



Saint James Catholic Church

905 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA

www.stjamescatholic.org

703-532-8815

December 28, 2025



THE HOLY FAMILY

He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled. - Mt 2:23

Clergy

Very Rev. Paul D. Scalia, Pastor
Rev. Charles Pavlick, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Timothy D. Banach, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mauricio Pineda, In Residence
Rev. Daniel Reuwer, 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

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
Phone: 703-841-3883

School

830 W. Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046
Phone: 703-533-1182; Fax: 703-532-8316
Website: www.saintjamesschool.org
Sister Kathryn Teresa Clemmer, IHM, Principal
sisterkathryn@saintjamesschool.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

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

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

Saturdays: 8:30am

Federal Holidays: See Parish website

Holy Days: 6:30am, 8:15am, Noon,
5:00pm, 7:00pm, and
8:30pm (Spanish)

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:

10:00am-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 our Worship menu 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 & Office Manager
sramsel@stjamescatholic.org

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

Sonia Grebogi, Receptionist
Mass intentions
receptionist@stjamescatholic.org

Rich Blickendorfer, Business Manager
rblickendorfer@stjamescatholic.org

Kara Rider, Accounting Specialist & Child Protection and Safety Coordinator
krider@stjamescatholic.org

Kathleen Anderson, Director of Development
kanderson@stjamescatholic.org

Don Carolina, Director of Music
dcarolina@stjamescatholic.org

Tina Doak, Communications Specialist
communications@stjamescatholic.org

Colleen Sullivan, Youth Ministry Coordinator
ym@stjamescatholic.org

Cara Valle, Disability Inclusion Committee Liaison
inclusion@stjamescatholic.org



Convent

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

Sister Regina Rosarii McLallen, IHM, Superior of Saint James Convent

Parish Registration

To register with the parish or to update your contact information, call the Rectory office or email them at receptionist@stjamescatholic.org.

The Pope's December Prayer Intention

For Christians in areas of conflict—Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

Follow Us

Facebook @StJamesCatholicChurch



Instagram @stjamescatholic



X @St_James_CC



On The Way

Redeeming Word and Body: Christ's Redeeming Word

"No man ever spoke like this man!" So did the Temple guards explain to the Pharisees their inability to arrest Jesus (see Jn 7:30-53). As with many characters in the Gospels, they spoke more accurately than they realized. Indeed, no man ever spoke like Jesus because He was not just a man speaking. He is the redeeming Word made flesh to communicate divine grace and truth by way of human words. And in so doing He redeems our wounded speech.

We know the power of our Lord's words from the Gospels. After the Sermon on the Mount, "the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes" (Mt 7:28-29). The scribes taught by citing other sources as authorities. Jesus, as the Word Who is in the bosom of the Father, speaks authoritatively from His own knowledge of the Author of Life. Even His enemies acknowledge this authority. "Teacher," they say. "We know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men" (Mt 22:16).

His words carry power and effect change. He commands demons to depart from people and they do. He says to the paralytic, "Rise and walk" – and he does (Mk 2:8-11). He rebukes the wind and sea – "Quiet! Be still" – and they obey (Mk 4:39). When the guards come to arrest Him in the garden, His states simply, "I am," and they fall to the ground (Jn 18:6).

And yet simultaneous with this power is an ordinariness about Jesus' words. He speaks plainly, using phrases, words, and images familiar to His listeners. He talks about lamps and bushel baskets, farming and fishing, lost coins and sheep, lilies of the field and birds of the air. There is no thunder, echo, or supernatural timbre in his voice – just the simplicity of human speech.

And He fashions that speech to His audience. Which is not to say that He tells people what they want to hear but that He finds the right words to convey His truth according to each circumstance. To the rustic Galileans He speaks in simple, agrarian images. To the learned Pharisees and Sadducees in Jerusalem He speaks in theological terms, quoting scripture and debating them. To Pontius Pilate He speaks sparingly but in terms fitted for the Roman mind.

Now, we pride ourselves on speaking our own mind. But Jesus thought differently: "I do nothing on my own authority but speak thus as the Father taught me...I speak of what I have seen with my Father" (Jn 8:28, 38). His words are authoritative precisely because they are not His own, but because they come from His obedience to the Author. They are at the service of the truth, not power. He speaks not to manipulate as worldlings do but to express and communicate the Father's truth.

