



# ST. JAMES

CATHOLIC CHURCH

LOVE GOD—LOVE PEOPLE—MAKE DISCIPLES

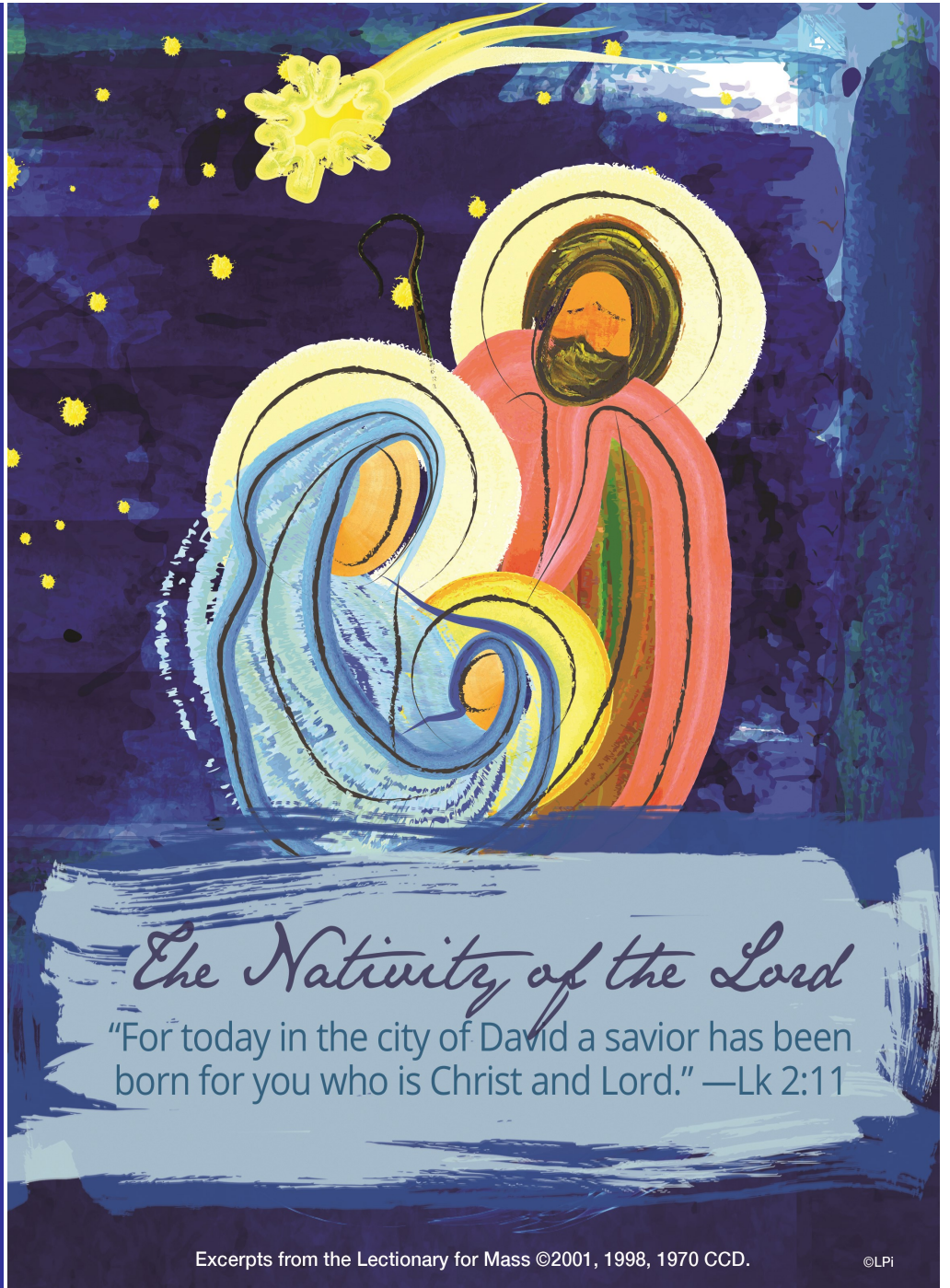
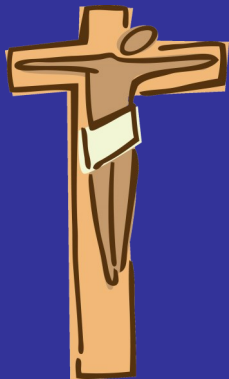
~CELEBRATING 75 YEARS—1942-2017~

## St. James Parish Mission Statement

We, the Catholic faith community of St. James, freely choose to respond to God the Father's unconditional love by centering our lives in Christ through prayer and the Sacraments; welcoming and sharing our love with all people by being missionary disciples of Jesus and open always to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

