

## Dear Padre,

I recently lost my husband of sixty years. I prayed for him through his four-year illness. Since he has died, I cannot pray. Any advice for me?

My heartfelt condolences on your profound loss. When someone we love dies, a part of us dies too. Sometimes, the trauma is so severe that it can even affect our relationship with God.

Psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief. In the denial stage, some people can't accept the reality of the death. It becomes too much to handle. In the anger stage, some may question their belief in God—especially if their prayer requests (such as, "Please God, if you heal my loved one, I will...") weren't successful in the bargaining stage. People in the depression stage feel overwhelmed by the reality of the loss and may not always feel like connecting with others—even with God in prayer. However, in the acceptance stage, emotions stabilize, and a person comes to terms with their new reality. Nothing makes up for the absence of a loved one, but people manage to cope and live on.

It's because you loved so deeply that the loss feels so deep. God accepts you completely; God understands how you feel. He wants you to be at peace and live life fully. Our compassionate God yearns to help console you and offer assistance in your healing process until you can embrace him again in prayer. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Let us resolve to bring [God's] love everywhere, never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering, who ask us to be thoughtful and compassionate Christians.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025



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YANDRY FERNANDEZ PERDOMO / CATHOLIC

St. James Catholic Church  
201 N. Missouri Street  
Potosi, MO 63664

**Epiphany of the Lord**

**January 4, 2026**



(Photo courtesy of Jeremy Boyer)

**Mass Schedule**  
**January 2026**

**Mon: 8:00 AM (St. Joachim)**

**Tues: 8:15 AM (St. James)**

**Wed: 8:15 AM (St. Joachim)**

**Thurs: 8:00 AM (St. James)**

**Fri: 8:00 AM (St. Joachim)**

**Sat: 8:00 AM (1st Sat. of the Month @ St. James)**

**Saturday: 4:00 PM**  
(1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend @ St. James; 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> weekend @ St. Joachim)

**Sunday: 8:00 AM (St. Joachim)**  
**10:00 AM (St. James)**

**MASS  
INTENTIONS  
FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, Jan 5th**  
@ St. Joachim

**Tuesday, Jan 6th:**  
George  
Lalumondiere

**Wednesday, Jan 7th**  
@ St. Joachim

**Thursday, Jan 8th:**  
Betty Matthews

**Friday, Jan 9th:**  
@ St. Joachim

**Saturday, Jan 10th**  
@ St. Joachim

**Sunday, Jan 11th:**  
Parish Family



**Confessions:**

Saturday: 3:15-3:45pm  
Prior to Sat. evening Mass or by appointment

# St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street  
Potosi, MO 63664



## January 11th

### Lector:

Saturday 4pm:  
Sunday 10am: Danny Mueller

### Eucharistic Ministers:

Saturday 4pm	Sunday 10am
C:	Marvin Wright
L:	Maureen Mills
R:	Kim Coleman

### Servers

Saturday 4pm:  
Sunday 10am: Vincent Pashia

### Music:

Sat: 4:00pm. Chala Short  
Sun: 8:00am Rebecca Richards  
Sun: 10:00am Anita Govero or The Little Way Band

### Heavenly Dusters

Jeanne Degonia 1/2-1/9  
Faye Jarvis 1/16-1/23  
Diane Mull 1/30-2/6

### Altar Linens

Glenda Farrow 1/5-1/12  
Connie Scott 1/19-1/26  
Faye Jarvis 2/2-2/9

### Money Counters

Mary Ann & Donna 1/6  
Becky & Rhonda 1/13  
Jeanne & Rhonda 1/20  
Pat & Tina 1/27

(FYI: The office is open on Mondays if you would like to count on Mondays.)

