

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

3rd Sunday of Advent



"Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them." Mt 11:4-5

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

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>





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. 16th**, from **7:15-8:30 PM**.

Topic: *Initiation Sacraments - Eucharist part 2*

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

Mass Intentions Week of Dec. 14th

Monday

8:30 am Msgr. Terry Young *by Donna Waggoner*

Tuesday

8:30 am Fr. Liam Coyne *by Donna Waggoner*

Wednesday

8:30 am Melody Clarke *by Donna Waggoner*

6:30 pm Kenneth Seibel+

by Knights of Columbus Holy Trinity 7601

Thursday

8:30 am Theresa Sanders+ *by Emelia Gavel*

Friday

8:30 am Valarie Victor *by Valarie Victor*

Saturday

4:00 pm Jean E. Marchant+ *by Wally Marchant*

Sunday

8:30 am Richard Kosior+

by Mr. & Mrs. Ignatius Kosior

11:00 am Raymond Harris+ *by Viola Harris*

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

Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

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

Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, January 1, 2026 is a Holy Day of Obligation, honoring Mary, Mother of God. Mass will be celebrated at **10:00 am and 7:00 pm.**

2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal

There is still time to give! The archdiocese is nearing 84% of the parish goal being completed, but we still need your help to reach 100%!

Every gift to the Annual Appeal is vitally important to assure the continued support of many important programs that help thousands in our archdiocese each year through the education of our children and seminary students, evangelization and Christian Initiation, ongoing formation for our priests, and so much more!

Every parishioner counts, and every donation matters. Not everyone can give the same size gift, but every contribution adds up to make a sizable difference.

If you have not yet made a gift to the 2025 Archbishop's Annual Appeal, you can easily donate online at lifeofthechurch.com/donate, or you may reach the Office of Mission Advancement at annualappeal@archatl.com or 404-920-7600.

Retrouvaille – Hope for a better marriage

Does your marriage feel distant, strained, stuck, or even in crisis? Do you look perfect on the outside but are not perfect on the inside? The Retrouvaille Marriage Program can help, as it has helped thousands find new hope, better communication and a deeper connection. Talk to someone now at 404-644-3253, or visit HelpOurMarriage.org

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 Dec. 14th

Monday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Friday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Sunday

4th Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Stewardship Report

Registered Families 1782

Offertory

November 16	\$14,449
November 23	\$15,043
YTD Actual	\$366,907
YTD Budget	\$371,532
Percent Online Giving	32%

Archbishop's Appeal Goal	\$74,500
Received	\$62,599
Donors	192

Arch Seminarians	\$1,599
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Building Fund

November 16	\$1,102
November 23	\$1,618
YTD Actual	\$34,274
YTD Budget	\$77,075

Pending Projects

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



Gaudete



St. James Religious Education



- **Attention Edge, OCIC, and Life Teen Parents!** Just a reminder that Religious Education breaks for the year with the last session on Dec 14 due to the Christmas and New Year Holidays! Have a blessed holiday with friends and family! Be sure to share the link and QR code for the HoneyBaked Ham fundraiser to support Life Teen and Edge programs. **A generous 20 percent of the proceeds will come back to our youth programs to help pay for retreats and other activities!**
- **Life Teen parents!** TONIGHT we will end the year with our annual Bonfire and sing along outdoors at the pavillion Dec 14 at 6pm following the 5pm mass. Pizza and Smores will be served. Please make sure the teens dress appropriately for the weather!

Second Collection



Thank you for supporting last week's Retirement Fund for the Religious collection. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for the Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care and more to the thousands of senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals and parishes.

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

thank you!



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! LIFE TEEN

Annual Chili Cookoff

The Council of Catholic Women is sponsoring the Annual Chili Cookoff **Saturday, Jan. 31** right after the 4pm Mass. This competition is open to all Parish Ministries and a few select Parishioners that wish to apply.

Please respond to pollyfaye@gmail.com or call 678 697-7690.



The Pope's Intentions

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.



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.

Mark your calendar!

- **Advent Angels Remembrance Mass** - Dec. 14, 11 am
- **Parsh Penance Service** - Dec. 18, 7 pm
- **Holy Day of Obligation: Mary Mother of God** - Jan. 1, Mass at 10 am & 7 pm



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 - Our Parishioners Are So Awesome!

Thank you to our entire parish family for your faithful monthly support of St. Vincent de Paul. Every penny of your generosity goes directly to neighbors in need throughout the year—many of whom are only one step away from homelessness.

Toys: Our hearts are full of gratitude seeing all the toys donated by you - our parishioners! These gifts will brighten the lives of children whose families simply cannot afford presents this Christmas. Without your kindness, many of these little ones might have nothing under the tree. New Beginnings, along with the Boy Scouts, are preparing Christmas stockings filled with the small toys and candy donated by our St. James family. Some stockings will be delivered to the homeless, and the rest will be shared with the toy donations for local families.

