



SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE

Roman Catholic Church

LET THE LORD ENTER;
HE IS THE KING OF

glory

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 18, 2022

45 South Springfield Ave, Springfield, NJ 07081 | (973) 376-3044 | www.saintjamesparish.org

YOU ARE Welcome Here

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

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 8:30AM-3PM
(Closed 12-1PM for Lunch)

Church Visiting Hours:

Mon-Fri: 8AM-2:30PM
Sat: 9AM-1PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday, December 24:

4:00PM - Fr. Santos
6:00PM - Fr. Santos
12:00AM - Fr. Dennehy

Sunday, December 25:

8:00AM - Fr. Dennehy
10:00AM - Fr. Santos
12:00PM - Fr. Dennehy

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 7:00PM in the
Church and on Facebook
Live

Eucharistic Adoration:
Wednesdays at 7PM
Second Saturdays at 3PM

PASTOR'S COLUMN



REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

In our gospel this Sunday we get a preview of the Christmas Story with the angel's announcement to Joseph, Jesus' foster father. The gospel echoes the prophecy of Isaiah: "*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him **EMMANUEL**, which means '**GOD IS WITH US**.'*"

GOD IS WITH US, so we hear. However, there are many of us who are tempted to question and even doubt this.

Every family who's ever prayed for God to cure a child or reverse a famine knows that the odds are slender for a miraculous intervention. Much of the time our prayers seem to be met with that same wall of silence that can be mistaken for divine indifference, if not absence or even nonexistence. The silence of God is necessary to preserve human freedom, theologians will insist. This answer may be intellectually satisfying. But on the personal level, in the hour of human need, it can feel downright cruel. Some of us might sacrifice a bit of precious freedom just to have the assurance that God's hand will save us from the consequences of mortal—and moral—frailty.

At Christmas we are renewed with the magic and majesty of the Christmas Story, a story in which God speaks being and goodness into the world. Yet, we're also reminded shortly after the birth of Christ is recounted how humanity chooses evil and destruction.

God speaks the divine Word himself into time, and people determine at once to kill him. God speaks through prophets who are likewise ignored, persecuted, and eliminated.

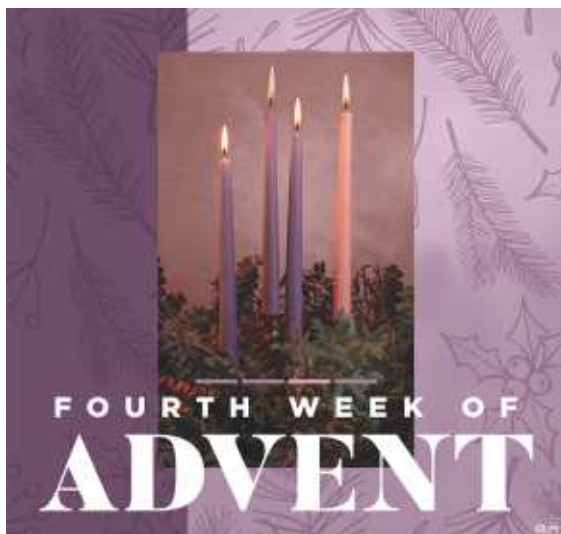
Friends, if it seems to us that God is too silent, too distant, perhaps we might also consider that God's definitive speech and presence rarely finds a hearing and a home in us.

We have another chance, this Sunday, to receive the Word of God into our hearts. We have a chance to receive the very life of God into our hands in the Eucharist. In just a few days, **we celebrate the absolute gift of God into our midst, into our human reality with all its evil and suffering and limitation and frailty.** God comes obscurely into the world, in poverty and irrelevance as a child of an unloved race.

If we wonder where God is and why God doesn't speak, maybe we are looking in the wrong places or listening for the wrong voice.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights. —Maya Angelou



SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

Responsorial: Psalm 24

Let the Lord enter; He is the King of glory.

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name . . .

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 1:23

The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

Visit www.usccb.org to access Mass readings online.

PASTOR'S COLUMN (cont.)

NEWS & UPDATES

Our Lady of Lourdes, Mountainside, New Weekday Mass Time Father Jeivi Hercules, pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Mountainside, has asked me to share with you an update to the O.L. of Lourdes weekday Mass schedule. Starting immediately, the new time for the Monday-Saturday weekday Mass is 8:30AM.