## Weekly Collection 12/28/2025

<u>Envelopes:</u>	\$1970.00
<u>Loose:</u>	131.00
<u>Online Giving</u>	15.00
<u>Maintenance:</u>	40.00
<u>St. Vincent de Paul:</u>	855.00
<u>Votive:</u>	26.00
<u>Stained Glass Window</u>	250.00
<u>Christmas Offering</u>	3110.00
<u>Seminary Collection</u>	928.00
<u>Solemnity of Mary</u>	25.00

**Total Giving: \$7350.00**  
# of Contributors: 74

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## January 4, 2026

### Epiphany of the Lord

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."  
MATTHEW 2:11

The image of the Magi kneeling before the infant Jesus and opening their treasure chests for Him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, but especially that one thing that means the most to you.

## \*\*\*\*FORMED\*\*\*\*

### God's Doorkeeper

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!

### The Three Wise Men

Ms. Kim explains the Solemnity of the Epiphany and the importance of the wise men's gifts by teaching students how to draw the three magi. She challenges kids to do an act of kindness for someone, offering it as a gift to Jesus.

### Epiphany

Have you ever wondered what the Epiphany is? In this engaging episode of the True Meaning of Christmas, join Dr. Michael Barber to find out what the Epiphany is.

\*Go to <http://signup.formed.org>  
\*Enter our parish's zipcode 63664  
\*Enter your name and your email address.  
\*Enjoy!

**MONDAY**  
January 5  
St. John  
Neumann, Bishop  
1 Jn 3:22-4:6  
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

**TUESDAY**  
January 6  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 4:7-10  
Mk 6:34-44

**WEDNESDAY**  
January 7  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 4:11-18  
Mk 6:45-52

**THURSDAY**  
January 8  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 4:19-5:4  
Lk 4:14-22a

**FRIDAY**  
January 9  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 5:5-13  
Lk 5:12-16

**SATURDAY**  
January 10  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 5:14-21  
Jn 3:22-30

**SUNDAY**  
January 11  
The Baptism of the Lord  
Is 42:1-4, 6-7  
Acts 10:34-38  
Mt 3:13-17

# Good News!

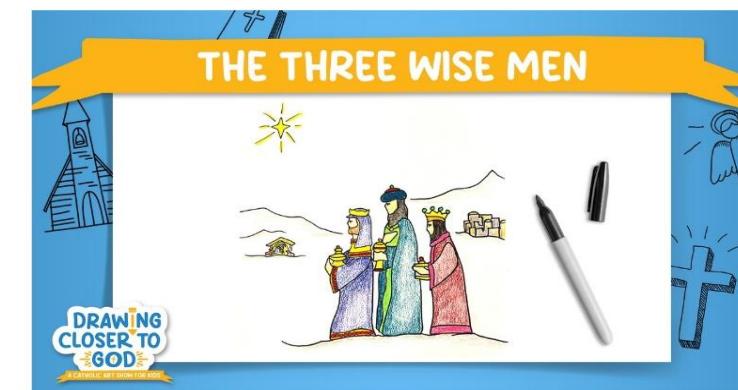
January 4, 2026  
The Epiphany of the Lord (A)  
Isaiah 60:1-6 / Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 /  
Matthew 2:1-12

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

"We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage" (Matthew 2:2) describes the spark that sent the Magi on their journey. Something unusual in the sky, interpreted as a sign of something wonderful—in response, they changed direction in their lives and devoted themselves to a completely different path. As wonderful as it might well be, a special star in the heavens is not the ordinary experience of how we learn to follow the Lord or discern his will. If only there could be a sign in God's universe for each of us, beckoning us forward, clarifying what we need to do, setting down the path that needs to be followed. Perhaps life would be much simpler. Or perhaps not?

