

## Dear Padre,

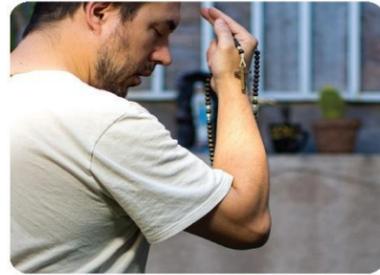
*I am left-handed. Why doesn't the church allow the sign of the cross to be made left-handed?*

A Catholic who is unable to make the sign of the cross with the right hand is certainly permitted to do so with the left. There is no rule against it. When Pope Saint John Paul II injured his right arm, he used his left hand to impart his blessing.

The sign of the cross is a sacramental, one of the symbols that identifies you as a Roman Catholic. Just like all such symbolic gestures, there is an expected uniformity. To use a secular example, at a University of Texas football game, fans of the Longhorns give the "hook-em horns" sign. You wouldn't give the "thumbs-up" sign instead. It would be confusing.

It's true that at one time, the left hand was associated with evil. Jesus sends the goats to sit at his left and the sheep to his right. (See Matthew 25:33.) And, throughout the Scriptures, we read that Jesus sits at the right hand of God. (See Mark 16:19.) The word "sinister" is from the Latin *sinister*, meaning "left."

Left-handedness is no longer associated with evil. If you wish to make the sign of the cross with your left hand, you may. But do consider why you are doing it. Most left-handed people have no trouble using their right hand for many simple tasks. If your purpose is a bit rebellious, maybe realize that signifying unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ is more important. ●



Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

### Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

**Monday**  
MARCH 16  
Lenten Weekday  
Is 65:17-21  
Jn 4:43-54

**Tuesday**  
MARCH 17  
Lenten Weekday  
Ez 47:1-9, 12  
Jn 5:1-16

**Wednesday**  
MARCH 18  
Lenten Weekday  
Is 49:8-15  
Jn 5:17-30

**Thursday**  
MARCH 19  
St. Joseph, Spouse  
of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary  
2 Sm 7:4-5a,  
12-14a, 16  
Rom 4:13, 16-18,  
22  
Mt 1:16, 18-21,  
24a or Lk 2:41-  
51a

**Friday**  
MARCH 20  
Lenten Weekday  
Wis 2:1a, 12-22  
Jn 7:1-2, 10,  
25-30

**Saturday**  
MARCH 21  
Lenten Weekday  
Jer 11:18-20  
Jn 7:40-53

**Sunday**  
MARCH 22  
Fifth Sunday  
of Lent  
Ez 37:12-14  
Rom 8:8-11  
Jn 11:1-45 or  
11:3-7, 17, 20-27,  
33b-45

**"Only in Christ do we find real love, and the fullness of life. And so I invite you today to look to Christ. When you wonder about the mystery of yourself, look to Christ who gives you the meaning of life." – From the Address to High School Students, (October, 1979)**

St. John Paul II

**Still looking for bulletin advertisers! There is room! Let's get this page filled up! Our goal is to get 10 advertisers. Cost is \$180/year.**

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

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**March 15, 2026**



(Photo courtesy of Jeremy Boyer)

### Mass Schedule March 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**  
(1st & 3rd weekend @ St. James; 2nd & 4th weekend @ St. Joachim)

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

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Mar. 16:  
@ St. Joachim

Tuesday, Mar. 17:  
**Mark Coleman**

Wednesday, Mar. 18:  
@ St. Joachim

Thursday, Mar. 19:  
**In thanksgiving for St. Joseph**

Friday, Mar. 20:  
6:30pm:  
@ St. Joachim

Saturday, Mar. 21  
**Parish Family**

Sunday, Mar. 22:  
**Jack Malloy**

Mass Intentions are \$10. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to offer a Mass intention.