All of which is to say that the eternal Word speaking in human words bestows a divine approval on our speech. We are not condemned to the meaninglessness and confusion experienced at the Tower of Babel. The modern claim that words are just power plays is false.

His speaking as one of us confirms, elevates, and sanctifies our speech. He has made our human words a vehicle of divine truth and grace. The words of our faith convey divine truth. We can express in human language something of the ineffable mystery of God. So also, He has entrusted to us the sanctity and power of sacramental words, which effect real change in persons baptized, absolved, and wed.

– Fr. Scalia

Mass Intentions for the Week within the Octave of Christmas

Saturday, December 27

Mass for the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

5:00pm +Jo-Ellen Zawada

Sunday, December 28

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

7:30am +Danny Go
9:00am +Edward J. Murn, III
10:30am Pro Populo
Noon +John McGlone
2:30pm +Oscar R. Geron
7:00pm +Diane Paar

Monday, December 29

St. Thomas Becket

6:30am +Nancy Fishenden
8:15am +Philip Jakubik
Noon +Carol Verneuille

Tuesday, December 30

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

6:30am Thanksgiving for the Apigo family
8:15am +Dan and Gerald O'Donohue
Noon +Patricia Hatch

Wednesday, December 31

St. Sylvester I

6:30am +Susan Carneal
8:15am +Diane Paar
Noon +Nancy Fishenden
5:00pm +Danny Go

Thursday, January 1

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

9:00am Pro Populo
10:30am +Ramiro and Flora Lopez
Noon +Susana Amas
2:30pm +Antonio Altair Augusto
5:00pm +Nancy Fishenden

Friday, January 2

SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

6:30am +Catherine Morrison
8:15am +Joseph W. Rahall, III
Noon +Regina de Palma

Saturday, January 3

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

8:30am Jane Checkan
Mass for the Epiphany of the Lord
5:00pm +Diane Paar

Sunday, January 4

The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30am +Sheila Zipse
9:00am +Jane D'Arcangelo
10:30am Pro Populo
Noon +John William Mantz, Jr.
2:30pm For the living members of the Grebogi and
Sare families
7:00pm +Coleman O'Brien

Today's Readings

First Reading

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

"God sets a father in honor over his children;"

Psalms

Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

"Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways."

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

"Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and..."

Gospel

Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

"When the magi had departed, behold,"

Readings for the Week

Visit bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar for the daily readings, responsorial psalms, and gospels for the upcoming week.

Remember in Your Prayers

the sick of our parish family

Juan Alarcon	Thomas Duncan	Mildred Melmer
Joyce Babiak	Dora Dee Estes	Julie Neil
James Banks	Rachel Noonan	Francis Neumann, Jr.
Beatriz Basso	Esther Olivos	Jerry Parker
Cory Bautista	Roberta Dunn	Carter Parry
Betty Brunton	Katherine Garren	Phillip Perot
Jim Buscher	Anthony L. Gerena	Colman Rowan
Patricia Cavasina	Monica Giove	BJ Salinas
Jane C. Checkan	Silvia Guevara	Kathleen Seroskie
Chloe Clagg	Scott Herman	Robyn Stewart
Grace Coipuram	Laura Lareau	Lauren Vinci
John Cormany	Yolanda Machiado	Liv Wash
Mona Demian	Jose G. Martinez	Anne Marie Willis
Charles Duggar	Gloria Mora	Mary Winslow

the deceased of our parish family

James Fritz	Barbara Jean Swartz
Ramone Eleuterio Rozada	

and please pray for all active duty military

CPT Sean D. Brocato, USA	Col. Jay Hildreth, USA
2nd Lt. James Canady, USAF	Capt. Sierra Lancaster, USAF
1st Lt. Thomas Canady, USAF	Cmdr. Bruce Lee, USN
Maj. Michael Conrad, USA	Cpl. James Murray, USMC
LTJG William Conroy, USN	2nd Lt. Joseph Murray, USMC
CDR Thomas Dixon, USN	2LT Paul Murray, USA
PO3 Frank (FX) Giaccio, USN	Capt. Theresa Neubig, USMC
Pvt. Luke Harvey, USA	1st Lt. Mario Suarez, USAF
Lt. Mathew Hayes, USN	



For changes, email 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.



