

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. jbarbone@msn.com, jbarbone@aol.com

> PAROCHIAL VICAR Father Antonio N. Kuizon ankui@aol.com

> WEEKEND ASSOCIATE Father John D. Dennehy

PERMANENT DEACONS Deacon Jerry Bongiovanni jerryjan133@aol.com

> Deacon Dan O'Neill danpegone@aol.com

PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mrs. Michelle Sblendorio

msblendorio@saintjamesparish.org

MUSIC MINISTRY DIRECTOR

Mr. Matthew Wilson mwilson@saintjamesparish.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE DIRECTOR

Ms. Nancy Caputo, M.Ed., Spec. Ed-ASD Cert. ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org

> Karen Cocco, M.S., PhD. kcocco@saintjamesparish.org

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 9, 2020

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Every so often, on a seemingly regular basis, the Pew Research Center does a survey of Americans on religion and its place in our lives. In a recent survey, the center conducted a survey of Americans who claim to be Christian. This survey doesn't differentiate if one is Catholic, Presbyterian and so forth. It was interested in knowing if one claimed to be Christian. What they found was not surprising. The survey indicated that the number of people in America claiming to be Christian has declined. Pew research has found that 65% of U.S. adults claiming to be Christian declined from 77% in 2009, to 65% in 2019. Of course, when broken down by age, those of us born before 1946, what they call the Silent Generation, make up the largest number, 84%. The figures for younger generations are: Boomers (born between 1946-1964) are at 76%; Generation X (born between 1965-1980) are at 67%; Millennials (born between 1981-1996) are at 49%. In 2009, regular worshipers (those who attend religious service monthly or more often) slightly outnumbered those who go occasionally or not at all. Today, those numbers are reversed: 45% attend at least monthly, and 54% attend only a few times a year. Those who "never" go, referred to as the "nones," have risen from 11% to 17%.

What this means is that as our church population ages, and eventually dies, there may not be as many to take our place. Not only will that have a negative effect on our worship, but also on all the other programs churches offer to their members. No matter what our parish or other congregations do, the numbers reflect a decline in worshipping attendees, but also in members of the parish. There are a number of couples getting married who have no religious ceremonies. They are married at these so called "destination weddings," which may or may not involve a clergy person. (Priests are not allowed to officiate at weddings that take place outside of a church, with very few exceptions). There are any number of parents in our parish, and every other parish, who bring their children for baptism, then not at all until First Communion, then again not at all until Confirmation, and then they are gone until the young person gets married. If you think this is only a problem in our parish, think again. It is happening across the board in all Catholic parishes.

The church is the Body of Christ, and as the Body, we are called to radiate and reflect the presence of Jesus for others. Like Jesus, all we can do is extend an invitation to, "come and see, come and hear, come and experience" the presence of Jesus not just in our worship, but in each of our lives.

Saint James the Apostle parish is a welcoming community, and as such, all are invited not just to worship with us but to be a part of the life of the parish. Each of us has to ask ourselves how inviting are we to others who may be looking for a church to be a part of. What kind of example do we set to bring others into the life of our parish? This is not just the role of priests and deacons. It is the responsibility of each of us by virtue of our baptism.

Here's another way to look at this. What would happen to our parish if there were no people to fill the pews each week? Cardinal Tobin has outlined six pillars of faith to continue the mission of Jesus not just in the diocese but also in our parishes. The Parish Staff and Pastoral Council are working to insure that the work of our parish continues to bring the Good News of Jesus to all who look to us as a sign of Jesus for them. But we need all of us to be involved as much as we can in the mission of the church.

HAPPY ORDINARY TIME!!

~ FR. JOE

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

\$11,028.00 \$8,943.00 Collection \$2,085.00 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!



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......

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus used ordinary images, such as salt and light, to convey extraordinary truths that transform our minds, hearts, and lives. What does salt and light have to teach us about God and the transforming power of his kingdom? Salt was a valuable commodity in the ancient world. People traded with it, like we trade with valuable goods, such as gold and stock. Salt also served a very useful purpose, especially in warmer climates before the invention of electricity and refrigeration. Salt not only gave rich flavor to food, it also preserved food from going bad and being spoiled.

