

Saint James Catholic Community

Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020

CLOSER

God • Church • Community
Together We Can Do Great Things



*The Lord Is My Shepherd;
There Is Nothing I Shall Want.*
Psalm 23

St. James Catholic Church

309 S Stewart Road, Liberty MO 64068

Office (816) 781-4343 Fax (816) 792-8691

School (816) 781-4428

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-4:00

On the web @ www.stjames-liberty.org

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/stjamesliberty/>

Mass Schedule:

Weekdays: Monday - Friday, 8:15am

Saturday, 5:00pm

Sunday, 8:00am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4pm and Anytime by request

Our Pastoral Team

- Rev. Mike Roach, Pastor**.....x201
 frmike@stjames-liberty.org
- Rev. Michael Volkmer, C.P.P.S.**,..... 816-883-2550
 Senior Priest in Residence
- Deacon Chuck Koesterer**
 chuck@stjames-liberty.org
- Katie Klassen, Finance/ Bookkeeper**x220
 Katie@stjames-liberty.org
- Jim Newell, Operations Manager**x204
 jim.newell@stjames-liberty.org
- Danny Baker, Dir of Liturgy and Music Ministry**
 danny@stjames-liberty.orgx207
- Joseph LaScala, Dir of Religious Ed Ministry**
 joe.lascala@stjames-liberty.orgx208
- Denise Whelan, Dir of Youth Ministry**x210
 denise.whelan@stjames-liberty.org
- Sandy Gagnon, Dir of Christian Initiation Ministry**
 sandy.gagnon@stjames-liberty.orgx206
- Jennifer Smith, School Principal**x213
 jennifer.smith@stjames-school.org
- Daryl Ann Sweetland, Office Manager**.....x200
 daryl.sweetland@stjames-liberty.org
- Kirsten Maggi, Office Assistant**x202
 kirsten.maggi@stjames-liberty.org
- Judy Keisling, Bulletin Editor/Website**x205
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- Lori Tajchman, Dir of Children's Music Ministry**
 lori.tajchman@stjames-liberty.orgx209
- Cecilia Richardson, Pastoral Associate**
 cecilia@stjames-liberty.orgx203

Pastoral Council:

- Julie Harman, Chair**
 julieharman@remax.net 810-4888
- Louis Angles**
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- Arsenio "RC" Arciga**
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- Patrick Schaub**
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Mission Statement

We, the community of St. James, are a prayerful and Eucharistic people who treasure our Catholic traditions. We strive to grow in our faith by being good stewards of the gifts God has given us; sharing God's truth with all. As the Body of Christ, we are called to love and serve everyone, especially the marginalized, with joy and hospitality.

Join the Celebration of the Sunday 8:00am Mass Livestreamed on Facebook



We livestream the Celebration of the Mass on Sundays at 8:00am via Facebook Live.

The recording of the Mass, along with the songs and readings, are then posted on our St. James website for you to view at any time.

www.stjames-liberty.org

The video of the Mass is also be available on our YouTube channel for you to follow along at home at your convenience.

St James Catholic Church - Liberty MO - YouTube

St. James School Senior Retreat With Fr. Timothy Thursday May 7 at 10am Livestreamed on Facebook

As most things are during this trying time, this year's Senior Retreat for our 8th Grade graduating students will be a virtual retreat on May 7 - beginning with a private Mass at 10am, celebrated by Fr. Timothy and co-celebrated by Fr. Mike and Fr. Michael.



Prior to his move to Iowa, Fr. Timothy facilitated these retreats and celebrated the Mass for the students.

This year, Fr. Timothy will be back at St. James to celebrate the Mass with our graduating students at this virtual retreat.

He was looking forward to celebrating Mass in our new church, but was called to another parish last summer. His dream of celebrating Mass here will be realized next Thursday, although not quite as he envisioned - in a church full of empty pews!

All Are Invited To Join This Mass on Facebook at 10am

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

From the Pastor's Pen

This weekend as we celebrate the 4th Sunday of Easter. This is traditionally 'Good Shepherd Sunday'. The Gospel is always one of the accounts of Jesus, the Gospel of John telling us that He is the Good Shepherd.

The symbol of the shepherd boy with the lamb around his neck has long been a symbol of God's care for us.

And that is certainly a message of HOPE as we journey through this time of uncertainty.

