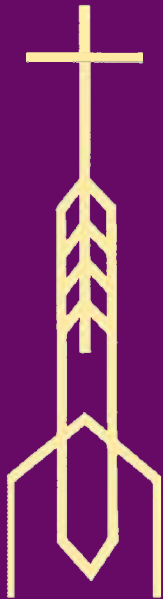


Saint James Catholic Community

*First Sunday of Lent
February 18, 2024*

CLOSER

God • Church • Community
Together We Can Do Great Things



*I set my bow in the clouds to
serve as a sign of the covenant
between me and the earth.*

Gen 9:13



St. James Catholic Church

309 S Stewart Road, Liberty MO 64068
Office (816) 781-4343

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am-12:00noon
School (816) 781-4428

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.PP.S.	816-883-2550
Senior Priest in Residence	
Deacon Chuck Koesterer	
chuck@stjames-liberty.org	
Katie Klassen, Business Manager	x220
Katie@stjames-liberty.org	
Danny Baker, Dir of Liturgy and Music Ministry	
danny@stjames-liberty.org	x207
Stephanie Ladenthin, Dir Religious Education	
DRE@stjames-liberty.org	x208
Sandy Gagnon, Dir of Christian Initiation Ministry	
sandy.gagnon@stjames-liberty.org	x206
Jennifer Smith, School Principal	x213
jennifer.smith@stjames-school.org	
Kirsten Maggi, Office Coordinator	x204
kirsten.maggi@stjames-liberty.org	
Judy Keisling, Bulletin Editor/Website	x205
bulletin@stjames-liberty.org	
Cecilia Richardson, Pastoral Associate	
cecilia@stjames-liberty.org	x203
Jeanne Greenwald, Scheduling Coordinator	
stjamesoffice@stjames-liberty.org	x200
Ernie Collins, Director Children's Choir	
ernie.collins@stjames-liberty.org	N/A
Front Desk	x202
 Pastoral Council:	
Kevin Casel, Chair	
kcasel@msn.com	550-8932
Phil Baumert, Vice-Chair	
philb@vandergren.com	215-5225
Sherri Porterfield, Secretary	
choirdiva.porterfield@gmail.com	863- 5557
Dan Bacon	
bacon.dan324@gmail.com	589-7958
Eddie Baker	
jbaker105@kc.rr.com	694-3083
Corrine Katzer	
1corrinek@gmail.com	N/A
Betsy Lewey	
allshandling@gmail.com	679-9910
Yvette Lopez	
yvettelopez@remax.net	777-4694
Joan Peluso	
jbvpeluso@gmail.com	695-7438
Patrick Schaub	
patrickcschaub@gmail.com	876-6771

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.

SOUP SUPPERS ARE BACK! Friday, February 23 • Friday, March 1 5:30 - 7:30 in the Social Hall



We look forward to bringing the parish soup suppers back this year.

While previously led by the RE and school families, this year we are requesting parishioners to participate by bringing a soup, other dish

to share, or breads.

All soups or dishes brought must be meatless since these are Friday's.

A donation for our Lenten charity is the only cost.

We look forward to seeing you on Friday, February 23 and Friday, March 1 from 5:30-7:30pm.

Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Collection This Weekend



The Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Fund is a local fund.

The money raised stays in our 27-county service area. This money supplements our Welcome Center and funds a variety of services for the most vulnerable in our community.

With donations such as yours, the needs of struggling families can be met.



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 Whitney True-Francis, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816.392.0011 or true.francis@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

From the Pastor's Pen

Well, what a week – the Chief's magnificent win on Sunday evening to become the Super Bowl Champions again; the excitement and energy (and a great parade) all over the city and larger community!! We are so very grateful for Andy Reid and Patrick Mahomes, and a great Chiefs team for their outstanding performance this year! God is SO VERY GOOD!

As we begin the season of Lent, our Bulletin Editor Judy has put together a great calendar listing all of the events for the season. The calendar was published in last week's bulletin; copies are available in the Parish Office.

Our Knights had their first Fish Fry on Friday which, as always, was a great success. Mark your calendar for March 8th and 22nd for the next two Fish Fry's.

