



2nd Sunday Of Advent, Sunday, December 8, 2024

SAINT JAMES PARISH

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Contact Information

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School Office

Jodi Reed.....653-3631 ext. 2
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Prayer Chain

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

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday.....5:30pm
Sunday9:00am
11:30am Spanish

Rosary

Thursday..... 8:30am

Confessions

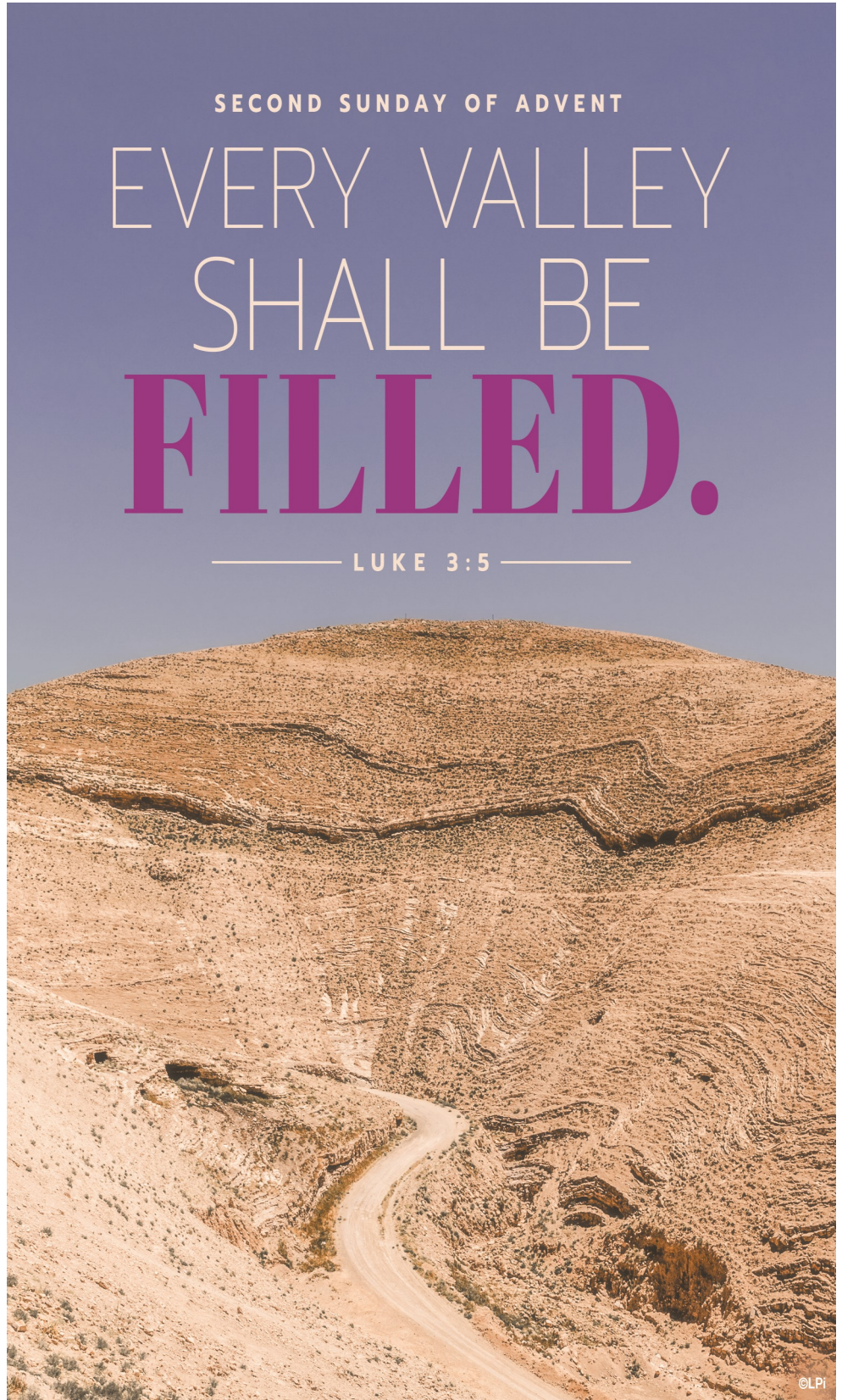
Saturday..... 4:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration

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

Mission Statement

*"To Glorify God through Word,
Worship and Service".*



NOTES/NEWS

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

John the Baptist was appointed to prepare the way for the Lord. This Advent, follow his example and prepare the way for the Lord. Invite the Lord to make straight the roads in your life that wind, and to smooth all that is rough in your heart.
©LPi

DID YOU KNOW...

