



SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE

Roman Catholic Church

I AM THE LIGHT OF THE
WORLD, SAYS THE LORD;
WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL
HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE.

JOHN 8:12



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT | MARCH 19, 2023

45 South Springfield Ave, Springfield, NJ 07081 | (973) 376-3044 | www.saintjamesparish.org

YOU ARE Welcome Here

45 South Springfield Ave,
Springfield, NJ 07081
(973) 376-3044

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 8:30AM-3PM

(Closed 12-1PM for Lunch)

Church Visiting Hours:

Mon-Fri: 8AM-2:30PM

Sat: 9AM-1PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday, March 25:
5:00PM - Fr. Dennehy

Sunday, March 26:
8:00AM - Fr. Santos
10:00AM - Fr. Dennehy
12:00PM - Fr. Santos

DAILY MASS:

Mon-Fri: 7:30AM
Saturday: 8:30AM
U.S. Holidays: 8:30AM

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday at 4:00PM
or by Appointment;
Please call the Office.

DEVOTIONS:

Rosary & Novena:
Mondays at 7:00PM in the
Church and on Facebook
Live

Eucharistic Adoration:
Wednesday Holy Hour at
7PM

Second Saturdays at 3PM

PASTOR'S COLUMN



Liturgical Lesson

Today is Laetare Sunday! On the Fourth Sunday of Lent, also known as Laetare Sunday (Laetare means "rejoice"), we rejoice in the salvation the Lord is giving us as we continue entering into the discipline of Lent. Today is named for the entrance antiphon which sings: "Rejoice, Jerusalem!" We have reached the midway point of our Lenten journey... well done!!! This might be a good time to take stock of how far you've come or how much you've done in your Lenten journey. How have you brought the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to bear over these past weeks?

Reflection on the Readings

Our Gospel scene this Sunday unfolds as Jesus and his disciples are walking through Jerusalem on their way out of the Temple area.

They see a man who is blind, in fact, they learn that he has been blind from birth. There are many points which this story addresses; I'd like to focus on one: Spiritual Blindness.

A man named John was blind. One day someone asked him, 'How did you lose your sight?' 'A chemical explosion,' John said, 'at the age of thirteen.' 'How did that make you feel?' he was asked. 'Life was over. I felt helpless. I hated God,' John responded. 'For the first six months, I did nothing to improve my lot in life. I would eat all my meals alone in my room. One day my father entered my room and said, "John, winter's coming and the storm windows need to be up — that's your job. I want those hung by the time I get back this evening or else!" Then he turned, walked out of the room and slammed the door. "I got so angry," John said. "I thought Who does he think I am? I'm blind!" I was so angry I decided to do it. I felt my way to the garage, found the windows, located the necessary tools, found the ladder, all the while muttering under my breath, "I'll show them. I'll fall, then they'll have a blind and paralyzed son!"' John continued, "I got the windows up. Then I found out later that never at any moment was my father more than four or five feet away from my side."

In the same way, Jesus did not promise to spare us the challenges and struggles of life, but he did promise to be with us.

But the reality is that this fact is hard to believe, never mind see!

And that's because we suffer from spiritual blindness.

Like physical blindness, spiritual blindness is also a lack of vision.

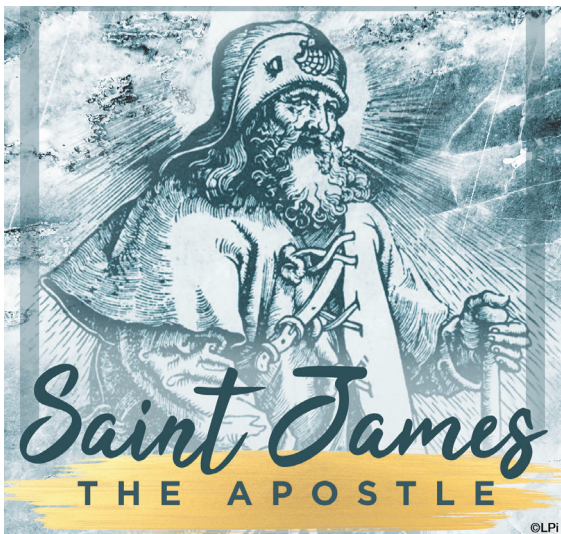
It is also the inability to process "light" - the light that emanates from the One who said, "I am the light of the world!" The Gospel account tells us that spiritual blindness is worse than physical blindness.

