

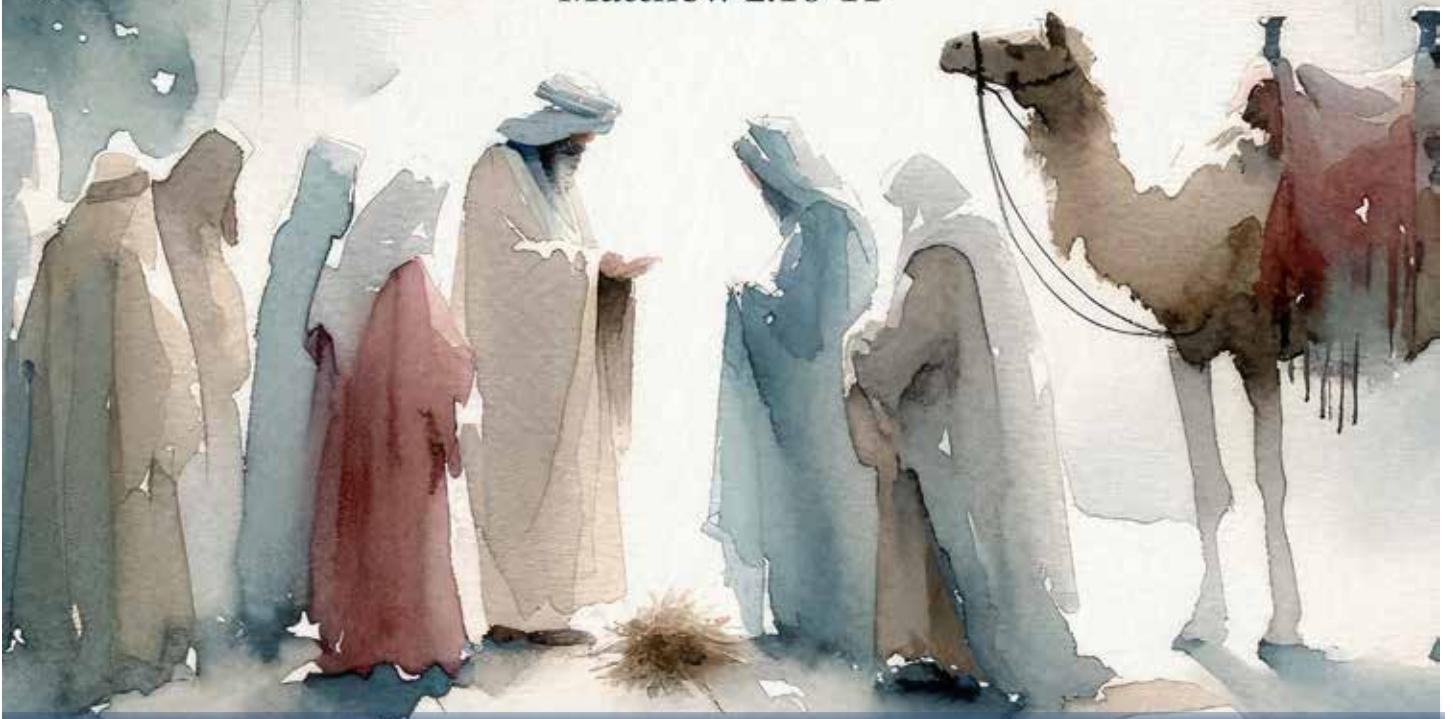


SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE

Roman Catholic Church

*They were overjoyed at seeing the star,
and on entering the house
they saw the child with Mary his mother.*

Matthew 2:10-11



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD | JANUARY 5, 2025

www.saintjamesparish.org

YOU ARE Welcome Here

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

Office Hours:

(Closed 12PM-1PM for Lunch)

Mon-Tue 8:30AM-3PM

Wed 8:30AM-7PM

Thu-Fri 8:30AM-3PM

Church Visiting Hours:

Mon-Fri: 8AM-2:30PM

Sat: 9AM-1PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday, January 11:

5:00PM - Fr. Santos

Sunday, January 12:

8:00AM - Fr. Paladino

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 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



Today's Feast of the Epiphany tells two stories. The **first** story is about the world with an all-too-common theme: a power-hungry, politically ambitious ruler who was motivated by greed and the maintenance of rule. The **second** story is one of faith and the search for truth. **And I think that these are two stories that we can all relate to.**

It's not hard to see that Herod was someone who was overly preoccupied with the things of this world. He was concerned with how best to leave his mark and maintain his power; he was pensive with how history was going to remember him. The Magi, on the other hand, **look to the sky beyond their immediate world – beyond themselves - in search of truth.**

We can say that they follow this inner impulse of a God that led them on an incredible adventure.

