

I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it

LUKE 13.8



# SAINT JAMES THE GREAT CHURCH

**8320 Brookside Road Elkins Park, PA 19027**

Tel. 215-635-6210 Email: [stjameselkinspark@comcast.net](mailto:stjameselkinspark@comcast.net)

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*Most Reverend Bishop Efren V. Esmilla in residence*

*Reverend Andrew Labatorio, Parochial Administrator*

*Mark Salvatore, Permanent Deacon*

## MASSES

### Weekend

Saturday Evening 5:00

### Sunday

AM 8:30 10:30

PM 12:30 **FILIPINO MASS**

1st & 3rd Sundays Bilingual (English and Tagalog)

2nd & 4th Sundays English

### Weekdays

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM

Holy Day Masses 8:00 AM 7:00 PM

## DEVOTIONS - SCHEDULE

### Weekdays

Except Wednesday 7:30 am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 7:30 am Mother of Perpetual Help

Saturday 4:15 pm Eucharistic Adoration

Sunday 8:00 am Morning Prayer

### First Friday of the Month

6:00 p.m. Holy Hour (Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, Sacred Heart of Jesus Novena, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary)

7:00 p.m. Mass

### Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament

Monday to Friday immediately after the 8:00 am Mass until 4:30 pm \*\* Except Thursday until 12:30 pm.

Every 3:30 pm, we have Holy Hour and on Thursday 11:30 am with Benediction

Eloise Gonzales, Coordinator 215-208-0648

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

Saturday 4:20 - 4:50 PM or by appointment.

### SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Those who are seriously ill or impaired by age are invited to contact Father Andrew to administer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Those who are unable to join in celebrating Sunday Mass will be visited by Father Andrew and by parish Ministers for Communion. If a hospitalization is to take place, please request the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick after Sunday/ Saturday Vigil Mass.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents planning on the Baptism of a child are asked to contact Father Andrew to make arrangements. Baptism is administered on Saturday morning or after the 12:30 Mass or within the Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

## SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples planning to marry at St. James Church are asked to contact Father Andrew at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date to make arrangements and attend the marriage Pre-Cana classes.

## RECTORY OFFICE

Monday through Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Director, Religious Education, Jeanna Lane

Business Manager, Jackie Padua

Music Director, Frank Klose

Secretary, Doreen Walker

Maintenance Supervisor, John Vanet

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Andrew Labatorio, James Amons, William Kiefer, Daniel Kovatich, Jeanna Lane, Eloise Gonzales, Margaret McDonald

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Father Andrew Labatorio, Ferdie Aczon, Hermie Aczon, Michael Foell, Charles Halpin, Imelda Tan, Frank Wlodarczyk

## PARISH REGISTRATION

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO REGISTER IN OUR PARISH. PLEASE CALL AND MAKE APPOINTMENT WITH FATHER ANDREW.**

Please note that the Sunday bulletin is submitted to the publisher the Sunday before the bulletin date. Please submit all requests to Father Andrew by that Thursday for approval.

0056 St. James, Elkins Park, PA

**Readings #1124**

**Entrance Antiphon:** *Cf. Ps 25 (24):15-16*  
 My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues  
 my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have  
 mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

**Entrance Hymn:**  
 # 514               Hosea

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 103:1-4, 6-8, 11  
 The Lord is kind and merciful.

**Offertory Hymn:**  
 # 785               Eyes Has Not Seen

**Communion Antiphon:** *Cf. Ps 84 (83):4-5*  
 The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a  
 nest for her young; by your altars, O Lord of  
 hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they  
 who dwell in your house, for ever singing your  
 praise.

**Communion Hymn:**  
 # 513               Merciful God

**Recessional Hymn:**  
 # 968               Lift High the Cross

**Message from Father Andrew**

*A few weeks ago, Mr Daniel Kovatich, a member of the parish pastoral council, spoke to the parish during Mass. I would like to share with you excerpts of his message.*

For those who might not know me, my name is Danny Kovatich. My wife, Heather, and I have been parishioners at St. James since moving to Elkins Park in 2007... Father Andrew has invited me to speak briefly with you after today's Mass to provide a brief update on our parish financial picture and to make an important request for the year ahead. First, I would like to express sincere gratitude for the response to the Fall Collection....This speaks deeply to the generosity of each of you and your families, and I'll speak for the St. James community as a whole in saying we are deeply grateful for each of your sacrifices in support of the parish.