The Second Letter of Peter reminds us that 'by Jesus' wounds we have been healed....."once were straying like sheep, but Jesus the Shepherd leads us safely home." That's a very comforting message.

As I write this article, the diocese is developing the plan for re-opening churches. So, please stay close to our website. We'll be publicizing our plans as soon as we know them.

As we begin this month of May, we call upon the Intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and pray that all might be kept safe, and we also pray for those families who have loved ones suffering – that they they may always know the hope that the Virgin Mary brings, as well as the care of the Good Shepherd.

May is always an exciting month to honor our young people who are graduating, from St. James School 8th Grade, from St. PiusX, and the various high schools, and those graduating from colleges. We are proud of you and your efforts and pray for God's Blessings as you make this transition.

We know the celebration of Graduations will look different this year, but we once again want you and your families to know we are proud of you and always trust in the Power of God's Spirit within each of you!

Each year our school's 8th Grade students participate in a Senior Retreat. This year's retreat will be different. There will be virtual retreat, beginning with Mass at 10am, celebrated by Fr. Timothy and concelebrated with Fr. Michael and myself. See the article on page 2 for more information.

Blessings to all.

Fr. Mike

Mass Intentions

Week of May 4 - May 10

Monday 8:15am	Our Senior Citizens
Tuesday 8:15am	††Helen & Frank Kasparbauer
Wednesday 8:15am	††Nadine & Lawrence McCoy
Thursday 8:15pm	†Marie Bacon
Friday 8:15pm	†Joe Gubera
Saturday 5:00pm	<i>Saint John of Avila</i> †George Dixon
Sunday 8:00am	<i>Saint Damien</i> †Mary Bell & Dwaine Jones
10:30am	†Harry Woltkamp †Alex Bruening

About Mass Intentions

Although are unable to have daily Masses during this time, we will continue to list the intentions by date requested.

As our priests celebrate a private Mass each Sunday all the intentions for the week will be remembered.



**Jesus
The
Good
Shepherd**

Contact Info

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sat 4pm until finished; any time requested.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Baptismal Preparation Classes: Once a month
Contact Kirsten Maggi in the parish office, ext. 202 or
kirsten.maggi@stjames-liberty.org

Religious Education: For Preschool through adult
spiritual development, please notify office of needs.

New Parishioners: Please register at the parish office.

We Welcome You!

St. James School: PS-8th grade offered.

Call the School Office, to inquire, 781-4428

Sacrament of Marriage: 9 months advance notice

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

To Schedule an event in our Parish Facility:

email daryl.sweetland@stjames-liberty.org

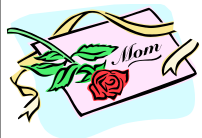
or call Daryl in the Parish Office.

All Bulletin articles must be submitted by Monday

12Noon to: bulletin@stjames-liberty.org

H.O.P.E. / SCRIP GIFT CARD NEWS**Mother's Day is Next Sunday**

In just a few days we will be celebrating that special day for Moms.



While it's not so easy to shop for mom this year - many stores are still closed and restaurants only offer curbside pick up, you can still honor your mom in new and different ways.

Buying a HOPE gift card for Price Chopper or Hy-Vee and do your Mother's Day shopping at these stores where you can find flowers, candy, perfume, and even bath or spa items and, of course, the card.

Lowe's and Home Depot also have a wide variety of potted and garden-ready plants and other items that might make a nice gift for mom.

To order Hy-Vee, Price Chopper, Home Depot or Lowe's cards, contact the parish office (816-781-4343 ext. 200) and we will get in touch with you to arrange a safe drop/pickup.

Also consider gifting your mom a gift card to her favorite store by buying a HOPE gift card on-line using your Presto Pay account and designating your mom as the recipient. You'll need to know her email address. She will receive the gift card in her email and will need to be able to print the card.

Prayer of Renewal of Our Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary



During this time of pandemic Bishop Johnston renewed the consecration of the diocese to Mary, Mother of the Church, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on May 1.

Each of us can renew our consecration to Mary with the following prayer.

Let us now entrust our country and ourselves once again to the Virgin Mary's care.

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, you are the fairest fruit of God's redeeming love; you sing of the Father's mercy and accompany us with a mother's love.

In this time of pandemic we come to you, our sign of sure hope and comfort.