I think that it's obvious that the Church wishes us to associate ourselves with these Magi, in the hopes of being led by that same inner impulse leading to the Christ child in a manger. But maybe there's a part of us that can relate to Herod and his preoccupation with the things of the world, things that can make our journey towards God less of a priority. Therefore, a good and sober question to ask ourselves on this feast is: **What is it that's keeping us from progressing on our journey of faith?**

Friends, in the life of every person - especially the Christian - there's this interior "star," if you will, which **calls** us and **leads** us to Christ. But the trick is we must **LOOK UP** and recognize its presence!

The "star" of our faith is always in the night sky of our lives.

May you and I acknowledge its presence by **looking up**, by **walking humbly** like the Magi, with **faith**, even in the midst of uncertainty and doubt. **May the Star of Faith always burn brightly in the night sky of your life.**



Fr. David C. Santos, Pastor

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Ignorant men raise questions that wise men answered a thousand years ago. — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe





FAMILY FAITH FORMATION 2024-2025



Happy Feast of the Epiphany!!!

SUNDAY READINGS

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 72

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

Full Mass readings can be accessed at usccb.org

Our next Family Faith session is **this Monday, January 6th at 6PM.**

The session will take place **in the church**, where we will gather all together to celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, also known as Three Kings Day.

We will have flyers with a **QR code** posted on the doors and the bulletin board near the bathrooms, please use those **to sign in**, as that is how we will take attendance for this session.

NEXT SESSIONS for Confirmation preparation groups:

Confirmation Year 1 Group –

On Tuesday, January 14 from 7PM to 8:30PM.

Confirmation Year 2 Group –

On Tuesday, January 28 from 7PM to 8:30PM.

(Don't forget to complete your reflections on The Chosen episodes assigned. They are due the day before the sessions mentioned above)

The calendar dates for both Sunday Family Faith and Confirmation preparation sessions can be found on the Family Faith Formation page of the parish website.



Steubenville Youth Conference 2025
July 18-20, 2025

As we did last summer, we are organizing a trip to the Steubenville Youth Conference at Franciscan University this summer.

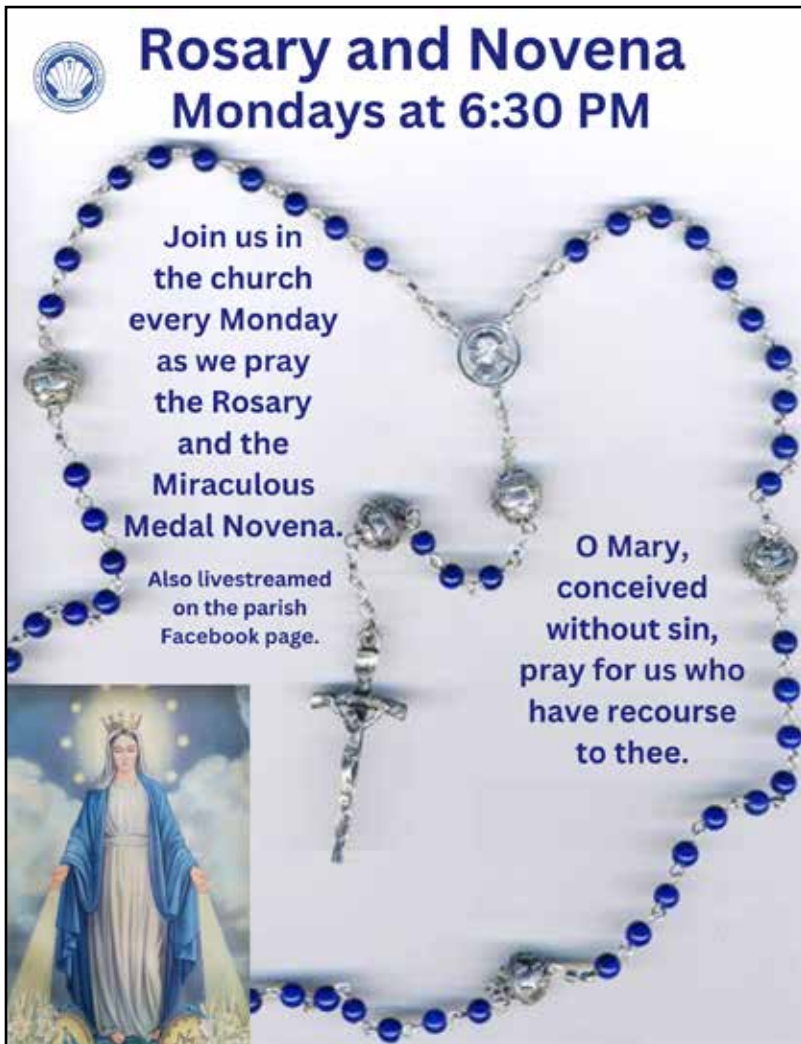
If you are in 8th grade or High School and are interested in attending this Summer's Youth Conference, please complete the interest form by using the QR code below.

