Sebahar Hall for a simple meal of soup (meatless, but till wholesome) and bread. Come share hospitality with other St. James parishioners as part of your Lenten devotions.





rch is National Nutritional Month[®], an annual campaign where everyone is invited to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthful eating and physical activity habits.

NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH® TOP NEEDS









Ready-to-Eat Cereal (low sugar) Flavored Oatmeal (low sugar)



Canned Fruit

(in natural juice)







Crackers (Low Sodium) Boxed Granola Bars (low sugar)

Spices: Garlic Powder, Oregano, Basil

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:

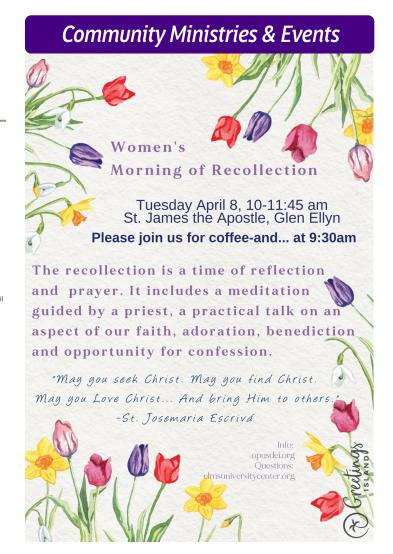
https://www.glenhousefoodpantry.org/

Your non-perishable donations may be brought to the containers located inside each set of exterior doors of the church or dropped off at the pantry. Thank you for your ongoing support!



Special thanks to the loyal pro-lifers who made the trip to Springfield this week to meet face to face with their legislators who are mostly proabortion. Illinois is one of the most notorious states when it comes to approving the destruction of our most precious little ones. Life is short but eternity lasts forever!

Maybe you couldn't make it to Springfield, but St. James the Apostle Parish is still looking for people to pray at the Access Abortion Clinic on Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to noon, 1700 75th Street, Downers Grove. It is just across from the Woodridge water tower. Park on the side street -Devereaux. Sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/ downersgrove. Or just show up. And if you happen to be there when there is a save you will have a song in your heart the rest of the day.



Celebration of Tables To Benefit the Glen House Food Pantry

Support the Pantry and join us for our annual fundraiser on Sunday, April 27 at Arrowhead Golf Club in Wheaton, presented by Glen Ellyn Newcomers & Neighbors Club.

Similar to a housewalk but with tables, the event will feature over a dozen tablescapes designed by local individuals and businesses that will inspire guests with creative ways to entertain. Guests will enjoy demonstrations, live music, raffles, light bites, wine, and bubbly. Two sessions are available: 11 a.m. -1 p.m. or 2 p.m. -4 p.m.

Early bird tickets are on sale now through March 28, so don't miss out on this deal! Regular admission tickets available March 29 through day of event. For more information, visit

https://celebrationoftables.com/