

NOVEMBER 19, 2006

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



# Saint JAMES

## Parish Community

742 East Clay • Decatur, Illinois 62521



### parish office

PHONE..... (217) 428-7733  
FAX.....(217) 428-7426  
E-MAIL.....[stjameschurch@insightbb.com](mailto:stjameschurch@insightbb.com)  
WEBSITE..... <http://home.insightbb.com/~sjcc/>

### parish staff

REV. JEFFERY GRANT..... Pastor  
JAMES ROSSI..... Pastoral Associate  
KAREN REDDEN..... Parish Secretary  
MARLEEN SYKES..... Receptionist  
FRANK LITCHFIELD..... Plant Manager  
SR. CHAMINADE KELLEY, O.S.F., R.N.  
Parish Nurse.

### mass schedule

SATURDAY EVENING .....4:00 pm  
SUNDAY MORNING.....8:30 am

The parish bulletin may be found each week on the parish website.

New parishioners are asked to register at the Parish Office during the week.

“And then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in the clouds’ with great power and glory, and then he will send out the angels and gather (his) elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky.”

- Mk 13:26-27

W elcome to St. James Catholic Church-A Parish in Touch with the Neighborhood.

### Catholic Charities Bread Sunday Fundraiser

Thank you for your support this weekend of Bread Sunday, an annual event sponsored by Catholic Charities of Decatur. All proceeds will be used to support Faith In Action of Macon County. Volunteers provide non-medical assistance to the homebound elderly to help them maintain their independence, dignity, and quality of life within their home environment.

### Names of those in the Military

St. James Parish would like to pray for those members of the parish who are currently serving in a branch of the military. If you have a loved one: grandchild, child, spouse, brother or sister serving in the military, please call the Parish Office during the week. Names will be listed in a special location in the church and we will remember them at each Mass.

### A Thanksgiving Thought

*By Rex Woods*

We can't be thankful for all things -

at least not with any degree of honesty

at least not with any sense of integrity

Some things are simply

too painful, too sad, too tragic

to be thankful for them.

But we can be thankful in all things -

thankful for family and friends

who stand beside us in difficult times;

thankful for new thoughts and new feelings

that lead us through dark hours;

thankful for signs of hope in an otherwise

bleak and barren landscape;

thankful for the inner strength

to endure tough times, to be a survivor;

thankful for the peace that wells up unexpectedly

from within when we are not at peace;

thankful for a touch of humor to lighten our heavy load.

There is much in this season which we will remember

and for which we will indeed be thankful.

But when we cannot be thankful for all things,

grant us the grace to remember

that we can be at least thankful in all things.

Deepen in us, gentle Lord this faith in Your graciousness,

this faith in our resiliency,

that we may indeed be thankful. Amen

### November Plant Memorials

*Roy LaVere Austin*

*Mary E. Bauer*

*Dawn Bell*

*Mary Lou Brand*

*Ruth and Louis Brand*

*Donna Cole-Sykes*

*Joe Fleckenstein*

*Barbara Galka*

*Pauline Hahn*

*Dorothy & Glen Hoagland*

*Roy & Margaret Hornback*

*John & Josephine Keefner*

*Vincent Langone*

*Mr. & Mrs. Dennis McBain*

*Margaret McWilliams*

*Wil Miller*

*Howard Murray*

*Phil Quintenz*

*Herman "Mike" Rever*

*Jim Rethinger*

*The Rethinger Family*

*Albert Schnepf*

*Michael A. Schraeder*

*Dennis Schuman*

*Ted Schuman*

*Jerry Sykes*

*Marge Tapscott*

*Anabel Tatham*

*Gene Tatham*

*John Workman*

*Barbara Younger*

### plant memorials for

#### Christmas 2006

*(Memorials will be listed in the Christmas season bulletins.)*

Please return prior to December 15.

I would like to give a memorial  
of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in memory of

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please sign your name.*

St. James Holiday Lane Craft Bazaar. Booth space is still available at our 3rd annual Holiday Lane Craft Bazaar, which will take place in the school building. 10 by 10 foot booth spaces with no table are \$25.00. You can add a table for \$5.00 more. Call the Parish Office to reserve your space today. We are accepting reservations until November 28. **Holiday Lane is on December 2 this year from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm.** This event will be full of talented Central Illinois Crafters, concessions, raffles, live music and special treats throughout the day.

