

Under the Steeple

ST. JAMES PARISH



INSIDE This Issue

Come Back to Church	2
New Mission Statement	2
Holy Week Schedule	3
Faith Formation	3
Scrip Update	3
Dinner/Dance-June 19th	4
From the Office	4
Meet the New Sexton	5
Bishop's Appeal Update	5

THE LORD BE WITH YOU!

"...This is my beloved Son, listen to Him" Mark 9:7

After witnessing the transfiguration of Jesus in the mountain of Tabor, Peter and the other disciples heard the voice of the Father declaring that Jesus is His Beloved Son and commanding them to listen to him. As the Son of God, Jesus shares in the eternity and divinity of the Father. He was sent by the Father into the world for a mission. The mission is no less than to save His people from the slavery of sin. Jesus has to accomplish this mission through his Paschal Mystery, His suffering, death and triumphant resurrection. God commanded the disciples to listen to Jesus so that they would not stop Jesus in fulfilling his mission. Instead, they would learn to cooperate in God's plan.

Lent is a season to recall God's plan

of salvation fulfilled by His Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Our recollection of Jesus' Paschal Mystery should lead us to participation in God's plan for us. In order for us to be saved as God planned, it is imperative to obey our Father's command "LISTEN TO HIM." Just as during this time of pandemic, we listen to the directives of the authorities for our safety. In the same way, we can only be saved if we are going to listen attentively to Jesus. He is our savior, the "Son of the living God." (John 6:69) We must turn to him for our salvation. He alone has "the Words of eternal life". We must listen to Him.

The holy season of Lent calls us to perform the spiritual disciplines of

Continued on page 3



WEBSITE PROGRESS

Do you know what a favicon is? I didn't until I started helping put together a new website for St. James. A favicon is a tiny icon that helps visitors on your webpage locate it easier when they have multiple tabs open.

The "Circle of Faith" linkage of five churches is slowly moving apart because there are now two priests assigned: Father Santy for St. James and St. Joseph's, and Father Xavier Amirtham for All Saints/Holy Trinity and St. Mary's, called the "Triangle of Faith." The five parish councils had met jointly when we were all under the care of Father Ron to coordinate things, but after he retired, the diocese felt that the

by Jean Schleis

"Circle" was too much for one person. We were separated, and new leadership was assigned to each cluster. The Triangle of Faith has already created a new and separate website. We still share a few ministries in the Circle, most notably the bulletin and grief ministry.

Our new website will include both St. James and St. Joseph's. The URL, stjamesandstjoseph.org will take visitors to a home page that will open a door to each separate

church. The committee that is building the new site aims to make it user friendly, and unlike the old one, it will be mobile friendly for viewing on a tablet or phone. And the key to having a good website is to keep updating the information. Office staff, as well as other key volunteers will keep everything current.

We are able to use a lot of photos on the new site which will make it more interesting. Posed pictures are good, but action ones will tell a story. If anyone has church photos they would like to submit for consideration, please send them by email to jjschleis@charter.net. Watch for the launch of the new website at the end of March.



CAN YOU COME OUT AND PLAY?



Remember when you were a kid, and neighborhood friends would knock on your door and ask if you could come out to play? It was al-

ways fun getting together with the neighbors for a game of kickball or hide and seek.

Today, Jesus is knocking on your door asking if you can come out

and join the parish family at church. Instead of watching the livestream Mass from home, come in person to be with Jesus and your fellow parishioners. When you watch from home, there is no connection to other people. As Christians, we are members of something bigger than ourselves—Christ’s body on earth.

As more and more people get vaccinated against the coronavirus, we hope that they will feel more comfortable back in the pews. Slowly, more and more people are feel-

ing okay to travel, eat in restaurants, or go to other social gatherings. Contracting Covid 19 by going to church is unlikely. All the safety protocols are still in place at St. James: temperature taking, distancing, masks, hand sanitizing, etc.

The circumstances may be less than ideal, and many things will have a new look, but the benefits of gathering in community far outweigh the deterrents. It is safe, we miss you, and God loves you!

Can you come out and pray?

