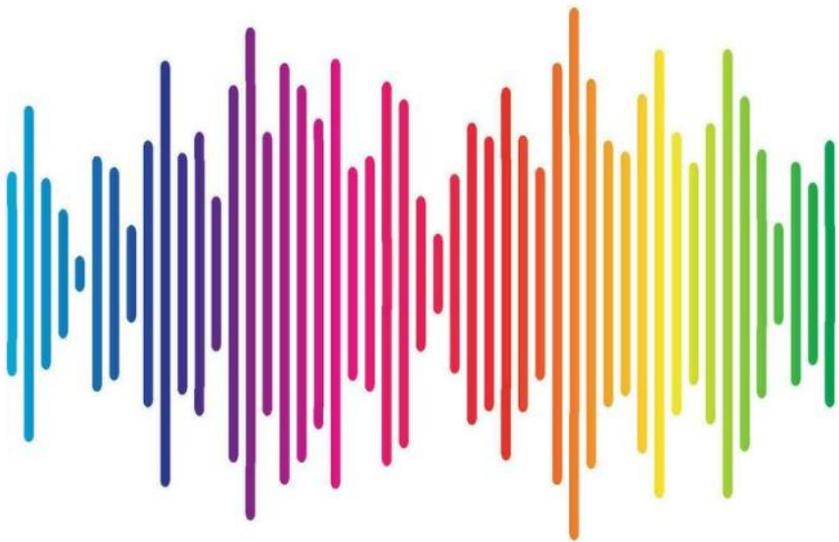


# VOICES OF FAITH

*Inspired by St. James Parish Community*

*Cooperstown, Wisconsin*



**1850 - 2025**



# VOICES OF FAITH

*Written by members of St. James Parish on the  
175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church's founding.*

St. James Catholic Church  
At Cooperstown  
18228 County Highway R  
Denmark, WI 54208  
**1850 - 2025**



We gratefully acknowledge the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay for underwriting this project.





*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Acknowledgements**

If this is the first time you are viewing this booklet in the year 2025, or if you have discovered it as a keepsake from the past, we hope you will relish its content.

The booklet would not exist without the contributions of St. James' parishioners. Thank you to everyone who composed a prayer and submitted it for publication. We are grateful to the children and youth in the Faith Formation Program who learned about prayer and then wrote their own prayers with thoughtfulness and sincerity.

From its inception, this project commemorating the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of St. James' Church was received with enthusiasm from parish leadership. Our gratitude to Father Brian Belongia, Father Santiago Turiano Jr., and Deacon Dan Gray for their encouragement and endorsement. The 175<sup>th</sup> Committee was also on board right from the start in planning and development.

Finally, we extend our gratitude to the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay for their generous support in financing the expenses to carry out this project.





*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

## Table of Contents

St. James Mission Statement .....	2
Biography of St. James .....	3
Praising God for 175 Years of Faith.....	4
Prayer for St. James Parish .....	5
Parishioner Prayers A—E .....	6
Parishioner Prayers F—J .....	12
Parishioner Prayers K—O .....	17
Parishioner Prayers P—T.....	23
Parishioner Prayers U—Z .....	29
Student Prayers Grades 1—4.....	32
Student Prayers Grades 5—8.....	44
Student Prayers Grades 9 – 12.....	45
Pilgrims of Hope Prayer .....	48
Prayer to St. James .....	49



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

**ST. JAMES CHURCH AT COOPERSTOWN  
PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**



*To cultivate community and spiritual  
growth through the  
mission and ministry  
of the Catholic Church*



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Biography of St. James**

There were two apostles named James. James the Greater was the son of Zebedee and Salome, and the older of the two. He is called "Greater" because he was older and perhaps taller than the other James, called "Lesser." This James the Greater was also called "The Son of Thunder" because of his fiery zeal and energy.

There is little information about St. James' early life. Like his brother John, though, he was a fisherman and one of Jesus' first disciples. James was fishing with his father and John the Apostle when Jesus came to the shores of the Sea of Galilee and called out to the fishermen, who were unable to catch any fish that day, to dip their nets in the water once again. When they followed Jesus' instructions, they found their nets full, and after emptying the fish on board, the boats nearly sank from their weight.

Jesus invited them to leave their nets behind and follow Him. They responded right away, reflecting their faith and trust in Jesus. They left their old lives to follow a new path. This was a big change for them. They gave up everything familiar to serve Jesus.

Later, James was one of only three called by Jesus to witness his Transfiguration. Following Christ's Ascension, James spread the Gospel across Israel and the Roman kingdom. And he traveled and spread the Word for nearly forty years in Spain. Later, James returned to Jerusalem but was persecuted and martyred there for his faith. He was the first apostle to die. St. James the Greater's feast day is celebrated on July 25, and he is the patron saint of pilgrims and of Spain.



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

## **Praising God for 175 Years of Faith**

**By Father Brian Belongia**

We praise You, Almighty Father and bless You as we celebrate 175 years of faith. Our ancestors trusted in your Son, Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit and by your grace formed this parish and built our Church from living stones.

Our steeple stands tall upon a hill and announces the Good News to all who approach from miles around. From one generation to the next, our Catholic faith has been our strength. Through many struggles, tragedies, storms, droughts, and suffering, we have found comfort and refuge here, united in faith. The Gospel was proclaimed and the Eucharist celebrated by which we are united in Jesus Christ to all who came before us and called our parish home.

Through our perseverance and hope, we have experienced joy and produced fruit. Our ancestors were baptized here. Marriages were celebrated, children were born, and new families created. From our families, sons and daughters were called forth to serve as religious sisters and brothers. Deacons and priests were ordained, and a successor to the apostles was chosen by you, O Lord, as a bishop from our humble community. Your presence is truly here and the faith is alive in this holy place.

