



# Saint James Catholic Church

Sunday, December 23 – The Fourth Sunday of Advent



Our fourth, and final, presenter in our new Advent Video Reflection series is Sophia Romualdez, student at St. James. To hear Sophia's thoughts on this week's reading visit <https://bit.ly/2zNzEKk>. We hope her insight will serve as a springboard for your reflections on the Word in relation to your spiritual preparations for Christmas, which is only two days away!

Throughout this December as we celebrate the season of Advent and look with joyous hearts to the commemoration of the birth of our Lord, we are highlighting our brand new Advent reflection video series. Each short video, presented by a student from St. James Catholic School, discusses that particular Sunday's readings. We hope that these videos along with their corresponding "Light Your Heart" reflection questions, on page six, will add insight and support for your faith journey during this holy time of year.

## This Week at St. James

### Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve Masses  
5:00pm (Children's Mass),  
7:00pm, 9:00pm, Midnight

### Tuesday, December 25 Christmas Day (A Holy Day of Obligation)

Masses  
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am,  
Noon, and  
2:30pm (Misa en Español)

December 26  
Mass of Special Intentions  
6:30pm

December 24, 26-28  
Rectory Office Open from  
9:00am – 5:00pm with  
limited staffing  
School closed until  
January 3.

**Reflection: Who do you model your life after? Has their faith impacted you? How can you be an example of faith to others?**

#### MASS SCHEDULE:

**Saturday Vigil:** 5:00pm  
**Sunday:** 7:30am, 9:00am,  
10:30am, 12:00 noon, and  
7:00pm  
**Spanish Mass:** 2:30pm  
**Daily:** 6:30am, 8:30am &  
12:00 noon  
**Saturday:** 8:30am

#### Federal Holidays:

6:30am and 8:30am only  
**Holy Days:** 7:30pm Vigil  
6:30am, 8:30am, 12:00 noon  
and 7:30pm

#### FIRST FRIDAYS:

Exposition: 9:00 - 11:45am  
Benediction of the  
Blessed Sacrament:  
11:45am  
**Eucharistic Holy Hour:**  
Sunday: 5:00pm  
Third Thursdays: 7:00pm

#### CONFESSIONS:

Friday: 11:15 - 11:45am  
Saturday: 3:30 - 4:30pm &  
7:30 - 8:00pm and by appt.

#### RECTORY HOURS:

Weekdays 9:00am - 9:00pm  
(closed 12:45 - 1:30pm)  
Saturday 9:00am - 1:30pm

## **Stewardship: Year End Giving Opportunities**

### **Tax Savings Through a Gift of Stock**

Consider a gift of stock as a **donation to our parish or school**. In exchange for a gift of long-term, appreciated securities (stock), you can receive an income tax deduction and avoid capital gains taxes on stock appreciation. For more information, please call (703) 841-3896 or visit:

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/giving/gifts\\_stock.aspx](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/giving/gifts_stock.aspx)

### **Make a Gift through a Tax-Free IRA Gift**

Individuals age 70½ or older can make tax-free gifts from an IRA directly to our parish or school. To complete an IRA Charitable Rollover for 2018 please contact your IRA provider for exact instructions.

### **CLERGY**

Very Rev. Patrick L. Posey, V.F., Pastor  
Rev. Joseph Vu, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Steven Oetjen, Parochial Vicar  
Rev. José E. Hoyos, Hispanic Apostolate\*  
Rev. Ghenghan Mbinkar, In Residence  
Rev. Denis Tameh, In Residence  
Rev. Gregory Thompson, In Residence  
Deacon James A. Fishenden  
Deacon Edward Gliot

### **SCHOOL**

830 W. Broad Street, Falls Church, Va. 22046  
Phone: 703-533-1182; Fax: 703-532-8316  
**Sister Mary Sue Carwile, IHM, Principal**  
[mainoffice@saintjamesschool.org](mailto:mainoffice@saintjamesschool.org)

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

703-533-1182 x104  
**Sister Regina Rosarii McLallen, IHM, Director**  
[religioused@saintjamesschool.org](mailto:religioused@saintjamesschool.org)

### **MINISTRY TO THE SICK**

If anyone is confined to home or hospital, please call 703-532-8815 x130  
**Sister Margaret John Stichter, IHM, Director**  
[visitingministry@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:visitingministry@stjamescatholic.org)

### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

**Dan Day, Director**  
703-532-8815 [dday@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:dday@stjamescatholic.org)

### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Fr. Steven Oetjen**  
703-532-8815 [fatheroetjen@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:fatheroetjen@stjamescatholic.org)

