

Dear Padre,

Do Catholics have to marry in the Church? If a couple decides to marry outside of the Church, are they still allowed to receive Communion and other sacraments?

Catholics are obligated to follow the laws of the Church, including those laws regarding marriage. If a Catholic marries outside the Church, meaning that they did not follow Church law, then they may not receive the other sacraments until their marriage has been witnessed by the Church.

A wedding is a sacred ceremony for the couple, but it is also a ceremony for the Church. The Christian community is called upon to witness the ceremony, with the bishop, priest, or deacon called upon to bless the union in the name of the Church. The Church can dispense from the form, that is, the place of the wedding, for good cause, and does so when necessary. When a dispensation from the law is granted, then the person has followed the marriage laws of the Church and is free to receive the sacraments.

A wedding is a sacred ceremony in which a sacrament is conferred. While the park may be pretty or the church down the street may be bigger, neither is a sufficient reason to ignore marriage law and marry outside the Church. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



M.D.V. EDWARDS / SHUTTERSTOCK

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
December 11 Advent Weekday Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26	December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47	December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30	December 14 <i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15	December 15 Advent Weekday Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19	December 16 Advent Weekday Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13	December 17 Third Sunday of Advent Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARRING

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

In the Bible [conversion] means, first and foremost, to change direction and orientation; and thus also to change one's way of thinking. In the moral and spiritual life, to convert means to turn oneself from evil to good, from sin to love of God. And this is what the Baptist was teaching.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 6, 2020



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Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent (B)

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 / 2 Peter 3:8-14 / Mark 1:1-8



When Will We Be Satisfied?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

In 1992, *Forbes* magazine published an issue titled "Why Do We Feel So Bad When We Have It So Good?" It featured articles by such luminaries as newsman Dan Rather, President George H. W. Bush, and author John Updike. Many of the writers reflected upon our passion for more and our hunger to live in affluence and how that fails to satisfy. In so many ways, we as a nation find ourselves seeking distractions from living with ourselves lest we be confronted by our ultimate loneliness. As a nation we are addicted to entertainment and smartphones, to drugs and pornography, to finding something new. We are confronted by rising suicide rates and a pervasive, deep-seated anger. Why are we not satisfied?

