



St. James Roman Catholic Parish

A Faith and Family Community

19640 N. 35th Avenue, Glendale, Arizona 85308

Phone 623-581-0707 † Fax 623-581-0110

www.stjames-greater.com

Mission Statement

St. James Roman Catholic Parish is a warm and welcoming, Christ centered community, dedicated to the service of all.

Third Sunday of Advent / III Domingo de Adviento

December 15, 2024 / 15 de Diciembre de 2024



Weekend Masses † Saturday - 4:00PM

Sunday - 7:30AM-9:00AM-11:00AM-1:00PM (Español)-6:00PM

Daily Mass † Wednesday - 7:00PM

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday-Saturday - 8:00AM

Holy Days † Please consult the Parish Office

Reconciliation † 2nd & 4th Wednesdays - 6:00PM-6:45PM

Saturday - 2:00PM - 3:30PM, *Or by appointment / o con cita previa*

Parish Office Hours † Sunday - 8:00AM-2:00PM /

Monday-Thursday - 9:00AM-Noon 12:30PM-4PM /

Friday - 9:00AM-Noon / Saturday - 2:00PM-5:30PM

St. Vincent de Paul † Pantry Phone 623-581-0728

San Vicente de Paul † Teléfono de despensa 623-581-0728

OUT OF RESPECT

WE ARE ASKING YOU TO COOPERATE WITH THE SECURITY TEAM WHEN THEY ASK YOU NOT TO (RE) ENTER THE CHURCH DURING CONSECRATION OF THE HOST AND WINE, THE READINGS, THE GOSPEL AND THE HOMILY.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS THIS WEEK /

REUNIONES IMPORTANTES ESTA SEMANA

NOTE: STARTING MON., 16 DEC., HALL CLOSED IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS EVE. AT 4:15

MON., 16 DEC. END OF ADVENT SERVICE PROJECT FOR MANA HOUSE (NOT TOO LATE TO CONTRIBUTE AN ITEM, SEE INSIDE OF BULLETIN FOR WHAT IS NEEDED.

TUES., 17 DEC. AT 7:00PM—ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

WED., 18 DEC. TBD—COLLECTED GIFTS FOR MANA HOUSE TO BE DELIVERED—**DRIVERS NEEDED**

COMING EVENTS

TUES., 24 DEC. THROUGH THURS. 26 DEC. THE OFFICE IS CLOSED.

FRI., 27 DEC. AT 9:00AM THE OFFICE REOPENS

THURS. 26 DEC. FATHER BEN LEAVES ON VACATION

SAT., 18 JAN. AT 5PM FOOD SERVICE / AT 6PM GAMES BEGIN

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

YOUR ST. JAMES STAFF

- | | |
|--|--|
| † Pastor | Fr. Ben Onegiu, AJ |
| † Parochial Vicar | Fr. Felix Kauta, AJ |
| † Deacons | Dcn. Frank Devine |
| | Dcn. Ron TenBarge |
| † Sisters in Residence | Sr. Betty Banja, S.H.S. |
| | Sr. Rose Santa Acan, S.H.S |
| • Office Manager | Kristy Hillhouse Ext. 101 |
| Administrative Assistant | Terri Simonetta |
| • Director Liturgy & RE | Sr. Sophie Lado, S.H.S. |
| Formation Assistant | Terri Simonetta |
| Youth Minister | Brianna Chavez |
| • Director of Music | James Poppleton |
| Assistant Music Director | Mike Giacalone |
| • Receptionist | Joanne Trentacoste |
| • Facilities Manager | Rene Vera Ext 116 |
| Maintenance | Martin Sanchez |
| | Jose Millan |
| • SET Coordinator | Christina Metelski |
| • Gift Shop | Mary Ann Zimmerman Ext 120 |
| • Funeral Coordinator | Deacon Frank Devine |
| • Bulletin Editor | Gretchen Fenninger |
| • Communications Coordinator | Thelia Morris |
| • Office Volunteers | Carol Brown |
| | Grace Miller |
| | Irene Molette |
| | Bobbi Paul |
| | Angie Radau |
| • St. Vincent DePaul | Phone: 623-581-0728 |
| • Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery & Funeral Home | Phone: 623-936-1710 (Available 24 hours) |

YOUR ST. JAMES COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pastoral Council: PastoralCouncil@stjames-greater.com