Through the intercession of St. James, your apostle and our patron, bless our parish and renew us. May we, with your guidance, carry on the tradition of faith in Cooperstown, Wisconsin with the same zeal and respect as those who came before us. May we never be afraid but rather be always proud to profess our Catholic faith in Christ Jesus. We look forward with joyful hope that those who come after us will find in this church a place to call home and encounter your merciful love, just as we are blessed to experience today on the Feast of St. James in the year 2025. Amen.



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

**Prayer For St. James Parish  
By Father Dennis Ryan**

Heavenly Father, source of heaven and earth. Your providence and gift of faith to this area have formed them into the parish of St. James, Cooperstown. You have gifted many generations to build a Church for the forming of your people in the ways of Christ and his followers. They directed their efforts toward Christian formation and the sacramental life. We thank You for all their accomplishments.



Today we join together in faith and community life to celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the founding of St. James Parish, Cooperstown. We gather in great thankfulness and praise because You are the source of life, forgiveness and charity. We are so humbled by the gifts of the priests, sisters and laity who have made this parish become a vibrant, life-giving instrument of the Lord throughout these years.

As we gather to pray in thanksgiving, we entreat You to provide us with the Holy Spirit's gift of knowledge, wisdom and understanding to forge ahead in proclaiming your holy Gospel as we meet the challenges of our day. We desire to never be separated from You, but to be witnesses of your love given to us through your cross and resurrection.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Family Prayer**

Dear God,

I have a wish to share with you. My wish is for my family to be happy and healthy. I would like them to be able to be a part of each other's lives for always and treat each other with respect, keeping each family member close in spirit, because they cannot always be close in person. I wish for them to be "One Big Family" all their living days. Amen.

Patty Bekkers

### **Peace Prayer: Life Motto Centered on St Francis of Assisi**

Loving God,

"For it is in giving of ourselves that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

As I reflect on God's blessings throughout my life, my heart is filled with that of gratitude and a life long need to give back to others and respond to God's call to serve others by being the eyes, face, hands, and feet of Jesus. We are called to be peacemakers to all those we meet and to live a life reflecting an "attitude of gratitude" for God's blessings.

Lord, I ask for your forgiveness for the ways I have fallen short of being a peacemaker or serving others as you call me to serve. I thank You for the graces and blessings You have bestowed upon me and my family. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Tom Bekkers



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Healing Grace**

O Great Healer, please let your abundant mercy, empathy and compassion wash over us and heal our brokenness. May we learn from your boundless love and teaching by example to love and care for one another and your magnificent creation. Keep us filled with your grace until we make our home with You. Amen.

Pat Blakeslee

### **Family Prayer**

Dear God, Thank You for our church family. We are so blessed to have so many friends and family around us when we attend church. We have so much to be thankful for. Thank You for the multiple blessings You pour down on us every day.

Love,

Paul and Deb Bradley Family



### **In Thanks for 175 Years**

Thank You Lord for the 175 years of existence of St. James Parish. I pray that we will be able to keep the pace for many decades to come. I am proud to have been a member of this wonderful parish for 80+ years.

Frank Bradley



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **A Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Dear Lord,

It's been an interesting year with many changes. Some good, some bad, some challenging and others pleasantly surprising. But here we are, all together with family and with very much to be thankful for.

Some people don't have shelter, but WE do.

Thank You Jesus.

Some people don't have food, but WE do.

Thank You Jesus.

Some people don't have clean water, but WE do.

Thank You Jesus.

Some people don't have clothing, but WE do.

Thank You Jesus.

And most important, we have the love of family and friends.

Thank You Jesus. AMEN!

Shirley Bradley

### **Prayer Before Mass**

Heavenly Father, please send your Holy Spirit upon me to be totally present here at Mass. Clear my mind so I may adore and worship You with an undistracted heart. In your Holy Name, I pray. Amen.

Nancy Brocker

### **Prayer of Thanks for Veterans**

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the men and women who have served our country with dedication and courage. We are grateful for their sacrifices, which ensure our freedom and security. Bless them abundantly, Lord, as they have blessed us. Amen.

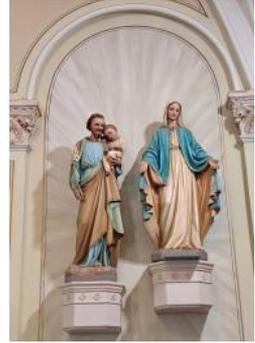
Anonymous



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer**

Dear God, Lord Jesus and Mother Mary,  
Please watch over my family members so that  
they can stay in good health.  
Please help them with all the issues they have,  
and please help them so they can find  
comfort and guidance from You.  
Please give them the strength to do the right  
things.  
Thank You for all the help You have given them  
so far. Amen.



Bill Butzer

### **Prayer to Mary**

Dearest Mary, Mother of God, You have shown my family your love  
and protection through the years. I am grateful for all Your kindness  
to us and pray for your continued presence in our lives, now and for-  
ever. Amen.

Dorothy Charney

### **Thank You for Blessings**

Father in Heaven, thank You for all the blessings You have gifted on  
St. James Parish in Cooperstown and the surrounding countryside.  
We give thanks for the blessings sent from your Son, Jesus Christ,  
Mary, Mother of Jesus, St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, and all your  
angels and saints who have spread our blessings on earth for over  
2000 years. All Christians in your presence will continue to enjoy your  
love for us. God bless us all. Amen.

