



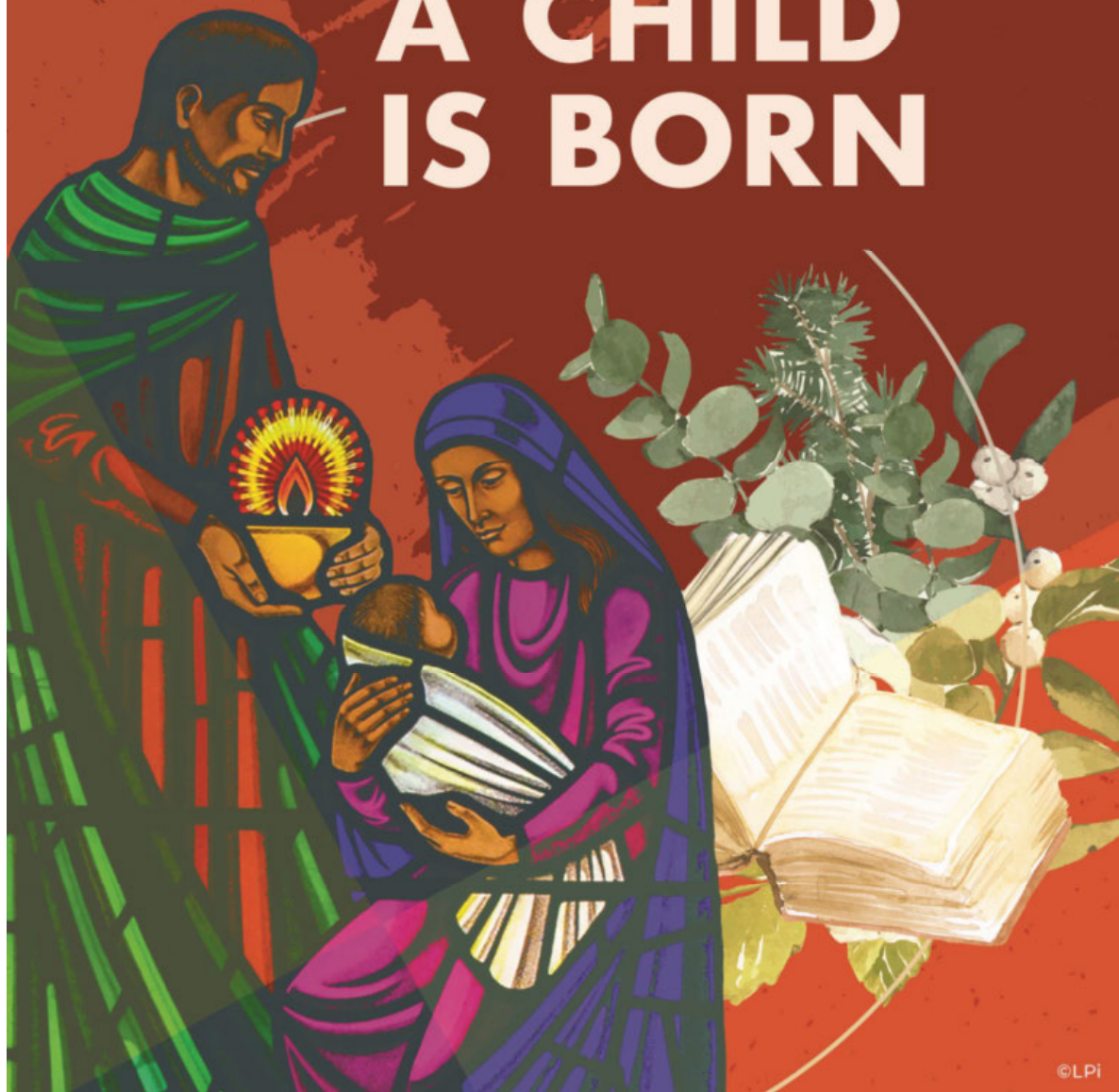
Saint James
CATHOLIC CHURCH

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*

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
**FOR UNTO US
A CHILD
IS BORN**



SUNDAY MASS

9:30 a.m.
(Church &
On-line)

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m.
(Rectory &
On-line)

**OFFICE
HOURS**

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION

2907 South Wabash
Chicago, IL 60616

CONTACT

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



DECEMBER 25, 2022

ON THE WAY.....