Would it truly be less complicated if everything were made clear and certain? Is the manifestation of God's grace and blessings confined to the straight and narrow, or can we also experience God in the chaos—"in the weeds," so to speak. Human experience seems to suggest that life is more "gray" than "black and white." There is real grace in the journey, in making mistakes, even in choosing something that is incomplete. Thankfully, God's grace does not need perfection to be powerful. We can know and follow God's will for us in the ordinary moments of day-to-day living. We do not need the extraordinary or the dramatic. ●

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**formed**  
Forming Catholics for Life

### The Three Wise Men: Share Your Gifts | Drawing Closer to God | Episode 6

Ms. Kim explains the Solemnity of the Epiphany and the importance of the wise men's gifts by teaching students how to draw the three magi. She challenges kids to do an act of kindness for someone, offering it as a gift to Jesus.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



ARCHDIOCESE  
OF ST. LOUIS

Archbishop Mitchell T. Rozanski's Intention

January 2026

## Thanksgiving for 200 Years of Grace

We pray in thanksgiving for the gift of Catholic faith in the [Archdiocese of St. Louis](#) over the past 200 years. May we honor the legacy of those who came before us by living with renewed joy, hope, and commitment to the Gospel.

### Interested in Becoming Catholic? (OCIA: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

During this Christmas Season, the Catechumens and Candidates are eagerly awaiting the coming of Jesus in Baptism and the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Please pray for Catechumens: Keith Blankman, Joey Thebeau, Judy Vance, Caitlyn Gibson, Anthony, Lilly Pashia and family, Jerry Randall, Chris McCoy and Inquirer, Jerry Goza.

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, in being fully received, or in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, contact the parish office, or call coordinator, Joyce Politte 636-328-1343. All are welcome.

### All are invited!

Old Mines KC Chicken & Beef Dinner- Jan. 4th  
We start serving at 10:30 a.m. until we are sold out. Everyone one is welcome to come out and enjoy a good home cooked meal. It is \$15 a plate with two sides and a dessert and drink included. Drive thru and carry out is available.

### Bulletin Advertising

We are now accepting advertisers for the back of our bulletin. The cost is \$180 per year. This will help offset the cost of paper & ink for the bulletin. Our goal is to get 10 advertisers. Please call or email the office for more details. If you are interested, all we need is a business card to get you added onto the back. Help us spread the word!

### Thank You!

### Parish Calendar

**Jan 6:** Ladies Sodality meeting 5:30pm

**Jan 7:** PSR classes resume

**Jan 9:** Clarity House at 6pm

**Jan 12:** St. Vincent de Paul 6pm

**Jan 12:** Men's Faith Sharing Group 6:30pm

**Jan 13:** Eucharistic Adoration 9am-4:45pm

**Jan 13:** Parish Council Meeting 5:30pm

**Jan 13:** KC Men's Meeting 6:30pm

**Jan 14:** Parish Office closed for meeting

**Jan 17:** Food Pantry Distribution Day

### THE COUNCIL'S CORNER

We want to wish all our parishioners a Happy New Year!  
Our next meeting is January 13 @ 5:30pm.

\*IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,  
FEEL FREE TO  
CONTACT ERIC AUBUCHON  
@ 314-605-6268\*

### St. James PSR NEWS

Just a reminder that classes resume on January 7.

*From Dr. Melissa Cordia*

### Society of St. Vincent de Paul

St. James Food Pantry provided food for 183 families (504 individuals) on Saturday, December 20th. Thanks to all our packers and those who helped on Saturday with the distribution. Many thanks to our generous church family!

*"Let us love God, my sisters and brothers, Let us love God. But let it be with the strength of our arms and the sweat of our brow."*  
St. Vincent de Paul

**St. Vincent de Paul collection:**  
**Canned meat, canned chili w/meat,  
spaghettios w/ meat, canned stew, tuna**



### Heavenly Father, you are the giver of all that is good.

We give you thanks for 200 years of faith, grace, and mission in the [Archdiocese of St. Louis](#).

As we celebrate this bicentennial, we remember with gratitude and thankfulness, all those who have helped to build the Church here: clergy, religious, and lay faithful.

Strengthen us in our resolve to carry forward their legacy with love and courage.

Through the intercession of **Saint Louis**, our patron and king, **Saint Vincent de Paul**, and **Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne**, give to us hearts rooted in justice, holiness, and charity.

May we continue to be a beacon of the Gospel in our time, faithful to Christ and alive in the Spirit.

