



St. James Parish Newsletter For November & December, 2015

COME ONE, COME ALL!

ST. JAMES PARISH CLEAN UP

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

8:00 AM—NOON



Weather Permitting we will be raking and cleaning up our Church grounds. This is a service opportunity for families as well as individuals where everyone can pitch in. We have lots of area to cover so the more the merrier! All you need to bring is a rake. We'll meet at 8 am in the Cafeteria for donuts, juice and coffee. After a little direction we'll get started and plan to finish by noon. Any time you can offer to help is appreciated.

**St. James is here to help all people
experience meaning and purpose in
life.**

Knowing and Loving Christ: A Lifelong, Shared Adventure

from Pastoral Associate Gerry Wolf

In a recent bulletin column, I shared that one of my responsibilities in the parish is to promote and facilitate Evangelization. One of the most important ways we can help each other become better evangelizers is by thinking of our parish as a “school for discipleship”. In other words, how are we helping one another to grow in our relationships with Christ?

I remember the first time I was approached by a “fundamentalist” Christian in college and was challenged with the query: “Are you saved? Do you want to know Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior?” I must admit that I thought this person was at the very least, kind of pushy, and perhaps, even a bit “off”. I realize now that the seed of their query is the foundation of all Christian faith, including every branch of religious expression of that faith.

Pope Benedict XVI, in his encyclical *God Is Love*, writes: “*We have come to believe in God’s love*: in these words the Christian can express the fundamental decision of his life. Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and decisive direction.” I find it ironic that Pope Benedict uses the same adjective (fundamental) to describe the elemental Christian experience that many use to label those Christians who tend to focus exclusively on the personal dimension of faith alone rather than letting themselves be led to the “new horizon” which Pope Benedict speaks of.

As a “cradle Catholic” who was taught what to believe and how to practice it more so than developing a relationship with Christ, I did not begin to explore that aspect of faith until my teen and college years. In the years since, I have come to know that each of us can have a deeply intimate relationship with Him.

That relationship, like any other, is necessitated upon risk, commitment, and trust. How many of us are afraid to risk believing that we can really know Jesus as a living person, as near to us as our own breath and heartbeat? So instead of trying to know *Him*, we learn as much as we can *about* Him from the Bible and church Tradition. How many of us forget to pay attention to and give effort to our relationship with Him, to really love Him? So instead of loving *Him*, we channel our energy and work into following all the religious commandments and rules, as if that can earn us His acceptance. How many of us continue to cling tightly to steering our own lives in the course we set, stubbornly resisting His request to serve Him by surrendering to His direction? So instead of serving *Him*, we set limits to the amount of time, money, labor, and soul which we are willing to sacrifice.

A famous quote by G. K Chesterton lends itself to expressing the ambivalence we sometimes have toward our faith: “The problem with Christianity is not that it has been tried and found wanting, but that it has not been tried.” We all try to live our faith, but to what extent are we willing to go? Does God really want us to give everything????!!!

As I reflected for this article, I remembered a bit of religious knowledge from my childhood, when we were required to memorize the questions and answers in the Baltimore Catechism. I knew the questions and answers by heart, but not in my heart, so I eventually rejected that form of learning as irrelevant and superficial. I now realize that all of the knowledge, ritual prayer, and religious practice which our Catholic tradition offers, grounded in an experience of the reality of the risen Christ, however that experience might be different for each person, can fulfill the promise which Jesus made: “I have come so they may have life, and have it to the full.”

I went online to check out my memory of the Baltimore Catechism answer which I remembered and it turned out to be the answer to Question 6. “Why did God make you? God made me to know Him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him for ever in heaven.” It sounds so simple, doesn’t it?

But giving ourselves fully to that closeness to Christ is not always easy. Discipleship can be challenging and risky. That’s probably why we tend to approach it in fits and starts. Knowing and loving Christ are the first steps and they don’t have to be as complicated or impossible as many like to think. In Luke’s gospel, following the resurrection, two of Jesus’ disciples experience His presence on their journey to Emmaus in a surprising and intimate manner (*Luke 24:13-35*). So let’s encourage one another in our personal and shared walks with Jesus. He is risen; He has sent the Holy Spirit to burn a fire in our hearts; He has promised to be with us in the sacraments, especially Eucharist; He is with us!

