

Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ December 21, 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.



The Fourth Sunday ...

“And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth,” (Micah 5:4).

Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent. In His coming, we are reminded of the special roles humans played prior to His arrival. In Isaiah, we see a model of waiting; in John the Baptist, a keeper of expectant proclamation; and in the Blessed Virgin, a loving and willing participant in God’s plan. May each of them aid us in preparing our hearts for Our Lord’s coming at Christmas. The hope, love, and joy we’ve experienced in this season of Advent are about to culminate in peace.

Jesus is like a present under the tree that often goes unopened. It is a small package, but opening it can bring you to the real meaning of life when all the presents are long forgotten and the tree is in the dumpster. And do be careful what you love because what you love you will get; take care to watch where you are headed because you just may get to where you are going.

By week’s end we will be able to proclaim “Jesus Christ, Our Lord, is born”! We have prepared for this day and in glorious acclaim we join the celestial choir of angels who sing, “Glory to God in the highest heavens and peace on earth to people of good will” (Luke 2:14). Church Fathers comment that this angelic song, heard by shepherds on the night of Christ’s birth, unveils God’s personality in a new way. Since previously, God was known in splendor, in the radiant beauty of the cosmos and in the divine workings of creation. But now, at the onset of Christ’s birth in a manger, He makes Himself known as a child. A little baby, tender and in need of love, ushers in a new and special relationship with the Creator.

The Prince of Peace is coming!

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**

Maelyn Georgina Miranda Juarez, daughter of Aroldo Miranda Perez and Maria Juarez Agustin, was Baptized on December 13, 2025, at St. James Catholic Church, St. James.



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.



St. Mary’s School ~ Winter Raffle Winner

December 21, 2025 ~ \$200 ~ Andy Hennis

Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ December 21, 2025



Mass Schedule & Intentions: December 22 - 28, 2025

Mon 22	No Mass		
Tues 23	8:00 a.m.	St. James Parish	✠ DeWayne Malmgren
Wed 24	5:00 p.m.	St. James Parish	✠ Bill Berg
Wed 24	7:00 p.m.	St. Mary Parish- Spanish Mass	✠ Philip & Rena Scherman
Wed 24	9:00 p.m.	St. James Parish- Spanish Mass	✠ Carmen Rodriguez Franco
Thur 25	10:00 a.m.	St. James Parish	✠ Joe Dahl
Thur 25	12:00 p.m.	St. James Parish- Spanish Mass	<i>pro populo</i>
Fri 26	8:00 a.m.	St. James Parish	✠ Merlin Reinke
Sat 27	5:30 p.m.	St. Mary Parish	<i>pro populo</i>
Sun 28	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary Parish - Spanish Mass	✠ Clem & Edna Kunz
Sun 28	10:00 a.m.	St. James Parish	✠ Audrey Schmidtke
Sun 28	12:00 p.m.	St. James Parish - Spanish Mass	<i>pro las almas del purgatorio</i>

Liturgical Roles: December 27 & 28, 2025

Sat. 27 - St. Mary 5:30 p.m.
Servers: Annika Hagen, Matt Hagen
Reader: Joan Helling
Ushers: Dave Johnson, Chuck Voss

Sun. 28 - St. James 10:00 a.m.
Servers:
Reader: Linda Hackett
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 14, 2025</i>	St. James	St. Mary
Church Support needed per week:	6,379	2,388
Church Support giving last week:	5,929	3,118
Church Support needed fiscal year-to-date:	153,096	57,312
Church Support giving fiscal year-to-date:	75,920	36,773



READINGS **For the Week**

MONDAY, December 22
Late Advent Weekday
1 Samuel 1:24-28
Luke 1:46-56

TUESDAY, December 23
St. John of Kanty, Priest
Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24
Luke 1:57-66

WEDNESDAY, December 24
Late Advent Weekday
2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Luke 1:67-79

THURSDAY, December 25
The Nativity of the Lord
Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

FRIDAY, December 26
St. Stephen, The First Martyr
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Matthew 10:17-22

SATURDAY, December 27
St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
1 John 1:1-4
John 20:1a, 2-8

SUNDAY, December 28
*The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary and Joseph*
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Colossians 3:12-21
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23



Faith Formation News

St. James & St. Mary

Faith Formation Classes

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

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 – No Class on December 24, 2025

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 – No Class on December 24, 2025

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)

If you can't keep me, Mamma, it's all right, I'll understand, but please let someone else reach out to take my tiny hand. So many childless couples would be happy as can be, if they could but adopt and love a little one like me. Remember that when you were just as small and frail as I, *Your mother didn't make the choice to have her baby die.* You had your chance to live, *so, please let me have my chance, too.* I can't escape, I can't cry out... my life depends on you!

