



SAINT JAMES

CATHOLIC CHURCH

"Leading people to heaven with Christian hospitality and fostering Eucharistic Discipleship."

366 COWAN RD. | GULFPORT, MS 39507

DECEMBER 10, 2023

**"PREPARE THE WAY
OF THE LORD."
— MK 1:3**

2ND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

PASTOR - Father Ryan McCoy

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Sunday: 9:00AM, 11:00AM and 5:30PM

Monday: 7:00AM and 8:30AM

Tuesday: 6:00PM, 7:00PM XLT | Adoration

Wednesday: 8:30AM

Thursday: 7:00AM and 12:00PM (Noon)

Friday: 8:30AM

PERPETUAL ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

In the Convent Chapel

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00PM - 4:00PM or by appointment

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Office: 228-896-6059 | Fax: 228-896-5498

Website: www.saintjamescc.com | **Church Email:** office@saintjamescc.com

Pastoral Staff

Pastor:

Father Ryan McCoy

pastor@saintjamescc.com

Spiritual Emergency Phone.....228-563-0866

Priest In Residence:

Father George Kitchin

Pastoral Associate:

Richard Henderson

deacon@saintjamescc.com

Deacon:

Rick Conason

Parish Secretary:

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finance@saintjamescc.com

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lindahebert@saintjamescc.com

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FLC@saintjamescc.com

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evangelization@saintjamescc.com

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Facilities Coordinator:

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Plant Maintenance:

Patrick Sutherlin

Catholic Education

St. James Catholic School



603 West Avenue

Gulfport, MS 39507

228-896-6631

www.stjamesgulfport.com

St. Patrick Catholic High School



18300 St. Patrick Road

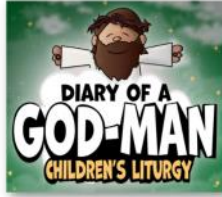
Biloxi, MS 39533

228-702-0500

Welcome to Saint James Catholic Church

Whether you're just visiting for a brief time, looking for a new parish home, returning to the practice of your Catholic faith or interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, we are happy you're here!

If you are new to the parish, please go to our website and click on the new parishioner link. Registration forms can also be found in the back of the church.



Thanks to a generous parishioner - children's liturgy sheets are available in the back of the church. Please pick one up for your children to follow the readings of the Mass. They can be taken home.

Mass Etiquette Tips

During Mass, we assume different postures and are also invited to make a variety of gestures. These postures and gestures are not merely ceremonial. They have profound meaning and, when done with understanding, can enhance our participation in the Mass.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "Belief in the true Incarnation of the Son of God is the distinctive sign of Christian faith" (CCC 463). As a way of highlighting this unique, powerful mystery, we bow during the phrase in the *Nicene Creed* that expresses it ("and by the power of the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.").

Older Catholics might recall that, prior to the Second Vatican Council, everyone genuflected during this part of the *Creed* on all Sundays and solemnities. After the Council, the Church relaxed this practice, and now we genuflect during this part on just two solemnities of the year: the Annunciation on March 25 and the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) on December 25. We use the more solemn gesture of genuflecting on these days because the Annunciation celebrates the moment of Christ's Incarnation, while Christmas, of course, celebrates the birth of Jesus, God Incarnate.

Some people are unable to genuflect or even bow due to age or health, and that is completely understandable. These people can simply bow their heads instead. But for all who are able, the gesture of bowing deeply is a beautiful expression of our reverence and gratitude for Christ, who loved us so much that He assumed our humanity, to redeem us and to unite us to Himself in a new way forever.

Source: Adapted from Catholic Times

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

During Advent, flowers are not to be used to decorate the altar (with the exception of Gaudete Sunday). Although not used in the sanctuary, flowers may still be placed in front of our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph altars. Please contact Linda Hartfield (228-697-3420). Due to the rising cost of flowers, donations start at \$100 and must be scheduled at least two weeks in advance.

Keep up with our parish happenings and stay updated on news and announcements:



Text SJCC to 57838

Bulletin Deadline

All announcements for the bulletin must be submitted to the Parish Office by 4:00PM on Monday.