JACOB’S LADDER



In November we honor & remember, in a special way, family & friends that have died.

Bring pictures of your loved ones, and place them on the Jacob’s Ladder, that will be situated in the alcove next to the Baptismal Font. The ladder was set up the weekend of Oct. 24/25.

The pictures will remain there throughout the month of November. Please put your name & phone # on the back of the frame.



The Fall Art & Environment Committee needs help to prepare the worship and gathering space for Thanksgiving. We will meet at church on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

THANKSGIVING MASS

November 26th at 9 am in Church

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Holy Day
Tuesday, December 8th
8 a.m. and 6 p.m. at St. James
In Church

CLUSTER ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Saturday, December 12	10:30 am	St. Mary's
Tuesday, December 15	7:00 pm	St. Agnes

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Here at St. James

December 24, Christmas Eve
3:30 pm
5:30 pm
10:00 pm Christmas Concert
10:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass

December 25, Christmas Day
9:00 am Christmas Mass



ST. JAMES GIVING TREE

The St. James Giving Tree will be going up in the Gathering Area beginning the weekend of **November 14/15**. Through this outreach ministry, our parish is able to assist homebound seniors, disabled adults as well as children and families in need during the Christmas Season. Tags with gift requests will be hung on the tree for local charitable organizations such as Interfaith Senior Programs, St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. James, Sussex Outreach Services, Milwaukee Center for Independence and Hebron House. Please keep this opportunity in mind as you make your holiday shopping lists and help brighten the Christmas Season for others in need. Thank you!

HOW DOES IT GET DONE????

Quite often we hear people mention how beautiful the church looks at Christmas time. The trees, the lights, & the wreaths hopefully put the assembly in a Prayerful as well as a Celebratory mood.

But how do all these decorations get prepared and set up in the church???

All of this is done by people like **you** – people that want St James to look wonderful for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Please come & join the fun of preparing the church for the Christmas season.

We will be setting it all up on Sunday, December 20th after the 10:30 Mass.

Lunch will be available for those that help.

**For more information contact Sue 262-366-1211
suemangan@gmail.com**



Holly Days

St. James Catholic Church

Saturday, Dec. 5th 4:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Sunday, Dec 6th 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME—BRING A FRIEND

Holly Days Bake Sale, Secret Santa Workshop,
Jack Frost–50/50 Raffle, Christmas Boutique,

Bring your camera and visit with Santa,

Used Books, Saturday Night Supper,

Christmas Music, Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast,

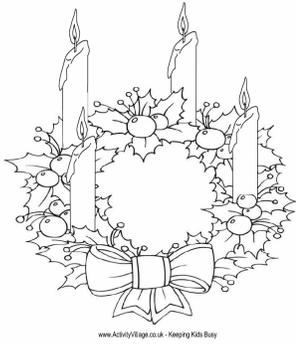
And the ever popular Theme Baskets.

New this year...

A special Saturday night event!

Watch upcoming bulletins for more details.

Also new this year a special children's activity.



Advent at St. James Parish, Menomonee Falls

November 29, 2015

Advent Workshop

Attention all Families!!!

St. James invites you to a hands-on workshop to create a few things to help you pray your way through the Advent season. This is a fun opportunity to help your family focus on the beautiful meaning of this holy season. Through a number of fun little workshops your family will learn more about Advent. All are welcome! Bring your family, neighbors, grandparents and friends. Choose from the following workshops:

- A. **Scriptural Advent Calendar** – (Anyone) At this station families will create a calendar that will focus on the readings of Advent. This will be a good way to focus on Jesus during the days of Advent. Each reading will have a question & small treat!
- B. **Advent Wreath- *That you can really use!*** (Anyone) – At this station families will create an Advent wreath to use during the 4 weeks before Christmas.
- C. **Advent ornaments** – (2nd grade and up) Families will make Advent ornaments which focus on the many names and descriptions that we give to Jesus.
- D. **Warm wishes** – (Anyone) At this station we will create cards to send to the homebound people of our parish, cards for our young adults away at school, cards for those in the service, and cards for those in nursing homes.
- E. **Projects that help us wait** – (1st grade and younger) At this station families will be invited to do a number of simple projects that will help their little ones wait for Jesus' coming.



