



SAINT JAMES

the APOSTLE CHURCH



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



PASTOR

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

PAROCHIAL VICAR

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ankui@aol.com

PERMANENT DEACONS

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jerryjan133@aol.com

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PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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msblendorio@saintjamesparish.org

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

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Mr. Daniel R. Palko
dpalko@saintjamesparish.org

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

PARISH TRUSTEES

Mrs. Janet Petino and Mr. John Pflug

PARISH COUNCIL

saintjamesparishcouncil@gmail.com

RECTORY HOURS

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

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

*First Sunday
of Advent*



A WELCOMING CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF FAITH.

COME EXPERIENCE CHRIST WITH US!

November 29, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

“JUCUNDARE, FILIA SION, EXSULTATE SATIS FILIA, JERUSALEM, ALLELUIA. DAUGHTER SION, BE GLAD! DANCE, DANCE, DAUGHTER JERUSALEM! ALLELUIA.”

An Advent Sourcebook, p.29

Today begins the Season of Advent, the new church year. This year is the Year of Mark, and Cycle B of the Sunday readings. Also, we have changed the color of the season from green to blue, which is the color that reminds us of Mary and the hope she engenders in each of us. Advent is a season of hope and expectation. It is a reminder that we wait for the Lord to return again in all his glory.

Advent sustains in us that hope that energizes us; we need this hope at this difficult time. The hope is centered around the presence of Emmanuel, God with us, for all people for all time. As Jesus sustains us with his abiding presence and love, he also encourages us to live with the hope that he will return again to bring us home.

In today's Gospel, Mark reminds us to pay attention and watch, not just for the Lord's return, but for the signs of his presence here and now. We can't just sit back and relax. We have to be active members who reflect the presence of Emmanuel in all we are, all we believe, and all we do. We are reminded that we are the presence of Jesus for one another and everyone whose lives we touch. It is important that we are signs of hope for each other; this allows us to live as disciples and followers of Jesus.

It is important that we be agents of hope, especially during this time. As the church of Jesus, we stand as a sign of hope for all who look to us for a sign of Jesus, especially at this time when everything seems to make no sense. The church is the physical presence of Jesus on earth, and as the church, so are we. That is why it is even more important that we radiate the presence of Jesus to all we meet.

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

\$6,028.00

\$4,211.00 Church Collection

\$1,817.00 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

Thank you to all the families who joined us on our first Family Faith Zoom last Sunday. It was so good to be able to see everyone! I am looking forward to our January call when we will talk about the Baptism of the Lord.

Usually information for the Sacraments of First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation would have been sent to the families by now. Because of the ever-changing guidelines for in-person gatherings, we are waiting to share our plans in the hopes that some of the restrictions will be lifted by then. We thank all the sacramental families for their patience!

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



Thank you to the 7th graders who donated 12 Thanksgiving Baskets to the graduate families of Family Promise!

Because of your generosity

12 families had a happy

Thanksgiving!

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)

7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SCHEDULE

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

Mass at Midnight (Christmas concert begins at 11:30 p.m.)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

Feast of the Holy Family

Blessing of families at all Masses

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

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

NEW YEARS MASSES: SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Friday, January 1, 2021

(No 7:30 a.m. Mass)

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

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

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

ADVENT MEMORIALS

THE ADVENT WREATH IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Those who lost their battle with Covid-19

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

First Responders

Health Care Providers

Deacon Dan O'Neill

Janice Bongiovanni

ADVENT "LITTLE BLUE BOOKS"

In Loving Memory of

John D. Pflug, III and Garrett Gurrieri

r/b Pflug Family



Image courtesy of Google.com

PARISH NEWS

Message from Fr. John Dennehy:

Dear Rev. Joseph Barbone and the People of St. James Parish,

It is time I move on from St. James Parish. I thank all the parishioners for the years you have let me serve you. More importantly, I thank you for all you have taught me by your faithfulness to the Gospel.

Please pray for me that my spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ and his Church will always deepen.

Know of my prayers.

God bless and peace.

Fr. John Dennehy

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



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



Join us in the Gathering Area of the Church or log on to the Saint James the Apostle Parishioner

Face Book Page to join us on YouTube!

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!

Saint James the Apostle Church will again this year “adopt” families from Family Promise of Union County for Christmas.

Families especially need gift cards to Target, Walmart and Shoprite.

Since many do not drive, Uber and Lift Gift Cards are also needed all year round.

If you are interested in adopting a family, or individual person please contact either Nancy Caputo (ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org) or Pat Sullivan (patricia.sullivan@hmhn.org) for more information.

