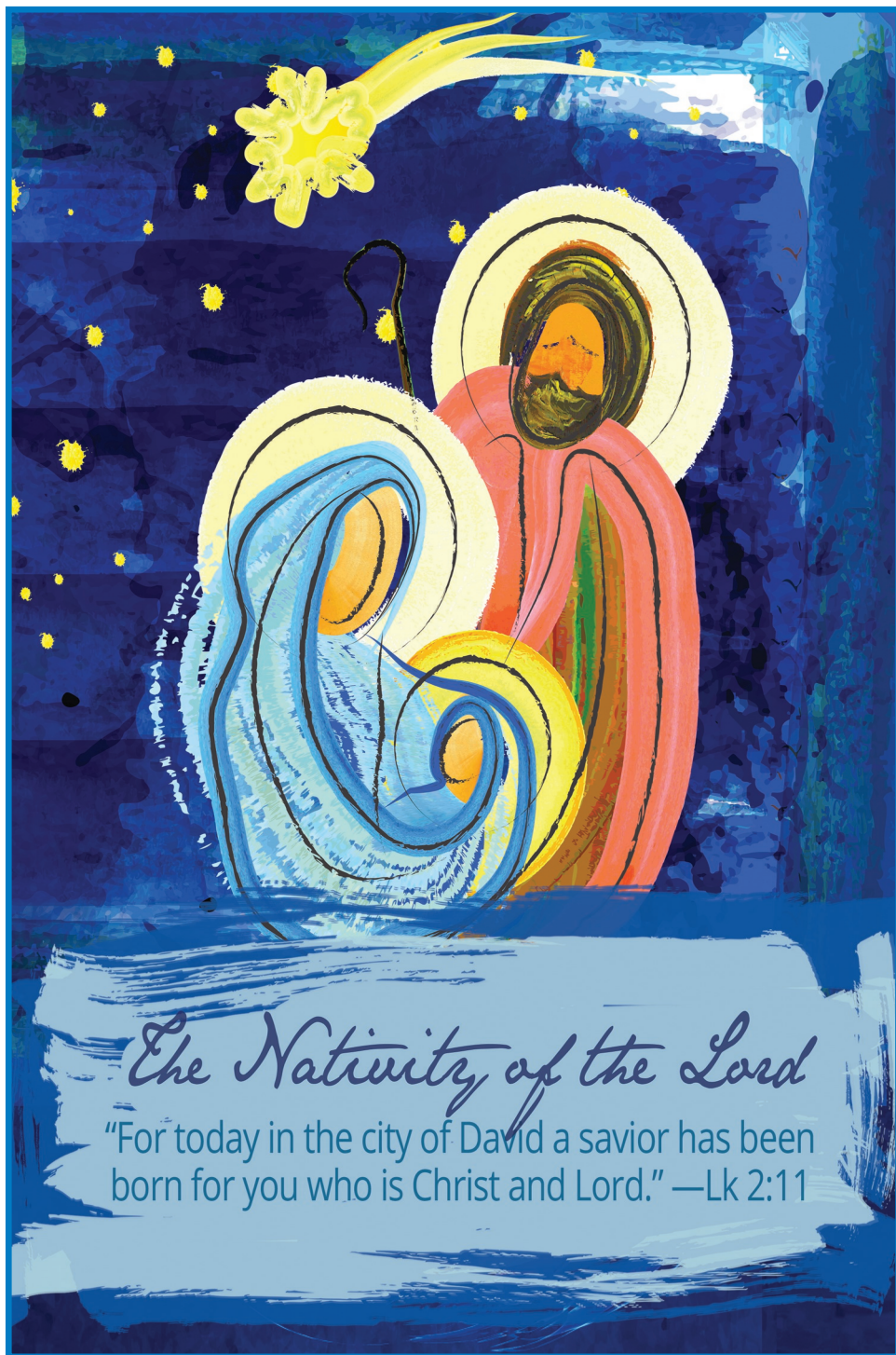


# SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



*The Nativity of the Lord*

"For today in the city of David a savior has been  
born for you who is Christ and Lord." —Lk 2:11



*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](http://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 25, 2016 • THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

## ON THE WAY....



Those of us of a certain age remember when Neil Armstrong walked on the moon. It seemed too marvelous for words that humanity had soared beyond the earth. What a wonder! We followed the space program eagerly for the next few years. Every launch was an event. But a funny thing happened. We got accustomed to thinking of a man on the moon. Over time, we lost interest in the space program. Without national interest the Congress did not see fit to continue the program and so closed a glorious chapter in our nation's history.

This human ability to get accustomed to, even bored by, the greatest of marvels impacts our appreciation of the Christmas miracle. Christmas equals God is with us. We say it so readily, so easily that the stunning nature of that statement gets lost. We should gasp every time we say "God is with us." After all the gap between God and humanity is infinitely great. How can God who is all good and all loving be with us who are not so good and kinda, sorta loving some of the time! Recovering a sense of awe at God being with us might be an appropriate response to the season.

Perhaps, we lost the awesome understanding of God being with us because God snuck in. If God was with us in great power and glory perhaps we would still be filled with wonder at the concept. But instead God is with us in the birth of a child, remarkably like every other child. Certainly, every parent can tell you how remarkable – you could say awesome if it weren't such a cliché – the birth of their child is. But the miracle of birth soon gets lost in the daily exercise of making sure the baby is warm and watered, wiped and victualled. Has something similar happened in our appreciation of God with us in Jesus? Has his very humanity obscured the mind-blowing reality of God being with us?

