

April 4 6:45 p.m. @ St. Jerome
Rev. Gary McCants shares: John 8:1-11
The woman caught in adultery.
 Guilty As Well. We should be more than careful how we point fingers at others when we live in glass houses.

Reverend Gary McCants serves as Pastor of Wilkerson Chapel AME Church, Collinsville, IL. He is the Presiding Elder of the South District, Illinois Conference, African Methodist Episcopal Church, supervises 21 congregations in the central and southern Illinois.



He is Chaplain of the Presiding Elder's Council, 4th Episcopal District, AME Church. He also serves as Co-Chairman of the Leadership Team, with the Illinois Conference of Churches (ICC) and as their lobbyist.

For more than 19 years, McCants served as Chaplain, of the over 3,000-member, Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts.

Reverend McCants served as Legislative Advisor and Vice President of the Government Relations Department Illinois Bankers Association for 20 years until his retirement in November 2012. McCants also lobbied on behalf the Illinois Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. He previously served as Senior Legislative Analyst on the staff of Illinois House of Representatives Speaker, Michael J. Madigan.

Come and hear more of this amazing man who was instrumental in how our State Capitol building includes a prayer room and provide prayer for State Senator, then U. S. Senator, and eventually President Barack Obama. Rev. McCants offered the invocation at the Abraham Lincoln's 200th Birthday Celebration Gala, in Springfield, IL where President Barack Obama gave the keynote.

St. Jerome Speakers: April 4 & April 11

April 11, 6:45 p.m. @ St. Jerome
Catherine Becker shares:
Where are you on the Journey?
Holy Week Revealed

Spend an evening reflection on how and where we personally and as a community enter and continue the journey of Holy Week. Where are we in the crowd entering Jerusalem? Where do we sit at the table of the Last Supper? And how do we experience the Paschal Mystery?



Cathy Becker, MAPS lives in Springfield with her family and the Springfield Dominican sisters with whom she serves as an Associate.

Cathy serves as a consultant and sales representative for RCL Benziger Catholic Publisher, she is also an author and adjunct for the Center for Ministry Development,

Cathy served in the Diocese of Springfield at St Katharine Drexel Parish and St Cabrini Parish as Director of Faith Formation.

Cathy holds a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.



- Speaker Series Info:**
- ♦ The speaker series is FREE of charge to any adult.
 - ♦ **Six Thursdays of Lent:**
 March 7 March 14 March 21
 March 28 April 4 April 11
 - ♦ Two held at St. James (St. Jacob, IL), Four held at St. Jerome (Troy, IL).
 - ♦ Funding for the speakers and this series is being provided through our diocese's *Harvest of Thanks, Springtime of Hope* campaign for adult faith formation.

Speaker Series committee:

✦ **St. James Catholic Church**
305 Washington
St. Jacob, IL 62281

Eugene and Judy Touchette
 618-644-2820 ejtouchette@hometel.com

Janet Highlander
 618-792-0904 rjhighlander77@gmail.com

✦ **St. Jerome Catholic Church**
511 South Main
Troy, IL 62294

Angeline Clark-Hellon
 618 667-7198 aclarkh@gmail.com

Sr. Linda Mary DeLonais O.P.
 618-667-6571 slindamary@stjeromeparish.org

Thank you to the:
St. Ann's Council of Catholic Women,
for the meals and hospitality!

LENTEN SPEAKER SERIES

Carry the message of
CHRIST

Journey through the Scriptures this Lent.....

Simple meal & fellowship:
 6:00-6:45 pm

Speaker:
 6:45-8:00 pm

The 6 Thursdays of Lent ~ 2019

March 7, 6:45 p.m. @ St. James

Lorraine Senci shares:

Luke 4:1-13

The Temptation in the Desert

Finding freedom in the desert:

What do we keep in our toolbox for times of temptation?

Lorraine Senci, who is a pastoral care associate at St. Paul Catholic Church in Highland, is a spiritual director and an adjunct teacher for the Spiritual Direction Practicum at Aquinas Institute of Theology.



