



SAINT JAMES

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

366 COWAN RD. | GULFPORT, MS 39507



JANUARY 26, 2025

*THE SPIRIT OF THE
LORD IS UPON ME...*
- LK 4:18

3RD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

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, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00AM - 4:00PM

WEDNESDAY 9:00AM - 2:30PM

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 James Smith

Pastoral Associate:

Deacon Richard Henderson

deacon@saintjamescc.com

Deacon:

Rick Conason

Parish Secretary:

Beth Black.....Ext. 301

office@saintjamescc.com

Finance Manager:

Shannon Holliday.....Ext. 304

finance@saintjamescc.com

Director of Religious Education:

Linda Hebert.....Ext. 302

lindahebert@saintjamescc.com

Family Life Coordinator:

Mara Russo.....Ext. 303

FLC@saintjamescc.com

Evangelization Coordinator:

Chris Molino

evangelization@saintjamescc.com

Youth Minister:

Bridgett Bermond

youthminister@saintjamescc.com

Communications Manager:

Derek Fountain.....Ext. 305

comms@saintjamescc.com

Facilities Coordinator:

Joshua Faul

joshuaful@saintjamescc.com

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

www.stpatrickhighschool.net

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 to register.

Candlemas on February 2

If you count 40 days after the celebration of Christmas you reach February 2. Early on, the Church marked that day with a special feast and it is the final "baby Jesus" day in the liturgical calendar before the celebration of Lent. The feast has many different names in the Roman Catholic Church. It has been called the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary and, more familiarly, Candlemas. Each name highlights a different aspect of the feast that the Church celebrates.

First of all, it is called the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary on account of an ancient Mosaic law explained in Leviticus.

[If a woman conceives, and bears a child she shall be unclean] And when the days of her purifying are completed, whether for a son or for a daughter, she shall bring to the priest at the door of the tent of meeting a lamb a year old for a burnt offering, and a young pigeon or a turtledove for a sin offering, and he shall offer it before the Lord, and make atonement for her; then she shall be clean. (Leviticus 12:6-7)

Mary, being a faithful Jew, abided by the law and did what was required of her. After 40 days passed, she approached the priest with the proper offering to be declared "clean."

The liturgical celebration is also called the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, and again corresponds to an ancient Jewish practice of presenting the first-born to God.

Everything that opens the womb of all flesh, whether man or beast, which they offer to the Lord, shall be yours; nevertheless the first-born of man you shall redeem. (Numbers 18:15)

As a result, Mary and Joseph brought with them Jesus, as St. Luke narrates, "And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord')" (Luke 2:22-23).

St. Luke narrates how, while at the Temple, the Holy Family encountered an old man named Simeon and what he said next constitutes the basis for why the feast is called Candlemas.

Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel. (Luke 2:29-32)

Simeon declared that Jesus would be a "light," and the Church developed a custom of lighting and blessing candles on this day. Historically, the priest would bless all the candles used during Mass for the entire year. The congregation also received candles and the words of Simeon were repeated in song. The current Roman Missal has the following prayer that summarizes the symbolism.

O God, source and origin of all light, who on this day showed to the just man Simeon the light for revelation to the Gentiles, we humbly ask that, in answer to your people's prayers, you may be pleased to sanctify with your blessing these candles, which we are eager to carry in praise of your name, so that, treading the path of virtue, we may reach that light which never fails.

Though not a holy day of obligation, it is a beautiful day in the Church's calendar. It signals the end of the "Christmas-Cycle" and looks forward to the light that will shatter all darkness at the Easter Vigil — when another candlelight service is performed in recognition that, "the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen" (Matthew 4:16). *Adapted from: Philip Kosloski - www.aleteia.org*

On the feast of Candlemas, bring candles that you will use in your homes throughout the year and they will be blessed.



"It is a requisite for the relaxation of the mind that we make use, from time to time, of playful deeds and jokes."