Friends, my prayer for you is that you may never be blinded to the fact that God is never more than just a few steps away.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. D. L. L.' with a stylized flourish.

Quote of the Week:

Vision is the art of seeing things invisible to others.
— Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)



SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: 1 Sam. 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Brothers and sisters: You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light...

Gospel Acclamation: John 8:12

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Gospel: John 9:1-41

"We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Visit www.usccb.org to access full Mass readings online.

PARISH NEWS & UPDATES

Annual Appeal ^{the 2023}

Your support of the Annual Appeal makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus. Thank you to all who have already made a gift! Please prayerfully consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese. A gift can be made online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing or by scanning the QR code here.



BETHLEHEM HANDICRAFTS SALE

From the birthplace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Christian community is seeking your love and support through obtaining their hand-made olive wood religious articles. These items will be displayed at the church after all Masses this weekend - March 18th and 19th. Your help can and will make a difference in the lives of your brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.



Knights of Columbus®

2023 Annual Scholarships

The Knights of Columbus are offering their annual school scholarships for family members of the 5560 Council and children of Saint James parishioners. Please visit the link below for more details and to access the online application.

springfieldkofc.org/annual-scholarships

PARISH NEWS & UPDATES

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND:

Black & Indian / Catholic Relief
March 18/19, 2023

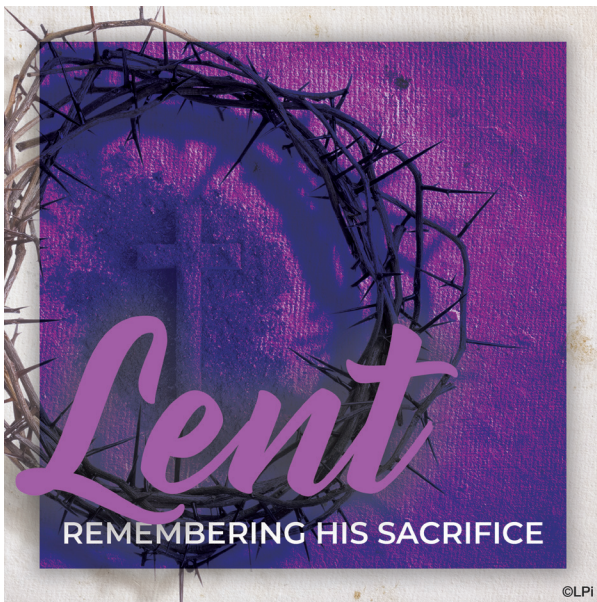
Mandated by the III Plenary Council in 1884, the 125-year-old National Collection for Black and Indian people continues as the embodiment of the Church's concern for evangelizing the Black and Indian peoples of the United States. The funds are distributed as grants to dioceses throughout the United States, supporting and strengthening evangelization programs which otherwise would cease. The Collection was formerly known as The Black and Indian Home Mission Collection.

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Members of this ministry pray for people who are ill, in the hospital, undergoing surgery, or who have been involved in an accident, are grieving the loss of a loved one, or any other special intention. If you know someone in need of prayers, or if you would like to become a member of this ministry, please contact Maureen Bernor. Please reach out to the Rectory Office at (973) 376-3044 to connect with this ministry or to submit a prayer request.

I AM
THE GOOD
SHEPHERD.
A GOOD
SHEPHERD
LAYS DOWN
HIS LIFE FOR
THE SHEEP.

