



SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE

Roman Catholic Church

Master, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.

JOHN 6:68



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | AUGUST 25, 2024
www.saintjamesparish.org

YOU ARE Welcome Here

45 South Springfield Ave,
Springfield, NJ 07081
(973) 376-3044

Summer Office Hours:

(Closed 12-1PM for Lunch)

Mon-Tue 8:30AM-3PM

Wed 8:30AM-7PM

Thu 8:30AM-3PM

Fri CLOSED

Church Visiting Hours:

Mon-Fri: 8AM-2:30PM

Sat: 9AM-1PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday, August 31:

5:00PM - Fr. Paladino

Sunday, September 1:

8:00AM - Fr. Dennehy

10:00AM - Fr. Santos

12:00PM - Fr. Santos

DAILY MASS:

Mon-Fri: 7:30AM

Saturday: 8:30AM

U.S. Holidays: 8:30AM

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday at 4:00PM

or by Appointment;

Please call the Office.

DEVOTIONS:

Rosary & Novena:

Mondays at 6:30PM

in the Church and on
Facebook Live

Eucharistic Adoration:

Wednesday Holy Hour
at 7PM

Second Saturdays at 3PM

PASTOR'S COLUMN

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS



Our lives are filled with moments that present definitive forks in the road.

- Should I go to college or take that job at my uncle's shop?
- Should I pop the question with this romantic partner or continue to look for a spouse?
- Is it time to relocate with the company or would I be wise to stay put?
- Would Mom be better off in assisted living or moving in with us?
- Will surgery make my back problems go away or will I be worse off?

Of course, every hour of our lives is replete with decisions mostly made unconsciously. What distinguishes the rarer moments of decision is that we are aware of a certain finality in them. We recognize that we are at a turning point upon which the future will revolve. Once committed to "this" path, there is no turning back.

The life of faith has many such definitive moments. We mark them with sacraments: *Baptism, Confirmation, Matrimony, Holy Orders*. We renew that commitment in our every *Eucharist*, the celebration of *Confession/Reconciliation*, and the witness of courage in the *Anointing of the Sick*.

Yet the dichotomy remains....being "for" something means you're going to be "against" other things.

You see, being for Christ also means standing against many of the ways and values of our culture. As an old folk hymn says, "*The cross before me, the world behind me. No turning back, no turning back!*"

And that reality inevitably places us at a crossroads.

Because you can only straddle the fence for so long.

In our first reading, the Israelites, who have now been wandering in the desert for 40 years, are challenged to make a choice by Joshua, their leader. Now, one thing needs to be determined before the nation takes root in the Promised Land:

Who is their God?

Whom will they serve?

Do they want and intend to be the people of God?

It's no idle question; they stood poised on the brink of a new world, full of Canaanite gods and well-established cults that worked just fine.

- Should they bank on the God that had delivered them thus far, or would it be more practical to adopt the enticing and attractive gods of the Canaanites?

Remember that the nation before Joshua was composed of sons and daughters of those who had once stood before Moses and addressed a similar moment of decision when he said:

"I set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse.

Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live."

It may seem like a false dichotomy: Who would choose death and the curse that goes with it? But we who live in the modern culture of death, as Pope John Paul II termed it, are in no position to scoff at the question.

PASTOR'S COLUMN CONTINUED

Many people today choose the way of death, and most of us suffer under the curse that emanates from it. Our children inherit a world in which gross inequality, violence, poverty, abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia, irresponsible genetic research, environmental negligence, and war are all givens. The love of money and power has replaced the love and respect for life. And as every generation learns to its sorrow - there is a point where there is no turning back.

So, it may be the case with our faith-life. The path **we choose** to take has ramifications, for better or worse.

In our Gospel this weekend, Jesus turns to the 12 apostles and invites them to consider this moment of decision for themselves. Peter answers for the rest: *Where would we go, if we turned away from the source of life? We believe in you. The other way is darkness.*

Friends, the decisive question continues to be posed because each new generation has to address it.

- We can be baptized and still say **no**.
- We can receive our First Communion and have our faith ratified at Confirmation and **still turn our backs**.
- We can journey with Jesus as members of his church and **determine one day that we'll go no further**.
- We can be faithful churchgoers all our lives yet at the critical hour, when our testimony is called upon, we may **waffle and stammer and look away, making a lie of it all**.

Are you with me or do you want to leave? Jesus asks.

Saint Peter's answer remains the best, but we can only repeat it if we mean it.