Please reserve your spot by November 24th

Family Name _____ e-mail _____

Participants Names & children's ages' _____

Top 3 workshop choices (Letters) _____, _____, _____, (You get to do 2, the 3rd one is an alternate)



Return to the CF office via mail, phone (262-253-2904), e-mail (devinesimons@archmil.org), or in person.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

YOUTH CORNER

High School Youth Group Mission Trip Meetings

Thanks to all those who have signed up for our three mission trips being offered to Pittsburgh PA, Rochester NY & Blue Ridge Mountains NC. If you have not yet signed up, pick up a form on our website or in the Christian formation office. If you have not already heard from your mission trip leader (Betsy from St. Mary's, Corinna from Good Shepherd or Bryan from St. James), you will soon hear about an orientation meeting.

It won't be long then before fundraisers and formation events begin to get you prepared for an awesome mission trip. We look forward to serving with you and the people of the different communities, so start praying and preparing for the summer of 2016.

ALL YOUTH GROUP Thanksgiving Bonfire

Middle and high schoolers, you are invited to the Thanksgiving Bonfire at **Good Shepherd on Friday, November 27th from 6:00-10:00pm.**

Fire, marshmallows, food, candy, games, and our annual bean bag tournament with some great prizes.

Come and give thanks to God for all the blessings we have been given.



ALL YOUTH GROUPS Christmas Boxes for the Kids of Pine Ridge



Get in your donations for the kids of Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. For the past few years, we have put smiles on the faces of hundreds of kids. It has been humbling and so hopeful to see our young people and their families pour out their hearts for the needs of others. Boxes have already been donated, so each middle and high school class has been challenged to provide two "boxes" for 11-13 year-olds and one "box" for 8-10 year-olds of these suggested items: warm socks, mittens, hats, reading books, activity books, puzzles, inexpensive toys, craft items, sketch pads, scissors, small notebooks, stickers & crayons.

Deliver items by no later than Sunday, Nov. 15th to the Pine Ridge bins outside the CF Office.

There will also be a **packing party on Saturday, December 5th from 9am-Noon.** Families welcome. Contact Bryan in the CF Office for more information.

Middle School Youth Group Christmas Cookie Decorating Contest

6:30-8:30pm on Friday, December 18th
at Good Shepherd.



THANK YOU FOR THE YEARS OF COLLECTING CANS

St. James mission trippers thank you for your support over the years in the aluminum can drive. At this time, we are going to take a break from collecting them. We have had a few changes that make it challenging to continue.

We know many have been collecting at home for this purpose, but we don't have the means to recycle them, so please dispose of them in your recycling bins at home. We are grateful for your tremendous support of our young people. We trust that it will continue despite the loss of this fundraiser.

Thank you,
Bryan Ramsey
St. James Director of
Youth Ministry



Bible Study & Reflection

We have 3 different opportunities for people to learn a little more about the scriptures. No experience required. Come and join in the community and learning.

Tuesdays, at 9:00 a.m. – Great Room

Tuesdays, at 6:30 p.m. – Great Room

Thursdays, at 9:00 a.m. – Great Room



Prayer & Reflection

Spend a little time growing in prayer. Here are a few community experiences that you can participate in and grow from.

3rd Saturdays at 7:00 a.m. (Rosary Group) – Church

Tuesdays, all day (Adoration) - Chapel

Tuesdays, at 4:00 p.m. (Rosary) – Chapel

Are you a talk radio fan, looking for talk radio from the Catholic perspective? **Relevant Radio** is a Catholic radio station, the Milwaukee stations are 100.1 FM and 1640 AM or check out <http://www.relevantradio.com/> for a complete programming schedule.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHRISTIAN FORMATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR

November 2015

- 1** CF Classes
4K/5K 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Gr. 1-5 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor Day of Reflection 11-2 pm at Good Shepherd
Gr. 6-10 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30
Confirmation Classes (Gr 11) Do Not Meet
- 3** CF Classes
Gr. 1-10 6:30-7:30 p.m.
No Confirmation Class (Gr. 11)
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
- 4** All Committee 7:00 p.m.
- 5** Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
- 6** S.O.A.L. #5 9 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
- 8** CF Classes
4K/5K 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Gr. 1-5 9:30-10:30 a.m.
GIFT 11:30-1:30
Gr. 6-11 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- 10** CF Classes
Gr. 1-11 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
- 12** Centering Prayer 8:00 a.m.
Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
Community Banquet 5:30 p.m.
- 13** S.O.A.L #6 9 a.m.-1:45p.m.
Reconciliation Retreat 5:30-8:30 p.m.
- 14** Reconciliation Retreat 9:00 a.m.-noon
FtCS 8:00 a.m.-noon
- 15** CF Classes
4K/5K 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Gr. 1-5 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Gr. 6-11 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30
- 17** CF Classes
Gr. 1-11 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Infancy Narratives 6:30 p.m.
- 18** Reconciliation Celebration 6:30 p.m.
Senior Club noon- 4:00 p.m.
St. Ben's
- 19** Reconciliation Celebration 6:30 p.m.
Infancy Narratives 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
- 20** S.O.A.L. Potluck 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- 22** CF Classes
4K/5K 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Gr. 1-5 9:30-10:30 a.m.
NO CF classes—Gr. 6-11

- 24** No CF classes—All Grades
No Bible Study
- 27** Middle/High School Bonfire @ Good Shepherd 6-10 pm
- 29** Break Open the Word (BOW) 8:15 & 10:30
NO CF classes—all grades
Advent Workshop 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

December 2015

- 1** CF Classes
Gr. 1-11 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Infancy Narratives 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- 2** All Committee 7:00 p.m.
- 3** Infancy Narratives 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
- 5** Grade 10 Retreat noon - 5:30 p.m. (Replaces class)
- 6** Break Open the Word (BOW) 8:15 & 10:30
CF Classes
4K/5K 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Gr. 1-5 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Grade 10 Retreat 1:00-6:30 p.m. (Replaces class)
Gr. 6-9 & 11 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30
- 8** CF Classes
Gr. 1-9 & 11 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Gr. 10 No class—Weekend retreat replaced class
Infancy Narratives 6:30 p.m.
- 10** Community Banquet 5:30 p.m.
Infancy Narratives 9:00 a.m.
- 11** Centering Prayer 9:00 a.m.
- 12** FtCS 9:00 a.m.— noon
- 13** Break Open the Word (BOW) 8:15 & 10:30
CF Classes
4K/5K 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Gr. 1-5 9:30-10:30 a.m.
GIFT 9:30-11:30
Gr. 6-11 4:30-5:30 or 6:30-7:30
- 15** CF Classes
Gr 1-5 6:30-7:30 p.m. Christmas Program
Gr. 6-11 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- 16** St. Ben's
Senior Club
- 20** CF Classes 4K/5K 8:15-9:15 a.m.
Break Open the Word (BOW) 8:15 & 10:30
Christmas Program Grades 4K-5 9:30-10:15
NO CF classes—Gr. 6-11

*CF offices will have limited hours December 21-January 4
so please call ahead before stopping in.*

HEALTH MINISTRY

***“MAY THE GOD OF PEACE MAKE YOU COMPLETELY HOLY
AND MAY YOUR SPIRIT AND SOUL AND BODY BE KEPT
SOUND”***

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23

A Note from the Parish Nurse, Brigitte Glinski:

I am very excited to be the new Parish Nurse here at St. James. I come to St. James after taking a few years away from nursing to spend time with my family, my husband Mike, and my two sons, Joey, age 2 and Nathaniel, 10 months. Prior to staying home I worked at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin in the Trauma/Surgical Intensive Care Unit.

As I step into this role, I ask myself, “What is a Parish Nurse?” As Parish Nurse, it is my job to be a health educator, health counselor, referral specialist, and organizer of volunteers. I am a link between the medical and faith community. Nursing is not just focused on the science of how the body functions in both health and illness; it also takes into account the spiritual aspect of a person’s health.