Jesus used the image of a lamp to describe how his disciples are to live in the light of his truth and love. Just as natural light illumines the darkness and enables one to see visually, so the light of Christ shines in the hearts of believers and enables us to see the heavenly reality of God's kingdom. Our mission is to be *light-bearers* of Jesus Christ so that others may see the truth of the gospel and be freed from the blindness of sin and deception.

There is great freedom and joy for those who live in the light of God's truth and goodness. Do you know the joy and freedom of living in God's light?

"Lord Jesus, you guide me by the light of your saving truth. Fill my heart and mind with your light and truth and free me from the blindness of sin and deception that I may see your ways clearly and understand your will for my life. May I radiate your light and truth to others in word and deed."

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

Congratulations to the children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time yesterday! We ask for your continued prayers that the children grow in their understanding of this healing sacrament and seek it often.

We are excited to announce that our parish will offer a new Family Faith Program in September as an alternative to classroom lessons. We will continue to offer the "traditional learning" model, but our hope is that families will embrace this new approach to discovering Christ. This is a great way to connect our Catholic faith to our daily lives. If you are a new parent, seasoned parent or grandparent and are interested in being a part of our focus group, we welcome your participation! Please contact the Religious Education Office.

No Classes: Tuesday, February 11

8th Grade ~ Ms. Ann Marie Gesualdo

Spring Sessions have begun! It was great seeing everyone!

Next class: Tuesday February 18 at 7:00PM

NO CLASS Tuesday, February 11

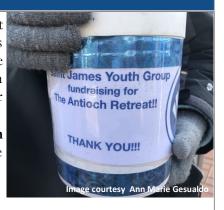


YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Ms. Ann Marie Gesualdo

A great big shout out and thank you to the Antioch Retreat Team - we spent last Sunday morning at Bagel Supreme raising funds to help defer the cost of this year's retreat. We were able to raise \$317.50 from the generosity of the Springfield community. Thank you to Jocelyn Duallo for making our collection cans and to all the Saint James parishioners who came by and donated to our cause!

The Antioch Retreat registration deadline is this **Tuesday, February 11th** (sorry, no exceptions!). All monies need to be collected in order to reserve the bus and secure the lodge.



Youth Group Meeting tonight, Sunday, February 9 at 7:00PM in the School Gym: February Fun night! Wear your most comfy clothes and bring your favorite game to play!

No Youth Group Meeting Sunday, February 16!!

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Rehearsals begin TOMORROW: 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**

Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Catholic Schools Week was a huge success!

The week kicked off on Sunday as the school community gathered for the opening of Catholic Schools Week at the 10:30 Mass followed by an Open House. Our students were altar servers, lectors and choristers and they did a wonderful job. Thank you, Emily L., Evangelina, Nicholas (Class of 2018), Ethan S., Daniel, Magdalene, Dominic, Rolando and Christian. Our 7th and 8th grade student ambassadors did a fine job offering tours of the school with prospective families. Our extracurricular and enrichment activity display showed current and prospective families the variety of offerings for students in all grades at Saint James.

We were grateful to Springfield Mayor, Chris Capodice, for attending Mass and presenting Mrs. Ponterio with a proclamation that proclaimed "the week of January 26 through February 1, 2020, as 'CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK' in sincere tribute to accomplishments and high standards of Catholic education."

Students made and/or donated close to 400 sandwiches that were delivered to St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth in time for lunch. 8th graders took a turn teaching Saint James students a lesson in science, math, or grammar. Every class had an opportunity to spend some quiet time with the Lord through Eucharistic adoration. One night students and their families dined out at Tiff's Burger & Alehouse in Union with a percent of proceeds donated back to the school.

Other events included Breakfast Buddies where all students could invite two guests for breakfast, the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee, Valentine card and flower making for the residents of Sunrise Assisted Living in Bridgewater, Living Biography presentations by Grade 7, Skype calls with other Catholic schools in the Media Center, a schoolwide Go Noodle Glow Dance, and Mass led by our 3rd graders.

The school hallways and stairwells are adorned with photographs of every student reflecting on what they learn, how they serve, how they lead and when they've succeeded. You'll see classroom doors featuring individuals or organizations that are examples of the Catholic Schools Week theme "Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed."

