

# Dear Padre,

**If Christmas is on December 25, why is the Immaculate Conception on December 8, rather than sometime in March?**

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception asserts that Mary was free of the stain of original sin from the time she was conceived in her mother's womb. Jesus was also free of the stain of original sin and his conception by Mary is referred to as the Incarnation of Christ. Mary's Immaculate Conception is often confused for Christ's Incarnation.

In the Church's liturgical calendar, Mary's conception is celebrated on December 8; her birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on September 8. Likewise, Christ's conception is celebrated on March 25 on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord; his birthday is celebrated exactly nine months later on December 25.

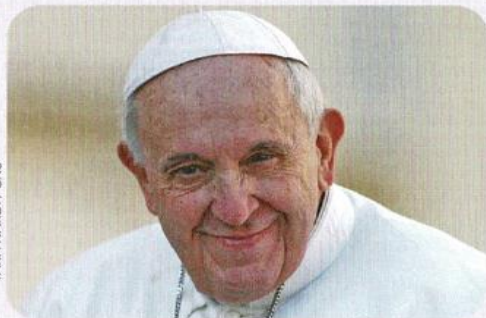
Mary's Immaculate Conception was celebrated many centuries before Pope Pius IX defined it as dogma on December 8, 1854: "The doctrine that maintains that the Blessed Virgin Mary in the first instant of her conception, by a unique grace and privilege granted to her by Almighty God, in consideration of the merits of Jesus Christ the Savior of mankind, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore must be firmly and constantly believed by all the faithful" (*Ineffabilis Deus*). In fact, eight years before, in 1846, the bishops of the United States had already adopted the Immaculate Conception as the patronal feast for Catholics in this country.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION BY PHILIP VENT (1820) BENATA SEDMAKONVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 9 <i>Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38	December 10 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:1-11 Mt 18:12-14	December 11 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30	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 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19	December 14 <i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13	December 15 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Zep 3:14-18a Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18



YARA NARDI / CNS

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

**By calling us to conversion, John urges us to go "beyond" where we presently are; to go beyond what our instincts tell us.... Let us ask for the grace to believe that with God things really do change, that he will banish our fears, heal our wounds.... Let us ask for the grace of hope....**

HOMILY, ATHENS, DECEMBER 5, 2021



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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 8, 2024

**Second Sunday of Advent (C)**

Baruch 5:1-9 / Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 / Luke 3:1-6



Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on forever the splendor of glory from God.

BARUCH 5:1

## Coming Home

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**C**oming home can take place in many varied ways. Sometimes it's at the end of a long day when we come home to where we can be ourselves without any pretensions. Sometimes it's going back to the neighborhood we grew up in, to the old haunts that remind us of the dreams we had and how they now seem tucked in every niche. Sometimes coming home is what happens after many wanderings, after we've sown our oats and harvested little and now have nowhere else to go. That too is a coming home, back to where it all began, back to where we dare to hope that life might begin again.

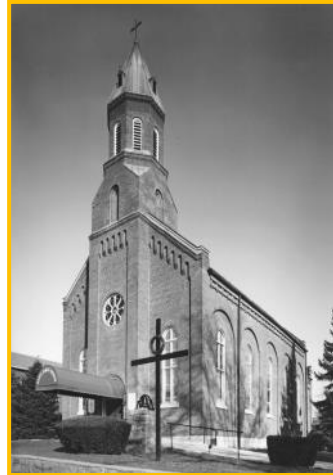
All of this is how the Hebrew people found themselves coming home to Jerusalem after eighty years of exile, coming back to start anew with the hope that their God would once again be proud of them, back to where they could be as God intended them to be. All of that is what we do when we decide we will try to be the sort of person we'd always hoped to become. It's when we attempt a second effort at making a marriage work, or a job productive, or maybe simply putting the pieces of our lives back in some sort of order. It's all about coming back home to God's dream for us, a kind of second Advent, when God comes into our lives and is born once again. ●

### Reflect

**Have you wandered too far from the values of your true home? Can you find your way back?**

# St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street  
Potosi, MO 63664



## December 2024

### 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

### \*HOLYDAY SCHEDULE:

Please check the Bulletin for Mass Times.