She is also a prayer companion with the Moments of Grace + Prayer Retreat Ministry and serves on directed retreats. Lorraine holds a master's degree in pastoral studies along with a graduate certificate in spiritual direction from Aquinas, and she has served in parish ministry as a volunteer and as a staff member for more than 25 years.

Lorraine and her husband Jerry are originally from Ohio and moved to Troy 30 years ago. They have three sons and five grandchildren.

In order for each parish to prepare, please R.S.V.P. via the website:

www.StJeromeParish.org

OR turn in the R.S.V.P. form to the offertory basket or office

Thank you to the Ladies of St. James for the meals and hospitality

St. James Speakers March 7 & March 14

March 14, 6:45 p.m. @ St. James

Fr. John Iffert shares:

Luke 9: 28B-36

The Transfiguration of Jesus

You Light up My Life

Come hear how Fr. John understands this illuminating story.

Soon after graduating from college (Illinois State University), Fr. John attended a retreat, had a conversion experience, and decided that the two most important things in life were being a friend of God and helping others to be friends of God. Since his ordination in 1997, Father John has served that mission in parishes and campus ministries. He is an energetic preacher of hope and joy. His favorite moments in life are those "Aha!" moments when we suddenly see and understand what was previously hidden.



Father Iffert has been leading St. Mary the Immaculate Conception Parish since 2008, and St. Barbara Parish in Scheller Illinois since 2014. He is also the regional vicar for the North Central Vicariate.

Father John is a co-founder of Lifeboat Alliance Family Shelter; the 2013 recipient of The Governor's Cup Award for the best volunteer-based project in the State of Illinois.



Thank you to the: Troy Knights of Columbus Council 9266 For greeting and set-up.

March 21, 6:45 p.m. @ St. Jerome

Fr. Kevin Laughery shares:

Exodus 3:1-8A, 13-15

The Call of Moses

Moses is a man on the lam. Rescued from Pharaoh's edict that the Hebrew infant boys be killed, he grew up (according to the title of a 1998 animated film) as a "prince of Egypt," but came to understand his Hebrew heritage and the oppression of his true nation. Having killed an Egyptian who had attacked a Hebrew, Moses fled to the desert, where he meets the God who intends to intervene to free the Hebrews, with Moses as his chosen instrument.

Father Kevin Laughery, who grew up in the Decatur area, is pastor of St. Jerome Parish in Troy and St. James Parish in St. Jacob.

Before coming here in 2017, he served parishes in the Springfield area for 34 years while working in the diocesan Office for Tribunal Services, and was in charge of the tribunal from 2005 to 2017. He remains a tribunal judge.

He writes for Sunday Missal Service in Quincy, and has a regular column, A Big Small World, in Catholic Times.

Father Kevin is particularly interested in anti-racism work, efforts toward Christian unity, and interaction with people of non-Christian religions.

He also likes to sing.



March 28, 6:45 p.m. @ St. Jerome

Dr. Larry LaFond shares:

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The Prodigal Son

This parable is one the best-known stories of Jesus. Or is it? The word "prodigal" never appears in the Bible, and our understanding of this parable becomes much richer when we consider it in the broader context of Luke. Come join the party!



Dr. Larry LaFond is a Professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where he has taught for the last 17 years, and has held a number of positions, including Chair of the Department of English Language and

Literature and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

From 1986-2009, he served as an ordained pastor for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, first in parishes in Northern Minnesota and North Dakota, later as a Chaplain in the US Navy, and finally, in a variety of pulpit supply roles after he shifted his career to academia.

Dr. LaFond holds several degrees in theology. His undergraduate work was focused on the Biblical languages of Greek and Hebrew. His Master of Divinity was begun at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, continued in Germany, and completed in St. Paul, MN.

His coursework for a Doctor of Ministry degree was at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, received an MA in Applied Linguistics at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA, and was awarded a Ph.D in Linguistics from the University of South Carolina.

In January of 2011, Dr. LaFond and his wife, Deb, were received into Roman Catholic Church. They are domestic members of the Brothers and Sisters of Charity, a public association of the faithful, based in Berryville, Arkansas.

St. Jerome Speakers: March 21 & March 28