### Confessions:

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

E-MAIL:  
[stjameschurch@centurylink.net](mailto:stjameschurch@centurylink.net)

WEBSITE:  
[www.stjames-potosi.org](http://www.stjames-potosi.org)

FACEBOOK: St. James Catholic Church

PHONE NUMBER: 573-438-4686

PSR: Phone: 573-366-5235  
[stjamespsr@gmail.com](mailto:stjamespsr@gmail.com)

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# St. James Parish Family

## 201 N. Missouri Street

### Potosi, MO 63664



**Staff**  
**Rev. Anthony Dattilo - Pastor**  
[AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org](mailto:AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org)  
 Phone: 573-854-0291 (St. Joachim Rectory)

**Rev. Vince Nyman - Associate Pastor**  
 Phone: 314-614-0718

**Angie Mitchell**  
 Office Manager (part-time)

**Vicki Thurmond**  
 Parish Secretary (part-time)  
[stjameschurch@centurylink.net](mailto:stjameschurch@centurylink.net)

**Judy East:** Custodian

**Tommy Roy:** On Call Maintenance

**St. James PSR**  
**Dr. Melissa Cordia**  
 Co-Coordinator  
**Laura Allen**  
 Co-Coordinator  
**Jamie Thompson**  
 Co-Coordinator  
[stjamespsr@gmail.com](mailto:stjamespsr@gmail.com)

**March 21st & 22nd**

**Lector:**  
 Saturday 4pm: Paul Villmer  
 Sunday 10am: Danny Mueller

**Eucharistic Ministers:**  
 Saturday 4pm      Sunday 10am  
 C:Maureen Mills    Diane McGirl  
 L:Judy East        Mary Roy  
 R:Laura Allen      Kim Coleman

**Servers**  
 Saturday 4pm: Abrienne McGovern  
 Sunday 10am: Meadow Henson

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

**Heavenly Dusters**  
 Diane Mull 3/20  
 Jeanne DeGonia 3/27-4/3

**Altar Linens**  
 Bobbie Heifner 3/16  
 Diane McGirl 3/23  
 Bobbie Heifner 4/6

**Money Counters**  
 Jeanne & Rhonda 3/17  
 Pat & Tina 3/24  
 Rhonda Politte & Pat Portell 3/31  
 Mary Ann & Donna 4/7

*(I am in the office on Monday's for anyone who wants to count on that day. I do go to Mass @ St. Joachim first before coming in to the office.)*

**Weekly Collection 03/08/26**

|                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| <u>Envelopes:</u>               | 4155.00          |
| <u>Loose:</u>                   | 288.00           |
| <u>Online Giving</u>            | 35.00            |
| <u>Maintenance:</u>             | 375.00           |
| <u>St. Vincent de Paul:</u>     | 563.00           |
| <u>Votives:</u>                 | 10.50            |
| <u>Catholic Relief Services</u> | 25.00            |
| <u>Catholic Home Missions</u>   | 25.00            |
| <u>Easter Flowers</u>           | 70.00            |
| <b>Total Giving:</b>            | <b>\$5546.50</b> |
| # of Contributors:              | 55               |

*Thank you for your generosity!*



**4th Sunday of Lent**

*"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7*

How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent and treasure here on earth.

**Lenten Bible Study**

Session 4: The Sacrament of Confession  
 Session 5: Mary  
 Session 6: Justification  
 Session 7: Who is Jesus?

Here are the dates for the study. Keep in mind that because of scheduling issues (availability of the buildings and my schedule) not all sessions will be in order each week. So, if you plan to jump around, please watch the schedule and attend when you are able.

**MONDAY 6PM (ST. JOACHIM)**  
 Session 4) March 23; Session 5) March 30; Session 6 & 7) Justification & Who is Jesus

**WEDNESDAY 9:15AM (ST. JOACHIM)**  
 Session 4) March 25; Session 5) April 1; Session 6 & 7) April 8

**FRIDAY 9AM (ST. JAMES)**  
 Session 4) March 27; Session 5) April 3; Session 6 & 7) April 10

*\*\*If you have any questions, please text or call Vicki at 573-854-1257*

**St. James Ladies Sodality**

**FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY**

You're invited to our Dine In & Carry Out Fish Fry. Our menu will consist of Fried Shrimp (6pcs) or Swai fillets (4pcs). We will also have coleslaw, stewed tomatoes, baked beans, mac n cheese, and hushpuppies.

