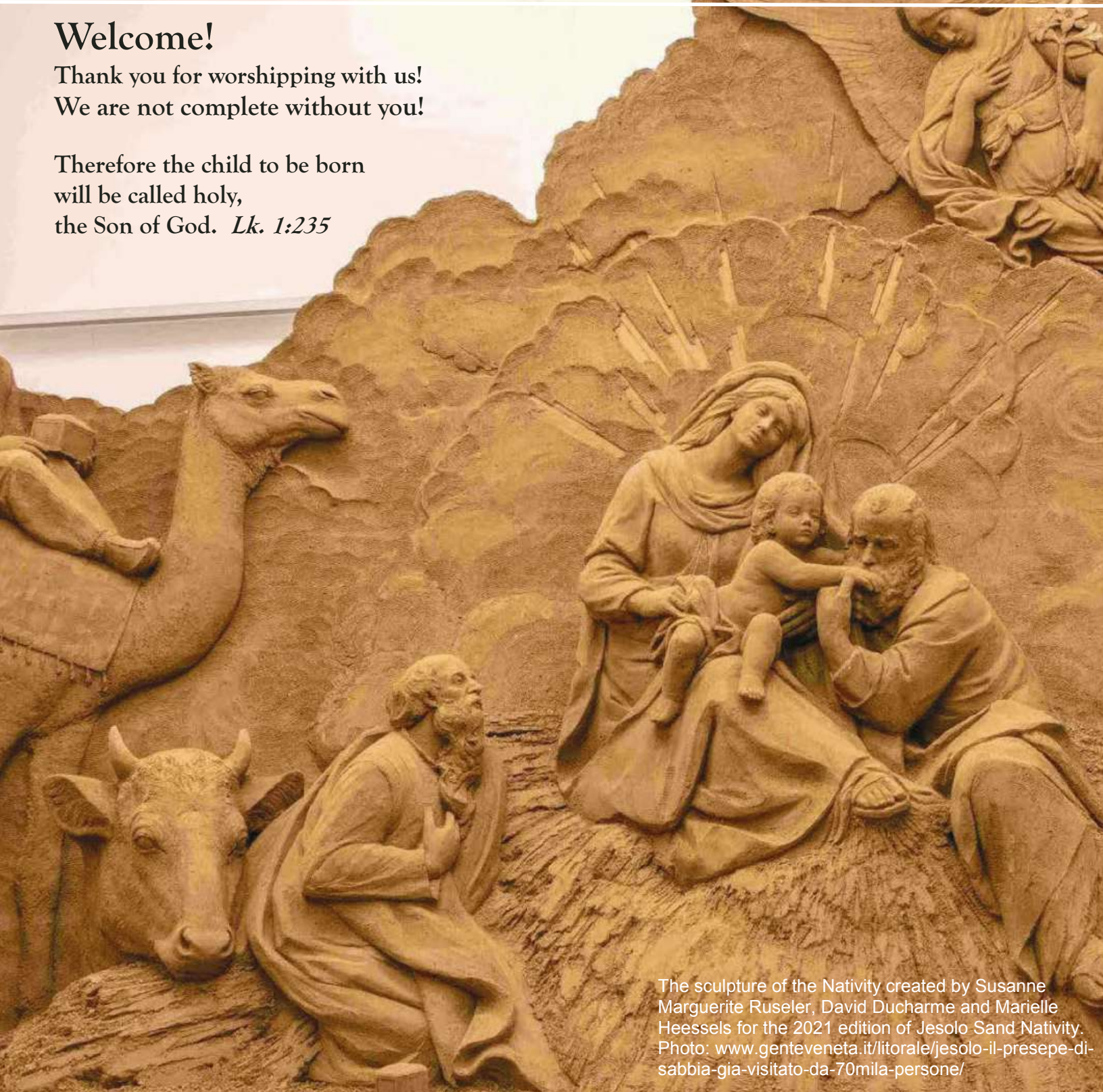


Sunday Masses (Sat 5:30 pm) | Sunday 6:30 am, 8 ,10, 12 noon, 5:30 pm | Monday-Friday 8, 12 noon, Saturday 8 am

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us!
We are not complete without you!