Joe Charney



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **My Prayer for Living**

*Quote by former U.S. President Ronald Reagan*

Live simply.  
Love generously.  
Care deeply.  
Speak kindly.  
Leave the rest to God.

Joyce Cisler

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

I thank God for allowing me to know Him throughout my life by having faith. Thank You, God, for giving me wonderful family and friends that support me in many ways. With your help, I am thankful for your help on my hopeful journey to heaven. Amen.

Wayne Cisler

### **Romans 6:28**

“And we know that in all things God works for the good who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.”

Emma Davis

### **Putting Love into Practice**

#### **Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius**

Love consists in sharing what one has and what one is with those one loves. Love ought to show itself in deeds more than in words. I ask the Father to give me an intimate knowledge of the many gifts I have received, that filled with gratitude for all, I may in all things love and serve the Divine Majesty. Amen.

Sarah, Andy, Giana, & Saoirse DiMezza



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer for St. James Parish**

We pray for this parish faith community of St. James, the past, the present and the future members. May the doors of this faith community always be open to bringing the words of our Savior Jesus Christ to its people.

Because of those words given to us by the Holy Spirit in the scriptures, may we be an example by our efforts to be a witness and a follower of our Lord, Jesus Christ like we have been doing for 175 years.

We ask God's blessing on this community of St. James.

We offer up this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

Anonymous

### **Time Flies**



Heavenly Father, they say, "time flies." We find this to be true, because in a blink of an eye, we find that the years have flown by so fast for us. As we enter our golden years, give us the stamina to endure the changes we must now face to live our lives. Help us in recognizing the things we accomplished

when we were younger which are now more difficult, are done more slowly or cannot be done at all. Thank You for the decades of our marriage we have been given. We have been able to see our children's, children, and their children grow; something not all get to experience in their lives. As we continue our journey, may we someday see all our loved ones once again. Amen.

Ed and Donna Duckart

*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

**Prayer to Saint James the Greater  
Patron Saint of St. James Church**

O glorious Saint James the Greater,  
Apostle of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
You who walked closely with the Savior and bore witness to His  
transfiguration, we humbly seek your powerful intercession.

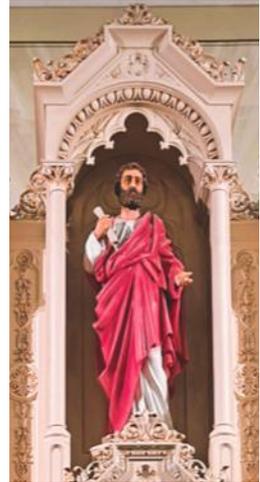
O faithful servant, called by Christ from your nets,  
You left all to follow Him, and preached  
the Gospel with unwavering zeal.

Guide us, your pilgrims, on the journey of faith,  
that we may walk the path of righteousness,  
and arrive safely at the heavenly Jerusalem.

O patron of pilgrims and laborers,  
protect us in our daily struggles,  
strengthen us in our moments of weakness,  
and inspire us to carry our crosses with  
courage, as you carried yours to martyrdom  
for love of Christ.

Intercede for us before the throne of God,  
that we may be granted the grace to perse-  
vere, and to serve others with charity and  
humility,  
following your example of devotion and sacrifice.

Saint James the Greater, pray for us,  
that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ,  
and one day join You in eternal glory. Amen.



Saint James

Bart Gezella

*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer to Saint Boniface**

O glorious Saint Boniface,

Apostle of Germany and martyr for the faith,  
you courageously brought the light of Christ  
to the nations, felling the idols of darkness  
and planting the seeds of truth.

Through your unwavering zeal  
and love for God's church, you built a  
foundation of faith for countless souls,  
even unto the shedding of your blood.

We humbly seek your intercession before the  
throne of God.

Pray for us, O holy Boniface,  
that we may be steadfast in our faith,  
both in proclaiming the Gospel,  
and tireless in our service to the Lord.

Guide us to uproot the errors of our time,  
and to grow in holiness and charity.

Intercede for the church especially in places where faith is challenged,  
that she may remain a beacon of truth and love.

Help us to follow your example of courage and devotion,  
so that we, too, may glorify God in all we do.

Through your prayers, O blessed martyr,  
may we be granted the grace to persevere in faith,  
and one day join you in the eternal joy of heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Saint Boniface

Bart Gezella

*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer to Saint Patrick**

O glorious Saint Patrick, Apostle of Ireland  
and faithful servant of God, you brought  
the light of Christ to a land in darkness.  
And through your courage, the Gospel took root.  
Blessed by the Holy Trinity you so dearly loved,  
you taught the mystery of One God  
in Three Persons.  
With the shamrock as your humble sign,  
leading souls to the eternal truth divine.  
intercede for us now, O holy shepherd,  
that we may follow your example of trust  
and zeal. Amen.

Bart Gezella



Saint Patrick

### **God of All**

God of our fathers, bless your people gathered in faith.  
God of our mothers, keep us safe in your care.  
God of our brothers, teach us to love one another.  
God of our sisters, show us your compassion.  
God of those gone before us, welcome our ancestors into your arms.  
God of those to come, help them to grow.  
God of all creation, we thank You for all that is.

Deacon Dan Gray

*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Best Friend**

Dear God, You are the best friend a person could hope to have. No matter what, You are always there for me. You listen to what I have to say. I feel like so many people around me just don't listen when I speak, making me feel invisible. But I know You listen because sometimes You answer my prayer or request right away. How awesome! Let me always be worthy of your love. Thank You for the many blessings You've bestowed on me. Amen.