Chair - Bobbi Paul ▪ Vice Chair - Isabel Rogel ▪ Awichu Akwanya ▪ Marge Beach ▪ David Callaghan ▪ Gretchen Fenninger ▪ Jill Frier ▪ Cindy Lancaster ▪ Vince Paul ▪ Knights of Columbus Liaison ▪ Andrew Thomas ▪ Florence Zelman-Fedde

Finance Council: FinanceCouncil@stjames-greater.com

Co-Chairs - Scott Frier and Elaine Gress ▪ Peace Agube ▪ Michael McManus ▪ Rob Miller ▪ DeAnn Norman ▪ Jim Strebler ▪ James Volz

Online Giving

St. James is set up to do automatic payments (ACH) from your checking or savings accounts. The parish will receive your contribution, even if you are out of town or out of state.

If you are interested, please stop by the Parish Office to complete an authorization form or follow the link on our website:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/PS-1351/>

Accounts will be debited on or after the 27th of each month.

THE WEEK AT ST. JAMES . . .

Daily Mass M,T,TH,F,S at 8:00AM and Wed at 7PM

Mon., Dec. 16 8:00AM DAILY MASS
HALL IS CLOSED UNTIL CHRISTMAS EVE. FOR CLEANING AND SET UP FOR CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Tue., Dec. 17 8:00AM-DAILY MASS
9:00AM -12:00PM Set Training Status
7:00PM - 8:30PM Advent Parish Penance Service

Wed., Dec. 18 8:00AM Rummage Sorting
7:00PM-DAILY MASS

Thu., Dec. 19 8:00AM-DAILY MASS
9:00AM -12:00PM SET Training Status
10:00AM Funeral Lois Agnes (Sandej) Serafin
5:00PM - 6:30PM Español Coro Practicar
7:00PM - 8:00PM English Choir Practice -

Fri., Dec. 20 8:00AM-DAILY MASS
8:30 Adoration
4:00PM Benediction

Sat., Dec. 21 8:00AM-DAILY MASS
4:00PM VIGIL MASS

Sun., Dec. 22 MASSES: 7:30 AM; 9:00AM, 11:00AM (CLOW), 1:00PM (Español), 6:00PM Mass (Youth Mass)
8:00AM - 9:00AM Choir Rehearsal
9:00AM -11:00AM Safe Environment Training Status
2:30PM - 3:30PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 8th, 2024 Offertory:
\$20,535.20

Weekly Offertory Budget: \$14,115.00

Our goal is for the Plate Income to cover all Parish expenses.

Thank you for your generosity.

Use this QR Code to
donate to St. James
electronically



Now you can
support our parish
by donating online!

Usa este código QR para
donar a St. James
electronicamente



Ahora puedes
apoyar a tu parroquia
¡Donando en línea!

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

Day	Date	Time	Mass Intention	Comment	Readings	Saint(s) with Feast Day
Mon.	16-Dec	8:00 AM	Veronica Roanhouse	Birthday	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27	
Tues	17-Dec	8:00 AM	Anthonia Amene	Deceased	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17	
Weds.	18-Dec	7:00 PM	Toni Di Maio	Special Intention	Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25	
Thurs.	19-Dec	8:00 AM	Bobby Ramirez	Deceased	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25	
Fri.	20-Dec	8:00 AM	Laurie Maltby	Special Intention	Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Lk 1:26-38	
Sat.	21-Dec	8:00 AM	Mary Lou Dehm	Birthday	Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45	Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
		4:00PM	Christina Costa	Deceased		
Sun.	22-Dec	7:30 AM	St. James Parishioners		Mi 5:1-4a;	Fourth Sunday of Advent
		9:00 AM	Father Daniel	Special Intention	Heb 10:5-10	
		11:00 AM	Teresa D'Ippolito	Deceased	Lk 1:39-45	
		1:00 PM	Eudocia Orocio	Special Intention		
		6:00 PM	Richard Rivera	Special Intention		



Mass Intentions

Masses are still available on the following dates:

Jan 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31
Feb 1, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28

Those dates above have one or more Masses currently open. We encourage you to request a special day to have your Mass intentions. In an effort to accommodate everyone, we respectfully ask that requests be limited to no more than two Masses within the same week, Mon-Sat or one Sunday Mass. Please stop by the Parish office.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is every **Friday** beginning at 8:30 AM and concludes at 4:00 PM. Come visit Jesus, the Prince of Peace, the Creator of the Universe, the Merciful Savior, for just one of these Hours.