Readings for the week of December 10, 2023

Sunday:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
(8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday:

Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday:

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday:

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

Thursday:

Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/
Mt 11:11-15

Friday:

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

Saturday:

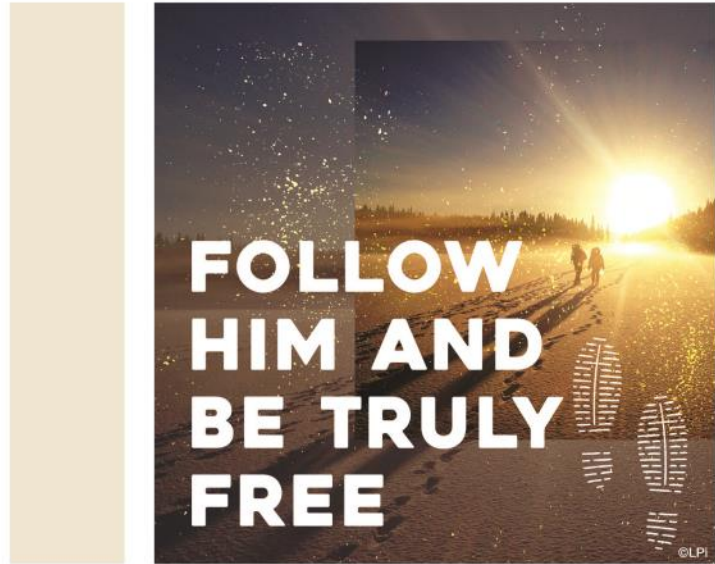
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16,
18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
(Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



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The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in
the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, **"The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."** It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— *Father John Muir*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023 | 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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"Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the most tender of friends with souls who seek to please Him. His goodness knows how to proportion itself to the smallest of His creatures as to the greatest of them. Be not afraid then in your solitary conversations, to tell Him of your miseries, fears, worries, of those who are dear to you, of your projects, and of your hopes. Do so with confidence and with an open heart."

- St. Damien of Molokai

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office.
Names will appear on the prayer list for six weeks, but are renewable.

Terry Barnes	Rose Dellenger	Josie Lindsey	Georgeanna Baker
Hoshall Barrett	Elinor Donivan	Mike Martin	Sincavage
Thomas Blankenbaker	George Donivan	Carolyn McClellan	Josh Sniffen
Jerry Boudreaux	Jennifer Ellett	Tanya McClellan	Julia Sterling
Debra Boyd	Spencer Ellett	Karen McCoy	Fr. Joseph Uko
Hope Broadus	W.C. Fore	Msgr. James McGough	Bob Usey
Teresa Buckman	Loretta Hahn	Beverly Moore	Alyssa Vega
Isabel Bullard	David Harris	Pete Moran	Ferdie Walker
Charlotte Jean Buras	Keleal Hassin	Elsa Mrazek	Kim Casono Ware
Valerie Buras	Jessi Hebert	Lois Ann Necaize	Teresa Whiteside
Dick Chapin	SSG. Eric Heitkamp	Butch Oustalet	
Martha Chapin	Louis Helwick	Libby Owen	
Bernard Chevalier	Tom Hicks	Etaw Robb	
Dannie Chevalier	Timmy Holliday	Jim Roos	
Rhonda Clark	Dianne Hurlbert	Barbara Russo	
Susan Cooper	Analyse Khalifeh	Gladys Salvador	
Jean Crawford	Sheena Khalifeh	Joan Sample	
Fr. Joseph Dang	Doug Kirk	Kathy Shankweiler	
Mimi Davis	Fr. George Kitchin	Ralph Shankweiler	
Nicholas James Davis	Danny Lechner	Jaclyn Simpson	

If you or anyone in your family is ill, at home or in the hospital and would like us to visit, please contact the parish office at 228-896-6059. If in the hospital, be sure to notate which hospital and provide a room number.

SYMPATHY

The Saint James community wishes to extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:



Lucille Collins,
Paula Hire,
Hermine Lightell,
Albert Necaize,
Teresa Ruggieri,
and Linda Sharp

May they and all the souls of the faithful departed now share in Eternal Glory and may their loved ones receive God's consolation and peace.

A Prayer for our Military and First Responders

Lord, please hold our military and first responders in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform.

Amen.

THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 09

4:00PM ☩ Natalie Stanbro

Sunday, December 10

9:00AM ☩ David Riemann
11:00AM People of Saint James
5:30PM ☩ Emmitt Thames

Monday, December 11

7:00AM 🙏 Andrew Weibert, Jr.
8:30AM ☩ Gayle Williams

Tuesday, December 12

6:00PM ☩ Jack Barbour

Wednesday, December 13

8:30AM ☩ Deacon Martin Finnegan

Thursday, December 14

7:00AM ☩ Alexandra Healy

Friday, December 15

8:30AM ☩ Dawson Moore

Saturday, December 16

4:00PM ☩ Gene Menetrie

Deceased - ☩ Healing - ♥ Special Intention - 🙏

TWO WEEKS AT A GLANCE - EVENTS

December 11 - December 16

Monday, December 11

9:00AM Lectio Divina, Raphael Room
9:45AM Legion of Mary, Philomena House
6:30PM Al-Anon Meeting, Raphael Room

Tuesday, December 12

8:30AM H & F Card Game, Philomena House
6:00PM Saint J Youth Bible Study, Bosco Room
7:00PM R.C.I.A., Raphael Room
7:00PM XLT - Adoration with Confessions, Church

Wednesday, December 13

7:00AM Men's Bible Study, Raphael Room
7:00PM SJCS Christmas Program, Parish Center Gym

Thursday, December 14

7:00PM SJCS Christmas Program, Parish Center Gym

Saturday, December 16

10:00AM Apologetics Reading Group, Philomena House
10:00AM Baptism Prep Class (RSVP Only)

December 18 - December 23

Monday, December 18

9:00AM Lectio Divina, Raphael Room
9:45AM Legion of Mary, Philomena House
6:30PM Al-Anon Meeting, Raphael Room

Tuesday, December 19

8:30AM H & F Card Game, Philomena House
7:00PM R.C.I.A., Raphael Room
7:00PM XLT - Adoration with Confessions, Church

Wednesday, December 20

7:00AM Men's Bible Study, Raphael Room

Thursday, December 21

6:00PM Parish Penance Service, Church

Friday, December 22

10:30AM Divine Mercy Cenacle, Raphael Room

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 09

4:00PM Carol Cottone

Sunday, December 10

9:00AM Joey Beattie

11:00AM Doug Hill

5:30PM Michele Pisciotta

Saturday, December 16

4:00PM Maia Dooley

Sunday, December 17

9:00AM Kory Hudson

11:00AM Kaine Lucky

5:30PM Sarah Rhodes

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 09

4:00PM Debbie Bazzone, Barbara Levine,
Mary Pecoul and Josie Six

Sunday, December 10

9:00AM Jennifer & Steve Broadus,
Carsen Centanni and Bonnie Jacobs

11:00AM Julie & Alan Black, Becky Graves
and Bridget & Russell Weatherly

5:30PM Paul Correro, Diana Holder,
Butch Plitt and Debby Weeks

Saturday, December 16

4:00PM June Bounds, Ashley & George French
and Connie O'Neal

Sunday, December 17

9:00AM Don & Sherry Alfonso, Gretchen Ellis
and Linda Joffrion

11:00AM Carsen Centanni, Doc & Karen Rhodes
and Darlene & E. G. Warren

5:30PM Yolanda Edwards, Ashlie & Joseph Herbert
and Beverly Moore

TREASURE

December 02/03, 2023

Weekly Offertory via mail/collection basket	\$11,907
Weekly Offertory via ACH/on-line giving	\$15,451
Weekly Total	\$27,358
Weekly Budget (amount needed)	\$18,808
YTD Actual-Week #23	\$375,144
YTD Budget-Week #23	\$432,584
YTD % of Budget	86%
Second Collection - St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy	\$2,834

SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend's second collection will be for Retired Religious.

Next weekend's second collection will be for St. Vincent de Paul, Saint James Conference.

ACH & ONLINE GIVING CONTRIBUTIONS

There are two options for ACH Giving - one draft to be made on the Monday following the first Sunday of the month, or two drafts to be made on the Monday following the first and third Sunday of the month. Please contact the Parish Office for more details.



Venmo donations may be made at @St_James_GPT.

