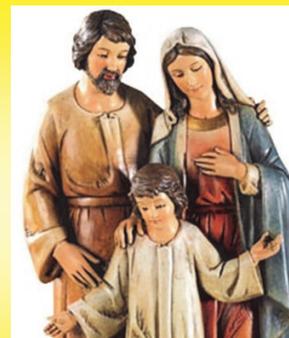




St. James Church
299 Red Oak Dr. Aitkin

*Welcome to the Parishes of
St. James and Holy Family
Catholic Churches
And Our Lady of Fatima Chapel*



Holy Family Church
2 S Maddy St. McGregor

Office and Mailing Address:

Office: 218-927-6581 Fax: 218-927-6589 Email: aggie@aitkincatholic.org

Mailing Address: 299 Red Oak Dr., Aitkin, MN 56431

Pastor

Fr. David Forsman.....763-227-7968
fatherforsman@gmail.com

Deacons

Bill Stein..... 218-927-3613
Deaconbillstein@aol.com
Mike Eisenbraun..... 218-513-8119
m.eisenbraun@yahoo.com
Mike Barta..... 218-232-0746
mjbart@frontiernet.net

Religious Education:

St. James

Assistant Directors of Religious Education

Jr/Sr. High Jeremy Justen.....218-670-0165
Elementary Jen Kinzer218-839-0344
Marie James218-839-0680

Prayer Chain Requests

Jan Burt (SJ).....218-927-3587
Kathy Cummings (SJ)..... 218-927-6483
Elaine Hill (SJ).....218-838-5982
Carol Wiherski (SJ)..... 218-927-6880
Shirley Scollard (HF).....218-839-0754

Online opportunities

St. James: www.aitkincatholic.org
Connect to St. James Church via Facebook

Holy Family & Our Lady of Fatima Chapel
www.mcgregorcatholicchurch.org

Pray the Rosary

SJ—Sat. 4:25 pm/Sun. 9:25 am/
Tues—Fri-8:05 am
HF—Sundays 7:30 am
OLOF—Sundays 9:30 am

Bulletin Submissions

218-927-6581 or bulletin@aitkincatholic.org

Deadline - Mondays at 4:00 pm.

Find the Bulletin anytime at:

www.parishesonline.com
www.aitkincatholic.org (SJ)
www.mcgregorcatholicchurch.org (HF)

Mass Schedule

Weekday:
Tues-Fri.....8:30 am St. James
Weekend:
Saturday....5:00 pm.....St. James
Sunday.....8:00 am.....Holy Family
10:00 am.....St. James

Confessions

Sat: 10:00—10:45 am St. James
4:00—4:45 pm St. James
Sun: 7:15—7:45 am Holy Family
(or by appointment)

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY OF THE DIVINE MERCY
APRIL 11, 2021

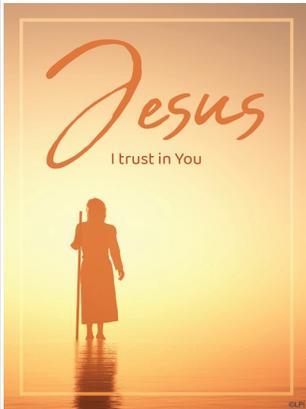


2nd Sunday
OF EASTER

“Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” - Jn 20:29BC

A Message from Father David

For those who felt my Easter homily was 10 minutes too long, I have condensed it for you. Funny thing about preaching long, I always wonder what part the listener would have chosen the homilist to have left out. The beginning with the “hook,” the personal story or connection, the main point or the ending? All I know is that when you start thinking (to yourself) this is “too long” you begin to “tune out.” (I did this in college and grad school all the time with boring professors who would be droning on about their topics.) I believe the main points of my homily on Sunday bears repeating to you because they are very relevant to our times. Namely, the ordinary activity of Satan in juxtaposition to the



Power of Christ, His Cross and Resurrection and consequently, the Church Militant’s spiritual battle displayed in the secular, humanistic world we live in.