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



*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

SUNDAY READINGS ~ November 29, 2020

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7

You, LORD, are our father,
our redeemer you are named forever.
Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways,
and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?
Return for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your heritage.
Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
with the mountains quaking before you,
while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope
for,
such as they had not heard of from of old.
No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but
you
doing such deeds for those who wait for him.
Would that you might meet us doing right,
that we were mindful of you in our ways!
Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful;
all of us have become like unclean people,
all our good deeds are like polluted rags;
we have all withered like leaves,
and our guilt carries us away like the wind.
There is none who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to cling to you;
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us up to our guilt.
Yet, O LORD, you are our father;
we are the clay and you the potter:
we are all the work of your hands.

Tú, Señor, eres nuestro padre y nuestro redentor;
ése es tu nombre desde siempre.
¿Por qué, Señor, nos has permitido alejarnos de tus
mandamientos
y dejas endurecer nuestro corazón
hasta el punto de no temerte?
Vuélvete, por amor a tus siervos,
a las tribus que son tu heredad.
Ojalá rasgaras los cielos y bajaras,
estremeciendo las montañas con tu presencia.
Descendiste y los montes se estremecieron con tu
presencia.
Jamás se oyó decir, ni nadie vio jamás
que otro Dios, fuera de ti,
hiciera tales cosas en favor de los que esperan en él.
Tú sales al encuentro
del que practica alegremente la justicia
y no pierde de vista tus mandamientos.
Estabas airado porque nosotros pecábamos
y te éramos siempre rebeldes.
Todos éramos impuros
y nuestra justicia era como trapo asqueroso;
todos estábamos marchitos, como las hojas,
y nuestras culpas nos arrebatában, como el viento.
Nadie invocaba tu nombre
nadie se levantaba para refugiarse en ti,
porque nos ocultabas tu rostro
y nos dejabas a merced de nuestras culpas.
Sin embargo, Señor, tú eres nuestro padre;
nosotros somos el barro y tú el alfarero;
todos somos hechura de tus manos.

The word of the Lord.....

R. *Thanks be to God!*

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: Corinthians 1: 3-9

Brothers and sisters:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account
for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ
Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way,
with all discourse and all knowledge,
as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among
you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift
as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus
Christ.

He will keep you firm to the end,
irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
God is faithful,
and by him you were called to fellowship with his
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hermanos:

Les deseamos la gracia y la paz de parte de Dios,
nuestro Padre, y de Cristo Jesús, el Señor.

Continuamente agradezco a mi Dios los dones
divinos que les ha concedido a ustedes por medio
de Cristo Jesús, ya que por él los ha enriquecido
con abundancia en todo lo que se refiere a la palabra
y al conocimiento; porque el testimonio que damos
de Cristo ha sido confirmado en ustedes a tal grado,
que no carecen de ningún don, ustedes, los que
esperan la manifestación de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.
Él los hará permanecer irreprochables hasta el fin,
hasta el día de su advenimiento. Dios es quien los ha
llamado a la unión con su Hijo Jesucristo, y Dios es
fiel.

The word of the Lord

R. *Thanks be to God!*

La Palabra del Señor.....

R. ¡Gracias a Dios!

Gospel Acclamation

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us Lord, your love;
and grant us your salvation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Aleluya, aleluya.

Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia
y danos tu salvación.

R. Aleluya, 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 ti, oh Señor ...*

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

GOSPEL: Mark 13: 33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:
"Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when the time will come.
It is like a man traveling abroad.
He leaves home and places his servants in charge,
each with his own work,
and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.
Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the Lord of the house is
coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.
May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.
What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

En aquel tiempo, Jesús dijo a sus discípulos:
"Velen y estén preparados, porque no saben cuándo
llegará el momento. Así como un hombre que se va de
viaje,
deja su casa y encomienda a cada quien lo que debe
hacer y encarga al portero que esté velando, así también
velen ustedes, pues no saben a qué hora va a regresar el
dueño de la casa: si al anochecer, a la
medianoche, al canto del gallo o a la madrugada.
No vaya a suceder que llegue de repente y los halle
durmiendo.
Lo que les digo a ustedes, lo digo para todos:
permanezcan alerta."

