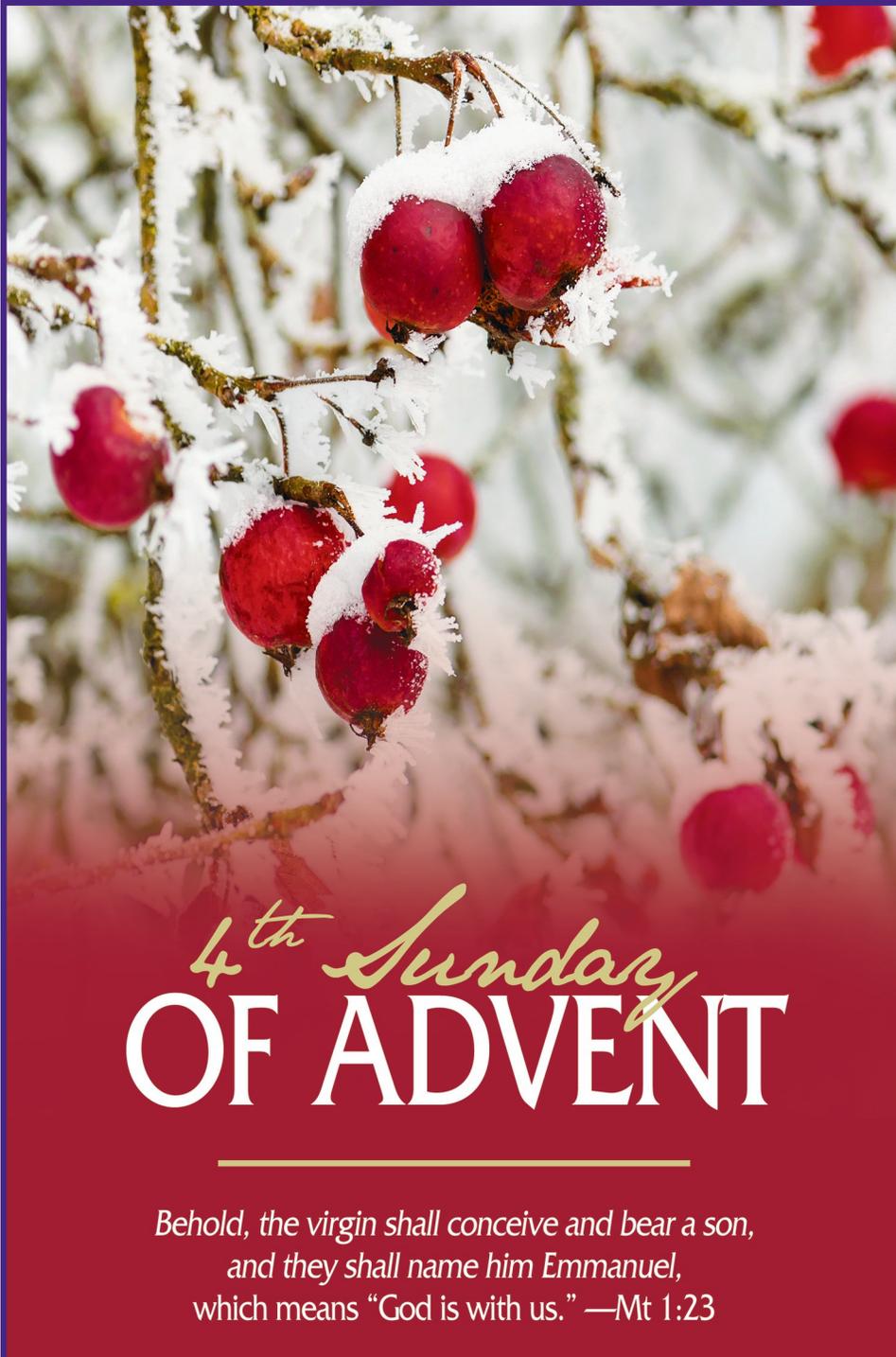


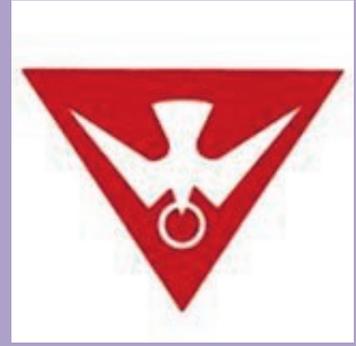
SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

*St. James Roman Catholic Church,
a diverse community rooted in vibrant Eucharistic Liturgy,
serves those in need in partnership with others.*



4th Sunday OF ADVENT

*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us." —Mt 1:23*



*Saint James Church is staffed by
the priests and brothers of the
Missionary Servants of the Most
Holy Trinity*

SUNDAY MASS

9:30 and 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m.

Tolton Chapel - Parish Rectory

RECONCILIATION

Confessions at St. James
on the first Friday of the month,
7:30-8:30pm, or by appointment

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

By appointment only

Saturday & Sunday
Closed

ST. JAMES PARISH

2942 South Wabash
Chicago, IL 60616
312-842-1919 (office)

312-842-3612 (fax) www.stjameswabash.org

Scan this QR code with your smart
phone's barcode scanner app and it will
direct you to the parish webpage.



