St. James Catholic Church

A living cell of the Catholic Diocese of Corpus Christi

605 S. Alta Vista St. Beeville, Texas 78102

Phone: (361) 358-4825 | email: stjamesbeeville@yahoo.com | www.stjamesbeeville.org

December 15, 2019 – Third Sunday of Advent

Holy Mass

WEEKENDS Saturday 5:00 PM Sunday 7:30 AM - Spanish 10:00 AM - English

> WEEKDAYS Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri 7:30 AM

Major Feast Days (Holy Days): As announced

CONFESSION Half hour before every Mass or by appointment.

A Hearty Welcome

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, No matter what your current family or marital situation, No matter what your past or present religious situation, No matter your personal history, age, background, race, etc., No matter what your own self-image or esteem, You are INVITED, WELCOMED, ACCEPTED, LOVED and RESPECTED AT St. James.

Contact the Office for any assistance.

Mon, Tues, Thu, Fri 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Closed Wednesday

PAROCHIAL TEAM

Pastor Rev. Jacob

Deacon Juan Vasquez

Parish Secretary Juanita L. Martinez

Director of Religious Education Anna Castillo

> Bookkeeper Cristina Rea

Parish Council Chairman Luis Hernandez

Finance Council Chairman Joe L. Gomez

> Altar Society Juanita Martinez

Eucharist Ministry Coordinator Albert Garces

Altar Servers Coordinator Roxanne Salazar

> **Lector Coordinator Salvador Andrade**

Knights of Columbus Grand Knight #14064 Albert Garces

Guadalupanas Pres. Juanita Cruz

Cursillistas Vocal Elfida Garcia

Faith Ministry Pres. Yolanda Maldonado

> Spanish Choir Tony De La Rosa

English Choir Margaret Smith

Bulletin and Website R. Anthony Hinojosa

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Catholic community of St. James Church is made up of loving and sensitive members seeking to meet their spiritual needs, strengthen their faith, and affirm their continued existence as the church of Jesus Christ today and tomorrow. In their quest to evangelize, it is their mission to assist everyone toward a more abundant experience of the riches of their liturgy and sacraments, and to convince all of Christ's sheep that the Lord's Day is indeed for all.

ONE IN FAITH Page Number: 960 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - A

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION

Today's second collection for the Religious and Spiritual Formation of the Parishioners. Your generous contributions are appreciated.

CCE STUDENTS

This Sunday all the CCE students are urged to meet at the parish hall by 3:15 p.m. to prepare for their performances for the Christmas musical.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION & MUSICAL

The Christmas Celebration & Musical will be on this Sunday, December 15, 2019 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the St. James Parish Hall. Anyone who is interested to participate in the musical contact Anna Castillo at 542-3562 or Susana Martinez at 318-2337. The Christmas Party will follow after the musical. All of you are cordially invited. We would like to thank all the volunteers for their selfless service in 2019 at St. James church.

CHRISTMAS POSADAS

Christmas Posadas will begin on **Monday**, **December 16**, **2019 at 6:30 p.m.** If you're interested in being a host or would like to be a guest, please call Martha Cuellar at (361) 318-4974.

CCE CLASSES

CCE classes for **December 18**th are as follows: **Middle school** will meet at the **Newman Center** from **7:00 - 8:30 p.m.** and **High school** will have classes from **7:00 - 8:00 p.m.** in the **CCE building**.

PENANCE SERVICE SCHEDULE

Our Lady of Victory service is on Friday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25^{th} and Thursday, December 26^{th} .

THANK YOU

Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Tamez for the donation for the Christmas flowers.