Paula Haske

### **Prayer for Our Ancestors**

We pray for Denis Dewane, Mary Maher Dewane, and their descendants. Denis and Mary left Ireland in the mid-1800s but tragically passed away during their journey to Wisconsin. Their six children continued and eventually settled in Cooperstown, likely becoming members of St. James. These children and their descendants became vital members of the faith community, many of whom stayed in the area. Today, we express our gratitude through prayer for Denis and Mary, who embarked on such a challenging journey, thus granting us, their descendants, our faith and life in America. Amen.

Mary Beth Holloway





*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer for St. James Parish**

We thank You Heavenly Father for this lovely parish that You have blessed for 175 years. We place our hope in your promises as we celebrate this anniversary. Keep strong our trust in You and guide us in your ways. We ask You to walk with us into the future as we continue to unfold the story of this special place. Amen.

Brandon Honnef

### **Thank You for St. James Parish**

Loving God, Thank You for St. James Parish members who bring life and love to the surrounding communities by sharing their faith, their talents, and their bounty.

The beauty of St. James church and its bright windows symbolize the parish members who have worshiped here for the past 175 years. Please bless this church and its parishioners so that the faith of St. James Parish may continue for at least another 175 years. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Grace Honnef

### **Give Thanks to the Lord**

For the gift of life, give thanks to the Lord.

For help and guidance through life, give thanks to the Lord.

For healing and pardoning, give thanks to the Lord.

For His love for us is forever. Amen.

Steve Honnef



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Thank You Prayer**

Thank You, Lord my God, for the blessings You have bestowed upon our house. With your help, may my family and friends continue to give gratitude and love to You. Amen.

Roxane Hopkins

### **Prayer for St. James Faith Community**



We pray for this parish faith community of St. James. The past, the present and the future members. May the doors of this faith community always be open to bringing the words of our Savior Jesus Christ to its people, because of those words given to us by the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures. May we as a faith community, by our actions and words be an example by our efforts to be a witness and a follower of our Lord Jesus Christ, like we have been doing for 175 years. We ask God's blessing on this community of St. James. We offer up this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

Anonymous

### **Thank You Jesus**

Thank You Jesus for giving me this day. Thank You for each and every day You give me and my family. I pray that You watch over my family. I pray that You keep us safe, and I pray that You keep us healthy. Amen.

Kathryn Kleckner



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Morning Prayer**

Lord, please grant me the wisdom to put You first in my life. May I wake up in the morning and go to sleep at night with your praise on my lips. My life is in your hands; may your will be my will; may your desires be my desires and may You lead me wherever I am needed most. Grant me the courage to move forward when it's a road I would rather not take. I put my trust in You, for You see the whole picture and You are always working for the ultimate good.

Lord, I need your wisdom to understand the heart of my loved ones. May I be sensitive to their feelings and struggles. Give me the wisdom to accompany them in all their trials.

Lord, make me wise so that I know when to speak and when to stay silent. And when I do speak, let my words be a blessing to those who hear them.

Lord, help me to understand that life is short and that this world is passing away. May I value the things of heaven more than I value the things of this world. May I live with my death always in view so that I do not have any regrets when You call me home.

Lord, be with me today, grant me the wisdom to do as You do and see You in all those that I meet today. Let me be the light as You are the light so that I may glorify You.

Jessica Lambert



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Hunter's Prayer**

Thank You God for the opportunity to hunt and harvest animals. Please keep all safe during the hunt. Guide each hunter to make ethical choices today. Thank You for your dominion over this beautiful land, and grant me the wisdom to care for it and your creatures wisely.

Tom Lambert

### **Prayer for Guidance, Strength, and Talent**

Oh Holy Spirit, guide your children on a path of goodness. Help them discover and share their talents. Grant them strength to face trials with courage and grace. In hardship, may they trust in your wisdom. Let them shine your love brightly. May your will be done in all their endeavors. Amen.

Eric & Sarah Lipinski

### **Prayer for the Future**

Oh Holy Spirit, we humbly ask You to lead our civilization down a path of righteousness and goodness. Grant us the strength to reject evil in all its forms and to choose love and compassion over hatred and division. We pray for all forms of government, lawmakers, and political leaders, that they may make decisions that uphold the values of the Church. We pray for peace and unity where there is great divide.

Please continue to guide the United States of America with its ever increasing role in this world, to stand for what is righteous and just. May Your divine guidance help us to create a future filled with love and peace for people all around the world. Amen.

Eric & Sarah Lipinski



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer for Young Catholic Parents**

Dear God, we come before You today seeking your divine guidance and support for young Catholic parents. Help them recognize the profound importance of children to our faith, as they are the future bearers of your love and teachings. Lord, enlighten their hearts and minds, showing them the way forward with clarity and hope. Grant them strength in their journey, and may they lean on You in times of challenge, trusting in your infinite wisdom.

Through your grace, may we all work together to foster environments where children can thrive and grow in faith. Let your will be done in every household, and may your love and compassion shine brightly through all families. Amen.

Eric & Sarah Lipinski

### **Prayer for the Catholic Church**

Dear Saint Francis, thank you for blessing St. James Parish for 175 years. It is through your will that this church has been made successful. We understand and believe in the important role of the Catholic Church.

Heavenly Father, we humbly ask for your guidance and grace to help families recognize the profound need for your love in their lives. May they find their way to the Catholic Church and embrace its teachings. Bless parents with wisdom and strength to raise their children in your image, fostering faith, hope, and love in their hearts. Amen.

Eric & Sarah Lipinski



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving for Good Health**

Loving God, we thank You for the precious gift of health and wellness. We are grateful for our physical abilities, which allow us to experience the wonders of your creation and serve others in your name. Remind us each day to cherish and nurture our good health, recognizing it as a blessing from You. And let us not take a single day for granted where we are filled with abundant blessings. Amen.

