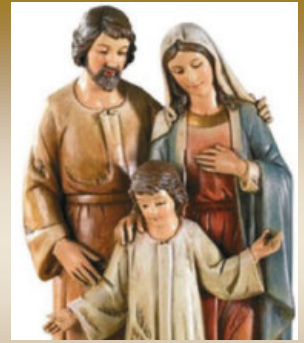




St. James Church
299 Red Oak Dr. Aitkin
www.aitkincatholic.org

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

Office Hours: M-Th 9am-5pm, Fri. 9am-Noon
Phone: 218-927-6581 Fax: 218-927-6589
Email: office@aitkincatholic.org
Mailing Address: 299 Red Oak Dr., Aitkin, MN 56431
Connect to Holy Family and St. James Church via Facebook



Holy Family Church
2 S Maddy St. McGregor
www.mcgregorcatholicchurch.org

Mass & Confession Times

Mass Schedule

Weekday*		Weekend*
Most Mon	7:30 am (SJ)	Saturday 5:00 pm (SJ)
Tues	8:30 am (HF)	Sunday 8:00 am (HF)
Wed-Fri	8:30 am (SJ)	10:30 am (SJ)

*Pray the Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet one-half hour before Holy Mass.

Pray with the Knights

Join the Knights of Columbus on Tuesday mornings at 8:00 am at St. James to pray the Holy Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and other devotionals.

Confessions

Saturday	10:00–10:45 am	St. James
	4:00–4:40 pm	St. James
Tuesday	5:30–6:30 pm	Holy Family
Wednesday	5:30–6:30 pm	St. James
	(or by appointment)	

Pastoral Staff

Pastor

Fr. Mike Patullo218-927-6581
fathermikepatullo@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
mjbarta@frontiernet.net

Other Contacts

Religious Education:

St. James

Director of Religious Education

Jen Kinzer 218-839-0344
reled@aitkincatholic.org

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

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 10, 2023**



**2nd SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. - Mk 1:4

Readings of the Week

Readings for the week of December 10, 2023

Sun: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
 Mon: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26
 Tues: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
 Wed: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
 Thurs: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15
 Fri: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
 Sat: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

©LPI

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 11

7:30 am Herman Janzen † (SJ)

Tuesday, December 12

8:30 am Linda Farah Thompson † (HF)

Wednesday, December 13

8:30 am Gene Nardini † (SJ)

Thursday, December 14

8:30 am Lynn Monson † (SJ)

Friday, December 15

8:30 am John Lacore † (SJ)

Saturday, December 16

5:00 pm Jo and Frank Lafferty † (SJ)

Sunday, December 17

8:00 am Betty DuRose † (HF)
 10:00 am Graciela Garcia † (OL)
 10:30 am For the People (SJ)

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

Mass Intentions: Deceased †

Mass Intention Requests

We have days available at all parishes for your Mass intentions. Suggested offering is \$10.00 per Mass. Submit your request by calling the parish office, stopping by the office, or dropping a Mass Intention envelope in the collection basket.

Sacraments

Baptism

Please contact the parish office to arrange for Baptism preparation and to schedule a Baptism.

Marriage

Couples are required to contact the parish office to make arrangements at least six to eight months in advance of the planned date.

Hospital Admission

If you are admitted to the hospital, please have a friend or family member notify the parish office for visits and prayers for you.

Communion for the Sick & Homebound

Please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick

If you are experiencing a serious illness or if someone is close to death, please contact the parish office to arrange to receive the Sacrament.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, December 10

After 8:00 am Mass Fellowship, Coffee and Treats (HF)
 After 10:00 am Mass Coffee and Treats (OL)

Monday, December 11

9:30—10:30 am S.A.I.L. Class (SJ)
 5:15 pm Metanoia Study (SJ)

Tuesday, December 12

6:00 am That Man is You (SJ)
 8:00—9:00 am Pray with the Knights (SJ)
 9:30—11:30 am Bible Study: Matthew (HF)
 9:30 am Rosary Makers (SJ)
 Noon—3 pm Food Shelf Hours (SJ)
 5:30—7:30 pm Confessions (HF)
 6:00—8:00 pm Bible Study: Matthew (HF)

Wednesday, December 13

9:30—10:30 am S.A.I.L. Class (SJ)
 5:30—7:00 pm Meal/Religious Education (SJ)

Thursday, December 14

9:00 am to 6:00 pm Adoration (SJ)
 9:30 am to 6:00 pm Adoration (HF)
 6:00 pm OCIA Class (SJ)

Friday, December 15

8:00 am Men's Group (HF)

Sunday, December 17

After 8:00 am Mass Fellowship, Coffee and Treats (HF)
 After 10:00 am Mass Coffee and Treats (OL)
 After 10:30 am Mass Coffee and Donuts (SJ)
 11:45 am St. Vincent de Paul Society Q&A session (SJ)

Vocations Chalice Schedule

Date	St. James	Holy Family
12/10	Renee Irwin	Phil & Brenda Atkinson
12/17	Dani McWilliams	Helen Pollreis

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Last weekend at Holy Mass we heard about the St. Vincent de Paul Society. You are invited to share in their ministry of experiencing God in serving people living in poverty. There will be a question-and-answer meeting for those who are interested on Sunday, December 17th at 11:45 am at St. James in the gathering space. Please prayerfully consider this worthwhile ministry.