This theme encompasses the core products and values that can be found at Saint James the Apostle School and in Catholic schools across the country. We teach students to become future servant leaders, faith-filled disciples and enriched citizens in our communities.

7th Grade LIVING BIOGRAPHIES

From left to right: Robert Kennedy, Milton Hershey, Florence Nightingale, Tremayne Quarrie (as himself) Duke Ellington, Phyllis Wheatley, Ludwig van Beethoven, Stephen Hawking, Alexander Hamilton, Michael J. Fox, Amelia Earhart, Steve Jobs, Pocahontas and Maria Tallchief



PARISH INFORMATION

Keeping in Touch With One Another

To All Our Families and Friends,

Believe it or not, we are rapidly approaching the Season of Lent! Yes, in 2 ½ weeks, it will be Ash Wednesday and the Easter Season will be upon us. As part of our ongoing faith formation, we are providing a weekly reflection to assist in the preparation and prayerful involvement of this Lenten journey, under the title of "Family Faith Formation". Each week we will address a specific spiritual reflection which will further develop our relationship with Christ. According to Vinita Hampton Wright, author of Small, Simple, Ways, from which many of these reflections are taken, "It's important to remember that our formation is not about being perfect right now, but about growth in small increments".

Praying for your journey, most especially that you always feel the peace of God within your heart. *Karen M. Cocco, Ph.D.*

Let's start with compassion – for ourselves & others. Through practicing compassion, it becomes a virtue in us. A simple way to practice, as you go through your day, for all the people you meet, even strangers ask, "What challenge is that person dealing with?" *Then offer this simple prayer:* Lord, help that person with all of their challenges & struggles. Don't forget to lift your own challenges up to God! Have a blessed week!

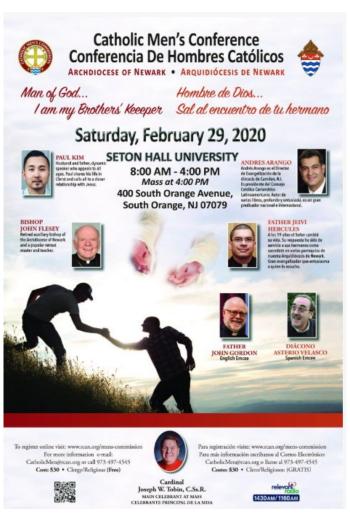


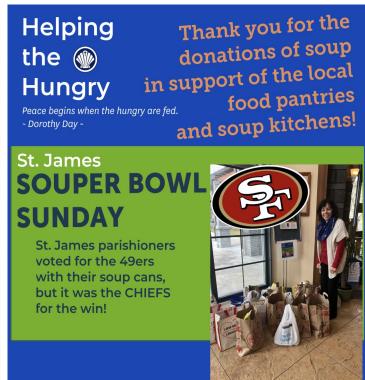


2nd Collection February 8/9, 2020 Lenten Almsgiving

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)







PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

We are very excited to announce that beginning Sunday, February 16th, 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



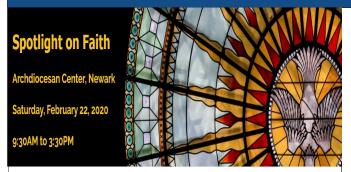
PARISH CALENDAR

Ms. Michelle Sblendorio

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SUNDAY	February 9
10:00ам	Religious Education (K-6)-School
1:30рм	Sacrament of Baptism-Church
MONDAY	February 10
7:00рм	Family Promise Coordinators - Gym
TUESDAY	February 11
WEDNESDAY	February 12
7:30рм	Adult Choir Rehearsal-Church
THURSDAY	February 13
3:00рм	Children's Choir Rehearsal-Church
FRIDAY	February 14
SATURDAY	February 15
11:00ам	Couples for Christ- <i>Church</i>
SUNDAY	February 16
10:00ам	Religious Education (K-6)-School

COMMUNITY NEWS

Sharing With One Another



The six SPOTLIGHT courses rotate through a number of parish centers in various parts of the Archdiocese. Courses are offered in two series, one in the fall and one in the spring, with an occasional winter offering.

