



# SAINT JAMES

the APOSTLE CHURCH



45 SOUTH SPRINGFIELD AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07081-2301  
OFFICE: 973-376-3044 :: FACSIMILE: 973-376-0560



## PASTOR

Father Joseph F. Barbone, M.A.  
jbarbone546@gmail.com, jbarbone@aol.com

## PAROCHIAL VICAR

Father Antonio N. Kuizon  
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## PERMANENT DEACONS

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## PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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[www. SaintJamesTheApostle.org](http://www.SaintJamesTheApostle.org)

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

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## DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org

## PARISH TRUSTEES

Mrs. Janet Petino and Mr. John Pflug

## PARISH COUNCIL

saintjamesparishcouncil@gmail.com

## RECTORY HOURS

Monday-Friday: 8:00AM~3:00PM  
closed daily 12:00-1:00PM)

[Click to join us on Face Book!](#)



A WELCOMING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH.

COME EXPERIENCE CHRIST WITH US!

December 13, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

**“THE END OF ALL THINGS IS AT HAND. THEREFORE, BE SERIOUS AND SOBER FOR PRAYERS. ABOVE ALL, LET YOUR LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER BE INTENSE, BECAUSE LOVE COVERS A MULTITUDE OF SINS.”**

An Advent Sourcebook, p.77

When the people met John, they wanted to know who he was, why he was there, and what his purpose was. Sound familiar? Isn't that what we ask people today when we meet them for the first time? Not much has changed in the past 2,000 years as far as that is concerned.

John's mission was simple. He was to prepare the people for the Messiah and then disappear. But he wanted them to know that the appearance of the Messiah would change things for them. While we are not John the Baptists, our mission is the same. In addition to celebrating the presence of the Messiah in our lives, we are also called to prepare for the day when he will return again. With all the preparations we are making for Christmas, Jesus's return does not seem to be as important as the church reminds us it should be. If Jesus returned today, would we be ready to greet him or would we ask him for more time?

Advent offers us an opportunity to step back and reflect on the gift of Jesus to us, and the opportunity we have to actively work for his coming again in glory. There are some who speculate that his return will not be for another 1,000 years. Advent, though, reminds us of the call of Jesus to conversion, to holiness, and to celebrate his presence as an ongoing relationship with him and the Father. Advent is also the season of hope that allows us to see beyond the difficulties we have, including the pandemic, to a world of beauty, because it was created by God. It also allows us to recognize that each of us is called to radiate that hope in all we are and do, and to help one another experience the gentle, loving presence of the Messiah. May we all be faithful to the call of the Lord, as he has drawn us together as his people to make a difference for one another.

Today, at 3 PM, Saint James Parish will celebrate its fourth annual Lessons and Carols. This year's presentation will be virtual, with the links on the parish Web site. Hear how the Old Testament foretold, and the New Testament proclaimed, the birth of the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. Each reading will be followed by a seasonal song or hymn sung by our parish choir. We all can use a little extra Advent hope this year. Please join us and invite your families and friends to join us as well.

**HAPPY ADVENT!!**

*~ Fr. Joe*



## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

**\$9,644.00**

**\$6,242.00 Church Collection**

**\$3,402.00 Online Collection**

*To sign up for Online Giving go to:*  
**www.saintjamestheapostle.org**

**WE ALSO 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*

**OR**

*To make a donation to help our parish, please  
visit our GoFundMe page:*

[https://charity.gofundme.com/donate/event/  
archdiocese-of-newark?lang=en-us](https://charity.gofundme.com/donate/event/archdiocese-of-newark?lang=en-us)

**Select Team: Saint James the Apostle, Springfield**  
*(all donations are gratefully accepted)*



## MASS INFORMATION

**Vigil Mass ~ Saturday 5:00PM**

**Sunday 7:30AM ~ 9:00AM ~ 10:30AM ~ 12:00PM**  
**(10:30AM Mass Facebook / YouTube)**

**DAILY MASS**

**Weekday: Novena 7:10AM ~ Mass 7:30AM**

**Saturday: Novena 7:40AM ~ Mass 8:00AM**

**NOVENA**

**Monday Evenings ~ 7:00PM**

**Facebook / Zoom only**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**By Appointment**



## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

**Due to the ongoing need for social distancing, there are no group baptisms at this time.**

**The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated individually.**

**Please call the rectory to schedule your infant's baptism.**



## SACRAMENT INFORMATION

***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.

**BAPTISM ~ CONFIRMATION ~ MARRIAGE ~ SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**

**VOCATIONS**

**Is God calling you to the priesthood or Religious Life?**

**Speak to one of our priests or call the Vocations Office 973-497-4365.**



# CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

## Information during Covid-19

Dear Fellow Saint James Parishioners:

As we all prepare for a very different Christmas, here are a few suggestions to help you:

The capacity of the church is 77 people seated. There are additional spots in which folks can stand during the Mass along the perimeter of the church. If you are planning to attend one of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses you must either call the rectory or email me at [jbarbone546@gmail.com](mailto:jbarbone546@gmail.com) by December 23rd with the number of people (including children) and the time / day of your preferred mass. This is very important because of the limited number of people allowed in the church at one time. The Christmas Eve 4:00PM and 10:30AM Christmas Day Masses will be live-streamed for those who do not feel comfortable attending Mass in person.