Feel free to share it with your friends.

We will have a meeting with all the information but want to see how many young people would be interested so that we can start the preparations.



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



Rosary and Novena
Mondays at 6:30 PM

Join us in the church every Monday as we pray the Rosary and the Miraculous Medal Novena.

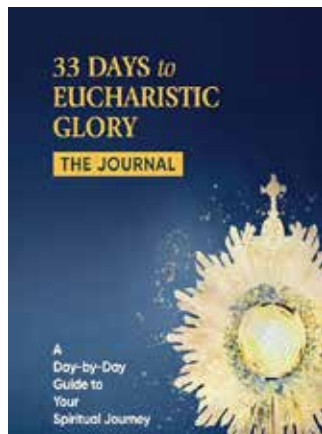
Also livestreamed on the parish Facebook page.

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

SAINT JAMES WELLNESS MINISTRY

The objective of the ministry is to promote a healthy parish community. Do you have an interest or expertise in any of the aspects of wellness? Do you have a passion in helping others rally around a healthy quality of life? Can you lead a parish group for jogging, exercise, yoga, meditation or rebalance health wellness?

If you have an interest or an idea to promote a healthy parish, please contact us at wellnessministry@saintjamesparish.org



If you received the parish book gift, '**33 Days to Eucharistic Glory**', join us as we consecrate ourselves to the Eucharist as a parish. The book contains short articles to be read daily for 33 days. We started **Day 1** on **January 1** and we are now on **Day 5**. It's not too late to join. You may go back to the previous articles if you have time. At all Masses on **February 2**, we will recite the Consecration Prayer as a parish.

Note: The free books were given after the Christmas Masses.

SAINT JAMES PRAYER-LINE MINISTRY

Members of this ministry pray for people who are ill, in the hospital, undergoing surgery, or have been in an accident, are grieving the loss of a loved one, or any "Special Intention" (Restored Health).

If you know someone in need of prayers, or if you would like to become a member of this ministry, please contact Maureen Bernor by e-mail:

PrayerLineMinistry@saintjamesparish.org

SAINT 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!



The men of the Parish are invited to gather for hospitality and discussion of the Sunday gospel readings.

This is a great opportunity for men to grow in their faith, meet new folks, and share their experiences of their faith journey.

The first meeting for 2025 will take place **Saturday, January 25 at 9am** (after the 8:30am Mass) in the upstairs conference room in the Rectory.

You are encouraged to attend the Mass, but it is not required.

If you are interested, please email John Prescott at MensMinistry@saintjamesparish.org

Christmas Memorials

**LARGE CHRISTMAS TREE IN NARTHEX
IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

The Swajkowski & Felegi Families
r/b Cynthia Swajkowski and Family

**CHRISTMAS TREES IN THE SANCTUARY
ARE DISPLAYED IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

***The Deceased Members of
the DelMauro Family***
r/b The Battaglia Family

Grandson, Michael P. Bongiovanni
r/b Deacon Jerry and Family

Nic Cacouris
r/b Wife, Joan Bratsch

Tony Graziano
r/b Anne Graziano and Family

Paul and Ann Marie Bentivegna
r/b The Bentivegna Family

**LARGE WREATH IN SANCTUARY
IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

Matthew Swajkowski
r/b Cynthia, Matthew, Ali, & Sloane

**WREATH OVER BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
(OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE)
IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

