



SAINT JAMES

the APOSTLE CHURCH



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



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PAROCHIAL VICAR

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

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DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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PARISH TRUSTEES

Mrs. Janet Petino and Mr. John Pflug

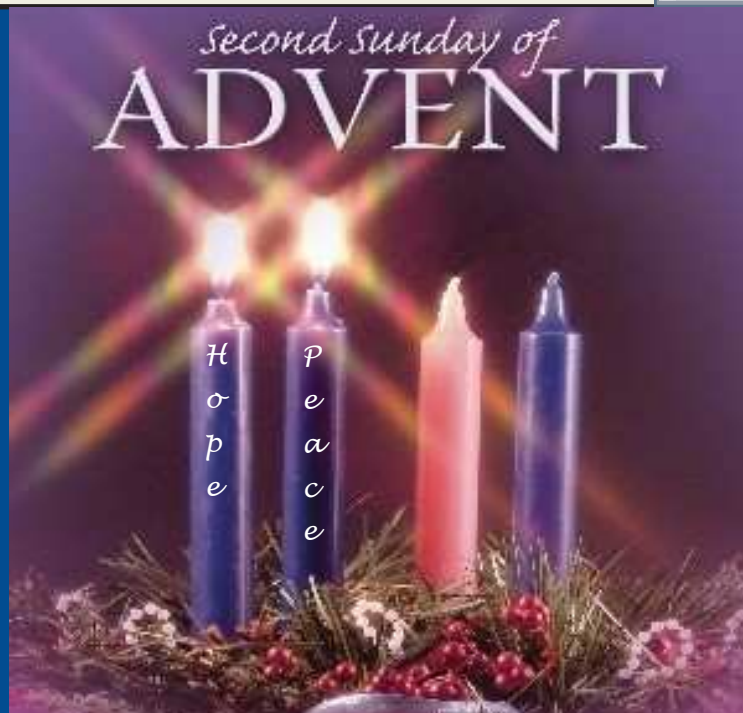
PARISH COUNCIL

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 6, 2020

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

**“CONVERTERE DOMINE ALIQUANTUM,
ET NE TARDES VENIRE AD SERVOS TUOS. TURN TOWARD US,
LORD, IF ONLY FOR A MOMENT,
HURRY TO YOUR SERVANTS.”**

An Advent Sourcebook, p.50

John the Baptist always appears in the Gospel on the Second Sunday of Advent. He lived in the desert with an extreme group called the Essenes. He looked different than most folks at the time, and most of them thought he was an interesting character. But his message was one of repentance and preparation. He called the people to pay attention to the One coming after him, for John prepared the way for the Messiah.

His message can resonate with us today. It is one of preparedness for the time the Lord will return. We know the seasons have changed. It's colder, and we are wearing heavier clothing. But our preparedness has to be one in which we actively work for the kingdom. Like John we, too, are sent to prepare the way of the Lord and to celebrate his presence as an ongoing encounter with our God. We experience Jesus in the Word and the Eucharist and also in the lives of one another. Since Advent is a season of hope, our lives should reflect that hope, even in the midst of a pandemic.

If we give in to despair, then we have nothing positive to offer one another. While the pandemic may cause some of us anxiety, Jesus offers us his presence to comfort and reassure us. We in turn must be able to offer one another that same reassurance so that we truly are able to live as a people of faith and hope. Mary is a sign of hope for us, no matter what difficulties we have. She is a model of faith, fidelity, hope and strength, even in the midst of the difficulties she had to face. Let us find the strength we need to continue to be faithful followers of Jesus during this sacred Season of Advent.

HAPPY ADVENT!!

~ Fr. Joe

ADVENT FAMILY PRAYER

During Advent, we not only prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but we also check in to see if we are doing all the things that will keep us ready to receive Jesus when he comes again. Talk to your family about how you are doing in attending to your spiritual life as a family. Recommit yourselves to praying daily, reading Scripture, and staying faithful to God's commandments. Pray together that through this Advent season your family will be more prepared to receive Jesus when he comes again.

*God of Love,
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.
He is a sign of your love.
Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,
As we wait and prepare for his coming.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.
Amen.*

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

\$6,037.00

\$4,260.00 Church Collection

\$1,777.00 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.

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 second week of Advent!! This week is the week of "peace". If you are able we'd love to have you join us in the front of the church for the lighting of the outside Christmas Tree and Caroling tonight from 5:00-6:00PM. The Helping the Hungry ministry will be collecting non-perishable foods for the local pantries. Please remember to wear your face covering and remain a social distance from one another.