**E-MAIL:**  
stjameschurch@centurylink.net

**WEBSITE:** \*\*\*\*\*  
[www.stjames-potosi.org](http://www.stjames-potosi.org)

**FACEBOOK:** St. James Catholic Church

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday and Thursday after Mass-until 2:00  
Wednesday 8:00-2:00  
Phone: 573-438-4686  
Closed Holy Days

**Parish Hall or Parish School of Religion**  
Phone: 573-366-5235

### STAFF

**Rev. Anthony Dattilo**—Pastor  
[AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org](mailto:AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org)  
573-436-0580(St. Joachim rectory)

**Rev. Vince Nyman** - Part-time Senior Associate Pastor  
314-614-0718

**Katie Williamson:** Office Mgr.  
[stjameschurch@centurylink.net](mailto:stjameschurch@centurylink.net)  
573-438-4686

**Judy East**—Custodian  
**Tommy Roy:** On Call Maintenance

[stjamespsr@gmail.com](mailto:stjamespsr@gmail.com)  
**Laura Allen**—Coordinator of Religious Ed. 573-366-5235

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

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF: December 9, 2024

MON 12:00 PM Jim & Susan Boombaugh  
MON 6 :30PM Joann Thebeau

Dec 10 TUE	8:15 AM	Snead & Coffey families
Dec 11 WED	8:15 AM	Mass @ St. Joachim
Dec 12 THU	8:00 AM	Leroy & Faye Jarvis
Dec 13 FRI	8:00 AM	Mass @ St. Joachim
Dec 14 SAT	4:00 PM	Mass @ St. Joachim
Dec 15 SUN	8:00 AM	Gregory Gelhot

### December 1, 2024

Envelope.....\$	3820.00
Loose collections..\$	583.00
SVDP.....\$	295.00
Votive Lights.....\$	18.00
Main & Repairs.....\$	175.00
On-Line donations....\$	80.60
Christmas Flowers....\$	155.00
Funeral dinner....\$	20.00
Cemetery Plots\$....\$	1800.00



## December 15th 2024

### Lectors

Sunday 08:00 am

Jamie Thompson

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

**C: Glenda Farrow**

**L: Donna Kennon**

**R: David Woodland**

### Servers

Sat: 4:00 pm Mass @ St. Joachim

Sun: 08:00 am Ava & Garryn West

### Music:

Sat: 4:00 pm. Chala

Sun: 8:00 a.m. Rebecca Richards

Sun: 10:00 am Anita Govero or The Little Way Band

St Vincent DePaul November collection: Soup, Crackers, and Peanut Butter. :)

## Faith, Hope, and Charity

Heavenly Duster: 12/13: **Glenda Farrow**  
Altar Linens: 12/16: **Faye Jarvis**

Would anyone be interested in starting a group for decorating the church? Duties would include managing the flower fund and decorating the church for all seasons. Please let the office know if your interested.



December 19th will be our Christmas Concert starting @ 7PM



### \*\*\*\*\*Formed\*\*\*\*\*

#### This week on formed:

O Holy Night - Christmas with the Annie Moses Band  
St. Nicholas Day | Catholic All Year at Home w/ Kendra Tierney

#### Audible Books:

The Christmas and Easter story by truth and life  
The Art of living  
Prayers for Beginners

Formed is free to the parishioners, paid for by St. James parish. It is simple to put on your phone.

- Go to : <http://signup.formed.org/>
- Enter our parish's zip code 63664
- Enter your name and your email address. That's it, you are in!