I am happy that Fr. Jeivi has adjusted the weekday Mass time since this new Mass time will make it easier for he and I to assist one another with Mass coverage during the week.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Saint James Parish Staff Update

We are pleased to welcome Katie Hyman to the parish staff as our new bookkeeper. Please note her new email address for all business and financial correspondence: BusinessOffice@SaintJamesParish.org



Katie Hyman lives in Winfield Park, with her husband, James, two children, Ben (10) and Jack (8) along with their family dog, Lucy and hamster, Lil Momma. Her first job in high school was in the rectory of her former parish, St. Mary of the Assumption in Elizabeth. At St. Mary's, she was an active member in her parish. She was a 2nd grade CCD teacher, altar server, sacristan and worked in the food pantry and soup kitchen. She graduated from Kean University with a BS in Management Science in 2001. She has over 25 years experience in the accounting field. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family, playing Roblox and other games with her kids and husband, doing crafts with her Cricut machine, and watching Hallmark & GAC Family movies. She is happy to have joined our team here at St. James and appreciates the warm welcome she has received. She is looking forward to meeting all of you!

Welcome Katie!

Simbang Gabi Wednesday, December 21st at 8:00PM at Saint James Church

In anticipation of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ & in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Filipino Apostolate of Union County, NJ is hosting the celebration of 'SIMBANG GABI' in 9 parishes from December 15 to 23, 2022. Please pick up a schedule of these Masses in the gathering area.

CHRISTMAS AT SAINT JAMES



CHRISTMAS EVE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

4:00PM
6:00PM
12:00 Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

8:00AM
10:00AM
12:00PM

*O Come, Let us
Adore Him,
Christ the Lord!*

Advent Memorials

**The Advent Wreath is displayed
in Loving Memory of:**

Angela & Daniel Raimondo
*r/b Evelyn Raimondo-Kaiser and
Marianne Van Volkenburgh*

**The Advent Candles will burn
in Loving Memory of:**

Bollmeyer, Bava, Belnavis & Genco Families
r/b Family

Mr. & Mrs. B. LoMacchio
and Mr. & Mrs. J. Carney
r/b Patty & John Carney

Gene Melleno
r/b wife, Robin

Barbara Germinder
r/b daughter, Robin

**Advent "Little Blue Books"
in Loving Memory of:**

John D. Pflug, III and Garrett Gurrieri
r/b Family



WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 2022

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Saturday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/
Lk 1:67-79

Next Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti
2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/
Lk 2:15-20 Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn
1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 18, 2022

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

Wednesday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Friday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

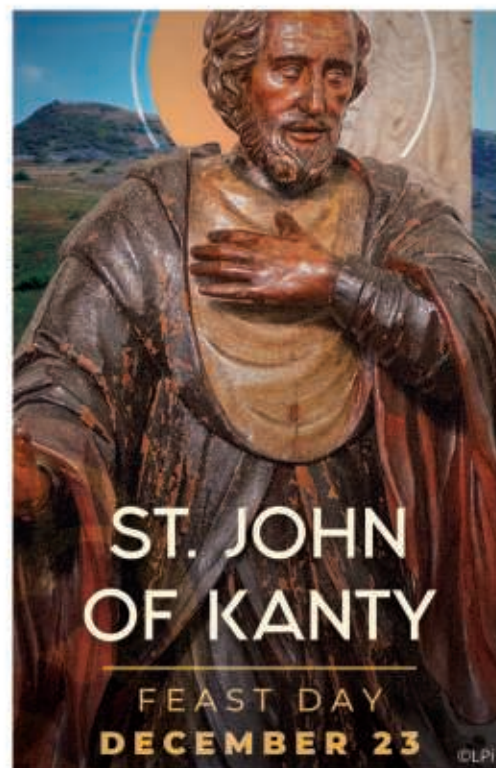
Saturday: Christmas Eve

Next Sunday: The Nativity of the Lord

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

"God is with us." This is the one constant in the unpredictability of life. The particulars of our lives can change, not only instantly but dramatically. People experiencing a time of peace can easily find themselves at war. Times of prosperity can rapidly become times of want. Our vision for the future can be destroyed, and our securities placed in jeopardy. These final days of Advent allow us to make final preparations. The true safety and security we seek can only come from God. The rest, harmony, and peacefulness we desire are found in God alone. How do we know this to be true? God Himself gave us a sign: Emmanuel, God with us. Do not be afraid, and do not be unbelieving. Hold fast to what God has done in giving us His only begotten Son. We do not have to anxiously attempt to control life's unpredictability. All we need to do is make sure that our hearts are in the proper place and seeking the right things!