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.

Fr. Joe and the staff of Saint James hope that you will participate 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!

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. Please check your email for information.

7th Grade News!

Our next Zoom is Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00PM. The link and class information will be sent to students and parents by email.

Reminder: The assignment posted on Google Class is due Monday, December 7th.

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)

Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 15 (virtual)

8:00 p.m.

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

Deacon Dan O'Neill

Health Care Providers

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

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation Mass Schedule

Vigil Mass: Monday, December 7th at 7:00PM

Tuesday, December 8th at 7:30AM ~ 12:00PM ~ 7:00PM

Please note:

There will be no Rosary & Novena on
Monday, December 7th



**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

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** starting **Saturday, November 28 or Sunday, November 29** but **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**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020

3:00 PM

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



Saint James the Apostle Parish
Tree Lighting

Sunday, Dec. 6
5:00 - 6:00 PM
Outside the Church

Masks and social distancing
will be required for this event



In addition to sharing
Christmas joy as a parish on
this Feast of St. Nicholas,
we will be collecting
non-perishable food items to
support local food pantries.
Drop off outside the church
from 5:00-6:00.

Merry Christmas!



COMMUNITY NEWS

Helping One Another.....

The Union County (NJ) Freeholder Board recently announced a rent relief program for eligible residents adversely impacted by COVID-19. Residents can apply through one of three partner non-profit agencies—one being Family Promise Union County—for needed assistance beginning November 16. The Board approved funding for the program through the federal CARES Act on November 12.

Click here: [Rent Assistance](#)



Welcome to the Union County, NJ
Participant Portal

New users must first register their account
before signing in to the portal

Technical issues email: support@neighborlysoftware.com

Sign In

Register

Email Address

Password



Remember my email address

Sign In

[Forgot your Password?](#)

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Dates for using the parish buildings must be cleared by **Michelle Sblendorio** before being sent to the bulletin for submission.

Email: msblendorio@saintjamesparish.org or call: 973-376-3044

Information for the weekly bulletin needs to be emailed to both email addresses by

NOON ON MONDAYS:

bulletin@saintjamesparish.org and

ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org

SUNDAY READINGS ~ December 6, 2020

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her
that her service is at an end,
her guilt is expiated;
indeed, she has received from the hand of the
LORD
double for all her sins.
A voice cries out:
In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our
God!
Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill shall be made low;
the rugged land shall be made a plain,
the rough country, a broad valley.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.
Go up on to a high mountain,
Zion, herald of glad tidings;
cry out at the top of your voice,
Jerusalem, herald of good news!
Fear not to cry out
and say to the cities of Judah:
Here is your God!
Here comes with power
the Lord GOD,
who rules by his strong arm;
here is his reward with him,
his recompense before him.
Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;
in his arms he gathers the lambs,
carrying them in his bosom,
and leading the ewes with care.

“Consuelen, consuelen a mi pueblo,
dice nuestro Dios.
Hablen al corazón de Jerusalén
y díganle a gritos que ya terminó el tiempo de su
servidumbre
y que ya ha satisfecho por sus iniquidades,
porque ya ha recibido de manos del Señor
castigo doble por todos sus pecados.”
Una voz clama:
“Preparen el camino del Señor en el desierto,
construyan en el páramo
una calzada para nuestro Dios.
Que todo valle se eleve,
que todo monte y colina se rebajen;
que lo torcido se enderece y lo escabroso se allane.
Entonces se revelará la gloria del Señor
y todos los hombres la verán.”
Así ha hablado la boca del Señor.
Sube a lo alto del monte,
mensajero de buenas nuevas para Sión;
alza con fuerza la voz,
tú que anuncias noticias alegres a Jerusalén.
Alza la voz y no temas;
anuncia a los ciudadanos de Judá:
“Aquí está su Dios.
Aquí llega el Señor, lleno de poder,
el que con su brazo lo domina todo.
El premio de su victoria lo acompaña
y sus trofeos lo anteceden.
Como pastor apacentará su rebaño;
llevará en sus brazos a los corderitos recién nacidos
y atenderá solícito a sus madres.”

