



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,

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)	

Pastor

Pastoral Staff

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
mjbart@frontiernet.net

Other Contacts

Religious Education

St. James

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

Holy Family

Andrea Oden 763-360-2058

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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 17, 2023**

Third Sunday of
ADVENT



Readings of the Week ©LPI

Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sun: 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
Mon: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/
Mt 1:18-25
Tues: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab,
16-17/Lk 1:5-25
Wed: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
Thurs: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,
20-21/Lk 1:39-45
Fri: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/
Lk 1:46-56
Sat: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and
14/Lk 1:57-66
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38 ©LPI

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 18

7:30 am Bernice Brown † (SJ)

Tuesday, December 19

8:30 am JoAnn Darlow † (HF)

Wednesday, December 20

8:30 am Tom Gravelle † (SJ)

Thursday, December 21

8:30 am Fr. David Forsman (SJ)

Friday, December 22

8:30 am Jim Ryan † (SJ)

Saturday, December 23

5:00 pm Chuck Fiedler † (SJ)

Sunday, December 24

8:00 am For the People (HF)

10:00 am Graciela Garcia † (OL)

10:30 am Al and RoseAnn Nentl † (SJ)

Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Rita Thompson † (SJ)

Monday, December 25, Christmas Day

8:00 am For the People (HF)

10:00 am June Romanowski † (OL)

10:30 am Tim Anderson † (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 ©LPI

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)

Monday, December 18

9:30–10:30 am S.A.I.L. Class (SJ)

Tuesday, December 19

6:00 am That Man is You (SJ)

8:00–9:00 am Pray with the Knights (SJ)

Noon–3 pm Food Shelf Hours (SJ)

5:30–7:00 pm Confessions (SJ)

Wednesday, December 20

9:30–10:30 am S.A.I.L. Class (SJ)

5:30–7:00 pm Confessions (SJ)

5:30–7:00 pm Meal/Religious Education (SJ)

Thursday, December 21

9:00 am to 6:00 pm Adoration (SJ)

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

6:00 pm OCIA Class (SJ)

Saturday, December 23

10:00–11:30 am Confessions (SJ)

Vocations Chalice Schedule

Date	St. James	Holy Family
12/17	Dani McWilliams	Helen Pollreis
12/24	Mary Ellen Johnson	Tom and Andrea Oden

All Parish News



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



Advent Additional Confession Times:

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)



St. John's Hill City Scholarship

\$1000 scholarship available.

Did you know that students who either attended, and/or have a family member who attended St. John's Catholic Church

in Hill City can apply for a \$1000 scholarship for post-secondary education? St. John's Catholic Church in Hill City has funded a scholarship available to graduating seniors or any adult pursuing secondary education. Applicants must have either been a parishioner of St. John's Catholic Church or have a family member who was a member of St. John's. More than one \$1000 scholarship will be awarded. Apply through the Grand Rapids Community Foundation Scholarship Portal <https://gracf.org/scholarships/scholarship-application/>. Applications are accepted from January 1 until March 15, 2024.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Question & Answer Meeting

Today, December 17th at 11:45 am at St. James is a question-and-answer meeting for those who are interested in serving in this ministry.



EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

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

Email bulletin submissions to office@aitkincatholic.org

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

Through December 3, 2023	St. James	Holy Family	Our Lady of Fatima
Attendance	291	110	13
Received	\$5,852	\$3,535	\$145
Fiscal Year to Date Goal	\$142,003	\$43,873	\$4,399
Fiscal Year to Date Received	\$138,971	\$42,640	\$3,790
UCA 2023 Assessment	\$62,107.18	\$19,202.13	\$1,927.75
UCA 2023 Received	\$60,423.18	\$10,601.10	\$1,899.65

Retirement Fund for Religious Thank You

Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious. To learn more about how your gift helps, visit retiredreligious.org.

Christmas Decorating Help Wanted

Looking for volunteers to help decorate the church for Christmas on Sunday, December 24th after the 10:30 am Mass. Please contact the office or Tammy Novak if you have questions.



John Born and his bereaved family and friends. May his soul and the souls of all the faithfully departed rest in peace.

Last Chance 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!



Poinsettias

If you are interested in providing a poinsettia in memory/honor of a loved one this Christmas season and haven't done so yet, please contact the office. The cost is \$20. Checks should be made out to Holy Family.



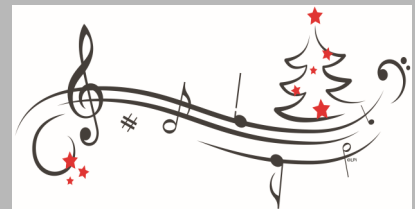
Red Kettle Drive at Ukura's Big Dollar

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.



Join the Choir

If you are interested in joining the choir, please contact: Deacon Mike Barta.



St. James Liturgical Ministers*

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

Saturday, December 23 at 5:00 pm

Sacristan/Server....Bob Cummings
Lector Carol Wiherski
EOMs Irmgard Boyer, Jan Burt
Ushers..... Elaine Hill, Gayle and Bob Janzen, vol.

Sunday, December 24 at 10:30 am

Sacristan Carroll Janzen
Servers Isabel McWilliams, Luke Workman
Lector Nancy Jenniges
EOMs Colton Varner, Betty Anderson
Ushers..... Tom Lundberg, Tom Druar, 2 volunteers

Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 pm

Sacristan.... Hugh Janzen
Servers Jerome Joerger, Lane Anderson
Lector Becky Joerger
EOMs Greg Jacobs, Theresa Jacobs
Ushers..... Josh Joerger, Mark Ritter, Kirk Peysar, vol

Christmas Day Monday, December 25 at 10:30 am

Sacristan Bob Cummings
Servers Evelyn Anderson, Isabel McWilliams
Lector Steve Kinzer
EOMs Kathleen Ryan, Tim Ryan
Ushers... Brian Avery, Martin Schmitt, Chad Larson, vol.



Our Lady of Fatima Holy Mass Schedule*

102 S Highway 65, McGrath

All Masses are at 10 a.m.

Sunday, December 17
Sunday, December 24
Monday, December 25
Sunday, December 31



*Please note this schedule is subject to change.

Religious Education: Wednesday, December 20

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 20

Note: No class on Dec 27

Classes will resume on January 3rd

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.

ESSAY CONTEST

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.



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. 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 sessions 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.

