

Third Sunday of Advent ~ December 14, 2025

Mission Statement: We are a united faith filled community, dedicated to Christ, obedient to the Holy Spirit. We strive to live the Word of God through sacramental life. We are committed to the enrichment of our children with faith, hope and love.



Rejoice and Be Glad ...

Many of the early church fathers have written hymns and homilies in praise of the Incarnation. John the Monk, an 8th-century writer, in his Hymn of the Nativity, sings of the great exchange in the mystery and wonder of the Incarnation - God becoming a man in order to bring man to heaven. Heaven and earth are united today, for Christ is born!

Therefore, let us glorify Him and cry aloud: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace bestowed by your coming, Savior: glory to you! Today in Bethlehem, I hear the angels: Glory to God in the highest! Glory to Him whose good pleasure it was that there be peace on earth! The Virgin is now more spacious than the heavens. Light has shone on those in darkness, exalting the lowly who sing like the angels: Glory to God in the highest! Beholding him [Adam] who was in God's image and likeness fallen through transgression, Jesus bowed the heavens and came down, without change taking up His dwelling in a virgin womb, that He might refashion Adam fallen in corruption, and crying out: glory to your epiphany, my Savior and my God! [Stichera (hymn) of the Nativity of the Lord].

Why was it necessary for the Word of God to become flesh? We needed a savior who could reconcile us with God. Throughout the ages Christians have professed the ancient Nicene Creed: "He became man for our sake and the sake of our salvation." The eternal Word became flesh for us so He could offer His life as an atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world through the shedding of His blood on the cross. The Word became flesh to show us the infinite love and tender mercy of God for us sinners.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. Timothy J. Hall, priest

Christmas and New Years Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - December 24

5:00 p.m. - St. James

7:00 p.m. - St. Mary (*Spanish*)

9:00 p.m. - St. James (*Spanish*)

Christmas Day - December 25

10:00 a.m. - St. James

12:00 p.m. - St. James (*Spanish*)

Solemnity of Mary Vigil - December 31

5:30 p.m. - St. Mary

7:00 p.m. - St. James (*Spanish*)

Solemnity of Mary - January 1

9:00 a.m. - St. James



**May the Lord bestow
His abundant blessing upon**

Fatima Callejas, daughter of Jose Sixto Callejas Cuellar and Erika Martinez Melgar, was Baptized on December 6, 2025, at St. Mary Catholic Church, Madelia.

Sons of the American Legion

Annual Swedish Meatball Dinner Fundraiser

Sunday, December 14

10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

St James Legion

Free Will Donation



Curbside Pickup & to-go orders available

(Call 507-375-5990 for curbside orders)

\$10 minimum per meal for Pickup & to-go orders

Proceeds go towards Youth Scholarships

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✚ Mass Schedule & Intentions: December 15 - 21, 2025

Mon 15	No Mass		
Tues 16	8:00 a.m.	St. James Parish	✚ Merlin Reinke
Wed 17	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary Parish	✚ Gordan & Lauretta Seibert
Thur 18	10:00 a.m.	Truman NH	✚ Clem & Edna Kunz
Thur 18	7:00 p.m.	St. James Parish - <i>Spanish Mass</i>	Sandmeyer & Goins Family
Fri 19	8:00 a.m.	St. James Parish	✚ Owen & Margaret Kuehl
Sat 20	5:30 p.m.	St. Mary Parish	✚ Russell Kumm
Sun 21	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary Parish - <i>Spanish Mass</i>	<i>pro populo</i>
Sun 21	10:00 a.m.	St. James Parish	✚ Lyle & Harriet Wright
Sun 21	12:00 p.m.	St. James Parish - <i>Spanish Mass</i>	✚ Aloysias & Patricia Hall

Liturgical Roles: December 20 & 21, 2025

Sat. 20 - St. Mary 5:30 p.m.

Servers: Matthew Hagen, David Hagen

Reader: Jennifer Hagen

Ushers: Steve Kelsey, Mary Woolsey

Sun. 21 - St. James 10:00 a.m.

Servers:

Reader: Paul Schmitz

Communion Ministers:

Ushers:

2025 ~ Catholic Ministries Appeal Update

	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Donors</u>
St. James	\$19,158	\$5,785	18
St. Mary	\$11,211	\$2,200	6

Remember: If parish goals are not met by December 31, 2025, the parishes **must** pay the amount remaining from operating funds.

***“And of all that you give me
I will surely give one tenth to you.”*** *Genesis 28:22*

<i>As of December 7, 2025</i>	St. James	St. Mary
Church Support needed per week:	6,379	2,388
Church Support giving last week:	3,787	2,269
Church Support needed fiscal year-to-date:	146,717	54,924
Church Support giving fiscal year-to-date:	69,991	33,655



READINGS **For the Week**

MONDAY, December 15

Advent Weekday

Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a

Matthew 21:23-27

TUESDAY, December 16

Advent Weekday

Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13

Matthew 21:28-32

WEDNESDAY, December 17

Late Advent Weekday

Jeremiah 23:5-8

Matthew 1:1-17

THURSDAY, December 18

Late Advent Weekday

Jeremiah 23:5-8

Matthew 1:18-25

FRIDAY, December 19

Late Advent Weekday

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a

Luke 1:5-25

SATURDAY, December 20

Late Advent Weekday

Isaiah 7:10-14

Luke 1:26-38

SUNDAY, December 21

4th Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-24



Faith Formation News

St. James & St. Mary

Faith Formation Classes have begun

Please register your children for Faith Formation Classes as soon as possible. There are registration forms located at the back of the churches. Return forms to the parish offices or place in the collection basket at Mass.

