

Saint James Church
Christmas Eve Children's Liturgy



December 4, 2016

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

The Church year began with the season of Advent on Sunday, November 29th. It is a time of preparation for Christmas when the first coming of the Son of God is recalled. During Advent, we spend time thinking about His second coming, and whether we will be ready when the time comes.

The parish is preparing for the children's Christmas liturgy that will take place on Saturday, December 24th at 5:30 p.m. in the Saint James gymnasium. All school age children of the parish are invited to participate in this children's liturgy. It is our hope that as many children as possible actively participate in some special way.

There are many ways the children and their families can participate in the children's liturgy. Refer to the attached participation sheet for information about how to become involved. **You can become involved by contacting Anna Files by email at missfiles07@gmail.com or by returning the attached participation form to your child's teacher no later than December 11th. You will be notified by email about the job assignment for your child no later than December 18th.**

This season is one of joyful and spiritual expectation. The customs of an Advent wreath and calendar in your home are ways your family can prepare during this season. Advent means "coming" or "promise". We can celebrate His daily coming to us and His presence in our lives through prayer, each other, and the sacraments. The season of Advent is a wonderful time to take the opportunity to reflect on the coming of Jesus through experiencing His forgiveness in the Sacraments of the Church.

On behalf of the catechists and volunteers in the Saint James Religious Education Program, we wish to extend to you and your family a blessed Advent and Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. May the Lord bless you during this holy season and fill you with the joy and hope of the Christ Child.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Anna M. Files
Coordinator of Christmas Eve Liturgy

**Saint James Parish
Christmas Eve Children's Liturgy Participation Form**

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Home telephone number _____

Parent Email Address _____

****The email address will be used to notify you of your child's assignment, time and place of arrival for mass.***

Place an X next to the places your family or your child would like to participate in.

Children in Grades 1-2:

_____ My child would like to participate in the Nativity Pageant (costumes will be provided and assigned on a first come, first assigned basis). *Many students needed.

_____ I have an appropriate costume for my child, including farm animals, angels, shepherd, etc. Please indicate which costume you will bring to the pageant.

Children in Grades 3-8:

_____ Star bearers (4 students needed)

_____ Offertory Gift Bearers (6 students needed)

_____ Singers in Folk Choir (grades 4-8 only)

Mass Clean Up and Breakdown:

_____ My family would like to help with clean up and breakdown of the gym on Monday, December 26th at 8 am.

**This form should be returned to your child's teacher no later than
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH.**