



December 13, 2023

From Fr. John

My siblings in Christ,

I hope that you are all having a holy Advent season. This Sunday is Gaudete Sunday, or the Third Sunday of Advent. That means that the Feast of the Nativity (Christmas) is almost upon us.

In the next few days, the church will have: our regular worship services; an ordination service; our seasonal Lessons and Carols; a nursing students pinning ceremony; and a wedding. 2023 has been that kind of busy year at St. James. That is why I have decided to follow the Diocesan Office's holiday schedule. **The St. James office will be closed from Wednesday, December 20th through Monday, January 1st.** If you have any urgent needs, please don't hesitate to call my cell phone.

I look forward to seeing you all over the next couple of weeks. May God continue to bless you and yours. And I pray that you all have a joyous Christmas and New Year holiday.

Peace,
Fr. John+

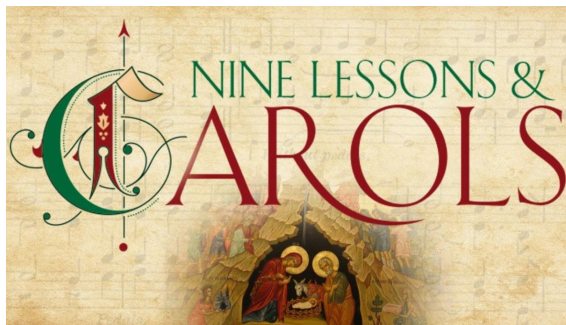
Faith & Fellowship Tonight!

An Evening Prayer Service at 5:15 in the chapel
Dinner at 6:00 in Parish Hall \$5.00 each and free for kids 13 and under
Dinner - Pork roast, potato salad, rolls, dessert

Adult Offerings:

- The Chosen - starting with the first episode and going through all three seasons until the fourth season premieres early next year. Led by Fr. John in the Parlor.
- Yoga is upstairs and taught by our own licensed instructor, Roy Rosenthal. If you don't have a mat, we have one for you.

The annual celebration of Lessons and Carols will be Sunday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns, and choir anthems. This is a perfect opportunity to invite your friends to come and join us!



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Christmas Eve offers a family-centered service complete with a children's pageant at 5:30 p.m.! All are welcome to participate. A rehearsal follows the 10:30 a.m. service next Sunday, December 17. If you have children or grandchildren or nieces or nephews that can't make the rehearsal but would still like to be a part of the pageant, show up by 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve. They can be an angel, shepherd, or sheep! There will be NO CHILD CARE for the service. ALL CHILDREN are WELCOME to the service!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS MEMORIAL

You are invited to make a memorial offering that not only remembers loved ones in a special manner, but also decorates the church for Christmas. Please send your list of names to be remembered with your check to the church office no later than Wednesday, December 20th. Envelopes are also available in the pews.



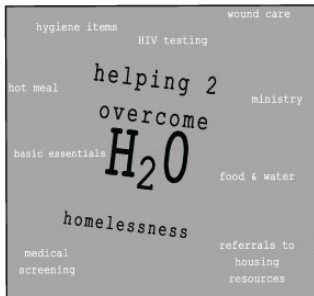
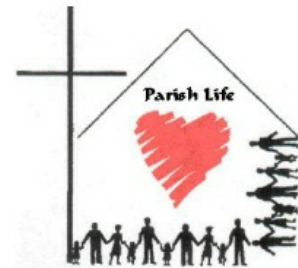
Remember Your Offerings

END of the YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS and PLEDGES

If you wish to fulfill your 2023 pledge or make any other contributions to receive a tax benefit for the year end 2023, please note that contributions must be dated for December, and received by Friday, December 29. If you wish to hand deliver them to the church office, they must be in before noon on Friday, December 29. Any online pledges/contributions must be made before midnight, Sunday, December 31.

**THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE
NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT WE COULD RENEW AN OLD STANDARD FOR THE PARISH....A PARISH PICNIC IN THE SPRING. WE ALREADY HAVE A TENTATIVE PLACE BUT WE NEED A PICNIC CHAIRPERSON TO COORDINATE THE EFFORT. IF YOU ARE SO CALLED, PLEASE CONTACT DEE DRELL OR THE CHURCH OFFICE. THANKS!