When Mary appeared to Juan Diego as Our Lady of Guadalupe, she had encouraging words for him. "Am I not here, I who am your mother?" In the image on Juan Diego's tilma (tunic), Mary identifies herself with the Aztec people. She has their hair and features, their symbolic maternity dress. She incorporated their important symbols of the sun, moon, and stars. Today's Mass includes two Gospel options. Both are familiar passages from the Gospel of Luke - the Annunciation and the Visitation. Both are equally relevant to today's feast because Mary's yes to Christ isn't only to care for him but to come to us. Our Lady of Guadalupe is pregnant. The image bears witness to Mary's yes to conceive the Savior of the World. But even in her pregnancy, she goes to care for Elizabeth. Now Mother to all the world, Mary comes to the aid of her children, reminding them of her presence among them.

IT IS TIME TO GIVE TO THE STO! (Student Tuition Organization)

An STO (School Tuition Organization) is a charitable organization that receives contributions from Iowa taxpayers and allocates those contributions, in the form of tuition grants, to Iowa school children. STO grants give the gift of school choice to families who otherwise could not afford the tuition at a nonpublic school.

Donors enjoy a **75% Iowa income tax credit** and a federal tax deduction (if they itemize deductions).

Our 2024 goal is **\$51,000**. Currently we are at **25.5%** to our goal. Donations must be received by November 30, 2024 in order to be designated to St. James School.

Please go to www.stoseiowa.org for more information or contact Mary Sue Marek.



Support our local advertisers

Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local.

From the desk of Fr. Bernie...

This year the Feast of the Immaculate Conception has been moved to **December 9th**. Masses for the Feast Day will be **8:00 am, 12:10 pm and 7:00 pm**. Remember that this is the Patronal Feast day of the United States.

The School's Christmas Concert is **December 11th at 6 pm**, at the High School. Everyone is invited to attend.

December 12th, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, las **mañanitas** are at **6:30 am** in the Church. There is no 8 am Mass. There will be a procession starting in **Central Park at 5 pm with Mass at 6 pm in the Church**.

The week between Christmas and New Years I will be around. If you need anything give my cell phone a call, 319 458-0412.

Something to look up...When is Gaudete Sunday?

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation classes for children in preschool through 10th grade has begun from 10:00- 11:15am! Please accompany your children on the first Sunday of every month for Deep Root Sunday:

Family-Based Learning on the Richness of Our Catholic Faith.

1st Semester

Dec. 8	Dec. 15	Dec. 22-No Class
Dec. 29-No Class		

POINSETTIAS

Memorial Poinsettias are available for **\$12.00** each to decorate the church for the Christmas season. Please put checks in collection baskets at Mass or drop off to Genoveva Diaz in the Parish office. Please indicate who the poinsettia is in memory of in the memo portion of the check. If you would like for your love, one's name to appear on the bulletin please submit their name before **Wed., Dec. 11th**.

BULLETIN DEADLINES

Due to the upcoming holidays, deadlines for submitting information for the bulletin are **noon** on:

December 10th for the weekend of December 22nd

December 16th for the weekend of December 29th

December 17th for the weekend of January 5th

Following the holidays, the weekly deadline for the bulletin articles will be Monday at noon.

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS!

Consider earning some great experience and get paid as a Totus Tuus Missionary! Check out this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity this summer serving as a Totus Tuus Missionary! We offer exceptional training and team building that will not only prepare you for ministry, but the journey of life ahead! Competitive pay, housing & food included, & must be an 18+ y/o Catholic. For more information or to apply email pullinger@davenportdiocese.org

NOVEMBER 2024	Weekly Budget	Week : 11/17/24	Difference
Church Envelopes	\$5,408.00	\$12,430.00	\$7,022.00
School Envelopes	\$2,885.00	\$2,727.00	-\$158.00
Offertory	\$353.00	\$382.00	\$29.00
Building & Main	\$356.00	\$450.00	\$94.00
Other/Holiday		\$30.00	\$30.00
Budget Weekly	\$9,002.00	\$16,019.00	\$7,017.00
YTD SHORTFALL / SURPLUS			-\$24,254.00



Readings for the Week of December 8, 2024

Sunday:

Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Monday:

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday:

Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday:

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday:

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38

Friday:

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday:

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday:

Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

	Saturday, Dec. 14th 5:30 pm	Sunday, Dec. 15th 9:00 am
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion	Marty Beenblossom Teresa Beenblossom Tina Knutson Mike Moses Volunteer Needed	Katrina Altenhofen Janice Carr Christal Quigley Jerry Strabala Benice Yudelmo
Greeters	Kathleen Brinning Tina Knutson Cindy Moses	Connie Goodwin Jayla Stakland Jolisa Weidner
Gift Family	Cindy Moses	Meghan Hamilton
Altar Server		Maya Gent Ty Hamilton
Lector	Linda Gent	Stephen Wolfer
Music	James Crossroads	Spirit Led Singers

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

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Straight Path

Ten to fifteen years ago the Department of Transportation decided that it would be fun to give everyone in my zip code something to complain about and replaced most of our major intersections with roundabouts.

