



# Saint James Catholic Church

905 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA

[www.stjamescatholic.org](http://www.stjamescatholic.org)

703-532-8815

## December 15, 2024



### 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16

#### Clergy

Very Rev. Paul D. Scalia, Pastor  
Rev. John Paul Heisler, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Charles Pavlick, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Peter M. McShurley, In Residence  
Rev. Mauricio Pineda, In Residence  
Rev. Raymond Emedo, In Residence  
Deacon Marvin Muhat

#### Rectory Office Hours

Weekdays: 9:00am-9:00pm (closed 12:45pm-1:30pm)  
Saturdays: 9:00am-1:30pm

#### Rectory Office

905 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046  
Phone: 703-532-8815; Fax: 703-533-7644  
[receptionist@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:receptionist@stjamescatholic.org)

#### Religious Education

Phone: 703-533-1182 x104  
Sr. Regina Rosarii McLallen, IHM, Director  
[religioused@saintjamescatholic.org](mailto:religioused@saintjamescatholic.org)

#### Hispanic Apostolate

200 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22203  
Phone: 703-841-3883

#### School

830 W. Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046  
Phone: 703-533-1182; Fax: 703-532-8316  
Website: [www.saintjamescatholic.org](http://www.saintjamescatholic.org)  
Sister Kathryn Teresa Clemmer, IHM, Principal  
[sisterkathryn@saintjamescatholic.org](mailto:sisterkathryn@saintjamescatholic.org)

#### Mass Schedule

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:00pm

**Sundays:** 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am,  
2:30pm (Spanish), Noon,  
and 7:00pm

**Daily:** 6:30am, 8:15am, and Noon

**Saturdays:** 8:30am

**Federal Holidays:** 6:30am and 8:15am

**Holy Days:** 6:30am, 8:15am, Noon,  
5:00pm, and 7:00pm

#### Low-Gluten Hosts

Those who need low-gluten hosts are asked to come stand at the Sacred Heart statue for Communion.

#### Adoration

**Wednesdays and Thursdays:**  
12:30pm-8:00pm

**First Fridays:**  
9:00am-Noon  
7:30pm to 8:30am on Saturday (All  
Night Adoration)

#### Holy Hours

**Sundays:** 5:00pm  
**Third Thursdays:** 7:00pm

#### Confessions

**Wednesdays:** 7:00pm-8:00pm  
**Thursdays:** 7:00pm-8:00pm

**Fridays:** 11:00am-11:45am

**Saturdays:** 3:30pm-4:30pm and  
6:30pm-7:30pm

#### Baptisms

Baptisms are done every Sunday. Please contact the Rectory office to begin making arrangements prior to the child's birth. Registration in the parish is required prior to scheduling. Both parents are required to attend a pre-baptismal program and are encouraged to do so before the birth of their child.

#### Marriage

Contact the Rectory office for information and to begin marriage preparation with one of our priests. Marriage preparation is a six-month program. No date will be set for the wedding until a priest has met with the couple.

Visit the Worship menu on our website for more details, [stjamescatholic.org/sacraments/](http://stjamescatholic.org/sacraments/).

## Saint James Catholic Church Rectory Staff

### **RECTORY OFFICE**

905 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046  
Phone: 703-532-8815; Fax: 703-533-7644  
[receptionist@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:receptionist@stjamescatholic.org)

**Susan Ramsel, Pastor's Assistant & Office Manager**  
[sramsel@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:sramsel@stjamescatholic.org)

**Ginny Beauchamp, Records Manager**  
[gbeauchamp@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:gbeauchamp@stjamescatholic.org)  
*Sacramental records, baptisms, registrations, address changes, and room reservations*

**Sonia Grebogi, Receptionist**  
*Mass intentions*  
[receptionist@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:receptionist@stjamescatholic.org)

**Rich Blickendorfer, Business Manager**  
[rblickendorfer@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:rblickendorfer@stjamescatholic.org)

**Kara Rider, Accounting Specialist & Child Protection and Safety Coordinator**  
[krider@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:krider@stjamescatholic.org)