Please Help Us (Help You)

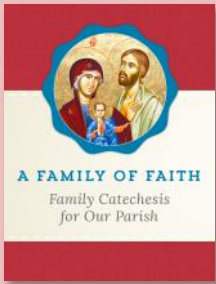
For record-keeping purposes, please consider the following when making monetary contributions to Saint James Catholic Church:

If using Venmo, please specify what the payment is for and notate whose name the contribution should be credited to in our records. Please ensure that you use the name under which you are registered in the parish. An envelope number can also be referenced.

If writing a check on a business account, please notate on the memo line the name under which you are registered or use your envelope number.

Following these requests will make certain that all contributions are captured and allocated to the proper account for accurate contribution statements.

FAITH FORMATION



A FAMILY OF FAITH GRADES K-5

**December Family Gathering
Sunday, December 10
Parish Center Gym**

Parents - If you were unable to attend the Catechetical Session, please stop by the parish office and pick up your December materials.

For more information, please contact Linda Hebert at lindahebert@saintjamescc.com



SAINT J YOUTH GROUP GRADES 6-12

Sundays 6:30-8:00PM

**Edge & LifeTeen
Christmas Party
Parish Center Gym**

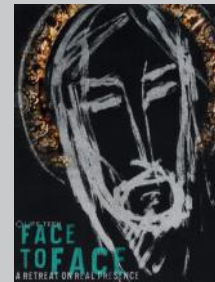
For more information, please contact
Bridgett Bermond & Sarah Rhodes
youthminister@saintjamescc.com



The Jesse Tree helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. Jesse was the father of King David, and the Jesse Tree gets its name from Isaiah 11:1: "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots."

We adorn a Jesse Tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophecies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse Tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history.

Our Jesse Tree is located in the sanctuary near the crucifix; and details of the various ornaments and their meaning can be found on our website.



Please pray for our youth who are on retreat this weekend coming FACE TO FACE with God in nature.

CONFIRMATION

Parents of 11th and 12th Graders to be Confirmed this Year - if you missed the Confirmation Info Session on October 23, please mcontact Linda Hebert for details on upcoming sacramental prep.

Linda Hebert @ 228-896-6059 or
lindahebert@saintjamescc.com

Rite of Acceptance

The Rite of Acceptance, celebrated last week on the First Sunday of Advent, is an ancient rite that recognizes the Catechumen's decision to begin the process of becoming a member of the Catholic Church through Baptism and welcomes the Candidates, those who have been baptized in another faith or baptized Catholic as a child, but never catechized in the Catholic faith, into the process of full communion with the Church.

Please pray for those seeking to enter the Church at Easter:

- Jeanviere Angeron
- Danny Borges
- Lori Borges
- Jen Brown
- Chandler Dedeaux
- Brad Forrest
- Logan Kotsakos
- Donna Machado
- Sutton McConnell
- J.P. Pruitt
- Carl Rackley
- Paige Rackley
- Krissy Simmerman
- Shelly Williams
- Ev Wright



RCIA

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes are offered for those interested, baptized and unbaptized, in learning about the Catholic Faith and/or those cradle Catholics who have never been confirmed. RCIA meets on Tuesdays at 7:00PM in the Raphael Room. **For information, contact Deacon Henderson 228-209-6960.**

Saint James Catholic Church Advent & Christmas Schedule

2023

2023 - 2024

Penance Service

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 6:00PM

Christmas Masses

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 *

- 4:00PM (CHILDREN'S MASS)
- 6:00PM
- 12:00AM (MIDNIGHT MASS)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

- 9:00AM
- 11:00AM
- 5:30PM

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Masses

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

- 4:00PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

- 9:00AM
- 11:00AM
- 5:30PM

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Masses

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

- 7:00AM
- 12:00PM
- 6:00PM

The Epiphany of the Lord Masses

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

- 4:00PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

- 9:00AM
- 11:00AM
- 5:30PM



*THE 9:00AM AND 11:00AM SUNDAY MASSES FULFILL YOUR SUNDAY OBLIGATION WHILE THE SUNDAY AFTERNOON/EVENING MASSES FULFILL YOUR CHRISTMAS OBLIGATION.

