

Summer
2010



Casting the NET

St. James Catholic Church Newsletter

Calendar of Events

July

- **July 17** - 55 & Alive event, "Nuns on the Run" 6:30 p.m.
- **July 18** - Register new parishioners, 10:30 a.m.
- **July 25** - Feast of St. James: Parish Picnic, 4:00-8:00 p.m. in the parking lot

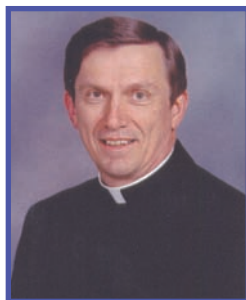
August

- **Aug. 4** - Bloodmobile at St. James, 2:00-6:00 p.m.
- **Aug. 7/8** - Stephen Ministry Recruitment Weekend: St. Vincent de Paul "Bundle Sunday" clothing drive
- **Aug. 14** - Catholic Daughters' Movie on the Green, "Dreamer," 8:00 p.m.
- **Aug. 18** - St. James/Seton School begins
- **Aug. 22** - Welcome Sunday w/refreshments after all morning Masses
- **Aug. 25** - All-school Mass w/Archbishop Lucas, 8:15 a.m.; James GANG Youth Group Kickoff Party, 7:00 p.m.

September

- **Sep. 6** - Labor Day; Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- **Sep. 8** - Bloodmobile at St. James 2-6:00 p.m.
- **Sep. 10** - Volunteer Event (formerly "Volunteer Dinner"), time T.B.D.
- **Sep. 12** - Grandparents Day
- **Sep. 23** - Autumn begins
- **Sep. 26** - Welcome Sunday w/refreshments after all morning Masses
- **Sep. 30** - Public Holy Hour 7:00 p.m.

A Letter From the Pastor



Dear Friend,

Our parish feast day of St. James is on July 25. Since our parish feast day falls on a Sunday this year, all of the weekend Masses will celebrate our parish patron. St. James the Apostle is known in Europe because of his famous pilgrimage shrine in northwestern Spain where tradition says this apostle and friend of Jesus is buried. Since the Middle Ages there has been a famous pilgrimage road known as the Camino Santiago de Compostela (The Way of St. James) that brought many Christian pilgrims to the shrine to be renewed in their faith. The Way of St. James is nearly 500 miles long and it is walked as a way of penance and spiritual purification even today.

When we begin our parish picnic on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. we will have an opportunity to walk a "mini pilgrimage" to begin the picnic. Everyone will gather at the bell tower for the opening of the procession and all will be invited to walk the 'Way of St. James' to the parish offices where the picnic will officially begin. There will be games for the kids and food for all. Plan to be part of this parish celebration.

St. James, apostle and friend of Jesus, pray for us!

Father Richard R. Eiser
Pastor

Mass Schedule

Weekdays:
6:30 a.m., 8:15 a.m.

Saturdays:
8:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Sundays:
7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,
11:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

What's a communion service?

When a priest is not available for a weekday morning Mass, we're allowed to have a communion service. A communion service, led by a deacon or a lay person, includes reading of the Scriptures and prayers, with the reserved Blessed Sacrament being distributed to the faithful.



Parish Picnic

Sunday, July 25th

4-8 p.m.



Annual Parish Picnic

Each summer our parish comes together to celebrate the Feast of St James with a parish picnic. This year, the picnic is on Sunday, July 25th from 4-8pm. This is a wonderful time of fun, fellowship and food. There are activities for all ages, including inflatable amusements, carnival games, rock-climbing wall, open gym for teens and youth, a cake walk, snow cones, cotton candy, Bingo, bake sale, a beer garden, raffles to win and lots of food. There are many opportunities for volunteers, including helping with food, games, ticket sales, promotions, grounds keeping, food donations, kitchen work and clean up. The tickets are 10.00 at the door, the day of the picnic and 9.00 pre-sales or prior to the picnic. Children 4 years old and under are free. Tickets are sold before and after the weekend masses beginning June 26 and 27th and going through the weekends in July. This cost covers the food, drinks and all the games, etc!!

**This is a wonderful chance to meet new people, for community building
and for families to have a great time!**



The First Act - St. James' very own "Heart of Worship"

Matt Redman. Ever heard of him? He's the guy who wrote "Heart of Worship." A song that dates to the late '90s, it was actually inspired by Redman's congregation; a group struggling to find meaning in its musical outpouring at the time.

Fast forward to 2010, and "Heart of Worship" is still working its magic in churches around the world; including at St. James. In addition to hearing it at Sunday Mass, you can also find it in the repertoire for "The First Act."

"The First Act is Eucharistic adoration with a contemporary, upbeat spin," said the group's director, Janet Drvol. "It includes contemporary Catholic Christian Music, a witness talk, silent reflection and adoration."

"It combines the charismatic prayer experience of praise that uses contemporary music with Eucharistic adoration, which is usually seen as a more traditional type of prayer," said the parish's pastor, Fr. Richard Reiser.



