

MERRY *Christmas*

From the clergy and staff of Saint James
and the Priest Field Pastoral Center



**SAINT JAMES
THE GREATER
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*"O Child Divine, Lord Jesus Christ—As the blessed
Magi saw You in the bright Star from the East,
And the Shepherds heard Your message in the
Angels' song of Peace, So we come before Your
Manger on this sacred Christmas morn. With our
eyes, our ears, our hearts in need of Healing from
Your Light—God's Love reborn"
Mother Teresa.*



Christmas Flowers AT SAINT JAMES IN MEMORY OF

Deceased members of the Welsh family by Chip & Judy Welsh
Nick Cuillo by Chip & Judy Welsh

Deceased members of the Matheny family by Chip & Judy Welsh

The Briggs family by The House family

The Curro family by the House family

The Black family by the House family

The House family by the House family

Daniel Bard by Gale Bard

James & Lottie Watson by Gale Bard

Halcom & Gertrude Bard by Gale Bard

Mr. & Mrs. Milton McGreevy by Mary McGreevy

Mr. & Mrs. Carlo Mancuso by Mary McGreevy

Brian & Dennis McGreevy by Mary McGreevy

Steve & Emily Moken by Maryann Harrigan

Bill Harrigan, Edward Moken, & Mel Lykes by Maryann Harrigan

James Frye, Jim Odom & Jacob Odom by Maryann Harrigan

Larry Stillwell by Mary Lou Stillwell

Bill Berry by Kate Berry

Mary Bush by Kate Berry

Ronald & Blyte Hersey by Suzanne Hersey & Kelye McKee

Robert & Alyce Hughes by Suzanne Hersey & Kelye McKee

Jackquelyn Bishop by Suzanne Hersey & Kelye McKee

ry Freeland by Suzanne Hersey & Kelye McKee

Cyril & Helen Arnold by Marge Hanigan

K. J. Arnold by Marge Hanigan

Elouis Gould by Marge Hanigan

Walter Kumpar by Marge Hanigan

Analicia Chung by Maria Byrd

Andrés Avelino Noguera Viale by Maria Byrd

Paul Neal by Paula Neal

Henry & Lydia Lopez by Steve & Barbara Hedman

Curt & Rita Hedman by Steve & Barbara Hedman

Evelyn T. & Edward D. Hickey by Evelyn & Charlie Myers

Edith & Zachariah M. Myers by Evelyn & Charlie Myers

Mary & Glenville Shade, & Della Waters by Ron & Loretta Shade

Jean & David Leight by Ron & Loretta Shade

Wes Hower by Florence Hower

Bill & Helen Bean by Barbara Robinson

Frank Simmers by Terrie Simmers





Christmas Flowers AT SAINT JAMES

IN MEMORY OF

Felix Echevarria Soto by the Boné family

Felix Echevarria Garcia by the Boné family

Angel & Trinidad Pineda by the Boné family

Abigail Kerns by Jesse Kerns

Abigail Kerns by Leah Williams-Kerns & family and Jesse Kerns, Jr. & family

Olivia Grace Dusablon by the Bishop family

Barbara Porter by Pat Hubbard

B. B. Porter by Pat Hubbard

IN HONOR OF

Debbie & Greg Martin by Ron & Loretta Shade

Ana Celia Garcia by the Boné family

Keegan Azar by the Bishop family



Christmas Flowers AT SAINT PETER

IN MEMORY OF

Andrew G. Dole by The Dole family

Vickie Marie Laurine by Chris & Christy Higdon

Jenean Gilman by Richard Laurine

James & Mary Kiley by John & Mary Kiley

James Kiley, Jr. by John & Mary Kiley

Nancy Pearson by John & Mary Kiley



Thank you for remembering and honoring your loved ones through our Christmas flowers. Please know that each of these flowers brings joy to our parishioners and guests during the Christmas season!

Coming Soon...