DECEMBER 18, 2016 · 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ON THE WAY....



For the Sundays of Advent the gospel readings have been taken from Saint Matthew's Gospel. Actually, for the rest of this liturgical year (up until November 26, 2017) almost all of the gospel readings on a Sunday will be from Matthew. We call this Year A of the three year cycle of readings. Structuring the readings from the Bible in this way gives us the opportunity to reflect on the particular presentation of the story of Jesus by an individual evangelist.

Matthew, like each of the gospel authors, writes to bring his readers to faith. He presents the story of Jesus in a way which will connect with his target audience – in his case, probably, Jewish Christians who were trying to negotiate their relationship with both the Jewish synagogue and the Gentile Christians. He frequently quotes from the Old Testament to show the "fulfillment" of the prophetic message in the life of Jesus.

If there is an overarching theme to St. Matthew's gospel it would be: "God is with us." In the first chapter of the gospel the evangelist quotes from the prophet Isaiah: "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son and they shall name him Emmanuel which means 'God is with us'" (Matthew 1:23). In the last chapter of his gospel (which will be proclaimed on the Feast of the Ascension) Matthew records these as the final words spoken by Jesus: "I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). The First Gospel is structured, therefore, with brackets at each end proclaiming God's presence. All that occurs between Jesus' birth and his Ascension illustrates God's presence.

St. Matthew portrays Jesus as a lawgiver and a prophet, a New Moses. The gospel contains five major sermons delivered by Jesus – the Sermon on the Mount being the most famous. We recognize that God is with us in Jesus since he proclaims a Word of God which is every bit as important as the sacred writings of the Jewish tradition. Moses left the Pentateuch, the five books of the Torah. Jesus left his Words as the ongoing presence of God.

Like the other gospel writers St. Matthew records many of the miracles that Jesus performed during this life. These are manifestation of the divine power present in the person of Jesus. But more than that, they are the foretaste of the coming triumph of God over sin and death in the cross and resurrection. We see evidence of God's presence in the mercy and compassion that Jesus demonstrates to those in need.

Notice that the evangelist does not speak of the divine presence in the past tense. He is not pining for the good old days when Jesus walked the dusty roads. Matthew records that Jesus promises to be with us in the present tense. "I am with you always." As we negotiate these days during the Christmas season and then launch into the new year, we should keep alert to God's presence in our lives.

Peace,

Fr. John Edmunds, S.T

AT ST. JAMES

Readings



FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 2016

Readings for the Week of December 18, 2016

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Sunday: | Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24 |
| Monday: | Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71/Lk 1:5-25 |
| Tuesday: | Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Lk 1:26-38 |
| Wednesday: | Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33/Lk 1:39-45 |
| Thursday: | 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2/Lk 1:46-56 |
| Friday: | Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25/Lk 1:57-66 |
| Sat. Morning: | 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89/Lk 1:67-79 |
| Next Sun. Vigil: | Is 62:1-5/Ps 89/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 |
| | Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 |
| Night: | Is 9:1-6/Ps 96/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 |
| Dawn: | Is 62:11-12/Ps 97/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 |
| Day: | Is 52:7-10/Ps 98/Heb 1:1-6 |
| | Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 |



Christmas Eve Mass
6:00 p.m.
Christmas Day Only
One Mass @ 10 a.m.

**DONATE AN ITEM TO BE AUCTIONED AT
NEXT YEAR'S JAZZIN' TO FEED EVENT**



ITEMS TO DONATE
INCLUDE:
GIFT CERTIFICATES, EVENT/
SPORTS TICKETS, SERVICES
AND ART ITEMS.

PLEASE CONTACT PETER WAWIRE (312-842-1919 EXT. 213) OR TALK TO LIZ BOWMAN IF YOU WANT TO DONATE OR NEED MORE INFORMATION.

TREASURE

SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT

JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 4

| SUNDAY | 2016 | 2015 | CHANGE |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| ENVELOPES | \$85,614.81 | \$79,267.50 | \$6,457.31 |
| LOOSE CHECKS | \$26,332.00 | \$26,804.26 | (\$472.26) |
| LOOSE CASH | \$10,087.27 | \$8,916.12 | \$1,171.15 |
| ON-LINE | \$44,406.36 | \$35,814.00 | \$8,592.36 |
| TOTAL SUNDAY | \$166,440.44 | \$150,801.88 | \$15,638.56 |
| BUILDING | | | |
| MAINTENANCE | \$3,177.91 | \$7,291.00 | (\$4,133.09) |
| SAINT AGATHA | \$5,292.23 | \$3,839.31 | \$1,452.92 |
| TOLTON | | | |
| CANONIZATION | \$1,794.41 | \$941.67 | \$879.43 |
| TOTAL OTHER | \$10,264.55 | \$12,044.98 | (\$1,780.43) |
| TOTAL GIVING | \$176,704.99 | \$162,846.86 | \$13,858.13 |

Mass Stipends

A way of helping St. James is to send offerings to celebrate Holy Mass. These offerings are called "Mass Stipends" and are offerings to the parish for the priest to celebrate Holy Mass for a particular intention. The normal offering in our Archdiocese is \$10. We never have enough stipends for each daily Mass, so we are always grateful for more.



PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Victoria Allen
Ashley Alvarez
Eric Alvarez
Louise Bacon
Dorothy Barnes
Margie Bass
Barbara Bassett
James Bowman
Edwina Cook
Sandra Davis
Kathleen Foley
James Fonder
Paul & Jane
Freeman
Cathy Garcia
Mary Healy
Robert Helem
Elise James

Benjamin Jefferson
Mel Keys
Wayne Lambert
James & Linda
Kennard
Mary Madrigal
Nancy McCarthy
Latona Merchant
Joan Noble
Margaret Page
Cynthia Peacock
Francis Quigley
Darlene Racker
Daisy Keel
Barbara Radziwon
Sr. Barbara Rastatter
David Reynolds
James Reynolds

Sandra Reynolds
Philip Ricks
Norman Rouse
Mary Sanders
Christine Schatte
Geraldine Scudder
Barbara Southall
Catherine Spraggins
Bette Strickland
Bob Swiderski
Esther Toliver
Clayton & Sarah
Whitlow
Jennifer Warnick
Ayana Whitehead
Dina Williams
Audrey Winfrey
Ron Zivkovic

Mass Attendance

December 4th, 2016: 114 (9:30 a.m.)/66 (11:30 a.m.)
December 11th, 2016: 89 (9:30 a.m.)/35(11:30 a.m.)

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

For Sunday

December 25, 2016

Lectors

10:00 a.m. Daren Haley & Philip Sutton

Communion Ministers

10:00 a.m. Deacon Alfred Coleman, Deborah Cooper, Orea Perry, Clarissa Aljentera & Reshma Sekhar

Greeters

10:00 a.m. Irma Fonder

A Catholic Perspective on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's Contribution to Social Justice



Saturday, January 14, 2017, 12:30-1:30pm

We will celebrate MLK Day through service and reflection. Bishop Joseph Perry will offer a luncheon reflection for those who volunteer at our food pantry on Saturday or Sunday. The luncheon will be held in the Rectory.

This event is free, but you must RSVP by January 9 with Michael Maher at MMaher@StJamesWabash.org.



We will have a light New Years Day Brunch between the masses from 10:30 am - 11:30 am.

This catered brunch is possible thanks to a gift from the estate of Robert and Ginny Parker, (Brother and sister-in-law of Emma Collins, whose son Deacon Terry served for many years at St. James.), and also because of the generosity of Dave Samber and Pollo Café.

LOOKING AHEAD

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Sun 12/18 | 4th Sunday of Advent | |
| | 8:30 a.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Mass |
| | † | Rose Mineo - requested by Virginia Picuch |
| | 9:40 a.m. | Children's Liturgy of the World |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Sharing Parish Food Donation Deliveries |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Mass |
| Mon 12/19 | 7:30 a.m. | Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory) |
| | † | Intenstionof Br. Gustavo Amell, S. T. Requested by Josie Bertucci |
| Tue 12/20 | 7:30 a.m. | Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory) |
| | 9am - 11:30am | SNAP Assistance (Food Pantry) |
| | † | Intenstionof Br. Ramon Floras, S. T. Requested by Josie Bertucci |
| Wed 12/21 | 7:30 a.m. | Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory) |
| | † | Intenstionof Br. Victor Perez, S. T. Requested by Josie Bertucci |
| Thur 12/22 | 7:30 a.m. | Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory) |
| | † | Intenstionof Br. Ernesto Sadoval, S. T. Requested by Josie Bertucci |
| Fri 12/23 | 7:30 a.m. | Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory) |
| Sat 12/24 | 6:00 p.m. | Christmas Eve Mass |
| | † | Agnes Griffard - requested by Virginia Pickin |
| Sun 12/25 | The Nativity of the Lord | |
| | 9:00 a.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Mass |
| | † | Debra Barkec - requested by Vera Wilkins |
| | 10:10 a.m. | Children's Liturgy of the World |

Volunteering opportunities are available the week of Christmas!

December 22nd from 11:30 am – 3 pm
 December 23rd from 9:30 am – 3 pm
 December 24th from 9 am – 2 pm
 December 25th for the Christmas Dinner for the Homeless from 10:30 am – 4 pm

Please shoot me an email if you can help!
volunteer@stjameswabash.org

Thank you,
 Clare!



NEWS YOU CAN USE

*Remember your loved ones
 at Christmas!*

Help make Saint James look beautiful at Christmas! Please consider making a donation toward the purchase of Christmas trees and flowers.

A memorial prayer card will be placed in the bulletin with the names of those you would like to remember in prayer this New Year Season.



**I love Saint James and
 want it to be lovely at Christmas!**

Accept my donation of **\$20** in memory of:

Accept my donation of **\$30** in memory of:

Accept my donation of **\$50** in memory of all in my family!

**Please return this form with payment by
 Thursday, December 22, 2016.**

St. James Catholic Church
 Attn: Christmas Flower Donation
 2907 South Wabash Avenue Suite 400
 Chicago, IL 60616

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____