

Catholicism in Lee County, MS

In Lee County the first resident Catholics, immigrants from Ireland, arrived in the nineteenth century and were served by the missionaries and itinerant priests then serving in the Natchez diocese. Our Catholic presence and influence has grown overwhelmingly since 1974 when Catholics moved into Northeast Mississippi as new industries settled this area, especially the furniture industry.

The first Catholic church in Tupelo, under the patronage of St. James the Great, was built in the downtown area in 1914 under the direction of Fr. Sylvester Yoerg a Benedictine priest from St. Bernard Abbey, Cullman, AL. The Catholics were served as a mission from the Catholic parish in Aberdeen, MS. St. James Parish was established on October 1, 1919, when Fr. Robert Reitmeier, O.S.B. was made the first pastor. Under the direction of Fr. Clarence Meyer, O.S.B., the present site of St. James was acquired and plans for a new and larger church were developed. The present church was finished July 18, 1960. The Benedictines faithfully served our area until 1964.

The third phase of St. James Parish began with the appointment of Fr. Paul Gillis in 1964. He was the first diocesan priest to serve as pastor. With the expansion and needs of the parish, additional facilities were erected - the Parish Hall and Bryan Hall.

In 1868, St. Patrick's Church was built in Sattillo, MS. After a devastating tornado in 1923, the church was relocated in the countryside and renamed St. Thomas Aquinas when a donor offered a donation for a new church facility. The present church was finished in 1966. This mission serves the descendants from the Irish immigrant families of the nineteenth century.

WELCOME

to

St. James Parish



Registration Form

St. James Catholic Church
845 Lakeshire Drive
Tupelo, Mississippi 38804

Office Phone:
(662) 842-4881

Rectory Phone:
(662) 840-7628

Registration of New Members - St. James Church

Last Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
First Name	Date of Birth	Sex	Religion	Work Phone	Place of Employment
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Spouse	Date of Birth	Sex	Religion	Work Phone	Place of Employment
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Address City / State / Zip				Prior residence? City & State	

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Children	Date of birth	Baptism (yes/no)	First Communion (yes/no)	Confirmation (yes/no)
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

ST. JAMES PARISH

serves Lee County, Mississippi, along with our mission church

St. Thomas Aquinas
in Saltillo, Mississippi

Our patron is St. James the Great, a disciple of the Lord and brother of St. John.

Our parish was established on October 1, 1919.

The parish staff and members extend a warm welcome to you as a new member to our parish.

As you settle in our area we look forward to you becoming an active participant in the parish life and the many activities of the parish.

PARISH STAFF

Father Henry Shelton, Pastor

Father Gus Langenkamp, Hispanic Ministry

Betty Harder, Secretary

Lynn Weeks, Music Director

Dawn Steinman, PSR, Grades Preschool - 5th

Mary Ann Plasencia, PSR, Grades 6-12

Bud Tomaso, OCIA

Judy Hunter, Youth Ministry

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Telephone

(662) 842-4881

(662) 620-7660

Fax 844-0327

Mass Schedule:

Saturday

4:30 pm St. James
7:00 pm St. Thomas
(summer)

6:30 pm St. Thomas
(winter)

Sunday

8:00 am St. James
10:30 am St. James

Weekly Mass Schedule:

12:10 pm Tuesday, Thursday &

Friday

7:00 pm Wednesday

(This schedule may vary. Consult the weekly parish bulletin.)

Holy Days of Obligation
(Consult Bulletin)

Reconciliation:

Saturday 3:00 - 4:00 pm at St. James in the church Reconciliation Room and by appointment. Communal celebrations of the sacrament are held during the seasons of Advent and Lent. Consult the weekly parish bulletin.

Parish School of Religion:

St. James offers a wide variety of religious education opportunity for youth and adults. Please contact the parish office for more information.

Pastoral Services:

For information on Marriage preparation, Baptism classes, and Pastoral Care of the Sick and Dying, please contact the parish office.

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

St. James Catholic Church
Post Office Box 734
Tupelo, Mississippi 38802-0734