



SAINT JAMES

the APOSTLE CHURCH



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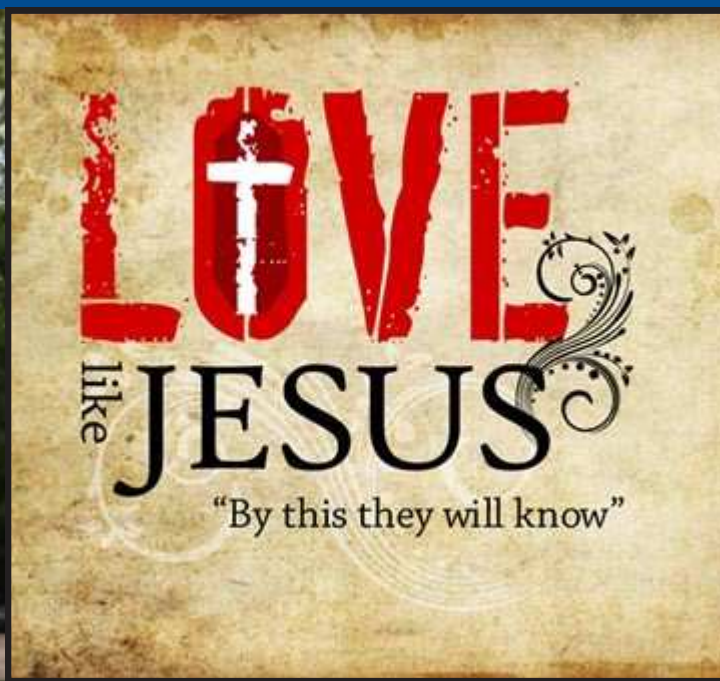
PARISH COUNCIL

saintjamesparishcouncil@gmail.com

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



Image courtesy of Saint James Parishioners



Sixth Sunday of Easter ~ May 17, 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

**"...OH, SWEET AND BLESSED COUNTRY, THE HOME OF GOD'S ELECT!
OH, SWEET AND BLESSED COUNTRY THAT EAGER HEARTS EXPECT!
JESUS, IN MERCY BRING US TO THAT DEAR LAND OF REST,
WHO ART, WITH GOD THE FATHER, AND SPIRIT, EVER BLEST."**

An Easter Sourcebook, p. 114

As we continue through this Period of Mystagoga, it hardly seems like the Easter Season. The weather certainly has not been conducive to spring, and the pandemic has changed everything in our lives. It is also unusual for us not to be in church or celebrate the Eucharist with each other. Life as we know it has changed, and hopefully, we are adapting to this change as well as possible.

The one constant is the presence of Jesus in our lives. In today's Gospel, which continues the Priestly Prayer of Jesus, Jesus is reminding the apostles that he will always be with them, through his Spirit. We can easily see that he says the same to us, especially during this difficult time. Being reassured of his abiding presence and love can only motivate us to continue to live in faith and hope, as he invites us to celebrate this presence with each other, even if we do it from a distance.

For the apostles, all of this made sense on Pentecost, with the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is what energized them to bring the Gospel to all nations. The Spirit should also motivate us to live as a people transformed. We have been transformed by the death and resurrection of Jesus, and because of this, we stand as a sign of new life, hope and resurrection to all we meet. Sometimes it may be difficult for us to appreciate this, but that is what Jesus calls us to be. We can bring this new life to our families, who may be confined at home and to the folks we meet in the supermarket, especially the workers who care for us. Sometimes, though, we may think this is futile. Reflecting Jesus for others is never futile, but should give us satisfaction that we are being faithful to the Lord and all he calls us to be as his people.

Of course, we are also dealing with the closing of our school. As I wrote in the email last weekend, this was a difficult process for Caroline Ponterio, Principal, and myself. The dedication of the school's faculty and staff was reflected in the trust the parents had in sending their children to Saint James. Some parents will choose to enroll their children in other Catholic schools, while some will enroll them in public school. Regardless of the school the children are enrolled in the future, they received a good education and formation at Saint James. The parents who are parishioners of Saint James will have to enroll their children in the sacramental programs here, if in Catholic school, or in our Religious Education Program, if they are in public school. Life in the parish will be different without the school.