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint John, sometimes called John Cantius, was born in the Polish town of Kanty in 1390. Not much is recorded about his early life, however, he was a bright young man who did well in his studies at the university in Krakow. He earned his doctorate in philosophy and went on to be ordained and earn a doctorate in theology as well.

He began teaching at the university immediately following the conferring of his doctorate in philosophy. Unfortunately, his popularity worked against him, and he was dismissed from his post on false charges. Saint John was reassigned to a post as a parish priest in the town of Olkusz, Bohemia. His parishioners did not receive him with open arms, and he was unsettled in his new position. But John did not give up, his honest care for the people of his parish eventually endeared him to them.

After a time, he was invited back to the university and he returned to teaching, filling leadership roles in the philosophy and theological areas until the end of his long life. Saint John deeply cared for the poor, giving everything but only what he needed to survive away. He lived an aesthetic life but was such an engaging man that he often dined with nobility.

Saint John of Kanty died on December 24, 1473. He was canonized in 1767, by Pope Clement XIII. In 1998, a new religious community chose the saint for their patron and the Canons Regular of Saint John Cantius, was formed in Chicago, Illinois.



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



4th Sunday of Advent • Matthew 1:18-24



GOSPEL

God brought Jesus into the world as a tiny baby. Jesus was God's Son. He was so powerful that he could have gotten anything he wanted. But Jesus did not come to earth to be a rich, selfish ruler. He did not need a palace or fancy clothes. Jesus came to show you that God is with you all the time. He was born to be the king over your life. He gave up his own life to rescue you from your sins, so that you could be close to God forever.



PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to rescue me.

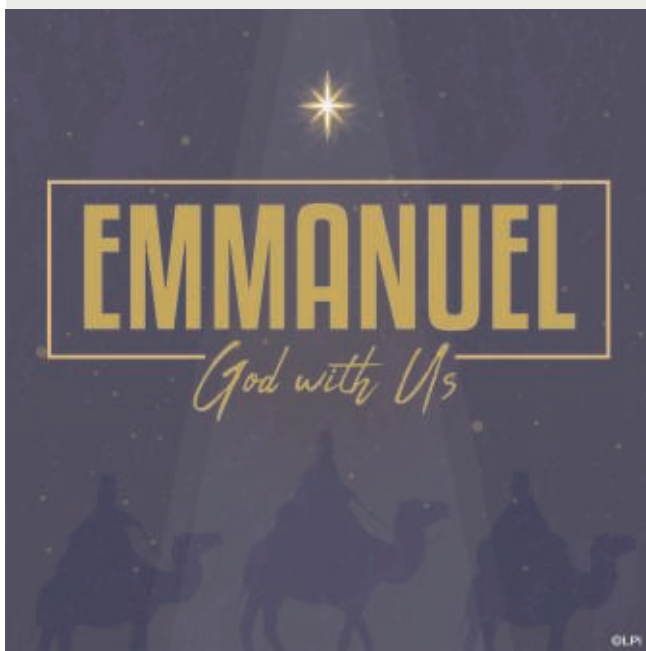


OFFICE PHONE: (973) 376-2061

As we enter into the last week of Advent, we light the final candle, the "Angel's Candle," which symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men." We hope your Advent was not only a time for the physical preparations of Christmas but included time for your own spiritual preparation time as well.

Today we welcome our Family Faith families where the children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Eucharist will receive a special sacramental enrollment blessing. We also thank Steven Serafin, Pastoral Associate at Saint Bartholomew's Church for coming to speak to our parents. We are grateful to you Steven!

A reminder that this Tuesday evening 8th graders attend class.



SACRAMENTS



BAPTISM

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

RECONCILIATION

4:00PM on Saturdays or by appointment.