The St. James Health Ministry is comprised of many different ministries. The card ministry sends occasional cards to parishioners just to let them know their church family is thinking of them. The prayer shawl ministry creates beautiful shawls so that recipients will feel wrapped in Jesus’ loving arms. Blood pressure screenings are offered a preventative healthcare. Meals are offered to those in need while ill or during a time of bereavement. Eucharistic ministers provide visits to the homebound and hospitalized to allow them to feel God’s love during their illness. The Elizabeth Ministry reaches out to moms and their families, and includes the Rosebud program as well as maintaining the busy bags for children age four and under.

Please feel free to contact me if you or a loved one has a need for the services of the health ministry, or if you would like to serve our parish family as part of the health ministry. My contact information is in the weekly bulletin, phone number: (262) 250-2663. I’d also like to thank those who are currently a part of the health ministry team for welcoming me, and for all your hard work in keeping this ministry going!

Do you have a gluten allergy/intolerance/ sensitivity, that prevents you from participating in Communion?

St. James has gluten free hosts. They are located in the freezer in the kitchenette located in the Gathering area. The ingredients label is on the package for your review and if it will meet your dietary guidelines, take a host, place it in a pyx (that can also be found in the freezer) and place it in the basket labeled for such by the offertory gifts. At Communion, please receive from the priest, letting him know that you need the gluten free host.



Parish Nurse Visits

If any parishioners would like a visit from the parish nurse, Brigitte Glinski, or know of someone who would benefit from a visit please call her office at (262) 250-2663 or e-mail at glinskib@archmil.org.

Due to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, better known as HIPAA, we are no longer allowed to gather general information of St. James parishioners who may like a visit and Communion brought to them by just calling the local hospitals.

HIPAA protects everyone’s health information, but unfortunately can hinder our awareness of those in need.



Continuing the Journey Laudato Si' On Care for Our Common Home

“In Laudato Si’ Pope Francis is speaking as a spiritual and moral leader calling each of us to more fully answer the call to care for others and care for God’s creation. He sees the “ecological crisis” as first and foremost “a summons to profound interior conversion” (LS, no. 217). That conversion must begin with humility when confronting the results of human activity unmoored from God’s design.”

“This is integral ecology, and it’s at the heart of the encyclical. As Pope Francis says, “it is no longer enough to speak only of the integrity of ecosystems. We have to dare to speak of the integrity of human life, of the need to promote and unify all the great values. Once we lose our humility, and become enthralled with the possibility of limitless mastery over everything, we inevitably end up harming society and the environment” (LS, no. 224).”

“Those teachings remind us that when we don’t responsibly care for God’s creation, it’s the poor who suffer most. Pollution, food and water insecurity, and conflicts over declining resources first affect those on the margins – “the least of these” Jesus entrusts to our particular care. There’s an “intimate relationship between the poor and the fragility of the planet” (LS, no. 16), and we have a responsibility to live out our solidarity with the poor in concrete ways.” [*“Pope Francis’ New Encyclical” By Kim Daniels, JUNE 18, 2015 U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Blog Post*]

So what’s next? All this care for creation stuff can be overwhelming! Pope Francis suggests that we begin by creating awareness so we can translate our current actions into new habits. We must become conscious consumers. **We at St. James are already doing some great things** like

Growing local organic produce to support the Sussex food pantry

Hosting a parish thrift sale each year that allows us to “recycle” our goods among the community and help keep them out of the landfill

Redistributing second hand bedding to area shelters that would otherwise go to a landfill

Replacing throw away Styrofoam coffee cups with good old fashion ceramic cups in the Great Room

And we are offering more ideas in the bulletin and website and creating awareness with displays in the gathering space. Our motto is “One Simple Act”. There are many things that we have begun to do differently over the years simply because our culture has made it convenient. Convenience is great as long as it is responsible convenience. Unfortunately some of our conveniences, like the constant use of bottled water, are not very sustainable.

We will continue throughout the year to offer ideas that create awareness of good environmental habits and not so good habits that we have acquired in our culture. Your opportunity is to check out the information and decide if you would like to **take “One Simple Act” for the care of our common home.**

Interested in this topic? We are forming a team at St. James to look at what we can do as a parish to take simple acts toward environmental responsibility. Contact Debra Schneider at djschneider@wi.rr.com or 414-550-2167 if you would like to join the team.

