

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.



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



SUNDAY MASS

9:30 a.m.
(Church w/Sign
Up & On-line)

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m.
(Church w/Sign
Up & On-line)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Sunday
Closed until further
notice

LOCATION

2907 South Wabash
Chicago, IL 60616

CONTACT

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

19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Let us
see your
kindness.

PSALM 85

AUGUST 9, 2020



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

A recent panel from the comic strip "Pearls before Swine" starts with the pig expressing great happiness. When asked why he responded "I've been given six months to a year to focus on what's important to me all the while spending more time with my loved ones." The rat observed, "The guy even sees the bright side of a pandemic." What about us, can we see the bright side of a pandemic?

I remember thinking when this first began that being in lockdown was going to give me a good opportunity to pray more. Since there weren't going to be as many external things pulling at me I could construct my daily schedule in a way that had more time for God. Like all the good intentions (were you going to learn to play the guitar? Learn French? Become a quilter? during quarantine) mine did not work out as I intended. Five months into the pandemic I am pretty much stuck where I was before.

Contrast that with Jesus who build into his busy life time to pray: "Jesus went up on the mountain by himself to pray." If the Son of God needed to have prayer in his life how much more do we need prayer. Let me suggest some of the characteristics of "mountain top" prayer like that of Jesus as described by the Trappist Monk, Thomas Merton, who died in 1968.

First, prayer is simple. Merton quotes one of the desert fathers, St. Macarius, about how to pray: "It is not necessary to use many words. Only stretch out your arms and say: Lord, have pity on me as you desire and as you well know how." The first generation in the desert would make us simple phrases drawn from the scripture and throw them out "like javelins." One popular prayer was "O God, come to my aid." Pretty simple.

Second, our prayer is never really ours but part of a chorus of prayer that rises up from the praising community, the people of God. As members of the people of God we know ourselves as redeemed sinners. Our prayer should always open us up to receive God's mercy. We are not attempting to achieve anything in prayer except that we become "like children" who are given gifts not because we deserve them but simply because God loves to give them.

Prayer of this sort is an attentive, watchful listening of the heart. There is the prayer of jubilation that we raise up particularly in the liturgy but on the mountaintop, or in the quiet of our room, we enter into silence so that God can address us. In this kind of prayer we trust that God is more intimate to us than we are to ourselves, as St. Augustine put it.

Finally, we should remember that prayer, like any exercise, is something that we need to work at. Just as we can't do a two minute plank the first time we try, we will develop our "listening heart" only after keeping at it with regularity. There is no "been there, done that" with prayer. Prayer is the work of a lifetime.

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



Sun 08/09	18th Sunday In Ordinary Time	
	9:30 a.m.	Mass (On-line & Church w/Sign Up) https://zoom.us/j/622647147 † <i>Ernia Hodges - requested by Cathy Moore</i>
Mon 08/10	7:30 a.m.	Mass (On-line & Rectory w/ Sign Up) Meeting ID: 844 260 686 Password: SJDAILY
Tues 08/11	7:30 a.m.	Mass (On-line & Rectory w/ Sign Up) Meeting ID: 844 260 686 Password: SJDAILY † <i>Daniel Gockel - requested by Elaine Gockel</i>
	6:00 p.m.	Peace & Justice Committee (On-line)
Wed 08/12	7:30 a.m.	Mass (On-line & Rectory w/ Sign Up) Meeting ID: 844 260 686 Password: SJDAILY
Thur 08/13	7:30 a.m.	Mass (On-line & Rectory w/ Sign Up) Meeting ID: 844 260 686 Password: SJDAILY
Fri 08/14	7:30 a.m.	Mass (On-line & Rectory w/ Sign Up) Meeting ID: 844 260 686 Password: SJDAILY † <i>Daniel Gockel - requested by Elaine Gockel</i>
Sun 08/16	20th Sunday In Ordinary Time	
	9:30 a.m.	Mass (On-line & Church w/Sign Up) https://zoom.us/j/622647147 † <i>George Haley Jr. - requested by Anna Belle O'Shea</i>



*Congratulations and
God Bless You!*

To all those receiving the Sacraments this summer:

Initiation - Luke

First Eucharist: Gregory & Isabella

Confirmation: Dante, Elikem, Kevin & Victoria

Let your lights shine for all the world to see!

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

"Go outside and stand on the mountain before the LORD; the LORD will be passing by." (1 Kgs 11a)

PSALM:

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85)

SECOND READING:

For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. (Rom 9:3)

GOSPEL:

Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" (Mt 14:29-30)

REFLECT

FIRST READING

The Lord taught the prophet Elijah not to look for him in the usual places. When have you found God's voice in an unexpected circumstance?

SECOND READING

Paul was puzzled and deeply saddened over fellow Jews (God's covenantal people) who did not believe that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah. What convinces you of Jesus' identity as our Lord and Savior?

GOSPEL READING

Peter shows himself to be a man of "little faith" when faced with the grave danger of drowning. Who are the people in your life who show a depth of faith in times of extreme duress?

Seeing Race Part Four: Prayer for Racial Healing & Resources

Sunday
August 16, 2020
12:30PM

See calendar for Zoom link.



Coming to Church

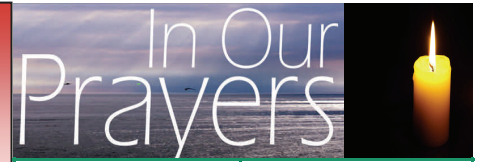
Advance sign up for all masses and events is required and participants must follow the guidelines listed [here](#) or go to:

www.archchicago.org/coronavirus/reopening

You can access all sign-ups for masses and events, including Eucharistic Adoration through [Sign Up Genius](#) or on the Sign Up Genius tab on our website. If you do not have access to the internet you may call Amy at 872-703-4337

St. James has a google form for submitting prayer requests:

<https://forms.gle/ZgbVkgarRRgDmJR6A>



Our Home Bound:

Judy Archer
Margie Bass
Altee Clark
Paul Freeman
Juanita James
James Kennard
Barbara Southhall
Dina Williams

Our Sick:

Victoria Allen
Aayliah Cooper
Patsy Cunningham
Marvelean Doss
Nancy McCarthy
Barbara Radizwon
Sandra Reynolds
Donald Rogers
Kimberly Starr