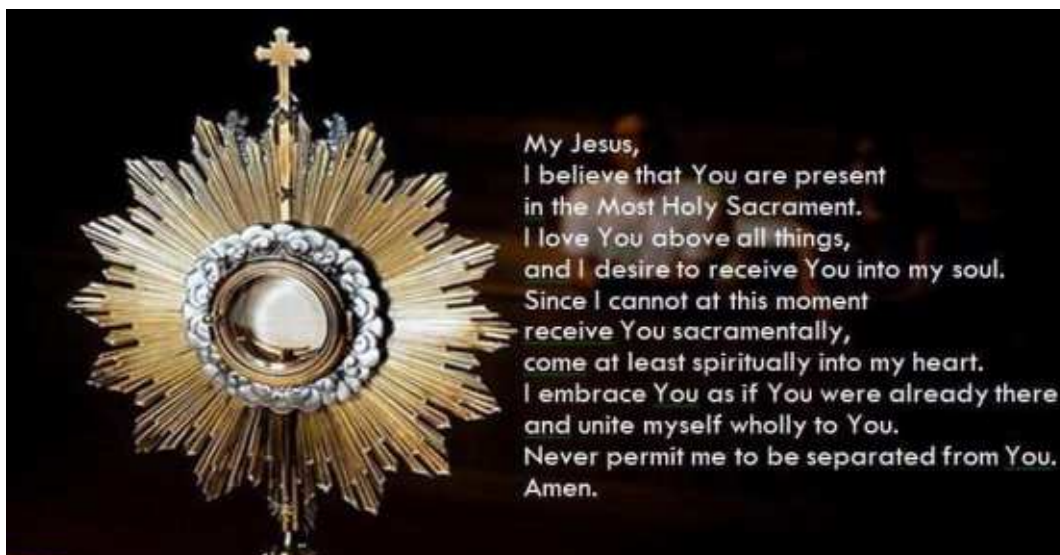
Priest / Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord..... **R. Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel Reflection:

Mark 13: 33-37

How does the Lord want us to be watchful and vigilant for his return? The kind of watching the Lord has in mind is not a passive "wait and see what happens" approach to life. The Lord urges us to vigilance and to active prayer that his "kingdom may come" and his "will be done on earth as it is in heaven". We are not only to watch *for* Christ, but to watch *with* Christ. The Lord wants us to have our hearts and minds fixed on him and his word. He wants us to be ready for his action and work of grace in our lives and in our world. Those who "wait" for the Lord will not be disappointed. He will surely come with his grace and saving help. Do you watch for the Lord's action in your life with expectant faith and with joyful hope?

Lord Jesus, awaken my heart and mind to receive your word and to prepare for your coming again. Free me from complacency, from the grip of sin and worldliness, and from attachments to things which pass away. May I always be eager to receive your word and be ready to meet you when you come again.



SCRIPTURE READINGS: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

SECOND READING: Peter 3: 8-14

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

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

Christ, Be Our Light!

Verses



1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness.
2. Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled.
3. Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry.
4. Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less.
5. Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple,



Long - ing for truth, we turn to you.
Long - ing for hope, man - y de - spair.
Long - ing for wa - ter, man - y still thirst.
Long - ing for warmth, man - y are cold.
man - y the hearts that yearn to be - long.

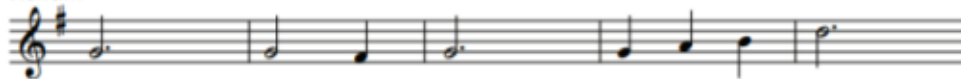


Make us your own, your ho - ly peo - ple,
Your word a - lone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your bread, bro - ken for oth - ers,
Make us your build - ing, shel - ter - ing oth - ers,
Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er,

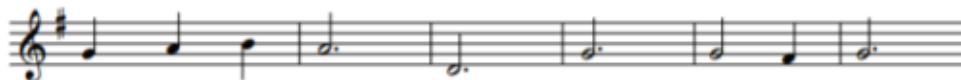


light for the world to see.
Make us your liv - ing voice.
shared un - til all are fed.
walls made of liv - ing stone.
mak - ing your king - dom come.

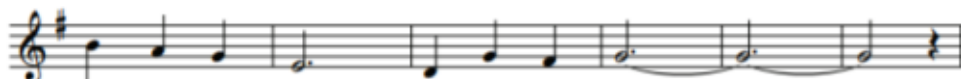
Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.



Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light!



Shine in your Church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b.1957
Tune: Bernadette Farrell, b.1957
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Blessing your family Advent Wreath!

You will need a Bible and four candles to celebrate this blessing. Before your family has gathered for the blessing, select one of the following Scripture passages to be read during the blessing: [Isaiah 11:1-4](#), [Isaiah 61:1-2](#); [Mark 1:1-8](#); [James 5:7-10](#); or [Philippians 4:4-7](#). Have someone volunteer to read the passage.