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: Peter 3: 8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved,
 that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years
 and a thousand years like one day.
 The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard
 "delay,"
 but he is patient with you,
 not wishing that any should perish
 but that all should come to repentance.
 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief,
 and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty
 roar
 and the elements will be dissolved by fire,
 and the earth and everything done on it will be
 found out.
 Since everything is to be dissolved in this way,
 what sort of persons ought you to be,
 conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion,
 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of
 God,
 because of which the heavens will be dissolved in
 flames
 and the elements melted by fire.
 But according to his promise
 we await new heavens and a new earth
 in which righteousness dwells.
 Therefore, beloved, since you await these things,
 be eager to be found without spot or blemish before
 him, at peace.

Queridos hermanos:
 No olviden que para el Señor, un día es como mil
 años y mil años, como un día. No es que el Señor se
 tarde, como algunos suponen, en cumplir su
 promesa, sino que les tiene a ustedes mucha
 paciencia, pues no quiere que nadie perezca, sino que
 todos se arrepientan.
 El día del Señor llegará como los ladrones. Entonces
 los cielos desaparecerán con gran estrépito, los
 elementos serán destruidos por el fuego y perecerá
 la tierra con todo lo que hay en ella.
 Puesto que todo va a ser destruido, piensen con
 cuánta santidad y entrega deben vivir ustedes
 esperando y apresurando el advenimiento del día del
 Señor, cuando desaparecerán los cielos, consumidos
 por el fuego, y se derretirán los elementos.
 Pero nosotros confiamos en la promesa del Señor y
 esperamos un cielo nuevo y una tierra nueva, en que
 habite la justicia.
 Por lo tanto, queridos hermanos, apoyados en esta
 esperanza, pongan todo su empeño en que el Señor
 los halle en paz con él, sin mancha ni reproche.

The word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God!

La Palabra del Señor.....

R. ¡Gracias a Dios!

Gospel Acclamation

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
 All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Aleluya, aleluya.

Preparen el camino del Señor, hagan rectos sus
 senderos, y todos los hombres verán al Salvador.

R. Aleluya.

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

R. And with your Spirit...

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

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 tí, oh Señor ...

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of
Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:
*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.*

*A voice of one crying out in the desert:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."*

John the Baptist appeared in the desert
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins.

People of the whole Judean countryside
and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem
were going out to him

and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River
as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel's hair,
with a leather belt around his waist.

He fed on locusts and wild honey.

And this is what he proclaimed:

"One mightier than I is coming after me.

I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of
his sandals.

I have baptized you with water;

he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Éste es el principio del Evangelio de Jesucristo,
Hijo de Dios.

En el libro del profeta Isaías está escrito:

*He aquí que yo envío a mi mensajero delante de ti,
a preparar tu camino.*

*Voz del que clama en el desierto:
"Preparen el camino del Señor,
enderezan sus senderos."*

En cumplimiento de esto, apareció en el desierto
Juan el Bautista predicando un bautismo de
arrepentimiento, para el perdón de los pecados.

A él acudían de toda la comarca de Judea y muchos
habitantes de Jerusalén; reconocían sus pecados y él
los bautizaba en el Jordán.

Juan usaba un vestido de pelo de camello, ceñido
con un cinturón de cuero y se alimentaba de
saltamontes y miel silvestre.

Proclamaba:

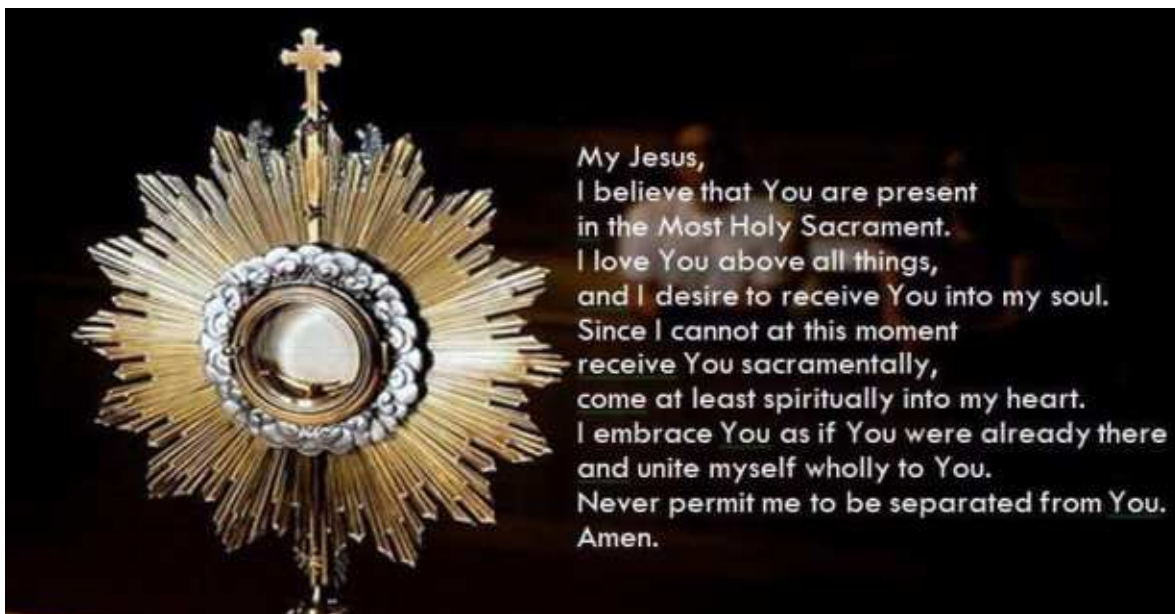
"Ya viene detrás de mí uno que es más poderoso
que yo, uno ante quien no merezco ni siquiera
inclinarme para desatarle la correa de sus sandalias.