If you or someone in your household is not feeling well, or you have an underlying health concern, please stay home and attend one of the virtual masses.

The names will be checked at the entrance of the church by the ushers and those who have not signed up will not be allowed into the church until those who have signed up are present. This is meant to keep everyone safe.

We are following directives sent to us by the archdiocese. I ask for your patience and understanding since this is a different procedure than what we are used to doing.

Thank you. God bless you.

Any questions or comments, please let me know.

Fr. Joe



## MESSAGE FROM FR. JOE

### Regarding Attending Mass during Covid-19

Dear Fellow Saint James Parishioners:

It is great to be back together in church for Mass, but things are a little different. Senior citizens and those with underlying medical conditions are encouraged to remain at home and watch the Sunday online 10:30AM Mass, which we will continue to live-stream.

If you do come to church for Mass, please remember the following:

1. You must wear a mask to enter the church and you must keep your mask on at all times while in the church, including during Mass.
2. As you go from the Gathering Area into the church, please use the appropriate door to enter and exit the church.
3. Please observe the one-way aisles, which are marked with blue tape on the floor.
4. You must maintain social distancing while in the church.
5. Half of the pews have been taped off to maintain social distancing. There are pieces of blue tape on each pew where you can sit. They are also on the floor by the back walls for those who prefer to stand. This area is also marked for social distancing.
6. Family members can sit together, but everyone else must sit 6 feet apart.
7. The weekly collection baskets will not be passed from parishioner to parishioner. They will be on the baptismal font. Please drop in your donation as you enter or exit the church.
8. There is no procession of the bread and wine ("bringing up the gifts").
9. Please do not shake hands when sharing the sign of peace. Instead, wave, nod, or bow slightly.
10. There are three Communion stations: one in the center, one by the organ, and one by the ambo. The ushers will direct you to maintain social distance.
11. Hosts can no longer be placed directly on a parishioner's tongue by a priest, deacon, or Eucharistic Minister. You must receive the Host in your hand and place it on your tongue. There is no receiving from the Cup.
12. When it is your turn to receive Communion, approach the priest or deacon, receive the Host in your hand, step aside, raise or lower your mask, and place the Host on your tongue. Immediately replace your mask over your mouth.
13. The candles in the Gathering Area have been turned off and they are taped.
14. There are no printed bulletins. Bulletins are posted online on the parish website.
15. The Worship books have been removed from church. You may bring your own booklet, iPad or iPhone to use during Mass.
16. You will also notice that everything that can be touched has been removed from the church. There is no Holy Water.
17. Once Mass is over, please quickly exit the church so that the pews can be sanitized for the next Mass.
18. If you want to socialize with others whom you may not have seen in a while, please do so outside of church and not in the Gathering Area.

If you have any questions or are unsure of what to do while in church, please ask an usher. I ask your patience as we attempt to navigate through all of this. We realize this is a very different situation for all of us. It can work if we work together. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Stay safe!

Fr. Joe

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

*Ms. Nancy Caputo, Director ~ Mrs. Colleen Tyra, Administrative Assistant*

**Main Office 973-376-2061 :: Facsimile 973-376-4079**

Happy third week of Advent!! This week is the week of “joy” also know as Gaudete Sunday. It is also Bambinelli Sunday! Don’t forget to have your Baby Jesus from your family nativity nearby at the end of Mass for a special blessing!

Thank you to the 7th & 8th graders who already signed up to purchase gift cards for the families of Family Promise. This year we are supporting the families with gift cards that they requested so they can shop for their children. Uber and gas station gift cards are always in need and much appreciated by the families as well! There is a flyer with the link to the sign-up genius on page 18 of this bulletin if anyone is interested in participating. This opportunity is open to all parishioners.

Fr. Joe and the staff of Saint James hope that you will continue to join us in the virtual events planned during the Advent and Christmas Seasons. While our ability to gather together may have changed, our ability to pray together hasn’t. We are looking forward to sharing this time with you virtually!

***Join us on Facebook or YouTube today at 3:00PM for our parish live-stream Lessons and Carols!***

### SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION!

There will be a Zoom parent meeting for the children receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist on Monday, December 14th at 7:00PM. Parents will be provided the link to the call by email. We ask that you do not share the link; if someone believes they should be on the call, ask them to call the Religious Education Office and we will gladly help them.