During exposition, Jesus cannot be left unattended. Adoration = ONE hour.

We have been told that Jesus has been left alone recently. To prevent this we are requesting that we have 2 people sign up for each hour. Please stop by the office if you have an hour between 8:30 and 4 on Fridays that you can spend visiting Jesus.

Sacrament of Baptism

Sacramento de Bautismo

Please contact Terri-Ext 104.

Must be a registered parishioner for six months. Preparation classes are required. A brochure is available in the church foyer.

Sacrament of Marriage

Sacramento de Matrimonio

Nine months in advance. Preparation classes are required.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Call the Parish Office when seriously ill.

Please pray for the sick in our community, especially those from our Parish.

Eric Abraham, Anaya, Baylor Anderson, Marge Beach, Kim Beatty, Joe Benedetto, Laura Conrady Blum, Stephen Brown, Gary Burr, Timothy Castelli, Kim Center, Martha Coronado, Joyce Coronel, Ofelia Cruz and Family, Julianna DeMello, Margo Duepner, Virginia Duran, Marcus Riley Emerson and Family, Cathy Faga, Lois Fenninger, Brian Ferber, Damas Francis, Josephine Francis, Robert Gallegos, Fernando Garcia, Ezexiel Gonzalez, Luisa Gonzales, Nancy and Don Gorny, Liz and Tom Grace, Geoff Grassau, Denie Hall, Sondra Hare, Weston Heiser, Richard C. Hernandez, Bill Hoelke, Dave Hornbeek, John Houder, John Ingram, Sr., Leslie Irwin, Ann Iusi, Brian Jones, Krista, Bud Lucy, Regina Lucy, Diana O. Macandog, Adriana Maldonado, Tom Martell, Donna Mathews, Michael Mathews, Tim Matlack, Rejy Matyniak, Sean McCarty, Jimmy McWilliams, Kim Monthie, Marie Agnes Mukandinda, Margaret Ndungu, Bill Onacki, Eudocia OrozioCharles Palame, Peter Palame, Vince Paul, Carolyn and Hal Pawlowski, Vanessa Perez-Bustos, Ken Pritchett, Elizabeth Ornelas Racanelli, Mia Racanelli, Vinnie Racanelli, Gabriel Reed, Larry Ryan, Lauren Rodriguez, Eduardo Serna & Family, Melissa Simoes, Jim Sullivan, John Sullivan, Janice Swiebocki, Francine Tackett, Connie Tirisie, Jim Trentacoste, Anthony Valencia, Cynthia Alvarez Valenzuela, Joseph Vignali

Please also remember our homebound parishioners and their caregivers in your prayers.

† Please pray for those who have died and their families - Lois Agnes (Sandej) Serafin †

Pray For All of Our Service Men and Women.

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior." AMEN.

St. James Youth and Teen Formation Updates

Children's Formation



Our next Family Formation Night is

January 8th at 6pm

The theme is

The Bible: Our Family's Story

YOUTH MINISTRY



Teen Group is for students in 9th - 12th grade. This group meets on Sundays after the 6pm Youth Mass. Please stop by the office to register. **Registration is ongoing.** Come check it out!



Teen Confirmation Class:

Our next class is December 12th.

Please remember to complete Chapter 9 at home.

Dinners for the Teen Group: As mentioned previously the meeting of the Teen Group is providing dinners to help keeping the teens involved.

We would love for you to sponsor a meal for our Teen Group. From Lasagna to pizza to sandwiches, you make it, we eat it. To sign up to provide a meal you can use this QR Code:

or contact Brianna via email, brianna@stjames-greater.com.



First Reconciliation Prep. Class

Our retreat is January 18 at 10am

Please bring all completed homework



Junior High Group is for **ALL students in 7th and 8th grade**. Students meet on Tuesdays from 6pm to 7:30pm and runs September to May. **Registration is ongoing.** Come join the fun!



- ♦ Small group Bible Studies
- ♦ English and Espanol Groups
- ♦ Meeting weekly in our homes
- ♦ Days and times vary by group
- ♦ Estudios bíblicos en grupos pequeños
- ♦ Grupos en Ingles y Español
- ♦ Reunión semanal en nuestras casas
- ♦ Los días y horarios varían según el grupo

Contact bpaulsjc@gmail.com or inquire in the Parish office



OCIA at St. James

Meets again January 2nd

Do you Know God?