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Support a lifetime of service. Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings.

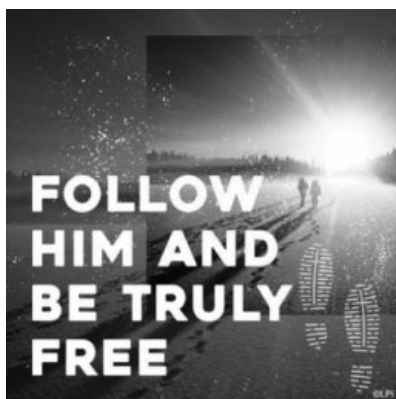


As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.

Call for Community Food Shelf Director

Since 2001, the non-profit Community Food Shelf at First Lutheran Church has served our Aitkin community neighbors and their families who are experiencing food security challenges. Like our neighbors who shop at the Food Shelf, the volunteers who run the operation come from all walks of life, faith denominations, and life experiences. Our Food Shelf would not be able to operate without dedicated and compassionate volunteers who give their time and energy to help feed our Aitkin community. The current director, Laura Smith, has given her notice of retirement. We are now searching for a replacement for Laura to ensure a smooth transition of operational

leadership knowledge. If you feel called to serve our Aitkin neighbors in this food security space as a Director or in a different volunteer capacity, we ask that you contact Blain Graphenteen at barkshutch@gmail.com or Dave Benson at davebenson847@gmail.com for more information. Thank you in advance for your attention and prayerful consideration of this request.



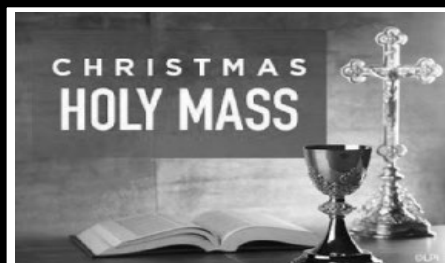
Advent Additional Confession Times:

Tuesday, Dec. 12th 5:30—7 pm
at Holy Family
(extra priest available)

Tuesday, Dec. 19th 5:30—7 pm
at St. James
(extra priest available)

Wednesday, Dec. 20th 5:30—7 pm
at St. James
(extra priest available)

Saturday, Dec. 23rd 10—11:30 am
at St. James
(extra priest available)



*Sunday, December 24
Christmas Eve
5:00 pm—St. James*

*Monday, December 25
Christmas Day
8:00 am—Holy Family
10:00 am—Our Lady of Fatima
10:30 am—St. James*

Stewardship Report (Fiscal Year: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024)

	St. James	Holy Family	Our Lady of Fatima
Through November 26, 2023			
Attendance	306	90	13
Received	\$5,415	\$2,530	\$125
Fiscal Year to Date Goal	\$135,829	\$41,965	\$4,208
Fiscal Year to Date Received	\$133,119	\$39,105	\$3,645
UCA 2023 Assessment	\$62,107.18	\$19,202.13	\$1,927.75
UCA 2023 Received	\$59,094.18	\$10,234.10	\$1,815.65

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

<i>Bulletin Date</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
Dec. 24	Noon Dec. 13th
Dec. 31	Noon Dec. 20th
Jan. 7	Noon Dec. 28th

Email bulletin submissions to office@aitkincatholic.org

St. James
299 Red Oak Drive, Aitkin

St. James Rosary Makers

St. James Rosary Makers will be meeting this Tuesday, December 12th at 9:30 a.m. in the social hall. New members are welcome. If you have any questions, call Roseann at 218-927-2505.



Time to order Christmas Poinsettias!

Our St. James parish family will again have the opportunity to order and purchase a beautiful 6" poinsettia plant, in memory of your loved ones, to adorn the altar area of our blessed church. Each plant is \$21.00. If you would like to order a poinsettia, please call: Renee Irwin 218-513-7544. The deadline is Dec. 18th. Thank you and God Bless!



Bell Ringers Needed

Volunteer bell ringers needed for two-hour shifts at Paulbeck's County Market starting Monday, November 27th. To volunteer call 218-735-6122 or register online at registertoring.com. Funds raised in our community help those living in our community!



Holy Family
2 S Maddy Street, McGregor



Patricia Foster and Tressa Morres and their bereaved families and friends. May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.

Poinsettias

If you are interested in providing a poinsettia in memory/honor of a loved one this Christmas season, please place your donation in the collection basket. The cost is \$20. Checks should be made out to Holy Family.

