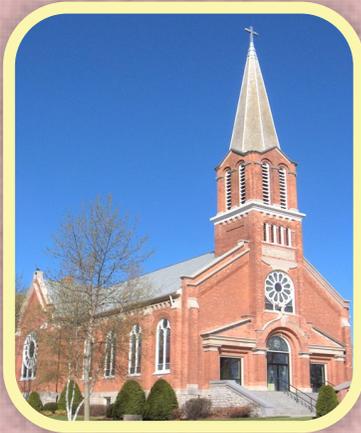


St. James St. Joseph Cooperstown Kellnersville



Pastor
Fr. Brian Belongia
920-272-8172
fatherbrian.sjcsjk2024@gmail.com



DEACON
Deacon Dan Gray
920-246-4155
thegrayfamily@rocketmail.com



Mass Times



Mass Intentions

Sat. Dec. 27	4:00 pm	St. Joseph Church	+ Suzanne Paider
Sat. Dec. 27	7:30 pm	St. James Church	+ Peg Dewane Holloway
Sun. Dec. 28	8:00 am	St. James Church	+ Nels "Lloyd" & Sara Rasmussen
Sun. Dec. 28	10:00 am	St. Joseph Church	+ Rose Tadych & Marion Mleziva
Tue. Dec. 30	8:00 am	St. James Church	+ MSGR. John Dewane
Wed. Dec. 31	4:00 pm	St. Joseph Church	In Honor of Baby Angels
Thur. Jan. 1st	8:00 am	St. James Church	Living & +Deceased of St. James Parish
Sat. Jan. 3	4:00 pm	St. Joseph Church	Sick & Shut Ins of St. Joseph Parish
Sat. Jan. 3	7:30 pm	St. James Church	+ Gordon Holloway
Sun. Jan. 4	8:00 am	St. James Church	+ Kenny Chizek
Sun. Jan. 4	10:00 am	St. Joseph Church	+ Sr. Geraldine Krautkramer



Mass Schedule

Find us on Facebook:
St. James Parish
Cooperstown



St Joseph Parish
Kellnersville

For more parish information go to our website:
stjamesandstjoseph.org

Please submit bulletin information to:
sjsbulletin@gmail.com



ST. JAMES CHURCH
COOPERSTOWN
18228 CTH R
Denmark,
WI 54208
920-863-2585

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
KELLNERSVILLE
522 Tower Ave.,
P.O. Box 27
Kellnersville,
WI 54215
920-732-3770



Merry Christmas! With Christmas celebrations and family gatherings, parties, and other festivities in full swing, and some of them already completed, you might already be thinking of taking down your festive décor and storing it away for next year. As a matter of fact, as you read this article, some trees have already been put out to the curb.

A question I receive every year is when is it time to take down the Christmas tree? This answer will vary from house to house, but here is some help in your discernment. Practically, if you have a real tree and it is dry, the needles are falling off of it, and it has become a fire hazard, you should take it down today. Presuming that your tree is in better shape or you have artificial trees, the Christmas season is still in full swing. Christmas is celebrated longer than one day.

We are currently in the Octave of Christmas which is an eight-day period beginning at midnight Christmas Day (December 25th) and culminating on the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God (January 1st) Each of these days are celebrated with great joy and it is as if each day is an extension of Christmas Day. January 1st also coincides with New

Year's Day, which, in itself is a reason to celebrate and begin the new year dedicated to Jesus Christ under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother in faith. This year, January 1st is a holy day of obligation on which it is our duty and obligation to come to Mass! Today is the Feast of the Holy Family, which is celebrated on the Sunday between Christmas and January 1st or, if there is no Sunday between those dates, it is celebrated on December 30th.

