

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



For Your Reflection

Welcome to St. AJ

Based on yearly "October Counts" in all the parishes of the Archdiocese, it has been determined that the average parish Mass attendance is about 25%, meaning that 1 in 4 registered Catholics are attending Masses on Sunday. Certainly, we hope for higher attendance than 1 in 4, but it doesn't look too bad when you consider the situation in Catholic Europe [France, Spain, Italy, etc.] where Mass attendance has dropped below 10%. Last year the Catholic Standard & Times reported an incredible fact about St. AJ. Quote: "West Philadelphia's St. Agatha-St. James had a whopping 455% attendance because of its successful ministry to non-registered Penn and Drexel students." The article forgot to mention two other important academic institutions here – The University of the Sciences in Philadelphia and Walnut Hill College [Restaurant School] whose students also attend St. AJ along with members of the faculties and staffs from these institutions. The article could have also mentioned that we have many visitors who are all most welcome: families and friends of patients in area hospitals; families and friends of area students; and visitors from other parishes who enjoy the worship experience here at St. AJ and are willing to travel to participate. However, the main point is that we enjoy the highest percentage of Sunday Mass attendance based on our permanent residential parishioner base. Praise God.

The Church is Open on Wednesdays

The main Church is open by request for visits and prayer on Wednesday afternoons from 12:30 to 2 PM. Please come to The Center and ask to be admitted to the Church. .



Current Mass Schedule – Fall 2010

Saturday, September 4

4:00 pm - Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
5:30 pm - Saturday - Vigil Mass - Church

Sunday, September 5

10:00 am, 11:30 am, 5:00 pm, 10:00 pm - Church

Monday, September 6, Labor Day

9:00 am in the St. Bede Chapel

Fall Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday through Thursday

7:30 am – St. Bede Chapel
12:05 pm – St. Bede Chapel
1:00 pm – St. Katharine Drexel Chapel

Fridays

7:30 am – St. Bede Chapel
12:05 pm – St. Bede Chapel

Saturdays

9:00 am – St. Bede Chapel

There may be changes to the Mass Schedule and/or location. See the Church bulletin which is available weekly on our website: www.saintsaj.org or call the Center (215-898-7575 or the Rectory (215-386-9732) to confirm.

This Week at St. AJ

Saturday, September 4

9:00AM Mass Holy Souls in Purgatory
4:00PM Confessions
5:30PM Vigil Mass Intentions of St. AJ Parishioners & Benefactors

The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 5

10:00AM Mass Rose & Joseph Candeloro and Maryann DeMarco Catholic Forum will NOT meet today after 10:00 Mass in The Center.
11:30AM Mass In Memory of Agnes Duffy of Ireland
5:00PM Mass In Honor of St. James
10:00PM Mass Intentions of Students & Staffs of Area Universities

Monday, September 6

9:00 AM Mass Intentions of All Workers

Tuesday, September 7

7:30AM Mass Monday – Friday in St. Bede Chapel of The Center
1:00PM Mass Celebrated at Drexel Chapel Monday - Thursday

Wednesday, September 8

12:30PM to 2:00PM Church open by request – ask at The Center

Thursday, September 9

12:05PM Mass God's Blessings on Nedumcheril Family

Friday, September 10

No 1:00PM Mass at Drexel on Fridays

Saturday, September 11

9:00AM Mass Holy Souls in Purgatory
4:00PM Confessions
5:30PM Vigil Mass

Arranging For an Announced Mass

There are many opportunities to obtain announced Masses during the fall season. Please call 215-386-9732 and leave your name and number. We will call you to arrange for Masses to remember beloved friends and family, deceased or living, or for any particular intentions you wish.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Do you want to become Catholic? Has anyone in your circle expressed interest in learning about the Catholic Faith? Are you already Catholic but have not yet received the Sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist? Every year in September, Saints AJ begins a new RCIA journey that will lead candidates to Easter and full incorporation with us at the Lord's Eucharist. This September, Saints AJ is offering an ongoing Inquirers' group. Now is your opportunity to be an evangelist and relay this invitation to others. If interested in the RCIA or the Inquirers group, check out the RCIA web page on the Parish web site www.saintsaj.org or contact RCIA at saintsajrcia@hotmail.com.

Installation of Fr. Jim - September 19

St. Agatha-St. James is pleased to announce the installation of our new pastor, Fr. James T. McGuinn. Fr. Jim will be installed by Bishop Timothy C. Senior at the 5:00 PM Mass on Sunday, September 19. Bishop Senior will be the main celebrant and homilist at the Installation Mass. All are most welcome.

Black & Indian Missions - September 11 - 12

Since 1884, parishes of the United States have expressed their solidarity with African-American communities through their contribution to the Collection for the Black and Indian Missions. This collection offers assistance for various programs of pastoral outreach and evangelization throughout the US and locally here in the Philadelphia Archdiocese.

In every age, O Lord, You have been our refuge.

All Sunday Masses will be held in St. AJ Church beginning Labor Day Weekend.