**Kathleen Anderson, Director of Development**  
[kanderson@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:kanderson@stjamescatholic.org)

**Don Carolina, Director of Music**  
[dcarolina@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:dcarolina@stjamescatholic.org)

**Tina Doak, Communications Specialist**  
[communications@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:communications@stjamescatholic.org)

**Amy Bigart, Youth Ministry Coordinator**  
[ym@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:ym@stjamescatholic.org)

**Disability Inclusion Committee Liaison**  
[inclusion@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:inclusion@stjamescatholic.org)



### **Convent**

101 N. Spring Street, Falls Church, VA 22046  
703-532-2388  
**Sister Patricia Healey, IHM, Superior**

### Parish Registration

To register with the parish or to update your contact information, call the Rectory office or email them at [receptionist@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:receptionist@stjamescatholic.org).

### The Pope's December Prayer Intention

**For pilgrims of hope**—We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

### Follow Us on Social Media

- Facebook @StJamesCatholicChurch
- Instagram @stjamescatholic
- Twitter @St\_James\_CC



## On The Way

*Faith is personal*

“Without faith it is impossible to please [God]” (Heb 11:6). Those are sobering words from Scripture about not just the importance but the necessity of faith. It is the foundational virtue of the Christian, without which hope and charity are simply not possible. Without faith, we don’t know what we should hope for. Hence the Letter to Hebrews says, “faith is the assurance of things hoped for” (Heb 11:1). Without faith we don’t know how, what, and whom to love. You cannot love what you do not know, and faith is “evidence of things not seen” (Heb 11:1).

A striking aspect of the Gospels is the personal commitment of faith that Jesus seeks. His miracles are worked on the basis of people’s faith in him. When two blind men follow him and cry out for pity, he asks them bluntly, “Do you believe that I can do this?” (Mt 9:28) He’s not asking for opinion or feeling but a *personal* act of trust in him. Likewise at the tomb of Lazarus, Jesus says to Martha, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” (Jn 11:25-26)

The Latin word for believe – *credere* – is where we get our word “credit.” To give credit means to entrust something to someone. To have credit means that people trust you enough to give you something now in view of some future payment. So, to believe means to credit something – our very selves – to God himself. “I believe” means more than “I feel” or “I think.” It means *I entrust myself* to this person. Or, in our case, to three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

An important correction made to the English text of the Mass some years ago was to change the Creed from “We believe” to “I believe.” It’s more faithful to the Latin and in that way it emphasizes the personal dimension of the prayer. I can’t believe for you and you can’t believe for me. Each of us must profess the faith personally.

One consequence of faith’s personal dimension is the need for prayer. Faith without prayer is an impossibility. Nobody loses his faith the way he loses his keys. A man loses his faith because he stops praying. If you do not pray, then you do not believe...or you will not believe much longer. Without prayer, the things of faith might remain, but faith itself becomes an ideology. Or, more likely, it becomes enslaved to a secular ideology.

Earlier this year, the famous atheist Richard Dawkins identified himself as a “cultural Christian” and lamented the decline of Christian culture in the West. That demonstrates precisely this point, that Christianity without faith is an impossibility. It’s impossible to have the trappings of Christianity without Christian faith. No matter how much Dawkins might want the artistic patrimony, the charitable works, and the freedom of a Christian culture...you cannot have them without Christian faith.

And there is no Christian faith without prayer. So, one concrete way to guard and strengthen our faith is to pray. You can pray the Apostles or the Nicene Creed. Those aren’t just a list of doctrines but an act of faith, an entrustment of self to God. You can pray the Act of Faith itself (on the prayer card in the pews). Or most simply you can pray the anguished prayer of the father in the Gospels, pleading for his tormented son: “I believe; help my unbelief!” (Mk 9:24) indeed, that brief petition is wonderfully precise. By way of Baptism, you have the virtue of faith. You do believe in some way. But that needs to be strengthened and to grow.