-St. Thomas Aquinas

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 January 26, 2025

Sunday:

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15
(see Jn 6:63c)/1 Cor 12:12-30
or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Monday:

Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4,
5-6/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday:

Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/
Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday:

Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday:

Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/
Mk 4:21-25

Friday:

Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-
40/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday:

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/
Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday:

Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for
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the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their five-year old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, "Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news." "Actually," they said, "she burst into tears. She wanted a baby *sister!*" How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don't approve of the way he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is "**fulfilled in your hearing**" (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize *this man* is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God's word announces the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What's required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God's gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad?

— *Father John Muir*

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

We are accepting donations for sanctuary flowers. If you would like to have flowers placed in front of the altar for a week in honor of a birthday, anniversary or other celebration, or in memory of a deceased loved one, please contact Linda Hartfield (228-697-3420). Donations must be scheduled at least two weeks in advance.

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.

Katherine Adams	Susan Cooper	Louis Helwick	Gayle Rivet Martinez	Amanda Smith
George Barlow	Paul Corley	Tom Hicks	Carolyn McClellan	Josh Sniffen
Terry Barnes	Jean Crawford	Shannon Holliday	Tanya McClellan	Julia Sterling
Hoshall Barrett	Fr. Joseph Dang	Timmy Holliday	Karen McCoy	Jennifer Stolarski
Faith Black	Mimi Davis	Erik Hosler	Beverly Moore	April Styczenski
Thomas Blankenbaker	Nicholas James Davis	William Jordan	Pete Moran	Vince Tester
Asher Bonura	Rose Dellenger	Pete Jurich	Jennifer Morgan	Fr. Doan Tran
Jerry Boudreaux	Elinor Donivan	Elaine Kennedy	Fr. George Murphy	Fr. Joseph Trinh
Susan Bourgeois	Brenda Dubuisson	Analyse Khalifeh	Kristina Myers	Fr. Joseph Uko
Debra Boyd	Anna Dugas	Jan Khalifeh	Lois Ann Necaize	Bob Usey
Vikki Blum Brewton	Susan Dunne	Sheena Khalifeh	Butch Oustalet	Brittany Varney
Hope Broadus	Craig Elliott	Sophia Khalifeh	Libby Owen	Alyssa Vega
Jennifer Brown	Jill Eure	Doug Kirk	Brian Pellegrin	Cathy Crane Vick
Teresa Buckman	W.C. Fore	Roger Labit	Kage Pickett	Michael Vu
Isabel Bullard	Theresa Frontz	Jeff Lawson	Jean Piltz	Ferdie Walker
Paul Bullard	Ashley Hage	James Lay	Melissa Robbins	Kim Casano-Ware
Charlotte Jean Buras	Loretta Hahn	Danny Lechner	Steve Rocha	Kemon Welford
Valerie Buras	Denise Hancock	Kathy Letaw	Jim Roos	Damon Wesfaul
Martha Chapin	David Harris	Josie Lindsey	Barbara Russo	Teresa Whiteside
Bernard Chevalier	Keleal Hassin	Clark Lizana, Jr.	Doris Seymour	
Dannie Chevalier	Jim Haupt	Chris Logan	Kathy Shankweiler	
Rhonda Clark	Jessi Hebert	Melissa Bailey Logan	Ralph Shankweiler	
Rose Mary Collins	Sgt. Eric J. Heitkamp	Amy Longo	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:



Mike Bass, Betty Bodden,
Eva Hinkel, Daniel Holliday,
Therese Jean Hughes,
Terry Joffrion,
Bragg Moore and
Alice Scafidi

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, January 25

4:00PM ☩ Paul Henry Goodman

Sunday, January 26

9:00AM ☩ David E. McGuffee
11:00AM People of Saint James
5:30PM ☩ Jackie Smith

Monday, January 27

7:00AM ☩ Infant Brooks Miller-Ferrell
8:30AM ☩ Essie Bourgeois

Tuesday, January 28

6:00PM ☩ Martin Evelyn Bouvier

Wednesday, January 29

8:30AM ☩ Jenni Bourgeois

Thursday, January 30

7:00AM ☩ Lane Cobden
12:00PM Father's Intention

Friday, January 31

8:30AM ☩ Terri Ladner

Saturday, February 1

4:00PM ☩ Fred Six

Deceased - ☩ Healing - ♥ Special Intention - 🙏

TWO WEEKS AT A GLANCE - EVENTS

January 27 - February 1

Monday, January 27

10:00AM Legion of Mary, Philomena House
6:30PM Al-Anon, Raphael Room

Tuesday, January 28

9:00AM H&F Card Game, Philomena House
7:00PM OCIA, Raphael Room
7:00PM XLT Adoration with Confessions, Church