### Our Vision:

Love God—Love People—  
Make Disciples



## *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

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

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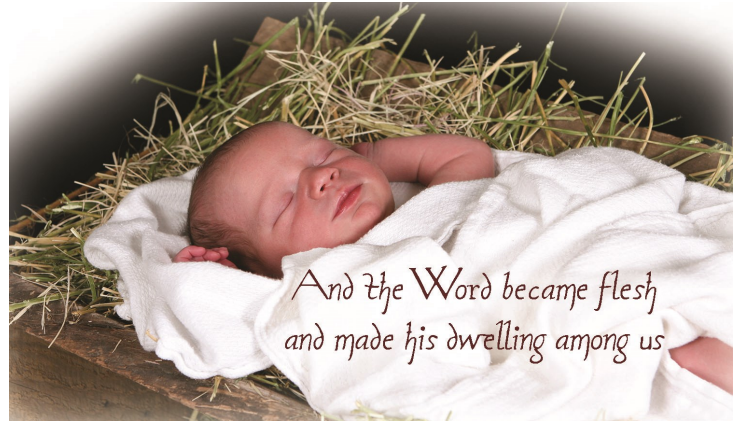


This Week at St. James

<u>Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup></u>		
3:00 P.M.		Reconciliation
4:00 P.M.	People of Sts. James, Cornelius & Cyprian	
<u>Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup></u> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent		
8:30 A.M.	Jason Outwater— <i>Sts. C&amp;C</i>	
10:00 A.M.	People of Sts. James, Cornelius & Cyprian	
<u>Christmas Eve Masses:</u>		
4:00 P.M.	†Milton & Marge Bergeon— <i>Their Family</i>	
4:00 P.M.	Joe Heeney— <i>Sts. CC</i>	
10:00 P.M.	†Elenor Vincent (Anniversary) — <i>Vincent Family</i>	
<u>Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup></u> The Nativity of the Lord		
10:00 A.M.	†Jim & Liza Noel Smith— <i>Family</i>	
<u>Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup></u>	NO SERVICES	OFFICE CLOSED
<u>Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup></u>	NO SERVICES	OFFICE CLOSED
<u>Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup></u>	NO SERVICES	OFFICE CLOSED
<u>Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup></u>	NO SERVICES	OFFICE CLOSED
<u>Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup></u>		
3:00 P.M.		Reconciliation
4:00 P.M.	People of Sts. James, Cornelius & Cyprian	
<u>Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup></u> The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph		
8:30 A.M.	Msgr. Sy Fedewa— <i>Sts. C&amp;C</i>	
8:30 A.M.	Joe Rabidoux— <i>Ed &amp; Sara Goodman</i>	
11:00 A.M.	†George Dunivon— <i>The Mullin Family</i>	



Merry Christmas from  
the staff at St. James!



**WELCOME!**



If you are worshipping with us for the first time or have visited before, we welcome you! If you are looking for a church home in this community, we invite you to consider St. James. Please join us again!

If you would like to register with us, please call the office or visit [www.stjamesmason.org](http://www.stjamesmason.org).

Parish Directory

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00-4:00 Fridays 8:00-Noon

New Parishioners please register with the office or at [www.stjamesmason.org](http://www.stjamesmason.org).

Parish Office/Staff: 517-676.9111  
1010 S. Lansing St. Mason, MI 48854 ~ [www.stjamesmason.org](http://www.stjamesmason.org)

<b>Pastor</b> Fr. Kusitino Cobona	517.676.9111	<a href="mailto:StJamesKusi@gmail.com">StJamesKusi@gmail.com</a>
Rectory	517.676.1159	
<b>Deacon</b> Tom Feiten	517.676.9690	<a href="mailto:TomFeiten@gmail.com">TomFeiten@gmail.com</a>
<b>Deacon</b> Al Turkovich	517.388.0017	<a href="mailto:DeaconAlturk@gmail.com">DeaconAlturk@gmail.com</a>
<b>Business Manager</b> Alison Burch		<a href="mailto:StJamesAlison2@gmail.com">StJamesAlison2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Director of Faith Formation</b> Maureen Stockwell		<a href="mailto:StJamesMaureen@gmail.com">StJamesMaureen@gmail.com</a>
<b>Youth Minister/Evangelization</b> Heather Dunivon		<a href="mailto:StJamesHeather1@gmail.com">StJamesHeather1@gmail.com</a>
<b>Director of Music</b> Antoinette LaCinski	517.414.0679	<a href="mailto:StJamesAntoinette@gmail.com">StJamesAntoinette@gmail.com</a>
<b>P/T Admin. Assist.</b> Gina Orlando		<a href="mailto:StJamesGinae@gmail.com">StJamesGinae@gmail.com</a>
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Bonnie Gurzenda	<a href="mailto:bgurzenda@hotmail.com">bgurzenda@hotmail.com</a>	517-623-0089