I always enjoyed being a part of the school. I would visit the school each day, and I taught religion one day a week to the 8th grade in the fall, and the 7th grade in the spring. As much as I was able to teach the students about our faith, they did more for me than they could understand. It was a way we connected with each other in helping each other experience the gift that Jesus is for us all. I wish all the teachers, parents, and students well in their new endeavors and God's blessing on all of them.

HAPPY EASTER SEASON!!!

HAPPY MYSTAGOGIA!!!

~ Fr. Joe

SUNDAY READINGS ~ May 17, 2020

Praying Together Unites Us As One

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

"Prayer is the best weapon we possess. It is the key that opens the heart of God."

San Pio De Pietrelcina

FIRST READING: ACTS 8:5-8, 14-17

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ to them. With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip when they heard it and saw the signs he was doing. For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured. There was great joy in that city.

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord**R. Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 118

R. This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad

SECOND READING: PT 3:15-18

Beloved:
Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who defame your good conduct in Christ may themselves be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that be the will of God, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit.

The word of the Lord**R. Thanks be to God!**

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

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

SUNDAY READINGS ~ May 17, 2020

Praying Together Unites Us As One

GOSPEL: JOHN 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples:

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

And I will ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always,

the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept,

because it neither sees nor knows him.

But you know him, because he remains with you,

and will be in you.

I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

In a little while the world will no longer see me,

but you will see me, because I live and you will live.

On that day you will realize that I am in my Father

and you are in me and I in you.

Whoever has my commandments and observes them

is the one who loves me.

And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”

Priest / Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.....

R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel Reflection: How do we know that God truly loves each one of us? In the cross we see the proof of God's love for each of us and the incredible price God was willing to pay to redeem us from slavery to sin, death, and Satan. Jesus gave up his life that we might have life - abundant, everlasting life with God - a life of love and unity with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever.

Jesus calls his disciples to walk in his way of love through obedience to the will of the Father. True love is more than sentiment, emotion, or good intention. As important as these may be they are not the proof of sincere love.

True love for God is expressed in obedience and obedience is expressed in love.

“O God, make us children of quietness and heirs of peace; enkindle in us the fire of your love; sow in us your fear; strengthen our weakness by your power; bind us closely to you and to each other in our firm and indissoluble bond of unity.

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday, May 24, 2020

The Ascension of the Lord

Reading 1: ACTS 1:1-11

Reading 2: EPH 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

\$5,857.00

\$4,660.00 Collection (Envelope)

\$1,197.00 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!

*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,
information on page 11 of this bulletin
(all donations are gratefully accepted)*



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.

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.

All Baptism preparation classes and Sacrament of Baptism Services are suspended until further notice.



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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

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

45 South Springfield Ave, Springfield, NJ 07081 ~ Main Office 973-376-2061 :: Facsimile 973-376-4079

I encourage all families, but especially those with children preparing for the Sacrament of First Eucharist, to join our virtual Sunday morning mass on either YouTube or Facebook at 10:30AM. This is a great opportunity to answer your child's questions during the actual mass without worrying about disturbing anyone sitting around you. Participating in a virtual mass will also reinforce the prayers that we recite together. Please have your child follow along in their **"Going to Mass"** booklet.

Every Monday evening we recite the Rosary at 7:00PM on our Facebook page. If your family has never said the Rosary together, why not start now from the privacy of your own home? The only thing you need is a set of Rosary Beads (or use your fingers!) because the prayers are all posted on the screen for us to recite together.

As we discover new ways of sharing our faith, we are also working with the Archdiocese to talk about different ways to continue to catechize our children. These are definitely challenging times not only to share our faith but for preparing our children to receive the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. Unfortunately, until we are able to gather again within the church building, these sacraments will remain on hold. When I receive new directives from the Archdiocese I will surely let our sacramental families know! Until then, we are moving ahead planning for the 2020-2021 school year.