The parish will celebrate **St. Nicholas Day at the 8:30 am Mass on Sunday, December 10.** The Youth will provide the ministries at the Mass and will be joined by Bishop Nicholas (St. Nick) who will hand out special treats for the “children” after Mass. Bring your children and grandchildren to the celebration!

**Get ready for Christmas!** The next session of Generations of Faith will be devoted to how we celebrate Christmas in our homes and in church. The session is **TODAY Sunday, November 19 from 11:15 to approximately 2:30 at St. Patrick.** There is no fee for attending, and lunch is included. What a great way to gear up for the Christmas festivities! Call the St. Patrick Parish Office at 429-5363.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ This Thursday we celebrate Thanksgiving. □ □ □ □ □ □ □ Each year, our nation sets aside one day to reflect on the blessing we have been given. *From the Pastor* For many of us the day may include a family get-together, a meal, visiting, and maybe a little football or card-playing. Yet, the most important part of the day is perhaps what we say or pray before we eat. Everything we have from the food we eat to the family we eat it with is a gift from God.

Sometimes we forget this or even believe that we ourselves had much to do with our good fortune. Such an attitude only deceives ourselves. We cannot make the sun to shine or the seed to grow. We can only use our knowledge of such things to provide for ourselves and others. How we do that is the real test of our character. To waste, destroy or hoard the gifts we have shows a lack of appreciation for God’s blessing. To share, respect, and conserve is to use them wisely.

Perhaps Thanksgiving Day is a day to reflect on how I use my blessings. For gratitude is not about a single day. Rather, it is a way of life and as we come together this Thanksgiving day, we can recommit ourselves to living a life of gratitude. My hope and prayer is that all of us may learn to appreciate more deeply the gifts God has given and use these gifts in a way that will benefit all.

Mass for Thanksgiving Day will be held this Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM at St. James. Come join us in our celebration of Thanksgiving and enjoy the holiday.

*Father Jeff*

**TEMPLE TENDERS**  
We are looking for extra volunteers to help clean the church. We have daytime, evening or Saturday mornings available to work with your schedule. The teams clean about once every 6 weeks. If you are interested in keeping our church beautiful, please call Linda Scribner at 875-1361.

**FOR SALE**  
CD recordings from the 2005 Advent Evening Prayer with the choirs of St. James Decatur and St. Paul’s Highland, are available for a donation of \$10.00. This CD is a nice reflection of readings and hymns for the Advent Season. CD’s may be purchased after Mass or at the Parish Office.

## **Eucharistic celebrations**

**Monday, November 20**

8:00 am Wil Miller

**Wednesday, November 22**

7:00 pm Jerry and Donna Sykes

**Saturday, November 25**

4:00 pm Art Mense

**Sunday, November 26**

8:30 am Richard Roe

## **in our parish**

**Sunday, November 19**

8:30 am Choir Mass

9:30 am PSR—Family Sunday

**Tuesday, November 21**

5:00 pm Merger Steering Committee  
meeting at St. Patrick

**Wednesday, November 22**

Parish Office closes at Noon today

7:00 pm Thanksgiving Mass at St. James

**Thursday, November 23 Thanksgiving**

Parish Office closed today

**Friday, November 23**

Parish Office closed today

**Sunday, November 26**

8:30 am Choir Mass

No PSR or Confirmation classes today

## **OPUS 24 Concert**

**Tuesday, November 28**

7:30 pm Opus 24 Concert at St. James  
featuring the Millikin Brass

Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Parish  
Office. Don't miss this wonderful event.

## **your gift of treasure**

November 11 & 12 Parish Collection..... \$6,559.01

*Thank you for your generosity!*

Special Fund Activity for November 11 & 12:

Building Fund ..... \$495.00

Scholarship Fund ..... \$185.00

Building Loan Balance due to Diocese ..... \$19,634.63

*(Balance as of October 31, 2006)*

Other Debts to Diocese:

Operating Loan 2006..... \$55,827.12

Accumulated ACSA 1998-2005..... \$287,000.00

Catholic Times bill 2002-2006 ..... \$26,000.00