– Fr. Scalia

## Mass Intentions for the Third Sunday of Advent

### Saturday, December 14

#### Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent

5:00pm Jeanne and Maureen Scully

### Sunday, December 15

#### Third Sunday of Advent

7:30am +Deceased members of the Jennings family

9:00am +Raul and Lilliam Vazquez

10:30am Pro Populo

Noon +Tara Flanagan and Nicole Flanagan Ayers

2:30pm +Sonia Duco

7:00pm +Mary Ann and Thomas Benedett

### Monday, December 16

#### Monday of the Third Week of Advent

6:30am +Geraldine McWeeney

8:15am +Scaria Porunnolil

Noon Thanksgiving for Laila Maria Khattak

### Tuesday, December 17

#### Tuesday of the Third Week of Advent

6:30am +Louis Lucchetti

8:15am +Darlene Sue Farris

Noon +Lynn Gallagher

### Wednesday, December 18

#### Wednesday of the Third Week of Advent

6:30am +Gregory Breen

8:15am +Frank Benedett

Noon +Frederick Wall

### Thursday, December 19

#### Thursday of the Third Week of Advent

6:30am +Edward Laso

8:15am +Clarice Fingers

Noon Thanksgiving for A. Sheppard

### Friday, December 20

#### Friday of the Third Week of Advent

6:30am +Donna Casey

8:15am +Audrey Ashley

Noon +Ann, Ilona, and Anthony Bott

### Saturday, December 21

#### St. Peter Canisius

8:30am +Dr. Peter V. and Mary A. Caruso

#### Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00pm +John McKeon

### Sunday, December 22

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30am Special Intention

9:00am +Deceased members of the Cline family

10:30am Pro Populo

Noon +Tara Flanagan and Nicole Flanagan Ayers

2:30pm +Mauree Monaghan

7:00pm +Ruth Miller

## Today's Readings

### First Reading Zep 3:14-18a

"Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!"

### Psalm Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6.

"Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel."

### Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

"Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always."

### Gospel Lk 3:10-18

"The crowds asked John the Baptist, 'What should we do?'"

## Readings for the Week

Visit [www.bible.usccb.org/readings](http://www.bible.usccb.org/readings) for the daily readings, responsorial psalms, and gospels for the upcoming week.

## Remember in Your Prayers

### the sick of our parish family

Juan Alarcon

Joyce Babiak

Beatriz Basso

Cory Bautista

Betty Brunton

Carmine Carosella

Jane C. Checkan

Chloe Clagg

Brendan Collins

Mona Demien

Mike Dudzik

Robertta Dunn

Clare Dunne

Erik Funk

Katherine Garren

Scott Herman

Laura Lareau

Alex Lohman

Jose G. Martinez

Nicholas McDonough

Mildred Melmer

Gloria Mora

Julie Neil

Rachel Noonan

Esther Olivos

Janet Owen

Jim Owen

Carter Parry

Russell Ross

Kathleen Seroskie

Robyn Stewart

Kathy Thomas

Julia Umana

Lauren Vinci

Liv Wash

Anne Marie Willis

Richard Ziegler

### the deceased of our parish family

Thomas Stephen Claffy

Thomas Cahill Johnson

Antonio Guisepe Pavia

### and please pray for all active duty military

1st Lt. Thomas Canady, USAF

SSgt Joshua Conrad, USAF

CDR Thomas Dixon

Lt. Mathew Hayes, USN

COL Jay Hildreth

CPL James Murray, USMC

2nd Lt. Paul Murray, USA



For changes or updates, email [communications@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:communications@stjamescatholic.org).

### Saint James Prayer Chain

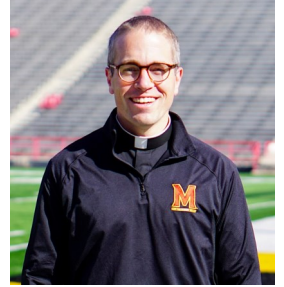
Become a praying member of the Saint James Prayer Chain. We are dedicated to praying for the intentions of our parish families and their loved ones. For more information, visit the *Saint James Prayer Chain* page under Faith Formation on [www.stjamescatholic.org](http://www.stjamescatholic.org).