***The Sacrament of Confirmation (Zoom) parent meeting will take place in January.***

### 7th Grade News!

So proud of our 7th graders and peer leaders for embracing our Zoom Classes!

### 8th Grade News!

Our next Zoom is Tuesday, December 15th at 7:00PM. The link and class topic will be sent to students and parents by email.

Reminder: The assignment posted on Google Classroom is due Monday, December 14th.

# ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

## *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*

**Tuesday, December 8**

Mass celebrated on Monday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. (vigil)  
and Tuesday 7:30 a.m., 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.

## *Spanish Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe*

**Saturday, December 12**

12:00 noon (Mass in Spanish)

## *Bambinelli Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent*

**December 12 & 13**

Blessing of Baby Jesus Figurines from your home nativity set at all Masses

## *Lessons & Carols*

**Sunday, December 13**

3:00 p.m. in the Church (virtual)

## **CANCELLED: Advent Penance Service**

**Please call the rectory to schedule an appointment with a priest.**

## ***CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SCHEDULE***

4:00 p.m. Family Mass, and 7:30 p.m.

Mass at Midnight

## ***CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE***

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 noon

## *Feast of the Holy Family*

Blessing of families at all Masses

Saturday, December 26 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 27 at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 noon

## ***NEW YEARS MASSES: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD***

Friday, January 1, 2021

**(No 7:30 a.m. Mass)**

Mass celebrated Thursday, December 31 at 7:00 p.m.

Friday, 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12 noon

**\*\* Schedule subject to change \*\***

# ADVENT MEMORIALS

THE ADVENT WREATH IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Those who lost their battle with Covid-19

THE ADVENT CANDLES WILL BURN IN LOVING MEMORY OF.....

First Responders

Health Care Providers

Deacon Dan O'Neill

Janice Bongiovanni

ADVENT "LITTLE BLUE BOOKS"

In Loving Memory of .....

John D. Pflug, III and Garrett Gurrieri

*r/b Pflug Family*




Image courtesy of Google.com



## PARISH INFORMATION



St. James the Apostle Church  
JOIN US  
**ONLINE ROSARY  
& NOVENA**  
EVERY MONDAY at 7:00 P.M.  
  
[www.facebook.com/saintjamestheapostle/live/](https://www.facebook.com/saintjamestheapostle/live/)



Join us in the Gathering Area of the Church or log on to the Saint James the Apostle Parishioner Face Book Page to join us on YouTube!

**There will be no evening mass during Advent this year.  
Please join us for our virtual worship opportunities.**

*Has your child been baptized but not catechized or received their sacraments?*



*Are they of school age and not yet baptized?*

*Do you have a special needs child needing  
catechesis?*

Please call or email the Religious Education Office.

## Giving Tree 2020

**Remember your gifts are due by NOON today  
Sunday, December 13th!!**

We will be participating in providing gifts for the needy during this Holiday season for St. Joseph Social Service Center in Elizabeth.

If you can purchase a gift of warm clothing, it would be greatly appreciated. This year we will have a virtual sign-up to replace the tags that are normally hung on a tree in the Gathering Area.

Please head to the Sign-Up Genius link below and sign up for your donations.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044AACA629A5FD0-stjames>

or click here:

**[Giving Tree Sign-up!](#)**

Please place the **UNWRAPPED** gift with tags attached in a large gift bag with tissue paper.  
Return your gift to the Church **after Mass ONLY no later than NOON on Sunday, December 13.**

There will be a drop off station outside of the doors of the Church.

If you have any large Christmas bags and/or tissue paper to donate, they are also needed at the Center.

***As always, THANK YOU for your generosity.***

If you or someone you know in the community cannot access the Sign-Up Genius link please contact Gianna Hayes at 908-209-1811 in order to select an item to donate.

**Thank you in advance for your generosity!!!**





*“O come let us adore Him”*

## **A VIRTUAL FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**

**HEAR THE CHRISTMAS STORY TOLD THROUGH  
THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS AND EXPRESSED IN BEAUTIFUL  
SEASONAL MUSIC SUNG BY OUR PARISH ADULT CHOIR**

**TODAY!!!!**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020**

**3:00 PM**

**FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE LINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE  
ON THE PARISH WEB SITE**







Thank you to everyone who attended our tree lighting and donated to the food collection last Sunday!





## SUNDAY READINGS ~ December 13, 2020

Visit: <http://www.usccb.org/> to receive daily Scripture Readings

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor,  
to heal the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives  
and release to the prisoners,  
to announce a year of favor from the LORD  
and a day of vindication by our God.

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,  
in my God is the joy of my soul;  
for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation  
and wrapped me in a mantle of justice,  
like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem,  
like a bride bedecked with her jewels.

As the earth brings forth its plants,  
and a garden makes its growth spring up,  
so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise  
spring up before all the nations.