We begin weekly Stations of the Cross this Friday evening at 5:30pm in the church. In last weekend's bulletin Fr. Michael had a beautiful article on the season of Lent as a time of sacrifice and prayer. Our Lenten Penance service will take place on Monday, March 4th at 7pm.

We pray for our teens who will be confirmed by Bishop Johnston on Monday, March 11th. We continue to pray for our children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion this Easter season.

We're also very excited about our large group of men and women coming into the Church at Easter. Sandy Gagnon does a wonderful job in catechizing our catechumens who are preparing for the sacraments of Initiation and our candidates who have already been baptized in another denomination and will make their Profession of Faith and receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.

All these individuals are signs of 'New Life' for our community. The Lenten season calls us to look at our lives, and challenges us to grow in the ways God's Goodness and Love and experience the New Life of the Easter season.

Blessings to you and your families.

Peace,

Fr. Mike

Mass Intentions

Week of February 19 - February 25

Monday

8:15am †Guy Harkness
†Jessica Maywood

Tuesday

8:15am †Bill Arens
Military Catholic Chaplains

Wednesday

8:15am †Beth Heide
†Julie Miller

Thursday

8:15am †Fr. Vincent Capodanno
Military Families

Friday

8:15am Deacon Chuck
†Charles Gardner

Saturday

5:00pm †Charles Donnici
†Jake Glasford

Sunday

8:00am †Abby Oberding
Parents of Abby Oberding
10:30am †Jake Glasford
†Harry Woltkamp
†Janie Woltkamp Thacker
†Alex Bruening
5:00pm †Dee Ward
Military Veteran Families



*From Death
to New Life*

Our prayer support is with ...

The family and friends of former parishioner Mary Alice Worth, who passed away recently.

May the healing hand of our Lord Jesus be felt by all who are coping with grief and missing loved ones.

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. 204 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 cecilia@stjames-liberty.org

or call the Parish Office, ext. 202.

All Bulletin articles must be submitted by Monday

12Noon to: bulletin@stjames-liberty.org

Stations of the Cross This Friday at 5:30pm

Stations Led by St. James Altar Society
Followed by Stations in Spanish



Knights Free Throw Contest February 4

Approximately 80 people attended the Knights Free Throw Contest on Sunday, February 4.



The Winners

Winners in each category are:

- Age 9 boys - Payton Lunt
- Age 10 boys - Greyson Messina
- Age 10 girls - Tayler Braum
- Age 11 girls - Sydney Lunt
- Age 11 boys - Izak Riesenberg
- Age 12 girls - Pippa Mansfield
- Age 12 boys - Antonio Morales
- Age 13 girls - Molly Sheeley



Participants and Judges

The winners can compete in the district competition on Sunday, February 18, that will be held at the St. James gym. This competition will include other Knights council winners from Excelsior Springs and Kearney. Those who place can go on to the regional competition.

Someone is Watching and Wondering



Today is my final reflection on the last of the three words Pope Francis wrote describing discipleship:

one must first seek, stay, and proclaim. After seeking Jesus and staying in His presence as we go about our ordinary, daily lives, the obvious question seems to be: "How am I, as one of His disciples, being called to *proclaim* the good news of Christ Jesus? I'm not ordained. I cannot preach. I am not a public speaker. I don't have any desire to be the center of attention or to go door to door evangelizing." If these statements sound familiar, you aren't alone. I can answer yes to most of them. I believe, however, that the way I embrace and live my life can become a tool for proclaiming Jesus and His message to the world.

I have heard from a few parishioners that the words I write in this column seem to touch them and express their feelings. For this I thank you. Likewise, I'm sure there are individuals who perhaps feel challenged or turned-off by my words, and that is okay. I do not write to please, rather I write from my heart. It is my hope that through my words, however, you the reader may be brought to a closer relationship with our Lord.

