



Saint James Catholic Church

905 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA

www.stjamescatholic.org

703-532-8815

February 19, 2023



7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." - Mt 5:44

Clergy

Very Rev. Paul D. Scalia, Pastor
Rev. Joseph Vu, Parochial Vicar
Rev. John Paul Heisler, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Joel Kwame, In Residence
Rev. Peter M. McShurley, In Residence
Rev. Mauricio Pineda, 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

Religious Education

Phone: 703-533-1182 x104
Sr. Regina Rosarii McLallen, IHM, Director
religioused@saintjamesschool.org

Hispanic Apostolate

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

School

830 W. Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046
Phone: 703-533-1182; Fax: 703-532-8316
Website: www.saintjamesschool.org
Sr. Mary Sue Carwile, IHM, Principal
office@saintjamesschool.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sundays: 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am,
Noon, and 7:00pm

Spanish Mass: 2:30pm

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

Saturdays: 8:30am

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

Holy Days: 6:30am, 8:30am, Noon,
4:00pm, and 7:30pm

Weekday Mass changes in red until
Church renovation ends. Noon Mass
moved to Monsignor Heller Hall.

Adoration

Weekday Adoration suspended
during renovation.

First Saturdays All Night

Adoration: 7:30pm to 8:30am
on First Saturdays

Holy Hours

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

Confessions

Wednesdays and 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/.

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

Susan Ramsel, Pastor's Assistant and Office Manager
sramsel@stjamescatholic.org

Ginny Beauchamp, Records Manager
gbeauchamp@stjamescatholic.org
Sacramental records, baptisms, registrations, address changes, and room reservations

Sonia Grebogi, Receptionist
receptionist@stjamescatholic.org

Rich Blickendorfer, Business Manager
rblickendorfer@stjamescatholic.org

Kara Rider, Accounting Specialist
krider@stjamescatholic.org;

Child Protection and Safety Coordinator
childprotection@stjamescatholic.org

Kathleen Anderson, Director of Development
kanderson@stjamescatholic.org

Tina Doak, Communications Specialist
communications@stjamescatholic.org

Don Carolina, Music Ministry Director
dcarolina@stjamescatholic.org

Amy Bigart, Youth Ministry Coordinator
abigart@stjamescatholic.org

Anne Rohall-Andrade, St. James Disability Inclusion Committee Liaison
inclusion@stjamescatholic.org



Convent

101 N. Spring Street, Falls Church, VA 22046
703-532-2388

Sister Mary Sue Carwile, IHM, Superior

To register with the parish, update your contact information, or request Fr. Scalia's email communications, email the office at receptionist@stjamescatholic.org.

February Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

For Parishes — We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity, and welcome towards those most in need.



Follow Us on Social Media

Social media is a quick, effective way for the parish to communicate reminders and time-sensitive notices.

- Facebook-@StJamesCatholicChurch
- Instagram-@stjamescatholic
- Twitter-@St_James_CC



On The Way

Catechesis on Marriage: In the Church

You may have heard the expression that people get married “in the Church.” It can be a confusing phrase and it merits some explanation because it touches on an important aspect of Catholic marriage. Specifically, that baptized Catholics who marry must do so according to the laws of the Church. The failure to do so means that their marriage is not valid. This is not an essential aspect of marriage itself but a law of the Church. To understand this, we need to revisit two principles.

First, marriage is a *public* institution. Our culture has privatized marriage, making it just the decision of two people who love each other. Each one enters into it for his or her own fulfillment. This attitude contributes to a high rate of divorce. Once marriage is not good for *me*, many spouses think, then I should be able to leave it. We’ve lost sight of the fact that marriage begins a family, and that the family is the fundamental cell of society. Marriage is not only for the couple but also for the broader society.

Saint John Paul II observed that the life of nations and states passes through the family. Strong marriages and families make for a strong society and strong country. That’s why governments have traditionally defended and promoted marriage and family life. Once marriage and family unravel (as they have been doing for some years), the government expands to provide needs they once fulfilled and other needs created by their failure. Government expansion always means less freedom. So, the stronger the family, the freer the society.