Blessing the Christmas Manger

St. Francis of Assisi introduced the custom of displaying the Christmas manger, also the Nativity scene or creche. If you have a Christmas manger in your home, you may wish to bless it. Some families set up the Nativity Scene on Christmas Eve. Others set it up earlier in Advent but do not put the infant Jesus in the manger until Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Gather the family around the Christmas manger and make the sign of the cross.

Leader: *Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

All: *Who made heaven and earth.*

Reading *Luke 2:1-7*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Blessing Prayer

A parent leads, or the family prays in unison.

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.



Blessing the Christmas Tree

Leader: *Blessed be the name of the Lord.*

All: *Now and for ever.*

Reading *John 1:1-5*

In the beginning was the word, and the Word was with God, and the word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Blessing Prayer

A parent leads, or the family prays in unison.

Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night. We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son: he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Source: *A Prayer Book for Catholic Families*



ITE AD JOSEPH

9:00 AM - 9:00PM

06 JAN 2024

ST. JOSEPH MEN'S RETREAT

A day retreat centered around a renewal in the Sacraments, prayer
and masculine fellowship. Lunch & dinner provided.

\$20.00 Retreat Fee

RSVP is necessary to attend.

Contact Chris Molino to RSVP at evangelization@saintjamescc.com

*"In Joseph... heads of the household are blessed with the
unsurpassed model of fatherly watchfulness and care."*

Pope Leo XIII

9:00AM - 9:00PM

ARCADIA PROPERTY | 24120 ARCADIA FARM RD

PASS CHRISTIAN, MS 39571

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

"Time spent in prayer is never wasted, however urgent the duties that press upon us from every side."

ADORERS NEEDED!

Monday 12:00PM(Noon) - 1:00PM; Wednesday 4:00PM - 5:00PM; and Friday 3:00AM - 4:00AM and 4:00AM - 5:00AM

Second or Third Adorers are always needed in each hour for a substitute system. If you can help or substitute with any hours, please call Ralph at 228-539-2434 or contact the Parish Office.

With the holidays approaching, there are a lot of requests for Adoration Chapel substitutes. If you can be a substitute on one of the upcoming holidays, please contact Ralph Shankweiler at 228-539-2434.

HELP OUR ST. VINCENT DEPAUL CONFERENCE

We challenge each family to bring at least one non-perishable item to Mass every week, and to place it in the "Food Drop Box" at the back of the church. When you are shopping and select your item for the poor, thank God for the ability to adequately provide for your own family; and pray for those less fortunate.



Open: Tuesdays 9:00AM - 11:45AM, Food & Financial Assistance
Thursdays 10:00AM - 11:30AM, Food Assistance ONLY

ENJOY SINGING?

We need new choir members for our 11:00AM Sunday Mass. There is no commitment...just show up when you can! We practice at 10:30AM in the Parish Center before Mass. It is not necessary to read music. We welcome 9th graders and up. Come help us spread God's love through the gift of song!

AMAZING GLAZE

Amazing Glaze Ministry is looking for volunteers to serve donuts after the 9:00AM Mass

As a volunteer, you will be responsible for picking up donuts (pre-paid) from Krispy Kreme on Hwy 49. You will set-up tables & chairs, make coffee, pour Sunny D, and put out the donuts. You will then put up the tables & chairs and clean up.

Please contact Susanne Chandler for more details: 228-596-5373 or shc0138@yahoo.com

Please choose from this list of dates if you are available to be a volunteer.

- Dec 17
• Dec 24
• Dec 31

We Adore Him



Saint James Perpetual Adoration Chapel is now offering enhanced adorer scheduling, substitute requests and more with this user-friendly program!

You can sign in or create your account using this easy QR onboarding code.



Just use your cell phone's camera app to scan the QR Code, then tap the yellow box that appears and follow the prompts!



CALLING ALL USHERS!



We're needing to update the current usher roster with your phone number and email. Please call or text Rob Vivian at (228) 669-3988 with your info OR scan the QR code and complete the online form. You can also visit the website at www.saintjamescc.com/ushers. THANK YOU for Ushering!



MARRIAGE



For information regarding Marriage preparation, please contact Mara Russo at FLC@saintjamescc.com or 228-896-6059.

Please note: The Diocese of Biloxi requires that engaged couples should begin the Marriage Preparation process no less than six months prior to the anticipated wedding date.