Therefore the child to be born
will be called holy,
the Son of God. *Lk. 1:235*



The sculpture of the Nativity created by Susanne Marguerite Ruseler, David Ducharme and Marielle Heessels for the 2021 edition of Jesolo Sand Nativity. Photo: www.genteveneta.it/litorale/jesolo-il-presepe-di-sabbia-gia-visitato-da-70mila-persone/

Office hours: Monday – Thursday 8 to 12, 1 to 8 pm Friday 8 to 12, 1-4 pm | Saturday & Sunday Closed

124 N. Pacific Coast Hwy. | Redondo Beach, CA 90277 | 310.372.5228 | www.SaintJames.Church | Photo: Jesolo Sand Nativity scene

Pastor's Christmas Letter

Dear Friends and Families of St. James,

This Christmas, I am offering you a letter of struggle, hope, joy and reconnection. The pandemic impacted so many of our lives. This is the story of two parishioners at Saint James who have allowed me to share their story with you. Their story is more powerful than anything I could say to you.

John and Barbara, husband and wife, were like many of us who watched Mass from home. They streamed it from their computer during the COVID isolation. Eventually, they stopped watching the Mass. When the church opened for Mass again, they continued to stay home to be "safe." Somehow, they just did not go back to church at all.

More recently they began sharing with each other how unhappy they were with their lives and even with the world. They were more critical of things, more angry, impatient, overwhelmed, and hopeless. They knew something was wrong, yet, at the time could not understand why. By now, they were completely disconnected from the church.

Then Barbara's mother became critically ill, and she was feeling very lost. Barbara knew she needed to pray for her mom. One Sunday, John and Barbara decided to go to the 10 am Mass.

They entered the church for the first time since the onset of the pandemic. As Barbara started to kneel and pray, she was overcome with a wave of emotions. She moved from feelings of guilt and disconnection to feelings of hope, joy, love, healing, wholeness and peace.

John was kneeling beside her dealing with his own wave of emotions. As he turned towards his wife with tears in their eyes, they both knew what had been missing. They had gone so long without the spiritual nourishment received from attending Mass in person and receiving the sacrament of the Eucharist. They had missed their church and the community of St. James. Now they go to church every Sunday and they are home.

Since being back they have also noticed that there are still many empty pews compared to pre-pandemic. They asked me to do something about it, because they know that many of those who have not returned must be experiencing the same kind of distress and restlessness as they had — until they found their way back again to their St. James Community, Jesus Christ, the Eucharist, faith, hope and love.

This Christmas as we all gather back 'home' together, our Christmas gift to you is Matthew Kelly's new book, *The Rocking Chair Prophet*. It tells a story of a man who reemerged from tragedy with uncommon wisdom. This book is a "rich exploration of life and the human condition. It is an invitation to rediscover yourself and reorient your life."

On behalf of our parish Clergy, I wish everyone a very merry Christmas, and a new year filled with joy and appreciation for God's love and blessings for the gift of our families and friends.

Blessings!

*Mmgr. Mike, Fr. Thaddeus, Fr. Jim,
Deacon Bob and Patty Miller.*

Men's Cornerstone Retreat

Friday/Saturday,
February 23-24, 2024

Saint Lawrence Martyr Parish Hall



This year's theme is:
"Building the Kingdom of God"

Join other men in our community on this 26-hour retreat as we build fellowship to enrich our lives.

This retreat is a blessing you will keep forever.



Questions? Call **Alex: 310.406.9545**

Bundle Sunday



On Sunday, Jan. 14th, our parish is having a Bundle Sunday for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Please bring your usable clothing and usable household items between **8 am to 2 pm** in the church parking lot.

Your donations will help needy individuals.



Virtus® Classes being held in January

We will be offering the **original Protecting God's Children** Virtus® class on **January 13th** from 1 to 4pm in Kavanagh Hall.



This class is for those who are already in ministry and have an expired certificate and/or those who are brand new to a ministry.

Please check your records or call the parish office if you are not sure of your certification status. Registration is required as space is limited. Please call the office to register.

A **Recertification class** will be offered on Wednesday, Jan. 17th from 6 to 7:30pm in Kavanagh Hall. This class is for those who have a current certificate that is expiring soon.

If you haven't received an email from the office that your certificate will soon be expiring, please call the office to verify your certificate expiration date.



Maybe you grew up Catholic.

Maybe you think of yourself as Catholic.
Maybe you haven't been to church in a while.
Or you are worried that you
won't be welcomed here.