At the same time, we are also celebrating Christmastide. You may have heard of the Twelve Days of Christmas. The first day, of course, traditionally begins at midnight Christmas Day and ends on the evening of January 5th, on which is known as the Twelfth Night or Epiphany Eve. The next day, January 6th is the traditional celebration of Epiphany (which we celebrate this year on Sunday, January 4th). A closely related celebration to the Epiphany is the Baptism of the Lord on which Our Lord Jesus Christ was baptized by John in the Jordan River. This year, the Baptism of the Lord is counted as the final day of the Christmas season on Sunday, January 12th.

Hence the Christmas Season is celebrated from December 25th through January 12th this year. That's 19 days, 20 if you count Christmas Eve. Most Catholic Churches in our diocese will remove Christmas decorations, cribs, trees, poinsettias, and the like following the Baptism of the Lord.

Nevertheless, there is a tradition that Christmas day begins a 40-day period of celebration that culminates with the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. This celebration is known as Candlemas, which this year lands on Sunday, February 2nd. This commemorates Mary and Joseph presenting Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple. Christ the Messiah and priest, our Lord and Savior is light from light who came into the world to dispel the darkness. Simeon blessed Jesus as he himself was blessed to see with his own eyes the Light for all Peoples, who is Light also for you and me.

So, when should the Christmas décor be removed at home? It really is up to you. No matter what your choice, or whether you decorate at all, celebrate the season of Christmas with joy and gladness, even if doing so is difficult. Our Savior's birth brings us hope. Let your outward expression of Christmas reflect that hope and be a sign of the internal conversion taking place in you.

Merry Christmas,
Fr. Brian

JOB OPENING

We have a position open for a **BULLETIN EDITOR**. The position starts mid January and may require up to 10 hours a week, onsite or remote. If interested and for more information, please contact Father Brian at: fatherbrian.sjcsjk2024@gmail.com.



Parish Office Hours

St. James and St. Joseph parish offices will be closed on December 31 and January 1st. The offices are closed Fridays.

Both offices will go back to regular hours starting January 5, 2026.

Monday -Thursday 8:00am-noon.

If you need to make an appointment or come in after hours, please call your parish office.

St. James: 920-863-2585

St. Joseph: 920-732-3770

READINGS - JANUARY 1, 2026

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

1st Reading: Numbers 6:22-27 (18ABC)

2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

READINGS - JANUARY 4, 2026

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 (20ABC)

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



GRIEF GROUP

Sunday January 11, 2026

Held in St. James Parish Hall from Noon to 2pm, this grief group session is designed to foster conversation and meaningful connection among participants. Rather than focusing on one set topic, the group will explore a variety of questions and topics related to grief. For information, or to obtain the Zoom Link, contact Tom Bekkers at 920-660-8066 or by email: tbekkers@centurytel.net

POTATO BAKE SALE

Saturday January 17 - 5:00pm

The youth/young adult ministry's potato bake bar is back! All proceeds benefit the high school/young adult summer service mission to Lake Charles, Louisiana. Held at All Saints Parish Hall after the 4pm Mass.



WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP ENDING DECEMBER 7, 2025

St. James Parish

Sacrificial Giving \$4,648.00

Loose \$449.00

On-Line \$1,680.00

St. Joseph Parish

Sacrificial Giving \$2,163.00

Loose \$307.05

ACH Dec. 1st \$380.00

Featured Advertiser

SUSTERS ARCADE

Tavern, Restaurant, Banquet Hall

Family Owned & Operated

117 N. Wall St., Denmark

920-863-2488

Hours:

Wed. Thur. & Sun. 11am-8pm

Friday 11am-9pm

Saturday 3pm-9pm



EPIPHANY - JANUARY 4, 2026

Next weekend, Fr. Brian will discuss the significance of the blessing that is put above the main entrance to our homes during Epiphany. Chalk will be handed out at St. James and St. Joseph's so that you can perform this blessing at home. This tradition signifies that "Christus mansionem benedicat" (May Christ Bless this house') and that the three wise men, Casper, Melchior and Balthazar visited in the year 2025.

