

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday, September 19, 2021

SAINT JAMES PARISH

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Prayer Chain

Steve Wolfer.....(319)458- 0538

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday5:30pm
Sunday9:00am
11:30am Spanish

Rosary

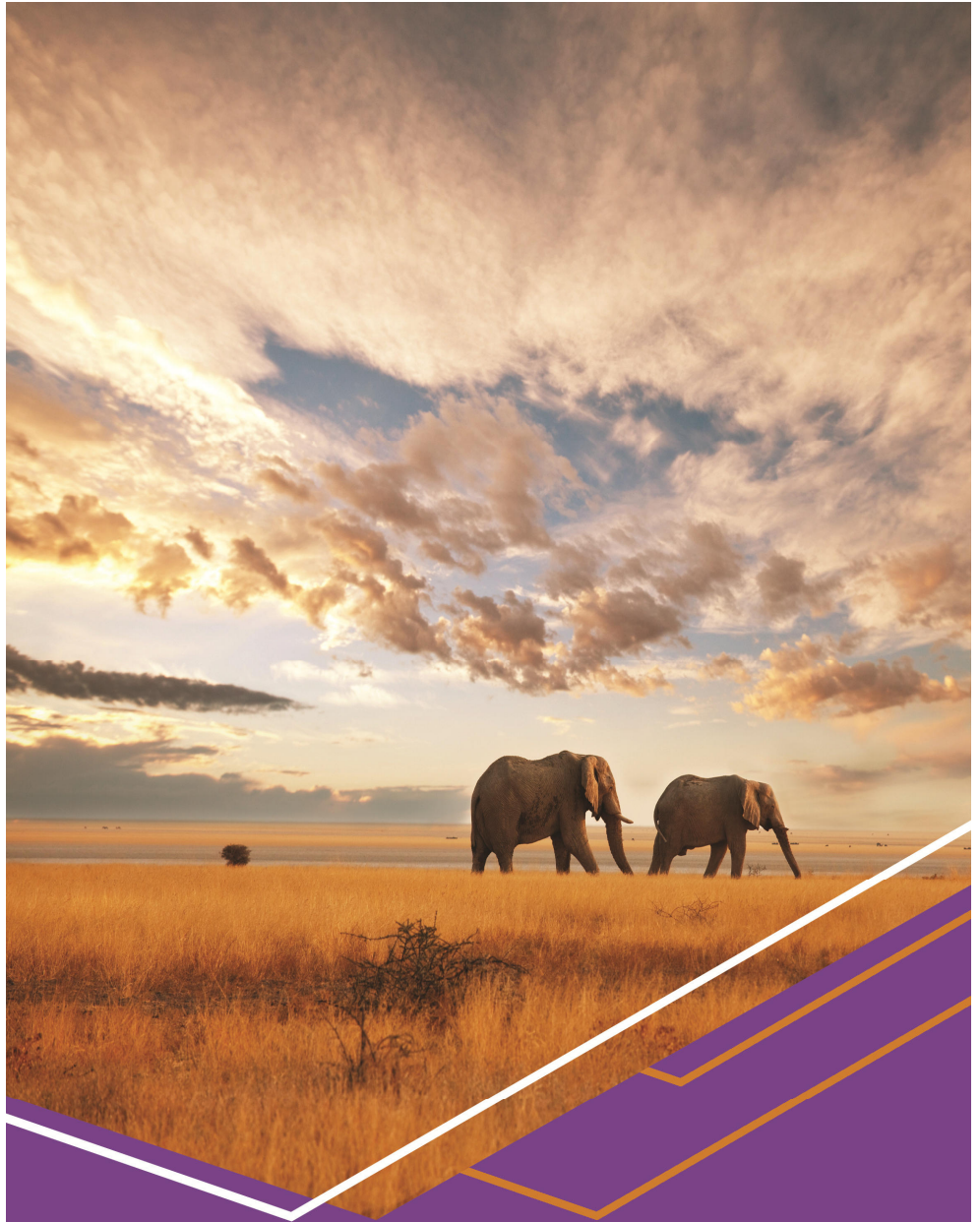
Thursday..... 8:30am

Confessions

Saturday..... 4:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday..... 6:00pm
Friday..... 8:30am



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me.” - Mk 9:35b-37a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Mission Statement

“To Glorify God through Word, Worship and Service”.