Eric & Sarah Lipinski

### **Prayer for Families**

We pray for families near and far

that they keep God as the center of the family so nothing can separate them. May they be blessed with tolerance to differing ideas and respond to each other with kindness and love.

We pray for parents

that they graciously honor and accept God's guidance in creating a stable, secure and faith-filled home.

May they be blessed with patience, understanding and unconditional love for each other and their children.

We pray for children

that they may honor their parents' teachings, and always strive to live God's plan with protection from outside influence that seeks to destroy. May they be blessed with comfort and confidence in knowing God created them perfectly in His image, each with their own purpose in this world.

Lord, we pray You bless all families with health and safety at home, at school and at the work place. Watch over us always. Amen.

Ryan, Renee, Kane & Saige Maigatter



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer for Living**

Dear God,

Thank You for loving me. Help me to face and work through or accept the challenges and hurdles I may face each day.

Thank You for the many gifts and blessings You have given to me. Also for the many people I encounter. I believe they have been sent by You to show love, caring and as an example for me.

Help me to use the gifts You have given me and to pass these blessings and love to others I meet.

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Please bless my family with love, good health and continue to care for all of us. May we all grow closer to You.

Help me to pause and smell the roses, and to appreciate and be more aware of all the blessings and beauty You have provided for us to enjoy in nature, our surroundings, and those around us. Amen.

Shirley Mecha

### **Prayer for Later Years in Life**

Dear God, please give me a loving and forgiving heart. Holy Spirit, please help me through these last years of my life to make good decisions that will lead me to heaven. Thank You for all my blessings.

Linda Nachtwey



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Musicians and Singers**

Thank You, dear Lord our God, for the many musicians and singers who have used their God given talents to praise You in beautiful songs through 175 years.

Mary Ozarowicz



### **Prayer for Our Ancestors**

Welcome our ancestors who have gone before us into your heavenly kingdom. Greet them with open arms, as we look forward to seeing them again. In your name, we pray. Amen.

Anonymous

### **Prayer of Petitions**

Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. Amen. I ask St. Francis and Padre Pio to present my petitions to the Blessed Virgin Mary, to present it to her Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen.

John and Suzanne Paider

### **Thankful for Fellowship**

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the fellowship we enjoy, as we unite in prayer, at St. James Church in Cooperstown!

Mike Parmentier



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*



### **Prayer for People with Dementia**

I pray for my dad and all people dealing with dementia that they someday find a cure to eliminate this horrific disease.

Randy Peronto

### **Love of Family**

The love of a family is life's greatest blessing. God gave our family seven children, nineteen grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren. Thank You God for this great blessing.

Darlene Rabas

### **God's Will Be Done**

Dear Lord,

I have many things to be thankful for, most importantly, thank You for my husband and wonderful sons, and soon to be daughter-in-law.

Thank You for blessing us with good health and happiness.

Thank You for placing us in such a wonderful community with great friends, especially my church family.

Please continue to bless my family and friends dealing with cancer and other health issues. Place your healing hands upon them and ease their pain and suffering, especially my niece who has only months to live. God, let your will be done. Amen.

Dawn Rabas



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer for Patience**

Heavenly Father, grant me patience to face life's challenges, both big and small. Slow me down. Teach me to be calm. Remind me that relationships are more important than being right or wrong. Encourage me to step back when I struggle to let go and want things my way. Ease my frustration with patience. Thank You for helping me see what truly matters and what doesn't. And lastly, thank You for loving me despite my shortcomings.

Anonymous

### **Love Is**

Love is how you stay alive, even after you are gone.

Joe Rich Family

### **Catechist's Prayer**

Dear Jesus, our Lord and Savior,

As a catechist at St. James over the years, I am thankful for the young lives You have entrusted me with, that I might teach them about You and the right way to lead their lives just like You did when You walked the earth.

Some of these young lives were my sons, but most were their classmates and I only hope my message was strong enough or convincing enough to make a difference in their lives. They are all kind-hearted and willing to give to those in need. May they know the difference between right and wrong.

May You guide them to always do "the right thing." And may they have the courage to look to You and pray to You to help guide them throughout their lives. In your name we pray! Amen I say to You.

Craig A. Satori



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer for Our Country**

Dear Lord, we pray for our country and its leaders. Let your hand be our guide to live according to your commandments and to honor You in all that we do. Help us to be wise stewards of all that we have been given.

Bring us together as one nation, regardless of our differences to find common ground and work together. May we see beyond our divisions and recognize that we are all your children. Heal the wounds that have caused strife and discord, and replace them with love, understanding, and cooperation. May we live together in harmony to build a better future for generations to come. We entrust our nation to You. Amen.

Jean Schleis

### **Prayer**

Thank You, Lord, for blessing my family. Please keep us healthy and happy. Let love and goodwill remain with us always. Guide us through life's challenges. Help me serve others by volunteering where I can. I offer my efforts to Jesus and ask for continued guidance in my life. Amen.

Jerry Schleis

### **Prayer for Engaged Couples**

Heavenly Father, we ask for your guidance and blessing on young couples as they prepare for marriage. Help them build a foundation based on love, trust, and respect. Give them strength to face challenges together and find compromise in difficult times. We thank You for the gift of a strong foundation, and we pray that it sustains them through all their married lives. Amen.