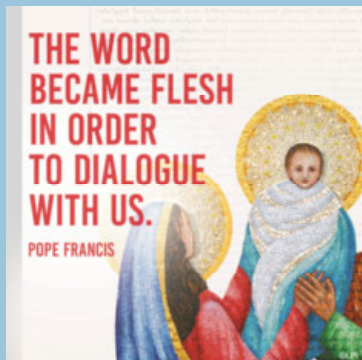
May the grace and peace of the Holy Spirit be with us forever.

There are three masses assigned to the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord which is the fancy Church way of saying Christmas. The first is the "mass during the night," what we used to call Midnight Mass but now usually celebrated earlier. The readings for this mass tell the Christmas story we are most familiar with: angels, shepherds, Bethlehem, swaddling clothes, manger, no room at the inn, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." Usually at St. James we don't celebrate the other two masses, the mass at dawn and the mass during the day. However, it would be worthwhile for you to spend some time with the readings assigned for these masses as they give other aspects of the Christmas story. In doing so we are imitating Mary who, we are told, "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."

The Mass at Dawn focuses on the shepherds and as such serves as a reminder that the coming of the Christ Child was the beginning of God overturning the hardship that people have to endure. The shepherds were working class, even lower class, yet they were the ones privileged to attend the birth of the savior and served as his first apostles, spreading the message. The Old Testament lesson tells how God is doing something new for the people. The city is given to new name which indicates that from now on everyone will be able to come to the sacred city. In the epistle to Titus, St. Paul captures the excitement of the Christmas story. Jesus came because of God's love for his people to deliver us from suffering. We become part of God's saving work through baptism and are part of a new creation, heirs to eternal life.

Mass during the Day uses as the gospel not the Christmas story but the prologue of St. John's Gospel: *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God."* The Gospel text is not a narrative account of the events on Christmas morning but rather a theological reflection on the meaning of those events. (Old time Catholics might remember that this passage from St. John was so important that it was recited at every mass as the "last gospel" at the very end of the liturgy.) The Old Testament lesson, drawn from Isaiah, reports what it is like when we hear "glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news." God's people no longer need to lament or feel ashamed for God is bringing joy. The epistle taken from the letter to the Hebrews presents Jesus in language that reflects the glory of God. Just as Jesus came from above so now those who believe in him are joined to what is above. The gospel itself is carefully constructed to stress that the birth of Jesus was a world-altering event. The fact that the "word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" has given us the "power to become children of God." In other words, Christmas is not a memory of what happened to Jesus back in the day but what happens to us because of Jesus today. Truly this is Good News. Merry Christmas to all.

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



Sun 12/25	The Nativity Of The Lord	
	9:30 a.m.	Mass (Presentation Hall & On-line) https://zoom.us/j/622647147 Passcode: SJSUNDAY (57935957) † Peter and Anna Marano, Ralph Garafolo by Mena Marano
Mon 12/26	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Chapel & On-line)
Tues 12/27	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Chapel & On-line)
Wed 12/28	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Chapel & On-line)
Thurs 12/29	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Chapel & On-line)
Fri 12/30	7:30 a.m.	Mass (Chapel & On-line)
Sun 01/01	Solemnity Of Mary Mother of God	
	9:30 a.m.	Mass (Presentation Hall & On-line) https://zoom.us/j/622647147 Passcode: SJSUNDAY (57935957) † Peter and Anna Marano, Louis Marano and Ralph Garafolo by Mena Marano
	10:30 a.m.	New Year's Brunch (Hall Basement)

SORRY... WE'RE CLOSED

Parish Offices and Pantry
will be closed from
December 24th &
January 3rd.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