Do you know your place in His plan?

Do you ever have time for Him besides Sunday's Mass?

Have you received Baptism, Holy Communion, Penance and/or Confirmation?

If you answered "No" to any of these, you need OCIA!!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JOHN FISHER COUNCIL #12856 GLENDALE, AZ

[St. John Fisher Council #12856 \(uknight.org\)](http://St.JohnFisherCouncil.org)

Monthly Meeting - 1st Tuesday of the Month

St. James Parish Hall

All Catholic Men Are Welcome



Legion of Mary

Mother of God

Meets in St. James Hall

Tuesdays at 2:00PM

To Learn More

Contact Norma at (602) 565-6207

No meetings on Dec 24 and 31.



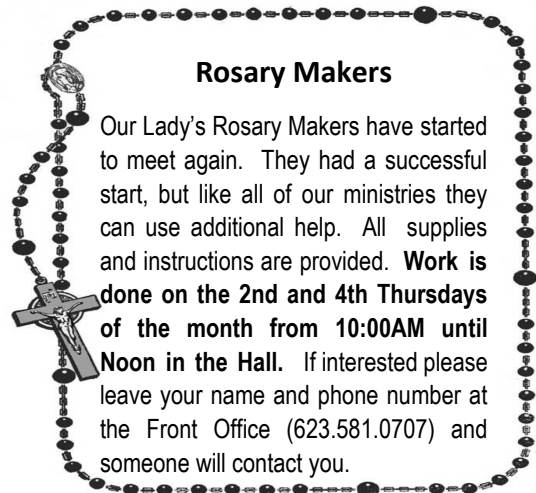
"Be not afraid!"

"Come follow me...." Prayerfully consider participating as a Liturgical Minister: *Minister of the Word, Minister of Holy Communion, and Minister of Hospitality.*

The Lord callsordinary people to do extraordinary things...

The pandemic, death, aging, illness, and moving has severely altered our liturgical ministry. We seek to grow our Liturgical team for all Masses.

The Lord calls us to Stewardship; to examine our Time and Talents and to share them with one another. **Training and Retraining is done by Appointment.**



Rosary Makers

Our Lady's Rosary Makers have started to meet again. They had a successful start, but like all of our ministries they can use additional help. All supplies and instructions are provided. **Work is done on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 10:00AM until Noon in the Hall.** If interested please leave your name and phone number at the Front Office (623.581.0707) and someone will contact you.

We need your prayers.



Please prayerfully consider participating in the St. James Prayer Chain which is an informal email notification for prayer intentions. To become a participant, or "prayer partner", simply email prayerchain@stjames-greater.com. Your email address will be kept private.

Do you need prayers?

Your requests for prayers can be emailed to the same address and we will include your request in our prayers. Prayers for you, loved ones, friends, etc. Please obtain permission before submitting another person. Questions may also be sent to the above email address, or leave a message at the Parish office or 623-581-0707.

REFLECTION ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C.

Rejoice in the Lord Always... (Philippians 4:4)

Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent. Last Sunday we lit the second candle on the Advent wreath, the candle of Peace. Today, we light the third candle, the candle of Joy and this Sunday is called *Gaudete Sunday* meaning *Rejoice or be joyful*. Taken from the Latin translation of the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 4:4. This Sunday therefore is called the Sunday of Joy. Our Rose vestments and those of other people who are dressed in Rose today, symbolize that joy.

Allow me to start my article with a story. As I was writing this article a classmate of mine, who was our former Superior, called me to ask how I am doing. And of course, during last week I was a little ill. As we talked, we shared our experiences of our Silver Jubilee celebrations. He shared with me his experience of the celebrations at his home country Tanzania. While preparing for the celebration, he invited some friends from the parish, where he is serving here in the USA, to travel with him to Africa. Putting together the needed items for the trip was really taxing. His friends and he sought the advice of a travel agent to help them in the exercise. The travel agent was kind enough to make arrangements of all the provision they needed for the accommodations and local transportation while in Africa. Although some of his friends were anxious and scared about the trip, he tried to calm them down and assured them that all would be fine.

