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> PAROCHIAL VICAR Father Antonio N. Kuizon tkuizon@saintjamesparish.org

WEEKEND ASSOCIATE Father John D. Dennehy

PERMANENT DEACONS Deacon Jerry Bongiovanni jerryjan133@aol.com

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PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Mrs. Michelle Sblendorio msblendorio@saintjamesparish.org

#### MUSIC MINISTRY DIRECTOR

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#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE DIRECTOR

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**Ms. Ann Marie Gesualdo** amgesualdo@saintjamesparish.org

#### PARISH SCHOOL OFFICE PRINCIPAL Mrs. Caroline Ponterio, M.B.A., Ed.S.

mrscponterio@sjspringfield.org

PARISH TRUSTEES Mrs. Janet Petino and Mr. John Pflug

PARISH COUNCIL saintjamesparishcouncil@gmail.com

www.saintjamestheapostle.org

## SUNDAY MASSES

Vigil Mass ~ Saturday 5:00PM 7:30AM ~ 9:00AM ~ 10:30AM ~ 12:00PM

## DAILY MASS

Weekday: Novena 7:10AM ~ Mass 7:30AM Saturday: Novena 7:40AM ~ Mass 8:00AM

Evening Novena: Mondays ~ 6:30PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturday ~ 11:00AM

> RECTORY HOURS Monday-Friday: 8:00AM~4:00PM (closed daily 12:00-1:00PM)



A Welcoming Catholic Community of Faith. Come Experience Christ With Us!

February 2, 2020

**PRESENTATION OF THE LORD** 

# **MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR**

Today is **SUPER BOWL SUNDAY!** Today is for all of us football fanatics. It's the culmination of the year's football games. There will be more money bet on this game than any other this season. That's in addition to all the parties that will take place.

Today is also **THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD!** Today celebrates the time that Jesus was presented in the temple as was the custom of the time. The ceremony represented the fact that each male was being dedicated to God, and of course, Jesus was a unique person, since he was the Son of God. Today's readings reflect the unique person that God would send to his people. He would speak and act differently from anyone who had come before him. Jesus would be the presence of the Father's love made flesh. He would help others experience the gentleness of God in the way he cared for others. Jesus offers us the same experience if we are open and receptive to who he is and all he offers us.

But, let's face it, there are a lot of distractions around us. They can easily re-focus our attention away from what is essential in life. Last Sunday, we celebrated Word of God Sunday. It was Pope Francis's way of reminding us of the importance of the Scriptures in our lives. The challenge is always to listen to the Word as it is revealed to us in the Scriptures, and to allow the message to radiate in our lives. This is what helps us focus on what is essential in our lives, so that we can live as faithfully to the call and example of the Lord as possible. There also has to be an alternative to the negativity, violence and disrespect in our society. We have to show the world that we stand for something different because Jesus has shown us the way to live.

We should be as passionate about following the Lord as we are about watching the Super Bowl or about some of the events that occur in our lives. Jesus has given us an insight into that intimate relationship he has with the Father, and invites us to celebrate that relationship in as many ways as possible. There are many ways to celebrate the presence of Jesus as there are people. Each of us adds something unique and different to this experience because each of us responds differently to the Lord. Our diversity helps make this encounter with the Lord something special, even though we all listen to the same Word. We respond according to our abilities and talents, enriching one another's lives with these experiences.

Our baptism reminds us that we all have a responsibility to listen to the Word, be formed by the Word, and then to celebrate the Word in all aspects of our lives. This is how the kingdom of God is built because we take seriously our willingness to enter into dialogue with our God, revealed to us in Christ Jesus.

## HAPPY PRESENTATION!!! HAPPY SUPER BOWL SUNDAY!!!

~ FR. JOE

# **STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES**

## \$8,310.00

\$6,585.00 Collection \$1,725.00 Online

*To sign up for Online Giving go to:* www.saintjamestheapostle.org WE ALSO ACCEPT ONLINE CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

Thank you for your continued generosity!