SPANISH MISSALS

We have new **Spanish Missal** – *Palabra y Eucaristía*. If you are interested in sponsoring, they are available at the cost of \$20 each. Please write or type the information as you want it to appear on the missal; complete the form available at the back of the church with your telephone number and money in a sealed envelope and hand it to an Usher or put it in the collection basket. Thank you in advance.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Tuesday, December 24, 2019 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 24, 2019 11:45 p.m. Wednesday, December 25, 2019 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 1, 2020 8:00 a.m.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 14

5:00 PM **† Co**i

Concha and Lupe Garcia

In Memory of their Anniversary by Lucille Garcia

† Trino Cano, Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Ascension Carrizales

† Guadalupe and Santiago Villareal in Memory of Birthday by Richard and Rosalinda Espinosa

Vincent Corales by Juanita Cruz and Family

† Eliza G. Vidaurri by Anacleto P. Vidaurri and Family

Londa Trial by Paul Trial

Sunday, December 15

7:30 AM

† Frank B. and Fermana Maldonado

By Maldonado Family

† Pablo Kala, Jr. by Cursillistas

Eduardo Silva by Juanita Cruz and Family

† Daniel and Guadalupe Garces in Memory of their Birthday by their Sisters

† Delfina Huerta

By daughters Noe Bradt and Rogelia Silvas

10:00 AM For the people of the Parish

† Henry Garcia by Ester Gonzales

† Jesus S. and Anita T. Perez by Children

Monday, December 16
7:30 AM † Londa Trial by Paul Trial

Wednesday, December 18

7:30 AM † Londa Trial by Paul Trial

Thursday, December 19

7:30 AM **Trial** by Paul Trial

Friday, December 20 7:30 PM

7:30 PM **† Londa Trial** by Paul Trial

WEEKLY OFFERING

December 8, 2019

Envelope Collection
Loose Collection
Children's Fund
Total

\$2,004.00
613.78
9.00
\$9.00
\$2,626.78

Second Collection

Retiremnt Fnd Religious \$313.38

May God bless you for your selfless sacrifice

AUDITORS

<u>Team I, Sunday, December 15</u> Janie Maldonado, Alice Sanchez

& Kimberly Cuéllar

Team II, Sunday, December 22

Amy Gonzales & Diana Barrera **Team III, Sunday, December 29**

Rosalinda Orozco, Maria Servantes,

& Margaret R. Mesquita

Team IV, Sunday, January 5

Teodora Galvan, Virginia Quintanilla

Team V, Sunday, January 12

Elfida Garcia, Juanita Cruz, & Angie Garcia

MASS SCHEDULE			7	222
Date	Time	LECTORS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS
Saturday, December 14	5:00 PM	Salvador Andrade	Adam Duran & Juanita Duran	Alizabeth Martinez
Sunday, December 15	7:30 AM	Elfida Garcia	Domingo Castillo & Juanita Cruz	Daniel Hinojosa
	10:00 AM	Teresa Alemans & Alizabeth Martinez	Janie Maldonado & Albert Garces	Natalie Rodriguez & Autumn Rodriguez

<u>ADVENT III [A] (Dec 15):</u> Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

The Third Sunday of Advent continues to prepare us for the coming of the Lord Jesus among us. During this special time of Advent, we are called to embrace a holy mind so that we may perceive for the benefit of our spiritual growth the true spiritual meaning of the Words of God given to us. The readings of today tell us of the necessity to wait for the Lord and prepare our hearts to receive him. At the same time, they invite us to discover who the messiah is and how we can identify him. This Sunday is called "Gaudete Sunday" from the first word of the Entrance Song in Latin, giving a call to rejoice. As a symbol of this rejoicing the penitential violet visualize of the vestments are changed to rose color. So, the Mass text and readings today are full of joy, especially the Entrance Song that tells us to rejoice in the Lord always and tells them to rejoice again because the Lord is near. In the first reading Prophet Isaiah sees new life in a once-barren land. God is coming to save his people. They can visualize the transformation and identify the presence of the Lord. In the second reading St James refers to farmers and prophets as examples of patient waiting. Christians can learn from them as they look for the coming of Christ and wait for him patiently. In the Gospel Jesus indirectly claims to be the Messiah. He points to the actions that exemplify the presence of the Messianic age. He praises John as a prophet and one even greater than a prophet, a person who prepared the way of the Lord. The First Reading from the Book of Isaiah echoes the anticipation of God's chosen people. The people believed that God would come and save them from their worldly suffering. To them, God's coming was perceived as a second Exodus. In their perception of the coming of the promised Messiah, the people visualized a transformation of the physical world where the entire creation would rejoice. They envisioned blooming deserts that would manifest the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. The scene he describes brings to mind the Garden of Eden. They visualized a revived people under the leadership of an eternal King who would arrive to save them and avenge them. There is a striking transformation taking place among them. They were once weak and feeble without the wisdom to rely on God's strength. Once more the weak hands and feeble knees would be made strong. Those who are physically blind, they would see again. Those who are deaf, they would hear again. They have no fear because God is with them and the word of God reaches their hearts. God's people waited for a Redeemer who would bring them out of their exile, something similar to what was experienced in the Exodus from Egypt. What God was revealing to them was a different Exodus, salvation through the power of God.