Human Sex Trafficking - Be Informed



As Deacon Steve shared with us, all 72 counties in the state of Wisconsin have experienced human sex trafficking. When looking hard enough, sex trafficking was found in Hartford, Hartland and Delafield. In short, it is *in our backyard!*

St. James has launched the parish-wide book read: **In Our Backyard by Nita Belles**. Over 70 parishioners purchased the book. It invites the reader in to the lives of human trafficking victims, survivors and the traffickers themselves with true stories. These stories not only inform the reader, but also take them quickly through a well-documented crash course about human trafficking--better described as modern-day slavery--in the United States. A quick read which includes study questions for small groups, **In Our Backyard** could change your life and save lives around you.

We will have opportunities for group discussion on Sunday **November 15** between Masses, Tuesday morning **November 17** at 10 am, Wednesday evening **November 18** at 6:30 pm, Thursday evening **November 19** at 6:30 pm and Saturday **November 21** at 9:00 am. No reservations needed. Room locations will be indicated in the bulletin.

There will be few copies of the book in the parish library, located in the Great Room. The book also can be purchased on line and in Kindle. There will be calls to action for opportunities to take a stand against this most horrific crisis. Please join us for this most important conversation.

40th ANNIVERSARY OF CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER RETREAT WEEKENDS

In 1975, Catholic Engaged Encounter week-ends were begun and were modeled after Marriage Encounter. The week-end is for engaged couples to spend time exploring many aspects of their future marriage in a spiritual atmosphere. The talks are given by a team of married couples and priests/deacons but the engaged couple really gives the week-end to each other through intense dialogue with each other. This program has expanded over the years and is now worldwide.

Catholic Engaged Encounter works in cooperation with and is supported by the Milwaukee Archdiocese and has been giving **CEE weekends at Schoenstatt retreat center** in Waukesha since 2012. Giving talks to engaged couples is a wonderful ministry to stay connected as a married couple. If you are looking for a lasting gift for someone in your family getting married, give them a week-end retreat for the engaged.



The dates for 2016 are April 29 – May 1 and September 23 – 25. If you are looking for a wonderful ministry as a married couple, check into being part of a team on Catholic Engaged Encounter, **contact John and Louise Vos, 262-439-8559 or email johnlouisevos@yahoo.com for more information.**

Are you Called to be a Deacon?

As part of the discernment process for men interested in knowing more about becoming a Permanent Deacon, the Office for Diaconate Formation offers an "Inquiry for Discernment" Program. This is a series of six required sessions conducted for men between 32 and 60 years and, if married in the Church for more than 4 years, together with their spouses, who wish to explore a vocational calling to the ministry of the Permanent Diaconate.

Please visit www.archmil.org/offices/Diaconate/Discernment.htm for the full schedule of classes, or call (414) 758-2202 for more information.

Mary, Mom's & Muffins Rosary Group



Calling Moms of all ages! Join us on **November 21st at 7am in the Reconciliation Room** at church, as we pray together the Holy Rosary. At the same time, you will meet other moms, who like you, are juggling the stresses of everyday life.

As we all come together in prayer, we are strengthened by the gift of friendship. Even if you've never prayed the rosary before, **DON'T WORRY . . .** A cheat sheet is provided and we all use it, so you'll be in good company! Give yourself this one hour and then let God take care of the rest! Feel free to invite a friend...the more the Mary-er (pun intended)! Hope to see you there.

FIELDS OF HOPE & DREAMS
And HOLY GROUND GARDEN

St. James' community gardens (i.e. Field of Dreams, Field of Hope, Holy Ground garden) have wrapped up another (our 6th) season of gardening. Cooling temperatures have either slowed or stopped growth in most of our vegetables with the exception of our beautiful kale and some root crops (i.e. carrots, beets). These can withstand a frost, which historically starts hitting around mid-October.

