

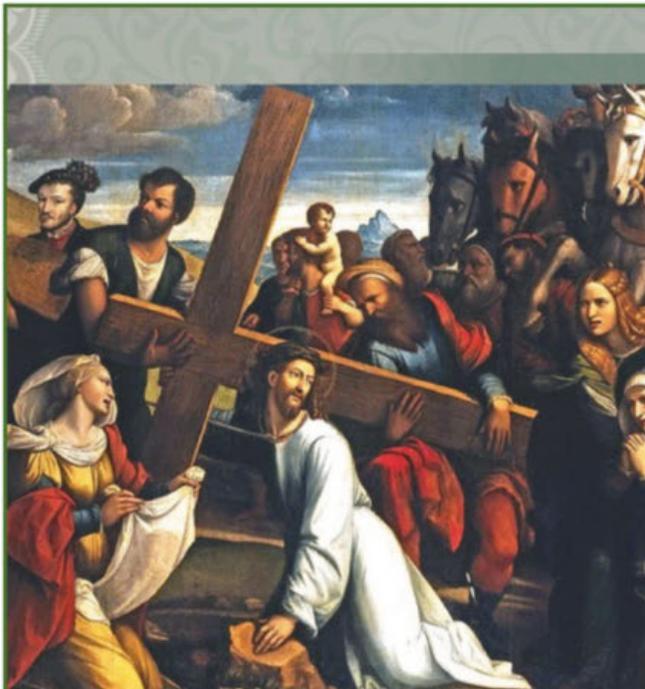


## St. James Roman Catholic Parish

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

*"Where you are a stranger, but once!"*

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time / September 7, 2025 / 23er Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario / 7 de septiembre de 2025



*23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday*  
IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:27

Art from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

## Parish Hours

**Weekend Masses** † Saturday - 4:00PM

Sunday - 8:00AM-10:00AM-12:00PM

(Español)-6:00PM

**Daily Mass** † Wednesday - 7:00PM

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

Holy Days † Please consult the Parish Office

**Reconciliation** † 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays - 6:00PM-6:45PM

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

**Parish Office Hours** † Sunday - 8:00AM-1:00PM /

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

Wednesday & Friday - 9:00AM-Noon /

Saturday - 2:00PM-4:00PM

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

Hours: Food Pick-up Only Monday 12

Noon to 3:00PM, Wednesday & Saturday

9:00AM until 11:30AM



19640 N. 35th Ave., Glendale, Arizona 85308 † Phone 623-581-0707 † Fax 623-581-0110 † [www.stjames-greater.com](http://www.stjames-greater.com)

# ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH — A FAITH AND FAMILY COMMUNITY

## 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 Ext.104  
Youth Minister Brianna Chavez Ext. 105
- **Director of Music** James Poppleton  
Assistant Music Director Mike Giacalone
- **Receptionist** Joanne Trentacoste
- **Facilities Manager** Rene Vera Ext 116
- **Maintenance** Martin Sanchez
- **SET Coordinator** Christina Metelski
- **Gift Shop** Mary Ann Zimmerman Ext 120
- **Funeral Coordinator** Gretchen Fenninger  
James Poppleton
- **Bulletin Editor** Brianna Chavez  
brianna@stjames-greater.com
- **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** Phone: 623-936-1710
- **Cemetery & Funeral Home** (Available 24 hours)

## Intentions

### Monday, September 8th

8am — Vito Di Maio (Deceased)

### Tuesday, September 9th

8am — Canonization of Frederic Ozanam, Founder of the Society of St.Vincent de Paul

### Wednesday, September 10th

7pm — Helen Smith (100<sup>th</sup> Birthday)

### Thursday, September 11th

8am — St. James Parishioners (Anniversary of 9/11)

### Friday, September 12th

8am — John Ingram, Sr. (Deceased)

### Saturday, September 13th

8am — St. James Teachers

4pm — Sylvia Lucania (Deceased)

### Sunday, September 14th

8am — Hal Pawlowski (Deceased)

10am — Joel Miller and Family (Special Intention)

12pm — Elpidio Orozco (33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)

6pm — St. James Parishioners

## St. James Council Members

### Pastoral Council:

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:

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

## Financial Blessings

Sunday, August 17, 2025 Offertory.....\$14,919.82

Sunday, August 24, 2025 Offertory.....\$10,878.50

Weekly Offertory Budget..... \$14,115.00



Use this QR Code to donate to St. James electronically



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Now you can support our parish by donating online!

Usa este código QR para donar a St. James electrónicamente



SCAN ME

Ahora puedes apoyar a tu parroquia ¡Donando en línea!