20 + C + M + B + 25

ST. JAMES CHURCH



FAITH FORMATION

**No Class Christmas Break
Classes Resume Wed. Jan. 7th**

ChurchTime: Sun. Dec. 28 during Mass

PRIEST RETIREMENT COLLECTION

You can still give to this special collection that helps our retired clergy. If you would like to contribute, you can still find extra envelopes in the church entrance. This collection helps cover their rising health care costs, medication and daily living expenses. Your gift can help ensure that they receive the care they deserve.

*In the case of inclement weather,
please call the parish office at
863-2585 for any cancellations.*



*Weekend and Holy Day Mass cancellations
will also be listed on WBAY-TV channel 2.
Faith Formation classes will be cancelled if
the Denmark Schools have been cancelled*

THANK YOU

Thank you and many blessings to everyone who donated items for St. John's Homeless Shelter in Green Bay. It is very much appreciated.



PRAYER SHAWL MEETING

Monday January 5 - 1:00pm

DECORATION CLEAN-UP

Sunday January 11 - 9am
Join us after the 8am Mass to help as we gather up, clean-up and put away our Christmas decorations.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Annual contribution statements will not be mailed to every household. If you need a 2025 statement, email our office at office@stjamescooperstown.org or call 920-863-2585. Please leave your full name and if you want your statement emailed or sent through the mail.

Dinner & Dance

Saturday Feb. 7, 2026

The dinner tickets are now on sale after weekend masses and at Degrand's family restaurant, Maribel Diner or in the parish office. Donations can be dropped off at the parish office during office hours.

2026 CHURCH CALENDARS

"The Saints Among Us" are featured on each monthly page of our 2026 Calendars. Thank you to Cotter Funeral Home and Cremation Care for providing these liturgical Calendars for our parishioners. Copies are available at church entrances.

Office office@stjamescooperstown.org
Secretary - Kathy Herlache:
secretary@stjamescooperstown.org
Faith Formation - Traci Hickey:
faith@stjamescooperstown.org

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Annual contribution statements will not be mailed to every household. If you need a statement with your contribution to St. Joseph's for your 2025 taxes, please call our bookkeeper, Raquel Duescher at our office 920-732-3770.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2026

If you would like a Mass Intention said for a loved one this January, we have openings on **Sunday: January 11, 18, and 25.** We have many openings throughout the new year of 2026. You can offer 5 Mass Intentions per year. The offering/stipend for a Mass is \$20. You can also offer to sponsor the weekly Sanctuary Light or the Hosts and Wine. The stipend for either of these is \$5. Please call the parish office to schedule an Intention or other offering.

SANCTUARY LIGHT & HOSTS & WINE

Week of December 28, 2025
Rose Tadych & Marion Mleziva

2026 CALENDARS

The 2026 liturgical wall and desk calendars are available in the church main entrance. Thank you to Lakeshore Family Funeral Homes for their generous donation.

ADVENT COLLECTION

Thank you and many blessings to everyone who participated in the Lumen Christi Farm Collection. Your donations will truly make a difference in their Mission to help others.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Peter Pfeffer for donating his time and talent painting the back hallway that is located off the parking lot in the back of church. The fresh look is a much needed improvement.

CLEANING TEAMS - 2026

Team Langer - Jan. 10
Team Rabas/Kuik - Jan. 24
Team Van Dyke - Feb. 7
Team Thompson - Feb. 21

COLLECTIONS

We will continue to collect aluminum cans throughout the winter months. Please bag all cans (without garbage) and drop in the gated area in the back of the garage behind the church.



Our Rosary Society continues to collect cancelled stamps. Please put them in an envelope and put in the collection basket or drop off at the bookcase in the entrance to church.

*In the case of inclement
weather, please call the
parish office at 732-3770
for any cancellations.*



*Weekend and Holy Day Mass cancellations
will also be listed on WBAY-TV channel 2.*

Attention - Please note new emails

Bookkeeper - Raquel Duescher:
stjosephkellnersville.finance@gmail.com
Secretary - Cathie Lodel:
stjosephkellnersville.office@gmail.com