

Historic St. James at Sag Bridge Church

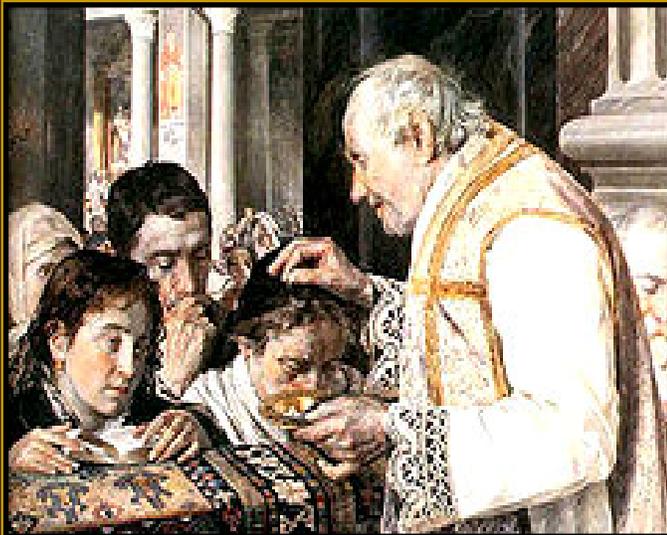
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Facebook: <https://Facebook.com/Saint James At Sag Bridge>

Founded in 1833, St. James at Sag Bridge is the sole country parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago, serving a growing community of Catholics who come together to worship God through the celebration of the Eucharist and traditional devotional activities within truly unique and beautiful surroundings. Our faith-filled community strives to bear witness to Jesus Christ by loving and serving one another to bring about the Kingdom of God.

February 26, 2017
Eighth Ordinary Sunday



DO NOT
WORRY
ABOUT
TOMORROW
TOMORROW
WILL
TAKE CARE OF
ITSELF.
-MATTHEW 6

Register with www.formed.org & use our
St. James' code: KFWMDB (ALL CAPS)

Listen to *The Winds of Change* 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm on WNDZ AM 750. Fr. Koys substitutes every other Wednesday. Visit: windsofchangeshow.com, Fr. Koys' e-mail: unlikeother-nations@gmail.com. Register on Flocknotes to receive important text messages and emails. Text: jamesatsag to 84576

MASS SCHEDULE:

WEEKENDS: Saturdays: 5:00pm
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30 & 11:30am

HOLY DAYS: 8:15am & 7:00pm

WEEKDAYS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:
8:15am & Fridays 6:00pm

Wednesday: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
at 5:00-7:00pm, w/Confessions at 6:15pm & Mass
at 7:00pm.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

Saturdays, 9:30am-10:00am

Wednesdays, 6:30pm

Otherwise by appointment

BAPTISMS:

Sundays after the 11:30am Mass by appointment
(at least one parent must be a registered parishioner).

WEDDINGS:

Minimum eight months in advance. At least one
spouse must be a registered parishioner. Marriage
preparation by appointment only.

FUNERALS:

For families of registered parishioners, or for
non-parishioners to be buried in our own cemetery.

SICK & HOMEBOUND PASTORAL CARE:

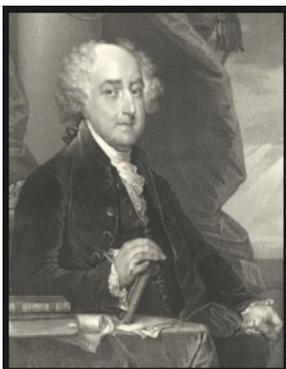
Please notify rectory.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9:30am to 1:00pm

APOSTOLIC DISCIPLES:

Fr. Thomas Koys, M.A., S.T.L., Pastor □ Fr. Ed Gleeson, Pastor Emeritus □ Deacon, John M. Wilkinson, CKM, Minister of Care/RCIA □ Deacon, Doug Szarzynski, □ Ann Noonan, Secretary/Bus. Mgr. □ Mike Dillenburg, Parish Council Chair □ Doug Witter, Finance Council Chair □ Pamela Mikrut, Organist □ Rodney Poynter, Holy Name Society, President □ Margaret Ryan, Altar & Rosary □ Giovanna Imbarrato, CCD Teacher □ Mary Coughlin-Lenzen CCD Teacher □ Steve Hagen CCD Teacher □ Bunny Heppner, CCD Teacher, & Joyce McNamara-Coughlin, CCD Director.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR, FR. THOMAS KOYS, M.A.,S.T.L.

For those not fortunate enough to have been able to attend the dramatic story of the life and times of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, in the historical new play *"The Adams Jefferson Letters"* last week in Ottawa IL, there is one quote in particular that you simply must hear.

Of the hundreds of letters and correspondence written by these two most noteworthy Founding Fathers of our Nation, the play highlights the way that these two formerly bitter political enemies, who were once very close Revolutionary friends, share their hearts and minds in order to patch up old wounds and as John Adams says, "explain ourselves to one another". What I found most interesting, as a believing Catholic was the way that their political discussions so seamlessly morphed into discussions of theology.