Wednesday, January 29

5:30PM Sacramental Prep (First Communion), Raphael Room
6:30PM Sacramental Prep (Confirmation), Church

February 3 - February 8

Monday, February 3

10:00AM Legion of Mary, Philomena House
6:30PM Al-Anon, Raphael Room

Tuesday, February 4

7:00PM OCIA, Raphael Room
7:00PM XLT Adoration with Confessions, Church

Wednesday, February 5

5:45PM Family of Faith (Catechetical Session), Raphael Room
6:00PM Ultreya, Philomena House
6:30PM Sacramental Prep (Confirmation), Bosco Room

Thursday, February 6

9:00AM Altar Society, Raphael Room
1:30PM Saint James Town Hall (Afternoon Session), Church
6:00PM Saint James Town Hall (Evening Session), Church
7:00PM Knights of Columbus, Raphael Room

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 25

4:00PM Jennifer Villarreal

Sunday, January 26

9:00AM Joey Beattie

11:00AM Ed Farrell

5:30PM Yolanda Edwards

Saturday, February 1

4:00PM Holly Dreger

Sunday, February 2

9:00AM Tom Collins

11:00AM Doug Hill

5:30PM Michele Pisciotta

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 25

4:00PM Beverly Moore, Debby Weeks and
Connie O'Neal

Sunday, January 26

9:00AM Don & Sherry Alfonso and
Steve & Jennifer Broadus

11:00AM Julie & Alan Black, Stephanie Guirola
and Becky Graves

5:30PM Butch Plitt, Debbie Bazzone and
Ashley Herbert

Saturday, February 1

4:00PM Stephen Eckert, Debby Weeks and
Barbara Levine

Sunday, February 2

9:00AM Bonnie Jacobs, Shirley Henderson
and Gretchen Ellis

11:00AM John Mozingo, IV, Julie & Alan Black
and Stephanie Guirola

5:30PM Beverly Moore, Ashley Herbert and
Butch Plitt

TREASURE

January 18/19, 2025

First Collection: \$7,968

ACH: \$8,002

Online Giving: \$1,400

Second Collection: \$1,043

Altar Society

SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend's second collection will be for the Church in Latin America & Saltillo Mission.

Next weekend's second collection will be for the Pro Life Billboard Ministry.

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.

Annual Contribution Statement



If you'd like to receive an annual contribution statement, please contact the Parish Office.

Please Help Us (Help You)

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

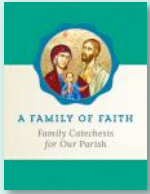
If using Venmo, please specify what the payment is for and notate whose name the contribution should be credited to in our records. Please ensure that you use the name under which you are registered in the parish. An envelope number can also be referenced.

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



February Catechetical Session February 5 | 5:45PM - 7:15PM Raphael Room

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

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



SAINT J YOUTH GROUP
GRADES 6-12

Sunday 6:30-8:00PM

Edge & LifeTeen My Brother's Keeper

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

Come to the Table

A Sacramental Overview with
Linda Hebert, Director of Religious Education

Parents of all children who are being prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist are required to attend a one-on-one, conversation with Linda.

To schedule your session, please contact Linda at lindahebert@saintjamescc.com or 228-297-5126

Please Help

Every Sunday night, we end our evening with a meal and fellowship. If you or your business is interested in helping feed our teens, please scan the QR Code to sign up for a night.

If you have any questions, please reach out to our Hospitality Lead Parent: Morgan McCabe
@ 228-669-4540



CONFIRMATION RETREATS

11th and 12th Graders to be confirmed this year - Stepping away from the world and giving time to God enriches our faith lives. In this time of sacramental prep, attending an overnight retreat is a requirement for Confirmation. There are just a few opportunities left:

SEARCH Retreat - January 31-February 2
Waiting List Only

Saint J LifeTeen Retreat - February 21-23

Questions, regarding Confirmation, should be directed to Linda Hebert.