### **CONVENT**

101 N. Spring Street, Falls Church, Va. 22046  
703-532-2388  
**Sister Mary Sue Carwile, IHM, Superior**

### **\*HISPANIC APOSTOLATE**

200 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, Va. 22203  
703-841-3883

### **RECTORY OFFICE**

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*Child protection and safety coordinator*

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*Sacramental records, baptisms, registrations, address changes and room reservations*

### **Judy Burke, Receptionist**

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### **Anne Rohall-Andrade, St. James Disability Inclusion Committee Liaison**

[rohalla17@gmail.com](mailto:rohalla17@gmail.com) or 202-841-3489

### **ADVANCEMENT**

**Christine Kurtzke Hughes, Director**  
703-532-8815 x131 [advancement@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:advancement@stjamescatholic.org)  
*Faculty and school support, alumni relations, marketing, planned giving and other charitable donation opportunities*

*Bulletin Deadline: Friday at 9:00am  
10 days before Sunday publication date  
Via website form posted under  
Events/Bulletin/Bulletin Submissions.*

## *From Our Pastor*

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*"Thus says the LORD: You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel." Micah 5:1*

*"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord." Luke 1:38*

*"Sometimes, said Pooh, the smallest things take up the most room in your heart."  
A.A. Milne*

The last quote may seem a little out of place, but it reinforces a theme that from seemingly insignificant beginnings, wondrous things can happen. Bethlehem was seen as the runt of the litter among the clans of Judah, but it was there that another king was born, David. The youngest of eight sons, sinful and prideful, it was nevertheless brave and devout David who united the tribes. A young, poor, teenage woman, of no real legal status except as a daughter or wife, would likewise bring forth world-altering change through the birth of her son, our Lord. Her strength, faith, and trust in God became a model for millions of people across the centuries.

We are just days away from the arrival of our Savior, and it is fitting that we focus our Gospel on Mary. While each Gospel begins with a reference to John the Baptist, it is Matthew and Luke who mention Christ's birth: Matthew with the genealogy, but Luke with the Annunciation. It is Luke who brings Mary's role front and center. Without her "yes" there would be no start of Mark's Gospel proclaiming the "gospel of Jesus Christ," or the fulfillment of the Word in John.

We tend to discount the small, outcast or vulnerable among us. We look past them, labeling them as weak or lazy or just "different." God chose to come to us as a small, vulnerable outcast. In turn, He chose people to follow him that were, at the very least, unlikely choices: itinerant fishermen, tax collectors, women (some of whom of questionable backgrounds) and even one who would betray Him. A refugee who became a simple carpenter fashioned a faith of mercy, compassion, and love.

It is Love which our fourth Advent candle symbolizes today. A love without constraints, and limitless hope; a love which places others before self; a love which grows as it is dispersed. It is this great gift I pray you find not just this Tuesday the 25th, but always.

We conclude our Advent series today with a reflection from seventh-grade student, Sophia Romualdez. As Luke does, she asks us to focus on Mary and her example of tremendous love, and how we, in turn, can be an example of this to others. I am grateful to her and her fellow Rockets: Natnael Tamirat, Catherine Crone and Nicolas Rugo, and to their parents and teachers who supported them in their film "debuts!" I hope that these reflections have added to your Advent experience and that in the quiet of our beautiful Church God's Word came to rest in your hearts.

~ Fr. Posey

## Mass Intentions for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

### **Saturday, December 22**

5:00 p.m. +Jan Hissong and Willard King, Sr. and Peter Christian

### **Sunday, December 23**

7:30 a.m. People of St. James

9:00 a.m. +Ed Scheid and Suzann Scheid Southworth

10:30 a.m. +Gregorio Urmeneta and Felipe Brazil

Noon +Mary Louise Clemens

2:30 p.m. + Bertha Depaz

7:00 p.m. +Ms. Lucille Maroon

### **Monday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)**

6:30 a.m. +Mary Boland

8:30 a.m. +Kathleen Wilkinson

Noon Patrick A. Morrison

5:00 p.m. +Brian Bulger

7:00 p.m. +Fr. Peter Fehlner

9:00 p.m. +George Martini

### **Tuesday, December 25 (Christmas Day)**

Midnight +John J. Hyland, Jr. and Carol Hyland

7:30 a.m. +Steve and Ligaya Valentin

9:00 a.m. +Danny and Ana Diaz

10:30 a.m. +Zacharia T. Coipuram

Noon + Ed Scheid and Suzann Scheid Southworth

2:30pm +Souls in Purgatory

### **Wednesday, December 26**

6:30 a.m. Amelita Sunga

8:30 a.m. + Ed Scheid and Suzann Scheid Southworth

Noon + Annette Morris

### **Thursday, December 27**

6:30 a.m. +Ricardo Sunga

8:30 a.m. +William Olcheski

Noon + Joseph William Gelven, Jr.