This wouldn't be so irksome, I suppose, if I understood how to navigate a roundabout. In theory I do, I've read all the rules and I've watched those cute little YouTube videos where they show you which car is supposed to go at what time. But theory and practice are rather different. And the bottom line is, I never approach a roundabout without taking a deep, anxious breath and tightening my grip on the steering wheel, not entirely sure what my next move should be.

I think of roundabouts every time I hear today's Gospel reading, where John the Baptist echoes Isaiah in beseeching us to make straight the paths of the Lord. See, I always think I've made a straight path between me and God. I go to Mass. I go to Confession. I say my prayers.

He can get to me if He wants, I tell myself.

But without realizing it, I put up roundabouts. I make rules. *You go here, God, and then I go here. I'll do this, God, but first You do this. You stay in your lane, and I stay in mine.* Eventually I find myself taking a different route altogether; the road that stretches between me and Him is too daunting. I start avoiding it.

Sometimes I think God wants the path to be straight not for Himself but for us. He can handle a roundabout. But He knows that when we must run to Him, we have to do it without thinking. In the dark. In fear, in anxiety.

So, this Advent, beware the roundabouts. Make straight the path. ©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, December 9

MASS-Marlene Vogel 8:00 am (CH)
MASS-The People 12:10pm (CH)
 Novena 6:00 pm (CH)
MASS-The People 7:00 pm (CH)

Tuesday, December 10

MASS-CDA Living & Deceased Members 8:00 am (CH)
 Novena 7:00 pm (CH & TH)

Wednesday, December 11

MASS-Josephine Triplett 8:25 am (CH)
 Novena 7:00 pm (CH & TH)

Thursday, December 12

Mañanitas 6:30 am (CH)
MASS-Collen Alonzi 6:00 pm (CH)

Friday, December 13

MASS-Herbert Moeller 8:00 am (CH)
 Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 am (CH)

Saturday, December 14

Confessions 4:30 pm (CH)
MASS-Gary McClure 5:30 pm (CH)

Sunday, December 15

MASS-JoAnn Gent 9:00 am (CH)
 Coffee & Cookies 10:00 am (TH)
 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**

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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE


In the year 1995, in the seventeenth year of my life, when Fife Symington was governor of Arizona, Bill Clinton was president of the United States, Chuck Keiffer was pastor of St. Theresa parish in Phoenix, Arizona, and Ron and Mary were my parents, the word of God came to my youth minister Eric and through him I started to see the salvation of God. Soon, Christ came into my life never to leave. I'm thankful beyond words.

Why am I being so specific, you ask? Because in the Gospel this week we hear the specific names of people holding civic and religious authority in first century Palestine when **"the word of God came to John the Baptist:"** Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate, Herod, Philip, Lysanias, Annas, Caiaphas, and Zechariah. All this is meant to help us see that God breaks into our *history*, into real human events. Jesus is no mere myth. He is the Word-which-breaks-in, in concrete moments, you might say. And now we anticipate his coming once again in our specific situations.

Advent challenge: Name as many civic and religious leaders who are in authority currently in your life. Now, name who the potential John the Baptists may be. A spouse? A friend? A podcaster? A work colleague who brings God's word to you? Spend a moment considering that this comprises the concrete, historical setting into which Christ wishes to come. Then, with these specifics in mind, pray: "Come, Lord Jesus. Come."

— Father John Muir

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A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH

THE MASS

Dates – Times – Location

We will have two options to meet weekly in the St. James Youth Room.
 Choose which works best for you!

Monday 7pm
 &
Wednesday 9am

January 6th - February 12th

Cost – Registration

Personal workbook & Mass book (\$30)
 Help with purchase is available in cases of need.

Register by December 9th
 Contact a group leader to register:
 Kathleen Brinning 319-863-3806
 Dawn Grenzow 262-949-5956
 Linda Gent 319-461-2486
 Krista Gent 319-461-9691

For More Information

Contact a group leader or visit:
<https://ascensionpress.com/collections/a-biblical-walk-through-the-mass>

Through the Mass, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive Him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist.

The words, the gestures, and the rituals of the Mass are rich in meaning.
This study explores the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and reveals what it all means and why it all matters.
 This study will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

JOIN US FOR AN 5-Week BIBLE STUDY

presented by Edward Sri

Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship.