(You can click these Scripture links!)

Place the Advent wreath on a table and have your family gather around it. Lower the light level in the room to create an appropriate atmosphere for the blessing. Place the four candles (symbolizing the four weeks of Advent) on the table and light a single candle for the first week of Advent. Have someone lead your family in the following prayer.

Leader: This week we begin the season of Advent, when the days grow short and darkness closes in. We are preparing to celebrate at Christmas the birth of Jesus, who is the light of the world. Let's spend some quiet time being aware of the darkness and longing for the light.

(Pause a few moments and then pray the Sign of the Cross.)

Leader: Lord God, bless this wreath and bless us as well. May this wreath remind us of the hope and joy that Jesus brings into the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: *Advent* means "arrival." In the season of Advent, the church prepares to celebrate the coming of Jesus. We recall the past, celebrate the present, and look to the future with hope. We prepare to celebrate not only the birth of Jesus but also his presence in our family. We wait for the return of the Lord at the end of time when all hopes will be fulfilled. We await the coming of the light that will shine in the darkness, shining light on our path to peace.

Reader: A reading from [name of book in Bible].

(Reader reads selected passage.)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

All: Amen.

(Pray the Lord's Prayer)

Source: www.LoyolaPress.com



Saints of the Week:

Saint Andrew, Feast Day November 30.

St. Andrew was a fisherman who lived in Galilee during the time of Jesus. He often followed John the Baptist and listened to his teachings. One day, John saw Jesus walking along the road. John said to his followers, "Behold the Lamb of God." He told his followers to go and talk to Jesus. He wanted them to know that Jesus was the One for whom they had been waiting. Andrew and another disciple followed Jesus and spent an afternoon with him. Early the next day Andrew found Simon Peter, his older brother, and told him, "We have found the Messiah."

Both men gave up their work as fishermen to become apostles of Jesus. Andrew was one of the first to be called. He seemed to take delight in bringing others to Jesus. Andrew was the one who told Jesus about the little boy who had the loaves of bread and the fish, the beginning of a meal that fed more than five thousand people. It was Andrew and Philip whom the Greeks approached when they wanted to see Jesus. These events indicate that Andrew was a man who was easy to approach, a man you could trust.

Like the other apostles, Andrew became a missionary. He preached about Jesus in the area around the Black Sea. Tradition tells us he preached in northern Greece, Turkey, and Scythia (now the southern part of Russia).

Andrew died as a martyr. Tradition says that in Patras in Greece he was tied to a cross shaped like the letter X. Ever since then, a cross in the shape of an X has been called St. Andrew's cross.

The name "Andrew" is a Greek name meaning "courageous" or "manly." St. Andrew lived up to his name.

St. Andrew, pray that we live up to the name "Christian"!

Saint Francis Xavier, Feast Day December 3.

Francis Xavier had planned to devote himself to the intellectual life, but at a strategic moment he surrendered to God, who had long and patiently pursued him. That surrender changed the course of his life—and the course of history as well. Even Ignatius of Loyola, the leader of the new Jesuit community, had planned to deploy Francis as a scholar. But India beckoned, and Ignatius reluctantly sent Francis to preach the gospel there. Thus, the man who had planned on a leisurely intellectual life became a missionary apostle, perhaps second only to St. Paul.

In 1525, Francis left Xavier, his mother's castle near Pamplona in Navarre, to study at the University of Paris. He enrolled at the College of St. Barbara, where he pursued an unwaveringly successful academic career. Within three short years he had earned his degree and was lecturing in philosophy. At St. Barbara, circumstances put Xavier's spiritual career on course. Through his roommate, St. Peter Faber, Francis became a friend of Ignatius of Loyola. This relationship gradually revolutionized his life.

Ignatius had experienced a radical conversion to Christ and had devoted his life to helping others in their spiritual quests. He challenged his friends to yield their lives to Christ, abandon their own plans, and follow the Lord's design for their lives. Although Francis felt drawn to Ignatius's ideals, he was reluctant to make them his own. He resisted Ignatius's magnetic influence for six years because it threatened the comfortable life he wanted as a church-supported scholar.

In a small village, crowds besieged Francis, begging him to pray for ailing family members. Missionary and teaching duties overwhelmed him, so he enlisted some enthusiastic children to minister to the sick. He sent the children to the homes of the ill and had them gather the family and neighbors. He trained them to proclaim the creed and to assure the sick that if they believed, they would be cured. Thus, Xavier not only responded to requests for prayer, but he managed to spread Christian doctrine throughout the village. Because the sick and their families had faith, he said, "God has shown great mercy to them, healing them in both body and soul." The children of the village had become little miracle workers.