Life is here. **Love** is here. **Challenge** is here. **The Cross** is here. **Forgiveness** is here...the choice is ours.



Fr. David C. Santos, Pastor

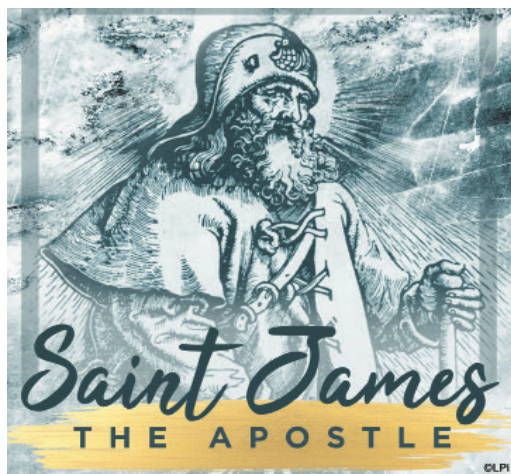
QUOTE OF THE WEEK

I am not afraid. I was born for this.

—Saint Joan of Arc

thank you, thank you, thank you!

About 500 non-perishable food items and ShopRite gift cards for Family Promise were collected.
Thank you for your continued support!



SUNDAY READINGS

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

"If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32

For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.

GOSPEL

John 6:60-69

And he said,
"For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father."

As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

Full Mass readings can be accessed at usccb.org

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

LAST CALL to be a PEER LEADER for the 2024-2025 Confirmation classes

If you are in high school and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. James or will be receiving it this coming October, you should have received an email with the information to apply to be a peer leader for this year's Confirmation preparation sessions.

If you received the Sacrament at another parish but are now a parishioner at St. James and are interested in being a peer leader, please apply using the QR code.



*Before applying, if selected, you **must** be able to commit to:

- A training session on August 29.
- Attending all 7 sessions or 14 (if you choose to volunteer for both groups) plus the parent and candidate meeting in September.
- Attend the Confirmation retreat and the Confirmation Mass in the Fall of 2025 (unless you will be away in college)

Once we receive your application, you will be called for an interview.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Ana.

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Family Faith 2024-2025 Registration was due July 31

Please use the QR code below to access the Registration form and fee payment.

Please know a \$50 late fee will be applied.

(The form is to register 1st to 8th graders –
One form per family)

New families to the program, please contact
Ana before registering.



If you have any questions or concerns,
please reach out to the Family Faith Formation Office.

We look forward to walking with you in this faith journey!

Below, please find the dates for this year's sessions:

Family Faith Formation ~ 2024-2025 Calendar

8:00am ~ 10:00am ~ 12:00pm Mass

Family Faith sessions begin in the School Gym immediately following each Mass

(Location is subject to change when the building is not ours)

New Family Orientation: Monday, September 16 @ 7:00pm - Church

First Holy Eucharist parents meeting: Monday, September 16 at 8:00pm - Church

Family Session Calendar

September 22, 2024 @ 3:00PM or 4:30PM in church (choose one) - Parents only

October 27, 2024

November 17, 2024

**December 6, 2024 (optional)

December 8, 2024

*January 6, 2025

February 23, 2025

March 23, 2025

April 27, 2025

**Friday, December 6 - 6:00pm Feast of Saint Nicholas Prayer Service

*Monday, January 6 - 6:00pm in the Church

7th GRADE SCHEDULE (Confirmation Year 1)

Tuesdays - 7:00-8:30PM at the Church

September 9 (Parent and child meeting)

October 8

****Sunday, November 17**

December 3

December 10

January 14

February 4

March 4

April 8

****Sunday, November 17 at 4PM to 6:30PM
Retreat at St. Bartholomew**

8th GRADE SCHEDULE (Confirmation Year 2)

Tuesdays - 7:00-8:30PM at the Church

September 10 (Parent and child meeting)

October 22

November 19

December 10

January 28

February 25

March 11

April 29

*Retreat in the Fall 2025 (Date TBA)

Last session in the Fall 2025 (Date TBA)

JOIN THE ST. JAMES CHOIR!

You are invited to join the music ministry at St. James the Apostle as we begin a new season in September under the direction of Mr. Philip La Gala.

Our choir provides music at the 5:00pm (monthly), 10:00am (twice month), and 12:00pm noon (monthly) Masses, from September through June. We also enhance liturgies during holy days and special masses.

Rehearsals take place every Thursday in the Church, beginning promptly at 7:00pm and typically last about an hour. All interested members (high school age and older) are welcome to join our community of song and no prior singing experience is necessary.