I know words are important and can have profound impacts on others. I also know that my body language and actions are powerful expressions of my efforts to proclaim Christ's love. Am I relaxed or tense; do I smile or scowl; am I welcoming or closed off; do I equally accept praise and criticism or do I brush off compliments and become defensive when I am criticized? What does my body language and facial expressions tell others about me? Am I peaceful and filled with His Joy? Is Christ the center of my life or do I cling to selfish thoughts and desires? Do I participate in malicious gossip and hold onto past hurts with a desire to get even? Am I empathetic and forgiving? Do I speak out in defense of others or simply sit and groan inwardly? Do I offer a helping hand or sit back and wait for others to step-up? Do I offer assistance grudgingly while thinking, "Why do I say yes?" I think, by now, you probably get the picture. I can proclaim or deny the I am in the presence of Jesus through words, actions and inactions, through body language, facial expressions, posture, and attitudes. I can be loving and forgiving or filled with hatred and bitterness. I can let go or hold on to all the things which prevent my wholeness in Christ Jesus. I can blindly follow or I can question and search for answers as to why I am so easily lead away from Him. I can embrace my humanity, value others, and share the awesomeness of staying with Jesus, or I can cling to my own little private devotion to false holiness. Lent is truly a time for reflection and discernment. I love Jesus and I humbly desire to be His disciple, seeking, staying, and proclaiming.

Your Sister in Christ, *Sandy Gagnon*



Let's get cheeky!

STEM CELL DONOR DRIVE

 **Sunday, February 25th**
(Inclement Weather Date Sunday, March 3rd)

 **9am - 2pm**

 **St. James Parish**
Multi-Purpose Room-Lower Level
309 S Stewart Rd
Liberty, MO 64068



There are about 17,000 Americans currently diagnosed with a form of blood cancer and searching for their life saving match. Cancer knows no boundaries and has even affected two of our very own parishioners; Susan, daughter of Pat Cull and Joseph, son of Jeanne Greenwald.

It only takes a few minutes and a swab of your cheek to see if you're a match to a patient in need. If you're 18-55 years old, come by to learn about the donation process and join the National Bone Marrow Registry. You could change the course of someone's life! You could be someone's hero!

For more information, go to dkms.org or call Jeanne at 816-781-4343 ext 200

Save The Date ~ St. Joseph Table

March 16
11am - 7pm • Social Hall
Traditional
St. Joseph's Table Meal
Spaghetti Plain or with Milanese Sauce and More
Carryout Available
Cookies, Cannoli, and More Available for Sale

March 17 • Social Hall
9am - 12 Noon
Complimentary Coffee and Dessert
Cannoli and Cookies Available for Sale

*Celebrating
the Feast of
St. Joseph*

Join The St. Joseph Table Team

There are several upcoming opportunities to become a part of the St. Joseph Table team.

If you love to bake, your donations of cookies and other baked goods will be a welcome addition to the variety of edible items that will be on sale the weekend of March 16 and 17.

Just bring your items to the Social Hall on Thursday and/or Friday, March 14 and 15 between 10am and 5pm. Please designate whether or not your items contain nuts.

If you are an "organizer", the team can use your help in sorting and packaging baked good as well as other "set up" tasks on Thursday after 3pm, or anytime during the day on Friday.

If you have any time the weekend of the event and enjoy working with people, we'd love your help with such tasks as greeting our guests, answering questions, serving, etc.

So, if you'd like to be part of "the team", by donating baked goods or giving of your time even for just an hour or so, please contact:

Marissa Vernickas at 816-590-2619
Email: mvernickas78@gmail.com

or

Anita Daniels at 816-590-0281
Email: anitadaniels1952@gmail.com

Eucharistic Ministers Needed

Eucharistic Ministers are needed to take Communion to the homebound and residents of care centers in the Liberty area. Training will be provided.

If interested, contact Jeanne Verssue at 816-294-0236
or email bverssue@gmail.com.



PASTORAL COUNCIL

READY TO SERVE ST. JAMES?

Nominations For The Parish Pastoral Council Being Accepted Now

The St. James Pastoral Council is looking for two new members. This weekend there will be an announcement at all Masses and an informational session will be held after each Mass.

The sessions following the Sunday morning masses will be held in the AV Conference Room near the Parish Hall. Sessions following the evening masses will be held in the Gathering Space. Please also feel free to reach out to any current Council Member with any questions. Their contact information is located on page 2 of our bulletin.

New Book Written and Published by Fr. Michael's Brother



Fr. Michael's brother Jon Volkmer, professor of English and Director of Creative Writing at Ursinus College in the Philadelphia area, has published a novel called "Brave in Season."