-Your preborn child

Si no puedes quedarte conmigo, Mamá, no importa, lo entenderé, pero por favor, deja que alguien más me tome de mi pequeña mano. Tantas parejas sin hijos serían inmensamente felices si pudieran adoptar y amar a un pequeño como yo. Recuerda que cuando eras tan pequeña y frágil como yo, *tu madre no tomó la decisión de que su bebé muriera.* Tú tuviste la oportunidad de vivir, *así que, por favor, dame a mí también mi oportunidad.* No puedo escapar, no puedo gritar... ¡mi vida depende de ti!

-Tu hijo/a nonato

¡Hablando en español!



El cuarto domingo ...

"Y él estará y apacentará su rebaño con la fuerza del Señor, con la majestad del nombre del Señor su Dios. Y habitarán seguros, porque ahora será engrandecido hasta los fines de la tierra" (Miqueas 5: 4).

Hoy celebramos el cuarto domingo de Adviento. En Su venida, se nos recuerda el papel especial que desempeñaban los seres humanos antes de Su llegada. En Isaías, vemos un modelo de espera; en Juan el Bautista, un guardián del anuncio expectante; y en la Santísima Virgen, participante amorosa y voluntaria del plan de Dios. Que cada uno de ellos nos ayude a preparar nuestro corazón para la venida de Nuestro Señor en Navidad. La esperanza, el amor y la alegría que hemos experimentado en esta temporada de Adviento están a punto de culminar en paz.

Jesús es como un regalo debajo del árbol que a menudo no se abre. Es un paquete pequeño, pero abrirlo puede llevarte al verdadero significado de la vida cuando todos los regalos están olvidados y el árbol está en el contenedor de basura. Y ten cuidado con lo que amas porque lo que amas lo obtendrás; tenga cuidado de mirar hacia dónde se dirige porque puede llegar a donde se dirige.

¡Al final de la semana podremos proclamar "Jesucristo, nuestro Señor, ha nacido"! Nos hemos preparado para este día y en gloriosa aclamación nos unimos al coro celestial de ángeles que cantan: "Gloria a Dios en las alturas de los cielos y paz en la tierra a los hombres de buena voluntad" (Lucas 2:14). Los Padres de la Iglesia comentan que este canto angelical, escuchado por los pastores en la noche del nacimiento de Cristo, revela la personalidad de Dios de una manera nueva. Desde antes, Dios era conocido en esplendor, en la radiante belleza del cosmos y en el funcionamiento divino de la creación. Pero ahora, al comienzo del nacimiento de Cristo en un pesebre, se da a conocer de niño. Un bebé, tierno y necesitado de amor, marca el comienzo de una nueva y especial relación con el Creador.

¡Viene el Príncipe de la Paz!

P. Timothy J. Hall, sacerdote

Meetings & Events Calendar ~ December 21, 2025 - January 3, 2026

Sunday 21	Monday 22	Tuesday 23	Wednesday 24	Thursday 25	Friday 26	Saturday 27
4th Sunday of Advent  Las Posadas 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James 	Las Posadas 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James  St. Mary School No School Christmas Break	St. James Rosary - 7:30 am in the church. Las Posadas 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James  St. Mary School No School Christmas Break	St. Mary Rosary - 8:00 am in the church. No Faith Formation Classes Christmas Break HE is coming... full of grace and truth  Las Posadas 7:00 p.m. En el templo, St James  St. Mary School No School Christmas Break	Christmas Day  Parish Office will be closed St. Mary School No School Christmas Break	St. Mary School No School Christmas Break	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Vigil 
Sunday 28	Monday 29	Tuesday 30	Wednesday 31	Thursday 1	Friday 2	Saturday 3
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 	St. Mary School No School Christmas Break	St. James Rosary - 7:30 am in the church. St. Mary School No School Christmas Break	St. Mary Rosary - 8:00 am in the church. No Faith Formation Classes Christmas Break Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God Vigil Hold Day of Obligation Mass Schedule: <i>English</i> 5:30pm St Mary <i>Spanish</i> 7:00pm St James DEC. 31st  St. Mary School No School Christmas Break	St. James Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8:00 pm until 8:00 am Friday Everyone is welcome to come at any time during Exposition Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God  Holy Day of Obligation Mass: 9:00am - St James	St. James Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament continues until 8:00am Everyone is welcome to come at any time during Exposition St. Mary School No School Christmas Break  JAN. 1st St. Mary School No School Christmas Break Parish Office will be closed	The Epiphany of the Lord Vigil 