\*Monthly donations will be debited on or after the 27th of each month\*

**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.

Phone 623-581-0707 † Fax 623-581-0110 † Web Site - [www.stjames-greater.com](http://www.stjames-greater.com) † email - [admin@stjames-greater.com](mailto:admin@stjames-greater.com)

*Sunday Readings*

**First Reading:**

And thus were the paths of those on earth made straight. (Wis 9:13-18b)

**Psalm:**

In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge. (Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1))

**Second Reading:**

Perhaps this is why he was away from you for a while, that you might have him back forever. (Phlm 9-10, 12-17)

**Gospel:**

Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. (Lk 14:25-33)



**Monday, September 8th**

Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

**Tuesday, September 9th**

Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19

**Wednesday, September 10th**

Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26

**Thursday, September 11th**

Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38

**Friday, September 12th**

1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42

**Saturday, September 13th**

1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49

*This Week at St. James...*

**Monday, September 8th**

8:00am –8:30am Daily Mass  
6:30pm –8:00pm Ministry Leads Meeting

**Tuesday, September 9th**

8:00am –8:30am Daily Mass  
9:00am –12:00pm Safe Environment Training Support  
12:00pm –2:00pm Hooks and Needles Meeting  
2:30pm –3:45pm Legion of Mary  
6:00pm –7:30pm Junior High Group

**Wednesday, September 10th**

7:00am –11:00am Rummage Sorting  
6:00pm –6:45pm Reconciliation  
7:00pm –7:30pm Daily Mass

**Thursday, September 11th**

8:00am –8:30am Daily Mass  
9:00am –12:00pm Safe Environment Training Support  
5:30pm –7:00pm Español Coro Practicar  
6:00pm –7:30pm Teen Confirmation class

6:30pm –8:00pm Finance Council Meeting

7:00pm –8:30pm English Choir Practice

**Friday, September 12th**

8:00am –8:30am Daily Mass  
8:30am –4:00pm Adoration  
4:00pm Benediction  
6:00pm –8:00pm Young Adults Group

**Saturday, September 13th**

Mass Times: 8am and 4pm  
9:00am –10:00am Rummage Meeting  
2:00pm –3:30pm Reconciliation

**Sunday, September 14th**

Mass Times: 8:00am, 10am, 12pm (Spanish), 6pm  
7:00am –8:00am Choir Rehearsal  
9:00am –10:00am Choir Rehearsal  
11:00am –1:30pm African Choir Rehearsal (Sundays)  
11:00am –12:00pm Choir Rehearsal  
11:15am –12:00pm Rosary  
1:15pm –1:45pm Rosary - Divine Mercy Chaplet  
7:00pm –8:30pm Teen Group



**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.

## *From Fr. Ben's Desk*

### REFLECTIONS ON THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.

This week we celebrate the Twenty-Third Sunday in ordinary time of the liturgical year. The word of God today invites us to renounce all our possessions, to take up our crosses and follow Jesus. To do that we must be led by God's wisdom.

The first reading from the Book of Wisdom reminds us of the fragility of our bodies. We are told that unless we are guided by the spirit, all our efforts in life are futile. The author of the book of wisdom makes it clear to us without God's help; we cannot comprehend God's intention for our lives. *"Who can know God's counsel, or who can conceive what the Lord intends?"* (Wisdom 9:13). We are reminded about the limits of our knowledge. If we cannot fully understand the things of the world in which we live, how much more difficult is it for us to understand the things of heaven which are beyond our reach?

The second reading from St. Paul's letter to Philemon speaks about the evil of slavery. Onesimus is sent back from Paul to Philemon as a free man, *"no longer as a slave, but a brother and a partner"* (Philemon 1:16-16). In Jesus all of us are free men and women. Reading about the story of Onesimus as a freed slave and his relationship with Philemon and St. Paul, takes me back to how one feels when visiting the town of Bagamoyo. The town of Bagamoyo in Tanzania, East Africa, located along the west coast shores of the Indian Ocean, about 60 kilometers north of the city of Dar es Salaam. Among other things, this town is known as one of the biggest slave markets during the deplorable slave-trade era in East Africa (1800-1890). In 1868, the first French Holy Ghost Missionaries arrived in Bagamoyo. One of their evangelization methods was to ransom slaves. They established a church in Bagamoyo and Christian villages which were also known as *"Freedom villages,"* about 4000 freed slaves were resettled in these villages. Many of the freed slaves became the first East African Christians.

Today's Gospel is the continuation of the teachings of our Lord about the necessary condition or requirements of discipleship. Two Sundays ago (*Twenty-First Sunday*), the Lord told us to enter through a narrow gate if we want to go to heaven. Last Sunday (*Twenty-Second Sunday*), Jesus taught us about the absolute necessity of the virtue of humility. Today we are asked to renounce all possessions, take up our crosses and follow Jesus. The Lord says, *"Whoever cannot carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple"* (Lk 14:27).