SUMMER

Camp 2025

Hidden Lake: June 9th-14th, 2025
Current 6th & 7th Graders | Dahlonga, GA
\$625.00 plus transportation and food cost, while traveling TBD

Covecrest: July 6th-12th, 2025
Current 8th - 12th Graders | Tiger, GA
\$825.00* plus transportation and food cost while traveling TBD

*does include an extra night & white water rafting



Only a few spots available!

Notarized Forms & \$100 Nonrefundable Deposit
(Cash & Check Only) due to reserve spot.

Need More Information? Email: youthminister@saintjamescc.com



OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes will be offered for those interested in learning about the Catholic Faith, for those who seek entry into the Catholic Church or for those Adult Catholics who have never been confirmed.

Classes are held on Tuesday at 7:00PM in the Raphael Room.

For information, contact Deacon Henderson 228-209-6960.



CONFIRMATION APRIL 1, 2025

Confirmation Kick-Off

Sacramental Prep for 11th graders (& 12th graders who haven't been confirmed) kicks off Wednesday, January 29, at 6:30PM in the church.

Reminder - Catholic Schools do not prepare teens for the Sacrament of Confirmation. They are prepped in the parish where they will be confirmed

PARENTS AND STUDENTS ARE
REQUIRED TO ATTEND

January 29	6:30PM
Saint James Catholic Church	

MORE INFO: CONTACT
LINDA HEBERT @ 228-297-5126



Parents Meeting

for students preparing to receive their
First Holy Eucharist

(Faith Formation students and SJCS students)

Monday - February 11, 2025

6:00PM @ Saint James Catholic Church

More info: Contact Linda Hebert @ 228-297-5126



SAINT J YOUTH PRESENTS

Fulfilled

A LIFE TEEN RETREAT ON SEARCHING FOR MEANING

February 21st - 23rd

Gulf Shores Retreat Center

\$150.00

(includes boarding, food at retreat,
supplies, and transportation)



Scan the QR Code for details and to complete the application. \$50 non-refundable deposit due with application. Permission forms will be sent at a later date.

DON'T LET THE COST BE A DECIDING
FACTOR-ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE!

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

ADORERS NEEDED!

Monday 12:00AM - 1:00AM, 1:00AM - 2:00AM; Tuesday 12:00AM - 1:00AM; Wednesday 12:00AM - 1:00AM, 4:00AM - 5:00AM; Thursday 3:00PM - 4:00PM; and Saturday 12:00AM - 1:00AM, 1:00 AM - 2:00AM, 9:00AM - 10:00AM

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.

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!



Knights of Columbus Saint James Council # 11541

MEN ON A MISSION A Catholic brotherhood changing the world

Meetings: 7:00PM | Parish Center | Raphael Room

- General Meeting - 1st Thursday of the Month
• Planning Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the Month

Upcoming Events

- TBD - Red Cross Blood Drive
• Lenten Fish Fries

#11541 Facebook page



www.kofc.org www.kofc-ms.org

www.saintjamescc.com/kc11541

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' located in 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.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

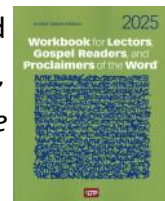
Peanut butter, jelly, cereal, rice, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, baked/pork 'n' beans, Vienna sausages, canned fruit, bottled water, protein bars, crackers, dried beans, canned vegetables, rice and feminine items.

Open: Tuesdays 9:00AM - 11:45AM, Food & Financial Assistance

Thursdays 10:00AM - 11:30AM, Food Assistance ONLY

If you would like a 2024 contribution statement from St. Vincent de Paul, please call the office or contact Gretchen Ellis at 228-265-1336 and leave your name and phone number.

Attention Lectors - There are limited copies of the 2025 Workbook for Lectors, Gospel Readers and Proclaimers of the Word available in the Sacristy.



The Pray for a Priest Calendars (January/February 2025) are available on our website.