When they finally landed in Africa (Entebbe, Uganda), they visited beautiful places around East Africa. Among the places they visited were: Namugongo – Uganda Martyrs Shrine, Jinja – the source of River Nile, Equator line in a town in Uganda called Masaka, the beautiful shores of Lake Victoria which are located in Bukoba, Mwanza, Serengeti National Park and many other places in Tanzania. His friends were happy and satisfied beyond their expectations. Wherever they visited their host gave them a warm welcome. They had comfortable accommodations, and they enjoyed delicious local food grown in the tropics. On the actual day of my friend's celebration of his Jubilee Mass at his home parish, big party followed celebration. When all was done, the friends he travelled with remarked unanimously how much they had enjoyed that trip. Their common comment was that despite limited resources his people had, they were very happy and joyful.

I am sure this little story places us into context of asking ourselves some questions on what exactly constitutes happiness. What makes people Joyful? While happiness is prompted by external factors, joy finds its source in the inner disposition of a person. Some people say that happiness is not synonymous with pleasure. Happiness is, in some way, the positive emotions that come with interior joy, along with a deeper sense of meaning and purpose in life.

Aristotle (384-322 BC), one of the ancient Greek Philosophers, defines happiness as a virtue, which is constituted by finding an appropriate middle ground between two extremes (need the 2?) . "*Virtue or Happiness is found in the middle*," said Aristotle.

St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), on the other hand, teaches us that true happiness is possibly only in the life to come, and it consist of contemplation of divine essence.

According to Old Catechism of the Catholic Church, famously known as the Baltimore Catechism, happiness is the ultimate goal in our Christian life.

Question: Why did God create you?

Answer: God created me to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him in this world and to be happy with him in heaven" (*Baltimore Catechism*, Q4).

On this third Sunday of Advent, therefore, we have all the reasons to ask God to grant us the grace to attain true happiness not only in the future life after death but also now while we are still here on earth.

The word of God today gives us some glimpse of what constitutes happiness. In the first reading, Prophet Zephaniah tells us that true happiness is to have the Lord God always in our midst. When that happens, God removes fear within us and renews our love (Zephaniah 3:14-18). Likewise, St. Paul writing to the Christians church in Philippi, in the second reading tells us true joy or happiness is to live with no anxiety and to center our lives in prayer, petition, thanksgiving. Above all the Gospel points out three main characteristics of true happiness.

1. To be content with what we have, by sharing our clothing and food with those who have little or none.
2. To be just and fair.
3. To be humble, and letting others increase while we decrease.

In the world today many people are being overwhelmed by the search of happiness. Unfortunately, some people have been disillusioned as they try to look for happiness in pleasure, material or temporal things. It is because of this that alcohol, drugs and other addictive substances have claimed the lives of too many of our brothers and sisters every year. This scenario has impacted millions of lives and families. We all need the guidance of the church, my brothers and sisters. Please let us pray for those who have been affected as well together pursue the path of true happiness.

On this *Gaudete Sunday*, therefore as we come very close to the celebration of Christmas, and New Year, we pray that our hearts may pursue true joy and happiness.

- ◆ Happiness that comes from the bond of love and close relationship.
- ◆ The happiness which is felt when we serve and donate our time, talent and treasure to others, as St. Paul reminds us that "*there is more joy in giving than in receiving*" (Acts 20:35).
- ◆ Happiness that comes with contentment and satisfaction with what we have and who we are.
- ◆ Above all, that true happiness which is felt when Christ dwells in our hearts.

I wish you a Happy *Gaudete Sunday*, Father Ben

Gospel - Lk 3:10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages."

Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ.

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

REFLEXIÓN DEL TERCER DOMINGO DEL AÑO DE ADVIENTO C.**Estad siempre alegres en el Señor... (Filipenses 4:4)**

Hoy celebramos el Tercer Domingo de Adviento. El domingo pasado encendimos la segunda vela de la corona de Adviento, la vela de la Paz. Hoy encendemos la tercera vela, la vela de la Alegría y este domingo se llama Domingo Gaudete que significa Regocíjate o sé alegre. Tomado de la traducción latina de la carta de San Pablo a los Filipenses 4:4. Por eso este domingo se llama Domingo de la Alegría. Nuestras vestiduras de Rosa y las de otras personas que hoy están vestidas de Rosa, simbolizan esa alegría.