## SACRAMENT INFORMATION Fr. Antonio N. Kuizon

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.



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Fr. Antonio N. Kuizon

## Please call the Parish Office to schedule your child's baptism <u>prior</u> to attending the catechesis class.

The catechesis class begins by attending the 12:00PM Mass. Following the Mass, the Baptismal Team meets with the parents about the rite and its meaning. The Godparents are also encouraged to attend this class.

The Sacrament of Baptism is held at 1:30PM and we ask that everyone arrive by 1:15PM. If you have any questions please call the Parish Office and someone from the Baptismal Team will return your call.

**CATECHESIS** Mar. 15, June 7 SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Feb. 9, Feb. 23

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.

## Today's Gospel Meditation......

Luke 2:22-40

Do you know the favor of the Lord? After Jesus' birth, Mary fulfills the Jewish right of purification after childbirth. Since she could not afford the customary offering of a lamb, she gives instead two pigeons as an offering of the poor. This rite, along with circumcision and the redemption of the first-born point to the fact that children are gifts from God. Jesus was born in an ordinary home where there were no luxuries. Like all godly parents, Mary and Joseph raised their son in the fear and wisdom of God. He, in turn, was obedient to them and grew in wisdom and grace. The Lord's favor is with those who listen to his word with trust and obedience.

Do you know the joy of submission to God? And do you seek to pass on the faith and to help the young grow in wisdom and maturity?

"Lord Jesus, you are my hope and my life. May I never cease to place all my trust in you. Fill me with the joy and strength of the Holy Spirit that I may boldly point others to your saving presence and words of eternal life."

# **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

Ms. Nancy Caputo, Director ~ Mrs. Colleen Tyra, Administrative. Assistant 41 South Springfield Ave, Springfield, NJ 07081 ~ Main Office **973-376-2061** :: Facsimile **973-376-4079** 

This coming Saturday, February 8th the children preparing for First Eucharist will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. We ask for your prayers that the children grow in their understanding of this healing sacrament and seek it often.

No Classes: Sunday, February 2 and Tuesday, February 11

## 8th Grade ~ Ms. Ann Marie Gesualdo

We are looking forward to seeing everyone this Tuesday, February 4th at 7:00PM in Hatcher Hall for the start of our Spring Session!!



# YOUTH GROUP NEWS

## Ms. Ann Marie Gesualdo

A Great Big THANK YOU and SHOUT OUT to Israel Lopez for joining us last Sunday and leading our discussion topic on "the answer in unanswered prayers." We had a very open and honest talk. We look forward to Israel joining us again soon!!

Reminder: NO MEETING TONIGHT: Sunday, February 2nd - it's Super Bowl!!

## Next Meeting: Sunday February 9th - February Fun Night!!

Wear your pj's or favorite sweats and bring your favorite game! We will just kick back and relax!!

Upcoming Events:

All Antioch Registration Paperwork is due by Tuesday, February 11th! Our Annual Retreat is taking place on February 21-23. This is a spiritual weekend (with some sledding and s'more's too). Please contact me with any questions or for more information

## LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Rehearsals begin Monday, February 10 in the church at 7:30PM

The Youth Group presents the Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

All 8th -12th grade students are invited to take part. No auditions! There is a place for everyone!

We welcome actors, singers, musicians, stage crew, and director's assistants.

Please contact me with any questions.



## PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

*Mrs. Caroline Ponterio, Principal* ~ *Mrs. Marilyn DePrimio, Administrative Assistant* 41 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081 ~ Main Office 973-376-5194 :: Facsimile 973-376-**5228** 

## Two Thumbs Up for Frozen, Jr. Performance

We are pleased to be able to offer performing arts again after school thanks to Joseph Mayon of The Mayon School of Performing Arts. About 16 weeks ago, 13 students signed up to participate in **Frozen**, **Jr**. Our cast included students in Grades 1 through 6.