Second, the Church is a society. Yes, the Body of Christ is a spiritual organism spanning the world and history. It is made one by shared Faith and Sacraments. But this Body is also a society, necessarily governed by laws. It’s in the interest of this society, as any other, to defend and promote marriage. As such, the Church has laws that govern marriage for her members, just as the Commonwealth of Virginia or the District of Columbia have laws about marriage for their citizens.

Thus, the expression to marry “in the Church” doesn’t refer to the physical site of the ceremony but to the canonical (Church law) status of the union. A baptized Catholic who marries must do so in accord with the laws of the Church. This requirement of the Church has come to be known as the “form” of marriage. It requires that engaged couples work with a priest (or deacon) for the celebration of the sacrament. It also serves as a way to safeguard those marrying, to ensure that both parties are in fact free to marry and are committing to what marriage is.

Which brings us to the first thing a Catholic should do after getting engaged: *call a priest*. Before reserving a banquet hall or vineyard or any other venue, speak with a priest about the requirements for marrying in the Church. Too many couples have raced ahead in making all the secular arrangements for their wedding without first learning what the Church requires.

This requirement brings the engaged couple into marriage preparation, which is increasingly important. The broader culture once shared the Church’s understanding of marriage. Now, however, it is ignorant of and at times hostile to it. So, it’s essential that engaged couples prepare themselves not for a marriage of their own creation, but for the truth of marriage as a free, permanent, faithful, and fruitful union.

— Fr. Scalia

Mass Intentions for the Seventh Week of Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 18

Mass for the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm +Betty Lane

Sunday, February 19

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30am Special Intention of the Johnson family

9:00am +Anna Maria Mullins

10:30am +Carol Verneuille

Noon Theresa Thibodeau

2:30pm Wilma Hurdado Banegas

7:00pm People of Saint James

Monday, February 20

Monday of the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

6:30am +Patricia Ann Cardy

8:15am +Emil Kovacev

Tuesday, February 21

St. Peter Damian

6:30am +Charles E. Hart III

8:15am +Rose Marie Wiegand

Noon +Jim Gannon

Wednesday, February 22

Ash Wednesday

6:30am +Mary Mallison

8:30am +Thomas T. Coipuram, Sr.

Noon +Juanita Ambrose

4:00pm Sajini Thomas

7:30pm +Beatrice Eng Siew Kim

Thursday, February 23

St. Polycarp

6:30am +Yolanda Vivian Bearden

8:15am Alejandra Aguilar

Noon +Gabor F.L. Hariss

Friday, February 24

Friday after Ash Wednesday

6:30am +Isabelo, Priscilla, and Arnold Apigo

8:15am Joseph Thomas Blondet

Noon +Gabor F.L. Hariss

Saturday, February 25

Saturday after Ash Wednesday

8:30am +Gabor F.L. Hariss

Mass for the First Sunday of Lent

5:00pm +Isabelo, Priscilla, and Arnold Apigo

Sunday, February 26

First Sunday of Lent

7:30am +Mary Geiselhart

9:00am +William R. Pollock

10:30am People of Saint James

Noon +Marie Louise Chang

2:30pm +Jesus Martinez and Eliza Arias

7:00pm +Joseph and Frances Zalocha

Today's Readings

First Reading Lv 19:1-2, 17-18

"The LORD said to Moses, 'Speak to the whole Israelite...'"

Psalms

Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13

"The Lord is kind and merciful."

Second Reading 1 Cor 3:16-23

"Brothers and sisters: Do you not know that you are the..."