Gospel exegesis: The context: Today's Gospel describes how Isaiah's vision of Israel's glorious future is fulfilled unexpectedly by the coming of the promised Messiah in Jesus, the poor, humble, itinerant preacher who told the Truth, and who worked wonders of healing in his Messianic mission. But the Jews in general expected a political Messiah who would reestablish the Davidic kingdom after overthrowing the Roman government. Hence, most of them were scandalized by Jesus' peaceful preaching and shameful death. The disciples of John the Baptist continued to insist that John was indeed the Messiah, and they awaited his return, causing problems to early Christians. Hence, all four Evangelists highlighted John's important role as the Messiah's herald but emphasized that John's was a secondary and subordinate role in salvation history. Matthew, in the second part of today's Gospel, presents Jesus, the true Messiah, as paying the highest compliments to John the Baptist as his herald and the last of the prophets, and to the courage with which John proclaimed his prophetic convictions.

John's reasonable doubts. Scripture scholars over the centuries have wondered why John sent his disciples to ask Jesus if he were the one who was to come. There are two possible explanations: 1) John knew that Jesus was the Christ and, as a prisoner, he wanted his disciples to follow Jesus as their new master. So, he sent them to ask Jesus this question and presumed that, once they had met Jesus, they would see for themselves that he was the Messiah and so would become followers of Jesus. 2) John began to doubt Jesus' identity as the promised Messiah. The silent healing, preaching, saving, and empowering ministry of Jesus was a surprise to John and to those who expected a fire-and-brimstone Messiah.

Continued next column.

Continued ...

Besides, Jesus had not yet fulfilled John's prediction that the One-to-come would baptize the repentant in the Holy Spirit. Nor did Jesus conform to popular Jewish beliefs about a warrior and a political Messiah who would bring political, social, and economic deliverance to Israel. Instead, Jesus pronounced blessings on the poor in spirit, the meek, and peacemakers (5:1-11). He called his disciples to love their enemies (5:42-48). He warned his disciples not to judge others (7:1-5). For John, these teachings might have seemed to weaken rather than to strengthen the Messiah's cause. Furthermore, Jesus moved away from Jerusalem, the home of the Temple and the center of religious authority and began his ministry in Galilee among the common people (4:12). John proclaimed the power of the coming Messiah to bring in a new age, and instead found himself imprisoned in the dungeon of Herod's prison-fortress at Machaerus, southeast of the Dead Sea, He might have been wondering why the expected Messiah was not setting him free as Isaiah (61:1) had predicted. John might have found sympathetic doubters among his own disciples who might have wondered how the Messiah could leave their own teacher in prison, and how He could usher in the kingdom without political or military might. These might have been the reasons why John sent his disciples to dispel his doubt, asking: "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