Yo los he bautizado a ustedes con agua, pero él los
bautizará con el Espíritu Santo."

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:

Mark 1:1-8

John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters (John 3:5). The Lord Jesus comes to baptize each one of us in his Holy Spirit so that we may walk in his truth and holiness and radiate the joy of the Gospel to all we meet. God's word has power to change and transform our lives so that we may be lights that point others to Jesus Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Christ. Do you point others to Jesus Christ in the way you live, speak, and treat others?

Lord, let your light burn brightly in my heart that I may know the joy and freedom of your kingdom. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and empower me to witness the truth of your Gospel and to point others to Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

SECOND READING: Thessalonians 5:16-24

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

HYMNS

Gathering Hymn: Advent Gathering Rite

Communion Procession: My Soul in Stillness Waits

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.

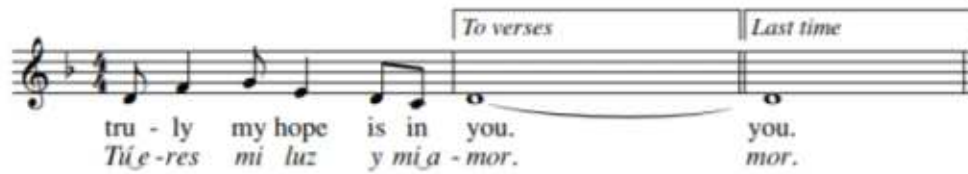
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HYMN DURING COMMUNION PROCESSION

My Soul in Stillness Waits / En el Silencio Te Aguardo

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!

For Those Who Have Lost A Loved One And May Live And Feel Alone

My table, Lord, is small and my voice seems smaller still.

Yet, I know that when I pray to You, You come and sit beside me.

So please Lord, join me now as I pray for those who feel alone.

While I know that You are always there, may they know that You would love an invitation to their home.

May the peace of the Lord be with you all,

Deacon Jerry

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



Saint James parishioners are invited to become “virtual Secret Santa’s!”
for families from Family Promise of Union County.

To keep everyone safe we are collecting gift cards only.

If you are interested in purchasing a gift card (or two!) and do not have access to the
Internet, please contact either Nancy Caputo 973-376-2061 or email

ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org or Pat Sullivan: patricia.sullivan@hmn.org for assistance.

Gift cards can be dropped off in the mail slot on the Rectory (red) door, the Religious Education Office
or emailed to: ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org

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

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

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

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



Saints of the Week.....

Saint Ambrose. Feast Day, December 7.

Have you ever been asked to do something you weren't sure you could do? This happened to Saint Ambrose. The new bishop of Milan was to be elected by the people. Ambrose, who was governor, attended the election for two reasons. He knew there might be disagreements and felt responsible for keeping the peace. Since Ambrose was preparing for Baptism, he was also interested in who would be bishop. During the election, fighting broke out. No one could agree on who the bishop should be. Ambrose stood and pleaded for peace in the assembly. During his speech a voice cried out, "Ambrose for bishop!" Ambrose was shocked. The crowd took up the cry, shouting, "Ambrose for bishop!" Ambrose begged them not to elect him, but he could not silence them. Over the next several months, Ambrose was baptized, ordained, and consecrated bishop.

Ambrose was well prepared for the office of bishop. He came from a wealthy Roman family. His father was a chief officer in the Roman military. Not only had Ambrose received the finest education in Rome, he had been raised in a good Christian household. His sister became a nun. Ambrose had followed in his father's footsteps when he entered political life. In 370 he became governor, with his headquarters in Milan, Italy. Ambrose administered strict and fair justice. He was a courageous leader.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast Day, December 8.