Gospel

Mt 5:38-48

"Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have heard that it was said,'"

Readings for the Week

Monday: Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17; 2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 5:27-32

Remember in Your Prayers

the sick of our parish family

Beatriz Basso
Terrell Blodgett
Chip Clarke
Will Consovoy
Peggy Kurtzke
Laura Lareau

Frances McDonald
Nguyen Cuong
Rachel Noonan
Janet Owen
Jim Owen

Philip Perot
Russell Ross
Ben Schwind
Robyn Stewart
Richard Ziegler

the deceased of our parish family

Joan Huff

Henry Schiller, Jr.

and those serving our country

(this includes veterans, military retirees, and those serving overseas in the military and foreign service)

CDR Thomas Dixon
Veronica Elkins

Mary Kenney
Major Albert C. Young



Email bulletin@stjamescatholic.org for changes/updates.

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. Prayer requests are sent by the coordinator via email along with suggested prayers for each intention.

- Sign-up to be a praying member—<http://ceepurl.com/gURddD>
- Prayer requests or questions—PrayerChain@saintjamescatholic.org

You can also access the Prayer Chain via our home page, www.stjamescatholic.org.



Lent 2023

Lenten Season—Days of Recollection

The men and women of Saint James are invited to a Day of Recollection for the sacred season of Lent. Both retreats will begin at 8:30am with Mass, followed by breakfast and end with lunch at noon.

- **The Day of Recollection for Men is Saturday, February 25th**
- **The Day of Recollection for Women is Saturday, March 25th**

The fee for the day, if you will be eating breakfast and lunch, is \$20; otherwise, there is no fee. Payment can be made via:

- PayPal-JulieMarx14@gmail.com
- Venmo-@Julie-Marx-7 (Last 4 digits: 4938)
- Cash/check may be dropped off at the rectory, marked c/o Julie Marx.
 - ◇ Make checks payable to Julie Marx.

Please note 'retreat' on all payments. The full retreat schedule is posted on our *Lent and Holy Week 2023* link listed below, along with other Lenten activities.



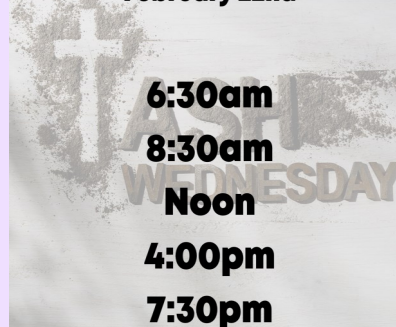
Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

While Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation, it is still an important day in the Church calendar as it marks the start of Lent and our season of sacrifice and spiritual preparation to joyously celebrate the Resurrection of Christ. This year, Masses will be celebrated, and ashes distributed, on **Wednesday, February 22nd**, after all Masses listed to the right. Please make a concerted effort to attend one of these Masses to prepare yourself for the 40 Days of Lent ahead.

Please note the following reminders for Ash Wednesday.

1. Evening confession will be cancelled.
2. All Masses will be held in the Church on this day.

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule February 22nd



Saint James Lenten Fish Fry

Saint James' traditional Lenten Fish Fry returns **every Friday in Lent starting next Friday, February 24th, from 5:00pm -8:00pm**. Come early, and you will be in time to attend Stations of the Cross. We will have drive-thru and in-person dining. Menu includes fried or baked fish, hush puppies, fries or baked potato, cole slaw, rolls, macaroni and cheese, and cake.

This is a great community event that requires lots of volunteers. There are many ways to help. An online signup will be posted on the Fish Fry link to volunteer.

Click on the *Lent and Holy Week 2023* link on our homepage for more details on the Fish Fry.



Visit Our *Lent and Holy Week 2023* page, stjamescatholic.org/worship/lenten-2023

Lent 2023 (Continued)

The Light Is On—Extended Confessions during Lent

Just a reminder that *The Light Is On* Confessions continues on Wednesday evenings during Lent. The initiative is a partnership with the Diocese of Arlington and the Archdiocese of Washington to encourage the Sacrament of Confession by offering additional hours during Lent.

Confessions will be offered on Wednesdays 6:30pm-9:00pm through April 5th. To download Confession resources, visit <https://thelightison.org>.

