

We are on the web!

stjamesmolalla.org

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH
Iglesia Católica
de Santiago Apostol

Fr. Cit Pastor
Miguel Serrano Pastoral Assistant
Magnus Igbokwe Pastoral Assistant
Patti Parks Bus. Mgr.
Mary Gardner Secretary
Eneilson Rodas Hispanic Ministry

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Office is open Monday to Thursday,
10:00AM to 1:00PM

Parish Council Members

Carol Freeman
Marilyn Kendoll
Edrin Delgado
Alma Gomez
Froi Otter
Eneilson Rodas
Marilyn and Jeff Wilson
J. Cesar Delgado



This council advises Fr. Cit regarding pastoral and financial matters of the parish. The Parish Council's regular meeting is every third Tuesday of the Month in the hall at 6:30pm. Parishioners can audit in the meeting.

RCIA If you are an adult, not baptized or baptized other than the Catholic baptism, and would like to join the Catholic Church, the RCIA is a venue to learn the Catholic faith more and eventually get initiated or fully accepted in the Catholic faith. The instruction/formation runs about a year (10 months). If you are interested, join us anytime. Normally, initiation happens at Easter Vigil. Easter Vigil is on the eve of Easter Sunday. Call 503-829-2080 for more information. Come and see.

Parish Mission and Vision

We are a Christian community from varied roots, united by God, guided by St. James the Greater, worshiping, evangelizing and helping each other toward holiness.

Somos una comunidad Cristian de raíces variadas, unidas por Dios, guiada por Santiago el mayor, adorando, evangelizándo y guiando mutuamente hacia la santidad.

We form our young, adults, and families to develop Christian values, that all may serve the church and community through faith.

Formamos a nuestros jóvenes, adultos y familias para desarrollar valores cristianos, que todos pueden servir a la Iglesia y a nuestra comunidad por medio de la fe.

CALENDAR

Collection Update for Christmas 2022

General Collection \$ 7 954.00
Expenses (weekly estimate) \$ 4 300.00
Deficit \$ 0

Thank you all for your constant support to the welfare of our parish family. We ask you to continue to help us as our parish is also experiencing financial stretch. If you are not comfortable doing online giving, the envelopes works fairly well. Please consider doing so. God bless you.



Please take advantage of this resource. It is free for parishioners.

A St. Augustine online parish resource. Formed is available for all parishioners of St. James Catholic Church, Molalla To access the resources from FORMED:

https://signup.formed.org/
Enter St. James Catholic Church, Molalla
Enter your name and email.

You are signed up. Start browsing and enjoying its contents.

Join us Sat., Feb. 4, 2023 ~ 11am-2pm
Our Lady's Luncheon Tea & Silent Auction
at Our Lady of Peace Retreat



All proceeds go towards new heating and cooling units in 40 Retreat rooms
Register now to reserve your seat
Tables of 6 and 8 available
Silent Auction begins at 11am
Luncheon from Noon-2pm
\$40 per person



Our Lady of Peace Retreat | 3600 SW 170th Ave., Beaverton, OR
RSVP 503-649-7127 or olpretreat.org

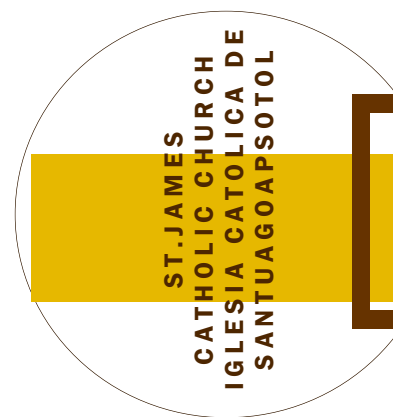
Our Lady of Peace Retreat, Beaverton

A gift idea for your loved one's Christmas stocking!

The Franciscan Missionary Sisters at Our Lady of Peace Retreat in Beaverton will be hosting Our Lady's Luncheon Tea and Silent Auction on Saturday, February 4, 2023. Reserve your seat now! Visit us online at www.olpretreat.org or phone the retreat house at 503-649-7127.