The Family Faith Program description along with the link to the **online** Family Registration was emailed to all currently registered, returning families. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept credit cards or online payments so payments will need to be mailed into the Religious Education Office, at the address above.

Any family new to our program or with a child entering 1st grade (Kindergarten is optional) please email me so we can arrange to speak. Baptismal certificates are required for all new students regardless of grade at the time of registration.

The Religious Education Staff has resumed office hours but is always available by email if you have any questions or concerns. Please continue to maintain social distancing and stay home whenever possible.

May our loving Lord protect you and keep you and your family safe!

You'll never walk alone when you walk with God...





"Teachers Appreciation Week" was celebrated on Tuesday, May 5th when the Saint James

School Community organized a drive-by to show their love to Mrs. Ponterio, the teachers and staff. It was so good to be able to be together while being apart!



Watch the full video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/wr365AuZFLE>



Saint James the Apostle Roman Catholic Church

45 South Springfield Avenue
Springfield, NJ 07081-2301

Phone: 973-376-3044 / Fax: 973-376-0560

Rev. Joseph F. Barbone, Pastor
www.SaintJamesTheApostle.org

May 10, 2020

Dear Fellow Parishioners of Saint James the Apostle Parish:

On Thursday, May 7, the Archdiocese of Newark announced the closing of 9 grammar schools and 1 high school, effective at the end of this academic year. One of the schools that is closing is Saint James the Apostle School. I know that this comes as a shock to many of you because the school has been a beacon of Catholic faith in Springfield for so many years.

Permit me to give you some background on this decision. During the course of these past 3 or 4 months, I have had a number of conversations with officials of the archdiocese, including the Vicar General and his staff, and members of the Schools Office. There were two numbers that led to the decision to close the school. One was our low enrollment. The archdiocese wants a school to have an enrollment of 200 students to be viable, not including Pre-K, which is considered a separate program. The present school enrollment of 125 students has dropped over the last few years. There are a number of reasons for this, one of which is the taxes in Springfield. This causes some parents to remove or not enroll their children in Saint James, and/or to move out of town. The other number is the subsidy the diocese pays to keep the school functioning.

Prior to Lighting the Way, which was instituted before I came to Saint James as pastor, the school was subsidized by the parish. Lighting the Way transferred that to the diocese. While it was beneficial to the parish, it also allowed each school to rise and fall on its own. The subsidy the archdiocese paid to keep Saint James viable this year was \$280,00.00. As enrollment continued to decline, the amount of subsidy had to be increased, so the archdiocese decided that the school had to be closed.

While this is a loss for the parish, the parish will continue to be vibrant. When we are able to return after COVID-19 restrictions, worship will continue, hopefully even stronger, as we all look forward to being in church again. When the church re-opens, the worship space may be very different because of social distancing. That remains to be seen. In addition, our religious education and youth group continue to function very well, as do our sacramental preparation programs and all the other programs that are part of our parish. For those school parents who are members of our parish, if you enroll your children in another Catholic school, the reception of the sacraments must take place at Saint James. If you enroll your children in a public school, then your children must be registered in our religious education program for them to continue their religious formation. You can always contact Nancy Caputo, our DRE, for more information.

If you would like to contact the Archdiocese regarding the closing of Saint James School, here's the information:

Cardinal Joseph Tobin, Archbishop of Newark

Rev. Monsignor Thomas Nydegger, Vicar General

Barbara Dolan, Acting Superintendent of Schools

They can all be reached at the Archdiocesan Center, 171 Clifton Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07104-0500

I believe that Saint James the Apostle Parish will continue to grow as a viable presence in Springfield and the surrounding area as long as we continue to work together to make it so. This is something I pray for every morning. I am very grateful to you for your continued presence and support of our parish. It is together that we can continue to make Saint James Parish the great sign of Jesus in our town and area. As I often tell you, I am very proud and privileged to serve you as your pastor. Let us continue to pray for one another and for our parish, especially during this Easter Season. **GOD BLESS YOU ALL.**

Peace,

Fr. Joe

PARISH NEWS

Staying Connected While Being Apart

GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Each year young people from our parish families graduate from grammar, high school and college. Since this is a significant event in their lives, we would like to acknowledge it. If a member of your family or one of your friends is graduating this year, please call the **Parish Office** or send an email to: **msblendorio@saintjamesparish.org** by **Monday, June 8th** and we will include them on our graduation list which will be published in the June 21st, Father's Day bulletin.