Our students rehearsed, rehearsed, and rehearsed. Using real scripts, students rehearsed their lines, their positions, their songs, their costume changes, and more. Their performance took place on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, on Hamilton Stage at the Union County Performing Arts Center in Rahway to a full house that included parents, siblings, guardians, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends, neighbors, Father Joe, Mrs. Ponterio, faculty and staff.

And what a performance it was!

According to Scholastic, getting up on stage can enrich children's lives in all sorts of surprising ways. One of the best things kids discover is how to think on their feet. Learning how to cope with performance jitters gives kids a leg up in those big life moments. Playing the role of someone else also teaches kids about empathy. Being a part of the performance process, these children have been exposed to a new way of thinking and doing.

Congratulations to Dominic, Si'yana, Magdalene, Madison, Evangelina, Bryan, Glea, London, Kayleigh, Arielle, Caleb, JaynahRose and Jack and thank you to our parents for allowing their children to participate in this wonderful program.

Thank you to the director, Mr. Joseph Mayon for his time, talent and dedication to the arts.

We look forward to spring production of The Lion King, Jr.... stay tuned.



SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE CHURCH BULLETIN ::

# MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Mr. Matthew Wilson, Director



#### **Music Ministry Fundraisers**

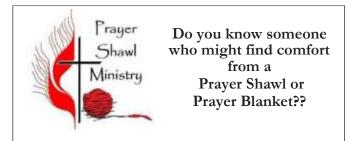
Thank you for coming to our November dinner fundraiser and our Advent piano concert. Between the two events, we raised \$1,521. The next fundraiser will take place in or around March. Thank you again for your support!

#### Funeral Consultation Team

The music ministry is organizing a Funeral Consultation Team to meet with grieving families who are planning funeral Liturgies for lost loved ones. The team will arrange to meet with the families here at the church and assist with selecting appropriate scripture readings and hymns from our list of suggestions. The requirements to take part in this group include sharing your time and support, sometimes reading from scriptures to families aloud, and occasionally singing part of a hymn or psalm to them. If you're interested in giving back to our parish community through this group, please contact me directly, and don't worry about time requirements; we'll make a schedule respective of everyone's availability. Thank you for the support.

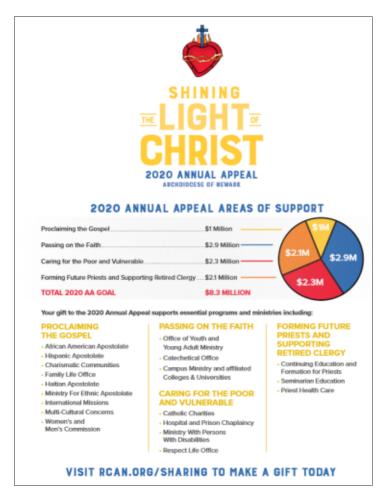
#### Parish Community Choirs

Please consider joining one of our parish community choirs which are about to begin practicing Lent and Easter music. Our children's choir is open to students from any school in grade 3-8; they practice after school on Thursdays and sing at Mass once a month. Our adult choir is open to anyone in high school or older; they practice on Wednesday evenings and sing at Mass weekly plus high feast days. Please contact me directly if you're interested in joining our ministry. Detailed schedules for the rest of the season are available upon request. The only requirement is a love of sharing sung prayer with our parish community.



Members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry create handmade shawls and blankets that are delivered to those suffering from illness or grief, or to the homebound and the elderly. A prayer shawl can also be a special gift to a new mother and her child. The shawls are a simple and loving way to provide comfort and support, particularly to those experiencing a time in their lives when additional prayers would be especially welcome. They also remind the recipients of the continued prayers of the Saint James parish community. It's a wonderful way to bring a bit of joy and hope to a friend or loved one.

If you know someone who would benefit from the gift of a Prayer Shawl or blanket please contact the Parish Office at 973-376-3044.