And maybe it feels awkward and scary
to take that first step.

Questions. Doubts. Yearning.
But not sure for what.

We get it.
We've been there.
Now we are here.

Maybe God is calling you, too.
Just as you are.

Welcome home.

Celebrate Christmas With Us!

Bring your family, friends and neighbors to Mass
with us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Sunday Obligation, Dec. 24th

6:30 am, 8 am, 10 am, 12 Noon

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses

4 pm - Children's Choir
6 pm - Youth Choir
11 pm - Carols begin at 10:30 pm Adult Choir

Christmas Day Masses - Monday, Dec. 25th

6:30 am - Cantor & Piano/Organ
8 am - Cantor /Piano/Organ with Brass Ensemble
10 am - Adult Choir with Brass Ensemble
12 Noon - Resounding Grace
(No 5:30 pm Mass)

Christmas Week Daily Masses

Tuesday, Dec. 26th - 8 am & 12 Noon
Wednesday, Dec. 27th - 8 am & 12 Noon
Thursday, Dec. 28th - 8 am & 12 Noon
Friday, Dec. 29th - 8 am & 12 Noon

Saturday, December 30th - 8 am Mass
5:30 pm Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday Masses - New Year's Eve

6:30 am, 8 am, 10 am, 12 Noon, 5:30 pm

New Year's Day Mass

Monday, January 1st - 9 am only

Thank you for your Continued Support of St. James!

Our parish ministries continue because so many people need our help. Recurring gifts helped sustain our parish in unprecedented times, and continue to be a vital source of support for ministries that are a lifeline to those in need in our community.

Luke 2:11- *"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."*

As Christmas is rapidly approaching, this is our time to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Lord and savior. So, amidst the presents, cookie decorating and Christmas parties, remember, Jesus is the reason for the season.

Your eGiving donations allows our ministry to continue to provide gifts to the community .

Enroll in Faith Direct's

E-Giving by calling toll free
1.866-507.8757 or visit
<https://www.faithdirect.net>

Use the code **CA560**

Or

Use Faith Direct's

Text-to-Give number

Simply text any dollar amount to **424.317.8878**

Thank you for your generous support!



Parish Office Schedule

Friday,	December 22 nd	8 am - Noon
Monday,	December 25 th	Closed
Tuesday,	December 26 th	Closed
Wednesday,	December 27 th	8 am - 8 pm
Thursday,	December 29 th	8 am - 8 pm
Friday,	December 30 th	8 am - Noon
Monday,	January 1 st	Closed
Tuesday,	January 2 nd	8 am - 8 pm

Invite Someone to Mass

The church is again open for quiet prayer from 7am- 7pm daily.

Our **daily Mass is at 8 am and 12 noon Monday-Friday** with the rosary prayed immediately afterward.

Our **Saturday Mass is at 8am.** Help others attend Mass and receive the Eucharist; the true body and blood of Christ hidden in the form of a host.

Religious Education

Dear Friends and Families of Saint James,

Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent and Merry Christmas!

Every six or seven years the Fourth Sunday of Ad happens to be one of those years. While Advent has been shorter than normal, we pray that you have been able to fully celebrate the season, preparing your heart to encounter Christ more deeply in the world around you.

Thank you to our parish families who joined us for our two Family Days of Service this month, a special way to prepare our hearts during Advent. As always, it is wonderful to help our children understand what it means to love our neighbor in concrete ways. Thanks, also, to Dr. Robin Potchka for her dedication to the Children's Christmas Choir and for leading the caroling again this year.

Our Faith Formation programs are finished until January, 2024! If your family did not get your gift at our last Family Faith Formation day or at our last Traditional Faith Formation class, please give the Office a call so we can set up a time for you to pick yours up. Please be aware that the Office of Religious Education is closed for the holidays and will reopen on January 8th.

May you be aware of Emmanuel, God-with-us, all year long, and may the joy of Christmas fill you!

God Bless!

Andrea Sullivan, Director of Religious Education

SAINT JAMES YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING DATES

Confirmation Nights

Year 1: Sunday, January 7th

Year 2: Sunday, January 21st

A blessed Merry Christmas from all of us here at Youth Ministry! We pray that this season brings joy & love to you and your loved ones as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. If you have any questions on joining our team or any future youth ministry events, please feel free to contact us at the information provided below.