DECEMBER

Starting Dec. 26 - Collection of clothing for the clothing giveaway

NEW YEAR'S EVE

DECEMBER 31

VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

5 PM - MASS AT SAINT JAMES

7 PM - SPANISH MASS AT SAINT JAMES



JANUARY

JANUARY 1

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

8 AM - MASS AT SAINT JAMES

9:30 AM - MASS AT SAINT PETER

11 AM - MASS AT SAINT JAMES

January 4 - Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord

January 10, 9 am - Estate Planning Seminar

January 23 - March for Life 

January 23-25 Mom's Retreat (Priest Field)

January 25-30 Catholic Schools Week



January 25, 11 am - Catholic Schools Week Open House (Elementary, High School, College)



FEBRUARY

February 2 - Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

February 7-14 National Marriage Week 



February 7, 6:30 pm Wine & Cheese Reception for Engaged & Married Couples - NFP:

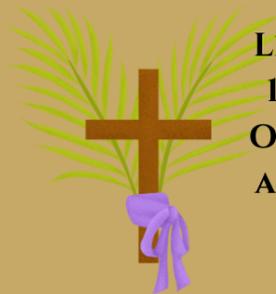
Supporting the gifts to love & life in marriage

February 7-8 Blessing of Married Couples at all Masses



February 14, 6:30 pm Valentine's Day Dinner for Engaged & Married Couples: To have & to hold

February 18 - Ash Wednesday 



LENT BEGINS ON FEBRUARY 18 WITH ASH WEDNESDAY. OUR ASH WEDNESDAY MASS AND LENT SCHEDULES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN EARLY FEBRUARY.



“NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING ENABLES WOMEN TO WORK WITH THE NATURALLY OCCURRING CYCLES OF THEIR BODY, RATHER THAN WORKING AGAINST THEM,” SAYS MARILYN HAYWOOD, RN, CFCP, MANAGER OF NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING AT FRANCISCAN FERTILITYCARE CENTER IN INDIANAPOLIS.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING (NFP)

“NFP ALLOWS WOMEN TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE BEAUTIFUL DESIGN OF THEIR BODIES,” HAYWOOD SAYS. “IT TEACHES THAT FERTILITY IS A GIFT TO BE APPRECIATED, NOT A PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED OR A DISEASE TO BE CURED.”



Wine & Cheese Reception for Engaged & Married Couples

NFP: SUPPORTING THE GIFTS OF LOVE & LIFE IN MARRIAGE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

6:30 PM

SAINT JAMES LIBRARY

RSVP BY THURSDAY, FEB 5



Valentine's Day Dinner for Engaged & Married Couples

TO HAVE & TO HOLD

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

6:30 PM

SAINT JAMES SOCIAL HALL

TICKETS ON SALE IN

MID-JANUARY

Blessing of all married couples during the Masses on February 8.

Nine Surprising Truths About NFP

1. NFP Is Highly Effective
2. It's Not Only For Those With Religious Beliefs
3. NFP Supports Women's Overall Health
4. Natural Family Planning Is Science Based
5. Couples Can Learn Together
6. All Women Can Use NFP
7. No Gadgets Are Necessary
8. Charting May Reveal Times Of Stress That Affect Your Cycle
9. Training is Available

THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE OFFICE IS GLAD TO CONNECT YOU WITH CERTIFIED NFP INSTRUCTORS.

PLEASE EMAIL NFP@STJAMESWV.ORG FOR ASSISTANCE.



MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE OFFICE
MARRIAGE@STJAMESWV.ORG





NATIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

JANUARY 25 - 30, 2026



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Escuelas Católicas
Unidos en Fe y Comunidad