The collection for H2O for December will also be used to make gift bags for those who attend the Community Breakfast on December 31. If you have collected the travel shampoo, lotion, and soap from hotels where you may have stayed, please donate as well.

Clothing for Men & Women:

Gently used warm clothing and coats, belts
Socks (white only)

T-shirts - large or x-large
Logo type t-shirts to wear during the day
Men's boxers - medium & large
Women's underwear size 5,6,7,10

Hygiene:

Toothpaste
Soap
Deodorant
Shampoo/Conditioner
Wash cloths
Hand Towels

Food Stuff:

Gatorade (small bottles)
Peanut butter crackers
Chips (small bags)
Water

Special Requests:

Bathing wipes
Batteries size AA & AAA
Band-aids
Dry or canned dog food

WORSHIP

December 17th The Third Sunday of Advent

In-person Worship at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
Childcare is available for the 10:30 AM service.

[Click on this link to join the 10:30 AM service.](#)

[Click here for the service bulletin.](#)



December 17, 2023
Evening Prayer
Online @ 5:00 PM

[Click on this link to join Evening Prayer.](#)

Meeting ID: 863 4898 4077

Passcode: 1620

[Click here for the order of service & reading.](#)



Prayer

Parish Prayer List

Please keep these members of our community in your prayers:

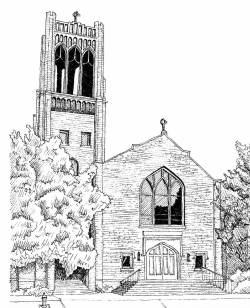
Fr. John, Charles Robinson, Jr., Anne Robichaux, Lynne Distefano, Nona Yeager, Ogden Middleton, Minnie Mikell, Tommy Watts, Edward Butler, Marietta, John Upton, Rita Clancey, Jackie LaCour, Linda Ittner, Gwen Jones, Sophia Frey Bradford, Becky Maxwell, Brady Brown, Heather Craig, Dr. Wesley Davis, Steve Caballero, Anna Stapleton, Ann Vanderslice, Charles Robinson, Bobbie Chatelain, Larry, Eleanor, Carli McGinty, Lacy Shaw, Sam Bejach, Lawrence, Beth Courtney, Holly Craig, Jim Bristol, Ellen Moore, Mother Meredith Ward, Beth Hebert, Jimmy Hurt, Barbara Baldwin, Louise Carter, John Brewer, Fred Alexius, Paula Lieberman, Jonathan Rhea, Massi Jordan, Pepe Rizzo, Bonnie McLellan, Michael Sterne, Jim Leggett, Cackie, Kristie Fresh, Andrea, Janet & Carl Ahrens, Jeff and Anne, Lillian DeVille, Wilma Filipi, Stephen, Natosha and Family, Fran Barbato, Kevin Delaney, Gail, Charlotte Sterling, Matthew Fontanille, Andrew, Shirley Christian, Susan Webster, Chase Barnfield, Johnnie Hart, Jane Y. Harris, Kyle, James Jay Watts, Beth Virden, Glenn Guillory, Elda Schoolcraft, Mesta Bain, Dean M. Tyree, Beverly Butler, Murel Trimble, Emily Warren, Bill Leibke, Wayne Moorehead, Donna House, Dayna Hill, Jane Tyson, add Mehre Hajghassem.

For those in the military:

Josh Duff, Kyle Jordan, Samuel Hayes, Franklin Watson, Donal McCarthy, Michael Geiger, Erskine Cook, Jr., Patrick Downs, and Chris Babcock.

For those celebrating birthdays in December (day):

Sue Ellen Jackson (1), Graham Matthews (1), Elizabeth Deshotel (5), Holly Dixon (7), James White III (7), Jarrod Blackburn (11), Morgan Dixon (17), Carl Carstens (20), Will Hester (20), George Matthews (20), Sylvia Middleton (21), Jim Hair (22), Tonya Shepherd (22), Thomas Denley (26), Thomas Downs (26), Bertie Smith (26), Carla Beth Carlisle (27), Fred Adams (29).



Visit our
Website

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