Gretchen Nobleza

Director of Confirmation & Youth Ministry

Contact us:

Email: saintjamesym@gmail.com

Website: www.saintjamesym.weebly.com

Text: 424.265.8336



[saintjamesym.rb](https://www.facebook.com/saintjamesym.rb)



[@saintjamesym](https://www.instagram.com/saintjamesym)



Families, along with the Saint James Cub Scouts, gathered to carol at Brookdale earlier this month.

St. James Catholic Preschool



We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Much Love,
St. James
Preschool Staff

(l-r: Mrs. Borda, Mrs. Valades, Ms. Flannery, Mrs. Bell—Director)

Our Preschool still has some openings and is currently enrolling.

Please call:
310.376.5550



(l-r: Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. DeVico, Mrs. Hollerup)



St. James Catholic School

Dear Friends and Families of St. James,
Merry Christmas!
God Bless you!
Danina F. Uy, MA, M.Ed, Principal

Altar Server Training Begins in January



The St. James Altar Server Ministry will be holding training sessions for children who will be in grades 5-12 in the fall.

Contact **Karen Cuni** to join the schedule at karen.cuni@gmail.com

St James Moms Group!

Please join the St James Moms Group!

We have weekday morning meetings along with family and mom events on the weekends. Email karen.cuni@gmail.com for more information.

Sunday Night Worship Aide

Please join our Sunday Night Youth band in worship during our 5:30pm Mass by scanning the QR code to our **virtual worship aide** where all are encouraged to worship with us during Mass.



It will also take you to our parish website, our youth ministry website where many of our teens/young adults are also active in & our Sunday Night Youth YouTube page.

We're excited to continue offering new ways to connect with the community!



Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!
Saint James School Teachers and Staff

Community and Putting Your Faith in Action

Feed the Needy Ministry

We thank you for all your donations! We continue this year of providing meals on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Because of your generosity, we have continued to feed our homeless community throughout the year.

Our work continues and we once again ask for your assistance to ensure that we maintain the items needed for our homeless community members. We always need the following items:

hamburger buns	cheese sticks
fruit	(oranges, bananas & grapes)
chips	granola bars
lunch meat & cheese	8 oz. water and juices

In addition to the food items we are in need of **toiletries and socks**. Due to the pandemic and limited storage space we are unable to accept used clothing.

Again we thank you in advance for your generosity in allowing us to keep our homeless community fed and healthy.

If you have any questions regarding our ministry I can be reached at **310.488.9480**.

Linda Cabibbo, Ministry Coordinator

We've Missed you!

The church is open for quiet prayer from 7am- 7pm daily.

Our **daily Masses are at 8 am and 12 noon Monday-Friday** with the rosary prayed immediately afterward.

Our **Saturday Mass is at 8am.**

Take a moment to rediscover what's missing in your life! **We're not complete without you!**



If you are unable to attend in person, we Livestream Mass Monday– Friday at 8am and our Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5:30



Do You Need Someone to Hear You?

It's something we do well.

If you feel it would be helpful to have a confidential space and caring listener as you are trying to work out a problem in your own mind, please consider a call to a Stephen Minister.

We would be happy to act as a sounding board as you work out solutions. **Contact: Didi Egnatuk 310.540.0329**



Join the Catholic Daughters of America



We donate generously to several charitable causes. Members give their time, energy and support to help others in the service of Christ.

Our **monthly meetings held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm in Kavanagh Hall.** We are inviting all Catholic women of all ages to join us as pray the holy Rosary before each meeting.

Contact: **Kristal Trapani-Landry**
Email: **Ktrapani.Landry.cda@gmail.com**
Email **courtourladyofvictory@gmail.com**

Cookies for the Homeless

If you like to bake delicious cookies, consider making an extra batch once a month for our homeless neighbors.

Contact **Sandy: 310.542.4851**

Thank you!



When I look at your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and stars that you established —

What is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

Yet you have made him little less than God,
and crowned him with glory and honor.

You have given him dominion
over the works of your hands,
you have put all things
under his feet ...*Psalm 8*



Human Trafficking Awareness

Traffickers will recruit at locations that kids frequent like schools, malls, parks, and group homes.

Get Involved!

F.A.I.T.H. MINISTRY of
St. Lawrence Martyr and St. James.