It is a fictionalized version of a rumored baseball game in his hometown of Julian, Nebraska. Anyone who enjoys stories of small-town America, softball, and race relations might enjoy this novel.

Fr. Michael has a copy that he would be happy to lend. It is also available from Amazon.

Your Pastoral Council Asks You Not To Give Up Anything For Lent This Year!



The Pastoral Council wants to start some new Holiday traditions in our Parish and we want to begin with this Lenten Season. In the past the tradition was to "give up something" for Lent, but we request that you add something for those Forty Days.

You of course can do both!

This week we ask you:

- Each time you get annoyed with someone or some circumstance, offer it up by praying an Our Father.
- Write a kind letter to a priest you and know and thank him for his ministry.
- Listen to Christian music.



THE MUSIC OF KARL JENKINS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH
309 S. STEWART ROAD – LIBERTY, MO

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE OR
AT THE DOOR

libertycommunitychorus.org

The music of Welsh composer Karl Jenkins is enchanting, passionate, and beautiful. He has earned 17 gold and platinum disc awards, and his work has been performed throughout the world, across media, and even at the coronation of King Charles III.

Come experience it for yourself!

(Tickets are \$12 for adults; children and students are admitted free.)

Lenten Faith Building Opportunities

Sign up to receive daily Lenten Devotions and more

Visit the St. James Website at www:stjames-liberty.org and click on the *Lenten Resources menu*

Why Attend the Stations of the Cross



Could you walk a mile in Jesus' shoes? The Stations of the Cross (also known as the Way of the Cross) bring us closer to Christ as we meditate on the great love He showed for us in His most sorrowful Passion!

The Stations of the Cross provide us with great material for prayer and meditation. Tracing Jesus' journey from condemnation to crucifixion increases both our sorrow for our sins and our desire for His help in avoiding temptations and in bearing our own crosses. Meditating on Christ's passion can help us become more like Him in imitating His virtues of obedience, humility, charity, patience and perseverance.

Pilgrims to the Holy Land commemorated Christ's Passion in a similar manner as early as the 4th century A.D. The Stations of the Cross developed as a devotion in earnest, however, around the 13th to 14th centuries.

It became a way of allowing those who could not make the long, expensive and arduous journey to Jerusalem to make a pilgrimage in prayer, at least, in their own church! Although the original number of stations varied greatly, they became fixed at 14 in the 18th century.

Parish Religious Education

Feeding • Building • Living



PreK- 5

As the weather allows, many classes like to go outside for class and learning. Please consider sending your child with a jacket.

Next class is February 18th at 9:10am.

Middle School:

Thanks to all who attended our Parish Mardi Gras celebration last week. The Jazz Band played some great music and the pancakes were great and plentiful. We also thank all those who helped organize this great event. Our next class will be Sunday, February 25th at 6pm.

1st Sacraments:

Sign ups have been sent out for First Communion retreats and First Communion masses. Please let me know if you did not receive those. Our second retreat is Saturday, March 9th from 10am -2pm.



**Sacrament of Confirmation
Monday, March 11**

**Please keep the teens
who will be sealed with the
Holy Spirit in your prayers.**



Faith Formation Opportunity for St. James Parishioners

Our parish has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children.

FORMED has content that is professionally produced, engaging and solid in its catechism. Best of all, this material is free to you.

We use material on FORMED to support our ministries and provide continuing education for parishion-

ers, as well as outreach for our sick and homebound members. Much of FORMED's content is available in both English and Spanish.

You have easy access to all the material on FORMED to support your own faith journey and that of your family members.

There is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church.

Information about how to access FORMED is below.

Already have a FORMED Account?

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign In
3. Enter your email
4. Click the link in your email
5. You're in! No more passwords!

Registering on FORMED is easier than ever!