NOTES/NEWS

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Holy Land Pilgrimage with Fr. Appel and Fr. Anstey **October 4-15, 2021**. It is a joy to invite you to join us on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Since our youth we have heard the Gospel stories about the Lord Jesus walking and teaching in Jerusalem, Capernaum, and Galilee. We will be seeing those places and much more. Our visit will give us an opportunity of walking in the footsteps of Jesus, our Blessed Mother Mary and the very first disciples. Each day we will celebrate Mass at one of the holy places and reflect on the gospel text appropriate to the place we visit. This pilgrimage will forever change the way you read and understand the Scriptures. We hope you will be able to join us on what promises to be a grace-filled journey to the land from where it all started.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Paul Appel and Fr. Kevin Anstey

View itinerary and book online at:

www.holylandtc.com/trips/holy-land-pilgrimage/

SAVE THE DATE!!

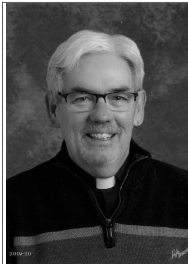
St. Wenceslaus Parish of Iowa City will hold their **annual Fall Dinner on Sunday, October 3rd, 2021**. Menu will include turkey and all the trimmings plus kolaches. Kolaches available for sale while supplies last. Serving will be Take-Out only from 11:30-3:00. Cost for the dinner is \$11 for adults, \$4 for children 4-10 years and children under 4 are free. Check out our website for the complete dinner menu. St. Wenceslaus web site: www.stwenc-ic.com

LIVE THE LITURGY

What does it mean to be God's servant? In essence, it means being willing to call the world back to its childlike innocence, showing all that a joy-filled playfulness has a place in life. The servant of God serves to foster the Kingdom of God. God's kingdom is not a sterile, unhappy, strict, and rigid reality. It is quite the opposite. It is a kingdom devoid of jealousy and selfish ambition where peace, gentleness, mercy, and good works abound. To be a servant of this kingdom means that selfish ambition must be set aside so that others can be first, and justice pursued at all cost. The prayer of this kind of servant is not focused on self-advancement or need. Rather, the servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. In this way, we who are servants can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led by God. We can then be used to lay the cornerstones of the kingdom: faith, hope, and love. It is upon these that God's firm dwelling is built. Accepting this call may place us last in the world's eyes but first in God's. ©LPI

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

The Annual Diocesan Appeal begins next week. This is your opportunity to assist the Diocese in its ministry. You can assist our parish with your pledge as well. When a parish goes over its goal, 100% of that overage amount is returned to the parish for its use. Over \$400,000 was refunded from last year's Appeal to diocesan parishes.



Fall Fest was a success! The dinner was great, the Ice Cream cold, and the Tacos outstanding. We don't have any final numbers yet. We will get those to you as soon as we can. I do want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make Fall Fest the success.

We are still in need of Faith Formation teachers and aids. If you can help out with this important ministry talk to Lori after Mass.

The RCIA will be starting soon. If you know of anyone who is interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith, have them call the parish office.

We are starting to set up dates for the fall and winter activities. Several things that we have not be able to do over the past several years will be back. We hope to be able to add some new events as well. Keep watching for dates and times. Exciting stuff is on its way!

We need to reactive the Parish Council. We would like to have 5 to 7 members. The parish council will help guide the parish into the future. It is hoped that the council will bring new ideas to the parish as we move into the new year. If you can serve, please give me a call.

FIRST COMMUNION

If your child has attended Faith Formation for at least one year and is entering 2nd grade or above and has not yet received their First Communion, they may join our Sacramental Preparation classes on Wednesday evenings starting in October. These classes are **in addition to** the regular Sunday Faith Formation classes. There will be a parent meeting on **Sunday, September 26th at 10AM** while your child is in Faith Formation class. Please bring your child's Baptismal certificate if they were **NOT** baptised at St. James. During this meeting you will receive a schedule of classes and a packet of materials to get you and your First Communicant started. Questions? Call or e-mail Faith Formation Coordinator, Lori Fritz at 319-653-4504 ext. 4 OR fritz@sjknights.org

“ WE SHOULD SPEND AS MUCH TIME IN THANKING GOD FOR HIS BENEFITS AS WE DO IN ASKING FOR THEM. ”

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



AUGUST 2021	Weekly Budget	Week : 8/29/21	Difference
Church Envelopes	\$5,198.00	\$4,126.00	-\$1,072.00
School Envelopes	\$2,596.00	\$1,085.00	-\$1,511.00
Offertory	\$346.00	\$217.00	-\$129.00
Building & Main	\$356.00	\$1,331.00	\$975.00
Other/Holiday			
Budget Weekly	\$8,496.00	\$6,759.00	-\$1,737.00
YTD SHORTFALL / SURPLUS			-\$17,676.00

THE CATHOLIC MESSENGER

The Catholic Messenger provides meaningful, must-read coverage in a reader-friendly format – print or E-edition. Bishop Thomas Zinkula uses this communication tool to reach thousands of households. It is an inexpensive investment in adult faith formation and education. It is an aid in spiritual formation and evangelization. And it costs just \$29 per year for 50 issues -- print and/or e-edition. Subscribe now through your parish.