Today we renew the act of consecration and entrustment carried out by those who have gone before us.

With the love of a Mother and Handmaid, embrace this parish which we entrust and consecrate once again to you, together with ourselves and our families.

Mary our Mother, bring everyone under your protection and entrust everyone to your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Someone is Watching and Wondering



There are many passages in scripture that I find confusing and difficult to understand in light of the teaching that God is love. One that is especially troubling is the second reading proclaimed during the

Easter Vigil (Genesis 2:1-18 – *The Testing of Abraham*). A first reading leaves a few questions: 1. Why does God ask for Abraham's son Isaac; an earlier passage reveals that Isaac was a gift from God to Abraham and his wife Sarah; 2. why does Abraham appear to accept the idea of human sacrifice; and 3. does God test our faith as this passage seems to indicate? In preparing the Vigil reflection for our RCIA, I was again faced with my confusion regarding the questions raised by this story in Genesis: "Does God test our faith; what is God asking me to sacrifice?" Here are a few of my thoughts.

A common belief among ancient people was that the gods required sacrifice. For example, offer a sacrifice to the gods for rain to nourish the crops (not too much though). If there was no rain then the sacrifice was not sufficient to appease the gods, so offer yet another sacrifice of greater value. This idea of sacrifice extended to human sacrifice, even sacrificing one's own child. Abraham, therefore, would understand this concept and conclude that *Yahweh* was seeking appeasement for some transgression. This idea is foreign to my Christianity. I believe this story isn't so much a test of Abraham's faith, that seems too simplistic. Rather, this is a story of God's great love, Abraham's trust in God, how we are called to trust and receive His love, and how we express gratitude for His grace and mercy.

Abraham and Isaac traveled for three days (not an insignificant number - Jesus, our sacrifice rose from the dead on the third day). When they arrived at the mountain, Abraham instructs his servants: "*Both of you stay here with the donkey, while the boy and I go on over yonder. We will worship and then come back to you.*" Notice Abraham doesn't say "I will come back to you." Later when Isaac questions his father regarding the sheep, Abraham answers: "*Son . . . God himself will provide the sheep for the holocaust.*" As I reflect on this story I am reminded of Mary's confusion at the annunciation and Jesus' words in the garden. Both answered, Let your will be done. These words and actions are not simply an example of faith, rather they reflect trusting God to be God. God always leads us, provides for us, and lifts us up when we suffer. He doesn't require appeasement; He only asks that we open our heart and receive His love and the gifts of His grace; He will do the rest. Abraham named the site *Yahweh-yireh*, which translates "God himself will see to it." Do we trust God to see to it, to provide; are we willing to follow Him; or do we think we know what's right for our own lives? I pray, Lord, help me to trust and follow you.

Your Sister in Christ, *Sandy Gagnon*

We are the Church: A Beacon of Light



We Are the Church:
A Beacon of Light

Thank you for walking with us this past week in our at-home Parish Mission! We have journeyed together in reflecting on our call to live in the light. When times seem dark, it may be easy to let it over-

whelm us, but as Scripture says, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5). Fr. Mike discussed that we each have an important call through our baptism that no one can take away. Cecilia shared with us that there are so many lights shining in our lives, but sometimes we must open our eyes more. Once we recognize the light, we must enflame it and give it fuel through prayer, Scripture, Sacraments and answering our call to burn brightly as Deacon Chuck shared with us. Denise shared with us about those models of light by sharing about the saints, showing that it is possible to burn brightly. We are not in this alone, we are a community of light. Lori helped us reflect on the unique role that each of us plays and that each person is important to our community. We must make sure that we are sharing the light and Jen shared with us some examples of how to do this. And finally, Fr. Michael shared with us how to live in the life and make this a part of who we are.

Thank you to Fr. Mike, Cecilia, Dcn. Chuck, Denise, Lori, Jen, and Fr. Michael for sharing their witness. Thank you to Danny, Dan and Judy for your work in uploading our videos to the various platforms. Thank you to all of you for walking with us on this journey! May we, both as individuals and as Church, always be beacons of Christ's light.

Joe LaScala, Director of Religious Education

Feast Day of Saints Philip and James May 3

Philip is mentioned as one of the Apostles in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and in Acts. Aside from the lists, he is mentioned only in the Gospel of John. He was called by Jesus Himself and was present at the miracle of the loaves and fishes. According to tradition he preached in Greece and was crucified upside down at Hierapolis under Emperor Domitian.