**Building Maintenance** Mike Hill/Ruth Olney//Gene Havens

**Pastoral Council Chair** Pete Barnum 517.676.1863 [barnumpe@gmail.com](mailto:barnumpe@gmail.com)

**Bulletin Deadline** NOON Monday Email Preferred!



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>

**Sunday** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38 Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25

**Monday** The Nativity of the Lord Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

**Tuesday** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17; Mt 10:17-22

**Wednesday** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Thursday** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18


**Friday** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

**Saturday** 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

**Sunday** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 105: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY, ST. JAMES!

 On December 25, 1942, St. James Parish was born. Since then, we, the people of St. James, have always celebrated a double birthday celebration on every Christmas Day. The first and of course of utmost importance is the birthday of Jesus, our Savior, Emmanuel—God is with us. He is the Word made flesh, Son of God and Son of Mary. Jesus brings joy to a world filled with hatred and enmity. He brings peace, love, mercy and kindness to a world filled with violence and revenge—an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. In the words of the prophet Isaiah, Jesus says: *"He sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, healing to the brokenhearted, liberty to captives and release to the prisoners."* How awesome is that? Our God is truly an awesome God! Yes, Jesus' birthday is really worth celebrating! And so we join with the angels in singing—Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will!

But what are we, the people of St. James, celebrating on our 75<sup>th</sup> birthday as a parish? First, we are grateful to God for sowing the seeds of faith in the hearts of the forty-three charter members who signed the petition requesting the Most Reverend Joseph H. Albers, Bishop of the Lansing Diocese for a parish of their own in the city of Mason. So on that cold Christmas morning of 1942, Reverend Charles Keating, who was then secretary to the Bishop, together with a crowd of about 45 people filled the Ball-Dunn Funeral Home, not to mark the death of a loved one, but rather the birth of Jesus. The occasion also marked the birth of St. James Parish. These events certainly call for a big celebration; so on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017, we celebrated in style with Bishop Earl Boyea presiding at Mass, together with most of the priests who had served at St. James Parish over the years. It was a blast! And it was also a memorable celebration for us when I was formally installed as Pastor of Sts. James and Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian Parish.

Secondly, because we celebrate the same birthday with Jesus, so we share the same mission. We are also called to bring joy, peace, love, mercy and kindness to our world today filled with violence, terrorism, sexual abuse, hatred, racism, etc. We are also sent to bring glad tidings to the poor, healing to the brokenhearted, liberty to captives and release to the prisoners. Some may think that this may be too overwhelming, but not if we all choose to bring joy, peace, love, mercy, and kindness to just one person in your life—your Mom or Dad, your brother, sister, friend, or neighbor. If you are able to do this, it could be the best Christmas gift you can give to Jesus and to St. James.

Happy Birthday, Jesus! Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, St. James!


Wishing you all my brothers and sisters a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

~Fr. Kusitino Cobona—Pastor.



**Please Pray for Our Sick:**  
 12/18 Aydin Weyer, Susan Wedell  
 12/13 Shirley Grieve, Kari Olney  
 12/5 Patricia Seman  
 11/27 Duffy Williams, Margaret Marshall.

**PLEASE NOTE!**  
 Sr. Maureen is living at the Nazareth Center. Her address is PO Box 31, Nazareth, MI 49074 if you would like to send her a Christmas card!



*Christmas Cards*

Thank you *Our Sponsor of the Week*  
 ~Sheridan Realty & Auction Co.~

A portion of our 4% Christian Service Tithe has been sent to:  
 ~Sparrows Nest~



**Last Week's Collections**

<b>December 17<sup>th</sup></b> (140 envelopes, 30 EFT from 647 households)	<b>\$12,849.26</b>
<i>This date last year</i>	<i>\$9,781.00</i>
<b>Fiscal Year to date (since July 1<sup>st</sup>)</b>	
<b>This Year</b>	<b>\$215,479.80</b>
<i>Last Year</i>	<i>\$209,519.26</i>
<i>Advent Project</i>	<i>\$3,715.00</i>



ADVENT PROJECT

Dear brothers and sisters,

Welcome to the holy season of Advent! It's a time of waiting in anticipation for the coming of the Messiah into our world and our hearts. It's also a time to prepare to give a Christmas gift to Jesus who identifies himself with the poor, the lonely, the homeless, the stranger, etc., and especially for those who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus.