If you were given a saint's name at Baptism, that saint is your patron saint. Countries also have patron saints. Who is the patron saint of the United States?

If you answered, "Mary, the mother of Jesus," you are correct. In 1846, the bishops of the United States asked Mary to watch over our country and its people in a special way. They also chose one particular title and feast of Mary—her Immaculate Conception.

The title of the Immaculate Conception recognizes Mary's privilege of coming into the world free from sin. Through the power of Jesus' Death and Resurrection, every human being can be freed from sin at Baptism. Through that same power, Mary was always free from sin, even from that very first moment of life.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Feast Day, December 12.

On December 9, 1531, a 57-year-old Aztec, Juan Diego, saw the Blessed Mother on a hill in Mexico City. She told Juan to have a church built in her honor. When Juan went to ask Bishop Zumarraga about this, the bishop did not understand the Indian dialect—and he did not believe in the vision Juan described.

Three days later, on December 12, Mary appeared again to Juan Diego, and this time she gave him a sign for the bishop. "Take these roses to the bishop," she said, as she arranged in his cloak beautiful roses she had Juan Diego pick from the hillside although it was winter. When he was admitted into the bishop's room, Juan Diego opened his cloak, and out dropped the roses. On the cloak there remained an image of Mary as she had appeared to Juan Diego.

The image of Mary on the cloak is known as Our Lady of Guadalupe for an interesting reason. On that same day, Mary appeared to Juan's uncle and cured him, giving him a message for the bishop, saying that she would "crush the serpent's head." The bishop did not understand the Indians' language. The Indian word for "crush the serpent" sounded to him like "Guadalupe," the name of Mary's shrine in Spain. Thinking that the Virgin wanted the new shrine to have the same name, the bishop called her Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Mary appeared to Juan Diego dressed as an Aztec woman to show her love and compassion to an oppressed group of people. Mary had heard the prayers and pain of these people, and she came to give them hope.

Mary's visit to Guadalupe is a reminder that God will remember his mercy for all people. In Mary's song of joy, the Magnificat, she praised God because he has put down the mighty, exalted the lowly, filled the hungry, and sent the rich away empty. People honor Our Lady of Guadalupe because they recognize her motherly concern for them.

Source: 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

Samantha Grace Battaglia

A TIME TO WED



A TIME TO HEAL

Franco Amato, Pat Anelli, 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, Robert Jackowski, William Jackowski, 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, Rafaelina Oliviero, Anna P., Berit Phair, John Reiss, Gary Ruzich, Anthony S., Jack Silbert, Todd Sitomer, Debbie Staib, Davis Stewart, Richard Tegnander, Stephanie Toth, Tracy Tuten, Filomena Vairo, Anne Wallis, Elisa Warshall, Kay Winski, Robin Wise, Mary Yobbi

A TIME TO DIE

Jim Geoghan, Philip Matrale, John Mc Namee, Mary Pulican, Manuel Quintela,
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 6 Second Sunday of Advent

5:00PM (SATURDAY)

Amelia Montana ~ *Family*

7:30AM

Kathleen Straub Ragonese ~ *Angela Ragonese*

9:00AM

Sr. Linda Isola ~ *Roethlin Family*

10:30AM

Michael Sangregorio ~ *Grace Sangregorio*

12:00PM

Anthony Graziano ~ *Family*

MONDAY, December 7 Saint Ambrose

7:30AM

Lore McDunalo ~ *Carol & Howard Balfour*

7:00PM

Garrett Gurrieri ~ *Pflug Family*

TUESDAY, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30AM

Susan Sullivan ~ *Pat Sullivan*

12:00PM

Angela & Daniel Raimondo ~

Evelyn Ramondo-Kaiser & Marianne Van Volkenburgh

7:00PM

Bernie & Susie LoMacchio ~ *Patty & John Carney*

WEDNESDAY, December 9

7:30AM

Linda Labazzotta ~ *Karen & Gerard Peterson*

THURSDAY, December 10

7:30AM

Agnes Ptazkowski ~ *Shari Rzych*

FRIDAY, December 11

7:30AM

For the People of Saint James

SATURDAY, December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00AM

Anna Maria Villanova ~ *Family*

12:00PM

Ernesto Davila ~ *Daughter, Blanca*

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*



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

Donna Catalano

~ *Sebastian Catalano & Kar Collins*

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.**