

Historic St. James at Sag Bridge Church

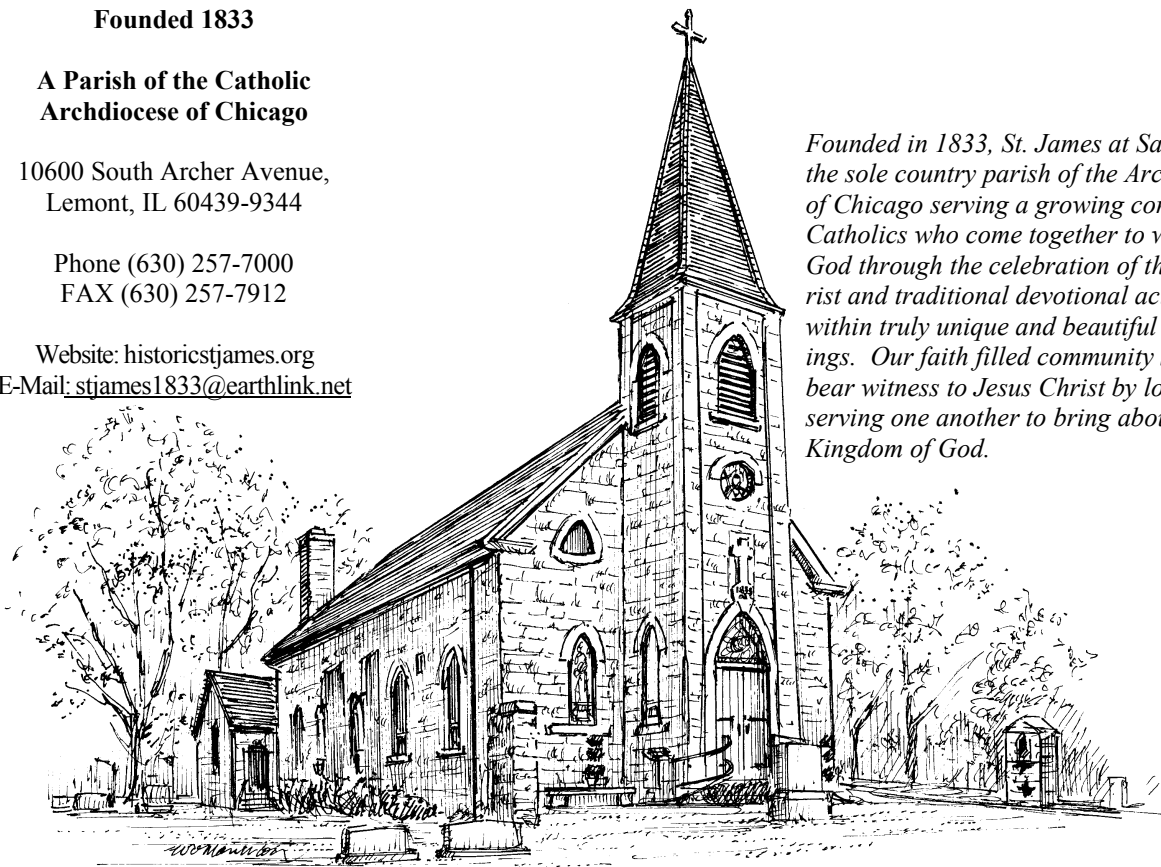
Founded 1833

A Parish of the Catholic
Archdiocese of Chicago

10600 South Archer Avenue,
Lemont, IL 60439-9344

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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.

December 30, 2007 — HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Rev. Edward D. Gleeson, Pastor
Mr. John M. Wilkinson, Permanent Deacon

Parish Boundaries

The Village of Willow Springs
Unincorporated Lemont Township Along Archer Avenue
and Bell Road, Village of Burr Ridge (Cook County)

Mass Schedule

Weekends: Saturdays, 5:30 PM. Sundays, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 AM
Holy Days: 8:15 AM and 7:00 PM
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: 8:15 AM
Wednesdays: 7:00 PM

Confession Schedule

Saturdays: 4:30 to 5:15 PM
By appointment.

Baptisms

First Sundays of every month by appointment.
Parents must be registered parishioners.

Weddings

Minimum eight months in advance.
At least one partner must be a registered parishioner.

Religious Education Classes

1st through 8th Grade
Tuesday evenings, September through May
Parents must be registered parishioners.

Registration In Rectory

Office Hours

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Thursdays: 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.

Parish Ministerial Staff

Father Edward Gleeson, Pastor
Deacon John Wilkinson, Minister of Care
Brian Tishuk, RE Director
Pamela Stafford, Music Coordinator
Joseph Guido, Organist
JoAnn Starha, Altar and Rosary President
Rodney Poynter, Holy Name President
Barbara Tishuk, Our Lady of the Forest President

Rectory Support Staff

Donna Slosowski, Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper
Bernice Raj, Housekeeper/Cook
Donald Lasica, Sacristan

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

JESUS, MARY, AND _____, FILL IN THE BLANK.

It takes at least three people to form a family, father, mother and child. Right? Well, maybe not. In our society we run across more and more “one parent” families. And the odds are that the single parent is going to be the mother. This can be a problem because that loving, masculine influence is often missing. The lack of a male presence in the home is no longer a reality confined to minorities in the inner city. It is a growing problem that affects all people in all places. We have several single parent families right here in this parish. In all cases that one parent is doing a fantastic job with a difficult situation. Without a father a role model for boys must be found somewhere outside the family unit, sometimes in objectionable ways. No matter how dedicated a woman is, she should never be expected to be both mother and father to her children.

The wise old sage Sirach wasn't much of a prophet. But his simple words of wisdom echo down throughout the ages, a wisdom that is every bit as current to us as it was to the Chosen People of the Old Testament thousands of years ago. In the first reading of this Mass the sage offered advice to all families of faith. “God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.”