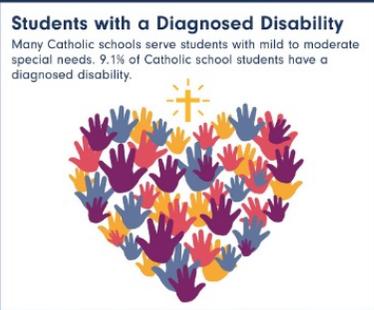
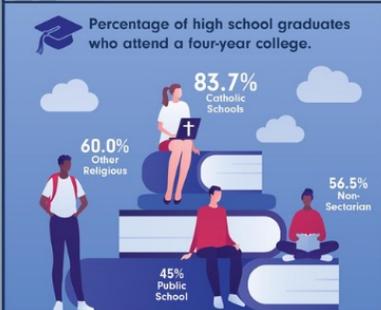
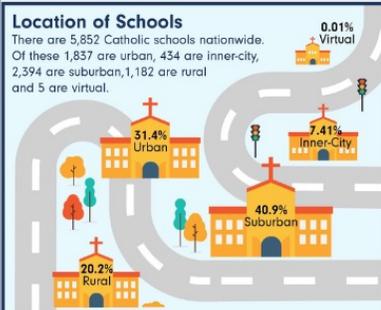
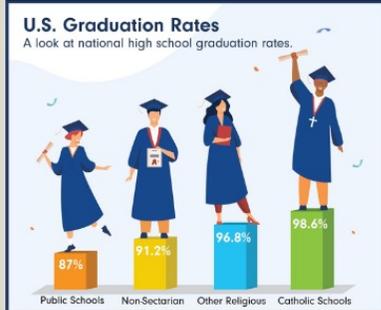
National Catholic Schools Week (CSW) is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. CSW runs from the last Sunday in January through the following Saturday.

Saint Joseph School



Saint Joseph High School

Fall 2025 marks a special moment in Catholic education in the Eastern Panhandle with the reopening of Saint Joseph High School. Catholic families seeking a faithful secondary education in our area have a solid academic Catholic program near their homes. Together with the pre-school and elementary education programs, they make possible a Catholic education for our young Catholics.



For more information about Saint Joseph School & Saint High School:
www.sjsvw.org - 304-267-6447

Visit with school representatives after the 11 am Mass on Sunday, January 25.

On the move... Bus Fundraising Project



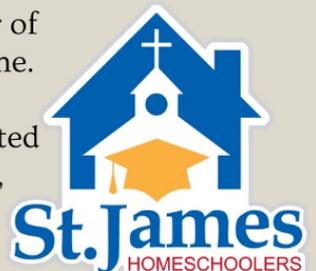
\$\$ Saint James & Saint Joseph's School Bus \$\$
2026 is the year to get Saint Joe's Crusaders to school and Saint James' pilgrims and campers to their pilgrimages and trips safely, with heating and air conditioning. Get on board as we fundraise \$300,000 for 2 new buses, a 21-passenger and a 44-passenger. Then sign up for fun and prayerful adventures with your Saint James family!

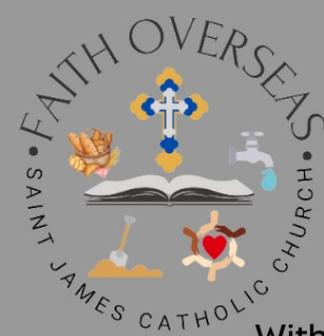
Need information?

Contact Catherine Oligmueller at 719-460-2404.

During Catholic Schools Week, the parish of Saint James also celebrates the number of families who have chosen to provide their children with a Catholic education at home.

Catholic homeschooling integrates faith into daily learning, emphasizing moral formation, virtue, and Church teachings. Parents serve as primary educators, supported by accredited programs such as Seton, Kolbe Academy, or Mother of Divine Grace, along with supplemental resources, to create a wholesome, family-centered environment for academically rigorous, spiritually grounded education.





Saint James and Kenya... together again!

A couple of weeks ago, Father and Deacon Dave received a plea for help from Sister Jessica who now serves the Lord in Kenya. Water! They needed running water in their lay formation house.

With a resounding yes, Saint James made it happen in one weekend!! With over **\$15,500** raised in two days, you have made it possible for Sister Jessica's home to have running water. We are so grateful to her for saying yes to the Lord, and to Him for calling her.

The delicious smell of kielbasa, pierogies, and ravioli will fill our homes and Sister will have running water! A million thanks for making this happen so quickly. We are filled with joy knowing that there is a piece of our hearts in the Kenyan savannas.



March for Life
Friday, January 23, 2026
Come, march with us!