El espíritu del Señor está sobre mí,  
porque me ha ungido  
y me ha enviado para anunciar la buena nueva a los  
pobres,  
a curar a los de corazón quebrantado,  
a proclamar el perdón a los cautivos,  
la libertad a los prisioneros,  
y a pregonar el año de gracia del Señor.

Me alegro en el Señor con toda el alma  
y me lleno de júbilo en mi Dios,  
porque me revistió con vestiduras de salvación  
y me cubrió con un manto de justicia,  
como el novio que se pone la corona,  
como la novia que se adorna con sus joyas.

Así como la tierra echa sus brotes  
y el jardín hace germinar lo sembrado en él,  
así el Señor hará brotar la justicia  
y la alabanza ante todas las naciones.

The word of the Lord .....

**R. Thanks be to God!**

La Palabra del Señor.....

**R. ¡Gracias a Dios!**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**PSALM 25**

R. To you, O lord, I left my soul, to you, I lift my soul.

R. A ti oh Señor levanto mi alma, a ti levanto mi alma



**SECOND READING: Thessalonians 5:16-24**

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.  
In all circumstances give thanks,  
for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.  
Do not quench the Spirit.  
Do not despise prophetic utterances.  
Test everything; retain what is good.  
Refrain from every kind of evil.  
May the God of peace make you perfectly holy  
and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body,  
be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord  
Jesus Christ.  
The one who calls you is faithful,  
and he will also accomplish it.

Hermanos:  
Vivan siempre alegres, oren sin cesar, den gracias en  
toda ocasión, pues esto es lo que Dios quiere de ustedes  
en Cristo Jesús.  
No impidan la acción del Espíritu Santo, ni desprecien  
el don de profecía; pero sométanlo todo a prueba y  
quédense con lo bueno.  
Absténganse de toda clase de mal. Que el Dios de la  
paz los santifique a ustedes en todo y que todo su ser,  
espíritu, alma y cuerpo, se conserve irreprochable hasta  
la llegada de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. El que los ha  
llamado es fiel y cumplirá su promesa.

The word of the Lord .....

**R. Thanks be to God!**

La Palabra del Señor.....

**R. ¡Gracias a Dios!**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**R. Aleluya, aleluya.**

El Espíritu del Señor está sobre mí.  
Me ha enviado para anunciar la buena nueva a los  
pobres.

**R. Aleluya.**

Priest / Deacon: The Lord be with you.....

**R. And with your Spirit...**

Priest / Deacon: A reading from the Holy Gospel  
according to John....

**R. Glory to you O Lord ....**

Sacerdote / Diácono: El Señor esté contigo ...

**R. Y con tu Espíritu ...**

Sacerdote / Diácono: Una lectura del Santo Evangelio  
según Mateo ...

**R. Gloria a ti, oh Señor ...**

*with your thumb, make a little sign of the cross, first on your forehead; then on your lips; then on your heart*

## GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God.  
He came for testimony, to testify to the light,  
so that all might believe through him.  
He was not the light,  
but came to testify to the light.  
And this is the testimony of John.  
When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests  
and Levites to him  
to ask him, "Who are you?"  
He admitted and did not deny it,  
but admitted, "I am not the Christ."  
So they asked him,  
"What are you then? Are you Elijah?"  
And he said, "I am not."  
"Are you the Prophet?"  
He answered, "No."  
So they said to him,  
"Who are you, so we can give an answer to those  
who sent us?"  
What do you have to say for yourself?"  
He said:  
"I am *the voice of one crying out in the desert,*  
*'make straight the way of the Lord,'*  
as Isaiah the prophet said."  
Some Pharisees were also sent.  
They asked him,  
"Why then do you baptize  
if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?"  
John answered them,  
"I baptize with water;  
but there is one among you whom you do not  
recognize, the one who is coming after me,  
whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."  
This happened in Bethany across the Jordan,  
where John was baptizing.

Hubo un hombre enviado por Dios, que se llamaba Juan. Éste vino como testigo, para dar testimonio de la luz, para que todos creyeran por medio de él. Él no era la luz, sino testigo de la luz.  
Éste es el testimonio que dio Juan el Bautista, cuando los judíos enviaron desde Jerusalén a unos sacerdotes y levitas para preguntarle: "¿Quién eres tú?" Él reconoció y no negó quién era. Él afirmó: "Yo no soy el Mesías". De nuevo le preguntaron: "¿Quién eres, pues? ¿Eres Elías?" Él les respondió: "No lo soy". "¿Eres el profeta?" Respondió: "No". Le dijeron: "Entonces dínos quién eres, para poder llevar una respuesta a los que nos enviaron. ¿Qué dices de ti mismo?" Juan les contestó: "Yo soy la voz que grita en el desierto: 'Enderecen el camino del Señor', como anunció el profeta Isaías".  
Los enviados, que pertenecían a la secta de los fariseos, le preguntaron: "Entonces ¿por qué bautizas, si no eres el Mesías, ni Elías, ni el profeta?" Juan les respondió: "Yo bautizo con agua, pero en medio de ustedes hay uno, al que ustedes no conocen, alguien que viene detrás de mí, a quien yo no soy digno de desatarle las correas de sus sandalias".  
Esto sucedió en Betania, en la otra orilla del Jordán, donde Juan bautizaba.