DID YOU KNOW?

When properly practiced, NFP (Natural Family Planning) can be up to 99% effective in postponing or avoiding pregnancy. If you have questions or need further information about NFP, please contact Mara Russo at FLC@saintjamescc.com or 228-896-6059.

BAPTISM



Baptism Preparation classes are held on the third Saturday of the month. The next class will be December 16. For more information and to register, please contact Mara Russo at FLC@saintjamescc.com or 228-896-6059.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK



If you or a loved one are hospitalized locally and would like to schedule a visit from Fr. Ryan, please contact Mara Russo at FLC@saintjamescc.com or 228-896-6059.

Save The Dates

Couples Date Night 2024

- January 25*
- April 25*
- July 25*
- October 24*

*Couple Prayer Series
Lent 2024*

*A six-week series held on
Thursday nights beginning
February 14*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



The Little Blue Books

Copies of *The Little Blue Book*, which contain Advent & Christmas reflections, are available on the tables near the entrances. Please take one per family.

2024 Calendars



The 2024 Catholic Extension calendars are here and are available for pick up on the tables at the church entrances.

Christmas Flowers

We are now accepting donations for our Christmas flowers. Envelopes can be found on the tables at the church entrances.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

The Cathedral's Annual Christmas Concert

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Cathedral will offer their annual "Christmas Concert" on Sunday, December 17, at 4:00PM, presented by the Music Ministry's Community Choral Society, Gloria In Excelsis, and the Mobile Vocal Arts Choral Society. The program features both sacred and secular selections with new and original approaches. Additionally, the audience will be invited to share in the singing of various Christmas carols/songs. The concert is free and open to the public.

Upcoming Advent Penance Services

During the Advent Season, everyone is encouraged to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you are unable to attend the Saint James Penance Service, here are the dates and times of our surrounding parishes.

- St. Ann - December 18 @ 7:00PM
- St. Joseph - December 19 @ 6:00PM
- St. John - December 20 @ 6:00PM
- St. Thomas - December 20 @ 6:30PM
- **Saint James - December 21 @ 6:00PM**

Cemetery

Surveillance System & Tree Trimming

Due to the ongoing vandalism at our cemetery, a security surveillance system monitored by the Gulfport Police Dept. is necessary. Father Ryan is seeking donations to help cover the cost associated with the installation. Please consider making a donation to protect our deceased loved ones.



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To view this week's Eucharistic Miracle please go to our website (www.saintjamescc.com) or scan the QR code below:



Eucharistic Miracle of WALLDÜRN



One of the most complete documents about the Eucharistic Miracle is told of the Eucharistic Miracle of Walldüren Germany in the year 1330 was written by the Monk Hoffias in 1589. During the Mass a priest accidentally overturned the species of the consecrated wine onto the corporal if then transformed into Blood and formed an image on the corporal of the Crucified Christ. The relic of the corporal with the Blood is preserved today, placed on the side altar in the minor basilica of Saint George in Walldüren. Every year, several thousands of pilgrims visit Walldüren to venerate the sacred relic.

I assure the priest, Heinrich Chas, was celebrating the Holy Mass when he accidentally overturned the chalice containing the species of the consecrated wine that had been consecrated from the Blood of Christ immediately upon spilling, it formed on the corporal the image of the Crucified Christ, represented by eleven equal images of the head of Christ covered with thorns. The priest did not have the courage to collect the wine and the miracle took its full effect. The next day, the relic was placed in a silver reliquary. Augustinian monks have preserved the relic since 1586.

The actual basilica was consecrated between 1088 and 1123 by Franz Lutzer von Schönbach, the Archbishop of Mainz. In 1962, Pope John XXIII named the church in a minor basilica. Augustinian monks have preserved the relic since 1586.



Remember to pray for our seminarians, especially Chris Collins.

VOCATION PRAYER

Loving Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ the High Priest, has told us that the harvest is great but the laborers are few.

We ask you now to send more laborers into your vineyard. Please touch with your Holy Spirit the hearts of all those you are calling to live a life of service in your Church as Priests, Deacons, Consecrated men and women, Dedicated Married couples and Committed Single persons. Help us to follow Christ faithfully and to answer the call to holiness and discipleship.

We ask this prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN

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