Participants at a single location can take the entire six course sequence over a three year period. These courses are of general interest to all who might want to learn more about the Catholic faith. They may be of particular interest to parents or those active in parish activities.

Catechists can also fulfill the requirements for doctrinal certification by completing all six SPOT-LIGHT courses. Doctrinal certification is important for catechists who work with adults in RCIA, Bible study, small faith sharing communities and other forms of adult faith formation, those who work with children in parish religious education programs and teachers in Catholic elementary schools.

Please contact your parish Religious Education Office for additional information and registration questions.

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 <u>and</u> ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org

ST. AGNES CHURCH IN CLARK

Thursday, February 13, at 7:15PM SEASONS invites everyone who is separated, divorced, or widowed to come over for our *Valentine Pot-Luck* event.

Then on Thursday, February 27, you are invited to a talk on *Finance for Singles*. SEASONS welcomes anyone who has lost a significant other to participate in our activities and to meet people who are in a similar situation. SEASONS is a non-denominational support group for individuals who have experienced the loss of a partner, including divorced, separated, or widowed individuals, and for those never married. It is designed to provide assistance in the process of navigating life as a single person through group discussions, guest speakers, and social activities. Meetings are held monthly on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at St. Agnes Church, 332 Madison Hill Road, Clark 07066 at 7:15pm.

For more information, contact Bob Laudati 908-322-7762, or Joan Hernandez 908-930-2791

or email: 2008seasons@live.com. Like us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/seasonsgroupnj

PROTECTING FAMILIES FROM DANGEROUS ONLINE CONTENT

St. Helen / Holy Trinity Church Wednesday, February 19th at 7:00PM 1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, NJ

Dr. Peter Kleponis

The presentation will cover the flowing topics:

Identifying Dangerous Online Content, Its Effects on Families, and How To Protect Your Family from It—with time for questions and answers.

Nearly 50% of families have experienced the negative effects of the Internet. Dangerous online content has had devastating effects on individuals, marriages and families. Come and learn the truth and dangers of the Internet, scientific, therapeutic and spiritual perspectives on protection of families and healing for individuals negatively impacted.

The presentation is appropriate for adults and teens ages 14 and older.

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.

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.

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.

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 10, 2020 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

Viola Morano ~ Daughter, Marylou



SANCTUARY LAMP

Viola Morano ~ Daughter, Marylou

A TIME TO BE BAPTIZED

X

A TIME TO WED

X

A TIME TO DIE

Argentina German, Frances Lentini, Bernadette Lioi, Allen Mench, Brian Palestis, Stephanie Parze, Amelia Stringile

A TIME TO HEAL

Pat Annelli, Anthony B., Paul Barbato, Concetta Bellott, Barbara Bentz, Pat Butterworth, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Helen Chelis, Lena Chromowski, Dominic Ciraco, 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, Carol Muzacs, John Natale, Rafaelina Oliviero, Tom Olivo, Anna P., 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 9 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00PM (SATURDAY)

Maria Delmauro ~ *Joan Bratsch*

7:30AM

Anna Maria Villanova ~ Family

9:00AM

Joseph Palitto, Jr. ~ Hagenbush Family

10:30AM

Hamilton Family (Living) ~ Casey Family

12:00PM

Cesar Hautea~ Gaston Family

MONDAY, February 10

7:30AM

Patrick Richard Coan ~ Theresa & Michael Quick

TUESDAY, February 11

7:30AM

Ann Marie Genninger ~ John & Bernice Petersen

WEDNESDAY, February 12

7:30AM

For the People of Saint James

THURSDAY, February 13

7:30AM

Paul Centamore ~ Wife & Children

FRIDAY, February 14

7:30AM

Ilene Runo ~ Children

SATURDAY, February 15

8:00AM

Onorio & Maria Silvestri ~ Grandchildren

SUNDAY, February 16 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 5:00PM (SATURDAY)

Vincent Petrignani ~ Ann & Family

7:30AM

Rosalie Yannotti ~ Cousin Jean

9:00AM

Jeanine McGough ~ Hagensbush Family

10:30AM

Forsyth Family (Living) ~ Casey Family

12:00PM

Mark Weber ~ Rossomando Family

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

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**.