Priest / Deacon:

The Gospel of the Lord  
**R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

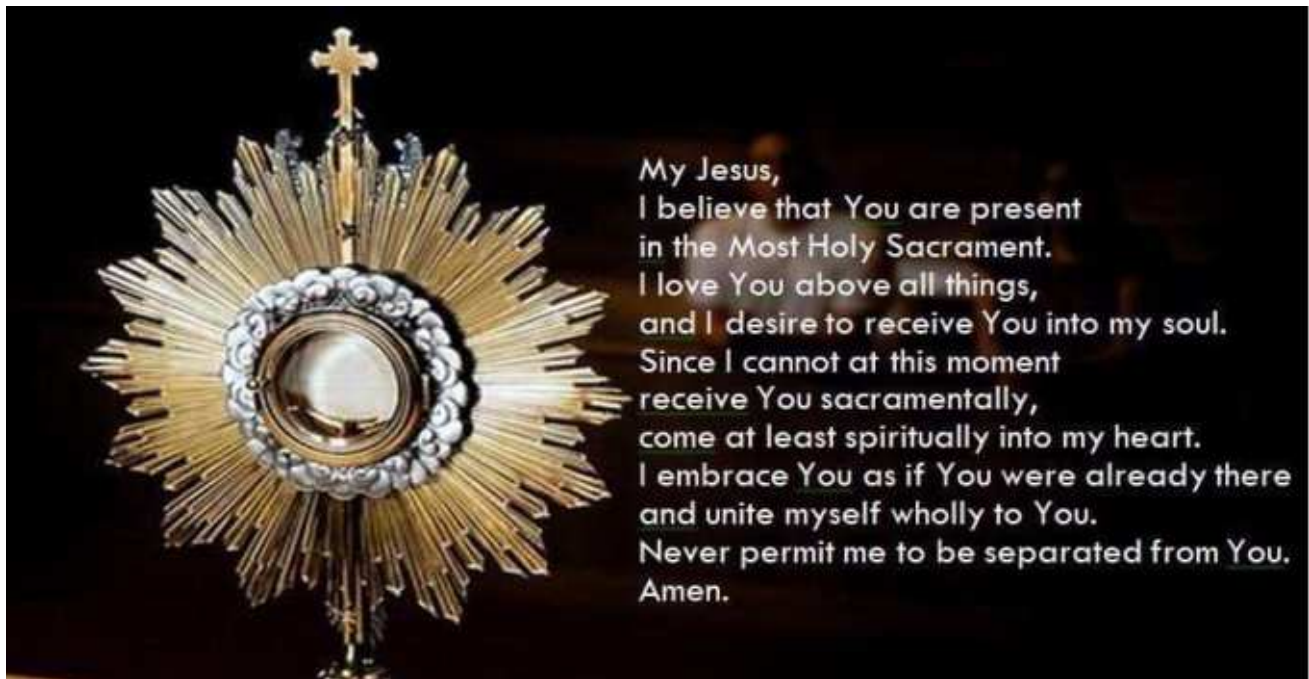
El Evangelio del Señor  
**R. ¡Alabado seas, Señor Jesucristo!**

### ***Gospel Reflection:***

***John 1:6-8, 19-28***

John was the greatest of the prophets, yet he lived as a humble and faithful servant of God. He pointed others to Jesus, the true Messiah and Savior of the world. The Christian church from the earliest of times has given John many titles which signify his mission: *Witness of the Lord, Trumpet of Heaven, Herald of Christ, Voice of the Word, Precursor of Truth, Friend of the Bridegroom, Crown of the Prophets, Forerunner of the Redeemer, Preparer of Salvation, Light of the Martyrs, and Servant of the Word.* Do you point others to Jesus Christ by the example and witness of your life?

***Lord Jesus, make me a herald of your word of truth and grace. Help me to be a faithful witness of the joy of the Gospel and to point others to you as John did through his testimony.***



**SCRIPTURE READINGS: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

FIRST READING: Isaiah ~ SECOND READING: Thessalonians ~ GOSPEL: John 1

**HYMNS**

Gathering Hymn: Advent Gathering Rite

Communion Procession: O Come, O come, Emmanuel

Hymn of Sending Forth: Instrumental

**HYMN OF GATHERING**

**ADVENT GATHERING SONG**

*Gently* *mp* James J. Chepponis

Come, come Em - man - u - el.

Come, Em - man - u - el.