Marie & Ettore Vecchione
r/b Daughter, Jill

**MEDIUM WREATH OVER ST. JAMES
IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

Philip & Rose Ann Citro
r/b Daughters & Family

**LARGE WREATH OVER DOORS INSIDE
CHURCH IS DISPLAYED
IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

Irene Kareivis & Catherine McCluskey
r/b Kathy and Joe Kareivis

**LARGE WREATH OVER DOORS IN THE
NARTHEX IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING
MEMORY OF**

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

**WREATHS ON COLUMNS OUTSIDE THE
CHURCH ARE DISPLAYED
IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

Deceased Members of the Battaglia Family
r/b The Battaglia Family

Deceased Members of the Zara Family
r/b The Battaglia Family

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

Hanna Grasso
r/b Niece, Joan Bratsch & Family

Louis Stiglitz
r/b Marilyn Stiglitz, Wife

Susan Lang
r/b Marilyn Stiglitz, Mother

Mary Moessner
r/b Marilyn Stiglitz, Daughter

Lewis Moessner
r/b Marilyn Stiglitz, Daughter

Patricia Morris
r/b Marilyn Stiglitz

Mary Stawasz
r/b Marilyn Stiglitz

**CHRISTMAS CRÈCHE INSIDE THE CHURCH
IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

Raffaele & Sabino Battaglia
r/b The Battaglia Family

**CHRISTMAS CRÈCHE OUTSIDE THE
CHURCH IS DISPLAYED IN LOVING
MEMORY OF**

Pete Petino
r/b Family

Word Search Puzzle

Jesus - Bethlehem - Judea - Jerusalem - Worship - Herod

King - Scribes - Priests - Christ - Child - Star

G	G	Q	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M
N	Q	Q	R	S	T	A	R	H	F	T	X
Y	X	R	D	T	C	H	H	J	S	F	J
Q	R	I	B	Q	D	R	W	E	P	M	L
Q	Z	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	R	L	J
H	A	D	B	M	Y	Y	K	B	I	O	U
M	H	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M	D
V	P	B	P	N	C	N	K	S	S	S	E
V	W	L	L	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A
Q	P	H	M	A	I	M	N	V	S	V	T
C	X	N	Q	R	L	A	G	R	V	L	T
V	W	J	V	T	D	J	E	S	U	S	A



EPIPHANY REMINDS US THAT ALL CREATION IS MOVED BY GOD

The star that appears over Jesus' birthplace is a reminder that the created world is not random, but guided by God himself.

The Catholic Church affirms that the entire universe is not a product of chance, but a fruit of God's love for humanity.

The feast of Epiphany reminds us of this belief, as Pope Benedict XVI points out in his 2009 homily:

The divine and universal law of creation is divine love, incarnate in Christ. However, this should not be understood in a poetic but **in a real sense**. Moreover, this is what Dante himself meant when, in the sublime verse that concludes the *Paradiso* and the entire *Divina Commedia*, he describes God as "the Love that moves the sun and the other stars" (*Paradiso*, xxxiii, 145).

Benedict XVI firmly believed that the universe was not random, but guided by the hand of God:

This means that **the stars, planets and the whole universe are not governed by a blind force**, they do not obey the dynamics of matter alone. Therefore, it is not the cosmic elements that should be divinized. Indeed, on the contrary, within everything and at the same time above everything there is a personal will, the Spirit of God, who in Christ has revealed himself as Love (cf. Encyclical *Spe Salvi*, 5).

When the star hung over Jesus' birthplace, it highlighted the fact that all of creation "orbits" around God, and gives praise to him.

Epiphany is a beautiful feast in the Church's liturgical year, challenging us to see creation in a new light and how that light can lead us closer to God.

AROUND THE COMMUNITY

SEASONS is a non-denominational group of individuals who have lost a partner and are interested in discussing various ideas and topics which may be useful in one's life.

We welcome everyone to participate in our activities. Meetings take place monthly on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at the First Presbyterian Church
11 Springfield Ave. Cranford, NJ

Thursday, January 9, 7pm

Bob Laudati will lead a discussion on What are You Looking for in 2025.

Thursday, January 23, 7pm

Rico Micioni will talk to us about how we can Recycle Our Stuff effectively.

For more information, contact Bob Laudati at 908-322-7762 | rdlaudati@aol.com, or Lorraine at 908-418-8602.



“Every End Is A New Beginning”



These words are very hopeful and encouraging as we begin the New Year. For some who lack physical necessities and struggle with numerous problems on a daily basis, hope is a fleeting word. The many programs of Catholic Charities aim to restore hope and dignity. Please help us by contributing to the Donation Bin(s) in the parish. We need used clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, knickknacks, and children's books. Thank you and God Bless.

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 & OCIA

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) 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. Please call the Rectory for information concerning the OCIA process.