Both men were Christians. Prayers, the bible and religious communities were significant parts of these early President's lives. Jefferson, however, was, by all accounts the more "progressive, free thinking" believer. And although both had their negative impressions of Catholicism, it is fascinating to find in John Adams a golden thread of Catholic ideology. Take this quote from Adam's letter to Jefferson, dated Feb 2, 1816.

"To trace the commencement of the Reformation I suspect we must go farther back than Borgia or even than Huss or Wickliff and I want the *Acta Sanctorum* to assist me in this research." "The morality of Tacitus is the morality of patriotism and Britain and France have adopted his creed. "All this was made for Rome" he would say. He denies that laws were made for him." "Jesus despised and condemned this patriotism. But what nation or what Christian has adopted his system?"

Permit me to explain where golden threads of Catholicism maybe found in Adam's musings. This letter refers to the Protestant Reformation of the 16th century. The intensity of Adams' and Jefferson's interest in this still rather new development shouts to us how important that chapter in human history is to understand the foundations of present day America. Both Adams and Jefferson wanted to understand the Reformation. But notice that Adams seeks to go further back into

history than Borgia, Huss and Wickliff. Here in lies the Catholic mystique. For a great many Protestant thinkers, understanding the Reformation begins with 1517: Luther's "revolution". Adams instinctively realizes that Christianity has a history that goes back even farther. And in this he is so right. That Christianity's history was "bumpy" or "a mixed bag of good and bad" no Catholic would deny. But it was a history. It is our history. The next point that Adams makes about the *Acta Sanctorum* also points to a Catholic ideological principle. Adams yearns to know more about the stories of the "saints" contained in the lives of the saints from antiquity to the middle ages. Even though Adams assumed he would find many "silly" or "superstitious" stories of saints, his very curiosity to read them shows a belief that there were Christian saints throughout the centuries. This is a great departure from the common Protestant view that Christianity died in the Apostolic times and was only resurrected by Martin Luther and the "reformers".

And a third marvelous Catholic principle is found in Adam's critique of "Patriotic Christianity". He sensed that the faith of Jesus Christ was never meant to become the spiritual playbook for one nation's victory over another. In other words, Adams recognized that Christianity was meant to be "international" in scope, not so nationalistic that it cared little about other nations. Oh, how I wish I could let Adams know that the very meaning of the word "Catholic" means "universal". He could have been encouraged to swim the Tiber.



Let today be the day you give up who you've been for you who can become.

ASH WEDNESDAY:

Masses & Ashes will be 7:00am & 7:00pm

ASHES ONLY will be 3:00pm

NO 8:15AM MASS

FRIDAYS' OF LENT:

5:45pm is Soup Supper in Sag Hall & Scripture.

7:00pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass.



**BEFORE GIVING UP CHOCOLATE (AGAIN) FOR LENT,
DO AN EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE.**

By *Denise Deverts*

Ash Wednesday is on the horizon; and soon Catholics everywhere will begin to think about their personal observation of the Lenten season. Some already know well in advance which soft vice they will be forgoing because they have made a tradition of abstaining from the same "guilty pleasure" every year. Others, by comparison, will be making a game-time decision. Regardless of whether or which of these two camps you fall into, I encourage you this year to take a step back and consider why it is that you are engaging in the specific form of self-denial that you have chosen. While you're at it, perhaps you might ask yourself whether the sacrifice you are making really is the one that Jesus wants you to make.

Lent is a time of prayer and penance; of devoting ourselves to the contemplation of scripture and the enacting of spiritual and corporal works of mercy. It is a time of quiet simplicity that affords us the opportunity to become reacquainted with Jesus and to renew our appreciation of his sacrifice. Fasting can be an important contributor to that simplicity; but it also can be a distraction from it. Rather than focusing on the passion and death of our Savior, we concentrate on counting the days until we can eat our next piece of chocolate or drink our next *grande* espresso.

Certainly no one can be faulted for looking forward to Easter. But we shouldn't be anticipating this holiest of days because it marks the end of Lent and our subsequent return to the normal routine. Easter isn't about maintaining the status quo. Rather it is about new life; fresh starts; in a word, resurrection. If you don't wake up on Easter morning feeling like you can personally share in the joy of Jesus' rising, you've missed an important opportunity.

I don't want to miss my chance again this year; and I don't want you to miss yours either. For this reason, I suggest we all conduct a thorough examination of conscience, and honestly identify the thoughts, actions, and attitudes that frustrate our efforts to become more like Jesus. These aren't necessarily major offenses; they're the small things we do every day without even thinking: withholding compliments; forgetting to say thank you; feigning partial somnambulism so that we don't have to say "good morning" to our neighbors.

Though not quite the same as candy, bacon, or *Netflix* bingeing, negative actions and attitudes are still self-indulgences that create for us a sort of comfort zone out of which we are unlikely to venture. Accordingly, giving up these sorts of self-indulgences for Lent might be just as difficult as it is other types of personal extravagances; perhaps even more so.