- Sign up to be a praying member at <http://eepurl.com/gURddD>.
- Submit a request to PrayerChain@saintjamescatholic.org.

Parish News

Women's Wednesday Weekly Bible Study

Women are invited to a new weekly study group on **January 7th from 10:00am-11:30am** in the Knecht Conference Room. The group will have an ambitious session and will start with *Time for God* by Fr. Jacques Phillipe (a very easy read about how to succeed in meditative prayer). The group will continue into Lent with *No Greater Love*, a study of the Passion from Ascension Press. All women are welcome to attend.

Contact mcsmurray@gmail.com with questions or to register.

Rectory Office Notice

The Rectory and administrative offices will be **closed from December 24-January 1**.

For an **emergency requiring the sacraments** of the Church, call our office at 703-532-8815 and follow the menu prompts for the priests' emergency line.

If you need assistance with **funeral arrangements** before Friday, January 2nd, please email Susan Ramsel at sramsel@stjamescatholic.org and include a daytime phone number.

Epiphany House Blessing

Saint James will offer blessed chalk for parishioners with a house blessing prayer for Epiphany after **all the Sunday Masses on January 4th**.

Families can pick up a packet from the ushers after Mass.

Each year, using blessed chalk, families can mark the door post of their home with an inscription of the **new year** separated by the letters,

C, M, and B—i.e., **20+C+M+B+26**.

C+M+B stands for the Latin words *Christus Mansionem Benedictat*, which means “May Christ bless this house.”

The letters can also stand for the traditional names of the Magi who visited Christ: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.

Epiphany Home Blessing



MOVIE NIGHT



THURSDAY, JANUARY 15TH
5:00PM - 8:00PM
MSGR. HELLER HALL

SENIORS YOUNG AT HEART


Meatloaf dinner. Guests are asked to bring a vegetable dish, salad, or a dessert to share for six people. A \$5 donation is appreciated.

RSVP by Monday, January 12th, to

- Susan at jacksonsusan765@gmail.com or
- Kathleen at kmcphilomy2@gmail.com

If Saint James School is closed, the event is cancelled.

Special Blessing of Epiphany Water



Bring a container with water

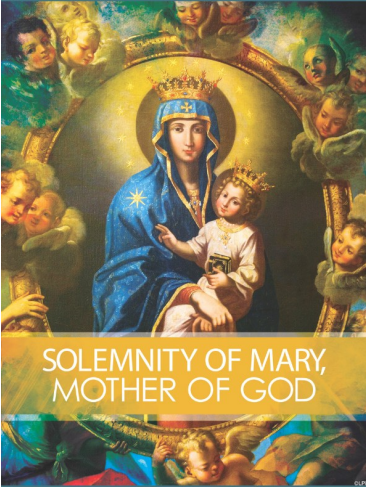
Monday, January 5th

7:00pm-8:00pm

Parish News (Continued)

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

Mass Schedule



Wednesday,
December 31st*
5:00pm Vigil

Thursday,
January 1st*
9:00am
10:30am**
12:00pm
2:30pm Spanish**
5:00pm

* No adoration or confession

** Will also be livestreamed

Inclement Weather Policy

Mass takes place as scheduled regardless of the weather. Use your best judgement in severe weather conditions when main roads and neighborhoods may not be safe to drive or walk. Remember on Sundays we livestream the 10:30am English Mass and 2:30pm Spanish Mass on our Facebook page and our website.

Park Avenue is an emergency snow route. Please use our lots (A Lot, B Lot, C Lot, and the Parish House parking lot) and avoid parking on Park Avenue during a snow emergency. Details about the city's snow emergency policy are available on the Falls Church City website, <https://www.fallschurchva.gov/>.

During inclement weather, our rectory office follows the Falls Church City Government. If the city government is closed or operating on a delay, our rectory will follow the same schedule. The city communicates during emergencies via several outlets, including local news media as well as the city's website and social media platforms.

The school and religious education program (PREP) follow Falls Church City Schools.

St. Vincent de Paul Society—Interest Meeting for Three Parishes

The parishes of Saint James, Saint Philip, and Saint Anthony of Padua are exploring the possibility of starting a single, joint conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP) to serve the poor in all three parishes. SVDP members grow in holiness while bringing financial resources, friendship, and hope to those in need.

