

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1st Sunday of Advent



PARISH INFO

Clergy

Rev. Liam Coyne
Pastor ext. 105
Rev. Mr. Charles L. Iner
Deacon ext. 201

Parish Office

Monday-Thursday 9:00-4:00
Phone: (770) 957-5441
parishoffice@stjamesapostle.com

Mass Times

Monday-Friday 8:30 am
Wednesday: 6:30 pm
Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am | 11:00 am | 5:00 pm

Confession

Wednesday 7:00-8:00 pm
Saturday 9:00-10:00 am
Or by appointment

Adoration

Monday-Thursday
9:00 am-10:00 pm
In the chapel
Wednesday 7:00 pm-8:00 pm
First Fridays 9:00 am-8:00 pm
In the church

Visit our website:
<https://bit.ly/4i7luGC>



PARISH CONTACTS

STAFF

Tim Mitchell	<i>Business Manager</i>	ext. 102
Charles A. Iner	<i>Music Director</i>	ext. 111
Sandy Major	<i>Pastoral Associate</i>	ext. 101
Channy O'Meara	<i>Pastoral Associate</i>	ext. 101
Amy Gordineer	<i>Parish Secretary</i>	ext. 100
Tasha Quinn	<i>Accountant</i>	ext. 120
Jim Zakutansky	<i>Maintenance Coord.</i>	
Don Deweese	<i>Liturgical Assistant</i>	

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Eric Bridwell	<i>Director</i>	ext. 108
Tracy Howard	<i>Assistant</i>	ext. 109
Vickie Spieth	<i>Preschool Director</i>	ext. 121
Michelle Fallon	<i>Youth Minister</i>	ext. 110

For contributions to the bulletin, email Angela Bonilla at abonilla@stjamesapostle.com



Now Enrolling for the 2025-2026 School Year!!

Our Preschool classes are for children ages 1-5 years old. Registration forms and information are available on our website:

www.stjamesapostleatholicchurch.com/preschool



OCIA

OCIA

Whether you're a lifelong Catholic or just beginning to explore the Church,

you're warmly invited to join us for the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA), formerly known as RCIA.

Our next session is **Tuesday, Dec. 2nd**, from **7:15-8:30 PM**.

Topic: *The Church Year / The Incarnation*

Come with your questions, come as you are. For more information, contact Deacon Charles Iner at ciner@stjamesapostle.com.

Mass Intentions Week of Nov. 30th

Monday

8:30 am Andrew V. Foley+ *by Dawn Foley*

Tuesday

8:30 am Roger Victor+ *by Valarie Victor*

Wednesday

8:30 am St. Peter+ *by Anonymous*

6:30 pm Richard Rivera+

by Knights of Columbus Holy Trinity 7601

Thursday

8:30 am Thomas Ilorioke+ *by Felicia Sholesi*

Friday

8:30 am Danny McMichael+

by Knights of Columbus Holy Trinity 7601

Saturday

4:00 pm Earnest Walcott+ *by Joan Holmes*

Sunday

8:30 am Rev. Greg Goolsby+ *by Dawn Foley*

11:00 am Mary LeAnn Richards

by Keith & Leticia Richards

5:00 pm Our Parishioners

Sacramental Preparation & Information

Infant Baptism

Parents must be registered parishioners of St. James for at least three months (or have the pastor's permission) and complete the *Belonging* online course from Ascension Press. Godparents are also required to complete the course. Visit stjamesapostleatholicchurch.com for details. Baptisms are typically celebrated the first and second Saturdays of each month at 10:30 a.m.

First Holy Communion

Children in second grade who have been active in the Faith Formation program for two consecutive years are eligible to enroll in the sacramental preparation program. Special sessions are held throughout the year in preparation for these sacraments. For more information, contact the Faith Formation Office at 770-957-5441 ext. 108.

Confirmation

Youth in 10th grade or older who have been active in the parish teen program for at least two consecutive years are eligible to register for Confirmation. For more information, contact the Youth Ministry Office at 770-957-5441 ext. 110.

Adult Confirmation/OCIA

For Adult Confirmation and Sacraments of Initiation, contact Deacon Charles Iner at ciner@stjamesapostle.com or 770-957-5441 ext. 201.

Marriage

Couples considering marriage must contact the Parish Office at least six months before their desired wedding date and participate in a pre-marriage preparation program.

Anointing of the Sick

Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements. If this is an emergency situation after hours, please call the Parish Office and press "1" for a sacramental emergency.

Holy Communion for the Sick

If you or a loved one is in the hospital or an assisted living facility—whether temporarily or long-term—please call the Parish Office Monday through Thursday to arrange a visit. Visits must be scheduled prior to any weekend Mass.