The Devil’s ultimate goal is to fracture us. Our prayer life. Our faith life. Our moral life. Our connection to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and Confession. All of our relationships. Parents, siblings, extended family members, friends, co-workers, parish members. Divide by sin and conquer – this is the devil’s tactic. All serious sin divides us mortally; it leaves wounds that require surgical healing and time. We bleed out because of how we fail to preserve and cherish our relationships. What gets us is pride, a lack of humility, a lack of respect, not caring for others feelings or their point of view. It dates back to Adam and Eve - both of them wanting to have this knowledge of good and evil. And so even today we deny the truth of obedience to God and His will and get thrust from the paradise of peace and justice in our relationships.

And so the four ways old red-legs works on us, in and through his ordinary work or way are the following: **deception** (I called it “distraction” on Sunday), **division, diversion and discouragement**. All of these are understandable and you can see how the devil works and uses these means just by understanding the definition of the word itself. A faithful soul could carry these words with them daily as a means of exam. *Did I deceive anyone today? Did I bring about division in my relationships? Have I strayed from the path of righteousness? Did I lose hope?*

I think it is obvious to point out that people who struggle with addictions are suspect to the devil’s game more than anyone. Examine the 4 Ds again to confirm this. And the worst agents (or co-conspirators) of the Devil’s plan are those who will either verbally, physically or sexually abuse others in their life. What they do to those they abuse and what they cause their victims to feel is the rotten fruit of the Devil tree, pure and simple. Awareness, reflection, wisdom and understanding are so important in the spiritual world. Similar to mindfulness in the psychological world, in the spiritual world practicing the “presence of God” means living under His power and control, obeying His words and will. The 4 Ds are not only the Devil realm but they easily become ours. We have to fight to make the Kingdom of God our realm just as God has accomplished this through Jesus’ Paschal Mystery. We must oppose every part and parcel of the 4 Ds.

I’ll leave you with one last thought. During this pandemic and as it continues, can you recognize the 4 Ds intertwined with it? How so? Do you think that this has been a work of the Devil? Can you see through it and see God in the pandemic? Where is the presence of God in all this? That’s another long homily.

More to come...

God bless and have a good week everyone! Fr. David

Fr. David’s Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, April 11

7:15-7:45 am	Confessions (HF)
8:00 am	Mass (HF)
10:00 am	Mass (SJ)

Tuesday, April 13

8:00 am	Angelus (SJ)
8:05 am	Rosary (SJ)
8:30 am	Mass (SJ)

Wednesday, April 14

8:00 am	Angelus (SJ)
8:05 am	Rosary (SJ)
8:30 am	Mass (SJ)

Thursday, April 15

8:00 am	Angelus (SJ)
8:05 am	Rosary (SJ)
8:30 am	Mass (SJ)
9:00 am	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament (SJ)

Friday, April 16

8:00 am	Angelus (SJ)
8:05 am	Rosary (SJ)
8:30 am	Mass (SJ)
9:00 am	Vocations Holy Hour (SJ)

Saturday, April 17

10:00 - 10:45 am	Confessions (SJ)
4:00 - 4:45 pm	Confessions (SJ)
5:00 pm	Mass (SJ)

Sunday, April 18

7:15-7:45 am	Confessions (HF)
8:00 am	Mass (HF)
10:00 am	Mass (SJ)

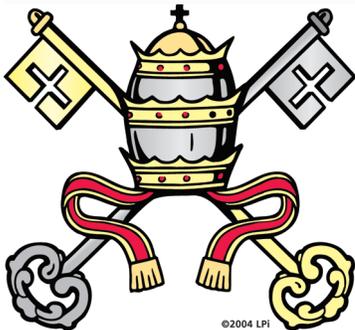
(HF)-Holy Family • (SJ)-Saint James



Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

"Love one another as I have loved you." John 13:34 -
Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Weekend and experience the love of your spouse like you never have before. The next available Weekends are Apr 16-18, 2021 in OLIVIA, MN and Oct 8-10, 2021 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: northmnwwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org or 612-756-8720



Pope's Prayer Intentions

Universal Intention: Fundamental Rights

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

Christ the King Retreat Center

Buffalo, MN

Women's Silent Retreats

"A Listening Heart"
April 16-18
May 14-16
May 24-27



Go to www.kingshouse.com for more information

about the above retreats and to find out more information.