You'll soon hear from our Event Planning Committee about activities through the rest of the year... Some of these will serve as a fundraiser for the parish, others will simply be an opportunity to spend time together, getting to know people we may have seen in Mass for years but with whom we have never had a personal interaction. We hope that you will participate in these events and continue to build our community.

And now, the request. Rather than rely on special collections to fund projects – appeals to which you have always responded generously – we are seeking to enhance our weekly offertory collection by 10-15%. The goal is to smooth the budget in addressing the ongoing financial needs of the parish. Many of us – and my family is certainly included in this group – have been making the same offering each week for some time.

As we enter this Lenten season of reflection and sacrifice, please consider an adjustment to your ongoing weekly offering in support of this goal. Like the fall collection, our hope is for full participation in this effort no matter the size. May God continue to bless each of you, and our parish community of Saint James.

**Lenten Season Mass Parts**

**Penitential Act: Mass of Joy and Peace**  
 #248

**Gloria: None in Lent**

**Gospel Acclamation: Mass of Joy and Peace**  
 #252

**Holy: Mass of Joy and Peace** #258

**Lamb of God: Mass of Joy and Peace**  
 #259

**THE PRAYER OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (UNITY PRAYER)**

My Adorable Jesus,  
 May our feet journey together,  
 May our hands gather in unity,  
 May our hearts beat in unison,  
 May our souls be in harmony,  
 May our thoughts be as one,  
 May our ears listen to the silence together,  
 May our glances profoundly penetrate each other,  
 May our lips pray together to gain mercy from the Eternal Father. Amen.

**2025 Disciple Maker Index survey:**  
 This link is unique only to our parish (St James Parish, Elkins Park PA).

This survey begins on March 5 to April 11, 2025. Search the link or scan the QR Code provided with your phone. Thank you for your cooperation.



<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/xp15xx>

*The Adoration  
Candle this week is  
dedicated to*  
**+ John Walsh**

If you wish to dedicate the Adoration Candle for someone, please notify the rectory or drop an envelope with your offering in the basket. \$5.00 offering is requested.

If you wish to participate in the ancient tradition of providing the bread and wine for our liturgies as a memorial for your family or your deceased loved ones, please notify the rectory or drop an envelope with your offering in the collection basket. \$10.00 offering is requested.

*The Bread &  
Wine this week  
is dedicated to*  
**+ John  
Walsh**

## MASS Intentions

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>03/22/2025</b>
5:00	+ <i>Mercedita Caro</i> <i>Christopher Wayne Geltz</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>03/23/2025</b>
8:30	+ <i>Jack Bucciarelli - 10th</i> <i>death anniversary</i>
	+ <i>John J. Walsh - 26th</i> <i>death anniversary</i>
10:30	+ <i>Remedios Reyes</i> + <i>Romeo Reyes &amp; Diana Reyes</i> <i>Janet Mair - safe travel</i>
12:30	+ <i>Geraldine Rinaldo - 1st</i> <i>death anniversary</i>
	+ <i>Rosario Garcia</i> <i>Arevalo Family</i>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>03/24/2025</b>
8:00	+ <i>Emelia Mortel - 40th day</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>03/25/2025</b>
8:00	+ <i>Helene Spause</i> + <i>Rosario Garcia</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>03/26/2025</b>
8:00	+ <i>Teresa C. Rucci</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>03/27/2025</b>
8:00	+ <i>Ernesto David - 25th death</i> <i>anniversary</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>03/28/2025</b>
8:00	<i>St. James Parishioners</i>


If you wish to have a Sanctuary Candle burn for a full week in memory of a loved one, please notify the rectory or drop an envelope with your offering in the basket. \$5.00 offering is requested.

*The Sanctuary  
Candle this week is  
dedicated to*  
**+ John Walsh**

## PRAY for the sick

Hugh Bailey, Anna Beans, Bishop Herbert Bevard, Patty Biddle, Anthony Bonannoi, Andrea Cardwell, Phylis ChiarLanza, Bob Coccagna, Barbara Cohen, Patricia Edinger, Nolan Forst, Pat Geisler, Vincent Gonzalez, Katie Green, Liam Hagadorn, Joseph Holland, Matthew Kelly, John Knowlton, David Korba, Heather Korba, Sam Kuchna, Stella Lukiewski, Mary MacFarland, Sally Maida, Colleen McKeever, Bob McNulty, Ryan McNulty, Kate McManus, Shane Metto, Frank Nerney, Ralph Naccarato, Eddie O'Connell, Irvin Quinn, Joseph Reilly, Bernadette Sanchez, Salvatore Sioani, Joe Stanton, Gale Trusky, Ally Turner, Frank Walsh, Karen Walsh, Frank Wlodarczyk, John Vogl