Mass Intentions

Please contact the Parish Office. Suggested donation is \$15.

Parish Penance Service

Prepare your heart for Christmas by joining us for our Parish Penance Service!

Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Please note: There will be no confessions on Wednesday, Dec. 17.



New Beginnings

New Beginnings will be having our annual **Outerwear Drive** until **Dec. 14**.

Please consider donating lightly used coats and scarves. You can place them in our bin just off the Parish Hall.

We will also be partnering with the Cub Scouts with the annual **Christmas Stocking Stuffing** on Friday, **Dec. 5**. Please consider donating individually-wrapped candy and stocking-sized toys for this joyful event.

If you have any questions about what we need or how you can help, please email nbasjtacc@gmail.com or call 470-771-2039. If you or someone you know is in need of food, please contact the above email or phone number.

New Ministry Opportunity!

Mark your calendars!! Millions of Monicas is a prayer-centered ministry inspired by St. Monica, whose constant prayer helped lead her son, St. Augustine of Hippo, into full communion with the Catholic Church. This ministry is for women who are praying for loved ones to find or return to the faith. All women of the parish are invited! Learn more at the Parish Life Expo on Dec. 6 & 7.

The first meeting will be held on Saturday, **January 24, 2026** in the Quad (Room . For additional information, please contact Susie Q. Aruffo at susiearuffo@gmail.com or 828-775-3345.

ADVENT PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

During this holy season of Advent, open our hearts to receive Your Son with renewed faith and joy. May the light of Christ shine through our waiting and our works of love. Help us to slow down and listen for Your voice in the quiet moments of prayer and in the needs of our neighbors.

Strengthen our parish family of St. James the Apostle to walk together in hope, to prepare a place for Christ in our homes and hearts, and to bring His presence to all we meet.

Come, Lord Jesus, fill us with Your peace, and make us ready for the joy of Your coming. Amen.



Readings & Observances **Week of Nov. 30th**

Monday

Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday

Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday

St. Nicholas, Bishop

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday

2nd Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Stewardship Report

Registered Families 1782

Offertory

November 2	\$18,138
November 9	\$23,129
YTD Actual	\$337,415
YTD Budget	\$336,148
Percent Online Giving	47%
Archbishop's Appeal Goal	\$74,500
Received	\$62,000
Donors	192

Building Fund

November 2	\$2,260
November 9	\$2,209
YTD Actual	\$34,274
YTD Budget	\$77,075

Pending Projects

- Carpet hallway
- Dumpster enclosure
- Upgrade Holy Family Grotto
- Door signs
- New flooring for classrooms

SVdP Can Help. We know that a lot of people are struggling right now to pay bills or buy food. If you are a parishioner who needs a little to get by or have a friend or family member who could use help, contact Linda Berkowitz at (404) 987-2843.

Ministry Contacts

Adult Formation

OCIA

Dcn. Charles Iner | 770-957-5441 x201

Liturgical

Lectors/EMHC Scheduling

Parish Office | (770) 957-5441

Music Ministry

Charles A. Iner. | (770) 957-5441x111

Altar Servers

Dcn. Charles Iner | 770-957-5441x201

Prayer & Fellowship

Cursillo

Julie Gonzalez | 678-628-3322

Divine Mercy Group

Kathy Cowin | 678-601-4517

First Friday Devotion

Mary Byram | 678-228-3391

Little Flower Women's Bible Study

Prayer Group

Anna Cheverino | 770-320-8393

St. James Men's Fellowship

Mike Martin—404-557-0083

& Tommy Patterson—678-549-7382

Ultreya

Tom & Pam Jablonski | 404-451-8118

Young Adults

Omari Glean | 770-377-9498

Scouts of America

Boy Scouts

Ray Lightner | 678-231-2490

Cub Scouts

Chelsea Castro | 720-210-3628

Girl Scouts

Susan McCurdy - 770-957-1863 &

Ingrid Zabala - 678-583-0616

Daisies Girl Scouts

Jennifer Tadrzak | 404-969-8661

Service

Council of Catholic Women

Polly Crozier | 678-697-7690

Knights of Columbus

Shawn J. Doucette | 678-580-9431

Ministry to the Sick

Sandy Major | 770-957-5441x101

New Beginnings

Joel Walker | 470-771-2039

St. Vincent de Paul

Linda Berkowitz | 404-987-2843

Welcome Ministry

Leticia Richards | 770-507-7377

St. Zita Sanctuary Ministry

Don DeWeese | 404-218-3606

**For scheduling information,
visit our website!**



SVdP Holiday Calendar

The holiday season is a time to share Christ's love by caring for our Henry County neighbors in need.