PASTORAL COUNCIL WRITES NEW MISSION STATEMENT

For the past 6 months, the Pastoral Council has been planning a revision to our Parish Mission Statement. A Mission Statement is one-sentence that describes the reason an organization or program exists. It is used to help guide decisions about priorities, actions, and responsibilities.

The best church mission statements are:

- Inspirational: They inspire as well as inform.
- Intentional: The focus should be obvious, but flexible enough to allow for interpretation.
- Concise: Short, clear, and understandable.
- Unique: It should be local and homegrown, not copied from somewhere else.



This mission statement meets all those criteria. There were a couple of word choices tossed around before arriving at the exact meaning of what we wanted to convey. Council members liked the word “cultivate” as it expressed the rural nature of our church. The ending words, “mission and ministry of the Catholic Church” are taken directly from the diocesan mission statement, aligning our purpose and values with theirs.

What do you think?

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



		St. James	St. Joseph
Holy Thursday	<i>Commemoration of the Last Supper</i>	7:30pm	5:00pm
Good Friday	<i>The Crucifixion</i>	6:00pm	3:00pm
Holy Saturday	<i>Vigil outside the tomb</i>	8:00pm	8:00pm
Easter Sunday	<i>HE IS RISEN</i>	8:00am	10:00am

All Triduum Services at St. James will be livestreamed on Facebook

The Diocese of Green Bay issued new liturgical guidelines to assist parishes during Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum. For the safety of all, the Diocesan guidelines for monitoring attendance, wearing masks, and taking temperatures have not changed.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

by Traci Hickey



FAITH FORMATION has been adopted as the new title of our religious education program. Many parishes around the diocese are making this change, including the Diocese itself. It more accurately reflects what we are trying to do as we share our faith with our youth. Faith Formation is a process that takes many years; the program for our children is part of that process, which is intended to compliment the faith formation taking place at home.

Classes continue on an alternating week schedule, with in person and at home lessons. They will conclude on March 24, for grades one through ten.

Second grade students and parents will have their First Communion Bread Party/Retreat on Saturday, March 20. They will be welcomed to the table and receive their First Holy Communion at a 1:00pm Mass on Sunday, April 11.

Eleventh grade students from both St. James and St. Joseph Parishes have been preparing for Confirmation under the guidance of Deacon Dan Gray. It is scheduled for Sunday, May 16, here at St. James with Fr. Santy presiding, having been granted the "faculty to confirm" from Bishop Ricken.

Regarding fall classes.....Decisions have not yet been made how we will manage the program. We look for guidance from the diocese, along with state and local governments. More communication will be shared as soon as possible.

THE LORD BE WITH YOU...continued from page 1



praying, fasting and almsgiving. We can only observe these spiritual

exercises if we listen to Jesus. Jesus is telling us to pray, "Pray so that you may not fall into temptation" Mt. 26:41. Likewise Jesus is commanding us to "Repent and believe in the gospel" Mk. 1:15. Listening to Jesus leads us to fol-

low his example. Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights in the desert and he became strong before temptations. Fasting, and acts of sacrifice strengthen us to overcome the temptations of sin. A strong sense of sacrifice makes us sensitive to the needs of our brothers and sisters and helps us, in the spirit of charity, to recognize Jesus in their faces. "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited



**St. James Enrollment Code
F586EAAC69944**

SCRIP was introduced to the parish in December 2020. SCRIP is a wonderful and easy way to earn funds to support the parish. Gift cards from a large variety of merchants can be purchased and redeemed at face value. The merchants give a percentage back to the church, with rebates ranging from 2 to 25%.

We have a handful of people participating so far, and the parish has earned \$540.00. Imagine the earning potential if everyone participated! It's easy, and these are purchases we all make every day: groceries and gas, clothing and home needs, dining and entertainment.

Faith Formation families can designate their student(s) to receive credits towards their fees. Eighty percent of the earnings will be deducted from your child's fee. This will run according to the fiscal year; by June 30, 2021 for this fall.

It's easy to order, either online at shopwithscrip.com or with the cell phone app "RaiseRight". With either option you will need St. James Enrollment Code:

F586EAAC69944

Manual orders are also processed. Order forms, available in the office and in church, can be turned in by US mail, the offertory baskets, or in person.