For all you history or biblical buffs, the First Act comes from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, article 2096: "Adoration is the first act of the virtue of religion. To adore God is to acknowledge him as God, the Creator and Savior, the Lord and Master of all that exists, as infinite and merciful love." Simply put, it's an opportunity to adore God; a one-hour opportunity.

"We went to other parishes to observe their contemporary worship services and then planned how we wanted our service at St. James to look," said leadership team member Steve Nelson.

Time well spent, according to parishioner Gina Volenec. "I love the peaceful worship with the testimonial that speaks to the heart about how God changes our lives. Our 11-year old daughter, Anna, thinks that it's cool."

That's good news, as the First Act targets youths and young adult, age groups historically difficult to engage and keep in the Church. What's happened, though, is that the prayer, worship, community - and even fun - has drawn all age groups.

"I love it when the congregation actively joins us in song and praise," said keyboard player Lisa Nelson.

The First Act members, from high school-age on up: Carol Drvol, Janet Drvol, Gregg Drvol, Maryann Henrichs, Linda Hopkins, Rich Hopkins, Chris Kabes, Bob Karr, Marcus Knecht & friends, Tom Laferla, Adam Nelson, Lisa Nelson, Steve Nelson, Andy Ryba, Brianne Ryba, the James GANG, LuAnn Thommes, Brianne Wyatt & Cathy Wyatt

We mentioned the power of a song and its ability to help folks find their way back; perhaps even you or someone you know.

When the music fades
And all is stripped away
And I simply come
Longing just to bring
Something that's of worth
That will bless your heart

Keep your eyes on this publication for your opportunity to be a part of "The First Act."

I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what You have required
You search much deeper within
Through the ways things appear
You're looking into my heart


The next one-hour session is slated for September.

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You
All about You, Jesus
I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You
It's all about You, Jesus

You don't need to bring anything but a belief in change... a change of heart.


King of endless worth
No one could express
How much You deserve
Though I'm weak and poor
All I have is Yours
Every single breath

The First Act. It's about music. It's about ministry. It's about community. And, above all else, in the words of Matt Redman:

It's all about you, Jesus. 

Address Service Requested

We're "Casting the Net"!

 *A quarterly outreach
newsletter from St. James
Parish – find us on the Web
at www.stjamescatholicchurch.org
or call 572-0499.*

How to reach us

Do you have a prayer request, or is a loved one in the hospital? Do you want more information about a St. James activity or have a question about the school? Would you like to volunteer, or do you have a suggestion for us? No matter the need or question, please contact us! Here are a few of the ways:

St. James rectory and parish offices

9025 Larimore Ave.
Omaha, NE 68134-2797
402-572-0499
Fax: 573-9345

Web site: www.stjamescatholicchurch.org

Offices are open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays: The offices include those for Pastoral Ministry, Liturgy, the Good News (the weekly bulletin) and Volunteers.

Church building address

4710 N. 90th St.

Young adult office: 572-0499

Youth office: 9124 Tomahawk Blvd.,
572-0624

St. James/Seton School

4720 N. 90th St.
Omaha, NE 68134
402-572-0339

www.sjsomaha.org

The school buildings include offices for the principal, business manager, religious education personnel and the HOPE program.

Celebrating the Sacraments

We hope you will celebrate Jesus' presence through the sacraments with us.

- **Anointing of the Sick:** A healing sacrament for the chronically or terminally ill, young and old, or prior to surgery. Occasionally celebrated at Mass, but arrangements to receive the sacrament can be made to meet individual and family needs. Call the parish offices at 572-0499.
- **Baptism:** We celebrate baptisms for infants on the last Sunday of each month after the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Call to register for infant baptism preparation, 572-0499. Adult baptisms are arranged through the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process.
- **Communion:** Our second-graders receive their First Communion in the spring. Students must have attended the Wednesday night PRE (Parish Religious Education) program or the five-day school through first and second grades. Contact Jo Kusek at 572-0369. Adults in RCIA receive their First Communion at the Easter Vigil Mass. Contact Bob May at 572-0499. Homebound parishioners also can receive the Eucharist. Call the parish offices to arrange a visit.
- **Confirmation:** Our eighth-graders receive this sacrament in the spring. Students must have two years of preparation (7th and 8th grade) in the PRE program or the five-day school. Call Jo Kusek at 572-0369. Adults in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) are confirmed at the Easter Vigil Mass.
- **Holy Orders:** Discerning a call to the priesthood or the diaconate? Call our pastor, Father Richard Reiser, at 572-0499, the archdiocese's vocations director, Father Paul Hoelsing, at 558-3100, or the urban diaconate director, Father Ralph O'Donnell, at 733-8811.
- **Matrimony:** Call the parish offices at least nine months before your wedding date, 572-0499. Couples have preparation sessions with a parish priest, deacon and marriage ministers prior to the wedding.
- **Reconciliation:** Confessions are heard on Saturdays, 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., and by appointment (572-0499). Second-graders celebrate their First Reconciliation in the late fall or early winter. RCIA participants prepare for the Easter Vigil Mass by celebrating this sacrament during Holy Week. Parish communal penance services also are held during the Lent and Advent seasons.