*"Abortion and racism are both symptoms of a fundamental human error. The error is thinking that when someone stands in the way of our wants, we can justify getting that person out of our lives. Abortion and racism stem from the same poisonous root, selfishness."
~Alveda King*



April 11, 2021

- Sun: Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-3
- Mon: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/Jn 3:1-8
- Tues: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7b-15
- Wed: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21
- Thurs: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36
- Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15
- Sat: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/Jn 6:16-21
- Next Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

Next Sunday: Third Sunday of Easter

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Stewardship Report



Through March 28, 2021

(Fiscal Year: July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021)

St. James •

Attendance	310
Weekly Goal	\$5,020
Received 3/28/2021	\$8,989
Fiscal Year to date goal.....	\$195,788
Fiscal Year to date received	\$217,754

Holy Family •

Attendance	72
Weekly Goal	\$1,410
Received 3/28/2021	\$1,198
Fiscal Year to date goal.....	\$54,975
Fiscal Year to date received	\$58,310

Our Lady of Fatima•

Attendance	29
Weekly Goal	\$127
Received 3/28/2021	\$364
Fiscal Year to date goal.....	\$4,943
Fiscal Year to date received	\$5,498

Thank you for your contributions!

"Trust me."

- GOD

©LPI

GOSPEL MEDITATION

April 11, 2021

What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. "Mercy is the heart of God," Pope Francis tells us. The image of a heart has been used to point to the very life source of a person as it is the organ that allows life to flow through our veins and sustain us. Mercy is the heart of God. Imagine this dynamic, powerful, compassionate, piercing, embracing, loving, propelling, penetrating, absorbing, and enveloping, transforming presence of God flowing into the very depth of our souls. It is God's mercy that allows blood to flow through our veins. It is God's mercy that forms every atom of our being and leads us to what is true. God's mercy reveals all superficiality and falsehood, and lays bare all distortions, empty promises, weakness, and sin.

"Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope," Pope Francis continues. God's all forgiving, compassionate love is with us. When we finally believe and accept that Christ's resurrected transfigured presence resides with us, we then find within us a strong confidence to accept life's imperfections and disappointments and move on. Every day is a new adventure in new life. God leaves the past behind and opens doors to the future. It doesn't matter how many mistakes we made yesterday. All that matters is what we do tomorrow and what we learn along the way. It is so



easy to remain tethered and mired in the past, but there is no need to do so. God is all about tomorrow and the work God has yet to do in our lives.

Mercy gives birth to hope. Hope for the greatest of sinners and hope for the worst of disasters. There is nothing God cannot do and nothing God cannot fashion. After all, everything we know and treasure was once nothing, and look what God did with the nothing God had! The resurrected Christ stands before us with nail marks in his wrists and wounds on his body as a testament that not even injustice, suffering and death can trample over and destroy God's mercy. What have we to fear? Why do we keep ourselves from peace? Our lack of faith prevents us from going forward and fully receiving the holiness God desires to breathe upon us. Breathe in God's mercy, allow the wind of God's presence to kiss all of your sins and caress all of your fears. Exhale peace.

St. James

299 Red Oak Drive, Aitkin



Al Tibbetts and his bereaved family and friends.
Joe Gemlo and his bereaved family and friends.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.

St. James Food Shelf

April 17/18 Canned meat, tuna, chicken, Spam

April 24/25 Flour, Sugar, Baking items

May 1/2 Rice, dry beans

Thanks for all you do to help those in need.