## What's on the Calendar???

- Dec 09: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Dec 10: Parish Council Mgt @ 5:30pm \*Cancelled\*  
Knights of Columbus mgt 6:30pm
- Dec 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Dec 13: Clarity House
- Dec 16: Rural Parish Clinic
- Dec 16: St Vincent De Paul mgt @ 6pm
- Dec 19: Christmas Concert @ 7pm
- Dec 25: The Nativity of the LORD
- Dec 28: The Holy Innocents
- Jan 01: New Years Day



### Cemetery Lots

New prices have been sent for the purchase of cemetery lots at Calvary Cemetery. The new prices will be put in place January 1, 2025. Perpetual care is a one time only fee, however, envelopes for continued care, maintenance mowing, cleanup of the cemetery will be an ongoing request. Parishioners (Envelope, registered) \$400 plus \$100 for perpetual care Non-Parishioner (Non Envelope, family member of registered member) \$600 plus \$100 for perpetual care Section 100 (Cremation & Babies) FREE (infant under 1 years old) \$200 plus \$100 for perpetual care (1 person) \$300 plus \$100 for perpetual care (2 persons)



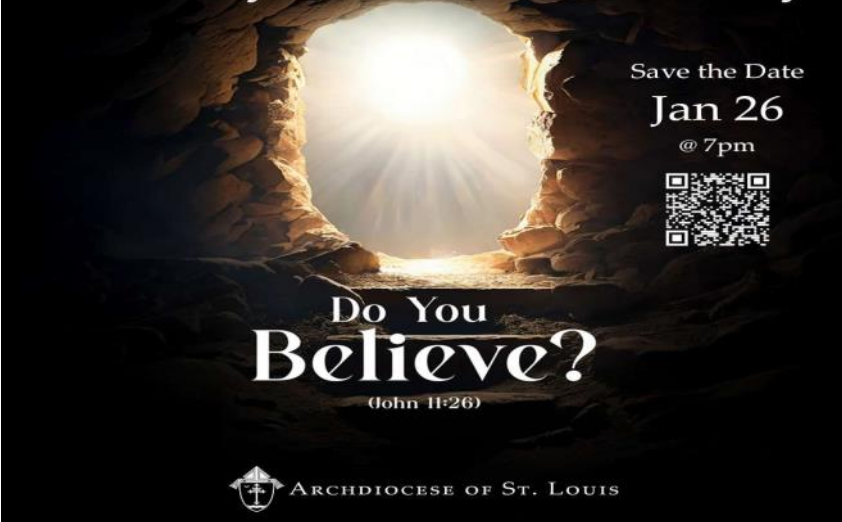
LET JESUS FEED YOUR MARRIAGE!  
Renew your Sacrament, deepen your communication strengthen your relationship, and rekindle your romance by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The following upcoming weekends are available In 2025. Sign-up now as space is limited! For more information or to apply, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call Terry & Eric Engholm @ 314-649-7317

1/31/25-2/2/25 St. Peters, MO  
4/4/25-4/6/25 St. Peters, MO  
6/13/25-6/15/25 St. Peters, MO

### DAILY REFLECTION

Jesus, help us remember your loving compassion is with us when we need healing and are hungry. You understand the exhaustion we may feel as caregivers.

## 2025 Prayer for Christian Unity



Save the Date

Jan 26

@ 7pm



Do You Believe?

(John 11:26)

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS



Sunday, January 26, 2025, 7-8pm  
St. Monica Catholic Church  
12140 Olive Blvd  
Creve Coeur, MO 63141



"Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could." - St. Gregory Nazianzen

### St. James PSR NEWS

#### December Class

\*11th (1st Reconciliation 2nd grade...Student grade 3-7 will also be going to confessions

PSR students will be doing the nativity scene on Thursday December 19 at the Christmas concert  
There will be a practice on Sunday December 15 starting at 3:00 students should be there by 2:30

#### 18th Class and Christmas Party

Contact Laura at 573-366-5235 with any questions.