- To sign up to be a praying member, visit <http://eepurl.com/gURddD>
- To submit a request to the Prayer Chain, email [PrayerChain@saintjamescatholic.org](mailto:PrayerChain@saintjamescatholic.org)



**Parish Speaker Series**  
***“Strange Stories from Papal History”***  
**Father Conrad Murphy**



**Monday, January 6th, 7:00pm in Monsignor Heller Hall**

Join us as we welcome our first parish guest speaker for the year, Father Conrad Murphy. He is a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington and currently serves as the Catholic Chaplain of the University of Maryland as well as an adjunct faculty member at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg. He is originally from Chicago but fell in love with Jesus and discovered God’s call to the priesthood during college in D.C.

Father Murphy will be talking about spiritual lessons from strange stories in Papal history which he wrote about in his book. He will explain how these stories teach us lessons about the spiritual life.

Our Hospitality Committee will provide light appetizers and drinks for the event.

**Social Outreach Advent Gift Card Donations**

During Advent, the Social Outreach Committee will be collecting gift cards to dispense to Catholic Charities (Emergency Assistance Program and Migration and Refugee Services) and persons in homeless shelters (Home Stretch, Falls Church Winter Shelter, Shelter House, New Hope Housing, and Christ House). **Thank you for your generosity in bringing joy to families in need of assistance.**

The options for contributing:

- Donate **\$25 cards** for Giant, Safeway, Target, or Walmart stores
- Send a check payable to Saint James Catholic Church with **SOC gift card donation** on the memo line

Options for delivery:

- Place gift card or check in an envelope marked **Social Outreach Gift Card Project**
  - ⇒ Place the envelope in the collection basket
  - ⇒ Hand deliver to the Rectory Office
  - ⇒ Mail the envelope to Saint James Catholic Church, 905 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046

**Parish Christmas Project for the Seven Corners Children’s Center**

This year we are again asking for your support for the Seven Corners Children’s Center. The center is a private, non-profit organization that partners with Fairfax County to provide childcare and pre-school for working families who require financial assistance.

The children range in age from 2 to 5 years old. We are asking for the following gifts:

- Clothing in sizes 3T, 4T, 5T, 5, and 6/7
  - ⇒ Shirts, pants, and sweaters
  - ⇒ Gloves, hats, and scarves
  - ⇒ Winter jackets
  - ⇒ Pajamas, socks, and underwear
- Books, games, and puzzles for ages 2 to 5
- The Center has asked for winter jackets and other clothing items in sizes 8 through 14 so parents can also provide presents for older siblings.

**Items should be new and not wrapped. Please drop off donations in the bins in the back of the Church by this Wednesday, December 18th.** Call/text Caroline Sparks, 703-862-2074, for more information.

**Christmas Wafer (Oplatek) Available**

Traditional Christmas wafers, known as Oplatek, are part of every traditional Christmas Eve supper in central Europe. The wafers are now available for your Christmas Eve supper here in the Saint James community from Connie Donnelly, a parishioner. To order, call Connie at 703-237-7935.



## Parish News (Continued)

### Alert! Pew Removal for Reupholstering

During the weeks of January 6th and January 13th, all of our pew seats will be reupholstered. Half of the pew seats will be removed for reupholstering on Monday, January 6th, and returned by Friday, January 10th. The other half will be removed on Monday, January 13th, and returned by Friday, January 17th. As a result, our weekday Mass seating capacity of 800 will be reduced to 400 for those two weeks.

There will be no School Masses during this period. This work impacts *only* our weekday Masses. **All pews will be available for all of our Saturday and Sunday Masses.**

### Culminación de las Posadas Navideñas

El Grupo de Oración Santiago Apóstol invita a toda la comunidad de Santiago (Saint James) a unirse al noveno y último día de las Posadas Navideñas que se llevará a cabo el lunes **23 de diciembre de 2024** en el salón Heller Hall comenzando a las **5:00 pm**. Estas posadas se llevan a cabo por nueve días los cuales representan los nueve meses de embarazo de la Virgen Maria en donde va pidiendo posada y en el noveno día llega al pesebre donde nace el Niño Jesús. Habrá un drama de la Navidad, así como alabanzas, música, comida y refrigerios. Esta actividad es libre de costo.