Bless our archdiocese with unity, renewal, and vocations as we journey into the future.

**Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



*Saint Louis, pray for us.  
Saint Vincent de Paul, pray for us.  
Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, pray for us.*

**Trip#2650  
Oct. 4-12, 2026**

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the itinerary  
and register!



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### Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

With Spiritual Director:

Fr. Rodger Fleming

Pilgrimage coordinator:

Jill Kullman



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# Celebrate 200 Years of Faith with the Archdiocese of St. Louis!



ARCHDIOCESE  
OF ST. LOUIS

In 2026, we joyfully commemorate the 200th anniversary of the founding of our diocese in 1826. This once-in-a-generation Bicentennial Jubilee invites us to rejoice in the light of Christ and renew our shared mission as Catholics in eastern Missouri.

Throughout the year, the faithful are invited to take part in prayer, storytelling, acts of service, and special archdiocesan initiatives rooted in the spiritual legacy of our three patron saints:

**St. Louis, King of France**  
faithful leadership and justice

**St. Rose Philippine Duchesne**  
missionary prayer and perseverance

**St. Vincent de Paul**  
compassion and care for the poor

***"A Legacy of Faith. A Future of Hope."***

Please Share  
Your Jubilee  
Moments!

As you celebrate, we'd love to see and share those moments! Tag your photos and stories with **#ArchSTL200** and let's illuminate the joy of our Catholic faith across the Archdiocese.



ArchSTL200.org



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Office of the Archbishop

Cardinal Rigali Center

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www.archstl.org

January 1, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With deep gratitude to God, I joyfully announce the official opening of the Bicentennial Jubilee Year of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. On this Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, we begin a sacred year of reflection, celebration, and renewal as we journey toward the two hundredth anniversary of our diocese on July 18, 2026.

Our Catholic roots in this region run deep, reaching back more than 350 years to the earliest missionary encounters in the Mississippi Valley. In 1764, the first Mass was offered in the settlement of St. Louis on the site where the Old Cathedral now stands. In 1818, Bishop DuBourg chose St. Louis as the episcopal seat of the growing frontier Church. In 1826, Pope Leo XII established the Diocese of St. Louis and entrusted Bishop Joseph Rosati with a vast mission territory that extended from the Louisiana border to the Rocky Mountains.

We are heirs to this missionary legacy. Our parishes, schools, charitable ministries, religious communities, and lay leaders all bear witness to the enduring light of Christ passed down through generations. Now, in our own time, we are called to carry that light forward with courage, joy, and faith.

This Jubilee Year invites us to honor the past, celebrate the present, and commit ourselves anew to the mission of Christ. Special initiatives, moments of prayer, pilgrimages, and parish celebrations throughout the year will help deepen our communion, renew our missionary zeal, and strengthen the bonds that unite us as one Church.

In honor of this historic milestone, the Holy See, through the Apostolic Penitentiary, has graciously granted a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions, to the truly penitent and devout Christian faithful. This indulgence, available through July 26, 2026, is a beautiful gift of God's mercy, inviting us to deeper conversion and renewed holiness. To receive this grace, the faithful may visit several sacred sites I have designated as pilgrimage locations:

All Saints Parish  
Basilica of St. Louis, King of France  
Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis  
Most Holy Trinity Church (St. Josephine Bakhita Parish)  
Shrine of St. Rose Philippine Duchesne  
St. Alphonsus Parish (Millwood)  
St. Cecilia Parish

St. Charles Borromeo Parish  
St. Francis Borgia Parish  
St. Ferdinand Parish and the Old St. Ferdinand Shrine  
St. Joachim Parish (Old Mines)  
Chapel of St. Vincent de Paul (Cardinal Rigali Center)  
St. Vincent de Paul Parish (Perryville)  
Ste. Genevieve Parish (Ste. Genevieve)

Please visit [www.ArchSTL200.org](http://www.ArchSTL200.org) to learn more about these sites, the conditions for receiving the indulgence, and the special provisions for the sick and homebound.