Permítanme comenzar mi carta con una historia. Mientras escribía esta reflexión, un compañero mío, que era nuestro ex Superior, me llamó para preguntarme cómo estoy. Y claro, durante la semana pasada estuve un poco enfermo. Mientras hablábamos, compartimos nuestras experiencias de nuestras celebraciones del Jubileo de Plata. Compartió conmigo su experiencia de las celebraciones en su país natal, Tanzania. Mientras se preparaba para la celebración, invitó a algunos amigos de la parroquia, donde sirve aquí en los EE. UU., a viajar con él a África. Reunir los elementos necesarios para el viaje fue realmente agotador. Sus amigos y él buscaron el consejo de un agente de viajes para que les ayudara a planear este viaje. El agente de viajes tuvo la amabilidad de organizar todos los suministros que necesitaban para el alojamiento y el transporte local mientras estuvieran en África. Aunque algunos de sus amigos estaban ansiosos y asustados por el viaje, trató de calmarlos y les aseguró que todo estaría bien.

Cuando finalmente aterrizaron en África (Entebbe, Uganda), visitaron lugares hermosos del este de África. Entre los lugares que visitaron estaban: Namugongo – Santuario de los Mártires de Uganda, Jinja – la fuente del río Nilo, la línea ecuatorial en una ciudad de Uganda llamada Masaka, las hermosas orillas del lago Victoria que se encuentran en Bukoba, Mwanza, el Parque Nacional Serengeti y muchos otros lugares de Tanzania. Sus amigos estaban felices y satisfechos más allá de sus expectativas. Dondequiera que visitaron, su anfitrión les dio una cálida bienvenida. Tenían alojamiento cómodo y disfrutaban de deliciosa comida local cultivada en los trópicos. El mismo día de la celebración de la Misa de Jubileo de mi amigo en su parroquia natal, siguió una gran fiesta a la celebración. Cuando todo terminó, los amigos con los que viajó comentaron unánimemente cuánto habían disfrutado ese viaje. Su comentario común fue que a pesar de los recursos limitados que tenía su pueblo, estaban muy felices y alegres.

Estoy seguro de que esta pequeña historia nos sitúa en el contexto de hacernos algunas preguntas sobre qué constituye exactamente la felicidad. ¿Qué hace que la gente sea alegre? Mientras que la felicidad es impulsada por factores externos, la alegría encuentra su fuente en la disposición interior de una persona. Algunas personas dicen que la felicidad no es sinónimo de placer. La felicidad son, de alguna manera, las emociones positivas que acompañan a la alegría interior, junto con un sentido más profundo de significado y propósito en la vida.

Aristóteles (384-322 a. C.), uno de los filósofos griegos antiguos, define la felicidad como una virtud, que se constituye al encontrar un término medio adecuado entre dos extremos (¿necesitan los 2?). “La virtud o la felicidad se encuentran en el medio”, decía Aristóteles.

Santo Tomás de Aquino (1225-1274), por otro lado, nos enseña que la verdadera felicidad posiblemente esté sólo en la vida venidera y consiste en la contemplación de la esencia divina.

Según el Antiguo Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, conocido como el Catecismo de Baltimore, la felicidad es el objetivo final de nuestra vida cristiana.

Pregunta: ¿Por qué Dios te creó?

Respuesta: Dios me creó para conocerlo, amarlo, servirlo en este mundo y ser feliz con él en el cielo” (Catecismo de Baltimore, Q4).

En este tercer domingo de Adviento, por lo tanto, tenemos todas las razones para pedir a Dios que nos conceda la gracia de alcanzar la verdadera felicidad no sólo en la vida futura después de la muerte, sino también ahora, mientras todavía estamos aquí en la tierra.

La palabra de Dios hoy nos da una idea de lo que constituye la felicidad. En la primera lectura, el profeta Sofonías nos dice que la verdadera felicidad es tener al Señor Dios siempre entre nosotros. Cuando eso sucede, Dios quita el miedo dentro de nosotros y renueva nuestro amor (Sofonías 3:14-18). Asimismo, San Pablo, escribiendo a la iglesia cristiana en Filipos, en la segunda lectura nos dice que el verdadero gozo o felicidad es vivir sin ansiedad y centrar nuestras vidas en la oración, la petición y la acción de gracias. Sobre todo, el Evangelio señala tres características principales de la verdadera felicidad.

1. Estar contentos con lo que tenemos, compartiendo nuestra ropa y comida con quienes tienen poco o nada.
2. Ser justo y equitativo.
3. Ser humildes y dejar que los demás crezcan mientras nosotros menguamos.