My dear brothers and sisters, our Christian life is characterized by two complementary parts. The first part is a **vocation**. To be a Christian is to respond to a certain voice or invitation. We are Christians because we have been called by God in one way or the other. Our vocations are expressed in various ways. Some are lay members of the church and some of us are ordained ministers. Each of our vocations is precious before the Lord. The second part of our Christian life is **Mission**. We are Christians because we are being sent to do something. Our mission is to proclaim the Gospel by words and deeds. The Second Vatican council emphasizes this when it says that *"The church is essentially missionary"* (Ad Gentes 2). In Mother Teresa's words: *"All of us are missionaries. Some give by going, others go by giving."*

Today Jesus is inviting us to dedicate our lives to our vocation and mission totally and wholeheartedly. We are asked to sacrifice even our family ties as this will enable us to follow him freely. In a radical way we are asked to carry our own crosses and follow Jesus. The cross becomes a sign through which we can earn our perseverance in our vocation and mission as Christians.

One of the difficulties we encounter while reading and meditating on the Gospel message of today is the use of the word **"hate"** in today's text, *"If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother..."* (Lk 14:26). Perhaps the best way to understand what Jesus means by *"hate"* is to read the parallel text, the word which is used as a substitute for the hate is *"love more"*. *"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me..."* (Mt 10:38). With the help of this text from St. Mathew, we can conclude that when Jesus says that we should hate, our relatives, he implies that nothing should come in between us and commitment to Him as His disciples. To be a disciple of Jesus demands that we must put Jesus first and others later. Our love for our parents, relatives and friends does not diminish because of following Jesus. On the contrary, those bonds are strengthened by our commitments. However, they should never be obstacles to our vocations.

In addition to carrying our crosses, we are also asked to be always ready and prepared to face challenges in life. In the examples which Jesus gives in today's Gospel, we are asked to be prepared like a person who constructs a house or a commander who prepares his troops for war. We must always take into consideration the cost of discipleship. There is no turning back once we put our hands on a plow of discipleship (Lk 9:62). As Jesus challenges us, let us say **"Yes"** when we mean *yes* and *no* when we mean *no* (Mt 5:34-37).

## Ministry Updates

**Family Formation:**  
**Save the Date for October 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Starting with 5:30 Mass**



**First Reconciliation:**  
**Save the Date for September 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**6pm to 7:30pm for those who**  
**are registered!**

**KNOWN**

JAMES 4:8

**NET RETREAT 2025**



Middle School: September 27<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm.

High School: Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm

- \$30 cost includes lunch, snacks, shirt and fees.
- Youth from St. Helens, St. Raphael and Our Lady of the Valley will also be on the retreat.
- Friends are always welcome to come with

Sign up with the QR Code and let them know you are with St. James. For any questions contact Brianna Chavez via email [brianna@stjames-greater.com](mailto:brianna@stjames-greater.com)



**SPONSOR**

Do you want to **help the youth group** but without the drama? **Sponsor a meal** for our **Teen Group** on **Sunday night**. From Lasagna to pizza to sandwiches, you make it, we eat it. To sign up just scan the QR code or contact Brianna via email, [brianna@stjames-greater.com](mailto:brianna@stjames-greater.com).

'Greater' Hangouts Young Adult Group next meet up is **Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>** from **6-8pm** in the **parish hall!** Come join us for our "Story of Salvation" Bible Study. Hope to see you there!

### Volunteers Needed!

#### Children's Formation & Time commitment:

- Catechist - twice per month
- Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) - once per month
- Hospitality - As needed for retreat luncheons / dinners



#### \*Training will be provided!

If interested, please email Terri Simonetta at [terri@stjames-greater.com](mailto:terri@stjames-greater.com)



#### Youth Group & Time commitment:

- Junior High - Tuesdays 5:30pm to 8pm
- Teen Group - Sundays 6:60pm to 9pm

If interested, please email Brianna Chavez at [brianna@stjames-greater.com](mailto:brianna@stjames-greater.com)



## YOUTH GROUP BBQ KICKOFF



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> FROM 7-8:30PM**  
**IN THE PARISH HALL.**

**COME JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FUN WITH FOOD,  
GAMES AND FELLOWSHIP! BRING YOUR  
FRIENDS!!**

#### 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.

*Stay Connected*



Fellowship in St James Hall  
Sundays Following  
The 8:00 and 10:00 Masses!

Come Meet Your Fellow Parishioners and Have Donuts  
and Coffee (\$1.00 ea.)



Immaculate Hearts Gift Shop  
In Service to the Greater - Glendale, AZ

Thank you, Mary Ann, for the 20 years of serving  
with the Immaculate Heart Gift Shop! There will still  
be little gift shop kiosk by the front office.

