



St. James Church  
299 Red Oak Dr. Aitkin  
[www.aitkincatholic.org](http://www.aitkincatholic.org)

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

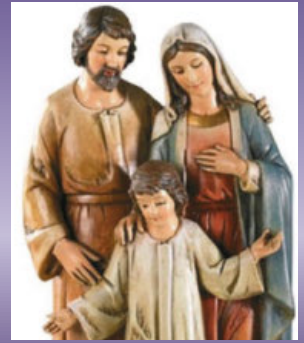
Office Hours: M-Th 9am-5pm, Fri. 9am-Noon

Phone: 218-927-6581 Fax: 218-927-6589

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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](http://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
	(or by appointment)	

**Pastoral Staff**

**Pastor**

Fr. Mike Patullo .....218-927-6581  
[fathermikapatullo@gmail.com](mailto:fathermikapatullo@gmail.com)

**Deacons**

Bill Stein..... 218-927-3613  
[Deaconbillstein@aol.com](mailto:Deaconbillstein@aol.com)  
Mike Eisenbraun..... 218-513-8119  
[m.eisenbraun@yahoo.com](mailto:m.eisenbraun@yahoo.com)  
Mike Barta..... 218-232-0746  
[mjbarta@frontiernet.net](mailto:mjbarta@frontiernet.net)

**Other Contacts**

**Religious Education:**

**St. James**

Director of Religious Education

Jen Kinzer ..... 218-839-0344  
[reled@aitkincatholic.org](mailto: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

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 3, 2023**



# Readings of the Week

## Readings for the week of December 3, 2023

- Sun: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37  
 Mon: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11  
 Tues: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24  
 Wed: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37  
 Thurs: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
 Fri: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38  
 Sat: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8  
 Next 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

©LPI

## MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday, December 4** No Mass  
**Tuesday, December 5**  
 8:30 am Clarence Hetzel † (HF)  
**Wednesday, December 6**  
 8:30 am Roz Gill † (SJ)  
**Thursday, December 7**  
 8:30 am Pat McConnell Kutz † (SJ)  
 6:00 pm John LaClair † (SJ)  
**Friday, December 8**  
 8:30 am Jessie Latterell † (SJ)  
 10:00 am Souls in Purgatory † (OL)  
 6:00 pm For the People (SJ)  
**Saturday, December 9**  
 5:00 pm Bishop Strickland (SJ)  
**Sunday, December 10**  
 8:00 am For the People (HF)  
 10:00 am Howard Fulks (OL)  
 10:30 am Lin Ritter † (SJ)

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

Mass Intentions: Deceased †

## 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 3

- After 8:00 am Mass Fellowship, Coffee and Treats (HF)  
 8:30 am—Noon KC Family Breakfast (SJ)  
 After 10:00 am Mass Coffee and Treats (OL)

### Monday, December 4

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

### Tuesday, December 5

- 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)  
 Noon—3 pm Food Shelf Hours (SJ)  
 5:30—6:30 pm Confessions (HF)  
 6:00—8:00 pm Bible Study: Matthew (HF)

### Wednesday, December 6

- 9:30—10:30 am S.A.I.L. Class (SJ)  
 5:30—7:00 pm Meal/Religious Education (SJ)  
 5:30—6:30 pm Confessions (SJ)

### Thursday, December 7

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

### Friday, December 8 Holy Day of Obligation

- The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
 9:00 am CCW Meeting (HF)

### Saturday, December 9

- 11:00 am First Reconciliation (SJ)

### Sunday, December 10

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

## Vocations Chalice Schedule

Date	St. James	Holy Family
12/3	Bernie & Tammy Novak	Matt & Shiela Higgins
12/10	Renee Irwin	Phil & Brenda Atkinson

## 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.



**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**  
**Immaculate Conception Holy Day**  
**Mass Schedule:**

**Thursday, December 7 (Vigil Mass)**  
 6:00 pm—St. James

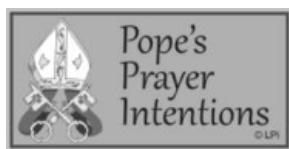
**Friday, December 8**  
 8:30 am—Holy Family  
 10:00 am—Our Lady of Fatima  
 6:00 pm—St. James

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

Are you looking for ways to experience God? Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul invite you to share in their ministry of experiencing God in serving people living in poverty. We see Christ in the poor and when we see Christ, we experience God. This weekend we will learn more about this special ministry and Council representatives will be available to answer questions. You will have an opportunity to request more information. There will also 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**

You can help. “Religious are blessed to serve,” says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious next week. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.



institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

**For December**

***For persons with disabilities.*** We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that

**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)



**Vocations Chalice**

Last February

Fr. Mike introduced to our parishes the

Vocations Chalices. They have been traveling to many of our parishioners homes over the past few months. If you are new and want to learn more about this, please pick up an information sheet at your parish. If interested in hosting the vocations chalice in your home for a week, please fill out one of the sign-up cards and put it in the basket or send it to the parish office or email the parish office. We will then reach out to you and schedule a week of hosting the vocations chalice in your home.



