

SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



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

SUNDAY MASS

9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Presentation 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

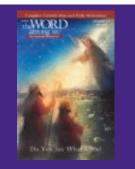
Monday -Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Friday 9: 00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. By appointment only Saturday & Sunday Closed

LOCATION

2942 South Wabash Chicago, IL 60616

CONTACT

312-842-1919 (office) 312-842-3612 (fax) www.stjameswabash.org



Please pick up a copy of 'The Word Among Us' a prayer and meditation for Advent 2017

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race. - Jn 1:3-4

DECEMBER 24, 2017 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE

ON THE WAY....



May the grace and peace of the Holy Spirit be with us forever.

"Christmas Day, the birthday of our Blessed Savior! Never was there such a word! The mystery of the Incarnation gave us this word. Poets have dreamed, writers have written, artists have had their raptures, great have been the flights and marvelous the triumphs of the intellectual strivings of the race, but no fantasy of poetry, no classic of writer, no rapture of artist, has ever been comparable to the thoughts that the word, Christmas, inspires." Father Thomas A. Judge, C.M.

These rather florid words come from the pen of the founder of my religious congregation, the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity. Nothing inspired Father Judge to rhetorical heights more than reflecting on the Incarnation. That God would share humanity with us in Jesus seemed to make everything we touch golden. It makes every child precious for they bear a family resemblance to Jesus. It makes all human endeavor worthwhile as a manifestation of the presence of God. It makes all life sacred since humanity has been swept up into the divine realm. Because of the Incarnation what it means to live in the world must be looked at from a divine perspective.

My own thoughts about Christmas tend to be fascinated by the ordinariness of it all. The story is full of exotic elements like angel choirs and starry messengers and "we three kings of Orient are." But it is the ordinary event of a woman giving birth – something we all have in common – that makes Christmas miraculous. That tells us that God is found in the ordinary, in the mundane details of human life. Once we have the eyes to see, God will be found in everyday existence.

There is a subtext to the Christmas story that should not be neglected in the joy of the season. Unfortunately all too often we find parallels to the story of Joseph and Mary: a young couple, trying to find adequate housing due to shifting government policy. Or how about the shepherds -- just working class stiffs on the night shift trying to make an extra buck. Even the poor, maligned inn keeper was coping with an influx of visitors that overwhelmed his capacity to respond. The social realities of first century Palestine were not designed to make it easy for the "little guy."

All of which says something about Christmas 2017. We rejoice that God has broken into our world and gifted us with the blessed assurance that life is worth living, that just being who we are gives us access to the sublime grace of God. The coming of Jesus has created a highway to heaven. On the other hand, Christmas also brings us up against the truth that too many people don't feel all that blessed. Circumstances conspire to make them doubt their value and worth as brothers and sisters of Jesus. Thus, the season of Christmas also provokes in us a desire to make sure that all God's children feel the love of God flowing from the manger in Bethlehem. This Christmas our joy at the Savior's birth calls us to work toward a more just and peaceful world. Merry Christmas!

In the Most Holy Trinity, Fr. John Edmunds, S.T

Tree Trimming Party







Congradulations to Cynthia m Winning the Cookie Contes



TREASURE, TIME, & TALENT

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 2018 at cmoore@stjameswabash.org.

Please call Cathy if you have any questions. 312-842-1919 x211



SUNDAY COLLECTION REPORT

JANUARY 1— DECEMBER 10					
SUNDAY	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	CHANGE		
ENVELOPES	\$80,306.41	\$85,411.81	(\$5,105.40)		
LOOSE CHECKS	\$25,679.00	\$26,332.00	(\$653.00)		
LOOSE CASH	\$13,197.32	\$10,087.27	\$3,110.05		
ON-LINE	\$54,036.00	\$44,961.36	\$9,074.64		
TOTAL SUNDAY	<u>\$173,218.73</u>	<u>\$166,792.44</u>	<u>\$6,426.29</u>		
BUILDING MAINTENANCE SHARING	\$2,870.00	\$3,202.91	(\$332.91)		
DONATIONS	\$5,178.56	\$5,272.23	(\$93.67)		
TOLTON CANONIZATION	\$1,304.69	\$1,794.41	(\$489.72)		
<u>TOTAL OTHER</u>	<u>\$9,353.25</u>	<u>\$10,269.55</u>	<u>(\$916.30)</u>		
TOTAL GIVING	\$182,517.98	\$177,061.99	\$5,509.99		



Our Home Bound: Judy Archer Margie Bass Barbara Bassett Altee Clark Edwina Cook Margaret Frazier Paul & Jane Freeman Juanita James James Kennard Sr. Barbara Rastatter Norman Rouse Geraldine Scudder Barbara Southhall Bette Strickland Dina Williams Our Sick: Sandra Davis Margaret Deese Joan Noble Barbara Radizwon Sandra Reynolds Philip Ricks Kimberly Starr Sarah & Clanton Whitlow

Mass Attendance

December 3, 2017: 128(9:30 a.m.)/59(11:30 a.m.) December 10, 2017: 115(9:30 a.m.)/43(11:30 a.m.)

NEXT WEEK AT ST. JAMES....

Sun 12/24	Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve		
	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:40 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. †	Mass Children's Liturgy of the World Mass	
Mon 12/25	10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass (Presentation Hall)	
Tue 12/26	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)	
Wed 12/27	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)	
Thur 12/28	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)	
Fri 12/29	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Tolton Chapel — Rectory)	
Sun 12/31	New Year's Eve		
	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:40 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Mass Children's Liturgy of the World	

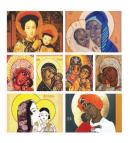
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Christmas Day Mass is at 10:00 am!

New Year's Day Mass is at 10:00 am!

Today is the last day to sign up for the New Year's Day Brunch! Please sign up at the back of the church or on-line.



ST. JAMES · CHICAGO

THINGS TO KNOW						
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FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 24, 2017						
Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38	Wednesday:	1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12] Jn 20:1a, 2-8			
Monday: Vigil:	E Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a] Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25	Thursday:	1 Jn 1:52:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7] Mt 2:13-18			
Midnight/Day:	Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11] Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14	Friday:	1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a] Lk 2:22-35			
Tuesday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22	Saturday:	1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a] Lk 2:36-40			