### Culmination of the Posadas Navideñas—

The Hispanic Prayer Group invites the Community of Saint James to join the celebration of the last day of the Posadas Navideñas that will be held on **December 23rd, starting at 5:00pm** in Monsignor Heller Hall. These posadas are a nine-day religious observance that honors the search of shelter by the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph leading up to the nativity of baby Jesus. In addition to this Christmas drama, there will be praise, music, food, and refreshments.



### Boy Scout Troop 681 Annual Christmas Tree Sale

The Troop 681 Tree Sale is back! We hope our former customers will support us once again this year.

**Saturday, November 30 to Saturday, December 21**

#### SALE HOURS

**Wednesdays:** 6:00pm-8:00pm  
**Thursdays and Fridays:** 6:00pm-9:00pm  
**Saturdays and Sundays:** 9:00am-9:00pm

The sale will be in the Teachers' Parking Lot (Lot C).  
Please make checks payable to "St. James Catholic Church"

Fraser Fir 4/5'	\$55.00
Fraser Fir 5/6'	\$70.00
Fraser Fir 6/7'	\$85.00
Fraser Fir 7/8'	\$100.00
Fraser Fir 8/9'	\$150.00

The graphic features a central Boy Scout logo (a fleur-de-lis with an eagle) surrounded by stylized Christmas trees in various colors (green, yellow, red, pink) and white stars on a light background.

## College Coffee

**COLLEGE STUDENTS HOME FOR WINTER BREAK!**

An illustration of a white coffee cup with a red Christmas tree inside, next to a small white cloud with a star.

Join our College Coffee group for Adoration followed by cookies and hot chocolate at a local coffee shop.  
**Thursday, January 9, 2025**  
**7:30pm @ Saint James Church**

email [ym@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:ym@stjamescatholic.org) with questions.

A decorative pine branch with red berries and green leaves, positioned on the right side of the graphic.

### Adoration Suspended for December 26th

We will still offer our weekday Mass schedule on December 26-27 as well as confessions Thursday evening at 7:00pm and Friday morning at 11:00am.

We hope you will join us

## Morning & Night Prayer during Advent

(Last morning prayer on 12/24 but no night prayer)



**Monday through Saturday**  
**8:00am and 8:30pm**  
 (Download the ebreviary app)



**SENIORS YOUNG AT HEART**

Meatloaf dinner. Guests are asked to bring a vegetable dish, salad, or a dessert to share for six people. Please bring \$5.00 to play.

- RSVP by January 13th to one of the following:  
 Susan at [jacksonsusan765@gmail.com](mailto:jacksonsusan765@gmail.com) or  
 Kathleen at [kmcphilomy2@gmail.com](mailto:kmcphilomy2@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 16TH**  
**5:00PM-8:00PM IN MSGR. HELLER HALL**

**Register for WorkCamp by February 14th**

Registration for WorkCamp is now open for all high school teens currently in grades 9-12. WorkCamp will be held from June 21-27, 2025, in Frederick County, Virginia. The cost for each teen (and adult leader) is \$575 with a \$50 deposit. Saint James will be advancing the \$50 deposit. This group will be defraying the cost through fundraisers. Teens and parents participating in the fundraisers will have their costs reduced through funds collected. There will be monthly meetings until June. Teens should attend as many as possible.

Each parent should plan to volunteer in some way such as helping with fundraising, spending one afternoon at camp as a security volunteer, being a crew leader, or helping in some other way. **The diocesan deadline to register is February 14, 2025.**

We need to secure adult volunteers since the number of students who can go to WorkCamp is dependent on how many adult volunteers come.

- For every 1-5 girls, we need one adult female crew leader.
- For every 1-5 boys, we need one adult male crew leader.
- In addition, for every 1-5 teens, we need one contractor.

If you are 25 or older, please consider volunteering as a crew leader to join us for the week, or if you have basic home repair or building skills, please consider volunteering your time as a contractor (Monday-Thursday). WorkCamp is a big commitment, but it comes with lots of personal rewards.



