



ST. JAMES THE GREATER CHURCH



*A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg
"A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust"*

109 Owens View Avenue
Apollo, PA 15613

www.stjamesapollo.org

MISSION STATEMENT

St. James Parish strives to be aware of the unique nature of our Roman Catholic tradition and our call to be a Christ-centered community. As baptized members of this faith community in a diverse Christian environment, we strive to promote the kingdom of God on earth. We achieve this through the scriptures and by celebration of the Eucharist which draws us into a deeper personal relationship with Christ. Through this relationship with Christ we share our faith with all the people of God. We strive through Catholic education, the Family Formation Program, evangelization, and good stewardship to mirror Gospel values as we reach out to serve the larger community.

MEMBERSHIP: We welcome new members. If you are a Catholic living in this area and are not registered as a parishioner, please call the Parish Office and we will be happy to include you on our roster. Also we ask that parishioners notify us of any change of address.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The Sacrament will be administered on Sundays upon request except during Lent. It is necessary that parents attend a Baptism Preparation Program for parents and sponsors before a child's baptism. Please call the Parish Office for further information and to register for the class.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Couples planning marriage should contact Fr. Thomas More at least one year prior to the marriage. Couples are expected to fulfill all pre-marriage requirements. **Wedding time is at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday.** Those who are married civilly and wish to sacramentalize their union, please contact Fr. Thomas More. For those celebrating a wedding anniversary who wish to renew their vows, please contact Fr. Thomas More well in advance of the desired date. Registered parishioners will take precedence for wedding dates.

rites of Christian Initiation of Adults: If you are interested in inquiring into the possibility of becoming a Catholic through the process of formation and prayer, we invite you to call the parish office 724-478-4958.

PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS LIFE: If you feel called to be a priest or religious, or would like to discuss the possibility, contact Fr. Thomas More.

Bulletin information must be in writing and received as soon as possible. You can email articles to dsummerhill@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

Weekends:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 P.M.

Sunday: 9:30 A.M.

Youth Mass 5:00P.M. Every 4th Sunday of the month at
St. James

Weekdays and Holy Days unless noted inside:

7:30A.M. Weekdays

7:30A.M. & 7:00P.M. Holy Days

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday - 3:30 — 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

ANOINTING AND VISITING THE SICK

Kindly contact the Parish Office.

PARISH OFFICE

Rev. Thomas More Sikora, O.S.B., *Pastor*

Dana Summerhill

Phone: 724-478-4958

Katie Tylinski-Regional Youth Director

724-478-4851

724-212-6740

OFFICE HOURS

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

(Closed Noon - 1:00 p.m.)

Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(Closed Noon - 1:00 p.m.)

Evenings: by appointment only

ST. JAMES PARISH CENTER: 724-478-4071

ORGANIZATIONS
CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA
COURT ST. JAMES #2180

2nd Monday of the month, or as announced. 7:00 P.M.
(no meetings January or July)

ST. JAMES ROSARY CONFRATERNITY:

Last Monday of the month, 2:00 P.M.
(no meetings January, February, June,
July, or August)

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:

Saturday mornings, 9:00 A.M., Parish Center

Pray For
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**PARISHIONERS WHO ARE
HOSPITALIZED, INVALIDS, OR
SERIOUSLY ILL AT HOME:** Mary
Ann Amorino, Rose

Ashbaugh, Herb Barber, Marge Bernat, Richard
Bopp, Frances Bowman, Mary Ann Cieslinski,
Nick DePetris, Patricia Dobrowloski, Barbara
Ferrari, Michael Fraser, Bill Frye, Lorraine Gallo,
Betty Huth, John Jackson, Myrtle Kaplin, Buddy
Koffman, **Kimberly McHenry**, Mary Ann
McIlwain, Paul Metro, Fred Morabito, Wanda
Morabito, Carole Morrison, **Mary Rainelli**, Mary
Shook, Charlene Spelock, Lavina Stefaniak,
Robert Tandaric, Marcella Trinclisti, Tyler
Whaley, Fr. Justin-*previously of St. James parish,*
and all the sick who need our prayers.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal
4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn
1:29-34
Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34,
36, 38]
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;
Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Save the date

Our next XLT will be Friday, February
2nd. More information forthcoming.