Contact: **Rick Page** **CandRpage2@gmail.com**



It's normal to grieve a pregnancy loss, including the loss of a child by abortion.

It can form a hole in one's heart, a hole so deep that sometimes it seems nothing can fill the emptiness. You are not alone... **hopeafterabortion.com/**

Opportunities to Grow your Faith

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The Order of Christian Initiation (OCI), formerly the RCIA, is the process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith. It is the process for an unbaptized person to be baptized into the church and for those baptized by another Christian denomination to enter into the Catholic Church. While coming to know Jesus and His invitation to become a disciple, the OCI process involves the journey of faith, formation and conversion. A person is introduced to the beliefs, life, liturgy, and apostolic work of the Catholic Church.

If you are interested in learning more or starting the OCI process in September, please contact:

Ben Aranda at 310.427.5775 or email:
Ben_Aranda@yahoo.com

Would You Like to Complete Your Sacraments?

Are you a baptized Catholic, but have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation?

If so, contact us about becoming a candidate to complete your Sacraments of Initiation (*Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation*). If you have not received your First Holy Communion, this class will prepare you to do that as well.

Our Winter, 2024 series of classes is scheduled to begin on Thursday, January 4th, 2024.

To receive further information and details on this process, please contact Deacon Bob & Patty Miller at **dnbob99@gmail.com** or call us at **310.386.2930**. If you know of someone who may benefit from this process, please feel free to pass this information along to them.



Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group

Join us! We continue to pray the rosary in the midst of this difficult time.

We meet in **Kavanagh Hall every Monday at 7 pm.**

Experience inner peace.

Dean Campazzie 310.372.5182



Invite Mother Mary to Your Home

The South Bay Rosary Cenacle is circulating the statue of Our Lady of Fatima every Saturday throughout the year. Invite Mother Mary into your home for one week and pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy with your family and friends.

Contact:

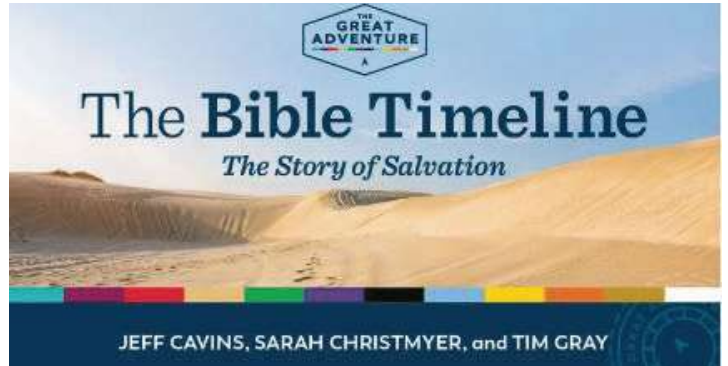
Lydia Nelson 424.358.7197

Carmelita Silvino 310.975.4070

The St. James Tuesday Night Online Bible Study group is currently taking a break for the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

We will resume our course on The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation on **January 9th, 2024.**

Please contact Donna Wilson (**dwilson94@gmail.com**) if you are interested in joining our class in the new year.



Come, share and participate in our Church Community.



Benediction and Adoration

January 19th

after the 8am Mass until 12 noon

Holy Hour Adoration

January 12th at 7 pm

January 26th at 7 pm

Adoration is the first attitude of man acknowledging that he is creature before his Creator.

It exalts the greatness of the Lord who made us and the almighty power of the Savior who sets us free from evil.

Adoration is the homage of the spirit to the King of Glory, respectful silence in the presence of the ever greater God. Adoration of the thrice-holy and sovereign God of love blends with humility and gives us assurance to our supplications. -CCC 2628

The Corporal and Spiritual Acts of Mercy

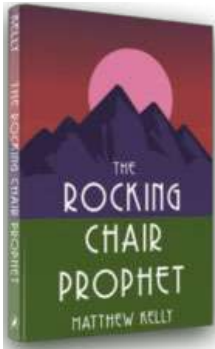
Learn more about your Catholic Faith. How many of these 14 acts of mercy do you know?



www.newadvent.org/cathen/10198d.htm

Topic: Spiritual Prophecy

In the light of seasonal gatherings, reconnecting to the church, and miraculous prophetic fulfillment, Monsignor Mike's pastoral direction draws our attention again to the spiritual writings of Matthew Kelly.



