

Saint James
CATHOLIC CHURCH

St. James Roman Catholic Church,
a diverse community rooted in vibrant
Eucharistic Liturgy, serves those in need
in partnership with others.



*Saint James Church is
staffed by the priests
and brothers of the
Missionary Servants of
the Most Holy Trinity*

SUNDAY MASS

9:30 a.m.
(Church &
On-line)

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m.
(Rectory &
On-line)

**OFFICE
HOURS**

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION

2907 South Wabash
Chicago, IL 60616

CONTACT

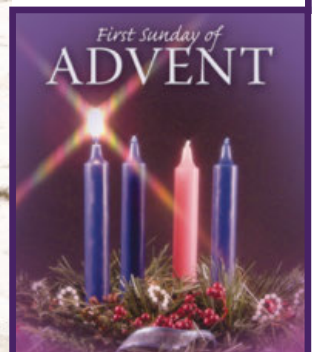
312-842-1919 (office)
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www.stjameswabash.org

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

BE WATCHFUL!
BE ALERT!

MARK 13:36

©LPI



DECEMBER 3, 2023

ON THE WAY....



May the grace and peace of the Holy Spirit be with us forever.

Beginnings and endings. The liturgical year of the Church begins on the First Sunday of Advent. Instead of talking about beginnings, the scripture readings for the day talk about endings, the end of time when God will be all in all. There is something about a beginning which puts one in mind of endings. This brought to mind an ancient symbol: the snake eating its own tail called the ouroboros. Eternity is captured in the beginning which includes an ending. This symbol was first seen in the tomb of King Tut!

The Greeks and then the Medieval alchemists also used the symbol. Norse mythology and Hindu theology all reference the ouroboros. In modern times the psychologist Carl Jung looked on it as a primal archetype. The physicist, August Kerkule, said that the image inspired his recognition of the benzene ring's structure. Even the Bible talks about Leviathan with echoes of the ouroboros. TV shows The Wheel of Time and Loki both picture the symbol. So for centuries a snake eating his own tail has served to challenge the linear view of time which is the ordinary way of thinking.

Of course the church in joining together beginnings and endings is not thinking of snakes but of the plan and action of God. We aren't being whipped about through the winds of change. God has been at work from the first moment of creation and will continue until the final consummation. The season of Advent reminds us that the seeming small beginning at Bethlehem was the next step in the divine drama which we call salvation history. The Jesuit paleontologist and mystic, Teilhard De Chardin, looked on the coming of Christ as an inflection point leading to the unfolding of the end, the Omega Point. We only understand the birth of Jesus by seeing it as leading to the ultimate triumph in the kingdom of God. It is unfortunate that society has coopted the season of Advent for commercial purposes. It robs us of the opportunity to situate the coming of Christ in the context of the ultimate triumph of God. Romantic images of baby and mother are not an end in themselves but meant to awaken us to the unfolding of the divine in human affairs. Advent invites us to lose any nostalgia for what happened two thousand years ago and instead see those events as leading to God at work today and, yes, into the ultimate future. As the Bible puts it, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Not a snake but a child shows us the infinite possibilities opening up beyond time that we possess as the people of God.

In the Most Holy Trinity,
Fr. John Edmunds,
S.T



Sun 12/03		First Sunday Of Advent
	9:30 a.m.	Mass (Presentation Hall & On-line) https://zoom.us/j/622647147 Passcode: SJSUNDAY (57935957) † <i>Debray and Shirley Barker by Phyllis Barker</i>
Mon 12/04	7:30 a.m. :†	Mass (Chapel & On-line) <i>James Eaton by Sister Bernadette Eaton, CSJ</i> 7:00 p.m. Bible Study (On-line)
Tues 12/05	7:30 a.m. †	Mass (Chapel & On-line) <i>Adelaide Otero by Edna Otero</i>
Wed 12/06	7:30 a.m. †	Mass (Chapel & On-line) <i>Eaton/Santo Families by Sister Bernadette Eaton, CSJ</i> 7:00 p.m. Parish Council
Thurs 12/07	7:30 a.m. †	Mass (Chapel & On-line) <i>Colin McKenna John and Ella McKenna</i>
Fri 12/08	7:30 a.m. †	Immaculate Mass (Chapel & On-line) <i>Thomas Frayne by Mary Alice Ruddick</i> 6:30 p.m. Immaculate Mass (Church & On-line)
Sun 12/10		Second Sunday Of Advent
	9:30 a.m.	Mass (Presentation Hall & On-line) https://zoom.us/j/622647147 Passcode: SJSUNDAY (57935957) † <i>Toni Koestner by Amy Pelletiere</i>

ST. JAMES ANNUAL TREE TRIMMING PARTY

DECEMBER 9

5:30 TO 9:30PM

**ST. JAMES RECTORY
2942 S. WABASH**

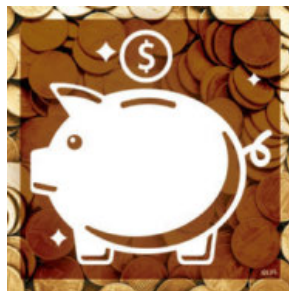
**Deck the halls, sing a song of Christmas, share in some holiday cheer!
Gather with friends new and old to share food, drink, Christmas carols and trim the tree. Bring a favorite dish or drink to share.**





A Family Mass featuring all of our Sunday School participants will be on December 10th at our 9:30 am Mass. If there is anyone whose child is not enrolled but would like their child to participate, please see Mary Ann for an assignment.

**Sunday collection report Year To Date, November 5
\$188,851 a \$10,169
(5.7%) increase over 2022.**



Saint of the week

Servant of God Walter Ciszek was a Jesuit priest and theologian who spent 23 years as a prisoner of war during the World War II and the Cold War. His endurance of suffering for his beliefs and his writings reminds us of the importance of religious freedom and the power of faith.

Prayer

We adore You, Most Holy Trinity, and we thank You for the exemplary life of Your Servant, Father Walter Ciszek. We pray that his strong faith in Your loving providence, his great love for You, and his kindness to all people be recognized by the Church. If it be Your will, may he be given to us as a saintly model of these virtues so that we too may be better motivated to dedicate our lives to Your greater honor and glory. We commend our petition through the prayers of the holy Mother of God. For to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is due all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

Amen.

(Prayer Source: <https://www.ciszek.org/Prayers.html>)



St. James has a google form for submitting prayer requests:

<https://forms.gle/ZgbVkgarRRgDmJR6A>



In Our Prayers



Our Home Bound:

Judy Archer
 Margie Bass
 Paul Freeman
 Juanita James
 Barbara Southhall
 Dina Williams
Our Sick:
 Victoria Allen
 Yvonne Christmas
 Aayliah Cooper

Joe Cunningham

Patsy Cunningham
 Marvelean Doss
 Claude Fisher
 Paul Kanzer
 Linda Griffin Kennard
 Nancy McCarthy
 Dot Nachel
 Sandra Reynolds
 Donald Rogers
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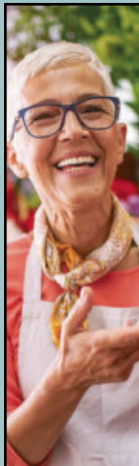
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