Advertiser
of the Week

DAN WANER CONTRACTING



ALTAR BREAD & WINE
*Stella & Santo Garufi by Olga
Garufi*

SANCTUARY LAMP
Mary & Dom DelVecchio
by
Olga Garufi

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.



Collections will be in the next bulletin due to early bulletin deadlines.



. There will be no classes on Sunday, December 31st. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 7th.



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The Parish Office will close be closed on Monday, January 2nd and reopen again on Tuesday, January 3rd.

May you and your family have a blessed holiday season!

Holy Hour(Adoration/Benediction)
There will be Holy Hour/Benediction on Thursday, January 4th, 2018 from 6:30P.M.-8:30P.M. in the Church. All are welcome!

2018 CALENDARS

Calendars for 2018 are available at both entrances to the Church for you to take home. We are grateful to those who sponsor and pay for our Church calendars each year-The Curran Family of Funeral Homes and Stanford Home Centers.

Opioid Abuse Education Program

Please join us in the Mother of Sorrows, Murrysville, social hall on Monday, January 15, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. for an awareness evening that will include a presentation by Dr. Paul Niemiec, Director of Counseling for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg. Dr. Niemiec will present the facts of opioid abuse, followed by discussion and questions. Msgr. Gaston will then lead us in a prayer service. The evening will conclude with a light reception. Reservations are not necessary. Please join us, and please invite anyone else who might be in need of information or assistance about this critical concern.

MINISTRY APPRECIATION DINNER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH AT 5:00P.M. AT ST. JAMES PARISH HALL.

A dinner will be held in appreciation for all those who participate in a ministry of the parish (choir, lectors, cantors, extraordinary ministers, angel tree committee, children's liturgy, etc.)

Please drop this RSVP form in the collection basket by Tuesday, January 2nd.

Name _____

Number Attending _____

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED
FRIDAY MORNING
January 5th, 2018
FOR THE ST. VINCENT
de PAUL FOOD
BANK.**



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All volunteers are asked to be at the Parish Center by 8:00 A.M.
We can't do it without you!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR
JANUARY GOLDEN AGERS!**



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Jan 2~John Santy, James Brooks;
Jan. 4 ~Nell Sipos; Jan. 5 ~Robert Arbuckle;
Jan. 18 ~ William Marhefka; Jan 19~Pauline Strellec;
Jan 21~ Lorraine Arbuckle, Jane Kinkead & Leona Scalzott;
Jan.22~ George Kraynick; Jan. 26 ~ Anne MocarSKI; Jan. 29 ~Susan DiMenna; Jan. 31 ~ George Sproat

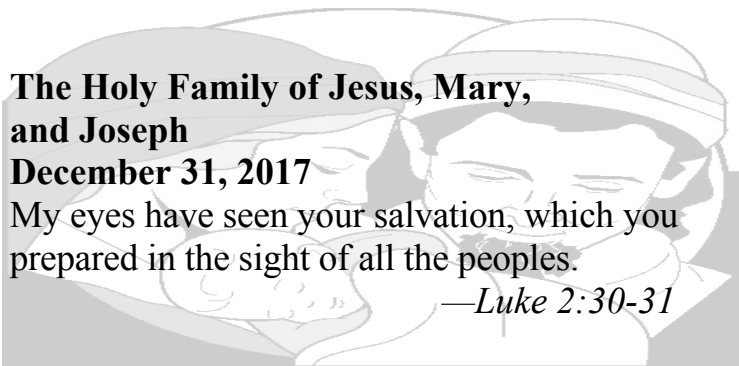
May God bless each of you and all who will celebrate their birthday in January

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary,
and Joseph**

December 31, 2017

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you
prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

—*Luke 2:30-31*



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The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