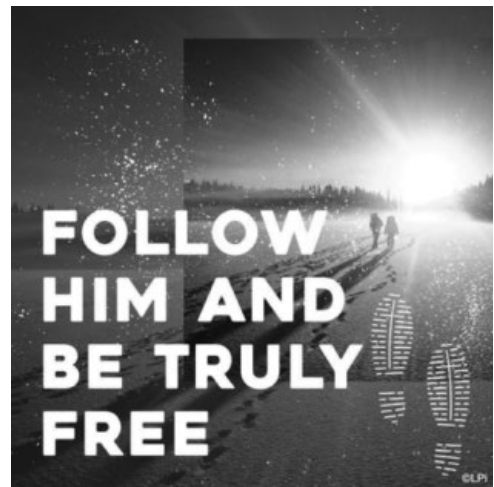
Red Kettle Drive at Ukura's Big Dollar

Bell ringers are once again needed for the Red Kettle Drive at Ukura's Big Dollar in McGregor. We will continue ringing the bells until Wednesday, December 20th. If you can spare 2 hours or more of your time for this worthwhile cause or would like more information, please give Shirley Scollard a call at 218-426-3527.



Men's Group

The Holy Family Men's Group meets this Friday at 8 a.m. in the social hall. All men are invited.



St. James Liturgical Ministers*

***For the latest updates, check Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP)**

Saturday, December 16 at 5:00 pm
 Sacristan/Server....Terry Stein
 Lector Glenda Flier
 EOMs Julie Carlson, Dolores Wickham
 Ushers..... Brian Carlson, Brian Avery, 2 volunteers


Sunday, December 17 at 10:30 am
 Sacristan Adam James
 Servers Jayden Janzen, Noah Janzen
 Lector Nancy Jenniges
 EOMs Kirk Peysar, Shirley Gravelle
 Ushers.....Jeremy Janzen, Ellie and Russ Hoppe, vol.

Our Lady of Fatima
Holy Mass Schedule*
 102 S Highway 65, McGrath

All Masses are at 10 a.m.

Sunday, December 10
 Sunday, December 17
 Sunday, December 24

***Please note this schedule is subject to change.**



Youth / Religious Education

Religious Education: Wednesday, December 13

Meal for students and families beginning at 5:30pm.

Class for Elementary (Pre-K through Grade 6) and Jr/Sr High (7-11) will meet 6:00 to 7:00pm

Upcoming Schedule

Religious Education classes are scheduled:

December 13 & 20

Note: No class on Dec 27

Classes will resume on January 3rd

Lending Library?

New books are in the library, which are only available during the Advent and Christmas Season. Check out the selection today, bring them back next week and find something different.



Respect Life Essay Contest

Attention Students Grade 5-12! The Diocese of Duluth is holding a Respect Life Essay Contest. The theme is "Radical Solidarity." The focus is on the call to live out



radical solidarity with mothers in need and their children, putting our love in action.

There are two categories (Middle School, grades 5-8 and High School, grades 9-12). Prizes will be awarded.

If you are interested, Jen has the exact details. All essays must be sent together from our parish, so Jen will need to submit entries together. She will need them no later than December 20th at Religious Education class.



Holy Family Religious Release

Religious Release on Wednesdays!

- 1st–3rd grades will be from 1–2 pm
- 4th–6th grades will be from 2–3 pm

If you have any questions, call Andrea at 763-360-2058.



Adult Faith Formation

ADVENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Little Blue Book

Advent and Christmas Seasons 2023-2024

Six-minute reflections on the Infancy Narrative of Luke. Commit to a daily prayer time and make this *Little Book* your companion during Advent. These readings provide the framework for you to enjoy one of our oldest traditions of prayer called *lectio divina*—sacred reading. People are often surprised at how easy it is to pray this way, and how deep such prayer can be.



FORMED – ADVENT

Explore the Seasons of Advent and Christmas with other great videos, audiobooks, and talks by visiting our Advent & Christmas collection: <https://watch.formed.org/advent-and-christmas>.

Prepare for Christ's coming with two new Advent series from the Augustine Institute.

- Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree This Advent.
- Drawing Closer to God: A Catholic Art Show for Kids.

Hallow – Join the Advent Pray25 Challenge

Pray every day this Advent with C.S. Lewis. Deepen your prayer life this Advent with Hallow, a Catholic prayer and meditation app that helps us all find peace in God.



Flyers and cards are available at each parish. Hallow.com/pray.

- Daily Prayers—Start your day with the Daily Gospel, Rosary, Examen, or one of over 10,000 sessions, including daily meditations, homilies, reflections, and Bible studies.
- Family Content—Pray as a family with weekly Mass Prep, or guide your little ones with introductory prayer session for ages 3 and up as well as sacrament prep.
- Bible Stories & Sleep Content—Close your day with Christ with an Examen, Night Prayer, or a Rosary with guests like Bishop Barron, Mark Wahlberg, and Jonathan Roumie.

Dynamic Catholic Best Advent Ever

What kind of Christmas do you want to have? Most people spend Advent stuck in an endless cycle of stress and busyness. Is it any wonder why we get to Christmas and struggle to find any real peace? Don't let that be your story this year. Sign up for BEST ADVENT EVER now...and spend a few minutes each day immersed in the radical and relevant wisdom of Jesus in the Gospels. It's a simple decision—but one that will invite you to experience the joy, peace, and life-changing message of Christmas like never before. Sign up at www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent.



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