# PARISH CALENDAR

Ms. Michelle Sblendorio

SUNDAY	February 2
ALL MASSES	Helping the Hungry -Church
Monday	February 3
6:30рм	HSA Meeting-Hatcher Hall
7:00рм	Pastoral Council Meeting-Rectory
TUESDAY	February 4
3:45рм	Religious Education (1-6)-School
7:00рм	Religious Education (7)-Gym
7:00рм	Religious Education (8)-Hatcher Hall
WEDNESDAY	February 5
THURSDAY	February 6
Friday	February 7
SATURDAY	February 8
10:00ам	First Reconciliation-Church
SUNDAY	February 9
10:00am	Religious Education (K-6)-School
1:30рм	Sacrament of Baptism-Church

In keeping with Cardinal Tobin's *Forward in Faith Together,* [2nd pillar of Accountability, Transparency and Communication], inserted in this bulletin are our parish event calendars for February and March! Hang it on your refrigerator and keep informed of our parish events! These calendars will be included in the bulletin every two months going forward.

**Please note:** the calendar is printed a month in advance so some events will only be posted on the calendar above. Continue to check your email from our publicity committee for updated information!

Feast of Saint Blaise Monday, February 3rd Blessing of the throats at the 7:30AM Mass only



SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE CHURCH BULLETIN ::



# PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

We are very excited to announce that beginning Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, Saint James will be inaugurating a monthly Family Mass! These masses will correspond with the schedule of the Children's Choir, at the 12:00PM Masses.

## The dates are as follows:

## February 16th, March 15th, April 26th and May 24th

A child learns mostly by doing. They also learn by watching what their parents do. When you attend church as a family you are sending a very concrete and strong message to your child about who they are and who their family is. When we bring our children to mass, we are bringing them to Jesus.

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." – Matthew 19: 14.



- Our Lady of Sorrows Food Pantry in South Orange
- Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry at St. Teresa's Church in Summit

## Thank you for your continued support!

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Sharing With One Another

## THE GIVING TREE

Thank you everyone for your generosity to the Giving Tree this past year. With our help St. Joseph Social Services helped nearly 500 families. Although the joy of opening a material gift only lasts a moment, the gift of shared love and compassion sustains us through the year. So, **Thank You** again, for sharing this blessing so generously.

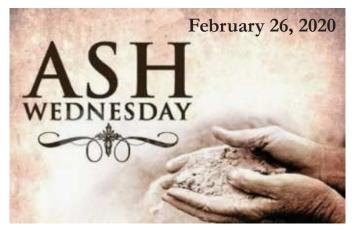
Sincerely, Chris DeCicco Jill Vecchione Co-Coordinators



## 2nd Collection February 8/9, 2020 Lenten Almsgiving

The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is "a witness to fraternal charity" and "a work of justice pleasing to God."

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2462)





#### THE CHURCH OF THE LITTLE FLOWER, BERNAUER PARISH CENTER, 290 PLAINFIELD AVENUE BERKELEY HEIGHTS

#### "Healing the Grieving Heart: The Journey After the Death of a Loved One"

A free-of-charge 8-week bereavement support group. Sessions will be held eight Tuesday afternoons beginning February 4<sup>th</sup> through March 24th from1:00PM -2:30PM. The facilitator, Jeanne Marie Mirabella is a licensed professional counselor. All are welcome to attend regardless of religious affiliation. Registration is required. Please email your name, phone number and email address to: bereavement.lf@gmail.com or contact Margaret Manning at 908-464-1585 ext. 133

# 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.

## HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

If you or someone you know is in the hospital, please inform the hospital staff that you are Catholic and a member of Saint James the Apostle Church. Saint James will be notified and arrangements will be made for a priest or deacon to visit you. Please be sure to include the hospital information.

Contact the Rectory to have a name added to the prayer list at Mass and/or to the Prayer Line.

## **RECEIVING COMMUNION**

It is good to remind ourselves of the reverence needed when we receive the Body and Blood of Christ. When we approach the altar, if receiving on the hand, 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.

## **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.

Please join us for an hour on Monday evenings in the church for Novena in honor of OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

All are welcome!