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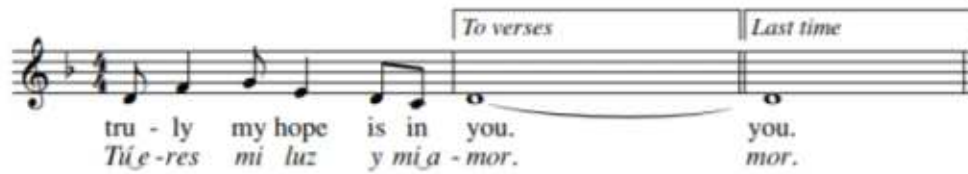
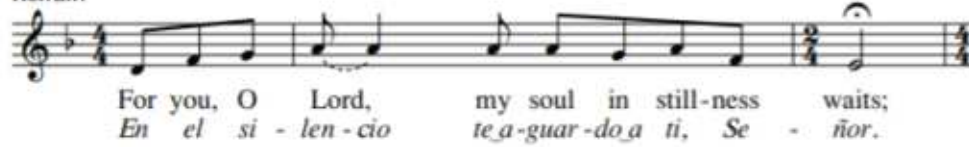
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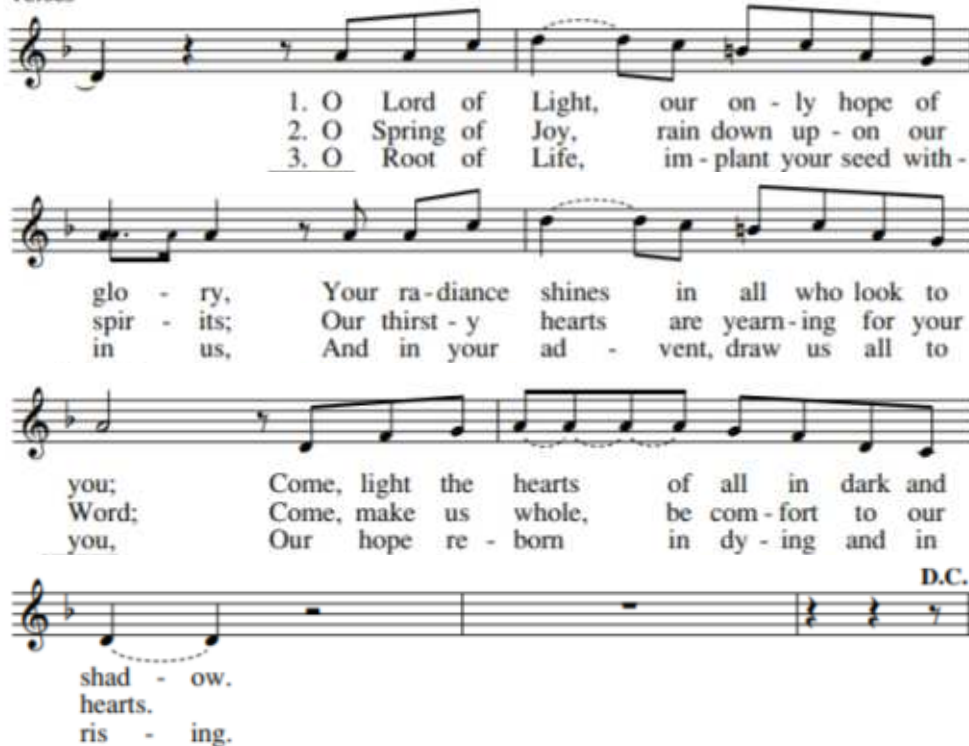
# HYMN DURING COMMUNION PROCESSION

## My Soul in Stillness Waits / En el Silencio Te Aguado

### Refrain



### Verses



Text: Psalm 95 and "O" Antiphons; Marty Haugen, b.1950; tr. by Ronald F. Krisman, b.1946  
Tune: Marty Haugen, b.1950  
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## MINISTRY CHRISTMAS MESSAGE!

*May the Holy Family journey with your family each day with love, guidance, and protection.*

*May the hope and peace of Christ be your strength always.*

Wishing all of our parish family a beautiful, blessed Christmas season.

Sincerely,

The Saint James Baptismal Catechesis Team

Support Troop 73's  
Annual Wreath  
and  
Grave Blanket  
Fundraiser

[Go to the Store](#)

The Boy Scouts are  
selling wreaths and  
grave blankets  
through Sunday,  
December 20th  
outside the church.  
Contact-less delivery is  
also available.

Email:  
[lmolinelli@gmail.com](mailto:lmolinelli@gmail.com)



**ALL GIFT CARDS ARE DUE TODAY BY NOON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH**

Saint James parishioners are invited to become a “virtual Secret Santa”  
for families from Family Promise of Union County!  
To keep everyone safe we are collecting gift cards only.