**WHAT'S ON THE MENU?**

- Golden fried fish & shrimp
- Refreshing drinks
- homemade desserts

**COST**  
**ADULTS: \$15**  
**KIDS: \$8**

**DATE: MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>**  
**TIME: 4pm-until Sellout**

**Ladies Fish Fry Menu:**

**\*\*Your choice of Swai fillets (4pcs) or Shrimp (6pcs); Childs plate of Swai fillets (2pcs)**

**\*\*Sides include coleslaw, stewed tomatoes, baked beans, mac n cheese & hushpuppies**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**OLD MINES, MO**  
**FISH FRY'S**

We will be serving February 18<sup>TH</sup> (Ash Wednesday), February 20<sup>TH</sup>, March 6<sup>TH</sup>, March 20<sup>TH</sup>, & April 3<sup>rd</sup> (Good Friday)

Serving 3 p.m. till Sold Out with Dine-in, Carry-Out, & Call In Available.

Serving: Fish, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Fries, & Hushpuppies. Dessert & Drink Included

\$13 per Plate

*FOLLOW ME AND I WILL MAKE YOU MEN AND I WILL FISHERS OF MATTHEW 4:19*

PRESENTED BY ST. JAMES KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**FRY DAY FRIDAYS**

11:00-1:00

**March 20th**

**\$12/PLATE**  
 FISH, BAKED BEANS, & POTATO SALAD

201 N. Missouri Street Potosi MO 63664

ST. JAMES LADIES SODALITY

**Bake Sale**

\$3/slice or \$20 whole pie or cake

March 20, 2026  
 11am-1pm  
 St. James Parking Lot behind church

## NEW ONLINE GIVING PORTAL STEPS

<https://giving.servantkeeper.com/StJamesCatholic/member/login>

01



Scan QR Code

Our QR Code will take you directly to our custom giving page

02



Sign up/Sign in

If you haven't yet created a donor login, this is your chance! Login if you already have.

03



Donate!

You can now process a donation, and set up your recurring donation!

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

Today, we hear the Gospel story of the Healing of the Blind Man proclaimed. Christ declares, "I am the Light of the World." Let us reflect on the following questions:

1. When have you been "blind" or unwilling to see the light of Christ? What prevented you from seeing?
2. What blindness (sin) do you want to get rid of in order to be able to see?

Today, Judy Vance and Anthony Pashia, the unbaptized will be celebrating the Second Scrutiny to reveal what is weak, sick, and sinful in their lives so that it can be healed and what is honorable, strong, and holy, so that it can be strengthened. Moreover, the Scrutinies are set forth to purify minds and hearts, to fortify against temptations, to convert intentions, and to awaken the will, so that the elect may cling more closely to Christ and pursue more vigorously their desire to love God. (#141 OCIA).

Pray for Catechumens, Anthony and Judy, who will be baptized and Candidates, Chris McCoy, Lilly Pashia and the Pashia children who be fully received into the Church at the Easter Vigil.

### THE COUNCIL'S CORNER

Our next meeting is April 14th @ 5:30pm. Our next Fifth Sunday brunch is March 29th after 10am Mass. Mark your calendar now!  
**\*IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ERIC AUBUCHON @ 314-605-6268\***

*"Parish development is our striving, as a community of Christian people, toward God." — Robert A. Gallagher, O.A.*

### St. James PSR NEWS

Rice Bowls were sent home with the kids on Ash Wednesday. There are more available in the back of church for those families that do not have kiddos in PSR. All bowls need to be returned the Sunday after Easter.

*From Dr. Melissa Cordia*

### Ladies Sodality

Our next indoor dining/carryout Fish fry will be March 27th. Updated menu: Swai fish (4pcs) or Shrimp (6pcs) and child's plate (2pcs) along with sides, desserts & drinks! Can't wait to see everyone! Also we have two bake sales upcoming, March 13th &

### Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The St. James Pantry is humbled by its many near & far supporters. The Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church has given us hundreds of dollars in food every month for several years. The Belgrade United Methodist Church delivered \$3000 in food from their month long collection.

Isn't it wonderful when Christians find ways to support one another and accomplish so much together?

Our St. James Pantry feeds about 140-175 families each month. God sends what we need by whispering to the generous hearts of His precious followers!

Thank you for your support in feeding those in need from Washington County.

### **From your St. Vincent de Paul Members**

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

### Parish Calendar

**March 16-19:** The Parish Office will have limited availability. Vicki will be on retreat this week. Angie will be in the office on Tuesday.

