

Pastor's Corner

I pray these lines find all doing well. Once again this article is written three weeks out so I pray all is well and we are still on this side of reality. If we are not then don't bother to read this—LOL. If we ARE on the other side then we have finally made it to where we are all destined to be. That being the case, we will never be happier than we are now (in Heaven).

If we are still on this side then I pray you are in the midst of a great Holiday season and are ready for a great Advent! There is nothing more peaceful in our lives than being prepared. Of being ready. This is true on the small scale of being ready to celebrate Christmas, to being ready to face eternity, and our Lord. When we are ready, when preparations have been made then we just play "the waiting game". On a childhood level—when we are ready to take that test because we have studied and know the material inside and out. On an adult level when we have saved up for that home we hope to one day own.

On the deepest and most profound level of writing and being prepared, we are ready to see God face to face. We have accomplished what He has called us to do. We have made it amazingly clear how much we cherish our loved ones. We have reached out to others, knowing the Lord to be in each and every person we meet. We have sought out forgiveness and more importantly forgiven all who have hurt or in some way offended us.

If we are able to check "yes" to all of the above then like the prophet we can also say "Maranatha" Come Lord Jesus!

Happy Advent!

Love,

Father Mike

December Mass Schedules

Immaculate Conception:	Thursday, December 7th	4:00pm
	Friday, December 8th	8:30am and 7:00pm (both in Centrum)
Fourth Sunday in Advent	Saturday, December 23rd	4:00pm
	Sunday, December 24th	8:00am and 10:00am Only
Christmas Eve:	Sunday, December 24th	4:00pm
Christmas Day:	Monday, December 25th	12:00am Midnight
		8:00am
		10:00am
Solemnity of Mary (not a holiday Day of obligation for 2018)	Monday, January 1st, 2017	8:30am Daily Mass

There will be **NO** Confessions on Saturday December 23, 2017

Advent Penitential Services

St. James	Mon Dec. 4,	4pm
St. Michael the Archangel	Thurs., Dec. 7	5:30pm
St. Peter the Apostle	Tues., Dec. 12	7pm
Our Lady Queen of Peace	Thurs. Dec. 14	4pm
St. Thomas Aquinas	Tues., Dec. 19,	3pm and 7:00pm
St. Vincent de Paul	Thurs Dec. 21,	3pm and 7:00pm

"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning."

~ Mk. 13:35

1st Sunday of Advent

Liturgy & Worship

Mass Intentions

<u>Monday: 12/04</u> 8:30am	Esperanza Thayer
<u>Tuesday: 12/05</u> 8:30am	Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society
<u>Wednesday: 12/06</u> 8:30am	Vocations
<u>Thursday: 12/07</u> 8:30am 4:00pm	Maria Massaro Josephine Campagna
<u>Friday: 12/08</u> 8:30am 7:00pm	Anthony Cofrancesco Victor Accurso Sr.
<u>Saturday: 12/09</u> Vigil 4:00pm	Joanne D'Alessio
<u>Sunday: 12/10</u> 8:00am	Margaret Budnik
10:00am	Parishioners
1:00pm	Thanksgiving to the Holy Trinity and the Holy Family

Readings for the Week of December 4, 2017

Monday	Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Saint Nicholas, Bishop Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday	Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8



Candles & Flowers

Remember your loved ones or your special intentions. You can do this with candles that burn all week in the Chapel or in the grotto or a monthly candle. You can also request to support the flowers that are on the altar for the week. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested 727-869-3130.

The Grotto candle is in memory of **Sharon McDonnell**.

Flowers for this weekend were donated by **Larry and Georgia Gola** in memory of **Tessie Gola**.



Altar Candles

The candle burning on the altar in the Chapel and Church for the month of December is in memory of **Mike Tormey** and were donated by his wife and children

Our Parish Family

We welcome into the parish community all new members and those returning Home to us.

We remember all who are sick at home or in the Hospital: Joan Klaproth and Sandra Herd.

We remember in our prayers those who have died: Andrew Thomas, Richard Kreger and Mary Zarcone.

~Christmas Concert~



Please join us on Sunday December 10th at 4:00pm for our annual Christmas Concert. We have very talented parishioners from our music ministry programs working tirelessly to make this a very special event for our St. James family.