**Pumpkin Patch Volunteers Needed!**

St. James pumpkin patch is back! We need **YOUR**  
help! If you are interested in **volunteering**, we need  
slots filled (**October 15th-31st**). We will need help  
unloading the pumpkins on **October 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm**.

Scan the QR code to sign up!

Please contact Brianna Chavez for any questions via  
email, [brianna@stjames-greater.com](mailto:brianna@stjames-greater.com)



**This week our pantry needs  
jelly, crackers, and tuna.**

**SVdP:** In today's Gospel, Jesus lays out the demands of  
following him, the great cost of discipleship. The Mission  
Statement of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul states:  
"Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works  
of charity and justice...the Society makes no distinction  
in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the  
face of Christ."

**Have you considered answering the call to help serve  
the poor by joining SVdP? We need some new  
volunteers; we work on Wednesday and Saturday  
mornings.**

"If God is the center of your life, now words are  
necessary. Your mere presence will touch hearts." St.  
Vincent de Paul



*Liturgical Ministry  
Training*

"Be not afraid" to serve! God calls each of us to  
share our gifts. Learn to serve as a *minister of the  
word, minister of the Holy Eucharist, and minister  
of hospitality.*

**First Wednesdays at 10:00 AM**

**First Saturdays at 9:30 AM**

Come, be part of something beautiful!

\*Training and Retraining is done by Appointment.



*St. James Fall  
Festival*

Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>

Do you want to  
decorate and submit  
your car for the trunk  
or treat? Contact the  
front office.



Save the Date: September 20<sup>th</sup>

**YOUR  
VOICE.  
STORY.  
CHURCH.**

Testify, O Church, to the Light of the Mystery of Love



As part of the Jubilee Year of Hope, Bishop Dolan has launched  
the **Synod of Young Adults** in the Diocese of Phoenix. **Young  
adults ages 18-39** from across the diocese are invited to come  
and engage with the broader Church, share their voices, and  
shape the direction of the Catholic faith in today's world. All  
young adults are welcome to come **September 20<sup>th</sup> from 2-  
4pm** in the **St. James parish hall**. We want to hear from you!  
4pm Vigil Mass will follow.

*What's Happening*

**DID YOU KNOW?** 

St. James spends an average of \$3,550 per month for utilities? This includes electricity, water, and trash pick-up. Measures taken to decrease the electric bill include revising our Mass times and minimizing hall usage during the hot months. In addition, all outdoor lighting has been switched to more efficient LED.



**Just a few of the hundreds of Gift Cards available**



Scrip order forms available in office; due by 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday.  
Need sooner? Order online! Enrollment Code available in office.



**Come and Join Us**  
Registration \$18.00

**Where:**  
St. Helen's  
Catholic Church  
5510 W. Cholla St.  
Glendale, AZ  
Time: 11:15-2:30  
on Sept. 13, 2025



Registration through Eventbrite—search for **Magnificat Meal**  
**Speaker: Bishop John Dolan, Bishop for the Diocese of Phoenix - Sept. 13, 2025**  
Registration's deadline Sept. 8, 2025 by mail, Sept. 10th online - Seating is limited, register early.

Magnificat is a Ministry to Catholic Women (and men) in the Diocese of Phoenix.  
Women sharing in testimony of how God has worked in their lives.

Contact information for registration  
Esther Ramirez, 623-565-0304, mrs.estherramirez@gmail.com  
make checks payable to Phoenix Magnificat;  
**include your email address** and mail to: Esther Ramirez,  
10604 N. 53rd Ave., Glendale, AZ 85304

Link can be found on our Facebook page [Phoenix Magnificat](#)

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Purchasing an ad on the back of the bulletin helps you reach hundreds of local families each week. For details, contact the office.

*Your Gifts have a Purpose*  
*- Find a Ministry. Serve*  
*Your Community.*



Choir, Altar Servers, Office Volunteers, etc.

**2025/2026 ONLINE RENEWAL**  
**All renewals are due NOW!**

\*Check to see if your background check is expiring. If it expires anytime in 2025, you need to complete the criminal background check box framed in red.

**MINISTRY LEADER MEETING**

A mandatory meeting of all Ministry Leaders will be held on **Monday, September 8th at 6 PM** in the parish hall. We'll provide Important updates on how our ministry activities impact both our parish community and our staff, and how we can work together to strengthen them. Questions? Leave a message in the office for Bobbi, or call 856-858-2027.  
Thank you!



O Lord, you who are the God of the living and the dead, we remember this day those who died on 9/11: we thank you for all who sacrificed their lives in the service of others, we pray that you would heal any lingering traumatic memories and that you would mend all relations that remain broken still, between neighbor or nation, and that you would kindle in us the true love of justice and peace, so that we might work toward a day in which nation shall not lift up sword against nation. We pray this in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

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St. James Roman Catholic Parish, AZ

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