James, Son of Alphaeus. Nothing is known about him other than his name and that Jesus chose him to be one of the 12 apostles. He is also known as James the Lesser to avoid confusing him with James the son of Zebedee, also an apostle and known as James the Greater.



Why May Was Designated As The Month of Mary

A number of traditions link the month of May to Mary. Alfonso (a Spanish king) in the 13th century wrote in his *Cantigas de Santa Maria* about the special honoring of Mary during specific dates in May. Eventually, the entire month was filled with special observances and devotions to Mary.

The origin of the conventional May devotion is still relatively unknown. Herbert Thurston identifies the seventeenth century as the earliest instance of the adoption of the custom of consecrating the month of May to the Blessed Virgin by special observances. It is certain that this form of Marian devotion began in Italy. Around 1739, witnesses speak of a particular form of Marian devotion in May in Grezzano near Verona. In 1747 the Archbishop of Genoa recommended the May devotion as a devotion for the home. Specific prayers for them were promulgated in Rome in 1838.

According to Frederick Holweck, the May devotion in its present form originated at Rome where Father Latomia of the Roman College of the Society of Jesus, to counteract infidelity and immorality among the students, made a vow at the end of the eighteenth century to devote the month of May to Mary. From Rome the practice spread to the other Jesuit colleges and thence to nearly every Catholic church of the Latin rite.

In Rome by 1813, May devotions were held in as many as twenty churches. From Italy, May devotions soon spread to France. In Belgium, the May devotions, at least as a private devotion, were already known by 1803. The tradition of honoring Mary in a month-long May devotion spread eventually around the Roman Catholic world in the 19th century together with a month-long devotion to Jesus in June and the Rosary in October.

In his 1965 encyclical, *Mense Maio*, Pope Paul VI identified the month of May as an opportune time to incorporate special prayers for peace into traditional May devotions. Pope Pius XII, recognizing traditional precedents, proclaimed the "Queenship of Mary" through his encyclical, *Ad Caeli Reginam*.

*Mary conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse to thee.*

Birthdays this week: Today we celebrate all that you with God's help, have accomplished.

Nicholas Ildza	Overstreet	Olivia Book
Bridget Mendoza	Cheryl Robertson	Nathaniel Boos
Alexander Meza	Thomas Stonfer	Karen Kline
Emily Murphy	Paul Arron Tyrrell	Hayden Paulson
Lori Tritz	Victor Vitale	John Ridder
Everett Bagby	Deanna Watt	David Rumsey
Adelina Ballard	Carrie Wingo	George Schergen
David Dobesh	Lisa Atkins	Anthony Schulte
Ryan Flowers	Garrick Cloutier	Natalie Smith
Elizabeth Pfaff	Alexis Daleo	Marissa Vitug
Jeffrey Pickman	Carole Dyer	Adalee Whited
Ciera Vedder	Anne Ehlers	Adelynn
Joseph Wilson	William Erskine	Cunningham
McKenna Brame	Orville Filla	Katherine
Janice Brimer	Dennis Fisher	Downey
Chris Cissell	Maria Gomez	Samantha Eichler
Andrew Evans	Sandoval	Rachel Homoly
Pedro Garcia	Jack Grisham	Alexis Marshall
Bryce McCloskey	Larry Hannah	Maggie Marshall
Kathleen Schmidt	Theresa Hatch	Marisela Meza
Jeffrey Thornton	Judy Katzer	Francesco Milano
Ella Trinidad	Matthew Loehr	Sandra Morton
Mary Whipple	Erin Mallett	Autumn Murphy
Theodore Dawson	Madisyn Palmer	Christopher Roark
James Fichter	Julie Presko	Juan Rodriguez
Barbara Gragg	Linda Smith	Thomas Saffell
Howard Lewczyk	Rosemarie Sola	Tyler Selock
Teresa Mathews	Madison	William Sperry
Lisa Nelson	Steinbauer	Brian Streich
Aiden Nystrom	Avery Tomlinson	
Rosemary	Jennifer Tran	