The parish has to pay for any Catholic Messenger subscriptions that are not covered. **This year our unpaid subscriptions were more than 4000 dollars. Please help if you can.**

TWENTY-FIFTH IN ORDINARY TIME

Today's second reading warns that a heart consumed with avarice and envy leads to jealousy, strife, conflicts, and disputes. A giving heart, in contrast, can sing instead with the psalmist, "Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness."

Readings for the Week of September 19, 2021

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20, Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3, Mk 9:30-37
Monday: Ezr 1:1-6, Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3], Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13, Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5], Mt 9:9-13
Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9, Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b], Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8, Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a], Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Hg 2:1-9, Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5], Lk 9:18-22
Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a, Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d], Lk 9:43b-45
Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29, Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a], Jas 5:1-6, Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

	Saturday, Sept. 25th 5:30 pm	Sunday, Sept. 26th 9:00 am
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	Dennis Franzen Tina Knutson Virginia Schuerman	Brian Hora Theresa Hora
Gift Family		Lori Fritz
Lector	Jean Peiffer	Dennis Ives
Music	Kirk Hittner	SJ Choir

FAMILY LIFE

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Help St. James reach out to parishioners in need. If you are aware of someone who needs a card of encouragement or concern call Charlotte Lindmeier at 653-6274.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

The View from the Back of the Line

Have you known that person? The one who leaves every person they encounter feeling a little more blessed for having met them? They're the friend you can count on when nothing is going well. They're the one who's always "doing" for others. They're never gossiping or sniping or complaining.

We wonder how they do it, how they have it in them. We're a little envious, even if we don't let ourselves acknowledge it.

That, folks, is what the view is like from the front of the line, gazing at those suckers in the way back and wondering why they're smiling so much.

We've all been at the front of a line and felt no shame about it. We show up early, we put in the time and the legwork, and we "earn" whatever it is we came for — sports tickets, the latest Apple product, whatever. That's how it works here on Earth, where the fastest win the race, the fittest survive and the first shall be first, always.

It's exactly why stewardship is such a tall order. Stewardship calls us to play by the rules of another kingdom — one where the richest have the least amount in their bank accounts and the happiest don't seem to have anything to show for it, at least materially.

If you have a person in your life who always seems happy "doing" for others, it's because by a boatload of God's grace, they play by the rules of the other place.

Watch and take notes — and don't be afraid to join them at the back of the line.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, the Victim Assistance Coordinator, 563-349-5002; vac@diodav.org or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722.

This week at St. James . .

Monday, September 20

NO MASS

Tuesday, September 21

MASS-Alvin & Jeannette Vittetoe 8:00 am (CH)

Wednesday, September 22

MASS-Gary McClure 8:25 am (CH)

Thursday, September 23

MASS-Walter Krotz 8:00 am (CH)

Rosary 8:30 am (CH)

Eucharistic Adoration 6:00 pm (CH)

Friday, September 24

MASS-Phil Leyden 8:00 am (CH)

Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 am (CH)

Prayer Group 7:00 pm (TH)

Saturday, September 25

Confession 4:30 pm (CH)

MASS-Sherry Sieren & Anita Zahs 5:30 pm (CH)

Sunday, September 26

MASS-Cletus Reed 9:00 am (CH)

Sunday Faith Formation 10:00 am (TH)

MASS-The People 11:30 am (CH)

**KEY: THB-Tobin Hall Basement,
TH-Tobin Hall, CH-Church,
CHB-Church Basement,
KC-KC Hall, CR-Conf. Room,
GYM-SJ School Gym, YR-Youth Room**

GOSPEL MEDITATION

There is something about being first. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work, great satisfaction is achieved. Our egos love being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a sense of pride and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what really matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All of the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. You want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the noise of the world, we are going to continue to believe the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony and peace. When are we going to learn that always striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we really desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home, and to live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this. The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy. ©LPi



PARISHIONER INFORMATION UPDATE

Have you remembered to notify the parish of an email or phone number change? Perhaps you had a change of address recently? Please take a moment to keep us informed. Return this form in the collection basket, or at the parish office.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

- I prefer electronic communication.
- I would like to join St. James Parish.
- I'm moving away, please remove me from roster.