Sacred Heart Catholic School Open House
Sunday, January 29th, 3-5pm
at 515 7th St Gervais, OR
(503) 792-4541
school.shstl.org

Come and meet the Sacred Heart School family! Meet our teachers and tour the school. Our PreK-8 School Offers: • Small class sizes that individualize learning • A warm, loving, and safe family atmosphere that encourages and inspires • Dynamic creativity which is framed by order and sustained by prayer • Need based tuition support • A nurturing Catholic environment that treasures our Christian heritage



JANUARY 8, 2023

THE SCALLOP

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MASS INTENTIONS: JANUARY

Table with 2 columns: Date and Intention. Includes St. James Parish and Onnie, Irene Burch + family.

Fr. Cit's Column Coheirs, cooperators, partners. All nations are called to gather as one nation The point of gathering is God, the center of all,

the reason for our being. How efficient is this? One of the ways we were evaluated, and also trained to be mindful, engaged and cooperative, was team assignment. I liked it when we were tasked to choose our group. Though chaotic, given the high rate of upset due to crowding and sometimes ambivalence and selfish choice, I didn't mind. I wanted to be comfortable working with people in the group. Very often teachers used the easy way by assigning us by number sequence or lot or any character of stratification like color, code or value. My success rate in this group work was often fair. My experiences were telling. A reserved person like me had to work double time, first, to be comfortable with the group, and second, to trust myself that I was an asset. Yes, it was easier for me to work with trusted friends. In this world, how many are exemplary in social skills? I am envious of people who have no difficulty meeting and working with just about anybody. They got a lot of confidence, less worry and efficient skills. They are always likeable. If God's call to form one nation from all peoples is going to be assessed from our facility to work together, am I going to pass? Will there be only a few to make it there? Excuse my process of thinking, but I feel like if I make so much fuss about my own self, then that becomes a hindrance to the realization of a dream community. But, that is my thought process. God's way is entirely different from mine. His process of realizing his "dream nation" is entirely different from my own thought process. I am not discounting the value of our characters. I know they have an effect to the sense of response we give to the divine call. If we are called to be cooperators in the mission of God while we journey towards the fulfillment of God's vision in heaven, then what kind of character is most needed from me so that I can help build that vision up? -30-



Coherederos, cooperadores, socios. Todas las naciones están llamadas a reunirse como una sola nación El punto de reunión es Dios, el centro de todo, la razón de nuestro ser. ¿Qué tan eficiente es esto?

Una de las maneras en que fuimos evaluados, y también entrenados para ser conscientes, comprometidos y cooperativos, fue la asignación de equipo. Me gustó cuando nos encargaron elegir nuestro grupo. Aunque caótica, dada la alta tasa de malestar debido al hacinamiento y a veces la ambivalencia y la elección egoísta, no me importó. Quería sentirme cómoda trabajando con la gente del grupo. Muy a menudo los profesores usaban la manera fácil asignándonos por secuencia numérica o lote o cualquier carácter de estratificación como color, código o valor. Mi tasa de éxito en este trabajo grupal era a menudo justa. Mis experiencias fueron reveladoras. Una persona reservada como yo tenía que trabajar el doble de tiempo, primero, para estar cómodo con el grupo, y segundo, para confiar en mí mismo que yo era un activo. Sí, fue más fácil para mí trabajar con amigos de confianza. En este mundo, ¿cuántos te ejemplares en habilidades sociales? Tengo envidia de las personas que no tienen dificultades para reunirse y trabajar con casi nadie. Obtuvieron mucha confianza, menos preocupación y habilidades eficientes. Siempre son simpáticos. Si el llamado de Dios para formar una nación de todos los pueblos va a ser evaluado desde nuestras instalaciones para trabajar juntos, ¿voy a pasar? ¿Habrá solo unos pocos para llegar allí? Disculpe mi proceso de pensar, pero siento que si hago mucho alboroto por mi propio ser, entonces eso se convierte en un obstáculo para la realización de una comunidad de sueños. Pero, ese es mi proceso de pensamiento. El camino de Dios es completamente diferente al mío. Su proceso de realizar su "nación soñada" es completamente diferente de mi propio proceso de pensamiento. No estoy descontando el valor de nuestros personajes. Sé que tienen un efecto en el sentido de respuesta que damos al llamado divino. Si somos llamados a ser cooperadores en la misión de Dios mientras viajamos hacia el cumplimiento de la visión de Dios en el cielo, entonces ¿qué tipo de carácter es más necesario de mí para que pueda ayudar a construir esa visión? -30-