In his passion for spreading the gospel, in his simple obedience, in his humble disregard for himself, the saint was a near perfect imitation of Christ.

Saint Nicholas. Feast Day December 6.

Children all over the world know him and love him. In Germany, he's Kriss Kringle. In France, he's Pere Noel. British children call him Father Christmas. Of course, you know him as Santa Claus.

He's got another name, you know. It's an ancient one that goes back hundreds of years. It's one of the very first names people called him: St. Nicholas.

Hundreds of years ago, Nicholas lived in a seaside town named Myra, which is in the country we now call Turkey. Ever since he was a small child, Nicholas loved God more than anything. He studied hard, prayed often, and followed Jesus by helping the poor.

The people of Myra loved Nicholas so much that when their old bishop died, they immediately elected Nicholas to replace him. He served them well for a long time.

Nicholas was loved for one reason. He loved. He loved God and God's people so much that he would do anything for them.

Stories about St. Nicholas spread from his home in Turkey up to Russia, where he is still a very popular saint. Through the centuries, people passed on stories of him across the most northern parts of Europe, then to Germany, France, and England, and finally to the United States. The children in every country gave St. Nicholas a name in their own language, and ours is Santa Claus.

Christmas is a fun, exciting time, isn't it? It's fun because of all the time we get to spend with our families. It's fun because we do a lot of celebrating. It's fun because we get to think, sing, and pray about Jesus, who was born into the world to save us.

Christmas is also fun because we get to give. We can show our family and friends how much we love them by giving them special gifts that we make or buy.

We give because we're thankful. We're thankful for friendship and love and for all the people who take care of us. We're thankful to God for giving us life.

St. Nicholas was thankful too, and that's why at Christmastime we try to be just like him. He was so grateful for the life God had given him that he just couldn't stop giving joy and hope to others—no matter how far he had to travel or how many roofs he had to climb!

MINISTRY CHRISTMAS MESSAGES!

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:13



The St. Zita Group wishes you and your family health, joy and peace





THE PRAYER CORNER

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



INTENTIONS FOR THE SICK

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

COMMUNION AT MASS

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

RECEIVING COMMUNION

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

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

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

A Prayer for Persons Suffering from the Coronavirus

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

A TIME TO BAPTIZE



A TIME TO WED



A TIME TO HEAL

Pat Anelli, Monina Avella, Joyce Bauman, Concetta Bellott, Barbara Bentz, Severina Bion,
Arlene Boja, Leo Brady, Victoria Burns, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Helen Chelis,
Lena Chromowski, Lucia Cocuzza, Phyllis Colosimo, Celine Correia, James Curry, Maureen D.,
Richard Delany, 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, Andy Lindgren, Angelina Lipski, Chenoa Lipski, Richie Lipski, Carmen Lombardi,
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, Debbie Staib, Davis Stewart,
Richard Tegnander, Stephanie Toth, Filomena Vairo, Anne Wallis, Elisa Warshall, Kay Winski,
Robin Wise, Mary Yobbi

A TIME TO DIE

Ormeise Aljeunice, John Apel, Madeline Colatrella, Lenore Maurillo,
Ophelia Pitchford, Rev. Alan Savitt,
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, November 29 First Sunday of Advent

5:00PM (SATURDAY)

Gaspar Bellitti and Josephine Menefee
~ *Bellitti Family*

7:30AM

Cynthia & Daniel Marianino
~ *Children & Grandchildren*

9:00AM

For the People of Saint James

10:30AM

Theresa Carpenter ~ *Judy, Joe & Family*

12:00PM

Kieran Cantlon ~ *Schmidt Family*

MONDAY, November 30 Saint Andrew

7:30AM

Matteo Apicella ~ *Wife, Children*

TUESDAY, December 1

7:30AM

Dolores Salle ~ *Gene & Nieves Salle*

WEDNESDAY, December 2

7:30AM

Giustina Triboli ~ *Anthony & Carmelina Reino*

THURSDAY, December 3 St. Francis Xavier

7:30AM

Gerald Ragonese ~ *Angela Ragonese*

FRIDAY, December 4

7:30AM

Matteo Apicella ~ *Wife & Children*

SATURDAY, December 5

8:00AM

Marianne Dunn ~ *Barbara & Al Daly*

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*

May They Rest in the Peace of Christ



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

Janice Bongiovanni ~ *Parish Staff*

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**.