AVAILABLE NOW IN THE NARTHEX,
PARISH OFFICE AND WEBSITE
Day schedule
Youth Permission Slips
Adult Registration Forms



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Saturday, January 24
Knights of Columbus will install windows at Mary's Refuge transitional home for moms who have graduated from the program.
Ask Deacon Dave how you can help!

Saint James IS Pro-Life!

The Saint James Weekend for Life is a weekend to showcase the many ways in which you, as a Saint James parishioner, can support and get involved in pro-life activities. We are called to respect the dignity of life from the moment of conception to natural death. There are no exceptions. Come learn how this teaching can change your life!



THANK YOU TO OUR PARISH FAMILY

To the St. James congregation:
On behalf of my husband & daughter, I'd like to offer our most sincere thanks. In Sept., I was picking up a food box from Mountaineer Food Bank for my daughter when one of your volunteers mentioned signing up for the Thanksgiving & Christmas blessings boxes. I broke down in tears because, two weeks earlier, we lost our home and pets in a house fire. We were still in shock and Thanksgiving & Christmas seemed like distant fantasies. We were struggling with the

12/22/2025



loss and many decisions required of such an event. It would have been incredibly easy to give up

hope at any time. However, our friends and community have rallied around us and been our greatest source of strength. There is power in love & prayers, undoubtedly. I'm pleased to share that we are (slowly) making progress. We are grateful for all of the blessings that have been bestowed upon us, and our goal moving forward is to be more Christlike in thought & deed. We appreciate the blessings you have shared with us.
Dawn, James & Sarah Wetsch



Christmas Food Basket Program
450 Food Baskets

Adopt-a-Family
87 families received food baskets and gifts

Hacker Valley Elementary School, Webster County, WV
6 boxes of toys, 30 bags of groceries, 20 Christmas breakfasts, winter coats

Mary's Refuge, Martinsburg

Children's Home Society, Ranson



'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?'
Matthew 25:31



Ho ho ho!

Sister Jessica's Kenya

Dear St. James Family,

Merry Christmas! I pray that the joy and peace of this liturgical season fill each of your hearts as we welcome daily the birth of our Savior in our hearts.

On behalf of all of the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Word, especially us, here in the communities of Kenya, I cannot express how grateful we are for this Christmas miracle our Lord has brought forth through each one of you.

The formation home for lay missionaries here in Kenya truly lives through God's Divine Providence, especially manifested in the generosity of holy people like you, who share what God has blessed you with. As you may have read, there is no stable water supply here because material costs are very high. Previously, the sisters had lived in the providence of the rain our Lord provided, which sometimes did not come. Indeed, God is not punishing us here, but he gives us great opportunities to grow in humility. So, as we extend our arms and beg your help, I see how he truly blesses through the hearts of those who have collaborated with the generosity of your material goods and spiritual goods. I feel your prayers sustaining this project.

Truly, I am moved with joy and emotion, especially in a time where we celebrate our Lord in the poverty he assumes for love of us, his children.

Personally, I remember the Saint James Family in my prayers daily and hold you each dearly in my heart, so that my love for you may truly be the love of Christ our Lord.

I humbly ask you all to please remember us also, in every eucharist, so that our Lord, made man, may always fill us with genuine zeal and joy for his Good news and grant all of us as Catholics the fire in our hearts to bring all souls to his most Sacred Heart.

From all our sisters here in Kenya, we assure you of our prayers, especially in the holy sacrifice of the Mass, and we extend a warm welcome, should you ever be here, to visit our lay brothers and sisters, our brother priests, and us.

In Christ Missionary,
Sister Jessica Bernal, HMSP



Your love and support have put a smile on Sister's face!



Thank you

So many to thank for our pierogi adventures!

- 1. God - for the opportunity to serve
- 2. Our Pierogie/Kilbase Committee - for the delicious food
- 4. You - your support has provided assistance to Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, Saint John Ukrainian Church, John Kasser and family, the Kawolanek family



in addition to providing the financial assistance necessary for Sister Jessica's lay formation house in

Kibiko, Kenya



Asante sana! (Thank you in Swahili)



MERRY CHRISTMAS

*To our parish
family and guests*

