

SUNDAY DECEMBER 23, 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FLOCKNOTE MINI-BULLETIN

DECEMBER 23, 2018

St. James at Sag Bridge Church

Weekend Mass Schedule:

- ◆ Saturday 12/22, 5:00 pm: Fr. Socias
- ◆ Sunday 12/23, 8:30 am: Fr. Koys
- ◆ Sunday 12/23, 10:00 am: Fr. Koys
- ◆ Sunday 12/23, 11:30 am: Fr. Koys

**Adoration:
Wednesday, 5:00-7:00pm**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
BLESSED NEW YEAR**

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sun, Jan 13, 6-8pm: **Youth Group**

Mon, Jan 14, 7:15-8pm: **Mandatory
1st Communion Parents' Meeting.**

Mon, Jan 28, 6:30pm: **1st Communion students First Confession practice**, in church.

Sat, Feb 2, 11:00am: **First Confession**, in church.

Fri, Feb 8-Sun, Feb 10:
**Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Weekend**, Elk Grove Village. Go to
www.wwme-chicagoland.org for info.

Monday, December 24:

Christmas Eve Masses
5:00 pm & Midnight

Tuesday, December 25:

Christmas Day Masses
10:00 am and 11:30 am

Monday December 31:

New Year's Eve Mass
9:00 pm

Tuesday January 1:

New Year's Day Masses
10:00 am and 11:30 am

2019 FLOWER SIGNUP CHART:

**Now available in the
back of Church. There
are two flower arrange-
ments per date & each
bouquet is \$35.00.**

SIGN UP FOR FORMED.ORG

**Our St James' pass code:
KFWMDB (case sensitive)
Please join and take
advantage of this
wonderful resource.**

CARING FOR OUR CHURCH

Our Church Cleaners for
Friday, Dec 28 are:
Chris, Peg, Bernice
& A Volunteer

The Church Cleaning Group is
always seeking additional volunteers.
If you are able to spare some time to join
the Cleaning Group, please
contact the rectory.
Thank you!

PRAYERS FOR THE MILITARY

Please keep
Connor J. Pratt, U.S. Army,
Lucas Gough, U.S. Air Force,
Nick Imgrund, U.S. Navy, and
Stephanie Remar, Diplomatic Corps
in Africa, in your prayers as they
continue their service.
Thank you!



From the Desk of the Pastor



"Every Knee Shall Bow"

My Dear Precious Jesus,

I did not mean to take your place; I only bring toys and things and you bring love and grace.
People give me lists of wishes and hope that they come true,
But you hear prayers of the heart and promises, your will to do.
Children try to be good and not to cry when I am coming to town;
But you love them always, and that's the love of the carol's sound.
I leave only a bag of toys and temporary joy for a season,
But you leave a heart of love, full of purpose, full of good reason.
I have a lot of believers and what one might call fame,
But I never healed the blind or tried to help the lame.
I have rosy cheeks and a voice full of laughter;
But no nail, scarred hands or a promise of the here-after.
You may find several of me in town or at a mall;
But there is only one omnipotent you, to answer a sinner's call.
And those you seek you, like me, must have a certain kind of faith;
They might find me in a book or on a roof, but you they find in the tabernacle space.
And so, my dear precious Jesus, I kneel here to pray;
To worship and adore you on this your holy birthday.

Anonymous

p.s. This precious little poem was blocked on social media since it was deemed too offensive for public consumption. Isn't that a sad example of the state of our culture? The soul of the American experiment seems to have been infected with a disease from within. The recovery of the true meaning of Christmas can be a big part of the cure. Protestations of the Santa Claus story have always seemed to me an imprudent or unnecessary waste of energy. The poem above isn't a protestation at all. It's more like a correction. When you think about it, Santa Claus, along with Superman and even the Lone Ranger, are three American icons that prepare a child's mind for the deeper truths contained in our Catholic faith. They, in a way, prepare the child's imagination to be open to faith. Santa brings the ability to be open to the miraculous. If reindeer can fly, then Jesus can multiply loaves and fish or walk on water. Superman can bring one to accept that there is life beyond our planet, and that kind of being possesses powers that us "mere mortals" do not. If Superman can save us from all sorts of bad guys and natural disasters, then Saints can cure us of all "ailments of the throat", as we proclaim on the feast of St Blase. And if the Lone Ranger can travel about the wild West with an Indian as a partner fighting lawless bad guys, then our common love and appreciation for natural law will bridge the gaps that persistently separate white, brown, black, red, yellow or blue people. But there is a major difference between the three American icons and the Catholic story. If you look for evidence of their origins, you need not look further than the American imagination. If you seek evidence for the origins of Catholicism, you are led to the actual pages of history, to stories of men and women who gave their lives as a testimony to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Merry Christmas !

Fr Thomas Koys