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Family Prayer**

Dear Father in Heaven, thank You so much for the wonderful family You have blessed us with. Thank You for my three healthy sons, Webster, Spencer and Tony. Their wonderful wives, Jolene, Carrie and Tammy Schuh. Our eight beautiful, healthy grandchildren, Aaron, Brielle, Parker, Jojo, Walker, Rhett, Cece and Lucy. I pray every night that You guide and protect us and keep us from getting seriously sick or hurt. I pray You keep us safe from killers, murders, tornados and fires.

Father in Heaven I know You listen to my prayers because fortunately, You have kept us safe and healthy and none of us are suffering from birth defects. Anytime there might be an accident or I am afraid, I just have to talk to You and say some extra prayers and You always come through for us. Thank You for being such a loving and gracious God and giving your only Son to die on the cross for our sins.

Love Always,  
Doreen and Roger Schuh

### **Many Blessings**

Thank You, Lord, for blessing me with the patience and strength allowing me to get through the past year, which brought much loss. Thank You also for the gift of my family and friends who, like You dear Lord, are always there for me.

Janet Smits

*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer to Mother Mary**

Heavenly Mother,

Thank you for all of the things you do and have done. Thank you for saying “yes” to God, to bring Jesus into this world, to give us all a chance for salvation and the eternal reward of Heaven if we follow God’s ways. I only hope I have the strength to say “yes” as you did when asked to do God’s will. Thank you Heavenly Mother. Amen.

Jim Stangel



### **Prayer to the Trinity**

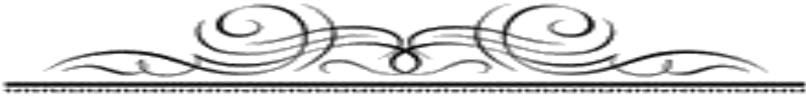
Dear Father God, Brother Jesus, and Holy Spirit,

I thank the three of You, the Trinity for the gift of life. In the year 2009, I experienced a number of deaths, and in carrying the grief of them, I had some terrible moments of despair and anger. It was my belief in You, the Trinity, that I clung to my sanity and faith. I considered many destructive choices, but coming to Mass and the sacraments cleared my mind as to what was life-saving and important. Thank You again for being my salvation.

My requests for You are the daily reunion of all Christians, a long and healthy life so I can continue doing for others using the gifts You have given me.

In the name of the Trinity, I continue to pray. Amen.

Mike Taddy



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer as a Habit**

If you make a habit of prayer, your life will be profoundly altered.

Jim Wavrunek

### **Guidance for the Right Path**

Dear Lord, we give You thanks and praise for all our many blessings. We pray that You continue to guide us on the right path, so someday we will be in our eternal home with You forever. Amen.

Josy Wavrunek

### **Birthday Meal Prayer**

Happy birthday Father Brian! As you celebrate 54 years, we are privileged to share in your first birthday as Pastor of St. James Church. Let us give thanks for your faith-filled life, and pray that the Holy Spirit strengthens you as you serve the Church. May you always be filled with God's blessings. Dear Lord, bless Father Brian and all those gathered here today, as well as those unable to attend due to sickness, or other commitments. Bless his loved ones and keep them safe and healthy. And let us bless this food as we pray together. Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monica Winnekens

### **Prayer for Our Ancestors**

Welcome our ancestors who have gone before us into your heavenly kingdom. Greet them with open arms, as we look forward to seeing them again. In your name, we pray. Amen.

Anonymous



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Diaconate Anniversary Meal Prayer**

Happy anniversary, Father Brian, as you celebrate twenty years to the diaconate of the Diocese of Green Bay. We extend our sincerest gratitude for your dedication to the church and our faith. As one who was called and chosen by God to do His work, may you always be blessed with peace, happiness, and joy. Let us bless this food as we pray together. Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monica Winnekens

### **Gracious God**

Gracious God,

Thank You, Lord, for the beautiful community You bestowed upon St. James, Cooperstown. I am thankful for the Bishops, priests, deacons, ministers, and volunteers that have served us in faith over the years. I am grateful for the beautiful masses, homilies, sacraments, blessings, and prayers that have been offered to parishioners and their families. May God's love and grace shine upon the St. James, Cooperstown community, and may we continue to be blessed with the goodness of God as we go forth to serve the Lord for years to come. Amen.

Monica Winnekens

### **My Prayer**

Thank You, Lord, for everything You have done for me. Thank You, Lord, for my family and my health. Forgive me for everything I do to offend You. Please stay at my side to continue to guide me and protect my family. Amen.

Norb Wisniewski



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Thank You our Heavenly Father for blessing us with a faith-filled and welcoming community we found here at St. James. Give us the grace to always trust in You and to have the patience to live in harmony with one another.

Gene and Gertie Zipperer



### **Prayer to Our Loving God**

Loving God, thank You for all You have given us during our time here in this beautiful world You created. May we always be grateful for what we have and share willingly with those around us. And when our days are done here on this earth, may we leave it a better place. In your name, we pray. Amen.

Anonymous



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

**First Grade Prayer**

Dear God,

We are thankful for all the land, people, nature, family and many blessings You have given us.

We praise You, God for all of creation, unconditional love, acceptance and compassion. Your miracles are great and save people's lives.

We will love You always. Amen.

Mrs. Baugnet's 2024-25 First Grade Class

- Lauren Reedy
- Titus Pantzloff
- Zander Zuege
- Ensly Stelmach
- Embry Stelmach
- Aaron Schuh
- Alan VanGroll
- Austin Grusznski
- Lloyd Martell

Lauren  
 Th Titus  
 Z ph e h  
 ENSLY  
 Embry  
 Aardn  
 A / an  
 Austin  
 Lloyd

**Child's Mealtime Blessing**

Thank You for the world so sweet, thank You for the food we eat, thank You for the birds that sing, thank You God for everything. Amen.