SATURDAY — December 30

4:30P.M. Mass for Living & Deceased
Members of St. James Parish

SUNDAY — December 31

9:30A.M. Amelia Spicher by Amy's
Family

MONDAY—January 1-Solemnity of Mary

9:00A.M. Andrea Kunkle by Aunt Helen

7:00P.M. Stefaniak Family by Frank
Stefaniak

TUESDAY — January 2

7:30A.M. Betty Trinclisti by Dave &
Gloria Notte & Family

WEDNESDAY —January 3

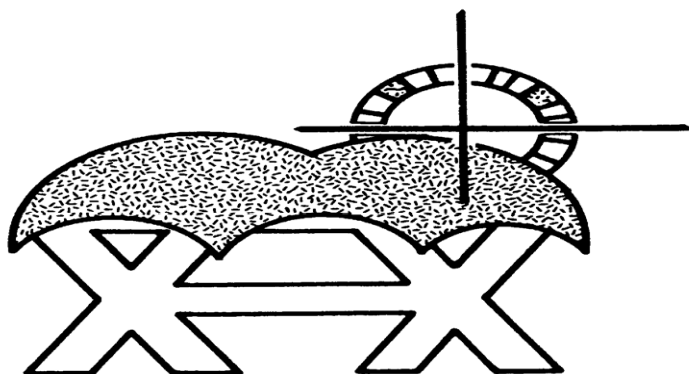
7:30A.M. Lurana R. Kelly by Husband,
Phil Kelly

THURSDAY—January 4

7:30 A.M. Maureen Ford by Parish Family

FRIDAY —January 5

7:30A.M. Jane Ban by Parish Family



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The Epiphany of the Lord

SATURDAY — January 6

4:30P.M. Mass for Living & Deceased
Members of St. James Parish

SUNDAY — January 7

9:30A.M. Jerry A. Stokes by Charleen &
Tim Polka



FUSED 4 ~ DECEMBER/JANUARY EDGE CALENDAR

(Grades 6th-8th ~ St. James Parish Underground/Upper Room
~ 6:30-8:00 PM)

January 3—No session ~ 10—Session ~ 17—Session ~ 24—
Session ~ 28--Youth Mass at 5 PM at St. James with AMP to
follow in the hall ~ 31—Session

FUSED 4 ~ DECEMBER/JANUARY LIFETEEN CALENDAR

(Grades 9th-12th ~ Christ the King Parish ~ St. Joseph Room in
the basement of the church offices at CTK~ 6:30-8:00 PM)

December ~ 31st—NO SESSION ~ January 7—NO SESSION ~
14—Session

~ 21—Session ~ 28--Youth Mass at 5 PM at St. James with
AMP to follow in the hall

The annual pilgrimage sponsored by The Office for Evangelization and Faith formation to the March for Life in Washington, DC, slated for January 18th-19th, 2018, is open to youth in ninth through twelfth grade and their adult chaperones. The youth pilgrimage includes the [Life Is Very Good](#) evening rally, as well as the Life is Very Good Mass on Friday morning. Both events are held at the Eagle Bank Arena on the campus of George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.,. Cost is \$60 (subsidized by FUSED 4 YM) and checks are to be made payable to St. James Parish. Scholarships are available. Deadline to register is January 4th. Please indicate your t-shirt size.

Attention 9th-12th graders: Join us for the Winter Retreat, "I AM the Vine, You are the Branches" February 23rd-25th at Laurelville Retreat Center Solar House, Mount Pleasant. Take time out of your busy life and make some quality time for God! It's an amazing experience! Your cost for the retreat is \$40 (The total cost is \$125). The cost includes all lodging, meals and supplies for the weekend. The amount is subsidized in part by the Youth Ministry Office and is eligible for Francis Funds. The total amount eligible for Francis Funds is \$62.50 (half of the cost). The application for Francis Fund must be submitted by **January 2, 2018**. If you do not apply for Francis Funds you will be responsible for the \$62.50 for that you would have received from the Francis Funds as well as the \$40. Francis Funds will require a letter from your pastor so you should have requested this from him well in advance. Don't miss out on a fantastic weekend! If finances are an issue, please see Katie. In order to register you must turn in your check payable to St. James. Please register for the retreat by Thursday, February 8th.

You will be receiving a calendar soon with upcoming dates for the next semester. Stay tuned!

We are looking for a family to help to provide the main dish, setup and cleanup for the After Mass Party on January 28th. We are also looking for readers, altar servers, greeters and ushers.

Bulletin # 910018

St. James Church
109 Owens View Road
Apollo, PA 15613

724-478-4958

Attn: Dana

MESSAGES:
December 31ST, 2017

Color is allowed on back flap