1. Go to FORMED.org/signup
2. Enter your parish zip code (64068)
3. Choose St. James
4. Enter your name and email

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

Ken Bohr	Robert Herr	Jessica McLean
Cory Brown	Joe Hussey	Alicia Paredes
Elisa Dias	Christine Kopp	Mackenzie Schamel
Adrian Garza	Maria Mendoza	Schamel
Mikayla Jacobs	Charles Mortensen	Michael Schamel
Annette Jones	Joseph	Dave
Bertha Lopez	Passantino	Schnoebelen
Melinda Mehaffy	Dean Schmidt	David Smith
Shelby Murtha	Nancy Styhl	Rachel Dias
Aidan Ryan	Nicholas Wolf	Stephanie Dillon
Andrew Selchert	Jack Bauer	Zane Drew
Adam Bailey	Linda Cox	Justin Francis
Henry Bowers	Margot Cusack	Patrick Peluso
Joseph Bowers	Carson Denton	Cynthia Reding
Katelyn Buckley	Abby Diegel	Charles Simone
Addison Doering	Dana Dorssom	Jorge Soto
Darren Easterday	Jaden Este	Neil Talbott
Judith Moore	Mason George	Wanda Decker
Guiliana Nieman	Casey Homoly	Asher Dorsey
Patricia Roush	Miranda Mularoni	Finnegan Dorsey
Michael Schott	Nancy Streeter	Arabella
Ashley Thompson	Mary Jo Swetman	Easterday
Anthony Zahn	William Wilson	Frank Ferrara
George Bringus	Lena Armilio	Kelli Kelly
Karen Brostman	Leo Carmichael	Michael Klamm
Joseph Brulja	Barron Catignani	Harry Landphair
Frank Daniels	Michael Downey	Margarita
Parker Evans	Danni Haley	Mendoza
Mary Gisi	Molly Hedrick	Lauren Otte
Nancy Goeckel	Braden Kittell	Megan Saffell
Stephany Guest	Matthew McCoy	Johnny Wells

St. James School News



St. Paul: A Lenten Bible Study

Tuesdays - Feb. 20 and 27, March 5 and 12

6:30-8 p.m.

In-person and by Zoom.

Using personal reflection time, journaling and sharing. Fr. Ron Will, C.P.P.S., guides us through an exploration of St. Paul as found in the Scriptures. We'll learn how St. Paul cultivated a lifelong personal encounter with Christ. Register Now.

Cost \$10 per session

For more information and/or to REGISTER

- Online: www.pbrenewalcenter.org
- By email: info@pbrenewalcenter.org
- By phone: 816-415-3745

Precious Blood Renewal Center
2120 St. Gaspar Way - Liberty MO

We Pray to our Lord Jesus for healing

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Saturday Morning Faith Sharing New Session



The Wild Goose is a series on the Holy Spirit presented by nationally known author and speaker Fr. Dave Pivonka. "Wild Goose" was a term that the ancient Celts had for the Holy Spirit. With beautiful film-making and compelling teaching, you are invited into a more profound life-giving relationship with the Holy Spirit.

All are invited to attend this Faith Formation Class led by Deacon Chuck.

The class meets in person at 10:00am in the Conference Room (lower level of the church).

All Are Welcome and Invited To Attend.

No Registration ~ No Fees
Just Come When You Can

2023 Contribution Statements Are Available

Contribution Statements are available in the Parish Office during regular office hours.

To receive your contribution statement electronically You may email Katie at katie@stjames-liberty.org

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.



Eucharistic Adoration



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00am until 9:00pm in the Chapel.
Come and spend some time with Jesus.

Join Us In Prayer Rosary For Healing Thursdays at 6:30pm



We invite all to become "prayer warriors" and join us every Thursday at 6:30pm in the church as we pray the rosary for all those who are in need of healing prayer.

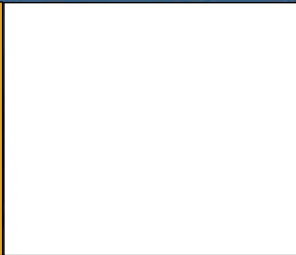
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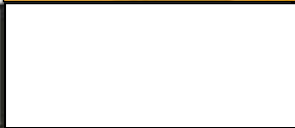


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Quinn Knabe - Parishioner



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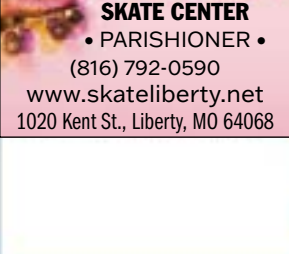
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