Holy Week 2023 Schedule

Monday of Holy Week, April 3

- 7:30pm-8:30pm Tenebrae Service
- 8:30pm-9:30pm Confessions

Tuesday of Holy Week, April 4

- 6:30pm-9:00pm Confessions

Wednesday of Holy Week, April 5

- 9:00am-11:00am Confessions
- 6:30pm-9:00pm Confessions

Holy Thursday, April 6

- 7:00pm Misa de la Cena del Señor (gimnasio) (español)
- 7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
- No weekday Masses today
- No Confessions

Good Friday, April 7

- 9:30am-11:30am Confessions
- 12:00pm-1:00pm Stations of the Cross
- 3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion
- 5:00pm Vía Crucis (español)

Holy Saturday, April 8

- 9:00am Blessing of the Easter Baskets and Egg Hunt
- 9:30am-11:30am Confessions
- 8:30pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday Masses, April 9

- 7:30am
- 9:00am
- 10:30am Livestream
- 12:00pm
- 2:30pm (español) Livestream

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are held every Friday during Lent. Note the schedule change for Good Friday, April 7th.

English

- 7:30pm February 24th-March 31st
- 12:00pm April 7th

Spanish

- 6:00pm February 22nd-March 31st
- 5:00pm April 7th Vía Crucis

Youth Ministry Middle School

Students will participate in a **Lenten Bible Study on Thursdays, February 23-April 6 from 6:30pm-7:45pm** in the school library. No meeting will be held on March 16th.

Lenten Mass/Rosary-Middle School students are invited to attend Sunday Mass each week of Lent and pray the Rosary. Have a priest, religious sister, or parent sign your Mass and Rosary card. Then join Father John Paul for a Divine Mercy party on Sunday, April 16th. Cards will be available in the school, church vestibule, Youth Ministry web page, and the Rectory office.

Visit Our *Lent and Holy Week 2023* page, stjamescatholic.org/worship/lenten-2023



Parish News

Join Our Divine Mercy Cenacle at Saint James

Saint James Parish has a Divine Mercy Cenacle which is dedicated to praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the sick and dying. We aim to delve deeply into the Divine Mercy message by studying scripture, the Catechism, and the Diary of St. Faustina. Cenacle members also participate in works of mercy for the parish.

Our group **meets twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 10:00am-12:00pm** in the Knecht conference room. To learn more about Divine Mercy Cenacles, visit <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/eadm/about-eadm>. If you are interested or have questions, email Yvonne McCool at YMMcCool@outlook.com.

Collection Counters Needed

Are you good with numbers? Do you have two hours each week to volunteer? The Saint James Collection Counters are looking to add members to our team. Responsible stewardship demands that the weekly gifts from the faithful, which represent the monetary lifeblood of the parish community, be properly safeguarded, counted, deposited, and recorded. Our Collection Counters team is a group of honest and fun individuals who share each other's company while we share the burden of offertory stewardship.

If you can help out in any way or have questions, email Anita Clark at AnitaClark@verizon.net.



Support the 40 Days for Life

The 40 Days for Life spring vigil is being held outside the abortion facility in our parish, at 900 S. Washington Street, Falls Church. **It will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, through April 2nd from 7:00am-7:00pm.** Our parish's designated day for keeping the vigil is Wednesdays.

Visit www.40daysforlife.com/en/fallschurch to sign up for an hour. Email Rich Hunter, stjameslife@gmail.com, with questions.

WorkCamp Fundraiser

The 2023 Saint James WorkCamp Youth Activities Group will be collecting donations outside after Mass next weekend, **February 25-26**. Donations will be used to alleviate the cost of their participation (\$525 for each participant) and to help support the cost of the service projects such as roof repairs, window replacements, wheelchair ramps, etc. The campers stay in a school where they sleep in a classroom and work each day providing services to the surrounding community. This year Saint James will be taking 18 youth and 8 adult volunteers to Frederick County, Virginia for one week in June to help the needy in that area to make their homes warmer, safer and drier. Thank you in advance for your support.