**2024-2025 WORKCAMP CALENDAR**  
 June 21-27, 2025

<b>NOVEMBER 20</b> Info. Meeting 7-8 pm Msgr. Heller Hall	<b>DECEMBER 18</b> Teen Meeting 7-8 pm Parish House	<b>JANUARY 15</b> Teen Meeting 7-8 pm Parish House	<b>FEBRUARY 19</b> Teen Meeting 7-8 pm Msgr. Heller Hall
<b>MARCH 19</b> Teen Meeting 7-8 pm	<b>APRIL 17</b> Teen Meeting 7-8 pm	<b>MAY 21</b> Teen Meeting 7-8 pm Parish House	<b>TOOL TRAINING</b> TBD

Youth Ministry

If you are interested in participating, complete the interest form on this link, <https://forms.gle/xWe9SK8jYGiFrALJ8>, so we have your contact information. Email Amy Bigart, [ym@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:ym@stjamescatholic.org), with any questions.

**Join us for our first meeting this Wednesday, December 18th, from 7:00pm-8:00pm in the Parish House.**



# Stewardship—The Gift of Time, Talent, and Treasure

## Catholic Charities Christmas Collection

As we enter this season of giving, please prayerfully consider supporting men, women, and families who are in true need throughout our diocese by making a sacrificial gift to the Catholic Charities Parish Christmas Collection. Your support helps maintain ministries that serve neighbors in need throughout the 21 counties and seven cities of our diocese. When vulnerable people come to Catholic Charities, they encounter Christ's love and the hope that springs from love. And, in a beautiful way, our own faith is strengthened when we join Together in Hope with those needing a helping hand.

Catholic Charities serves and transforms the lives of the men, women, and families who come to them for assistance. They rely on 125 dedicated staff members, nearly 3,000 generous volunteers, and hundreds of sacrificial donors to enable them to serve others with the transformative love of Christ.



To donate online via Faith Direct, visit [membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/VA50/1495](https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/VA50/1495). Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

## Saint James Catholic School Annual Appeal

Thank you to all who donated to the Saint James School Annual Appeal. This year's appeal is off to a great start, thanks to the generosity of a donor couple who have issued a \$15,000 challenge match. **Every dollar you donate will be matched up to \$15,000!** Our donors hope that by issuing this challenge match we can reach—or even exceed—our \$120,000 goal in record time. Please be as generous as you can in supporting our award-winning parish school.

Donate via Faith Direct at <https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/VA50/53940> or scan the QR code. You can also make out a check to Saint James Catholic Church with "Annual Appeal" in the memo line and mail/drop off at the Rectory to the attention of Kathleen Anderson, Director of Development. Thank you for your generosity and support.



## Gabriel Project/Project Rachel "Gift for Life" Advent Campaign

Each year during Advent, the Arlington Diocese Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life, hosts a "Gift for Life" campaign to help raise money for two important ministries. The first project, Gabriel Project pregnancy assistance, is for expectant mothers in need of support. The second project, Project Rachel, is for mothers and fathers in need of post-abortion healing. Both are wonderful ministries which do great work for the men, women, and children of our diocese.

To give a "Gift for Life" to help expectant mothers in need or to help those who suffer after abortion, please scan the QR code or visit [arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife](https://arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife) to make your online, tax-deductible donation. If you wish to mail your donations, please send a check to: Gabriel Project/Project Rachel, Catholic Diocese of Arlington, P.O. Box 1960, Merrifield, VA 22116-1960.



# Advent and Christmas at Saint James



## Christmas Eve

*Tuesday, December 24*

**5:00pm**  
 Children's Mass  
*4:30pm Carols*  
**7:00pm**  
**9:00pm**  
**Midnight**  
*11:30pm Carols*

## Nativity of the Lord

*Wednesday, December 25*

**7:30am**  
*No music*  
**9:00am**  
**10:30am\*\***  
**12:00pm**  
*Contemporary Choir*  
**2:30pm\*\***  
*Spanish Mass*