My sense is that God would not want it any other way. Certainly there was a long tradition of the people of God bowing before the Holy Mystery. Other religious traditions have a similar tendency to keep God at arm's length, safely ensconced in heaven leaving us to pursue our mundane pursuits. But since God is with us we have a new reality to deal with. The division between the sacred and the profane, between the natural and the supernatural, between heaven and earth has been breached. We are awash in God's world just as surely as God came to share in the human world.

This Christmas let's rediscover the wonder of saying God is with us. Let's find the divine spark that lies at the heart of every human being. Let's delight in creation as the arena of God's action. Let's discover in the ins and outs of human history the hand of God at work being about a more just and peaceful world. That will truly make for a Merry Christmas.

Peace,

*Fr. John Edmunds, S.T*

## AT ST. JAMES

# Readings



FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 2016

Readings for the Week of December 25, 2016

Sunday: 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  
Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31/Mt 10:17-22  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97/Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Ps 124/Mt 2:13-18  
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96/Lk 2:22-35  
Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21  
or 3:12-17/Ps 128/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23  
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96/Jn 1:1-18  
Next Sunday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21



This year we will not automatically mail out tax giving statements. If you want a statement on your giving for your tax returns please e-mail Cathy Moore between January 15th thru April 15th 2017 at [cmoore@stjameswabash.org](mailto:cmoore@stjameswabash.org). Please call Cathy if you have any questions. 312-842-1919 x211

## 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
<b>TOTAL SUNDAY</b>	<b>\$166,440.44</b>	<b>\$150,801.88</b>	<b>\$15,638.56</b>
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
<b>TOTAL OTHER</b>	<b>\$10,264.55</b>	<b>\$12,044.98</b>	<b>(\$1,780.43)</b>
<b>TOTAL GIVING</b>	<b>\$176,704.99</b>	<b>\$162,846.86</b>	<b>\$13,858.13</b>

## 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

November 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

January 1, 2016

### Lectors

9:30 a.m. Virginia Piecuch & Cynthia Cooper

11:30 a.m. Frances Lane & Thomas Raclaw

### Communion Ministers

9:30 a.m. Deacon Alfred Coleman, Leona Martin, Oreane Perry, Josie Bertucci & Deborah Cooper

11:30 a.m. Deacon Alfred Coleman & Mary Ellen Levine

### Greeters

9:30 a.m. Ruthie Turnball

11:30 a.m. TBA

## 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 of the  
14th. & 15th. The luncheon  
will be held in the Rectory  
on the 14th..

This event is free, but you must RSVP by  
January 9 with Michael Maher at  
[MMaher@StJamesWabash.org](mailto:MMaher@StJamesWabash.org).

## LOOKING AHEAD

Sun 12/25	<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>	
	9:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 a.m.	Mass
	†	<b>Debra Barkec - requested by Vera Wilkins</b>
	10:10 a.m.	Children's Liturgy of the World
Mon 12/26	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)
Tue 12/27	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)
Wed 12/28	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)
Thur 12/29	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)
Fri 12/30	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)
Sat 12/31	6:00 p.m.	New Year's Eve Mass
Sun 1/01	<b>Mary, The Holy Mother Of God Second Collection St. Agatha</b>	
	8:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m.	Mass
	†	<b>Iris Green - requested by Phillip Sutton</b>
	9:40 a.m.	Children's Liturgy of the World
	10:30 a.m.	New Year's Brunch
	11:30 a.m.	Mass

### Office of Human Dignity & Solidarity Immigration Ministry

**National Migration Week will take place January 8–14, 2017 with the theme, "Creating a Culture of Encounter".**

*"I feel compelled to draw attention to the reality of child migrants, especially the ones who are alone... I ask everyone to take care of the young... they have no means to protect themselves. I ask everyone to help those who, for various reasons, are forced to live far from their homeland and are separated from their families."*

*~Pope Francis, for the 103rd World Day of Migrants and Refugees (10/08/2016)*

**ACTION:** Join the U.S. Catholic bishops in support of protecting immigrants and refugees by sending an electronic postcard to Washington, DC asking that lawmakers ensure humane treatment towards migrants and refugees. The postcards may be sent from Justice for Immigrants' homepage at

[www.justiceforimmigrants.org](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org)

For additional ways to get involved in National Migration Week 2017 visit:

[www.CatholicsAndImmigrants.org](http://www.CatholicsAndImmigrants.org).

[esegura@archchicago.org](mailto:esegura@archchicago.org)

## NEWS YOU CAN USE



"May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women."

POPE FRANCIS



We will have a lite 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 Bob and Ginny Parker (Deacon Terry's uncle and aunt. Bob and Ginny left a portion of their estate to their nieces and nephews. Bob's sister was Emma Collins, Deacon Terry's Mom. Emma always enjoyed her visits to St. James and marveled at the hospitality of the people. It is fitting, then, that some of the funds Uncle Bob left for Deacon Terry are used to defray the expenses for the annual New Year's Day brunch hosted at the parish ), and it is also possible due to the generosity of Dave Samber and Pollo Café.