Parish Operations Update

Behind the Scenes — Saint James Operations Update Winter 2023

We completed half of our Fiscal Year 2022-2023 on December 31st. You will be comforted to know that you, the faithful, were right on budget! Offertory totaled \$1,090,314 for the period; the budget was \$1,088,500. Thank you for supporting Saint James.

Total income for the period was \$3,198,604, about 2% under budget. Expenses totaled \$3,371,964, about 6% under budget. We typically run a deficit during the first half of the fiscal year because we do not begin earning School tuition income until September. But because our expenses have been so low, our year-to-date deficit (-\$173,360) was quite a bit better than our budget (-\$344,700).

These figures do not include our capital project income and expenses, which are reported “below the line” on the financial statements. We have spent \$473,313 so far this year on capital projects. Some of this spending was for projects that were completed in the previous fiscal year but paid for this year:

- a new heating and cooling unit in the Convent-side transept of the Church
- a new roof on the Gym
- repaving of B Lot
- replacement of all 500+ student desks in the School (funded by our School PTO).



We also have several new works in progress this year:

- complete renovation of the restrooms in the Church -- thank you for your patience!
- our Sanctuary Restoration & Renewal project (completely funded by special donations)
- replacement of the old wooden exterior doors around Monsignor Heller Hall
- replacement of the heating/cooling system for the School's middle school building
- additional security cameras around our campus
- improvements to our Rocket Field (funded jointly by the PTO and the Parish).

If you have any questions or comments regarding parish operations, please feel free to contact Rich at rblickendorfer@stjamescatholic.org.



The church's public restrooms' renovations are progressing. We are adding ventilation and hot water, two amenities these restrooms have never had. Plus, we are making both restrooms more accessible to patrons with mobility challenges. Thank you for your patience during this time.

MY SOUL *Rejoices* IN THE *Lord*

Matching Gift Opportunity!

The Diocese of Arlington has received a challenge gift this year, which we hope will inspire you to make as generous a gift as possible to the 2023 BLA!

The challenge gift will match new or increased donations. So, every dollar donated above your last BLA gift amount will be matched up to \$250,000. And if you are donating for the first time to the BLA, your entire donation will be matched!

Ways to Give

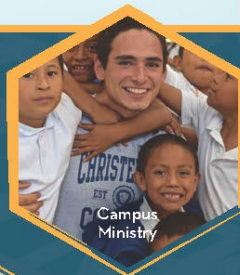
Online Giving - You may make a one-time gift or set up recurring monthly gifts via credit card at our secure site: www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code below.

Pledging - You may make a pledge commitment and send payments throughout the year. You will receive monthly statements until your pledge is completed. The statements include an option to pay by credit card or direct debit.

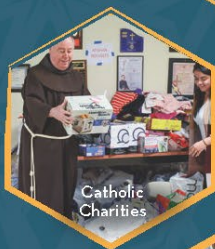
Checks - May be made payable to "Bishop's Lenten Appeal" or "BLA" and mailed to the address below.



Youth Ministry



Campus Ministry



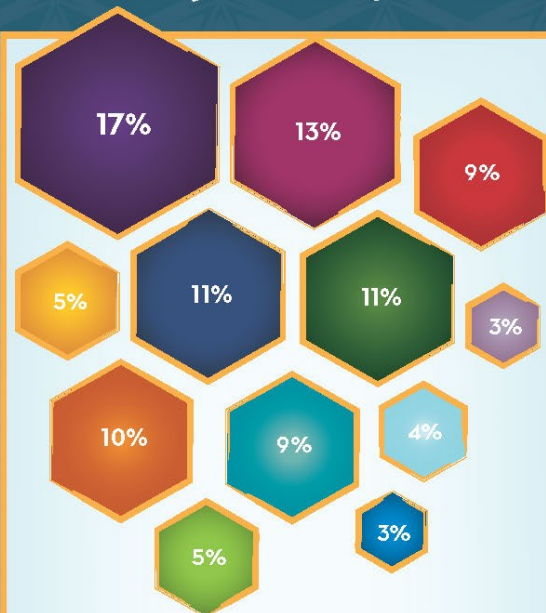
Catholic Charities



Catholic Schools



Multicultural Ministries



100% of all donations received for the BLA are restricted gifts to be used within the diocese for the sole benefit of the programs and ministries outlined below.