Please contact Philip La Gala with any questions at musicdirector@saintjamesparish.org, or feel free to speak with him after mass.

Our first rehearsal will take place on Thursday, September 12th at 7:00pm in the Church.



The Family Faith Formation Office is looking to hire a Part-Time Administrative Assistant.

For more information, please contact Ana Serra-Prescott



Ana Serra-Prescott | Family Faith Formation Office
(973) 376-2061 | aprescott@saintjamesparish.org

PARISH HOMECOMING WEEKEND



Saint James the Apostle Church

HOMECOMING WEEKEND PARISH PICNIC

Sunday, September 8
1:00 PM (after the noon mass) to 4:00 PM

We will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, mustard, ketchup, and a sweet treat (ice cream).

Please bring your own side dishes, desserts, tents, tables, and chairs.

There will be music and games for the kids!

There will also be a Butterfly Release in memorial and honor of our loved ones.



*Rain Date: September 22

Visit our website or scan
the QR code to RSVP.



Saint James the Apostle Church

Memorial and Honor Butterfly Release

A butterfly release will be held as part of our Homecoming Weekend Parish Picnic (Sept. 8). You can purchase a butterfly in memorial or honor of a loved one.



Submit this form to Joan Bratsch or Chris DeCicco after Masses or drop it off with payment at the rectory.

Cost: \$25 per butterfly or \$100 for five

Name

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Total Amount. \$

PARISH FESTIVAL 2024



Saint James the Apostle Church
45 South Springfield Ave, Springfield, NJ 07081

OCTOBER 15 - 19

Tuesday - Friday: 6pm - 10pm, Saturday: 2pm - 10pm

**GAMES * RIDES * FOOD * MUSIC * BEER TENT
TIN CAN BASKET AUCTION AND MUCH MORE FUN!**



Friday, October 18th
6:00pm - 10:00pm



Saturday, October 19th
6:00pm - 10:00pm

ST. JAMES TIN CAN AUCTION NEEDS YOUR CONTRIBUTION!

One of the major highlights of the annual Saint James the Apostle Parish Festival is the Tin Can Auction—and your help is needed to make this year's event even more successful than in the past! The Tin Can Auction is a tricky-tray-type event during which festival goers purchase raffle tickets for prizes donated by area residents and merchants. Saint James needs contributions of prizes—goods, services, event tickets and other items - to make its Tin Can Auction a success.

So, if you own a business or wish to donate goods, services, event tickets or other items, please contact Antoinette Miller through the Rectory office at **973-376-3044** or you can email tincanauction@saintjamesparish.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
6 Weeks this Fall

Come as you are.

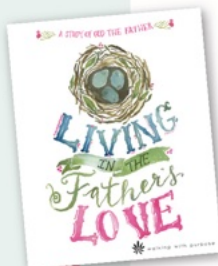
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Make authentic connections with other women
Refuel and refresh | Learn more about God

In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements, and possessions, wouldn't it be nice to find a place where you could just be valued for who you are? ***Living in the Father's Love*** will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all.

This brief but powerful Bible study is the ideal way to revive and refresh yourself. Discover just how much God loves us and how the gospels are deeply relevant to our relationship with God and with those we love.

Saint James the Apostle Parish Church



Monday Evenings
October 21 - November 25
7:30pm - 9:00pm

More information to come. Sign-up Weekend: September 14/15



walking with purpose

www.walkingwithpurpose.com

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

GRIEF SHARE

You Don't Have to Grieve Alone

**August 29th
10 AM - 12 PM**

Music, Scripture and discussion to support you on your grief journey.

Church of the Little Flower
290 Plainfield Avenue
Berkeley Heights, NJ
908.464.1585
Parish Center Upper Level
(Albergue Room)

"Who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

2 Corinthians 1:4

Facilitated by trained bereavement facilitators
RSVP requested, but not required, contact the parish offices or e-mail bereavement.lf@gmail.com



2024 Retreat Dates



September 20-22, 2024



For more details, please call Cheryl Riley,
Director of the Respect Life Office at
973.497.4350 or via email at
cheryl.riley@rcan.org

Hope... Healing... Forgiveness

OAK KNOLL SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD

We will host Lower School Information Tours beginning on **Monday, October 7.**

Hear directly from the Director of Lower School Admission, gain insights into our admission process, and tour our beautiful campus.

Visit our website at www.oakknoll.org or call the Admission Office at **908-522-8109.**

SACRAMENTS



BAPTISM

Please call the Rectory to schedule your child's Baptism: (973) 376-3044

RECONCILIATION

4:00PM on Saturdays or by appointment.