Gift Cards and Senior Gifts: Once again, our St. James community responded with extraordinary generosity. The gift cards you provided will support Henry County residents facing emergencies throughout the coming year.

The gifts and prayers offered for the senior citizens living in three Henry County Housing Authority neighborhoods will be delivered on December 20 by members of SvDP. Many of these men and women live alone, and a large number struggle with poor health. Your kindness reminds them that they are seen, loved, and remembered—especially in this holy season.



Endowment Fund

"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me?" – Psalm 116:12

During Advent as we are "making a way for the Lord," we reflect on our blessings. Please consider including the parish endowment fund as a full or partial beneficiary for your IRA account. Simply contact your IRA custodian for a change of beneficiary form.

For more information, contact Juliet Greco at the Catholic Foundation at 404.497.9440 or jgreco@cfnga.org.



New Beginnings December News

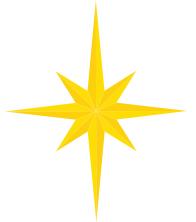
This **Monday, December 15th at 10:00 am**, we will gather in the Parish Hall to pack and deliver groceries for 45 food insecure families at three Title I schools. Your generous donations have made this possible. Come join us!

Monday, December 22nd at 10:00 am, we will gather to assemble and deliver Christmas Boxes for 25 families in need throughout Henry County. This is a long-time annual event at St. James The Apostle and is coordinated by Melissa Rieke. All are welcome! We especially need strong souls with strong backs to deliver these items to individual homes.

On **Saturday, December 27 at 10:00 am**, we will gather to pack Grace Bags.

There will be no monthly meeting in December.

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.



Weekly Meditation

How to Make a Good Confession

The Sacrament of Reconciliation—also known as Confession—is one of the greatest gifts of the Catholic Church. It is a sacred encounter with God's mercy, a moment of healing, and a step toward deeper conversion. But many Catholics hesitate to go, unsure of what to say or how to prepare. The good news is that making a good confession is simpler than we think—and deeply rewarding.

The first step is an **examination of conscience**. This is a time for quiet prayer and reflection, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal our sins. Reviewing the Ten Commandments or using a guide (we have guides available in the parish hall) can help us recognize not only serious sins, but also patterns or attitudes that draw us away from God.

Next comes **contrition**—true sorrow for our sins. This means being sorry not just because we fear punishment, but because our sin has hurt our relationship with God. A sincere heart is key. God doesn't demand perfection—just honesty and humility.

Then we **confess our sins** to the priest. Begin with the sign of the cross and say, "Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been [however long] since my last confession." Confess all mortal sins in kind and number. Don't worry about phrasing it perfectly—priests are there to help, not to judge. God already knows your sins; Confession is where He offers healing.

After confessing, the priest may offer spiritual guidance and assigns a **penance**, a small act or prayer to express our desire to make amends. Then, with a heart open to grace, we pray an **Act of Contrition**, expressing our sorrow and our resolve to do better.

Finally, the priest speaks the **words of absolution**, and our sins are washed away. We walk out renewed, unburdened, and restored in grace.

Confession isn't about shame—it's about freedom. Return often to this sacrament of love, and let God's mercy transform your heart. Confessions are heard at St. James on Wednesday evenings starting at 7 pm and Saturday mornings beginning at 9 am.

This Thursday, we will have our **Parish Penance Service** at **7:00 pm**. Join us, and experience the healing mercy of Christ as we prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas.

-Dcn. Charles L. Iner

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 - 4:00 pm, 8:00 pm
- Wednesday - 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 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.

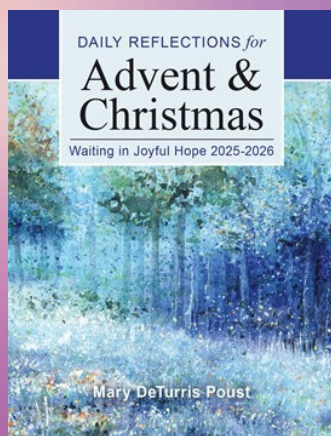
\$2 per book

Cash or Check

Make checks payable to
St. James the Apostle

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT!**

 **LIFE TEEN**



MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT

DECEMBER 26-28

Join men from throughout the Archdiocese for a day and a half of prayer, fraternity, discussion, and renewal at this year's winter discernment retreat.



26-28

2 P.M. TO NOON
DECEMBER 2025

**MONASTERY OF
THE HOLY SPIRIT
CONYERS**



For questions please call the Office of Vocations at 404-920-7460

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord.
Jas 5:7