Las clases de formación en la fe han comenzado

Por favor, inscriba a sus hijos en las Clases de Formación en la Fe lo antes posible. Hay registro ubicados en la parte de atrás de las iglesias. Devuelva los formularios a las oficinas parroquiales o colóquelos en la canasta de colecta en la Misa.

St. James

Wednesdays - Grades 1-5 - 1:30 - 3:00 pm
Grades 6 & up - 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Cada Miércoles - Grados 1-5 - 1:30 - 3:00 pm
Grados 6 y mayor - 7:00 - 8:00 pm

St. Mary

Wednesdays - Grades 1-6 - 4:30 pm
Grades 7 & up - 7:00 - 8:00 pm (in St. James)

Cada Miércoles - Grados 1-6 - 4:30 pm
Grados 7 y mayor - 7:00 - 8:00 pm (en St. James)

¡Hablando en español!



Regocijense y Alégrense...

Muchos de los primeros padres de la iglesia han escrito himnos y homilías en alabanza de la Encarnación. Juan el Monje, un escritor del siglo VIII, en su Himno de la Natividad, canta del gran intercambio en el misterio y la maravilla de la Encarnación: Dios convirtiéndose en hombre para llevar al hombre al cielo. ¡El cielo y la tierra están unidos hoy, porque Cristo ha nacido!

Por lo tanto, glorifiquémoslo y clamemos en voz alta: ¡Gloria a Dios en las alturas, y en la tierra paz otorgada por tu venida, Salvador: gloria a ti! Hoy en Belén, oigo a los ángeles: ¡Gloria a Dios en las alturas! ¡Gloria a Aquel cuyo placer era que hubiera paz en la tierra! La Virgen es ahora más espaciosa que los cielos. La luz ha brillado sobre aquellos en la oscuridad, exaltando a los humildes que cantan como los ángeles: ¡Gloria a Dios en las alturas! Contemplando a él [Adán] que estaba a la imagen y semejanza de Dios caído por transgresión, Jesús inclinó los cielos y bajó, sin cambio tomando Su morada en un vientre virgen, para que Él pudiera remodelar a Adán caído en corrupción, y clamando: ¡gloria a tu epifanía, mi Salvador y mi Dios! [Stichera (himno) de la Natividad del Señor].

Necesitábamos un salvador que pudiera reconciliarnos con Dios. Nos cristianos han profesado el antiguo Credo de Nicea: “Él se hizo hombre por causa de nosotros y por causa de nuestra salvación.” El Verbo eterno se hizo carne por nosotros para que Él pudiera ofrecer Su vida como un sacrificio expiatorio por los pecados del mundo a través del derramamiento de Su sangre en la cruz. El Verbo se hizo carne para mostrarnos el amor infinito y la tierna misericordia de Dios por nosotros los pecadores.

¡Feliz Navidad!

P. Timothy J. Hall, sacerdote

St. Mary's School ~ Winter Raffle Winner

December 14, 2025 ~ \$200 ~ Bonnie Hennis



St. Mary's School ~ Gift of Gratitude

There are families in our St Mary's School System in need of tuition assistance. You are encouraged to prayerfully consider a donation to the annual *Gift of Gratitude Campaign*. Donations may be dropped off at the St. Mary's School Office or placed in the collection basket clearly marked for this purpose.

Meetings & Events Calendar ~ December 14 - 27, 2025

Sunday 14	Monday 15	Tuesday 16	Wednesday 17	Thursday 18	Friday 19	Saturday 20
3rd Sunday of Advent  2nd Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious <u>St James</u> <i>Sons of the American Legion</i> Swedish Meatball Dinner (details on page 1)	<u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James 	<u>St. James</u> Rosary - 7:30 am in the church. <u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James 	<u>St. Mary</u> Rosary - 8:00 am in the church. <u>Faith Formation Classes</u> See Faith Formation News Column on page 3 for details. <u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James 	<u>Las Posadas</u> 6:30 p.m. En el templo, St James 	<u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James 	4th Sunday of Advent Vigil  <u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James 
Sunday 21	Monday 22	Tuesday 23	Wednesday 24	Thursday 25	Friday 26	Saturday 27
4th Sunday of Advent  <u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James 	<u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James  <u>St. Mary School</u> No School Christmas Break	<u>St. James</u> Rosary - 7:30 am in the church. <u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James  <u>St. Mary School</u> No School Christmas Break	<u>St. Mary</u> Rosary - 8:00 am in the church. No Faith Formation Classes Christmas Break HE is coming... full of grace and truth  <u>Las Posadas</u> 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James  <u>St. Mary School</u> No School Christmas Break	<u>Christmas Day</u>  Parish Office will be closed <u>St. Mary School</u> No School Christmas Break	<u>St. Mary School</u> No School Christmas Break	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Vigil 