If you are interested in learning more, come to our big Three-Parish SVDP Interest Meeting on **Tuesday, January 27th, at 7:00pm** in Monsignor Heller Hall.



Visit <https://bit.ly/SVDPMeeting> or scan QR code to RSVP which is optional but appreciated. You will be added to our email communications.

WE ARE THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Are you looking for a ministry where you can:

- Grow in holiness
- Build friendships
- Serve the poor right here, in our own neighborhood

We are men and women of every age, every race, every income level, who share our blessings of time, talent, and

treasure with those who need help and hope, regardless of their religion, age, or background.

No work of charity is foreign to the Society. Join our mission, and grow in spirituality, friendship, and service.

Join us for...
Donut Sunday Next Sunday, January 4th



After the 9:00am & 10:30am Masses in Monsignor Heller Hall

IHM Sisters Renew Their Vows

On December 8th, our IHM Sisters, along with Sister Karl Ann Homberg, SSJ, renewed their vows at the 10:00am School Mass. Each year, the Sisters renew their vows on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and celebrate it as their Community Patronal Feast. Father Scalia celebrated the Mass and presented each Sister with roses.

We wish to thank the Sisters for their joyful and selfless service to our parish, our school, and the broader community of Northern Virginia for the last 100 years.



*IHM Sisters
"Radiating joyful service and promoting Gospel values"*



Youth Ministry


 SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH
 YOUTH MINISTRY

Middle School
Epiphany Party
 with Father Tim
 Saturday, January 3rd
 1:00pm-3:00pm
 in the Parish House
Bring signed Advent cards and enjoy s'mores, pizza and games



Scan to RSVP
 


COLLEGE STUDENTS HOME FOR WINTER BREAK!



Join our College Coffee group for Mass followed by coffee and conversation at Godfrey's
Monday, January 5, 2026
8:15 am at Saint James Church

Scan QR code to RSVP
 email ym@stjamescatholic.org with questions




Next WorkCamp Meeting

Teens and adult volunteers planning to attend WorkCamp this summer should join us on **Sunday, January 11th, at 8:15pm** in the Parish House for a meeting.

Email workcamp@stjamescatholic.org with questions or scan the QR code to visit our WorkCamp web page as well as to sign up for Flocknote, our email communications system.



WORKCAMP SCHEDULE
2026

Sunday, January 11 at 8:15 pm Parish House	 TEEN & ADULT VOLUNTEERS MEETING
Sunday, February 22 at 8:15 pm Parish House	 TEEN MEETING
Sunday, March 8 at 8:15 pm Parish House	 TEEN MEETING
Friday, April 3 Saint James Catholic Church	 VIA CRUCIS
Saturday, May 30 at 9:00 am B-Lot	 TOOL TRAINING
Saturday, June 20 at 2:00 pm B-Lot	 DEPART FOR WORKCAMP 2026!!


 WorkCamp is a week-long service opportunity for youth of our Parish to serve those in need throughout the Diocese.



March for Life 2026

Saint James' parishioners are invited to join our parish Respect Life group for the National March for Life in D.C. on **Friday, January 23rd**. The parish will provide a chartered bus for this event. The schedule will be as follows:

- 10:15am—Attendees begin boarding the bus in front of the church
- 10:30am—Bus departs for D.C.
- 3:15-3:30pm—The bus will pick us up at Stanton Park in D.C. for the return trip
- 4:30pm—Expected time to return to Saint James

The cost of the bus is \$15 per person/\$30 per family and \$5 for a Saint James beanie if you do not have one. If

you have your red beanie from last year, please bring it. We have a limited supply of beanies left. Try to wear red on the day of the march. Bring a bagged lunch and/or snacks and water.



Payment options:

- **Cash** paid at the Rectory Office
- **Check** made payable to Saint James Catholic Church with "March for Life" on memo line.
 - If mailing the check, send it to Saint James Catholic Church, 905 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046 ATTENTION: Susan Ramsel
- **Parish PayPal** at <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/stjamescatholic> and note it is for the March for Life
- **If paying on the day of the march**, please go to the Rectory Office to pay before boarding the bus.

Register for the bus using our online sign-up at <https://bit.ly/StJames2026MFL> or scan the QR code.