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.

VOCATIONS

Thinking Priesthood? Are you being called? Visit the Archdiocese of Newark Office of Priestly Vocations.

Call: 973-313-6190. Email: info@newarkpriest.com.

Social media: @NewarkPriest. Web: newarkpriest.com

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 contact the Religious Education Office at (973) 376-2061.

MASS INTENTIONS, PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

5:00PM **Tillie Catenacci**
r/b Granddaughters
Toni Irwin
r/b Maria Chavarriaga

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00AM **Eleanor McCusker**
r/b Family
Ronnie Fusco
r/b Carmela Fusco
10:00AM **Anita Giaimo**
r/b Ryan Family
Michael Salimbene & Sr. Irene Salimbene
r/b Family
12:00PM **Anthony, Ann, Vincent & Carmela**
r/b Ann & Family

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:30AM **George & Agnes Ondish**
r/b George & Arlene Ondish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:30AM **Gabriella Stopper**
r/b Keffer Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:30AM **Anthony Lofredo**
r/b Mary Ellen & Gary Capron

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:30AM **Holy Phair**
req. by Debbie LaSalle

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

St. John of Kanty
7:30AM **Nicalene Weismantel**
r/b Mary Ellen & Gary Capron

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:30AM **Caesar & Edward Rivano**
r/b Marion Rivano
4:00PM **For the People of Saint James**
6:00PM **For the People of Saint James**
12:00AM **For the People of Saint James**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:00AM **For the People of Saint James**
10:00AM **For the People of Saint James**
12:00PM **For the People of Saint James**

Lord, Hear Our Prayer.



SANCTUARY LAMP:

Albert Van Havere
r/b Cerreto Family

BREAD & WINE:

Nick D'Achille
r/b Children

To dedicate the Sanctuary Lamp, Bread & Wine, or Flowers by the Tabernacle to the memory of a loved one, please call the Rectory Office.

A TIME TO HEAL

Pat Anelli, Dolores Battiato, Jackie Belitti, Anita C. Bentz, Barbara Bentz, Severina Bion, Marie Boin, Victoria Burns, Gerry Campagnola, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Thara Chandran, Helen Chelis, Lena Chromowski, Phyllis Colosimo, Celine Correia, James Curry, Maureen D., Beverly DeMarzo, Carmela DeSarno, Robert Devon, Jr., Victoria Egner, Alfredo Fernandes, Berta Franco, Ann Graziano, Carole Griner, Steven Hensle, Joan Hobson, 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, Marian Lordi, Richard Lorenzo, Barbara Ludolph, Erica Luther, Toni Ann Marabello, Maria Martino Fender, Angie Mazzarisi, 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., John Reiss, Ben Rumer, Anthony S., Richard Salort, Alice Serrao, Jack Silbert, Ray Slater, Stephanie Toth, Tracy Tuten, Erin Wade, Anne Wallis, MaryEllen Warren, Elisa Warshall, Christopher Waryn, Peggy Wysock

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 home-bound 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 OF WAR AND PEACE

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



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

DO YOU LIVE IN UNION COUNTY AND NEED HELP WITH:

Housing Insecurity?
Rental Assistance?
Legal Representation?
Credit Counseling and more?

Please contact JOE CORREA immediately:
jcorrea@thewaterfrontproject.org

www.thewaterfrontproject.org

A nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting economically disadvantaged people – the working poor, seniors, veterans, and those living with disabilities – to address their civil legal issues and concerns.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

Collection Totals Weekend of December 11th

Collection totals not available at time of printing.

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?... Your gifts of time, talent and treasure show your love for Jesus. During this season of giving, what will your gift to St. James be?

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

Please consider supporting
Saint James through:



Saint James has partnered with Amazon Smile! Please remember that while you shop and consider using smile.amazon.com. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to our church. It's no additional cost to you! Choose Saint James the Apostle via this link: smile.amazon.com and start shopping or scan the QR code below with the camera on your mobile device. Thank you for your support!



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

TRANSITIONAL DEACON

Deacon Thiago Menezes Santos
deaconthiago@saintjamesparish.org

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Father John Dennehy

PARISH COUNCIL

pastoralcouncil@saintjamesparish.org

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

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