- 17%** Seminar Education and support, Vocation Awareness Programs, Permanent Diaconate Program
- 13%** Programs, offices and ministries that assist our 70 parishes, 6 missions, and 4,600+ parish, school and diocesan personnel
- 11%** Catholic Schools, Office of Divine Worship and Religious Education Programs
- 11%** Office of Youth, Campus and Young Adult Ministries
- 10%** Catholic Charities, parish subsidies and other charitable works that assist people in need
- 9%** Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life and the Diocesan Tribunal
- 9%** Support to the Virginia Catholic Conference and Chancery offices assisting the Bishop as he leads our parishes and the diocese
- 5%** Diocesan development and communication programs
- 5%** Spanish Apostolate and Multicultural Ministries
- 4%** Evangelization efforts including: INOVA Hospital Ministry, Peace and Justice Commission, Spiritual Assistance Ministry and our Dominican Republic Missions
- 3%** Parish/Diocesan properties and land development
- 3%** San Damiano Spiritual Life Center

This chart reflects projected 2023 BLA funding for \$20.3 Million which is allocated to these various areas.

For more information, please call the Bishop's Lenten Appeal office at 703-841-2570 or visit our website at

www.arlingtondiocese.org

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON
BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203

To make an online gift or pledge, visit
www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA
Or scan here to make a donation:



Pastor's Lenten Appeal 2023

Suggestions on how to know, love, and serve Christ more deeply this Lent

Download this form from our website for your personal use and to access links.

Knowing Christ – How can I know my Lord more deeply?

- Spend 15 minutes a day reading scriptures or read one chapter a day of the Gospels.
- Select a book from [Father's recommended reading list](#) on our website.
- Check out a spiritual book from our 1000+ volume [Parish Library](#).
- Join [FORMED](#) via our website for family movies and Tim Gray's Daily Reflections.
- Sign up for [2Minutes2Virtue](#) on the diocesan website.
- Join a [Parish Bible Study group](#).

Praying to Christ – How can I grow closer to my Lord through prayer?

- Attend our [Parish Day of Recollection](#) (Men-2/25 and Women-3/25).
- Attend an extra Mass each week.
- Commit to monthly confession and a nightly examination of conscience.
- Visit our Lord in the Tabernacle each day.
- Attend the Stations of the Cross each Friday.
- Pray a daily Rosary or Divine Chaplet with friends or family.
- Use a print or online daily devotional (e.g. [Magnificat](#) or [Give Us This Day](#)).

Fasting with Christ – How can I grow in sacrifice and the virtue of temperance?

- Fast on Wednesdays and/or Fridays.
- Avoid screens, including for work, after a certain hour each night.
- Give up sweets, alcohol, tobacco, and/or coffee.
- Give up eating out.
- Give up shopping for things other than necessary items.
- Give up or cut back on social media.
- Make a sacrificial gift to the [Bishop's Lenten Appeal](#).

Serving Christ – How can I serve my Lord and others more generously?

- Volunteer at [Christ House](#).
- Join a [Parish Group](#) (see our website for volunteer opportunities).
- Pray outside of an abortion clinic (visit the [Respect Life page](#) for more details).
- Donate to our Social Outreach drives (food, clothing, or gift card collections).
- Invite a friend or family member back to Mass.
- Call or write your goddaughter or godson.
- Take an elderly person to church or visit the sick or homebound.
- Bring a friend or family member to the [Fish Fry](#) followed by Stations of the Cross.