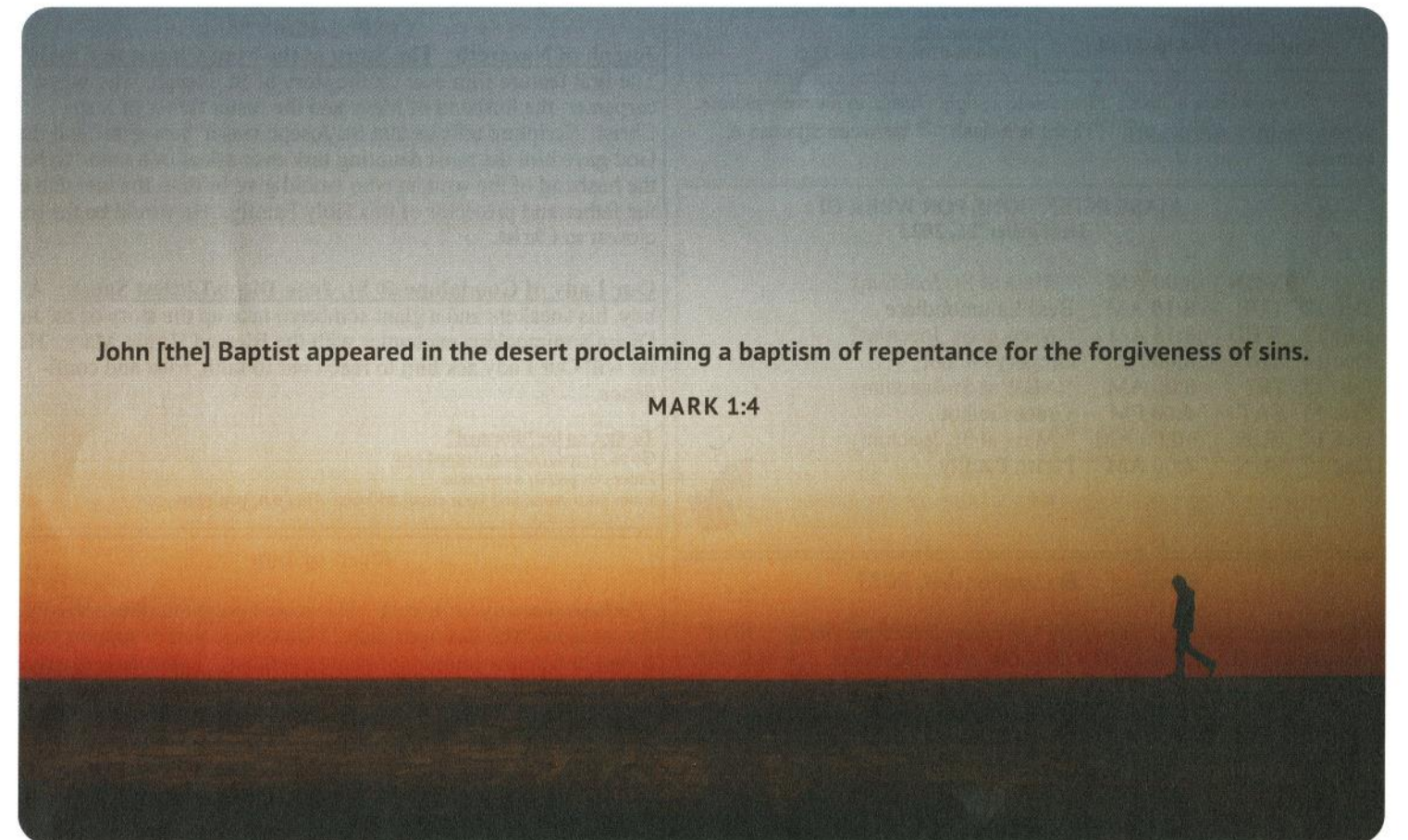
John the Baptist called the people of his day to repent, which is another way of asking them—and us—to look at life differently. Advent is really about getting in touch with our deep longing for more, a part of our human condition that ultimately is only satisfied by God. We have been created to long for more, a longing that feels like loneliness, a longing that seeks to be satisfied. In the end, we can only find a sense of peace in the midst of such longing by accepting that it can never be fully satisfied in this life. Like the spirituality of Alcoholics Anonymous, accepting rather than fleeing from our human reality becomes a path to new life. ●

Reflect

How do you deal with loneliness and a longing for more out of life?

John [the] Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

MARK 1:4



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St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street
Potosi, MO 63664



December 2023 Mass Schedule

St. Joachim	Mon:	8:00 AM
St. James	Tues:	8:15 AM
St. Joachim	Wed:	8:15 AM
St. James	Thurs:	8:00 AM
St. Joachim	Fri:	8:00 AM
St. James	First Sat:	8:00 AM
St. James 1st & 3rd	Sat:	4:00 PM
St. Joachim 2nd/4th	Sat:	4:00 PM
St. James	Sun	8:00 AM
St. Joachim	Sun	10:00 AM

*HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Please check the Bulletin for Mass Times.

E-MAIL:
stjameschurch@centurylink.net
WEBSITE: *****
www.stjames-potosi.org
FACEBOOK: St. James Catholic Church @stjamespotosi

Confessions:
Saturday: 3:15 - 3:45 PM;
prior to Sat evening Mass
Or by appointment


Staff

Rev. Anthony Dattilo—Pastor
AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org
Rev. Vince Nyman - Part-time Senior Associate Pastor
Susan Broombaugh—Admin Asst
stjameschurch@centurylink.net
Julie Wright: Coordinator of Religious Ed. (573) 436-0144/727-808-9273
stjamespsr@gmail.com
Laura Allen—Assistant Coordinator, Religious Ed.
573-436-0144/573-366-5235


Office Hours:
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Tuesday thru Thursday
Phone: 573-438-4686

Parish Hall or
Parish School of
Religion
Phone: 573-436-0144

*****Our website is back! Please note a slight change in the web address:
www.stjames-potosi.org. (There is a dash “-” between stjames & Potosi.)

 MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF:
December 11, 2023

Dec 12	MON	8:00 AM	*(Mass at St. Joachim)
Dec 13	TUE	8:15 AM	Bess Lalumondiere
Dec 14	WED	8:15 AM	*(Mass at St. Joachim)
Dec 15	THU	8:00 AM	Gregory Gelhot
Dec 16	FRI	8:00 AM	*(Mass at St. Joachim)
Dec 17	SAT	4:00 PM	Grace Gelhot
Dec 17	SUN	10:00 AM	*(Mass at St. Joachim)
Dec 17	SUN	8:00 AM	Parish Family



Week of: December 3rd, 2023

Envelope.....\$	6645.00	Human Development...\$	10.00
Loose.....\$	844.00	Christmas Flowers.....\$	335.00
SVDP.....\$	650.01	Seminary.....\$	
Votive Lights.....\$	37.00	Immaculate Conception...\$	10.00
Light House.....\$		Solemnity of Mary.....\$	10.00
Main & Repairs.....\$	200.00	Christmas Offering.....\$	25.00
On-Line donations.....\$	75.90	Retired Religious.....\$	35.00

Special Ministers December 16 & 17, 2023

Saturday 4:00 pm Paul Villmer
Sunday 8:00 am Jamie Thompson

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
Saturday 4:00 pm C: Laura Allen, L: Vikki Neier, R: Judy East
Sunday 8:00 am Don Thompson, Glenda Farrow, Donna Kennon

Sat: 4:00 p.m Lane & Madison Battreal
Sun: 8:00 a.m Ava & Garryn West
Sun: 10:00 am (celebrated at St. Joachim)

Music:
Sat: 4:00 p.m. Chala Short
Sun: 8:00 a.m. Rebecca Richards
Sun: 10:00 am Anita Govero or The Little Way Band

Food of the Month of December: SVDP still needs the canned meats please: spam, canned chicken, canned ham, Tuna
THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS.
~We couldn't do it without you~

Heavenly Duster: 12/08: Jean Roberson
Altar Linens: 12/26: Barb Cocos

Church Decorating!!!!!!
Christmas will be here before we can blink an eye! We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on **December 22, 9:30 am.** We are looking for a few more able bodies to help with this. Anyone who is willing and able is very much appreciated. Wont you please come help us?

*****FORMED*****
Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ/
The first feature film ever on the story of St. Joseph, who was a carpenter, the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that St. Joseph was a “just man” and that God gave him the most daunting task ever asked of a man— to be the husband of the woman who would give birth to the messiah and the father and protector of this Holy Family. He would be the man closest to Christ.

Our Lady of Guadalupe @ St. Juan Diego/Littlest Saints: A boy, his sneakers and a giant sombrero take up the story of St. Juan Diego’s miraculous encounter with the Blessed Virgin Mary. How far will Our Lady ask him to reach our in faith, trust and confidence

To sign up for “Formed”
Go to: <https://signup.formed.org/>
Enter our parish’s zip code
Enter your name and your email address. That’s it, you’re in.

Word of Life

“Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother.” Learn how at respect-life.org/support-her. USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “10 Ways to Support Her When She’s Unexpectedly Expecting”

May God help us prepare the way of the Lord by acting with tenderness and compassion, especially toward the most vulnerable among us; We pray to the Lord:

What's on the Calendar???

- Dec 13: PSR Confessions (during class time)
First Reconciliation (during class time)
- Dec 19: St. James Penance Service, 6:30 pm
- Dec 20: Parish Advent Program, 7:00 pm in Church
- Dec 20: Do you Believe in Miracles Presentation, St. Joseph’s, Bonne Terre
- Dec 21: Do You Believe in Miracles Presentation, St. Rose of Lima, DeSoto
- Dec 22: Decorate Church, 9:30 am



Christmas Mass Schedule:
Dec 24: 4:00 pm Christmas Eve both Parishes
10:00 pm Christmas Eve St. Joachim
Dec 25: 8:00 am Christmas Day St. James Parish
10:00 am Christmas Day St. Joachim Parish

Second Sunday of Advent (Year B) The Greatness of Humility

And this is what he proclaimed: “One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.” Mark 1:7
John the Baptist was considered by Jesus as one of the greatest human beings ever to walk the face of the Earth (see Matthew 11:11). Yet in the passage above, John states clearly that he is not even worthy to “stoop and loosen the thongs” of Jesus’ sandals. This is humility to the greatest extent!