**\*\*Masses will be livestreamed on our parish Facebook page and website.**

## Confessions

Wednesday	December 18	7:00-8:30pm
Thursday	December 19	7:00-8:30pm
Friday	December 20	11:00-11:45am
		7:00-8:30pm
Saturday	December 21	9:00-10:00am
		3:30-4:30pm
		6:30-7:30pm
Monday	December 23	9:00-10:30am
		7:00-9:00pm
Tuesday	December 24	9:00am

## Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God January 1st



Tuesday, December 31st

**5:00pm Vigil**

Wednesday, January 1st

**9:00am Mass**  
**10:30am Mass\*\***  
**12:00pm Mass**  
**2:30pm Spanish Mass\*\***

**\*\* Will also be livestreamed on Facebook and parish website**



# Parish Calendar

<b>Monday, December 16</b>		
7:30pm-8:30pm	Creation Care Ministry	Parish House
<b>Tuesday, December 17</b>		
7:00am-7:45am	Saint James Fraternity-Exodus 90	Parish House
4:45pm & 7:00pm	PREP Classes	School
7:30pm-9:00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	Knecht
7:30pm-9:00pm	Legion of Mary	Parish House
<b>Wednesday, December 18</b>		
<b>Advent Confessions begin tonight (see page 8)</b>		
12:30pm-8:00pm	Adoration	Church
7:00pm-8:30pm	Advent Confessions	Church
7:00pm-8:00pm	WorkCamp Meeting (see page 6)	Parish House
7:00pm-8:30pm	OCIA	Knecht
7:00pm-8:00pm	Men's Bible Study	Parish House
<b>Thursday, December 19</b>		
9:30am-11:45am	Co-ed Bible Study	Knecht
12:30pm-8:00pm	Adoration	Church
7:00pm-8:00pm	Holy Hour	Church
7:00pm-8:30pm	Advent Confessions	Church
7:00pm-9:00pm	Young Professionals Holy Hour/Holly Hour (Christmas Party)	Church/Parish House
7:00pm-9:00pm	Women's Bible Study	School Reading Room
<b>Friday, December 20</b>		
11:00am-11:45am	Confessions	Church
6:00pm-7:00pm	Simbang Gabi Mass followed by reception	Church/Msgr. Heller Hall
7:00pm-8:30pm	Advent Confessions	Church
<b>Saturday, December 21</b>		
9:00am-10:30am	Advent Confessions	Church
10:00am-12:00pm	Co-ed Bible Study	Parish House
3:30pm-4:30pm & 6:30pm-7:30pm	Confessions	Church
6:00pm-8:30pm	Hispanic Prayer Group	Msgr. Heller Hall
<b>Sunday, December 22</b>		
1:00pm-2:15pm	Hispanic Catechists Meeting	Msgr. Heller Hall
4:00pm-5:30pm	Hispanic Legion of Mary	Parish House
5:00pm-6:00pm	Holy Hour	Church

## Making the Holidays More Sustainable

As the holidays draw near, consider these **simple** and **impactful** ideas that inspire a deeper respect for our created environment and greater appreciation for each other.

### When Gift Giving

**Give One to Get One** Encourage family and friends to identify gently used clothes and toys to clean and donate before new clothes and toys arrive on Christmas. **Buy Local, Small and Fair Trade** Explore local holiday markets and reduce the shipping footprint cost. Support small shops. **Handmade + Homemade** Consider handmade gifts or items from your garden harvest like pumpkin bread or tomato sauce. **Personal Notes and Prayers** Share encouragement and good wishes, express thanks and appreciation, and remind people what a blessing they are in your life. **Time Together** Being "present" can be a present! Whether before, during or after the holidays, make a conscious effort to put down devices and enjoy each other's company.

### When Gift Wrapping

**Reuse** Identify and set aside gift bags, shipping boxes, and other sturdy gift boxes that you can store, flatten, and/or reuse year over year. **Repurpose** Wrap your gifts in paper grocery bags. If you are feeling creative, consider adding festive stamps or drawing themed designs on your packages. **Go Minimal** Skip the wrap and go with wild or elegantly simple bows and ribbons. **Recycle** Have a bag or box ready to collect everything you can recycle before it goes in the trash!

Thank you! Creation Care Ministry