Gift cards can be dropped off in the mail slot on the Rectory (red) door or  
emailed to: [ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org](mailto:ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org)

Please chose from the gift card wish list on the Sign-up Genius:

[A Family Promise Christmas! \(click here!\)](#)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a45a4ab22a1f94-afamily>



## **Saints of the Week.....**

### **Saint Lucy. Feast Day December 13. Patron Saint of blindness.**

Do you remember the parable of the ten bridesmaids who waited for the bridegroom? Only five of them had brought flasks of oil to keep their oil lamps burning. These were permitted to enter the wedding banquet; the others were not. Lucy, whose name means "light" kept the light of her loyal faith burning through the experience of death. Now she is enjoying the eternal wedding banquet.

Like many of the early martyrs, little is known about Lucy. She was born in Sicily and died during the persecution of Diocletian. The fact that she is still mentioned in the first Eucharistic Prayer of the Mass shows the great respect that the Church has for her.

One legend about Lucy is that she is said to have made a vow to remain unmarried. When the man to whom she was engaged found out, he turned her in as a Christian. She was tortured but remained faithful to Jesus Christ.

Legend continues that her eyes were taken and concludes that God miraculously restored Lucy's eyesight. The important message, is the importance of light and living our faith openly and without fear.

Lucy's feast comes during Advent, when we wait for the coming of Christ, the Light of the World. The Scandinavian countries have a special way of celebrating this feast. A young girl is dressed in a white dress and a red sash (as the symbol of martyrdom). She carries palms and wears a crown of candles on her head. In Sweden, girls dressed as Lucy carry rolls and cookies in procession as songs are sung.

A Hungarian custom is to plant wheat in a small pot on St. Lucy's feast. By Christmas green sprouts appear, signs of life coming from death. This symbolizes Lucy's new life, an eternal wedding feast, and ours. The wheat is then carried to the manger scene as the symbol of Christ in the Eucharist.

St. Lucy, pray that we may be the light of the world!

### **Saint John of the Cross. Feast day December 14**

John of the Cross was locked in a cell six feet wide and ten feet long for nine months, with no light except that which filtered through a slit high up in the wall. He later forgave the men who had imprisoned him. How could he do that? He explained, "Where there is no love, put love, and you will find love."

John's father had been disowned by his wealthy Spanish family when he married a poor weaver rather than a woman of equal economic status. Living in poverty proved to be too much for him, and he died shortly after John was born. John spent much of his youth in an orphanage, where he was clothed, fed, and given an elementary education. At the age of 17, he found a job in a hospital and was accepted into a Jesuit college. In 1563 he entered the Carmelite Order. Eventually he enrolled in another university, where he did so well that he was asked to teach a class and to help settle disputes.

When he met Teresa of Ávila and learned from her about the reform of the Carmelite Order, John decided to help with it. As part of this decision, he wore sandals instead of shoes and lived very simply in prayer and solitude. In 1577 the attitude toward the reform shifted. John was caught up in a misunderstanding and imprisoned at Toledo, Spain. During those months of darkness in that little cell, John could have become bitter, revengeful, or filled with despair. But instead, he kept himself open to God's action, for no prison could separate him from God's all-embracing love. During this time he had many beautiful experiences and encounters with God in prayer. Later he would describe these experiences in poetry. In 1578 John escaped to southern Spain to join the reformed Carmelites. There he held leadership positions and wrote reflections on his experiences, which showed his deep spirit of prayer. When he became ill, he chose to go to the city of Ubeda, where no one knew him. It was there that he died.

Source: [www.LoyolaPress.com](http://www.LoyolaPress.com)



## THE PRAYER CORNER

*"To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose..."*



### INTENTIONS FOR THE SICK

At the *General Intercessions* we pray for the sick. Our prayers for the sick are very important, especially in critical times of sudden illness, surgery or worsening condition. We will continue to pray for and mention the names of the sick. When the condition improves, please call the Rectory so that the name can be removed from the list.

### COMMUNION AT MASS

If you cannot walk up the aisle to receive Holy Communion and do not want to sit in the first pew, please let one of the ushers know and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will come to you at the end of the procession and administer the Body & Blood to you.

### RECEIVING COMMUNION

A reminder that during the Covid-19 restrictions, the Eucharist can only be received in the hands. It is good to remind ourselves of the reverence needed when we receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

When we approach the altar please remove any gloves beforehand.  
Remember to bow slightly without being ostentatious and reply "Amen".  
If communion runs out, please wait in line for the Minister to return.