Early estimates suggest we will once again increase the amount of vegetables we donate to the Cooperating Churches of Sussex's (CCOS) food pantry. We will provide a final tally when complete. This increase was expected with the addition of our new Holy Ground garden this spring. However, any seasoned gardener knows with all the variables involved in gardening, especially weather, nothing is guaranteed. So volunteers were pleased with the production of our three gardens this season.

We received numerous compliments on the new Holy Ground garden's front display of decorative kale and eatable naturism flowers. This display hid the unfinished raised beds and garden aisles that were left unfinished due to the rush to get plants in the ground from our annual spring plant sale. Plants were getting root bound in their pots, so rather than delay the planting to finish the garden's construction, we opted to plant and finish the garden construction next spring.



Of course none of this could have been achieved without the support from the St. James community. I'd like to thank them by name but they're too numerous to list. So I'll do it by group. To start, I'd like to mention the parish members who volunteered to germinate seeds in January for the gardens and our plant sale. Then a "thank you" goes out to the volunteers who help with the plant sale, which provide us with funds for seeds and other expenses. And to the parishioners who purchased plants from the sale. Some are still telling us how great the tomatoes tasted. As well as those parish members who shopped, didn't purchase plants, but dropped money in our donation baskets to support our gardens anyway.

Then, a "thank you" to all the volunteers who helped, plant, weed, trim, prune and harvest the vegetables. They really put in the hours. Many of these volunteers gave up numerous Saturday mornings to help in the gardens. And a "thank you" to the volunteers who helped in the kitchen each Saturday and Wednesday morning. They washed, trimmed, dried, bagged, labeled, boxed and delivered vegetables to the CCOS food pantry. Then took wet towels home to wash and dry for the next week. And "thank you" to those parishioners who donated vegetables from their own home gardens to add to our donations. What a combined effort!

"Thank you" – church staff! Although we strive not to use any parish funds or staff time, the staff continued to ask our volunteers: "Do you need anything?" "Can we get you anything?" "Do you have everything you need?" or just tell us: "The gardens look great, keep up the great work!".

There's a saying catching on around church, maybe you've heard it. It goes something like this: "*I'm living the dream*". When you witness or experience some of this outpouring from other parish members – you start to feel like: "Yes, I am living the dream". Have you felt it? The feeling comes from a spirit of humble gratitude and living each day as it is a gift from God. "Pay it forward" or "pass it on" when you hear it. It will lift your spirits too.

PARISH INCOME/EXPENSES

Parish Income July 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015

Year to Date Budget:	\$352,025.00
Year to Date Income:	<u>\$331,262.27</u>
Year to Date Excess/Shortfall	\$(20,762.73)

Parish Income & Expense July 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015

Total Actual Income:	\$331,262.27	Budget:	\$352,025.00
Total Expenses:	<u>\$312,197.99</u>	Budget:	<u>\$335,968.50</u>
Year to Date Excess/Shortfall	\$ 19,064.28		\$ 16,056.50

THANK YOU'S

St. James Congregation,
Your generous spirits are truly amazing! The children of Camp HOPE are blessed by your help and I appreciate you all deeply.

My best,
Becky Loy

Dear St. James Congregation,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$450 to Our Space, Inc. At a time when so many people are in need, you were generous, thoughtful, and kind to give to our organization and to our members who are experiencing chronic mental illness. On their behalf and from us . . . Thank you!

Our Space provides a compassionate environment for adults who have experienced serious mental illness. Your support and donation will allow us to continue to offer exceptional support services for adults on their journey of recovery and provide hope for those living with mental illness.

Sincerely,
Nora Hitchcock
Membership Coordinator/
Development/Exec. Assistant

To the Member of St. James Parish,

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$450 to Catholics for Peace and Justice in support of our programs. We continue to be dedicated to reaching out to and educating Catholics in our diocese on the social teaching of the Church as well as creating an avenue for networking and advocating for social justice at the local, state, and national level.

. . . In addition to raising issues of local poverty, we maintain our dedication to working with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and the US Catholic Bishops advocating for comprehensive immigration reform and with the Wisconsin Council of Churches and WISDOM organizations on the 11x15 campaign for Wisconsin prison reform.

Thank you to St. James Human Concerns Committee and community for its dedication to serving the poor through real change.