For our Advent Project this year, we have chosen to support the Knights of Columbus whereby each Council is being asked to raise \$2,000 to resettle one Christian family back in the Nineveh Plain in Iraq. The Christian community in Iraq has fallen from 1.5 million in 2003 to fewer than 200,000 today.

Let us join hands together in supporting our persecuted brothers and sisters in Iraq and offer them a new home for Christmas and for the New Year. If you're writing a check, please make it out to the parish with "Advent Project 2017" on the Memo line. You may also donate online at our website [www.stjamesmason.org](http://www.stjamesmason.org). Thank you for your generosity. May Emmanuel – God With Us – bless you in abundance.

~Fr. Kusi – Pastor.

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

THIS CHRISTMAS, GIVE YOUR GIFTS ONLINE



IT'S SAFE. IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S CONVENIENT.

Donate today using your debit, credit card, checking, or savings account.

- 1 Visit your church website and click **Give Online**.
- 2 Click on the collection you wish to donate to.
- 3 Click **Recurring Donation**, enter your donation amount and frequency.



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

Or

517-676-9111



KNIGHT'S CORNER



Upcoming Events:

This is the time of the year that we get a chance to see our families and friends. It is also a time to remember those who have been with us in the past, and have gone on to be with the Lord.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of the members of Mason Council #9182!

USHERS NEEDED!

Seeking two new ushers for Team 1— 4 P.M. Masses. Would serve in the Months of January, April, July & October. Seeking two new Ushers for Team 2—4 P.M. Masses. Would serve in the Months of February, May, August & November. Seeking two new ushers for Team 3—11 A.M. Masses. Would serve in the Months of March, June, September & December. Additional Ushers are welcomed for all teams in order to give the Ministry some depth. If interested, please contact George Wygant, Usher Coordinator, 517-676-0855 or email [george.wygant@yahoo.com](mailto:george.wygant@yahoo.com).



MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE! WELCOME HOME!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO.....

GUEST OF HONOR: Jesus Christ!

DATE: Every day! Traditionally, December 25<sup>th</sup>, but He's always around, so the date is flexible.

TIME: Whenever you're ready! Please don't be too late though, or you'll miss out on all the fun.

PLACE: In your heart! He'll meet you there – you'll hear Him knock.

ATTIRE: Come as you are! Grubbies are okay as He'll be washing our clothes anyway. He said something about new white robes and crowns for everyone who stays till the last.

TICKETS: Admission is free! He's already paid for everyone. He says you wouldn't have been able to afford it – it's cost Him everything He had!

REFRESHMENTS: New wine, bread, a supper that promises to be out of this world!!!

GIFT SUGGESTIONS: Your heart! He's one of those people who already has everything else. (He's very generous in return though – just wait until you see what He has for you!)

ENTERTAINMENT: Joy, Peace, Truth, Light, Life, Love, Real Happiness, Communion with God, Forgiveness, Miracles, Healing, Power, Eternity in Paradise.....and much more! (All rated "G" so bring your family and friends.)

RSVP: Very important! He must know ahead, so He can reserve a spot for you at the table. Also, He's keeping a list of His friends for future reference. He calls it the "Lamb's Book of Life"

PARTY GIVEN BY: His kids. That's us! Hope to see you there! Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him glory!

I hope and pray that this reflection borrowed from Fr. Tommy Lane's Collections will inspire us all during this festive season. Wish you and your families a Christmas filled with joy and a New Year filled with many blessings!

~Love and Prayers, Fr Kusi.



A SEASON  
of JOY

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Merry Christmas to all our faith formation families as well as to all the wonderful parishioners and groups who give our program their support! We will resume Sunday morning sessions on January 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:40 am. We plan to have an Epiphany celebration that morning—no catechist planning is needed.

Have a warm and peaceful break with your families!



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS!

R.O.C.K.

NO ROCK the rest of the year!! Join us in the New Year, January 7<sup>th</sup> for an Epiphany Party 5-7pm in the ROCK ROOM! All 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Graders should come! Bring your Friends!

Next Meeting: Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 5-7pm Epiphany Party!  
Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> Talent Show & Chili Cook-Off!

ENCOUNTER

NO ENCOUNTER the rest of the year!! Join us in the New Year starting January 9<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays from 4-5:45 pm OR 6-7:45 pm! Bring your friends for a night of Fun, Exploring our Faith & Encountering God's Love! All 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders welcome!

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY WAGON! R.O.C.K. Fundraiser!

Celebrate the New Year with a wagon full of fun! See a Youth Group member after Mass to get your ticket and to check out the wagon full of goodies!!

GOT TALENT??

Calling all youth who want to show off their talents! We need stars for our Talent Show on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>! Contact Heather to sign up!