*The ushers are available to assist you during the reception of Holy Communion and before / after Mass.*

### *A Prayer for Persons Suffering from the Coronavirus*

*Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus.  
May those who are infected receive the proper treatment  
and the comfort of your healing presence.  
May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded  
from the onslaught of the virus.  
Give solace to those who grieve the loss of loved ones.  
Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure,  
that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health.  
Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes,  
and in the name of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.***



## A TIME TO BAPTIZE



## A TIME TO WED



## A TIME TO HEAL

Franco Amato, Pat Anelli, Ginnie Attanasio, Monina Avella, Joyce Bauman, Concetta Bellott, Barbara Bentz, Severina Bion, Arlene Boja, Leo Brady, Victoria Burns, Gerry Campagnola, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Helen Chelis, Lena Chromowski, Lucia Cocuzza, Phyllis Colosimo, Celine Correia, James Curry, Maureen D., Richard Delany, Anthony De Santis, Carmela DeSarno, Victoria Egner, Rick Ellmer, Alfredo Fernandes, Berta Franco, Martin Gignac, Carole Griner, Steven Hensle, Laura Hughes, Robert Hunrath, Eddie Jenna, Irene Kurpieski, Dana Kelley, Art Kistler, Maryann Leach, Dina Ledogar, Maureen Le Goff, Lucille Lerner, Andy Lindgren, Angelina Lipski, Chenoa Lipski, Richie Lipski, Marian Lordi, Richard Lorenzo, Barbara Ludolph, Erica Luther, Dana Majewski, Angie Mazzarisi, Leonard McGinley, Stan Mickham, Richard Miele, Julie Mohnhunn, Andres Montero, Timothy Morgan, Ive Mureny, Christian Murphy, Carol Muzacs, Michael Neer, Giacomo Nese, Rafaelina Oliviero, Anna P., Berit Phair, John Reiss, Gary Ruzich, Anthony S., Jack Silbert, Todd Sitomer, Debbie Staib, Davis Stewart, Stephanie Toth, Tracy Tuten, Filomena Vairo, Anne Wallis, Elisa Warshall, Kay Winski, Mary Yobbi

## A TIME TO DIE

Henry Gomez, Rich Sucato, Frank Wood,  
and all who have died from Covid-19

## A TIME OF WAR & PEACE

Tim Arentz, Lance Corporal Kevin Bernor, Brian Braine, Sean Curran, PFC Paul Devine, Capt. Sean P. Eadie, Stacy Enyeart, David Fenton, Shane Fenton, Luis Fonseca, LCPL Christopher P. Garrigan, 2LT Andrew Kerwin, LCPL Kyle Thomas Lynaugh, Stephen Patricco, Aric Patten, Phillip Patten, Aaron Pluto, 1Lt. Stacia Rogacki, 1Lt. Steven Rogacki, LCPL Nick Wheeler



## MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY December 13 Third Sunday of Advent**

**5:00PM (SATURDAY)**

James Russo ~ *Carmela Fusco*

**7:30AM**

Viola Morano ~ *Daughter, Marylou Morano Kjelle*

**9:00AM**

For the People of Saint James

**10:30AM**

Ilene Runo ~ *Children*

**12:00PM**

Ernest Reedy ~ *Joan Bratsch & Family*

**MONDAY, December 14 St. John of the Cross**

**7:30AM**

Rev. Thomas Roberts ~ *Arlene*

**TUESDAY, December 15**

**7:30AM**

Josefina Telebrico-Salle ~ *Gene & Nieves Salle*

**7:00PM (Italian Mass) St. Lucy**

Deceased members of Traina Family

~ *Sal & Family*

**WEDNESDAY, December 16**

**7:30AM**

Susie LoMacchio ~ *Patty & John Carney*

**THURSDAY, December 17**

**7:30AM**

Deceased Members of Sammartino & Solazzi Families

~ *Mary & Gus Solazzi*

**FRIDAY, December 18**

**7:30AM**

Jeom Sun Lee ~ *Hugh & Maggie Keffer*

**SATURDAY, December 19**

**8:00AM**

Angela & Daniel Raimondo

~ *Evelyn Raimondo-Kaiser & Marianne Volkenburgh*

**SUNDAY, December 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**5:00PM (SATURDAY)**

Tillie Catenacci ~ *Granddaughters*

**7:30AM**

Ludo Nolfo ~ *Wife, Maria*

**9:00AM**

Pasquale & Giovanna Circelli

~ *Anthony & Carmelina Reino*

**10:30AM**

Eleanor McCusker ~ *Barbara Weber*

**12:00PM**

Ernest Reedy ~ *The Schmidt Family*



## DEVOTIONS AND MEMORIALS ~ *Spiritual Offerings*

*To have a loved one remembered, please call the Rectory Office*

*Sanctuary Lamp ~ Bread & Wine ~ Flowers By the Tabernacle*



### SANCTUARY LAMP

For the People of Saint James



### BREAD

Jim & Muriel Geoghan ~ *Family*

## **PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

Under the Guidance of the **Holy Spirit** as a  
Welcoming and Diverse Community,

We, the **Parish of Saint James the Apostle**

Invite All to Worship as We Celebrate the Eucharist,  
Proclaim the Good News of **Jesus Christ** and Serve the  
Needs of One Another,  
as We Help Build the **Kingdom of God on Earth.**