Peace & good,
Debra Schneider, Treasurer

The Catholics for Peace and Justice Leadership Council
Deacon Jim Banach, Mary Krolikowski, Toni Rick,
Gerry Fischer, Carl Malischke, Debra Schneider, Jan Gurgal, Shannon Meagher, Bob Schuelke, Joel Gaughan, & Clare Peiffer

A helping hand, a willing heart, Sometimes that's all it takes—a simple gesture on someone's part, but what a difference it makes. That's just the kind of gift you give, over and over each day. And we'll always be glad that you've chosen to live in such an unselfish way.

Author unknown

We hope that you will continue to help us serve our guests at Hope Center. We cannot do it without you!

Dana Riesterer & *Laurie Jendusa*
Manager of Operations Community Outreach Coordinator

Thank you for your participation in the SOS Community Fun Day. This year, \$10,000 was raised, our most successful year yet! Your contribution and generosity are greatly appreciated. The event was successful on so many levels. We featured games, food, activities for kids, silent auction items and raffle prizes. This helped to draw in more attendees and offer some wonderful prizes. Thank you again for your support!

Jennifer Waltz,
Sussex Outreach Services

Dear Friends at St. James,

Thank you for your donation of \$450 for the families that come to Parents Place. It will be very useful in helping us conduct such services as Parent/Child Education Classes, Supervised Visitation, Parent/Child Anger Management Classes and Support Groups. . .

Our mission and goal at Parents Place is to provide children and families with positive role models, opportunities for family enrichment and assist families in utilizing community resources that promote self-sufficiency, productivity and wellness. We see family issues such as anger, lack of control, abusive situations, need of improving parental skills, and parents that would like to have a support system to stand next to them. . . .

Thank you for your contribution to our effort in making children safe and helping families bond together.

Sincerely,
Kathy Duffek
Community Education Coordinator

St. James Congregation,

We are very appreciative of your generous donation to our clinic as part of your ongoing tithing program. With donations like yours we are able to continue our mission of caring for the vulnerable.

THANK YOU! *Robyn Kitslu*,
-Clinic Manager

Dear Friends at St. James,

Thank you for your kind and generous support of \$199 from your Panera Bread donations. Every gift is important and every dollar is utilized. With one dollar we are able to provide a meal for an entire family . . . SOS will continue to serve those that need us the most here in the Sussex Areas as long as we have partners like you.

Thank you for your kindness, *Jennifer Waltz*



St. James Parish

W220 N6588 Town Line Road
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
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Dates to Remember

NOVEMBER 2015

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>EVENT:</u>
1:	Mass of Remembrance, 10:30 am
3:	Polling Place
4:	All Committee Meeting Night, 7 pm
5:	Holiday Auction
7:	Men of Harmony Concert Parish Clean Up, 8 am
11:	Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 7 pm
12:	Community Banquet, 5:30 pm
17:	Prayer Shawl Ministry, 3:30 pm Infancy Narratives, 6:30 pm
18:	St. James Senior Club, 1 pm St. Ben's leaves promptly at 4 pm
19:	KC's General Membership Mtg, 7:30 pm
21/22:	Boy Scouts selling wreaths after Masses
25:	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 7 pm
26:	Thanksgiving Mass, 9 am
28:	Lector Prep, 8 am Art & Environment Advent Set Up, 8 am

DECEMBER 2015

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>EVENT:</u>
1:	Infancy Narratives, 6:30 pm
2:	All Committee Meeting Night 7 PM
3:	Infancy Narratives, 9 am
5:	Baptism Prep Class, 9:30 am Holly Days, 4 pm
6:	Holly Days, 8 am
8:	Immaculate Conception, 8 am & 6 pm Infancy Narratives, 6:30 pm
8:	Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 7 pm
10:	Community Banquet
12/13:	Franciscan Peacemakers Soap Sale
16:	St. James Senior Club, 12 pm
17:	Infancy Narratives, 9 am
19:	SOS Christmas Distribution
20:	Art & Environment Christmas Set Up, 11:30 am
24:	Christmas Eve Masses 3:30, 5:30 & 10:30 pm
25:	Christmas Day Mass 9:00 am

Please see page 6 for Calendar of Events for the Christian Formation Department