Please be sure to include their name, the school from which they graduated, and the degree they received, if appropriate.



The 2021 Mass Book

**PLEASE NOTE
THE SOCIAL**



DISTANCING RULES

The 2021 Mass Book for your intentions is now available on **Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00AM—12:00PM (only)**. ONLY TWO PEOPLE at a time are permitted in the rectory. If you ring the bell and are not buzzed in, kindly wait your turn. To be fair to everyone, only two masses for the same individual will be accepted at this time. There are three ways to request a mass:

- 1) In person, respecting social distancing rules and rectory hours.
- 2) Email your intention(s) to: msblendorio@saintjamesparish.org. Once you receive the confirmation email, please mail in your check.
- 3) Mail your intention(s) and check to the rectory.

Any questions, please call the rectory.

SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE PARISH IS GIVING BACK TO SPRINGFIELD!

The parish has officially adopted Dr. Eckel's Island, a small piece of property located between South Springfield Avenue and Northview Terrace. As the social distancing restrictions are lifted, the parish will be responsible for cutting the grass, trimming the Euonymus shrub, weeding and mulching (the Township will provide the mulch).



If you would like to help, please call the parish office or send an email to the Parish Publicity Committee at publicity@saintjamesparish.org.

Thank you!

MAY THE MONTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Pope Francis encourages faithful to pray Rosary at home.

The month of May is the time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the Internet to find good models of prayers to follow. I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. The prayers can be found within the full article:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-04/letter-on-the-month-of-may-full-text.html?fbclid=IwAR1GSbPk8AOhrf1ZKxqyuL7bFNfpIBN0r3J3rzrpQqMYmc97DxcKOKyrT2Y>



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
A Ministry of the Archdiocese of Newark
For Our Catholic Community - For Over 160 Years

At this time, we announce the following changes to our cemetery visitation policies:

- ◆ All archdiocesan cemeteries are open on Sundays for visitation from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.
- ◆ Up to 10 family members are permitted to attend a burial service.
- ◆ **Beginning on Monday, May 18**, cemetery visitation will be permitted weekdays, Monday through Saturday, from 3:00PM to 6:00PM, after all interments are completed.

St. James the Apostle Church
JOIN US
ONLINE ROSARY & NOVENA
EVERY MONDAY at 7:00 P.M.

www.facebook.com/saintjamestheapostle/live/

PARISH OUTREACH INFORMATION

Caring For One Another



Your community parish needs your help

All public celebrations of Mass throughout the Archdiocese of Newark are temporarily suspended during the COVID-19 crisis. Our archdiocesan parish communities are now struggling to meet critical needs.

Please consider a tax-deductible online donation to our Parishes Support program

All funds will support parish communities struggling to pay their employees, conduct outreach, and cover church utility bills through this crisis. We are grateful for your generosity, and we will work together in prayer to move past this and prevent the suffering of the most vulnerable among us.

Please consider a tax-deductible online donation to our Parish's Support Program. *GoFundMe charges no platform fees*, leaving only a small fee charged per donation to cover payment processing, in-line with the amount charged by many other online-payment services. Go to: <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/archdiocese-of-newark> click on "CONTRIBUTE" and follow the instructions.

Thank you for your continued support to our parish. I am humbled by your generosity and extremely proud to serve as your pastor!

Fr. Joe

Sentinel Management has notified Catholic Charities that our Donation Bins will open as of **Monday, May 18th**. We are grateful for your patience and look forward to your continued support. We need clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, toys, knickknacks, and children's books.

We pray for an end of this virus in our society and throughout the world.