Today, sandwiched in between the Feast of Christmas and the Feast of Epiphany is the Feast of the Holy Family. Jesus and Mary get a lot of good press, and deservedly so. But the big fellow in the Holy Family trio is now and then forgotten. Jesus, Mary, and _____. Fill in the blank. Correct. The other guy is St. Joseph, the strong silent type who was the foster father and male role model for the Savior of the world. In the Gospel an angel gave Joseph a really hard assignment: “Rise, take the child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.” Dutifully Joseph performed that task and

performed it well. In spite of the fact that he has been gone for two thousand years, Joseph remains the quiet, resourceful good example for any modern Catholic father. In the Preface of the Mass for the Feast of St. Joseph on March 17, the celebrant prays: “Joseph is that just man, that wise and loyal servant, whom you placed at the head of your family. With a husband's love he cherished Mary, the Virgin Mother of God. With fatherly care he watched over Jesus Christ your Son who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

According to the Jewish custom of the day, Jesus learned His prayers from Joseph. When he saw Joseph at work in his carpenter's shop, Jesus came to recognize the value and dignity of hard labor. Jesus experienced in Joseph the meaning of the beatitudes before He preached them. In His foster father Jesus saw the beatitudes lived out. Joseph was satisfied with being of moderate means, in being meek, in being single hearted. From Joseph Jesus came to appreciate the importance of following the liturgical customs of His people. Joseph was a dedicated father to Jesus. For instance as a son Jesus felt the warmth of Joseph's fatherly embrace after He had been lost in the temple for three days.

In the early fifteenth century St. Bernardine of Sienna preached about St. Joseph in a homily. “What then is Joseph's position in the whole Church of Christ? Is he not a man chosen and set apart? Through him and, yes, under him Christ was fittingly and honorably introduced into the world. Jesus does not now deny to Joseph the intimacy, reverence, and very high honor which He gave him on earth as a son to His father.” Today we pay our prayerful tribute to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and that man in the manger, Joseph.

God Bless Our Parish,
FATHER ED GLEESON, PASTOR



FLOWERS

Two altar flower bouquet donations were made through the kindness of **TOM & GRACE KULAWIAK**.

A special thank you to all the generous **CONTRIBUTING PARISHIONERS** that made our Christmas flowers possible.



The collection for St. James on the weekend of **December 17th** was **\$2,778.00**

The number of December 17th Offertory Envelopes handed in the weekend of December 16 & 17 was 117. The amount of money coming out of those envelopes was \$2,368.00 which averages out to \$20.24 per envelope. Our many thanks to the 117 contributing families.

BLESS YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED AND VALUED SUPPORT.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The Feast of the Holy Family is not just about the Holy Family, but about our own families. The main purpose of the Feast is to present the Holy Family as the model for all Christian families. Our family life becomes sanctified when we live the life




of the Church within our homes. The best way is by making Christ and his Church the center of family and individual life. Ways to do this include: reading scripture regularly, praying, attending Mass weekly, imitating the actions of the Holy Family, and so forth, all done together. In addition to cultivating positive actions, the Church understands that various actions and behaviors are contrary to God's Divine plan for the family, and these should be avoided. These include abortion, contraception, gay marriage, fetal stem-cell research, divorce, spousal abuse, child abuse, and co-habitation. In the Catholic Church, a marriage must be open to children. Anything artificial that prevents this is wrong.

New Years Resolution

- In the next fifty-two weeks, I will try to plan my day better so that I can get to church early and enjoy a few quiet moments before Mass begins. I will give myself time to gather my thoughts and not be so stressed out or distracted when I pray on Sunday.
- In the next fifty-two weeks, I'm going to greet and welcome the people that sit next to me in church. I will try to show a spirit of hospitality and welcome, especially to the people I don't know. I'll let them know how happy I am to be able to pray with them on Sunday, especially those new to our parish.
- In the next fifty-two weeks, I'm going to try to sing at Mass, even if I don't have a great voice. I'll even make an attempt to open the hymnal, find the song, and help to make our congregation sound better, more alive, more faith-filled. If I get good, maybe I'll even join the choir.
- In the next fifty-two weeks, I'm going to stick around to hear the last words of the final hymn. I won't leave church early. I'll say hello to the priest after Mass. I'll thank him for celebrating the Mass. I'll adjust my schedule so that I don't have to run out of church early. I'll try to spiritually and prayerfully pace myself on Sunday. I'll try to set an example for others.
- In the next fifty-two weeks, I'll join a particular ministry. I know the parish is always looking for new Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Ushers. I know the time commitment is very minimal. I can handle it. It's my way of offering my time and my service to the parish.

(reprinted from Fr. Larry Lisowski's article in the St. Cyril & Methodius bulletin)

January 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Mass 10:00am No RE Classes	2	3	4 First Friday Devotions 8:45am	5 Church in Latin America Collection
6  Epiphany © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. Church in Latin America Collection	7	8 RE Teach- ers Mtg. 6:00pm RE Classes 6:30pm	9 Purgatorial Society Mass 7:00pm	10	11	12
13	14	15 No RE Classes	16 Prayerful Wishes Society Mass 7:00pm Holy Name Meeting 7:45pm	17	18	19 We pro- mote 2008 Annual Catholic Appeal
20 We pro- mote 2008 Annual Catholic Appeal	21	22 1st Com- munion Parents Mtg. 6:30pm RE Classes 6:30pm	23	24	25	26 In-Pew Solicita- tion for 2008 Annual Catholic Appeal
27 In-Pew Solicita- tion for 2008 Annual Catholic Appeal	28	29 No RE Classes	30	31		