Liturgical Minister's Schedule

If anyone is interested in being a lector, EOM, usher, altar server, the schedule is being prepared for the summer months. If you are unavailable on certain dates, please email bulletin@aitkincatholic.org or call the Parish Office so the schedule can be prepared with that in mind. If you would like to help and are not currently scheduled, feel free to contact the office to add your name to the list and schedule any required training. Thank you. The deadline is April 12, 2021.

Holy Family

2 S Maddy Street, McGregor



Adoration / Holy Hour / Benediction

Anyone is welcome to visit the Lord in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays between 9:30 am and 6 pm with benediction beginning at 5:50 pm. There is still a need for individuals to sign up for an hour or be on a substitute list. If interested please call or text Andrea at 763-360-2058.

Our Lady of Fatima

102 S Highway 65 McGrath

OLOF Chapel Mass Schedule

The Rosary will be prayed half hour before Mass.

Please note this schedule is subject to change due to Fr. Solors' availability.

Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 10 am

Sunday, April 25, 2021 at 10 am

Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 10 am



Religious Education

Little Gobblers

The packets of home lessons and classroom lessons for April are ready for pick up if you have not already picked up this month's home lessons.

Attention Second Grade First Communion Class

First Holy Communion practice is scheduled for Saturday, April 17th. Please meet in the Gathering Space at 11:00 am. First Communion will take place on April 18th at the 10:00 Mass.

Be sure to contact Jen or Marie if you have any questions or need to register. Thanks!

CAGE Class Dates

Sunday, April 11 After Mass (Today!)

(Mandatory Confirmation Prep for juniors and sponsors)

For Wednesday CAGE Night classes, students should arrive by 6:25 pm.

April 14
April 21

Mandatory Confirmation Prep class for juniors and sponsors May 9

This Week

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Sunday, April 11

After Mass

Confirmation Prep Class (SJ)

Tuesday, April 13

6:30 am

That Man is You (SJ)

Wednesday, April 14

6:30 pm

CAGE night (SJ)

Thursday, April 15

7:30 am

Rosary (SJ)

9:00 am to 8:00 pm

Adoration (SJ)

9:30 am to 5:50 pm

Adoration (HF)

5:50 pm

Benediction (HF)

Friday, April 16

9:00 am

Vocations Holy Hour (SJ)

Saturday, April 17

11:00 am

First Holy Communion practice (SJ)

Sunday, April 18

10:00 am Mass

First Holy Communion (SJ)



Thank our advertiser OF THE WEEK

A-1 Enterprises
For All Your Exterior Needs

(218) 678-2493



Tuesday, April 13

8:30 am Laura Mae Cassady (SJ)

Wednesday, April 14

8:30 am Doug Mingus (SJ)

Thursday, April 15

8:30 am Mike Walsh (SJ)

Friday, April 16

8:30 am Don Grandquist (SJ)

Saturday, April 17

5:00 pm John LaClair (SJ)

Sunday, April 18

8:00 am For the Parishioners (HF)

10:00 am Allan Franz (OL)

10:00 am Marlene Mahlstedt
Mass of the Living (SJ)

(HF)-Holy Family • (SJ)-Saint James •
(OL) Our Lady of Fatima



Saturday, April 17 at 5:00 pm (SJ)

Sacristan/Server.....Tim Ryan
Lector.....Judy Ryan
EOMs.....(MOB) Jodie and Tom Provost
Ushers.....Pam Landgren, Gary Tibbitts, two volunteers

Sunday, April 18 at 8:00 am (HF)

..... Please see the green binder in narthex.

Sunday, April 18 at 10:00 am (OL)

..... Volunteers needed.

Sunday, April 18 at 10:00 am (SJ)

Sacristan.....Adam James
Server.....Jerome Joerger
Lector.....Cindy Lent
EOMs.....(MOB) Marie James, Carroll Janzen
Ushers.....John Appel, Hugh Janzen
.....Don Lent, volunteer

(HF)-Holy Family • (SJ)-Saint James •
(OL) Our Lady of Fatima