VOCATIONS

Thinking about the priesthood? Are you being called?

Reach out to Father Patrick Seo and the Office of Priestly Vocations for the Archdiocese of Newark!

Visit www.NewarkPriest.com,

email NewarkPriest@rcan.org, follow @NewarkPriest on social media, or call (973) 313-6190.

Do you know someone who...

Was never baptized, or was baptized in another Christian denomination, and has expressed interest in becoming Catholic? Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?

Saint James the Apostle Church offers an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for adults and for children/youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm, accepting setting.

*For more information, please call
(973) 376-2061*

ADULT SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION & RCIA

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.

MASS INTENTIONS, PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

Saint Bartholomew

5:00pm Daniel Raimondo
r/b Evelyn Raimondo-Kaiser and
Marianne Van Volkenburgh
Silvio David
r/b Patricia David

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Jim Genco
r/b Marylou Morano Kjelle
Thomas Botte
r/b Botte Family
10:00am Antony Lofredo
r/b JoAnn Lofredo
Pasquale and Giovanna Circelli
r/b Anthony and Carmelina Reino
12:00pm Grace Clementi
r/b Hyman Family
Ronnie Whitlow
r/b Kathy Rosenberger and Family

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

7:30am Francisco Mario Simeone
r/b Camille Mitarotonda

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

Saint Monica

7:30am Pat Morris
r/b Marilyn Stiglitz

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

Saint Augustine

7:30am Pat Morris
r/b Claire and Mark Bernstein

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

7:30am Jane Schmidt
r/b The People of Saint James

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

7:30am Leonido Salle
r/b Gene and Nieves Salle

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

8:30am Dorothy Wright
r/b The People of Saint James
5:00pm Michael Luciano
r/b Diane and David Woodruff
Carl Quick
r/b Michael and Theresa Quick

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Amelia Montana
r/b Janice Montana
Rose Yampaglia and
Antoinette Palma
r/b Dennis Giaimo
10:00am Giovanninia and Antonio Circelli
r/b Carmela Fusco
Giuseppe Graziosi
r/b Robert and Kelly Fusco
12:00pm Angelina and Carmelo Rivano
r/b Marion Rivano
Jane White
r/b Connie Garcia



SANCTUARY LAMP:
The People of Saint James

BREAD & WINE:
The People of Saint James

*To memorialize the Sanctuary Lamp by the Tabernacle
or the Bread and Wine, please call the Rectory Office.*

A TIME TO HEAL

Pat Anelli, Jackie Belitti, Anita C. Bentz, Barbara Bentz, Severina Bion, Deacon Jerome Bongiovanni, Victoria Burns, Gerry Campagnola, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Thara Chandran, Lena Chromowski, Phyllis Colosimo, Celine Correia, Marie Crosby, James Curry, Diane Deitz, Jean DePasquale, Carmela DeSarno, Robert Devon, Jr., Marguerite Duchantier, Victoria Egner, Luca Favia, Alfredo Fernandes, Berta Franco, Ann Graziano, Carole Griner, Steven Hensle, Laura Hughes, Eddie Jenna, Dana Kelley, Dexter Kennedy, Art Kistler, Irene Kurpieski, Camille LaTouche, Dina Ledogar, Maureen Le Goff, Lucille Lerner, Andy Lindgren, Angelina Lipski, Chenoa Lipski, Richie Lipski, Menotti Joseph Lombardi, Jr., Marian Lordi, Richard Lorenzo, Barbara Ludolph, Erica Luther, Toni Ann Marabello, Maria Martino Fender, John Mannarino, Angie Mazzarisi, Thomas McGarvey, Leonard McGinley, Stan Mickham, Richard Miele, Andres Montero, Timothy Morgan, Martin Muguerza, Ive Mureny, Christian Murphy, Cassidy Musson, Carol Muzacs, Michael Neer, Mary O'Connor, Rafaelina Oliviero, Anna P., Erin Pado, John Reiss, Ben Rumer, Anthony S., Richard Salort, Alice Serrao, Jack Silbert, Ray Slater, Stephanie Toth, Tracy Tuten, Anne Wallis, Elisa Warshall

Please Note: For privacy reasons and HIPAA regulations, names may only be added by members of the immediate family after they have received permission of the one who is sick. In the event of serious illness or hospitalization, the rectory should be notified. Visits to the sick and homebound are made by the priests, deacons and ministers of the Eucharist. It is not necessary for someone to be "gravely ill" to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