Visit our Lent 2023 page: StJamesCatholic.org

Saint James Catholic School

National Catholic School's Week 24-Hour "Day of Giving"

A word of thanks from Sister Mary Sue Carwile, IHM Principal of Saint James Catholic School

Dear Friends of Saint James Catholic School,

One of my favorite quotes is "Gratitude is the memory of the heart." My heart is full of gratitude as I recall again and again the generous donations and support made to Saint James Parish School year after year. This year, our annual 24-hour Day of Giving saw a total donation of over \$14,000! These funds go directly into our Annual Appeal and will be put at the service of our mission of "educating the whole child within the Catholic faith tradition."

I would like to thank, in a special way, an anonymous donor couple who got us started with a \$5,000 challenge match. This generous gift, along with donations from current parishioners, school families, alumni, grandparents, and friends far and wide, all pulled together to make this 24-hour campaign a huge success. Thanks to your generosity, we are now only \$5,000 short of reaching this year's Annual Appeal goal of \$100,000. THANK YOU!

Your generosity is always an inspiration to me, and your support has deepened my conviction and commitment to the mission of Saint James Catholic School. Your donations make it possible for us to continue to keep our students safe and to provide them with quality teaching and faith formation. You also make possible the presence of many students who, without your assistance, would be unable to attend our school.

Gratefully,

Sister Mary Sue, Principal

If you would like to donate to the Saint James School Annual Appeal, please do so at:

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/VA50/22645>.



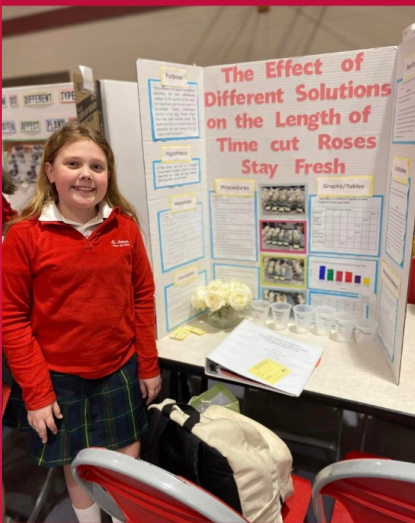


Saint James Catholic School

NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



Celebrating Faith, Academic Excellence, & Service



Catholic Schools Week Celebration

We are so proud of our parish school. During Catholic Schools Week, the classrooms were buzzing with activity. The students prayed, learned, and were brimming with school spirit.

Our students participated in a school-wide Bingo game with Shadow eagerly watching Sister Kathryn call the numbers over the PA system. They wore wacky socks and spirit wear to show their school pride. Our seventh graders participated in a science fair where the winners will compete at the diocesan level. Our Open House was well-attended and the priests blessed everyone's throats. It was a very busy and wonderful week. St. Blaise, pray for us!

As part of a charitable service project, the National Junior Honor Society students collected over 2,000 toiletry items for our Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, at Camila Hall in Immaculata, PA, their retirement community. Thank you to all of our families who supported this special service project!

Stewardship—The Gift of Time, Talent, and Treasure

Thank You to all Who Donated to the 2023 BLA

Father Scalia spoke at all the Masses last weekend – February 11-12 – on the importance of supporting the 2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal. This year's theme is *My Soul Rejoices in the Lord*.

Once a year we are asked to make a pledge to support the work of the BLA which provides services that no single parish could provide on its own. Donating to the BLA is part of our Pastor's Lenten Appeal (see *Fasting with Christ* on page 9.) *We hope to reach our parish goal with 100% participation.*

To donate, visit the following link, www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla, or scan the QR code to the right. Thank you for your generous support!



Black and Indian Mission Second Collection

Next weekend, **February 25-26**, our second collection is for the Black and Indian Mission, which helps promote the Gospel among African Americans and Native Americans. The mission was founded in 1884 to assist Native American Indians and African American Catholics in impoverished communities. They do this through parish life and catechetical activities, supporting educators, and empowering vocations.



To donate online through Faith Direct, visit <https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/VA50/1482>.