Ways to Help This Holiday Season:

- **Toy Drive:** Please return **unwrapped toys** by the weekends of **Nov. 23, and Nov. 30**. The 30th will be the last day we will be collecting toys
- **Senior Gifts:** We will distribute gift tags for individual seniors on **the weekends of November 22-23 and 29-30**. Gifts must be wrapped with tags attached and brought back to the church **by December 6-7 and December 13-14**. We will not be able to collect any gifts after December 14.
- **Gift Card Collection** - Will start this weekend and go until the weekend of December 14th. Remember: we need Kroger or Walmart gift cards no larger than \$25.00. You can donate as many individual \$25.00 gift cards as you'd like.

Your generosity makes a real difference and helps remind others that they are not forgotten. Thank you for helping us make this a season filled with love, compassion, and the true spirit of Christmas.

Little Flower Women's Bible Study

The Little Flower Women's Bible Study Group is undergoing some exciting restructuring!

If you are interested in joining this ministry or learning more, please stop by their table at the Parish Life Expo on the weekend of December 6 & 7.



Calling All Future Altar Servers!

All children who have received their **First Holy Communion** are invited to join our parish Altar Server Ministry. Training will be held on **Monday, Dec. 1 at 7:00 PM in the Church**.



This training session will cover the basics of serving at Mass, including the roles, responsibilities, and reverence expected at the altar. It's a wonderful way for our young parishioners to participate more deeply in the liturgy and to serve our parish community.

RSVP to Deacon Charles Iner at ciner@stjamesapostle.com.



Endowment Fund

We are grateful to share that the **Catholic Foundation of North Georgia** has recently awarded our parish a **\$4,000 grant** to help renovate school space and create

an additional classroom. This generous support strengthens our efforts to serve our children and families and reflects the fruit that grows when the faithful invest in the Church's mission.

If you feel called to shape a legacy that blesses future generations, consider including the parish endowment fund in your will or estate plans. For more information, contact Juliet Greco at jgreco@cfnga.org or 404-497-9440.





St. James Religious Education



- **No Religious Education Classes Today! Happy Thanksgiving! Sessions resume next weekend Dec 7.** Edge Parents! Please remember to bring in shoe boxes and donations of small toys for the annual middle school service project. Thank you!
- **Attention Life Teen & Edge Parents!** Teens are selling gift cards for your holiday turkey, ham, and other delicious goodies from Honey Baked Ham, so you won't just be serving or gifting a mouthwatering meal — you'll also be supporting our youth! Look for an email from Michelle with links you can share on socials to family and friends for holiday get-togethers and gift-giving this season. When you buy through our special fundraising link, 20% of the proceeds go directly to the St. James the Apostle Youth Ministry. Thank you for your support!
- Also, next week is our annual **Edge shoe box toy drive**. Please remember to bring in empty shoe boxes and donations of little toy items for children of all ages that the middle schoolers will pack for kids in need of some cheer this Christmas season! Thank you!
- **Advent Reflection Books** are now on sale in the Parish Hall with cash or check to St. James the Apostle. Books cost \$1.50 each with a minimum \$2 donation requested. Proceeds from book sales offset the housing costs for teens attending the Summer Steubenville Youth Conference.



Lessons and Carols

Join us for our annual Christmas program **Lessons and Carols** on **Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025, at 7:00 pm.** Presented by Deacon Charles Iner and the St. James the Apostle Music Ministry, this cherished evening of Scripture and song invites us to pause, reflect, and prepare our hearts with joy and hope for the coming of Christ. Following the program, please join us for a reception with cookies and coffee as we celebrate the season together in fellowship.



St. James Youth Holiday Fundraiser



Get your holiday ham, turkey, and sides from Honey Baked and help St. James Youth!

When you scan the QR code to buy online, 20% of the proceeds go directly to St. James the Apostle Youth Ministry.



THANK YOU!



Second Collection



Elderly members of religious communities need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and priests of religious orders have served for years—educating the young, comforting the sick, and ministering to the less fortunate. Many religious communities lack sufficient retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your gift to next week's Retirement Fund for the Religious collection helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.



Thank you for your continued support and generosity. For more information, visit lifeofthechurch.com/donate.

Parish Life Expo

Next weekend, **December 6 and 7**, we will host a Parish Life Expo after all Masses. Several of our parish ministries will have tables set up, offering information on their work and the many ways you can take part in the life of our community. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore where your gifts might be put to use in service, fellowship, and prayer. Stop by, meet our ministry leaders, and see what St. James has to offer!

Mark your calendar!