A TIME TO DIE

Sister Teresa Regina Confroy, Sister Mary Fallon,
Mario Garcia, Seymour Kahn, John Montana

A TIME OF WAR AND PEACE

Tim Arentz, Lance Corporal Kevin Bernor, Brian Braine, Sean Curran, Maj. Sean P. Eadie, Stacy Enyeart, David Fenton, Shane Fenton, Luis Fonseca, LCPL Christopher P. Garrigan, 2LT Christopher W. Impellizzeri, Capt. Brian Jacobs, LCPL Kyle Thomas Lynaugh, Stephen Patricco, Aric Patten, Phillip Patten, Aaron Pluto, 1LT John Rogacki, Capt. Stacia Rogacki, Capt. Stephen Rogacki, 2LT Raymond Williamson



DON'T MISS OUT!

We are back! Get ready to say cheese!

The photographer for our new church directory will attend the picnic on September 8th, 2024.

Family Photos & Directory Appointments:

- **Family Photos:** Bring your biggest smiles and gather your loved ones for a quick family photo session. These photos will be featured in the upcoming church directory.
- **Directory Appointments:** While you're there, could you schedule your individual or family portrait session for the directory? The photographer will be available to answer any questions and help you book your appointment.

Feel free to call Andres with any questions at **201-681-5004**

Don't miss this chance to capture precious memories and join our church directory! See you at the picnic!

Spread the word! Share this announcement with your fellow church members and encourage them to participate!



flocknote

As part of our effort to communicate more effectively with you, we have launched an e-newsletter through a platform called Flocknote. The newsletter will contain parish news, event updates, and much more. Here's how you can sign up: **Text NEWSLETTER to 84576 OR Sign up on the website: saintjamestheapostle.flocknote.com**

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

Collection Totals

Weekend of August 17 & 18

Regular Collection:	\$	5,220.00
Online Giving:	\$	4,295.00
Total:	\$	9,515.00

We 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.



ONLINE GIVING

To sign up for Online Giving, please visit saintjamesparish.org or scan the QR code with your smartphone.

Thank you for your generosity!

FRAUD ALERT: Please be aware that emails are being sent out by scammers claiming to be members of the Saint James parish community, including Fr. David Santos. Please disregard any emails from anyone claiming to be associated with Saint James, including Fr. David Santos, with solicitation to purchase gift cards or offer any other cash donations. In any event, please feel free to call the parish rectory to confirm any and all solicitation before contributing. We have contacted the local authorities to make them aware.



FINANCE

Parish Finance Council

FINANCE COUNCIL CORNER

Did you know?...

The Parish has a **Building Maintenance Fund**. Donations to this fund support the parish's ability to address maintenance needs around the campus. You can make donations anytime to the Building Maintenance Fund but look for the second collection the weekend of August 24/25.

2024 Annual Appeal Update

The Finance Council is pleased to report that the Parish's archdiocese assessment rate is being reduced by 2% for the fiscal year 2025, as a result of the parish achieving our 2024 Annual Appeal Stretch Goal in funds collected by June 30th. Thank You again for your gifts to the Annual Appeal.

Remember...

Give, and it will be given to you.
Luke 6:38



ST. JAMES BOUTIQUE

Be sure to visit the online boutique for Saint James the Apostle Parish commemorative apparel and items. We have hoodies, quarter-zips, polos, and more!

Scan the QR code to check out all of our merchandise!



OUR PARISH IS SERVED BY:

PASTOR

Father David C. Santos
frsantos@saintjamesparish.org

PERMANENT DEACON

Deacon Jerry Bongiovanni
Please call the rectory to reach Dcn. Jerry

PERMANENT DEACON

Deacon Hugh A. Keffer
hkeffer@saintjamesparish.org

PERMANENT DEACON

Deacon Michael DeRoberts
deaconderoberts@saintjamesparish.org

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Father John Dennehy

PARISH COUNCIL

pastoralcouncil@saintjamesparish.org

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Mrs. Ana Serra-Prescott
aprescott@saintjamesparish.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Ms. Nancy Caputo
ncaputo@saintjamesparish.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Mr. Philip La Gala
musicdirector@saintjamesparish.org

OFFICE MANAGER

Mrs. Colleen Tyra
ctyra@saintjamesparish.org

BOOKKEEPER

Mrs. Katie Hyman
businessoffice@saintjamesparish.org

PARISH TRUSTEES

Mrs. Janet Petino and Mr. John Pflug