MASS INTENTIONS, PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

5:00pm **Maria Pellegrino**
r/b Connie Garcia and Family
John Montana
r/b Judy and Ron Ciuffreda

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

Epiphany of the Lord

8:00am **John Montana**
r/b Janice Montana
Ettore Vecchione
r/b Jill, Daughter
10:00am **John Pflug Sr.**
r/b Vicki Sarracino
Cosma and Salvatore DeNichilo
r/b Inneo Family
12:00pm **Angelina and Carmelo Rivano**
r/b Marion Rivano
Antonio Rojas
r/b Maryann Rienzo

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

7:30am **Alice Davies**
r/b Cocoa and John Catallo

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

7:30am **Ray Alberti**
r/b Wife

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

7:30am **Deceased Friends and Relatives
of the Brodeur Family**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

7:30am **Salvatore Zotti**
r/b Wife and Children

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

7:30am **Seymour "Sy" Kahn**
r/b Barbara Sorvino, MD

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

8:30am **John and Amelia Montana**
r/b Janice Montana
5:00pm **Carmela Romuldao Circelli**
r/b Carmela Fusco
Jim Genco
r/b Carmen Lombardi

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

Baptism of the Lord

8:00am **Mario Garcia**
r/b Family
Maria Santos
r/b Nancy and Nathan Mahoney-Rajs
10:00am **Maria DePinto**
r/b Inneo Family
James Genco
r/b Nancy Caputo
12:00pm **Caesar and Edward Rivano**
r/b Marion Rivano
Aderita Alvarado Solano
r/b Johnny and Monica Lopez



SANCTUARY LAMP:
For the People of Saint James

BREAD & WINE:
Jaime Macrino
r/b Egnatuk and Pecoraro Families

*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, Barbara Bentz, Severina Bion, Victoria Burns, Gerry Campagnola, Enid Cabot, Dolores Cardillo, Thara Chandran, Lena Chromowski, Phyllis Colosimo, Celine Correia, Joseph Covino, Marie Crosby, James Curry, Ronald D'Angelo, Diane Deitz, Jean DePasquale, Carmela DeSarno, Robert Devon, Jr., Marguerite Duchantier, Victoria Egner, Luca Favia, Alfredo Fernandes, Berta Franco, Ann Graziano, 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, Menotti Joseph Lombardi, Jr., Marian Lordi, Richard Lorenzo, Barbara Ludolph, Erica Luther, Toni Ann Marabello, Maria Martino Fender, John Mannarino, Angie Mazzarisi, Thomas McGarvey, Stan Mickham, Richard Miele, Andres Montero, Timothy Morgan, Martin Muguerza, Ive Mureny, Christian Murphy, Carol Muzacs, Michael Neer, Mary O'Connor, Anna P., Ben Rumer, Anthony S., Alice Serrao, Jack Silbert, Ray Slater, 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 OF WAR AND PEACE

Tim Arentz, Lance Corporal Kevin Bernor, Brian Braine, First Lt. Jonathan Canny, 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



*Lord,
Hear Our Prayer*

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



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 December 21 & 22

Regular Collection:	\$	6,836.00
Online Giving:	\$	4,595.00
Total:	\$	11,431.00

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

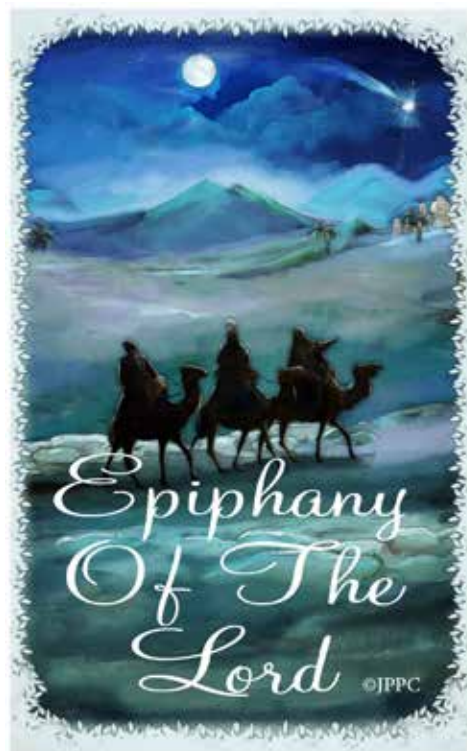
FINANCE COUNCIL CORNER

May the blessings of God be with our St. James parish community in the New Year.

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.
Luke 2:14

thank you

We are a
Tithing
Community
of God's
Faithful
Servants



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