### **Friday, December 28**

6:30 a.m. +John McGlone

8:30 a.m. +Hugh and Ann O'Hara

Noon +Marcelina Guinot

### **Saturday, December 29**

8:30 a.m. +Mary Maguire

5:00 p.m. +Carmine F. and Rose Marie Mattiello

### **Sunday, December 30**

7:30 a.m. +James Fauntleroy

9:00 a.m. People of St. James

10:30 a.m. +Rufino and Rosalina Llavore

Noon +Carol Kapitan

2:30 p.m. + Souls in Purgatory

7:00 p.m. +C. Anders

## This Week's Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Monday: Vigil of Christmas

Tuesday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Wednesday: St. Stephen; First Day of Kwanzaa

Thursday: St. John

Friday: The Holy Innocents

Saturday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket

### Today's Readings

**First Reading** — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).

**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

**Gospel** — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 2669, 2681, 2697, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved

### Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Tuesday: **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]

**Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

**Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

**Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59;

Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28;

Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10;

Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24;

Lk 2:41-52

Please see Page Ten for our Parish Sick and Deceased Lists, as well the list of those who are currently overseas serving our country during this Christmas season. Please be sure to remember each person on these lists in your prayers.

“Be doers of the word, and not just listeners”

— James 1:22



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On Thursday, December 6, St. Nicholas Day, our Second and Eighth Grade students worked hard to bring some Christmas cheer to others, spending time together wrapping presents for underprivileged students at St. Barnabas in Philadelphia.

Their work truly captured the values of the Christmas season, especially the sharing of Christmas joy through service and kindness!

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## Reflection for the Fourth Week of Advent

As we conclude our special Advent Reflection Video Series, we are mindful that we are just days away from the birth that changed our world forever. On this final Sunday of Advent, let us give thanks to Mary, our Blessed Mother. She trusted God and was strong in the face of the unknown. Her faith is an example to us still.



**Readings:** Micah 5:1-4A; Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

**Read the Readings:** <https://bit.ly/2Beg4XG>

**Watch the Reflection:** <https://bit.ly/2zNzEKk>

**Reflection Question:** Who do you model your life after? Has their faith impacted you? How can you be an example of faith to others?

### Rectory Office Hours During the Christmas Holiday

The Rectory Offices will maintain the following hours over the Christmas Holiday, but will be operating with limited staff.

**Monday, December 24:** 9:00am – 5:00pm  
**Tuesday, December 25:** Closed  
**Wednesday, December 26:** 9:00am – 5:00pm  
**Thursday, December 27:** 9:00am – 5:00pm  
**Friday, December 28:** 9:00am – 5:00pm

The Rectory Offices will be open for normal hours, with full staff, 9:00am – 9:00pm, on Monday, December 31. We will be closed on January 1, and will be open on January 2, from 9:00am to 5:00pm with limited staffing. We will resume normal operating hours on January 3.

**If you have an urgent spiritual need during the times when the Office is not open, do not hesitate to call our emergency line at 703-336-3336.**

### Mass of Special Intentions on December 26

We will hold our monthly Mass of Special Intentions at 6:30pm on Wednesday, December 26. This Mass, held on the fourth Wednesday of every month, is designed to meet the needs of parishioners who have a special intention of our Lord. Intentions can be written in the Book of Intentions in the vestibule, or left in the prayer intention boxes in the vestibules. You can also contact the Rectory office at 703-532-8815.





**St. James 2018  
Christmas Masses**

**Christmas Eve (December 24)  
The Vigil of the  
Nativity of our Lord**

5:00pm (Children's Mass), 7:00pm, 9:00pm, Midnight

**Christmas Day (December 25)  
The Nativity of our Lord (A Holy Day of Obligation)**  
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am, Noon, and  
2:30pm (Misa en Español)

**New Year's Eve (December 31)  
Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**  
7:30pm



**New Year's Day (January 1, 2019)  
The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God  
(A Holy Day of Obligation)**

6:30am, 8:30am, Noon, and 2:30pm (Misa en Español),  
and 7:30pm



“and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” Luke 2:7

**2 Days 'til Christmas – How Will you Spiritually Celebrate the Birth of our Lord?**

## St. James Celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12

On the evening of December 12, the Hispanic community of St. James gathered to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This annual celebration of the Blessed Virgin's appearance to Juan Diego, a Mexican farmer, on the morning of December 9, 1531, is one of the most solemn and joyous religious feasts in Central and South America. A Mass was held, followed by a solemn, torchlight procession, as well as a social event in Knecht Gymnasium that featured the foods, dances, and music of those regions. All had a joyous time. In case you missed it, here are some photographs from the event.