Admission is free though we will ask for a donation, after the show, with all proceeds going to replenish the cupboards of St. Vincent de Paul Society for all they provide throughout this holiday season and the entire year.

**This is the FOURTH year that our Lord has blessed us with the abilities to put on this small but very heartfelt production.

There are even some new faces in the choir that will add additional fun and talent to the show!

A small reception will follow the show!!

Project Happiness

The Project Happiness Boxes will be in the annex under the tables starting next December 9th / 10th and the following weekend the 16th / 17th for donations of new or slightly used stuffed animals. This event has been a huge success in helping Boy Scout Troop 86 to provide joy to residents of the Angelus and Bear Creek nursing home as well as helping the local police departments. Please donate stuffed animals and help create those smiles!!



SCRIP NEWS!



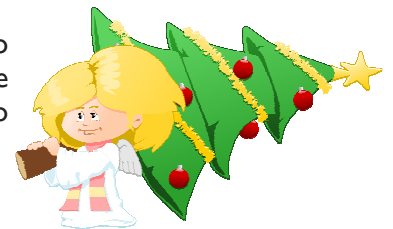
SCRIP NEWS! It's not to late to get your Holiday SCRIP, the deadline for SCRIP orders is Monday, December 11th so please grab a form now and drop it in offertory basket or front office. Cards will be available for pickup in the church office. You can purchase SCRIP to shop ... for yourself or for others.. You save money shopping and through your SCRIP purchase St. James Church receives a percentage from your order. SCRIP gift cards make the perfect gift. For more information. Order forms may be picked up in the office or in the vestibule of the church. If you still have questions regarding our SCRIP program please call the parish office at 869-3130. Let your shopping dollars work for us.



The Saint Vincent de Paul Angel Trees are here. We thank all of you who choose to participate in our Christmas program. Please Note that all toys/gift cards/diapers need to be returned to the Church by December 10th so we can organize and distribute them to the families on December 16th.



God Bless your generosity.



Marriage Struggling? If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring; if you have grown cold and distant; even if you are divorced or separated, or are thinking about it, Retrouvaille can help, as it has helped tens of thousands of others. Our next program begins **February 2, 2018**. For more information, visit **www.HelpOurMarriage.org**, or call (813) 816-0711. *Not counseling or group therapy.*

All contacts and names held in strictest confidence



What's Ahead

S.T.A.T.I.C. CALENDAR

St. James Teens Active Together In Christ
Middle and High School Youth Ministry



Youth Group Christmas PARTY

**December 16, 2017 (Saturday)
from 7:00pm-9:00pm
at the East Wing**

*Potluck (please bring your favorite dish to share) and a
gift (to exchange) \$10 worth*

Baptism: Congratulations on the upcoming birth of your child! The Baptism of your child provides an opportunity to examine your own Christian Life and spirituality and we want to extend this to your child. Please contact the Parish Office to inquire about the preparation process for the Sacrament of Baptism.




Marriage: At least six months preparation needed.



Renewal/Blessing of Marriage Vows: Please contact the Parish Office one month before.

The Sick: If you know of anyone who is sick, at home or in the hospital, and in need of a visit please contact the parish office.



 **Joining the Parish:** To join the parish we invite you to visit us in the parish office, Monday–Friday. Our hours are 9-12 and 1-4. Stop by and meet us and we will get all the necessary information from you. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at 727-869-3130. We look forward to meeting you and saying hello.

Advent Season



This coming Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent. The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, focus particularly on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas).

Visit the [USCCB's Advent page](#) for resources to help you with your journey through this special season.



A BIG Thank You to everyone who contributed to our Tootsie Roll Drive (Citizens with Disabilities Campaign) recently. We collected just over \$1,000. Fantastic!



BLCS Open house

There will be an open house today, December 3rd, 1-3 pm at Bishop Larkin Catholic School. If you have any questions this is a great opportunity to have them answered.



St. James the Apostle Catholic Church

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Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-12noon/1:00-4:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays 3:00 - 3:45pm in Chapel

Morning Prayer weekdays Monday-Friday 8:00am in Chapel

Adoration: 1st and 3rd Friday (3pm) and 2nd and 4th Thursday (7pm)

Masses: Daily: Monday - Friday 8:30am

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm/Sunday 8:00am, 10:00am and 1:00pm