What made St. John the Baptist so great? Was it his powerful preaching? His dynamic and attractive personality? His way with words? His good looks? His numerous followers? Certainly it was none of the above. That which made John truly great was the humility with which He pointed everyone to Jesus.
One of the greatest human struggles in life is pride. We tend to want to draw attention to ourselves. Most people struggle with a tendency to tell others how good they are and why they are right. We want attention, recognition and praise. We often struggle with this tendency because self-elevation has a way of making us feel important. And such “feeling” feels good, to an extent. But what our fallen human nature often fails to recognize is that humility is one of the greatest attributes we can have and is, by far, the greatest source of greatness in life. Humility is found clearly in these words and actions of John the Baptist in the passage above. He knew who Jesus was. He pointed to Jesus and turned the eyes of his followers from himself to his Lord. And it is this act of pointing others to Christ that has the double effect of elevating him to a greatness that self-centered pride can never achieve. What could be greater than the act of pointing others to the Savior of the World? What could be greater than helping others to discover their purpose in life by coming to know Christ Jesus as their Lord and Savior? What could be greater than exhorting others to a life of selfless surrender to the one and only God of mercy? What could be greater than elevating the Truth over the selfish lies of our fallen human nature?

Reflect, today, upon your calling in life to imitate the humility of John the Baptist. If you want your life to have true value and meaning, then use your life to elevate the Savior of the World to the greatest extent possible in the eyes of those around you. Point others to Jesus, make Jesus the central focus of your life and humble yourself before Him. In this act of humility, your true greatness will be discovered and you will find the central purpose of life.

My glorious Lord, You and You alone are the Savior of the World. You and You alone are God. Give me the wisdom of humility that I may dedicate my life to pointing others to You so that many will come to know You as their true Lord and God. I am not worthy of You, my Lord. Yet in Your mercy, You use me anyway. I thank You and dedicate my life to the proclamation of Your holy name.



Jesus, I trust in You.

Thank you to our PSR families for representing St. James Catholic Church in the town Christmas Parade!!!

“ Beautiful Eucharist”

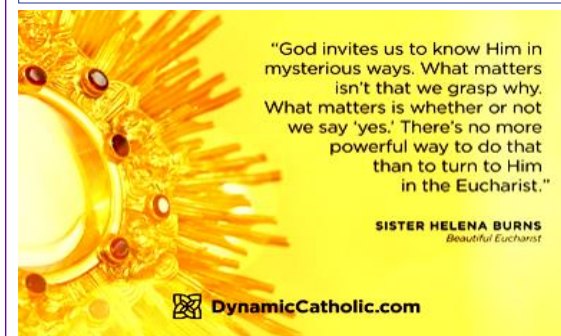
Nothing will transform your life quite like a personal encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist. When we encounter Jesus, he changes us in powerful and unexpected ways. He heals us, brings us peace and clarity, models how to relate with others, and teaches us the lessons we need to learn to navigate the everyday situations or our lives. In the Eucharist we meet with the same Jesus who healed the blind, forgave sins, and rose from the dead. Are you ready to discover how he can transform your life too?

“Beautiful Eucharist” is a stunning collection of life-changing reflections about Jesus truly present in the Eucharist and wonderfully present in our lives.

The world needs the healing and hope only Jesus can provide. He is waiting in the Eucharist to transform families, Churches, communities, and the culture as a whole. And all of that begins with your own life-changing encounter with him. God hears our prayers for the renewal of our Church. He will answer them through a life-changing transformation of our own hearts.

Thank you to our Parish Council for the “Beautiful Eucharist” book. Please take a copy as you leave and let us prepare ourselves this advent to be sent out to share Christ’s love with a world that so desperately needs it.

Books are in back of church.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Vincent Coleman**, husband to Norma Jean. Vince passed away December 1st. Let us also pray for his family as they grieve their loss.

Missionary Discipleship

Baptism

We should be grateful that we have been baptized and claimed for Christ. The Holy Spirit has come into our hearts and Christ has washed away the stain of original sin. As a result, we are able to enter into heaven and attain union with God in eternal beatitude (CCC 1213-1216). The work is not done, though. We still suffer from concupiscence, our natural inclination to sin, and must face trials and temptations in our spiritual journey of life. Fortunately, the Holy Spirit guides us to repent and to turn away from our sins. He enables us to accept our adoption as sons and daughters of God who walk in the light of Christ. What is holding you back from fully embracing your status as a child of God? How can you more fully repent and experience the grace of God working in your life?