En el mundo de hoy muchas personas se ven abrumadas por la búsqueda de la felicidad. Desafortunadamente, algunas personas se han desilusionado al tratar de buscar la felicidad en el placer, en las cosas materiales o temporales. Es por esto que el alcohol, las drogas y otras sustancias adictivas se han cobrado la vida de demasiados de nuestros hermanos y hermanas cada año. Este escenario ha impactado a millones de vidas y familias. Todos necesitamos la guía de la iglesia, mis hermanos y hermanas. Por favor, oremos por aquellos que han sido afectados y que juntos sigan el camino de la verdadera felicidad.

Por lo tanto, en este domingo de Gaudete, al acercarnos a la celebración de Navidad y Año Nuevo, oramos para que nuestros corazones busquen el verdadero gozo y felicidad.

- “Felicidad que proviene del vínculo de amor y relación cercana.
- “La felicidad que se siente cuando servimos y donamos nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoro a los demás, como nos recuerda San Pablo que “hay más alegría en dar que en recibir” (Hechos 20:35).
- “Felicidad que viene con el contento y la satisfacción con lo que tenemos y quiénes somos.
- “Sobre todo, esa verdadera felicidad que se siente cuando Cristo habita en nuestros corazones.

Le deseo un feliz domingo Gaudete, Padre Ben

Evangelio Lc 3, 10-18

En aquel tiempo, la gente le preguntaba a Juan el Bautista: “¿Qué debemos hacer?” Él contestó: “Quien tenga dos túnicas, que dé una al que no tiene ninguna, y quien tenga comida, que haga lo mismo”.

También acudían a él los publicanos para que los bautizara, y le preguntaban: “Maestro, ¿qué tenemos que hacer nosotros?” Él les decía: “No cobren más de lo establecido”. Unos soldados le preguntaron: “Y nosotros, ¿qué tenemos que hacer?” Él les dijo: “No extorsionen a nadie, ni denuncien a nadie falsamente, sino conténtense con su salario”.

Como el pueblo estaba en expectación y todos pensaban que quizá Juan era el Mesías, Juan los sacó de dudas, diciéndoles: “Es cierto que yo bautizo con agua, pero ya viene otro más poderoso que yo, a quien no merezco desatarle las correas de sus sandalias. Él los bautizará con el Espíritu Santo y con fuego. Él tiene el bieldo en la mano para separar el trigo de la paja; guardará el trigo en su granero y quemará la paja en un fuego que no se extingue”.

Con éstas y otras muchas exhortaciones anunciaba al pueblo la buena nueva.



FELLOWSHIP IN ST JAMES
HALL
SUNDAYS FOLLOWING
THE 7:30, 9:00 AND 11:00
MASSES!



Amazon Charity Lists

(catholiccharitiesaz.org)

Under "Central Program" List
look for



**What Can I Do
To Help Stop Abortion?**

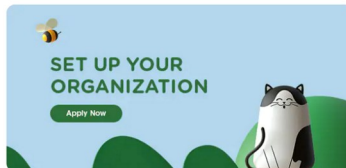
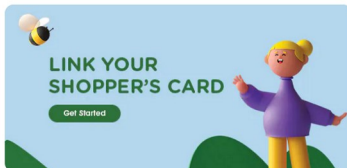
www.pro.life



St. James can earn Cash from Fry's via
your linking your Fry's Card to St. James.

Many Thanks to the participating St. James Parishion-
ers! On October 3rd we received a Check for \$242.46
from Kroger for your Fry's Purchases!

[Frys Community Rewards - Fry's Food Stores \(frysfood.com\)](http://frysfood.com)



SVdP News:

In today's Gospel John the Baptist
says, "Whoever has two cloaks should
share with the person who has none.
And whoever has food should do likewise..."

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please
share your abundance by giving a gift to the SVdP
Collection this weekend so that those who do not
have clothes and food can share in the blessings
of Christmas.

This week our pantry needs cereal, canned fruit
and chili.

Gift Shop

FEATURE ITEM:

This lovely Remembrance Angel
wind chime is petite with gentle
sounding chime.

Message says, "I am with you
always."

Cookie and Christmas sale con-
tinues this weekend. Gift Shop
will be closed on Dec. 22nd.

Wishing everyone a Blest and
Joyous Christmas.



Immaculate Hearts Gift Shop
St. James the Greater - Glendale, AZ

The Gift Shop is open Sundays 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Also Open by Appointment

Follow us on Instagram [@stjamesgiftshop](https://www.instagram.com/stjamesgiftshop)

Visit St. James' Gift Shop Online!