**Remembering those serving in the military**  
Timothy Bride, Lt. Nicholas J. Thomas, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Glenn Schumacher, Tom Chlebda, SSG Owen Ochs, Major Peter Shayhorn, Sgt. Daniel Steenstra, Ben Clifton, Thales Nesio Freitas, Lt. Shannon Smith, Gy. Sgt. Dan Reilly, Regan Loughney Air Force Academy

	<b>March 29/30</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>
	<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>		Daniel Kovatich	Matthew Arguelles	Gigi Pabustan Anton Asistido
	<b>COMMUNION MINISTERS</b>	A. Mahoney E. Gonzales	N. Callahan D. Kovatich	M. Fittery M. Goodman	
	<b>LECTORS</b>	E. Callery T. Stein	J. Parisi R. Tan	J. Amons J. Kolen	Anne Apostol Lita Palasol
	<b>MUSIC MINISTRY</b>	Ashley Cecilia		Frank, Ashley, Joanna, Choir	

**NOURISHING OUR FAITH:  
“IT’S A CATHOLIC THING”**

**Why Fish on Fridays of Lent (including Ash Wednesday and Good Friday)**

Canon 1251 states that Catholics are obliged to refrain from eating meat on every Friday during the year. Many of us still remember this rule. The USCCB has decided to allow Catholics to eat meat on Fridays outside of Lent if — here is the important thing to remember — they perform a different act of penance in its place. Yes, you read it right. We are allowed to eat meat on Fridays outside Lent, but we have to perform some act of penance in exchange for it, like doing acts of charity.

There is a beautiful explanation that comes from 15 th century tradition pointed by Rev Zehnle on why we eat fish on Fridays of Lent: “For when God, for Adam’s sin, cursed the earth and the land, he cursed not the water; wherefore it is lawful for a man to eat in Lent that which cometh of the water.” In short, he said “we eat fish as a reminder of God’s mercy.” Obviously, God did not want Adam and Eve to starve. Think about that next time you are enjoying your tuna hoagie or fish fry.

To observe fasting and abstinence, are not just mere tradition or church observance. When Jesus fasted and tempted by the devil, he said, “One does not live by bread alone.” Jesus shows us that fasting allows us to see God presence in our lives, especially in times of great challenges. When you are facing a major challenge in life and do not know what to do, try fasting and offer it to God. You will be surprised of what God has stored for you.

**St. James Pancake Breakfast**

Sponsored by the Event Planning Committee  
 Date: Sunday March 23rd, 2025  
 Time: 9am-12pm  
 Place: St. James Social Hall  
 Cost: Adults \$11 , Kids \$6  
 Price includes: pancakes, sausage, OJ, and coffee  
 If you cannot attend, please consider a donation.  
 Forms will be available at the Church exits in the next couple of weeks.

Robert Loughney died on March 16th. His funeral will be held on Tuesday, March 25th. The Viewing will be at 9:30AM and the Mass will be 11:00AM.

**Stations of the Cross** every Friday of Lent after the 8:00am Mass. Please find time to meditate and reflect on the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE March 5 - April 13**

HELP SAVE LIVES IN PHILADELPHIA! You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 30 coordinated campaigns:

- Over 25,000 saved babies
- More than 150 closed facilities
- More than 250 converted workers

Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

- Vigil Locations

**Philadelphia Women's Center**

777 Appletree St., Phila., PA 19106

Tues-Fri. - 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday - 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Elizabeth Blackwell Planned Parenthood

1144 Locust St., Phila., PA 19107

Mon-Fri. - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday - 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

[40daysforlife.com/philadelphia](http://40daysforlife.com/philadelphia)

**20 Week Club**

There will be a drawing each week for 20 weeks. If your ticket is drawn, you win \$100 for that week.

Your ticket is then put back into the pot for additional chances to win. With 20 drawings, you could win up to \$2,000!

There are more 20 week club tickets in the church. Each ticket is being sold for \$20.00.

CONGRATULATIONS...

***Nick Zefelippo***

*March 16th winner*

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

March 16th Contributions: \$4886

Online Giving: \$510



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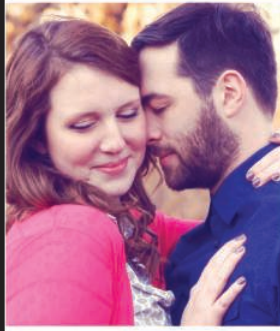
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