As a parish, there is no limit to the potential for earnings, ALL YEAR LONG!

me." Mt.25:35

In our Lenten journey, let us adhere to the words of our Father in heaven. Let us adore Jesus. He is the Only Begotten Son of God. He is our Savior. Let us listen to him. I pray that through the intercession of Mary, Our Lady of Good Help and St. James our Patron Saint, that God strengthen us in this journey, protect us from evil and free us from any kind of illness. God bless us all.

In Christ,

COME TO A SUMMER FUN NIGHT

by Dawn Rabas



A new name has been chosen for our Fundraiser. The Valentine Dinner and Dance was supposed to be held in February, but due to COVID-19 we postponed it and chose a new name. It will be called:

Summer Night Dinner and Dance

- ⇒ Mark your calendar for Saturday June 19. The Dinner and Dance will be at Gatherings 43 directly behind DeGrand Family Restaurant in Denmark.
 - ⇒ Dinner tickets will be \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. They will go on sale in May and will be available at DeGrand Family Restaurant, after Mass on Saturdays and Sundays at St. James, in the parish office or by check to the office specifying Dinner and Dance. Your tickets will be at the registration table when you arrive
 - ⇒ 5 pm Registration, Silent Auction and Raffles begin
 - ⇒ 6 pm Banquet Dinner featuring Chicken and Swedish Meatballs with the works
 - ⇒ Live Auction following Dinner
 - ⇒ 8 pm Mark Jirikovec Band will play for your enjoyment
 - ⇒ Silent Auction, Bucket Raffles, Dessert Raffles, 50/50, and other games with chances to win great prizes
- Invite your family and friends to this delicious meal and great music. Catch up with neighbors and friends you haven't seen during the pandemic.

Why You Should Come

- ♥ All your neighbors and friends will be there
- ♥ You'll love the delicious sit down dinner at Gatherings 43
- ♥ Live music to dance to or tap your toe to
- ♥ There's a Silent Auction—here are a few of the unique articles:

Gazing Ball & Stand	Kitchen Baskets	Bloody Mary & Margarita Baskets
Children's Baskets	Women's themed Baskets	Men's Themed Baskets
- ♥ Live Auction Items:

Fishing Trip	Packer Game Package	Handcrafted Wooden Bench
Wine Tasting Tour	Mary Ellen's Famous Cookies of the Month	

This fundraiser provides St. James with funds for ordinary and capital expenses. If you haven't donated or volunteered to help yet, please consider doing so. If you have any questions, please call Dawn at 920-680-0660 or email her at drabas29@gmail.com

AND REMEMBER TO INVITE ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

With a grateful heart, I wish to thank everyone whose path I crossed while in St. James office over the last 10 years. As the office manager, bookkeeper, and secretary, I made many connections with you, our dear parishioners. I truly am grateful for the time in the office and the many "friendships" made because of it.

God Bless all of you for your kindness and support.

Deb Lyons

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Our Faith Formation Program is not the only area of YOUR parish that could use your help. From serving on councils, being a trustee, office help, event planning and working the event, liturgical ministries and more, you are needed and appreciated. Many stepped forward last spring when the pandemic hit. THANK YOU! If you would like to volunteer, please email or call the office and ask what you can do. We do need and appreciate all volunteers!

FROM THE OFFICE



MEET OUR NEW CEMETERY SEXTON— BRANDON WOTACHEK

First of all, what is a sexton? A sexton is the person in charge of a cemetery. They are often referred to as the caretaker of a cemetery.

Let's Meet Brandon

Brandon and his wife Michelle have been members of St. James since 2006. Their children are Sophia, 2 ½ years, Austin, 9 months old and their angel, Madeline who is forever 18 months and passed away in January 2018, buried in St. James Cemetery.

Where are you employed? Brandon works at Foth in Green Bay as a Lead GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Analyst. In simple terms, he makes maps and analyzes spatial data.