Generosity to dispel doubts meets humility to accept correction: Instead of criticizing Jesus or breaking away from him, John approached Jesus through his disciples. The disciples asked Jesus whether he was the one to come or if they should look for another. John might have had his doubts, but he was open to hearing Jesus say that he was, indeed, the one! John must have recognized the Scriptural allusions behind Jesus' answer. Isaiah 29:18 speaks of the deaf hearing and the blind seeing. Isaiah 35:6 speaks of the lame leaping like a deer. Isaiah 26:19 speaks of the dead becoming alive. Isaiah 61:1 speaks of good news for the oppressed, the brokenhearted, captives and prisoners. These were signs of the Messiah's coming. Jesus could have rebuked John for his doubts, but instead offered him a blessing. Jesus had not lived up to John's expectations, but John did not allow that to be a stumbling block (skandalizomia). Soon enough, Jesus would deal with the people of his hometown, who took offense at him (13:57). Complimenting John, Jesus says that John is the fulfillment of Malachi 3:1 ("See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me"), presenting the Baptist as the last prophetic messenger, the forerunner of the Messiah

BAPTISM CLASS – January 14, 2020

All applications <u>MUST</u> be submitted to the church office before that date. Items needed are: Copy of the child's Birth Certificate and sponsor's proof of all Sacraments if single and, if married, a copy of the marriage license by a Catholic Church. Baptisms will take place 3rd Sunday of month after the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Baptism classes for parents and sponsors are held **second Tuesday** of every Month at 7:00 p.m. in the CCE Building.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

With care and compassion, we pray for:

Jewelia Beth Gonzalez, Christopher Cardenas, Anthony Angel Cardenas, Guadalupe Benavides, Albert Cardenas, Jr., Jim Nelson, Joe Adrian Moya, Catherine McKeowm. Kristina Elena Garcia, Eva Dominguez, Chris Ulmer, Roxann Gleason, Frank Riojas, Jessie Riojas, Joe Anthony Martinez, Armando B. Perez, Lino Garcia, Katy Rendon, Denice Hadwin, Patty Stone, Ascension Carrizales, Lulu Martinez Watson, Tabitha Rendon, Mary Longoria, Jessie Martinez, Jr., Roman Flores, Santos Lopez, Caroline James Ries, Adrian Sampayo, Aurelio Guajardo, Tonya Sciba, Kenneth Sciba, Nieves Moreno, Jr., Jessica Arrisola, Mary Carrizales, Norma Delgado, Juanita Maldonado, Dora Lopez Bernal, Richard Espinosa, Emo Aleman, Robert Hernandez, Nieves Cardenas, Laurie Lawrence, Anselmo Garcia, Jr., Josefa Aleman, Crystal Arciba, Francisco Trevino, Patricia Servantes, Mary Guerrero, Jose Salazar, Genevieve S. Trevino, Viola Rangel, Oralia Aleman, Ricardo Trevino, Sandy Rios, Nieves Moreno, Dawn Bieber, Lori Baldillez, Cristobal Servantes, Jose Nahum Lugo, Timmy Lopez, Juanita Alvarado, Deacon Juan Vasquez, Viola Maldonado, Madison Pena, Ricardo Trevino, Jr., Daniel Loya, Sandra Urquizo, Jesse Contrerras, Nell Jamison, Charles Cartwright, Stella Riojas, Ben Wilson, Mary Kay, Eloy Garcia, Tony Coronado, Sr., Irma Estela Rodriguez, Owen Rodriguez, Adan Martinez, Timothy Gene Lopez, Aurora V. Gomez, Fr. Paul Kottackal, Joshua Brock, Aaliyah Brock, Brendan Brock, Cruz Guerrero, Sr., Jerry Posada and to all at Christus Spohn.

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE TO ADD OR TO REMOVE NAMES FROM THE PRAYER LIST.



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& Family

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Love His Daughter, Brenda Ann Ramirez Son, Javier M. Ramirez

By: David P. Mendoza

(361) 358-4700 (Office) (361) 358-0776 (Fax) (361) 343-2453 (Cell) Susana_moron@vahoc

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My Wife Rachel A. Mendoza

My Daughter Mary Jane Mendoza



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Garolina Garza and Manuel Villarreal

In Loving Memory

Mary Eloa Villarreal

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In Loving Memory of Garlos "Chale" Salazar Sr. by his wife Valentina L. Salazar his children Viola, Connie, Susanna, Garlos, Jr. & Eddie and his grand children

In Loving Memory of The Longoria Family and Salazar Family By Valentina Salazar and Family



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