St. James PSR NEWS

** Next in-person class: Wednesday, **December 13th** @ 6:00 pm. Dinner will start approximately 5:15. Unit 4 will be due.
****First Reconciliation will be on December 13th during class time.**
****PSR Confessions will be December 13th as well.**

Confirmation Class will be assisting with several service projects this year. So please watch the bulletin for updates. Join our Facebook page for all the latest and greatest information.





Music Advent program

St. James Church
201 N. Missouri St.
December 20th, 7:00 pm.



O Come O Come Emanuel!

If you missed our Advent Program last year, come join us this year. A wonderful evening of prayer, music and fellowship.

Save the date:

December 20th, 7:00 pm.

Of course, it will be in the church, refreshments following in the Hall.



ALL are invited, Parishioners, non-parishioners, Catholic, non-Catholic, ALL are welcome. Come, slow down for an evening of music, prayer and fellowship.

We'd love to see you there!

May God's Blessings be abundant this Christmas Season!

Caring Hearts Pregnancy Resource Center Baby Bottle Campaign 2023

Help support mothers and babies from our local community. Baby bottles are available in Church this weekend. Please, stop after Mass and pick up a baby bottle, fill it and return your filled baby bottle by the **4th Sunday of Advent, December 24th**. Life is the most precious Gift of all.



Christmas Country Church Tour Announcement

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (Saint Mary's of the Barrens Church) in Perryville, Missouri, will once again be participating in the Christmas Country Church Tour along with 36 other churches and chapels. The tour will take place on December 14 and 15, from 2:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. All of the participating churches welcome visitors to view their Christmas decorations and to spend a few moments in silent prayer during the Advent season. Here at the Shrine, a tree will be decorated with prayer petitions from local students. There will be live music both nights. Light refreshments will be served in the Visitor Center, where unique Christmas items, including nativity sets, will be on display. If you have any questions, please call the Association of the Miraculous Medal at 1-800-264-6279 or visit our website at www.amm.org. We look forward to your visit.



2024 Calendars

We would like to give a great big Thank you to Moore Funeral Home for our 2024 Calendars. They are in back of church, Please take one as you go.



Do you believe in Miracles?

~ *SEEING IS BELIEVING* ~

“Hello, this is Fr. Rodger Fleming from St. Rose of Lima, St. Joseph, and St. Anne Parishes. I want to PERSONALLY invite you to an AMAZING night. We are hosting an extraordinary event on MIRACLES caught on film and “Tested by Science”. It’s the same presentation two nights in a row, so just choose one night, 6:30 PM - 9 PM, Wednesday, December 20th at St. Joseph in Bonne Terre or 6:30 PM - 9 PM Thursday, December 21st at St. Rose of Lima in DeSoto.

Arrive 15 minutes early for good seating. Some things you will HEAR and SEE at the presentation:

- * Several Eucharistic Miracles where the bread transformed into living heart tissue to show that Jesus Christ is ALIVE in the Holy Eucharist.
- * A lady living today who receives the Wounds of Christ while receiving messages from Jesus and Mary. You will witness her Stigmata.
- * Why do bad things happen to good people? The meaning of Suffering.
- * The meaning, purpose, and POWER of the Holy Sacrifice of the MASS.

So many of you have kids and grandkids away from the Church. Even if they can't come, you will be provided tools and resources to get them back in Mass.”

Join us for a
FREE
Community Christmas Lunch
Sunday December 17th
»» ————— ««
We will start serving at 11 a.m.
We believe that no person should be alone during the holiday season, so please join us for a free meal. If you know someone who needs a meal but can't attend, please let us know and we will make sure they are taken care of.
Lunch will consist of Turkey, Ham, delicious sides, rolls and desserts. Along with Tea and Punch
»» ————— ««
**Lunch will be served at the Knights of Columbus Hall
Cadet, MO**
**Graciously sponsored by Hoots Too and numerous
community businesses and members**