—JN 10:11



Prayer Opportunities During Lent:

LENTEN HOLY HOURS

Wednesdays at 7:00PM
March 8, 22, and April 5

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays at 7:00PM
February 24, March 3, 10, 17 and 24

HOLY ROSARY AND NOVENA

Mondays at 7:00PM
February 27, March 6, 27 and April 3

More Lenten Opportunities

FEAST OF SAINT JOSEPH PRAYER SERVICE & ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE

Monday, March 20th
7:00PM Mass

LENTEN INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

Wednesday, March 29th
7:00PM



BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

Saturday, April 1st
9:00AM - 12:00PM

Join us for breakfast with the Easter Bunny!
We will have games, crafts and face painting.

GO DEEPER IN PRAYER THIS LENT WITH THE HALLOW CATHOLIC APP!

St. James has partnered with Hallow this Season to provide every parishioner FREE access to all of Hallow's prayer content - including the Lent #Pray40 Challenge.

Hallow is the #1 Catholic app worldwide and includes over 5,000 audio-guided sessions designed to help you grow closer to God and develop a daily habit of prayer. Hallow includes prayers for kids and families, resources for mental health, meditations for sleep, seasonal music, multiple languages (including Spanish, Portuguese, and Polish!) daily trivia, podcast-style courses to learn more about faith, and more!

Register today by selecting our parish at: www.hallow.com/holyday

There are a few St. James on the list. Ours appears as: *St. James the Apostle - 45 South Springfield Ave., Springfield NJ 07081*



Stations of the Cross and Breakfast Bag Collection

Friday, March 24 at 7:00 PM

We are inviting families, couples and friends to sign up to read one of the Stations - children are most welcome and encouraged to participate!

Make your Breakfast Bags at home as a family Lenten activity. Drop them off before/after Stations. Sign up is required and details on bag contents are listed on the SignUp Genius.

Volunteers are needed to deliver breakfast bags to Nourish.NJ in Morristown - see Signup Genius for details.

Contact us with any questions:
helpingthehungry@saintjamesparish.org

Scan here to sign up
or visit this link:
www.bit.ly/3J1A8QV





Breakfast with the EASTER BUNNY

Continental Breakfast
with Games and Crafts

St. James Gym
Saturday April 1st
10am - 12pm

**\$10 per person. Children under 3 are free.
Children must be accompanied by an adult**

*Reserve your seat
by March 18th!*



Fill out below and return to the Rectory or Religious
Education Office with payment by March 18th.
Make checks payable to "Saint James the Apostle Church"

Name:

of Adults:

Phone Number:

of Children:

You may also register and pay online
by scanning the QR code. →

For more information send an e-mail to
parishlife@saintjamesparish.org



SAVE THE DATE

SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE PARISH

SPEAKEASY
Casino Night

April 29, 2023 • 7:00 - 11:00 pm
at Saint James School Building
South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081

Buffet catered by **Sophia's Restaurant** • \$90 per person
Cash Bar • Play Money • 50/50 • Cigar Tent
Instructions on how to play

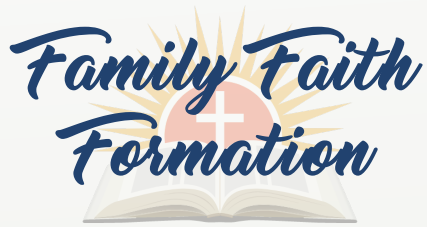
Tickets being sold in advance. Scan the QR code
on the right to purchase tickets online.

**ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT
SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE PARISH**



For questions please email SpecialEvents@saintjamesparish.org





OFFICE PHONE: (973) 376-2061

We are so excited to welcome our Family Faith families today! Our special guest speaker is Susan Choma. This is also the last session where the children will meet with their Catechists.

We hope all families plan on joining us in the church tomorrow evening (Monday, March 20th) at 7:00PM for a special prayer service in honor of Saint Joseph and stay to enjoy the special Saint Joseph Table afterwards!

Confirmation Candidates are reminded that their Letter to the Pastor and Saint Report are both due next Tuesday, March 28th.



SACRAMENTS



BAPTISM

Please call the Rectory to schedule your child's Baptism: (973) 376-3044

RECONCILIATION

4:00PM on Saturdays or by appointment.