**March 16:** Rural Clinic Here  
St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 6pm

**March 20:** KC Men's Fish Fry, Drive thru 11-1pm  
Ladies Sodality Bake Sale 11-1pm

**March 21:** Food Pantry Day

**March 25:** Parish Office open 11am-3pm

**March 26:** Parish Picnic Meeting 6pm

**March 27:** Bible Study at 9am in Parish Hall  
Ladies Sodality Fish Fry in the Parish Hall w/Indoor Dining or Carryout's 4pm-Sell out Mass & Stations of the Cross 6:30pm

**March 28:** Men's Faith Sharing Group 7am

**March 29:** Fifth Sunday Brunch following the 10am Mass

**March 31:** Confessions w/ 3 priests 6pm-7:30pm

**April 1:** Parish Office open 11am-3pm

**April 2:** Mass of the Lord's Supper 6:30pm w/Adoration until 11pm

### Pope Leo XIV Quotes

"Jesus is God's response to our thirst. The encounter with him stirs in the depths of each person "a spring of water gushing up to eternal life" (Jn 4:14). How many people in the entire world are searching even today for this spiritual spring!"

-Posted on X, March 8,2026

"We must allow God to teach us how to listen as He does. We must recognize that the condition of the poor is a cry that, throughout human history, constantly challenges our lives, societies, political and economic system, and, not least, the Church."

-Posted on X, March 10,2026

**FIFTH SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Join us for a joyful community gathering.

Sunday, March 29, 2026 | After 10am Mass

Hosted by  
*St. James Catholic Church*

RSVP: 573-438-4686 or Just show up. All are welcome! Bring a friend!

**Mass & Stations of the Cross**

March 20<sup>th</sup> ~ St. Joachim @ 6:30 PM

March 27<sup>th</sup> ~ St. James @ 6:30 PM

**Confession Dates & Times**

March 18<sup>th</sup> ~ St. James PSR Families ~ 6 PM

March 19<sup>th</sup> ~ St. Joachim ~ 10 AM - 2 PM

March 31<sup>st</sup> ~ St. James ~ 6 PM - 7:30 PM

Confessions ~ Saturday ~  
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm or by Appointment

## This Week On Formed

### Joseph of Nazareth

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!

### The Trials of Saint Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.

### Patrick: Brave Shepherd of the Emerald Isle

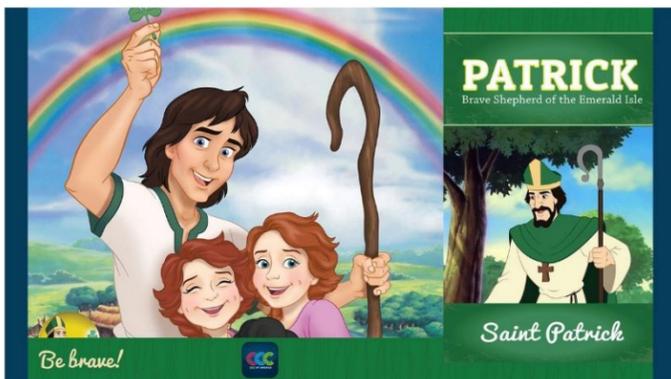
Fun-loving Patrick had it easy at his parents' seaside villa. At 16, he thought he had it made for life—that is, until the day riders kidnapped him to nearby Ireland. Now a slave and shepherd, Patrick faced a bleak and uncertain future. To survive, he'd have to conquer cold, hunger, wild beasts, and even worse enemies.

\*Go to <http://signup.formed.org>

\*Enter our parish's zip code 63664

\*Enter your name and your email address.

\*Enjoy!