Thank you with all our heart.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Caring for one another



Our Services:

- Personal care (bathing, dressing, grooming)
- Meal preparation
- Companionship
- Compliance with discharge plans and therapy
- Medication reminders
- Light housekeeping
- Personal laundry
- Assistance to medical appointments
- Maintain a safe home environment

SAGE partners with LifeStation 24-7 medical alert monitoring

Payment Methods:

- Private pay
- Medicaid
- VA benefits

Consult your long-term care insurance policy for home care service coverage. For those who qualify, support may be available through Union County Division on Aging. Inquire when you call.

DURING THESE UNPRECEDENTED TIMES, SAGE HOMECARE IS HERE FOR YOU



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290 Broad Street • Summit New Jersey 07901 • 908.273.5550 • www.sageeldercare.org

PARISH OUTREACH INFORMATION

Caring For One Another



A special "THANK YOU!" to Catriona for organizing a food drive at her house in honor of her 18th birthday!

Happy Birthday Catriona and God bless you for thinking of those in need!

Your parish family is grateful and proud of you!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!



St. James the Apostle Church
HELPING THE HUNGRY MINISTRY

**A thank you from SAGE
after May 8 food collection:**

You made our day!!

Your willingness to help, especially during this difficult time for all of us is greatly appreciated. In March and early April, we went from serving 100 people a day to 150, and our primary food source, Linden Meals on Wheels, had a surge of 8 times that amount. Your incredibly generous donation of soup, fruit and snacks allows us to continue to take on new clients immediately and ensures that our clients have enough food to safely stay in their homes. This hasn't been easy for us, but acts of kindness like yours gives us the energy to continue doing what we can to keep everyone safe and at home.



Dear Claire and members of Helping with Hunger Ministry,

You made our day!!

Your willingness to help, especially during this difficult time for all of us is greatly appreciated.

In March and early April, we went from serving 100 people a day to 150, and our primary food source, Linden Meals on Wheels had a surge of 8 times that amount. Your incredibly generous donation of soup, fruit and snacks allows us to continue to take on new clients immediately and ensures that our clients have enough food to safely stay in their homes.

This hasn't been easy for us, but acts of kindness like yours gives us the energy to continue doing what we can to keep everyone safe and at home.

We look forward to the day in the future when you can possibly join us delivering meals and meet some of the wonderful people you have helped.

Thank you! Thank you!!!

Best Always,

Robin, Amy and Marianne

SAGE Eldercare, Meals on Wheels

290 Broad Street- Summit, NJ 07901

908-273-5554

astuart@sageeldercare.org / www.sageeldercare.org



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

A TIME TO HEAL



Pat Anelli, Anthony B., Concetta Bellott, Barbara Bentz, Severina Bion, Arlene Boja, Matthew Burns, Pat Butterworth, Jose Cabezas, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Dr. Chad, Helen Chelis, Lena Chromowski, Dominic Ciraco, Phyllis Colosimo, Dr. Conrado, James Curry, Maureen D., Dr. Margaret Dames, Victoria Egner, 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, Art Kistler, Maryann Leach, Dina Ledogar, Maureen Le Goff, Andy Lindgren, Mary Lindgren, Angelina Lipski, Chenoa Lipski, Richie Lipski, Carmen Lombardi, Marian Lordi, Richard Lorenzo, Barbara Ludolph, Donna Massa, Angie Mazzarisi, Richard Miele, Aman Mo, Moise Modestin, Andres Montero, Timothy Morgan, Ive Mureny, Christian Murphy, Carol Muzacs, Michael Neer, Austerberta Olandres, Rafaelina Oliviero, Tom Olivo, Anna P., Ophelia Pitchford, John Reiss, Manny Reyes, Gary Ruzich, Anthony S., Jack Silbert, Debbie Staib, Stephanie Toth, Filomena Vairo, Anne Wallis, Tom Walsh, Mary Ellen Warren, Kay Winski, Mary Yobbi



A TIME TO DIE

Rev. James Carroll, Gerarda Cuccinello, Elizabeth Piedl, Lorie Purcell Williamson, Don Shula,
and all who have died from Covid-19



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

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.**