- **Lessons and Carols** - Dec. 4, 7 pm
- **Advent Remembrance Mass** - Dec. 14, 11 am
- **Parish Life Expo** - Dec. 6 & 7, after all Masses

Weekly Meditation

Advent Begins!

"Be vigilant at all times and pray." Luke 21:36a

Advent begins with a call to vigilance as reflected in the passage above. There are numerous Scripture passages that call us to this vigilance and anticipation of the Lord's coming. Being vigilant means, also, that we are prepared. We are not caught off guard. Imagine if Christmas morning came and you woke up suddenly realizing that you forgot to prepare! Imagine if you had no gifts, no food purchased and no plans were made. Of course you wouldn't allow that to happen, but we do sometimes allow it to happen spiritually speaking. We often are not prepared to celebrate the birth of Christ within our hearts.

The first week of Advent also offers the focus of the Second Coming of Christ. Jesus will return again, in all splendor and glory, to judge the living and the dead. We profess that fact every Sunday in our Creed. So, even though Advent is a time for the preparation of the celebration of the first coming of Jesus in the flesh, it is also a time to acknowledge that His first coming is ultimately fulfilled in His final glorious coming.

As Advent begins, reflect upon how ready you are for Jesus' coming. Are you preparing for it with the same fervor that you prepare for Christmas through shopping, cooking, decorating, etc.? Are you looking forward to that day when He will return? Are you preparing for the spiritual celebration of His birth? Are you awake and attentive to the numerous ways that God speaks to you on a daily basis?

If you find that you are not as prepared for His return in glory as you'd like to be, make this Advent a time when you get your heart ready. Commit to prayer, spiritual exercises, reflection and attentiveness to His gentle and glorious voice.

Lord, as Advent begins, help me to put my eyes on You. Help me to open my ears to Your voice. And help me to open my heart to Your glorious presence. May I be attentive to You in every way You desire to come to me. Jesus, I trust in You.

A reflection from www.mycatholic.life



Sign up for **FLOCKNOTE** to receive updates on all happenings here at **St. James the Apostle!** Text **SJACC** to 84576 to sign up for FLOCKNOTE.

Prayer Corner



Adoration Notice

Spend a quiet hour with Jesus in our Adoration Chapel. Be present with the Lord and ensure He is never alone.

We need **guardians** for:

- Monday - 4:00 pm, 9:00 pm
- Tuesday - 10:00 am, 4:00 pm, 8:00 pm
- Wednesday - 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm
- Thursday - 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm

If interested, email sjadoration25@gmail.com or call the parish office at (770) 957-5441.

Sick List

Names are removed from the prayer list every two months. To keep a name on the list, please contact the parish office to request reposting.



Please Pray For...

Christian Kleb	Chris Willis
Jeffery Sweetser	John and Christine Willis
Maureen Richardson	Mary Wagener
John Virag	Micah Carroll
Peggy Woffard	Hector Jordan

If you or a loved one is hospitalized, in hospice, homebound, or in assisted living, please notify our pastoral minister at 770-957-5441 x101.

Prayer Chain

Do you have prayer intention on your heart? Contact Anna Cheverino at 770-320-8393 to have it added to the prayer chain!



Pray the Rosary

Please join us in saying the rosary on Tuesdays at 8am before Mass.

ARCHDIOCESE ABUSE REPORTING
We Are Here to Listen and Take Action
Archdiocesan 24-hour Abuse Reporting Hotline
1-888-437-0764
Abuse hotline for bishops only:
<https://reportbishopabuse.org> or call
(800) 276-1562.

Advent & Christmas Reflection Books

50 cents from each book supports youth ministry. Every dollar raised will be put towards Air BNB Costs for the Summer Steubenville 2026 Youth Conference.

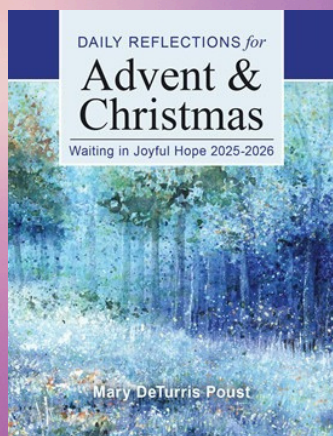
\$2 per book

Cash or Check

Make checks payable to
St. James the Apostle

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!**

 **LIFE TEEN**



Calling All Musicians!

The Music Ministry is seeking singers, both soloists and choir members, and instrumentalists for the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses. If you have a singing voice or play an instrument—from guitar to clarinet to balafon—please consider serving God by sharing your talents with our parish family.

For more information, please contact Music Director Charles A. Iner by email at music@stjamesapostle.com or by telephone at (770) 957-5441 ext 111

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!
Isa 2:5