MASS SCHEDULE

M to F at 9:00AM
Sat at 5:30PM (Eng) and 7:00pm Spanish
Sun at 8:00AM (English), 10:00AM (English) and 12:00PM (Spanish)
Adoration on Thursdays at 9:30AM to 8:00PM
Confession Sat at 4:00-5:00PM but is always available as needed.
Adoration on Thursdays 9:30am to 7:45pm



Who are the Three Kings? by Father Dwight Longenecker

The three kings re classic figures in every Nativity set — one king on a camel, one kneeling at the manger and one standing ready to offer his gifts. But who were the Wise Men, and what do we know about them?

We're not exactly sure who they were. The evidence from the Gospels is found in the first 12 verses of St. Matthew's account. All we can glean from that passage is that they are called Magi, or "magicians," that they came from the East to Jerusalem, and that they had seen a star announcing the birth of the King of the Jews. The Gospel doesn't say there were three Wise Men. That idea comes from the three gifts they brought.

To track down who the Wise Men were, we must first look East. The obvious choice is the Parthian Empire. During the time of Jesus, the Parthian Empire was the name of what was formerly the Persian Empire. It was centered on present day Iran and Iraq. In the Parthian Empire there was a caste of astrologer priests based in the ancient religion of Zoroastrianism. Most scholars think the Magi were Zoroastrian priest-astrologers from Persia.

However, none of this is recorded in Matthew's Gospel. Neither is there a mention that the Wise Men were kings — nor are there camels in Matthew's account. So, where did the idea come from that the Wise Men were camel-riding kings? The idea of three kings and the presence of camels is linked with two Old Testament prophecies. Psalm 72:10-11 reads:

"May the kings of Tarshish and the islands bring tribute, the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts. May all kings bow before him, all nations serve him."

Isaiah 60 is also read in the liturgy on the feast of the Epiphany, and, like Psalm

72, Isaiah highlights the double meaning of the visit of the Wise Men: that the light of Christ has come into the world and is for all people — not only the Jews.

Now we can see where the idea of kings and camels comes from. Matthew says the kings came from the East, and Persia seems the obvious choice, but the passage from Isaiah predicts that the kings come from Ephah, Midian and Sheba. Where are Ephah, Midian and Sheba?

Midian is the Old Testament name for what was, in Jesus' time, the Kingdom of the Nabateans. It lies directly east and south of Jerusalem — in present-day Jordan — and Ephah was a city of Midian further south in the Arabian peninsula. The ancient Kingdom of Sheba was centered in what is present-day Yemen, also to the east and south.

If we are looking to the Scriptures for evidence, the prophecy from Isaiah suggests that the Wise Men came from what is now Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Yemen. If so, they probably did come on camels, since Midian especially was known for its abundance of camels.

Can we use an Old Testament prophecy to determine where the Wise Men came from? Those who believe in the accuracy of biblical prophecy will not have a problem doing so. However, there are other indicators to suggest the Arabian peninsula rather than Persia. The three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh are overlooked as clues to solve the riddle.

Gifts of the Magi

Where did the gold come from? As mentioned, Yemen is the present-day location of the ancient civilization of Sheba. The kingdom's fabulous wealth was based on gold mines in Ethiopia. Archaeologists have recently discovered what they believe to be the mines of the queen of Sheba.

The story of the queen of Sheba (see 1 Kgs 10), who came in procession with great royal gifts of wealth establishes a prophetic precedent. Just as the queen of Sheba came to bear gifts to the Jewish king Solomon, so it could be that the king of Sheba during Jesus' time came, like his illustrious ancestor, to bear rich gifts to the king of the Jews.

Furthermore, the kings of Yemen during the time of Jesus were Jewish. They would have had a keen interest in the goings-on in Herod's court and the arrival of a new king of the Jews. Finally, Jesus himself mentions this link in Matthew 12:42 when he refers to the queen of Sheba's visit to Solomon and, referring to himself, says, "there is something greater than Solomon here."

There are more intriguing clues based on three gifts. The Arabian peninsula — especially the area of Midian and Sheba — is the only place in the world where the specific plants grow from which are harvested the resin to make both incense and myrrh. These two rich gifts — used for their aroma and for medicinal purposes — were the cash crops of this part of the world.