The parish generously gifts parishioners with Kelly's first novel, *The Rocking Chair Prophet*.

This book is described as "a transformational story about tragedy, uncommon wisdom, extraordinary gifts, and spiritual direction."

The Catholic Church and biblical scholar have much to contribute to a better understanding of the nature of the prophets:

- "Moses towers above all as the greatest prophet of the Old Testament; the herald of God's compassion."
- "We confess that the Holy Spirit spoke through the prophets."
- "Biblical prophets were not in the business of predicting the future but of saying something about the present."

"Prophet doesn't mean one who predicts what is to come but refers to the Greek word **prophetes**: one who speaks for another."

The Claretian Missionaries, through their publication *U.S. Catholic*, clarifies that the prophets

"brought and interpreted the word of God to a people who needed to be reminded of it. Prophecy for Paul seemed to involve those who spoke with particular insight and wisdom about the things of God."

Mark Twain, in typically dry, laconic humor wrote:

"The art of prophecy is very difficult... especially with respect to the future."

From Church teachings, to spiritual novels, to popular literature, when it comes to the action of the Holy Spirit through the prophets we remain a people who continue to seek *"insight and wisdom about the things of God."*

Gift Shop Hours:

Tuesday–Friday 11am - 3pm

Peter Nobleza 310.374.1964
saintjamesgiftshop@gmail.com



Life is troubling.

Who among us has not struggled with anxiety and difficulties, sometimes massive ones?

I certainly have, as have many of my loved ones. If we do, does this mean that we don't trust the Lord or just need to toughen up?

I don't think so. How encouraging for us anxious and troubled souls to hear Luke describe the Blessed Mother Mary in these words,

"But she was greatly troubled at what was said."

An archangel has visited her. An inconceivable promise has been made to her. Her life has become wildly unpredictable, perhaps more so than any person before or since.

The first point for us: the Lord is with her *precisely when she is troubled*. Her anxiousness and God's presence are not mutually exclusive. Christianity is not about a trance-like robotic indifference. It's about the presence of divine love.

Even in — especially in — troubled circumstances.

Our troubled soul can become our greatest treasure. What seems so troubling at first to Mary becomes the best possible thing, Jesus, the Savior and Lord, is now her son. All the difficulties and troubles remain, and yet her movement into the fullness of God is accelerated. What is troubling you right now? This scripture invites us now, this week, to hear the Lord's messenger say to us what he said to Mary,

"Do not be afraid! You have found favor with God."

Sacramental Confession

No sin is new to him.
No wrongdoing too great.

Come to Confession and
experience mercy and joy.

Confession is available Saturday
from 4-5 pm in Church or by calling
the office for an appointment.



Weekly Mass Intentions

Sat. 8 am 5:30 pm	December 23 Fr. Thaddeus Fr. Jim	Jose C.Cordova † Victoriano Corazon †
Sun. 6:30 am 8 am 10 am 12 noon 4 pm 6 pm 11pm	December 24 Msgr. Mike Fr. Thaddeus Msgr. Mike Fr. Thaddeus Msgr. Mike Fr. Jim Fr. Thaddeus	4th Sunday of Advent MacKenzie Smith Dorothy Slawson † Don Lawrence † Catherine Provenzano † Christmas Eve Vigil Dolores Java † The Oley Family † GodoFredo P. Lopez † Michael Nobleza Larry & Emilyn Angeles Bruno Garofalo †
Mon. 6:30 am 8 am 10 am Noon	December 25 Fr. Thaddeus Fr. Jim Msgr. Mike Fr. Thaddeus	Christmas Stephen J. Jambor † Michael Cutuli Elizabeth Tanyi & Family Josefina DeGuzman † Pino & Louise Marzocchi † Zoe Brueggemann † Dorothy & Patrick McAteer † Frank M. Campis, Jr. †
Tues. 8 am 12 noon	December 26 Msgr. Mike Fr. Thaddeus	Sally Gutierrez Virginia Soriano †
Wed. 8 am 12 noon	December 27 Fr. Jim Msgr. Mike	Tim Sloan Ron & Teri Mostero
Thurs. 8 am 12 noon	December 28 Fr. Thaddeus Fr. Jim	Hee Gon Lee † Bernice Walters †
Fri. 8:00 am 12 noon	December 29 Msgr. Mike Msgr. Mike	John Joseph Toner Maria Lupita Marron
Sat. 8:00 am 5:30 pm	December 30 Fr.Chibuike Fr. Thaddeus	Garrett Finzel Marilyn Amaya Jacqueline McIntosh †
Sunday 6:30 am 8 am 10 am	December 31 Fr. Jim Msgr. Mike Fr. Thaddeus	New Year's Eve Connie & Gerhard Harte Joseph Resong † Dorothy Haggerty † Andrew Scott All Souls in Purgatory † Loretta Palmer †