ADULT SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION & RCIA

Please call the Rectory for information concerning the RCIA process. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process where individuals who seek to receive the Sacraments of Initiation or who have never been baptized enter into full communion with the faith.

VOCATIONS

Thinking Priesthood? Are you being called? Visit the Archdiocese of Newark Office of Priestly Vocations.

Call: 973-313-6190. Email: info@newarkpriest.com.

Social media: @NewarkPriest. Web: newarkpriest.com

Do you know someone who...

Was never baptized, or was baptized in another Christian denomination, and has expressed interest in becoming Catholic? Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?

Saint James the Apostle Church offers an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for adults and for children/youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm, accepting setting.

For more information, please contact the Religious Education Office at (973) 376-2061.

MASS INTENTIONS, PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

5:00pm **Joe Fusco**
r/b Carmela Fusco
Florence Impellizzeri
r/b Theresa & Michael Quick

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:00am **Maureen Hopkins**
r/b Corbett Family
Lourdes Alcala
r/b Gene & Nieves Salle
10:00am **Nick D'Achille**
r/b Pasquarelli Family
Giuseppe Mazzacuva
r/b Angela & Pasquale Mazzacuva
12:00pm **Antonio Soares**
r/b Family
Mary Corbett
r/b Charles & Mary Cameron

MONDAY, MARCH 20

Saint Joseph

7:30am **Sylvie Kearns**
r/b Kevin & Maureen Corbett

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

7:30am **Joanna Cencamolah**
r/b Rosa & Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

7:30am **Matthew Noah Bernstein**
r/b Bernstein Family

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

7:30am **Vincenzo Moreco**
r/b Rosa & Family

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

7:30am **Joseph Iannetta**
r/b Philip Hunrath

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

8:30am **Theresa Blasi**
r/b Family
5:00pm **John Montana**
r/b Janice Montana
Florence Impellizzeri
r/b Theresa & Michael Quick

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00am **Susan Francis**
r/b Friend
Rosalinda Lopez
r/b Bob & Linda Donnelly
10:00am **Ronnie Fusco**
r/b Carmela Fusco
Raul Lavarino
r/b Gene & Nene Salle
12:00pm **Paul Macciacherea**
r/b Roethlin Family
Frank Nasto
r/b Lorraine Graziano

Lord, Hear Our Prayer.



SANCTUARY LAMP:

For the People of Saint James

BREAD & WINE:

For the People of Saint James

To memorialize the Sanctuary Lamp by the Tabernacle or the Bread and Wine, please call the Rectory Office.

A TIME TO HEAL

Pat Anelli, Antoinette Agrillo, Jackie Belitti, Anita C. Bentz, Barbara Bentz, Severina Bion, Marie Boin, Victoria Burns, Gerry Campagnola, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Thara Chandran, Lena Chromowski, Phyllis Colosimo, Celine Correia, James Curry, Maureen D., Beverly DeMarzo, Carmela DeSarno, Robert Devon, Jr., Marguerite Duchantier, Victoria Egner, Alfredo Fernandes, Berta Franco, Ann Graziano, Carole Griner, Steven Hensle, Laura Hughes, Eddie Jenna, Dana Kelley, Dexter Kennedy, Art Kistler, Irene Kurpieski, Camille LaTouche, Dina Ledogar, Maureen Le Goff, Lucille Lerner, Andy Lindgren, Angelina Lipski, Chenoa Lipski, Richie Lipski, Menotti Joseph Lombardi, Jr., Marian Lordi, Richard Lorenzo, Barbara Ludolph, Erica Luther, Toni Ann Marabello, Maria Martino Fender, Angie Mazzarisi, Leonard McGinley, Stan Mickham, Richard Miele, Andres Montero, Timothy Morgan, Martin Muguerza, Ive Mureny, Christian Murphy, Cassidy Musson, Carol Muzacs, Michael Neer, Mary O'Connor, Rafaelina Oliviero, Anna P., John Reiss, Ben Rumer, Anthony S., Richard Salort, Alice Serrao, Jack Silbert, Ray Slater, Stephanie Toth, Tracy Tuten, Erin Wade, Anne Wallis, MaryEllen Warren, Elisa Warshall