**MONDAY**  
MARCH 16

*Lenten Weekday*  
Is 65:17-21  
Jn 4:43-54

**TUESDAY**

MARCH 17  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Ez 47:1-9, 12  
Jn 5:1-16

**WEDNESDAY**

MARCH 18  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Is 49:8-15  
Jn 5:17-30

**THURSDAY**

MARCH 19  
*St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16  
Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22  
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

**FRIDAY**

MARCH 20  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Wis 2:1a, 12-22  
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**SATURDAY**

MARCH 21  
*Lenten Weekday*  
Jer 11:18-20  
Jn 7:40-53

**SUNDAY**

MARCH 22  
*Fifth Sunday of Lent*  
Ez 37:12-14  
Rom 8:8-11  
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

# Good News!

March 15, 2026

*Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)*

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Ephesians 5:8-14 /  
John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

MIGUEL DULICK

Today's gospel, the healing of the man born blind, is a terrific story that includes many details. Notice that Jesus, who has his own agenda, "so that the works of God might be made visible through him," does not even wait for the man to ask to be healed. But the man is a willing subject, allowing mud and saliva to be smeared on his eyes, agreeing to go to Siloam and wash. And, he's a quick learner. At first, all he knows is "the man called Jesus" healed him. Soon, however, he's calling Jesus "a prophet." Then, as a "division" ("schism" in the original) opens among the authorities and even in his own family, he defends Jesus' divine calling when the Pharisees mock Jesus as a "sinner." Finally, expelled from the synagogue, the man finds Jesus waiting for him with the ultimate revelation: he sees before him the Son of Man, "and he worshiped him."

Now, maybe we weren't born blind, but I venture to say a lot of us are short-sighted. Do I "see the works of God"? Starting from "the man called Jesus," do I keep going forward in faith, defending Jesus when he is mocked by people, to a deeper, fuller reality than even my own family may not understand? All the way to adoration, worship, a total handing over of my whole self to the Son of Man? Or, as Thomas would later say, when his own eyes were opened, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). •

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## 2026 Parish Picnic

**Mark Your Calendars: June 7th**

**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!**

We are in need of volunteers for all areas of the picnic. We CANNOT do this without you! Please let us know where you can help. You can contact the office or fill out the sheet in the bulletin and drop it in the basket in church.

**PARISH FAMILY;** The Bottle Game was a HUGE Success last year!! So, we are planning it again this year!

It's not too early to start this year with planning for the Picnic... "the Bottle Game" is back. We are asking all to bring a "bottle of..." (examples; shampoo, wine, ketchup, mustard, pickles, lotion, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, syrup, 2 liter soda, honey, jelly, vanilla, cooking oil, etc.) that we will use for this fundraiser. The way this will work is, we will sell the same number of "chances" that we have for the number of "bottles" that we receive, the tickets will be numbered, the bottles will be numbered, each ticket will cost \$3 to purchase, so you can see that this will be a good fundraiser for the church, just think you might end up with a bottle of .....! We would ask that you please make sure when you are making your purchase for these items to please check the expiration date on any perishable food items.

We will put 3 boxes/containers in the back of church, not in the vestibule – under the pew in front of the cry room for all to place their bottles in. It's not too early to start collecting, so bring your bottles.

Thank you all for your support of our Parish!



## St. James Gun Raffle 2026

Join the fun!!!!

Tickets will be sold starting March 1 until the drawing after Mass on May 16, 2026. There are 4 guns being raffled. Cost of the tickets are \$5 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$20. Please see Don Thompson or Paul & Nedra Villmer for tickets. They will be selling the tickets after the Masses.



## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

We are in need of volunteers for all areas of the picnic. We can't do this without you. The success of our picnic depends on our wonderful volunteers. Please see Don & Jamie Thompson about volunteering.

## Country Store

It's time to start collecting items for the Country Store. We are looking for the following items:

- Baked goods (to be delivered the day of the picnic) such as pies, breads, cookies, jams & jellies
- Home Canned Goods
- Home decor
- Starter plants for gardening
- Tea Towels
- Craft items
- Embroidered or crocheted items
- Anything unique and homemade

## Placemat Ads

It's not too early to get your space reserved for our placemats for the picnic.

1. Small size- \$30
2. Medium size- \$60
3. Large size- \$120

The placemat ads can be for a business or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Kim Coleman if interested at 314-808-2207 or email [kcoleman2@elara.com](mailto:kcoleman2@elara.com).

**formed**  
Forming Catholics for Life.

## Patrick: Brave Shepherd of the Emerald Isle

Fun-loving Patrick had it easy at his parents' seaside villa. At 16, he thought he had it made for life—that is, until the day riders kidnapped him to nearby Ireland. Now a slave and shepherd, Patrick faced a bleak and uncertain future. To survive, he'd have to conquer cold, hunger, wild beasts, and even worse enemies.

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