Please join us Monday, February 3rd at 6:30PM



# **DEVOTIONS AND MEMORIALS** ~ Spiritual Offerings

To have a loved one remembered, please call the Rectory Office Sanctuary Lamp ~ Bread & Wine ~ Flowers By the Tabernacle



## **BREAD AND WINE**

Ludo Nolfo ~ Wife, Maria



## SANCTUARY LAMP

Ludo Nolfo ~ Wife, Maria

SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE CHURCH BULLETIN ::

**FEBRUARY 2, 2020** 

## A TIME TO BE BAPTIZED

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# A TIME TO WED

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# A TIME TO DIE

Benjamin Ocampo Chua, Rev. Joseph Cio, Rev. Joseph Fu, Joseph Morreale, Lucia Prisco, Connie Shick, Mary Treglia, Vito Treglia, Jr., Natalie Vital

## A TIME TO HEAL

Pat Annelli, Anthony B., Paul Barbato, Concetta Bellott, Barbara Bentz, Pat Butterworth, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Helen Chelis, Lena Chromowski, Phyllis Colosimo, Van Corteza, James Curry, Maureen D., Marianne Dunn, Rick Ellmer, Alfredo Fernandes, Dennis Flynn, Berta Franco, Carole Griner, Steven Hensle, Laura Hughes, Robert Hunrath, Robert Jackowski, William Jackowski, Eddie Jenna, Neil K., Dana Kelley, Maryann Leach, Dina Ledogar, Maureen Le Goff, Angelina Lipski, Chenoa Lipski, Richie Lipski, Carmen Lombardi, Marian Lordi, Richard Lorenzo, Barbara Ludolph, Anna Massa, Angie Mazzarisi, Nicholas Melillo, Richard Miele, Aman Mo, Moise Modestin, Timothy Morgan, Donna Massa, Ive Mureny, Christian Murphy, Cassidy Musson, Carol Muzacs, John Natale, Rafaelina Oliviero, Tom Olivo, Anna P., Pasqualina Pacifico, Janet Payson, Elizabeth Piedl, John Reiss, Epifania Rivera, Gary Ruzich, Anthony S., Luigi Sannino, Jack Silbert, Thomas Spohn, Debbie Staib, Susan Sullivan, Stephanie Toth, Anne Wallis, Tom Walsh, Mary Yobbi

## A TIME OF WAR & PEACE

Tim Arentz, PFC 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, February 2 Presentation of the Lord 5:00PM (SATURDAY) Amelia Montana ~ *Family* 7:30AM Jerome N. Bongiovanni ~ Deacon Jerry & Janice 9:00AM Anne Lofredo ~ Hagenbush Family 10:30AM For the People of Saint James 12:00рм Viola Morano ~ Daughter, Marylou MONDAY, February 3 Saint Blaise 7:30AM Butch Augustin ~ Gertrude Aguinaldo TUESDAY, February 4 7:30AM Rocco DeFalco ~ Sister, Maria WEDNESDAY, February 5 Saint Agatha 7:30AM Deacon John Baltus ~ *Ellmer Family* THURSDAY, February 6 Saint Paul Miki 7:30AM Dominick DeSantis ~ Anglea Ragonese FRIDAY, February 7 7:30AM Theresa Blasi ~ Family SATURDAY, February 8 8:00AM Lucy Sammartino ~ Mary & Gus Solazzi SUNDAY, February 10 Fifth Sunday in O.T. 5:00PM (SATURDAY) Maria Delmauro ~ Joan Bratsch 7:30AM Maria Nardone ~ Angela Ragonese 9:00AM Amanda V. Cabigao ~ Beranda Family 10:30AM In Thanksgiving ~ Garcia Family 12:00рм Angela &B Daniel Raimondo ~ Evelyn Raimondo-Kaiser & Marianne Vanvolkenburgh Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

and let perpetual light shine upon them.

SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE CHURCH BULLETIN :: FEBRUARY 2, 2020

# **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.