MARRIAGE

Please note: The Diocese of Biloxi requires that engaged couples should begin the Marriage Preparation process no fewer than six months prior to the anticipated wedding date. Wedding dates CANNOT BE SCHEDULED until the engaged couple contacts and meets with the Family Life Coordinator.

To begin the process, please contact Mara Russo at FLC@saintjamescc.com or 228-896-6059.

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.

Saint James Catholic Church

Couple Prayer Series Lent 2025

A six-week series for engaged and married couples beginning **Thursday, March 6** and continuing through Lent (final session is April 10).

Sessions will be held in the church from **6:00PM - 8:00PM**
Childcare will be available at no cost.

MUST PRE-REGISTER TO ATTEND



The Couple Prayer Series was created to help engaged and married couples discover the life-changing intimacy and joy that praying together brings to a marriage.

BAPTISM

Baptism Preparation classes are held once a month. The next class will be February 8.



For more information and to register, please contact Mara Russo at FLC@saintjamescc.com or 228-896-6059.

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to our new parishioners:
Gloria Cantu Hidalgo
Caitlin Mallette
Sean & Kaitlin Surginer and Children
Darrin & Cathy Villavaso

BAPTISMS



We joyfully welcome the newest members of our parish family:

Groves Kenneth Peranich, son of Tanner & Kimsey Peranich

Maren James Salley, daughter of Josh & Morgan Salley

Couples Date Night

Thursday, February 27, 2025 | 6:00PM
Saint James Parish Center Gym

Registration deadline for those needing childcare is February 24!!

*All engaged and married couples are invited to join us for good food, beer & wine, and fellowship!

*There is no cost to attend, but you **MUST** pre-register!





Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Since 1974, National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2025, is January 26 - February 1.



2025-2026 REGISTRATION

OPENS JANUARY 27

Returning families enroll through their Family Portal.

New families/ New students
apply at stpatrickhighschool.net/apply.



January 23, 2025

Dear Saint James Parishioners:

This week, we begin our annual observance of Catholic Schools Week, which will be celebrated from January 26th through February 1st. We set aside this week each year to focus on the gift that Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our community, and our nation. During Catholic Schools Week, we reach out to the community to build awareness of what our school has to offer. We would like to thank all those who work hard every day to make St. James Catholic School excellent.

The theme of our celebration is “United in Faith and Community”. Catholic schools have an irreplaceable role in the Church’s evangelizing mission. Building on the central goal of Catholic schools to form saints, Catholic schools teach and embrace the whole person, body, mind, and spirit. The fact that all members of a Catholic school community share the Christian vision of faith that Christ is the foundation of Catholic education is what unites the school as a faith-filled community.

While faith is the binding element in Catholic schools, the Church reiterates that parents are the first teachers of their children. Holding this tenet, Catholic school communities expand beyond the walls of school buildings to envelop the family as an integral part of the school community. Together teachers, administrators, staff, students, and parents fuel the light of faith by integrating culture with faith and faith with living.

Faith development, academic excellence, and dedication to service are the key elements of Catholic education. These elements set Catholic schools apart from other educational options, and they are a few of the many reasons that families make sacrifices to provide their children with a Catholic education.

I am grateful every day for the teachers, staff, council members, parents, volunteers, and parishioners who are involved in the success of our school. May God bless all those who contribute to the important work they do on behalf of the children of our parish and school.

I pray for God’s abundant blessings on each of you.

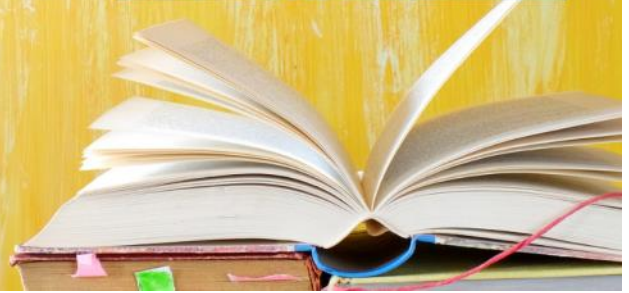
Sincerely,

Tricia Harvey
Principal

Daughters of St. Paul

Catholic Book Fair

Sisters from the Daughters of St. Paul will be here at Saint James on the weekend of February 8-9. Their Mission is to spread the Gospel through all forms of media and will provide a display of Catholic Bibles, books, music, and movies for purchase after all Masses. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to find excellent resources for your spiritual enrichment! For more about the Sisters, go to www.pauline.org.



HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT

Are you looking for a meaningful way to enrich your family's life while fostering global connections? International Cultural Exchange Service is seeking families in South Mississippi to consider hosting an exchange student for the upcoming school year. This wonderful opportunity not only provides a home for a student from another culture, but it also allows your family to experience new traditions, perspectives, and friendships.

Students come with their own health insurance and spending money! Consider hosting for the 2025-26 school year!



For more information email Emily Aldrich at ealdrich@icesusa.org

If you made a donation for the Christmas flowers, you may take one of the poinsettias that have been placed in the rock gardens.



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6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
FEBRUARY 12

ST. JOSEPH MEN'S NIGHT

RSVP is necessary to attend.

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A SAINT JAMES PARISH TOWN HALL: PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

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We invite all parishioners to join us for an important Town Hall as we discuss the exciting opportunities that will shape the future of Saint James Parish.



**DATE:
FEBRUARY 06, 2025**



**PLACE:
SAINT JAMES CHURCH**



**TIMES:
1:30PM & 6:00PM (1 HOUR SESSION)**

This is your chance to learn more about our Master Plan and contribute to respectful discussions about how we can continue to grow as a community of faith while addressing the needs of our church and facilities. Your voice is vital as we strive to optimize our current resources and prepare for a bright future together.

We encourage everyone to attend one of the sessions and be part of this meaningful conversation.

We look forward to seeing you there!

VOCATION PRAYER

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

MOST REVEREND LOUIS F. KIHNEMAN, III BISHOP OF BILOXI

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE

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



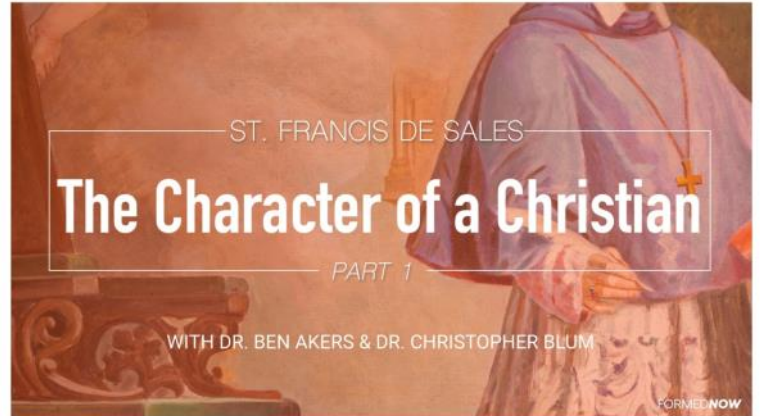
Eucharistic Miracle of GORKUM-EL ESCORIAL

The relic of the Eucharistic miracle can be venerated even today in Spain. But it is kept in the Royal Monastery in El Escorial, but the miracle was verified in Holland. Some Protestant ministers entered into the Catholic church in Gorkum and plundered it. As a sign of insult, one of the ministers trampled a consecrated Host with a spined boot, which broke it into three pieces. Instantly from these particles, it began to drip live blood and in the Hosts formed themselves like three small wounds in the shape of a hoop that is possible to contemplate even today.

The "Royal Monastery" of Escorial in Spain is one of the most important places of Catholic pilgrimage. It was founded in 1563 by Philip II of Spain in honor of the Virgin Mary. The miracle of the Eucharistic Hosts in Gorkum-El Escorial is a unique event in the history of the Catholic Church. It is a miracle that has been verified and is still being venerated today.

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A Prayer for the Unborn Children

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we love you so very much. We beg you to spare the lives of the unborn children whom we have spiritually adopted, who are in danger of abortion. Please help Mom & Dad choose life. Amen.

Fulton J. Sheen

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