For a child is born to us, a son is given us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests. (Is 9:5)

PSALM:

Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord. (Ps 96)

SECOND READING:

Beloved:

The grace of God has appeared, saving all. (Ti 2:11)

GOSPEL:

"Do not be afraid;
for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people.
For today in the city of David
a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."
(Lk 2:10-11)

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

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New Year's Brunch
Sunday

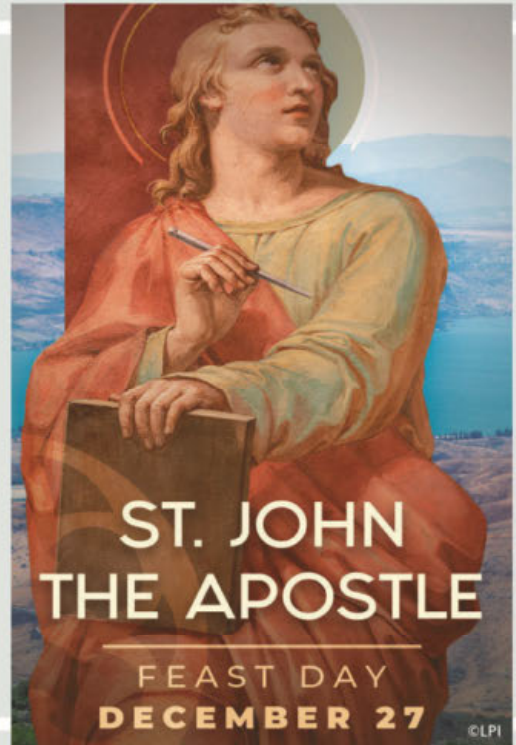
January 1st

after 9:30AM Mass

St. James lower level

Free!

Sponsored by Deacon Terry Collins and his family, in memory of his mother, Emma Collins.



Saint of the Week

Saint John was one of the Twelve, part of Jesus' inner circle, among the few that witnessed the Transfiguration, the raising of Jarius' Daughter, and the Agony in the garden at Gethsemane. He and his brother James were the sons of Zebedee and Salome. When Jesus called them, they left their father mending nets and followed him. Jesus called the brothers "Boanerges," meaning "sons of thunder" — they were passionate in their faith and Jesus had to rebuke them for their fiery zeal on more than one occasion. John, the younger brother, possibly the youngest disciple, was the only one present at Jesus' death.

Saint John the Apostle is traditionally thought to be the author of the fifth Gospel, the three Epistles of John, and the Book of Revelation. However, there has been some debate among scholars from antiquity to the present. Tradition also gives him the title Beloved Disciple and John's Gospel sees him seated next to Jesus at the last supper and the one to whom Jesus gives the care of Mary at the crucifixion. Although Church tradition says that John survived the other disciples, living a long life, much of it is steeped in myth and legend. Some say he retired to Ephesus after the crucifixion with Mary and remained there until he died. But in other traditions he is more active. For a time he remained in Jerusalem with the other disciples, then founded churches in Asia Minor. In a legend of his persecution, during the reign of the Emperor Domitian, John is taken to Rome and thrown into a cauldron of boiling oil but preserved from death. He is then exiled to the island of Patmos where the Book of Revelation was written. Most accounts agree that after his exile and the Assumption of Mary he returned to Ephesus where he died sometime after 98, during the reign of the Emperor Trajan.



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

<https://forms.gle/ZgbVkgarRRgDmJR6A>



In Our Prayers



Our Home Bound:

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

Our Sick:

Victoria Allen
Aayliah Cooper

Joe Cunningham
Patsy Cunningham
Marvelean Doss
Claude Fisher
Linda Griffin Kennard
Nancy McCarthy
Dot Nachel
Sandra Reynolds
Donald Rogers
Kimberly Starr



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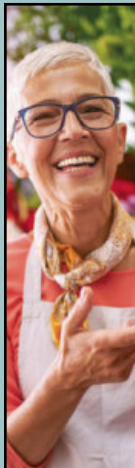
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