## Christmas Wafers (Oplatek) Available Now

Traditional Christmas wafers, known as Oplatek, a part of every traditional Christmas Eve supper in central Europe, are now available for your Christmas Eve supper here in the St. James community. If you would like to include this traditional wafer in your dinner, contact Connie Donnelly, 703-237-7935. To learn more about the Oplatek Wafers, visit <https://n.pr/2EgzU8p>.



## New Year Bringing New Parking Changes Around St. James

As many of you know, the City of Falls Church has approved construction of the Founders Row development, which will include 93,000 square feet of retail space and 400 apartments. Founders Row will occupy the entire space adjacent to the St. James Convent field and House of Ministries, bordered by Broad Street, West Street, and Park Avenue. Construction is expected to begin early in the new year, and take three years to complete, bringing the local traffic disruptions one would expect from such a massive project. To encourage Founders Row customers to park in the development's parking garage, the City is implementing permanent parking restrictions on Park Avenue between West Street and Spring Street. The Church side of Park Avenue will be restricted to two-hour parking; the residential side of Park Avenue will be limited to resident-only parking. If you have been parking on the residential side of Park Avenue to attend Mass and other events at St. James, now is a good time to change your parking habits. To avoid the expected construction-related traffic disruptions and the new parking restrictions, remember that you may park in any of our parking lots: at Park & Spring Streets (A Lot); at Park & Oak Streets (B Lot); and in the Teacher's Lot (C Lot) off of Broad Street. All three lots are a city block or more away from the construction site.



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## Is The New Year Bringing You More Free Time? If So, Spend It With Us!

Whether you're new to St. James Parish or a long-standing member, if you have time to share your valuable talents and resources; we are looking for help! St. James has many ministries, projects, and activities where we need volunteers to participate or lead. If you're interested in giving your time or have questions about our various groups, please contact the rectory at 703-532-8815, visit our website at [www.stjamescatholic.org/volunteer](http://www.stjamescatholic.org/volunteer), or send an email to [volunteer@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:volunteer@stjamescatholic.org).

**The Priests, Deacons, IHM Sisters, Teachers, and  
Rectory Staff of St. James  
Wish Each of You a Blessed and Joyous  
Christmas!**

## December Prayer Intention of Pope Francis

### **Evangelization – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith**

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

## ***This Week in Our Parish***

### **Sunday, December 23**

3:45pm – 6:00pm	Grupo de Oracion Emmanuel	Heller Hall – Door 13
4:30pm – 6:00pm	Hispanic Legion of Mary	House of Ministries – 913 Park Avenue

### **Monday, December 24 Rectory Offices Open 9:00am – 5:00pm with Limited Staff**

### **Tuesday, December 25 – Christmas Day – See Mass Schedule on Page Seven, Rectory Offices Closed, School on Holiday Until January 2**

### **Wednesday, December 26 – Rectory Offices Open 9:00am – 5:00pm, Limited Staff**

### **Thursday, December 27 – Rectory Offices Open 9:00am – 5:00pm, Limited Staff**

7:30pm – 9:00pm	Legion of Mary	House of Ministries – 913 Park Avenue
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### **Friday, December 28 – Rectory Offices Open 9:00am – 5:00pm, Limited Staff**

11:15am – 11:45am	Confessions	Church
7:00pm – 9:00pm	Grupo Santiago Apostol Bible Study	Knecht Conference Room – Doors 8 & 9

### **Saturday, December 29**

3:30pm – 4:30pm	Confessions	Church
5:30pm – 9:00pm	Grupo Santiago Apostol	Heller Hall
7:30pm – 8:30pm	Confessions	Church

### ***Remember in Your Prayers...***

#### **the sick of our parish family:**

Frank Amorosi	Jeannie Hunt
Janice Chory	Joan La Rocca
Joseph Claffy	Ann McDermott
Ernestine Elguera	Mary Remshard
Dorra Dee Estes	Conley Rohall
Elizabeth Fielder	Anne Rohall-Andrade
Patricia Gaughan	Ann Smith
Jose Mario Gerez	

#### **and the deceased of our parish family:**

Nancy Bartosavage  
Jim Bellor  
Ruth Cooray  
Maryjane Gardner

### ***Pray for Those Serving Our Country***

Please pray for our disabled veterans, military retirees, and those serving overseas in the military and foreign service, especially **Justin Berg**,



**Capt. Albert C. Young, Michele Petersen, and Roger VanSanford.** Please send names to [bulletin@stjamescatholic.org](mailto:bulletin@stjamescatholic.org), and let us know when your loved ones return home.

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that if we ask anything according to His  
will, He hears us.”  
1 John 5:14*



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