But, there is a very important difference between forgoing daily negativity relative to forgoing daily pleasures: When Lent is over, you likely won't hurry out the door with the specific purpose of finding someone to snub or to mentally disparage

because of their membership in a particular out-group. Rather, you'll wake up on Easter morning having established a new positive habit; having become a person who greets everyone with a smile or someone

their membership in a particular out-group. Rather, you'll wake up on Easter morning having established a new positive habit; having become a person who greets everyone with a smile or someone on whom people can rely to be a good and attentive listener. Perhaps you will have become someone who sees Jesus in others and who allows others to see Jesus reflected in them.

St. Paul implores us to think of ourselves as being "dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus" (Romans 6:11). Let's make sure we do both this year: die to sin during Lent and gain new life in Jesus on Easter.

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN

St. James Holy Name is looking for a Few Good Men to Participate in our Men's Day of Reflection Saturday March 4th 9AM-2:30 PM

This year our parish is hosting the combined effort of the Men's Group from the Lemont Tri-Parishes (*St. Alphonsus, St. Cyril & Methodius, and St. Patrick's*)

The day will include Two Spiritual Talks, Holy Mass, confession, History of St James Cemetery, Lunch (Falco's Pizza) & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction.

In many cases men are often reluctant to participate in Spiritual activities other than Sunday Mass. Often when men come together they are more open to sharing their faith. There is a willingness to move deeper into the mystery of faith. You need not be a HNS member to participate. Just willing to increase and share your Spiritual life with other Catholic Men. I invite all men of our parish to take some time, Saturday March 4th, mark this as the beginning of your 2017 Lenten journey. I am sure you will be happy you did.

Deacon John, C.K.M.

TRUST ME, I'M A DOCTOR

When you visit your doctor you expect him to make you well and to ease your aches and pains.

But what does the doctor expect of you?

He expects you to trust him, and to believe he has your best interests at heart.

Your relationship would not be the same if you thought your doctor was inexperienced or incompetent in any way.

And when you seek advice from your lawyer, he expects you to trust him and to act on his counsel.

And when you turn to God with all your woes and worries, He too expects you to trust Him and to know what He is doing.

He does not expect you to tell Him in every detail how He should solve your problems. "THY WILL BE DONE."

Our
Weekly Offering



Our *Weekly Offertory* collections from Sunday, February 12, 2017 was \$5,087. The number of envelopes was 111.

OUR MANY THANKS TO OUR REGISTERED FAMILIES USING ENVELOPES AND THE CASH-AND-CARRY FOLKS.

Our **CHURCH CLEANERS FOR FRIDAY 3/03/17**

Are Diane and Sandy.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the rectory office 630.257.7000.



**VOTIVE OFFERINGS FOR
THE WEEK OF 2/26/17**



**St. James Altar & Rosary Society
Birthday Blessings for Baron Golom
In memory of †Lillian Simanavicius
Special int. for Karen Simmons
Speedy recovery for Rich Tito**



Our beautiful bouquets of flowers surrounding our altar were made available by the generosity of **ST. JAMES PARISIONERS**
THANK YOU!

1st Sunday of Lent 3/4 & 3/5/17	Celebrant	Altar Servers	Lectors
5:00 PM	Fr. Tom Koys	J. Beecher J. Beecher J. Beecher	R. Augustyn
8:00 AM	Fr. Ed Gleeson	S. Carver Dillenburg Dillenburg	C. Slowik
9:30 AM	Fr. Tom Koys	A. Bertucci J. Strzelczyk J. Strzelczyk	P. Brunk
11:30 AM	Fr. Bret, L.C.	G. & D. Estrada E. & L. Glenn J. Jacobek	S. Hagen



Monday February 27th
8:15 AM *Birthday Blessings for Radomir Fugiel*

Tuesday February 28th
8:15 AM †Larry McIntosh

Wednesday March 1st-ASH WEDNESDAY
7:00 AM *For Peace Among the Nations*
3:00 PM **ASHES ONLY, NO MASS**
7:00 PM †Jerzy Brukasz

Thursday March 2nd
8:15 AM *Prayerful Wishes Society*

Friday March 3rd-St. Katherine Drexel
5:45PM **Soup Supper in Sag Hall**
7:00 PM **Stations of the Cross followed by**
Mass, Blessings & Thanksgiving-Raj Family

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday March 4th-St. Casimir
5:00 PM †Florence Bernacchi

Sunday March 5th
8:00 AM †Henry Slosowski
9:30 AM †Raymond Arndt
11:30 AM †Robert Beedy



Evening Masses & Stations of the Cross	Altar Servers	Lectors
3/01/17 ASH WED 7:00 AM		M. Fleckenstein
3/01/17 ASH WED 7:00 PM	Dooley Dooley J. Jacobek	S. Hagen
3/03/17 FRIDAY 7:00 PM	S. Carver Lawler Lawler	P. Brunk