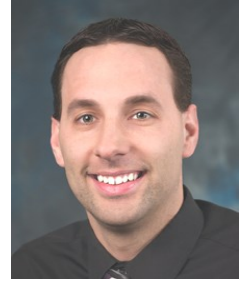
What are your hobbies: snowmobiling, skiing, hunting, fishing, gardening and tinkering.

Why did you decide to accept the position of sexton for St. James? After seeing the position posted, I applied for it and was accepted. With Madeline buried in the



cemetery along with other relatives I now have a more vested interest in ensuring that the cemetery continues to be a sacred and beautiful place where we can hon-

or our loved ones who have passed. I look at it as a way to give back to the church as a volunteer.



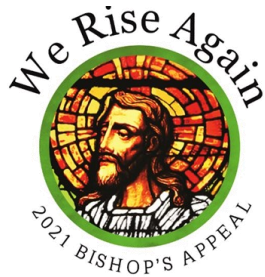
How about computerizing the cemetery maps?: With the skills and software knowledge I have via my job I hope in the near term to computerize the cemetery maps and in the long term develop an online mapping site that parishioners can go to view a digital map of the cemetery, available plots, pictures of headstones, pictures of those buried at the cemetery as well as other information that families would like others to know about their loved one. I also hope to work with relatives of those that are buried at St. James as well as parish volunteers to work at straightening headstones that are tipping. My overall goal will be to continually improve the cemetery so it is as beautiful as those that are buried there and continues to be sacred ground for our loved ones that have passed.

I would like to thank Bob Remiker for his 30 plus years in this position and for passing along his knowledge to me.

Parishioners can contact me at 920-360-9356 or brandon.wotachek@outlook.com if they would like to purchase a plot, have ideas for cemetery improvement or would like to volunteer. Currently, plots cost \$500 for parishioners, and \$800 for non-parishioners.

BISHOP'S APPEAL UPDATE

St. James 2021 Bishop's Appeal assessment is \$33,651. As of March 2, we have received \$21,600 in contributions from 86 of our 463 members. Here are some reasons why you should consider making a gift to the Bishop's Appeal:



- * The appeal supports the ministries of the Diocese of Green Bay which serve our parishes, Catholic schools and communities.
- * 91% of every dollar raised goes to Diocesan ministries and services right here in northeastern Wisconsin.
- * It does not pay the Bishop's salary and has never been used to pay any legal settlements.
- * With help from the Bishop's Appeal, The Compass provides readers with reliable news, information and inspiration. Each week, stories and columns help reveal our Catholic faith. And they deliver more than just news. They challenge readers to explore and absorb Christian values in the world today.
- * The Bishop's Appeal supports Catholic Charities that provide individual and family counseling for adoption, pregnancy and parenting support, family strengthening and financial health.

To make a gift today contact the parish office, visit the Bishop's Appeal website at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give, or call Tammy toll-free at 877-500-3580, ext. 8123



UNDER THE STEEPLE

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ April 1-4 The Triduum
- ◆ April 4 Easter Sunday
- ◆ April 11 First Communion, 1pm
- ◆ May 9 Mother's Day
- ◆ May 16 Confirmation, 1pm
- ◆ May 23 Grief Group, Noon-2pm
- ◆ May 31 Memorial Day Mass, 9am
- ◆ June 19 Summer Night Dinner and Dance
- ◆ June 20 Father's Day
- ◆ Summer Solstice Mass

ST. JAMES PARISH
COOPERSTOWN

- ◆ Administrator: Reverend Santiago Turiano, Jr.
Phone: 920-604-4090
Email: santy_padi@yahoo.com
- ◆ Deacon: Dan Gray: 920-246-4155
- ◆ Telephones: Office: 920-863-2585
Fax: 920-863-5445
Church Hall: 920-863-2383
- ◆ Mass Schedule:
Saturday, 7:30pm
Sunday, 8:00am; Live streamed on Facebook
- ◆ Reconciliation: 1/2 hour before weekend Masses
- ◆ Weekday Mass: Tuesday, 8:00am
- ◆ Religious Education: Winter, 2021: Alternating Wednesday evenings between in-class and at home sessions.
- ◆ Parish Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday, 8:00am-1:00pm

Website: stjamesandstjoseph.org
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