Please Note: For privacy reasons and HIPAA regulations, names may only be added by members of the immediate family after they have received permission of the one who is sick. In the event of serious illness or hospitalization, the rectory should be notified. Visits to the sick and home-bound are made by the priests, deacons and ministers of the Eucharist. It is not necessary for someone to be "gravely ill" to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

A TIME OF WAR AND PEACE

Tim Arentz, Lance Corporal Kevin Bernor, Brian Braine, Sean Curran, Capt. Sean P. Eadie, Stacy Enyeart, David Fenton, Shane Fenton, Luis Fonseca, LCPL Christopher P. Garrigan, 2LT Christopher W. Impellizzeri, Cpt. Brian Jacobs, 2LT Andrew Kerwin, LCPL Kyle Thomas Lynaugh, Stephen Patricco, Aric Patten, Phillip Patten, Aaron Pluto, 2nd Lt. John Rogacki, Capt. Stacia Rogacki, Cpt. Steven Rogacki, 2LT Raymond Williamson

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

DO YOU LIVE IN UNION COUNTY AND NEED HELP WITH:

Housing Insecurity?
Rental Assistance?
Legal Representation?
Credit Counseling and more?

Please contact JOE CORREA immediately:
jcorrea@thewaterfrontproject.org

www.thewaterfrontproject.org

A nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting economically disadvantaged people – the working poor, seniors, veterans, and those living with disabilities – to address their civil legal issues and concerns.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

Collection Totals
Weekend of March 11/12

*Please check back next week -
Numbers not available at time of publishing.*

We accept online credit card donations. Parishioners wishing to mail-in or drop off their weekly contribution in the Rectory mail slot are welcome to do so.



ONLINE GIVING

To sign up for Online Giving, please visit
saintjamesparish.org or scan the
QR code with your smartphone.

Thank you for your generosity!

FRAUD ALERT: Please be aware that emails are being sent out by scammers claiming to be members of the Saint James parish community, including Fr. David Santos. Please disregard any emails from anyone claiming to be associated with Saint James, including Fr. David Santos, with solicitation to purchase gift cards or offer any other cash donations. In any event, please feel free to call the parish rectory to confirm any and all solicitation before contributing. We have contacted the local authorities to make them aware.



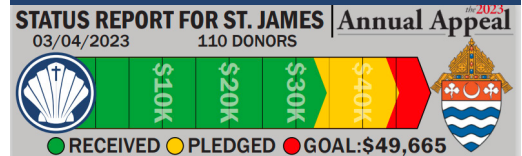
FINANCE
Parish Finance Council

FINANCE COUNCIL CORNER

Did you know?... You may be able to double the impact of your contribution to the Annual Appeal with a corporate matching gift. Ask your employer if they will match your donation to the Annual Appeal. You can also visit the Archdiocese of Newark 2023 Annual Appeal site for more information on how to match your gift.

Thank you to all who have made their 2023 Annual Appeal pledge so far. We're at 92% of our goal. Help us reach our goal!

Remember... Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first-fruits of all your crops. Proverbs 3:9



OUR PARISH IS SERVED BY:

PASTOR

Father David C. Santos
frsantos@saintjamesparish.org

PERMANENT DEACON

Deacon Jerry Bongiovanni
Please call the rectory to reach Dcn. Jerry

PERMANENT DEACON

Deacon Hugh A. Keffer
hkeffer@saintjamesparish.org

TRANSITIONAL DEACON

Deacon Thiago Menezes Santos
deaconthiago@saintjamesparish.org

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Father John Dennehy

PARISH COUNCIL

pastoralcouncil@saintjamesparish.org

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Ms. Nancy Caputo
ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Mr. Philip La Gala
musicdirector@saintjamesparish.org

OFFICE MANAGER

Mrs. Colleen Tyra
ctyra@saintjamesparish.org

BOOKKEEPER

Mrs. Katie Hyman
businessoffice@saintjamesparish.org

PARISH TRUSTEES

Mrs. Janet Petino and Mr. John Pflug