Sanctuary Restoration & Renewal Project Update

Good News! As shared in a recent Pastor email from Father Scalia, we are pleased to announce that we have reached our \$500,000 goal for the Sanctuary Restoration & Renewal Project. Thank you to all who contributed! May God reward your goodness and generosity.

In terms of the start date, there have been some delays so work will not begin until the end of the month. Please note that this project will not disrupt Sunday Masses. We will continue to keep you all updated on the sanctuary restoration via the bulletin and our website. For real time updates, we recommend that you sign up to receive Father Scalia's weekly emails by sending your name and email address to communications@stjamescatholic.org.



As a reminder, registered parishioners received a mailing in November about the Sanctuary Restoration and Renewal Project. Further information can be found on our website, under the Worship menu:

stjamescatholic.org/saint-james-sanctuary-restoration-renewal.

Thank you all again for your generous response. We are so grateful!

Parish Calendar

Monday, February 20		
President's Day. Parish/Rector's Offices Closed. No Noon Mass.		
7:30pm-8:30pm	Creation Care Ministry Online Meeting (see page 6)	
Tuesday, February 21		
4:45pm & 7:00pm	PREP Classes	School
7:00pm-8:15pm	High School PREP	School Library
7:30pm-9:00pm	RCIA	Knecht
7:30pm-9:00pm	Legion of Mary	Parish House
Wednesday, February 22		
Ash Wednesday (see page 4). No Confession Today.		
10:00am-11:30am	Women's Bible Study	Knecht
6:00pm-7:00pm	Exodus 90	Parish House
7:00pm-8:30pm	Men's Bible Study	Parish House
7:00pm-9:00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	Knecht
Thursday, February 23		
10:00am-12:00pm	Divine Mercy Cenacle	Knecht
6:30pm-7:45pm	Middle School Lenten Bible Study	School Classrooms
7:00pm-8:00pm	Confessions	Church
7:00pm-8:00pm	Holy Hour	Church
7:00pm-9:00pm	Women's Bible Study	School Library
Friday, February 24		
11:00am-11:45am	Confessions	Church
5:00pm-8:00pm	Fish Fry Begins	Msgr. Heller Hall
6:00pm-7:00pm	Spanish Stations of the Cross	Church
7:30pm-8:30pm	Stations of the Cross	Church
Saturday, February 25		
8:30am-12:00pm	Men's Lenten Retreat (see page 4)	Church/Msgr. Heller Hall
10:00am-12:00pm	Co-ed Bible Study	Parish House
3:30pm-4:30pm	Confessions	Church
6:30pm-7:30pm	Confessions	Church
6:30pm-8:30pm	Spanish Prayer Group	Msgr. Heller Hall
Sunday, February 26		
12:00pm-2:00pm	Hispanic RCIA	Knecht
1:00pm-2:15pm	Hispanic PREP	School
4:00pm-5:30pm	Spanish Legion of Mary	Parish House
4:30pm-6:30pm	Youth Ministry Middle School Dodgeball (see page 6)	Gym
5:00pm-6:00pm	Holy Hour	Church
9:00pm-10:00pm	Exodus 90 (Group 2)	Parish House

Cherry Blossom Father-Daughter Dance

Cadette Girl Scout Troop 50048 presents the 2023 Cherry Blossom Father-Daughter Dance on **March 11th**. There will be two different times for the dance: elementary grades 5:30pm-7:00pm and middle school 7:30pm-10:00pm. Please join the troop for a special evening with your dad, grandfather, uncle, or any special male role model in your life. The event will include multiple surprise raffles, DJ dancing with contests, snacks/desserts/punch/water, and more. Ticket pricing: \$30 per couple, \$35 1 adult/2 girls, \$40 1 adult/3 girls, \$45 1 adult/4+ girls, and \$25 for an additional adult.

Visit <https://sjs2023.ticketleap.com/st-james-2023-father-daughter-dance> to register and for more details. For questions, you can call/text or email Mary Oliva, 202-725-5292 or maryeolivia@icloud.com.