Theadora Lipinski

Dear God, you are so awesome.

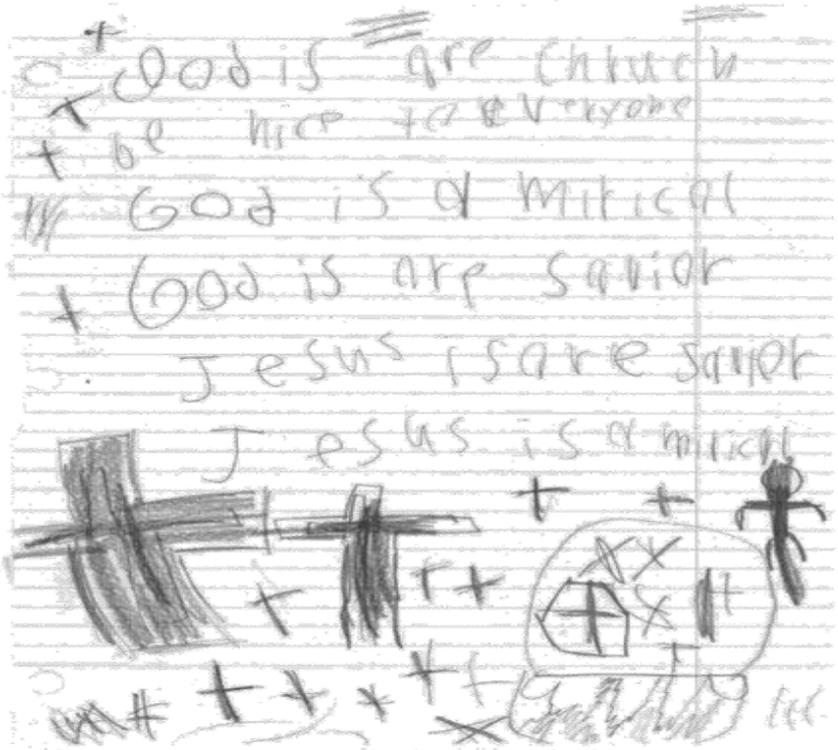
Anonymous



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*



Anonymous



Anonymous



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

The time is soon an gel.

I want to the chrs and I san bwm on the pwn  
I soon an gel wake pam + me.

Maverick Hallwachs

God and Jesus are the best people  
you could afford God is the  
Best and can help you and he  
fed you and gives you a roof  
under your head and he raised you  
a az kindness and he always loves  
you always even but he still loves  
you when you break a promis  
God is the best for planting trees  
and he will bless al of us and  
make our life lives longer  
and he made a big world and we  
love him the people that he is  
helping the most is the cancer  
people and he is the best I  
love and we love you because  
raising teachers doctors my loving  
angels you besed thank you  
for blessing and loving

Beau Kapinos



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

God is the church,  
God is our family.

God is the most  
powerful spirit, he is  
our savior. Love  
God like he loves us. Love  
the church like you love God.  
You are my hero God.

Jameson Kvitek

Dear God thank you for every you  
have made and thank you for  
a family home and clothing  
and thank you for taking my  
sins away

Elijah Lipinski



my teacher is  
nice.

Parker Rasmussen



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

Church is the best place  
Church is a nice place to  
be because you can learn about  
God. And did you know that god  
is are here? well I did and  
the hole world know's about  
god. And did you know that there  
is angels that walk throw the  
Pews. I never saw a angel befor.

Lauren Roberts



A SVR heipe Brin.  
God sees the pras.  
Chais is the CRIS Brin  
Brin put the dook.  
Brin eat the bred.  
anges

Connor VanPay

Dear ~~god~~ G

I thank you for my parent.

Renna Banowetz



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

god thank you for giving me life.

Riggs Banowetz

thank you god for the life of me,  
friends, and family.

Hannah Haag

Please help my family members in heavin.

Lily Kroll

Thank you for shdter I am Sorry  
for my sins Please help my family members  
in heven.

Julia Lacenski

### **Be Thankful Prayer**

Thank You God for a family, a home and pets. Please help me to be a kind person today. Help me treat others the way I would want to be treated. Please watch over my family and help them to not get sick. Thank You for all the blessings that only You can give! Amen.

Gracy Lambert



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

God and Jesus are very special because God, he created the world and everything in it. Like nature, animals, houses, food, water, and a lot more. And Jesus is very special because he had food with his twelve apostles and he told them to eat the bread that was made of his body. And he also died on the cross for us. All of his friends were sad when he had to go through all of that, but the saddest people were Mary and God. They were probably mad at the guards, because they made Jesus do it. But after, they washed all of the blood of them after, they put him in tomb.

Gracy Lambert



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

Thank you for giving me  
life and please help my family  
members in heaven.

Blake Loritz

please help my mom feel better

Emerson Niles

Thank you for giving us life.

Coraline Reedy

Thank you for life

Thank you for people being happy

I am sorry for my sins

Please help me keep on learning Amen

Hazel Reuter

Thank you for having a good life

Marley Wright



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

Lord, please watch  
me as I step  
FORWARD in faith  
to follow you.  
Give me strength  
Amen.

Wally VanderKinter

Life is beautiful so make it last  
because if you rush life, you will miss  
all the great things in life and  
you can't live forever so make the  
most of what you have.

Regina DeBruin

Help me be a better person.  
Amen



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

Thank you God for  
sleep last night thank  
you God for morning  
light thank you God for  
this happy day and  
Help me keep it just  
that way.