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

	<b>St. James</b>	<b>Holy Family</b>	<b>Our Lady of Fatima</b>
Through November 19, 2023			
Attendance	281	94	19
Received	\$5,668	\$839	\$165
Fiscal Year to Date Goal	\$129,655	\$40,058	\$4,016
Fiscal Year to Date Received	\$127,704	\$36,584	\$3,520
UCA 2023 Assessment	\$62,107.18	\$19,202.13	\$1,927.75
UCA 2023 Received	\$58,314.18	\$10,119.10	\$1,811.65

**EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES**

<i>Bulletin Date</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
Dec. 17	Noon Dec. 7th
Dec. 24	Noon Dec. 13th
Dec. 31	Noon Dec. 20th
Jan. 7	Noon Dec. 28th

Email bulletin submissions to  
[office@aitkincatholic.org](mailto:office@aitkincatholic.org)

**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](http://registertoring.com). Funds raised in our community help those living in our community!

**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. 8th. Thank you and God Bless!



**St. James Liturgical Ministers\***

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

**Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 pm**

Sacristan Colton Varner  
Servers Bentley Host, Jerome Joerger  
Lector Laura Eisenbraun  
EOMs Jan Burt, Irmgard Boyer  
Ushers.....Ellie and Russ Hoppe, Kevin Hoge, vol.

**Friday, December 8 at 6:00 pm**

Sacristan Hugh Janzen  
Servers Tyce Jorgensen, Jerome Joerger  
Lector Carroll Janzen  
EOMs Marie James, Erin Ryan  
Usher.....Josh Joerger, Tom Druar, Pete Nelson, vol.

**Saturday, December 9 at 5:00 pm**

Sacristan/Server....Jeffrey Schmitt  
Lector Gary Tibbitts  
EOMs Jan Burt, Fran Kohanek  
Ushers.....John Appel, Gayle Janzen, Martin Schmitt, vol.

**Sunday, December 10 at 10:30 am**

Sacristan Terry Stein  
Servers Luke Workman, Isabel McWilliams  
Lector Francis Dierickx  
EOMs Adam James, Betty Anderson  
Ushers.....Carroll Janzen, Chad Larson, Mark Ritter, vol.



**Giving Tree**

The Giving Tree donations are due by December 10th! Please make sure that your unwrapped gift has the tag attached and is under the tree. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Questions, please contact Shirley at 218-426-3527 or [tsscollard@yahoo.com](mailto:tsscollard@yahoo.com).

**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.

**CCW Meeting**

There will be a CCW meeting this Friday, December 8th following the 8:30 am Mass (around 9:00 or so) in the social hall. Discussion on proposed projects for 2024. We value your input, so bring your ideas and suggestions in going forward. Hope to see you there!



**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.



**Our Lady of Fatima**

**Holy Mass Schedule\***  
102 S Highway 65, McGrath

All Masses are at 10 a.m.

Sunday, December 3

Friday, December 8

Sunday, December 10

\*Please note this schedule is subject to change.





## Youth / Religious Education

### Religious Education: Wednesday, December 6

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 6, 13 & 20**

Note: No class on Dec 27

Classes will resume on January 3rd

### Have you visited the Lending Library?

There are some books and DVDs that are available only during the Advent and Christmas Season. Check out the selection today, bring them back and try some others.

Also, please check your book shelves and DVD players if you have any books or DVDs to return to the Lending Library.



### 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.

### First Reconciliation

Please pray for our First Reconciliation students who will make their first confessions on Saturday, December 9 at 11:00 a.m.

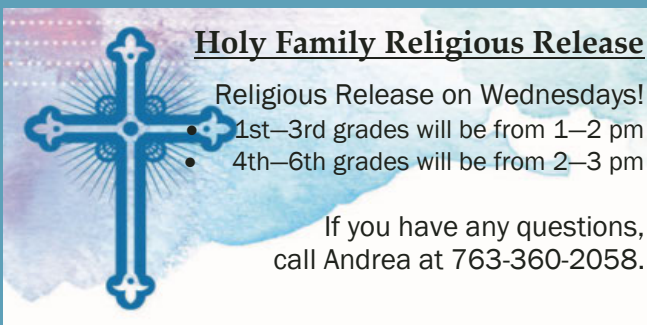


### Holy Family Religious Release

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

#### 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](http://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent).



#### 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. The left-hand page provides a variety of thoughts about the Advent and Christmas seasons, the feast of the day, or various traditions and customs. The right-hand page (except Sundays), will walk you through the first part of Luke's Gospel a little bit at a time. All of this provides 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.

#### 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. [Hallow.com/pray](http://Hallow.com/pray). Flyers and cards are available at each parish.



#### 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.

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