We Pray to our Lord Jesus for healing

Janet Ward & Jeff Julie Miller James Filippe Alicia Paredes Mike Mall Bob Pezman Jack & Sue Schwarz George Poldsofer Patty Larson Denise W. Mark Collins David Roach Marina James Gubera Tina Helm Becky Collins Hazel Lewis Dan Tomc Laurie Beach Rachel Johnson Wanda Finnigan Geraldyn Hosticka Beth Atwater K&M Davis David Butel & Family Eric Cummings Ciara Davis Pat Neibergall-Timm Brian Akers Janice Brimer Audria & Eddy Martin Jose Torres Erma Brecht Charley Moubry Dan & Bibi Chadwick Pat Aten John Vrocatto John Barrington Donnie Smith Eddie & Teresa Rogers Philip Pernice Don Taylor Leo Oberfoel Kai Bennett Jacob McKay Nick Peters Dwain Jones Joanna Mooney Desmond Arciga-Quenga Colette Kathleen Amos Frances Parker Michelle Bacus Gabrielle Brian Glaser Baby Brooke Carol O'Brien Helen Finn Anna Kain Mark Schweitzer Jennifer Goens Lucy Arthur Fr. Joe Miller Bill Kirwan Jamie Martin Stivers Family JoLynn Distasio Deacon Bud Jackson Erwin	Pat Carey & Family Gavin McKenna James Fulton Helen Szczech Angie Parnacott Monica Nelson Eddie Campbell Joe Witherow, Jr. Ricky Gisi, Jr. Adam McCray Melissa Andrasik Randi Arness Tom Biggs Diana Marchisio Wilfredo Crespo, Jr. Sandra Hensley Rachelle Pomfrey Ron & Peggy Pettz Paul Gossett Julie Rush John & Susan-Kelly Corsione Tony & Jo's Family Colleen Kearney Walter Ruby Lynn & Monica Nelson Ricky Deese Michael Amos Alice Hosticka Hannah Taylor Carol Rakoczy Ellen Wentz Rodriguez Family Ralph & Jan Peters Scott Neibergall Bob Leonardo Margo Eastland Adalina Simmons Mergie Myers Jean and Richard Jackson Steve Decker Linda Smith Pamela & James Anderson Travis Shay Barbara Meigs Tony and Tet So Travis and Sarah Shay Julie Sildeck Stan Carver The Curriel Family Reba and Debra Sutliof Alice Rusch Hanna Carver Jeff Richardson, Sr. Monica Barrington Anna Jackson Kari and Jesse Rainey Louise Andrasik Barbara Fortier Barb Schwery Nichole Stewart Doug Schuster Adolph Barringhaus Kelly Gentrup Denny Farrell Nancy Carr The Hollomon Family Trivino Family Jacke & Enike Hayes Jeanette and Roberta Casel	Catherine Finley Loren Wolken Kristie Koontz Carla George Sue McKnight Kyle Sellmeyer Margarita Mendoza Family Bob Hedrick Marie Brancato Rich Curasi Tricia Kauffman Bob Roach John Brocato Barbara (Roach) Still Debbie Pickett Kathleen Haines John Phannenstiel Mike Sheeley Rick George Saree Morely Christy Mock John Findlay Duane Sander Mattie Mae Weaver Troy Cronkite June Bender Matt Biskup Family Kim Lackey Pam Fink John Nausea Bill Roach, Jr. Jacob & Dana Lansford Roberta McCallum Keith Newman Gary Andrew Reese Emma Shay Joseph Greenwald Sam Porter Mary Alice Worth Amy Villarreal Lori and Sam Dale Mary Kaye Masnado Louie & Carole Bussjaeger John Amaro Randy Baumert Jackie Plack Pelling Kennedy Noel Holcumbking Rita Lowe / Megan Tony V. Sr. Deric DeMasi Sarah Rupp Chris Alvey Carol Yeager Laplant Patrick O'Neill John McMahan Eddie Ansalmo Les VanBibber Maria Giannelli Kenadee Gallagher Shawn Adkins Jason Robinson Leah Biskup Coady Olivia Hernandez Darleen Farnan Kenny Laura Ann DiGiovanna Robert Doleshal Jersey & James Hicks
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'Prayer, Bible Stories & Jamming'!



PB&J families are gathering virtually for weekly classes. The children are singing, praying, sharing the Easter story, and engaging with their friends.



Please notify us to remove your name from our prayer lists when it is time.
In respect of HIPAA we will add names to the prayer list only by request of the person or immediate family.