Raelyn VanderKinter

Thank YOU for the  
world so sweet  
Thank you for the food  
we eat for the  
for the Thank you  
birds that sing  
Thank YOU God  
for everything.

Amen

Evelyn VanderKinter



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

pray for the people how are  
in the hospitable and how is finding  
and who is deya!

Kevin G. Zuege

One father  
A good family  
A good church  
A private school  
one best friend  
A good teacher  
A the best school  
A good community  
A good  
I think you should be  
kind to everyone! well be  
kind back to you

thank you for one good  
world god.

Crist is a good place  
for church.

Anonymous

Forward exam text coming up -

I hope I'll do good on  
my big text coming up called  
The Forward exam. when I  
think positive I think I  
will do good.

Anonymous



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

please help us and are play so and be  
good and help ever one.

Anonymous

### A Prayer of Gratitude

Thank you God for keeping my family healthy, food on our table and clean drinking water. Thank You for all the comforts of modern life like plumbing, furnaces, vehicles and refrigerators. Please help all the people that fell away from their faith to come back to being Catholic. Holy Spirit, inspire all parents to teach their children about You. Please help me be more like Jesus, today and everyday of my life. Amen.

Remington Lambert

Dear God, Pray for those who  
who have died and are sick  
and for the families of those  
people.

Anonymous

Pray for that we all be a  
men extremely long life and that ~~if we~~  
~~the~~ we will live a exiting life

Anonymous



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

Dear God,

Thank You for the protection over us. Thank You for having a roof over our heads – with food and water for us. That we may all live happy, healthy and faithful lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Dana Bradley

Dear God,

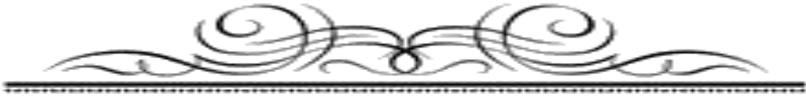
I pray to give thanks to my friends and family for helping me when things get tough. I also want to pray to give thanks for the life opportunities I get and that You guide me down the right path. Through the mercy of God. Amen.

McKenna Brady

Dear God,

I pray and hope that life gets better. I believe we should love and accept one another no matter what. I should be able to love whoever I love and be able to walk home without the fear that I might not make it. I pray that people shouldn't judge someone based on the color of their skin. And my God, I wish my friends happiness because all of them have something going on in their personal lives – they might seem happy – but you can't judge a book by its cover and sometimes kindness is all you can give them. But kindness can be enough and it can be the best gift. Through the mercy of God. Amen.

Olivia Grusznski



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

### **A Morning Prayer**

Father, thank You for blessing me with this beautiful day and beautiful mindset to see all the wonderful things You have given me. Please help me to block out the lies the devil whispers in my ear and replace them with your truth. Grant me the wisdom to find peace in everything You throw my way. Show me your presence today and open my eyes, ears, and heart to your will, your goodness, and your truth.

Please help all who are misled by the devil and who listen to his lies to see your truth and to wholeheartedly put their faith in You.

In your Son Jesus' name, Amen.

Alexis Lambert

Dear Jesus,

I am thankful for all the memories I have of the times I've spent with my good friends. In YOUR name, Amen.

Dakota Rezek

Dear God,

It's been a tough start to the year 2025. I lost my pet, my good pal Rollie, in early January and many students (friends and family) lost their friend and loved one, Nathan, yesterday. For these two who we've lost – I ask for these things: safe passage to Heaven and for ALL that lost that they not be sad that it's over but find some amount of peace because their time on this earth and their relationship with Rollie and Nathan happened. Through God have mercy. Amen.

Brady Satori



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*

Dear Jesus,

Thanks for all of the memories with my best friends. I am very thankful for the friends that I have had fun with. Even if one of them is now gone, we made some very fun memories. Dear God thank You. Amen.

Ethan Wessley



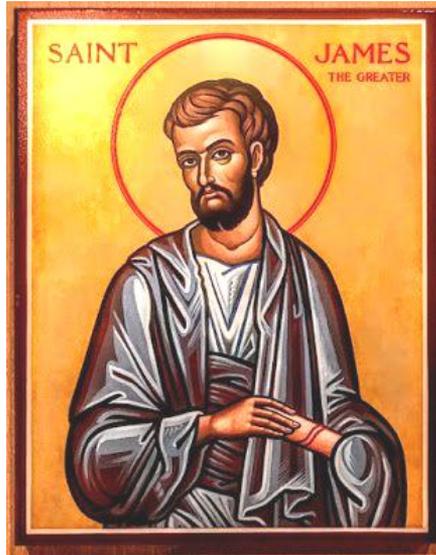
Saint Boniface

Saint James

St. Patrick



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*



### **Prayer to St. James**

Dear Lord, as we walk in the footsteps of Saint James, inspire us to embody love and service in our daily lives. Ignite within us a passion for your mission, that we may boldly proclaim your Word and serve others with unwavering dedication. May our hearts be open to those in need, and our hands ready to help. Grant us the courage to follow in the footsteps of St. James, spreading love and compassion in our community. Help us to embody his spirit of dedication and service, so that we may grow closer to You and fulfill our purpose. May our hearts burn with the same fervor as His, for your glory. Amen.



*The Lord has done great things for us,  
we are filled with joy.*



## **2025 Jubilee Year of Hope**

### **Pilgrims of Hope Prayer**

Father in heaven, may the faith You have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To You our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.





**St. James Catholic Church**  
at Cooperstown  
18228 CTH R  
Denmark, WI 54208  
920-863-2585  
[stjamesandstjoseph.org](http://stjamesandstjoseph.org)