Sunday 12 noon	December 31 Fr. Thaddeus	New Year's Eve Martha Rodriguez † Barbara Stafford †
5:30 pm	Msgr. Mike	Julie & Joseph Martelli † Laura Aranda †

For prayer requests or to request a Mass intention, please call or visit the Parish Office **310.372.5228**
Priest celebrant subject to change.

Readings

Monday

**All the ends of the earth have
seen the saving power of God.**

Is 52:7-10 / Heb 1:1-6 / Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 / Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday

Rejoice in the Lord, you just!

1 Jn 1:1-4 / Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday

**Our soul has been rescued like a
bird from the fowler's snare.**

1 Jn 1:5—2:2 / Mt 2:13-18

Friday

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!

1 Jn 2:3-11 / Lk 2:22-35

Saturday

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice!

1 Jn 2:12-17 / Lk 2:36-40

Sunday

**Blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways.**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 / Col 3:12-21 or
3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Prayer Requests

For those suffering illness, infirmity
and those in need of our prayers:

**Barbara Mullen, Nancy Cebra, Michael Cutuli,
Cameron Noble, Jim Napora, Gracie Insogna,
Krissy Carlos, Maria Lupita Marron, Joy Briones,
Oscar Uribe, John Brownlie, Norma Alvarado,
Isabel & Jorge Leon**

For the souls of the recently departed,
that through the mercy of God,
May they rest in peace:

**Louie Rota, Marianne Bailey, Gilbert Raymond
Cordero, Rev. Fr. Michael Palmer, Loretta Palmer,
Dave Calvin Tabor, Joseph Canh Minh Nguyen,
Patricia Forsythe, Rick Bien, Helen Benza**

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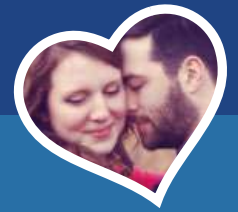
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Confessions: Saturdays
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Church:
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www.SaintJames.Church

Parish Office:
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310.371.0416
Office Hrs 7:30 am - 3:30 pm



Director of Religious Education
Andrea Sullivan
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310.379.3221

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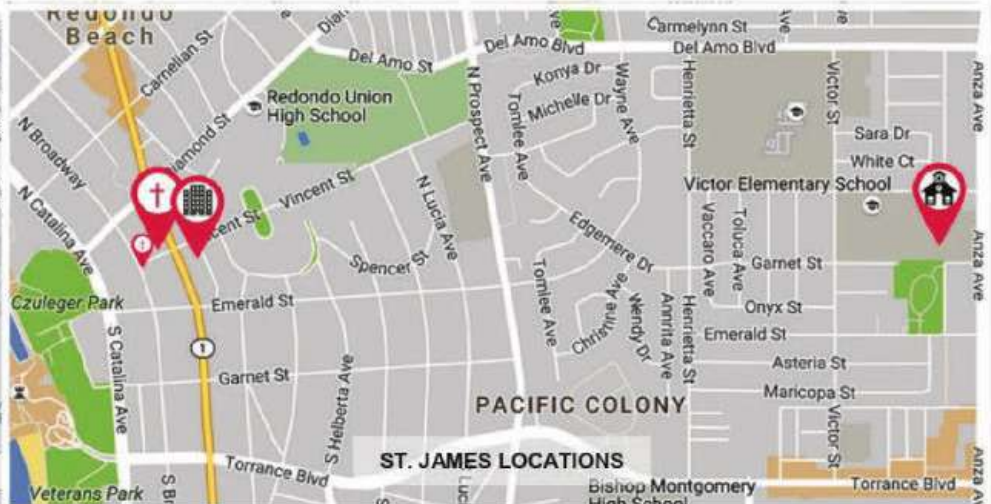
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