Contact Rich Hunter, 571-423-6482 or StJamesLife@gmail.com, with any questions about the march. For questions about bus registration, contact Susan Ramsel, 703-532-8815 or sramsel@stjamescatholic.org.



Comunidad Hispana

Bautismos

Para bautizar a su hijo, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial al 703-532-8815 preferiblemente antes de la llegada del bebé. La familia debe estar registrada en la parroquia y ambos deben asistir a la clase prebautismal, preferiblemente también antes de la llegada de su bebé. Para más información sobre los bautizos y clase de preparación para dichos bautizos, comuníquese con Víctor Méndez al 571-239-5772.

Enfermos de la Comunidad

Cada domingo podemos llevar la Sagrada Comunión a los feligreses que viven en los límites de la parroquia y que están enfermos, confinados en sus hogares o que están en hogares de ancianos. Si es necesario, un sacerdote puede visitarlo para ofrecerles la Reconciliación y la Unción de enfermos. Para más información, comuníquese con Patricia Flores al 703-371-5695.

Matrimonios

Para aquellos interesados en matrimonio, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial al 703-532-8815 para recibir información y comenzar la preparación matrimonial con uno de nuestros sacerdotes. Dicha preparación es un programa de seis meses y no se fijará una fecha para la boda hasta que un sacerdote haya tenido una reunión con la pareja.

Confesiones

- Miércoles y jueves 7:00pm-8:00pm
- Viernes 11:00am-11:45am
- Sábados 3:30pm-4:30pm y 6:30pm-7:30pm

Adoración

- Primeros viernes: 10:00am-12:00pm
- Primeros viernes (Adoración Nocturna): 7:30pm a 8:30am de sábado
- miércoles y jueves: 12:30pm-8:00pm

Página web parroquial en español

Haga clic en el código QR para visitar la página de la comunidad hispana y obtener más información, incluyendo próximos eventos, sacramentos, misas, adoración, confesiones, personas de contacto de los ministerios e información de contacto.



Parish Calendar

Monday, December 29	No scheduled events	
Tuesday, December 30		
7:00am-7:45am	Saint James Fraternity-Exodus 90	Parish House
Wednesday, December 31	(see page 5 for Vigil Mass)	
	6:30am, 8:15am, & Noon Masses will be offered	
Thursday, January 1	Solemnity of Mary (see page 5); No scheduled events	
Friday, January 2		
10:00am-11:45am	First Friday Exposition and Benediction	Church
11:00am-11:45am	Confessions	Church
4:45pm-6:30pm	Food Distribution	Msgr. Heller Hall
7:30pm-11:59pm	First Friday All-Night Adoration	Church
Saturday, January 3		
12:00am-8:30am	First Friday All-Night Adoration	Church
7:15am-8:15am	Men's Prayer Group	Parish House
10:00am-12:00pm	Co-ed Bible Study	Parish House
1:00pm-3:00pm	Middle School Epiphany Party (see page 7)	Parish House
3:30pm-4:30pm	Confessions	Church
6:00pm-9:00pm	Hispanic Prayer Group	Msgr. Heller Hall
6:30pm-7:30pm	Confessions	Church
Sunday, January 4		
10:00am-12:30pm	Donut Sunday	Msgr. Heller Hall
10:00am-11:15am	PREP Special Needs	Knecht Conference Room
4:00pm-5:30pm	Hispanic Legion of Mary	Parish House
5:00pm-6:00pm	Holy Hour	Church



First Friday All-Night Adoration Join Him in the New Year!

**7:30PM ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 2ND
TO
8:30AM ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD**



Remember to signup at bit.ly/FriAdoration or scan QR cde

First Saturday

January 3rd is First Saturday and the month of the Holy Name of Jesus. At the name of Jesus we bow our heads to give glory and honor to Him. This month let us honor the name of Jesus by bowing our heads when we hear his name and make the First Saturday devotion.

Our Lady's promise to those who make the First Saturday devotions

I promise to assist at the moment of death...all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months:

- Go to the sacrament of Penance
- Receive Holy Communion
- Recite/pray five decades of the Rosary
- Keep me company (pray with Mary) for 15 minutes while meditating on the 15 mysteries of the Rosary

All with the intention of making Reparation to Her most Immaculate Heart.

“In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph.”