<https://www.stjamesgretergiftshop.org>



Immaculate Hearts Gift Shop
St. James the Greater - Glendale, AZ

Log in

HOME Gift Shop Seasonal Shop Raffle! Unique Finds Contact Blog

All sales from our gift shop directly support St. James Parish



AZ Tax Credit Donation to SVdP

We are asking you to consider donating to
St. Vincent de Paul at St. James through
the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit.

A single persons can donate up to \$470
and married couples can donate up to
\$938.

You would then complete Arizona State tax
return Form 321, code 20540 when com-
pleting your 2024 tax return prior to
4/15/25.

MANA House

Immediate Needs:



Personal Items

- Coats/Jackets/Sweaters Sizes S - 2XL
- Underwear Sizes S - XL
- Socks

Cleaning Supplies

- All-Purpose Cleaner
- Clorox/Lysol Wipes
- Dish Soap
- Hand Soap
- Tide Pods
- Toilet Bowl Brush or Plunger
- Toilet Cleaner
- Shower Curtain with hooks

Hygiene Items

- Shampoo / Conditioner
- 2in 1 or 3 in1
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Foot Powder
- Shower Shoes Sizes L - XL
- Towels
- Washcloths
- Bodywash

MANA House provides transitional housing for homeless veterans who are seeking a return to an ordinary lifestyle by providing rooms, cooked meals, laundry and shower facilities, computer access and transportation. Assistance with finding employment, pursuing education or completing the process to receive veterans benefits is also provided. It is run for veterans by veterans. Your generous contributions help them to achieve their goal. You may also contribute directly through their Amazon Wishlist by scanning the QR code below. Thank you.

Donations will be accepted in the St. James office from December 1st – 16th

**SCAN FOR
AMAZON
WISH LIST**

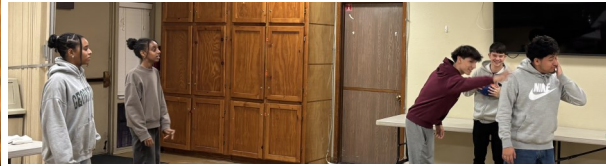


ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

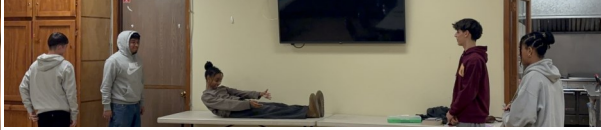
YOUTH GROUP REENACTS STORIES FROM THE BIBLE DEPICTING HOW WE SEE GOD WORKING



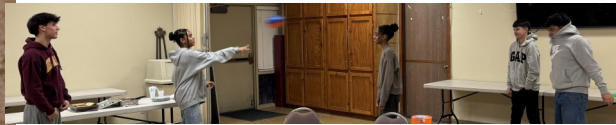
Congratulations to our Youth Minister, Brianna Chavez, who graduated from Grand Canyon University on Friday.



Bleeding Woman



Soldier's Daughter is not deceased



David and Goliath



Jesus' Crucifixion



Abraham Sacrificing Isaac

ST. JAMES GIFT CARD PROGRAM

Do you need gifts for people out of state? How about the difficult to buy for person? Support St James by purchasing gift cards from the St James Gift Card Program. Hundreds of cards are available. An Order will be placed on Sunday, December 8th, and should be ready for pick up December 16th or 17th.

**There is NO cost to you
And**

This is an easy way to support St James

You pay only the face value of the card. St James receives a percentage of the card at NO cost to you. This is just a small example of what is available:

Please have your orders into the office by Sunday, January 19th.

Stop at the Parish Office to pick up an order form.

Questions? Contact Irene Molette at the Office, 623.581.0707



This is the same Gift Card Program that supports St. James, only you get to make your own order Online



Sign up to earn cash back for St. James by purchasing gift cards and shopping online through the RaiseRight website!

To Participate Online Type "raiserright.com," Click "How It Works," Click "Shop Online"

Follow the instructions provided to set up your account, and enter the St. James code:

143A7A371L493

Thank you for your support.



Services:

- We offer a range of:
- Personal Care
- Non-skilled nursing
- Housekeeping
- Meal Preparation
- Socialization
- Transportation
- Hospice Care
- Meditation Reminders and Support.

**DAINABEL
HOMECARE
AGENCY**



602-813-6083

@dainabelcareagency.com