The origin of the three gifts would indicate that the Wise Men came from the Arabian peninsula. And the gifts were not simply rich gifts offered to Christ, but were symbolic gifts from the kingdoms of their origin.

The gifts had diplomatic significance and suggest that the Magi were indeed either kings or ambassadors from the court of Nabatea and Sheba. Even more intriguing, there was constant traffic along the "incense route," which came north from the southern tip of Arabia up to what is now Jordan and across Judea to Gaza. If the Magi were from southern Arabia and the Kingdom of Nabatea (present-day Jordan), their trade route ran right past Jerusalem and Bethlehem.



Consider joining me (Fr. Cit) in a 10-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land on May 23 to June 1, 2023. The registration is going to be over soon. Leaflets/Information about the pilgrimage and registration form are available on the rack in the narthex. Questions have to be addressed to the organization leading the pilgrimage. Bethlehem Star Tours Khaled George 346-244-9807 or www.bethlehemstartours.com, Mike Said 315-664-9296 or info@bethlehemstartours.com.

The places to visit are Tel Aviv, Haifa, Caesarea, Nazareth, Cana, Tiberias, Sea of Galilee, Jordan River, Mt. Tabor, Jerusalem, Gethsemane, Bethlehem, Masada, Jericho, Dead Sea, Mt. of Olives, Mt Zion, Holy Sepulcher.

You may want to share the information to your family or friends too.

Hurry as the deadline is coming. Thank you and God bless.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Visiting the Homebound: Making visits to people who cannot get to Mass is a special ministry. It involves a social time for many and a chance to pray with and for the needs of that person. There is also a short rite used when the Holy Eucharist is given. If you would like to be a part of this team, call the office 503-829-2080.

Youth Ministry: This important ministry is in need of an energetic and charismatic leader with a great crew of volunteers to organize a program attractive to young people in building their faith. Contact the office (503-829-2080) if you can help in organizing this ministry.

Religious Education: We always need good people to teach our children about the Catholic Faith and to prepare them for receiving the Sacraments. No formal training is needed but some in-house training will be given. If interested, but unsure, at least think about becoming a teacher's aide. You will get a lot out of this ministry - it's fun and enlightening. Contact Miguel Serrano at 503-829-2880.

Adoration: Every Thursday, starting with 9:00am Mass and ending with Benediction at 8:00pm. You are welcome whenever it's convenient for you or volunteer for a specific time to spend one hour with Our Lord. Call the office 503-829-2080 if you would like to be a volunteer.

Altar Society: The Altar Society oversees the reverent care of the altar as well as maintaining the plants and flower arrangements that grace the sides of the tabernacle. *The Altar Society also sponsors fundraising events as well as community gathering events. We meet each month on the 1st Tuesday at 10:30am and the 1st Thursday at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. All the ladies of the church are members and invited to come!*

Knights of Columbus: Is a national fraternity group of men who share with others in the parish. We have activities and events throughout the year. We are involved in the parish and community. For more information contact Jim Casey 503-730-1900.

St. Vincent de Paul: Is a food distribution to those families in need. Distribution is once a month on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the parish hall. Volunteers set up on the previous Monday night. For more information call Roy Salvetti at 503-568-2636.

Music: We always need people to join our choirs. They practice on Wednesday nights at 6:00pm. Call Steve or Claire Ferlan 503-829-9402 or Jim or Janell Casey 503-730-1900 for more information.

Weeding, pruning, mowing or planting: The Church grounds (the Campus) are always in need of help. You can choose a portion of the campus to do your thing in. Or, if you have equipment you can help maintain the larger grassy areas. Call the office (503-829-2080) to discuss the seasonal needs.

The Auction: We always need a good leader and a strong auction committee.

But there are almost a hundred other volunteers needed to help prepare and serve the meal, to prepare hors d'oeuvres, to help with registrations, to collect donations, to set up displays and many more tasks. Call Carol Freeman at 503-329-0928 for more information.

The 4th of July Chicken Barbecue: This fun event can always use volunteers.

Our Knights of Columbus men are in charge of cooking but they can always use help with serving and selling meals. Contact Jim Currie (971-226-3949) for more information.