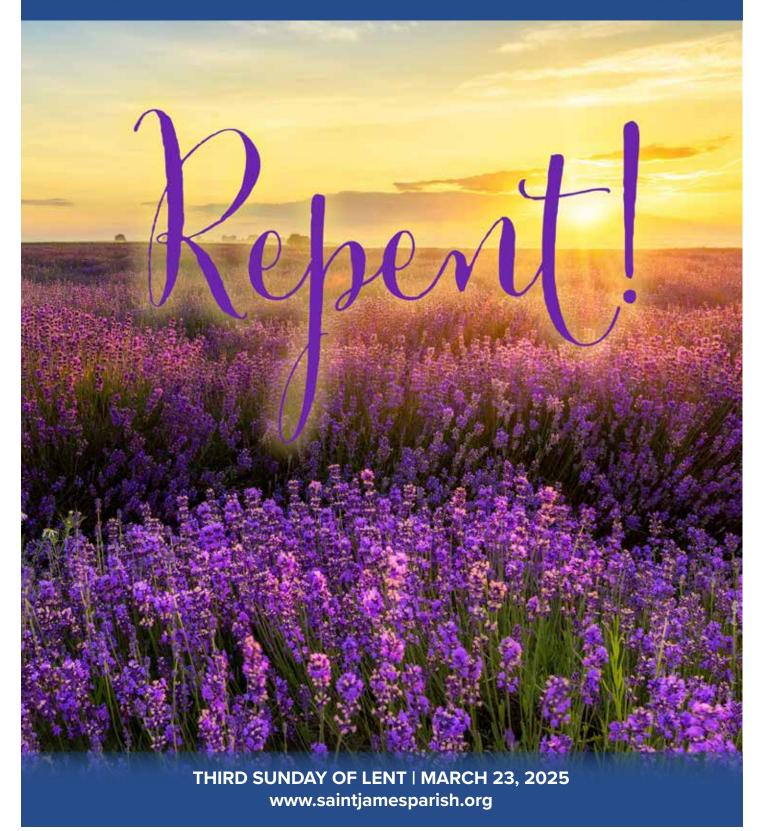


# SAINT JAMES THE APOSTLE Roman Catholic Church







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, March 29: 5:00PM - Fr. Paladino

Sunday, March 30: 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**



#### **NEWS and UPDATES**

#### Scrutiny Sundays and the Elect (Catechumens)

As we approach the day when our elect, **Gabriel** and Liam - two young people who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) – will receive the sacraments for the first time, we celebrate three Scrutiny Sundays (3rd, 4th, and

5th Sundays of Lent @ the 12pm Mass).

The scrutiny rites are centered on the elect, but they need to involve the wider community. Together we pray that God may help the elect discover their spiritual weaknesses and strengths, and heal their tendencies toward sin, may protect them from temptation, and may guide them toward all that is good. We pray that God may continue to do so for the rest of us as well as we all journey together on the mission Jesus left us.

#### **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS**

A terrible storm came into a town and local officials sent out an emergency warning that the riverbanks would soon overflow and flood the nearby homes. They ordered everyone in the town to evacuate immediately.

A faithful Christian man heard the warning and decided to stay, saying to himself, "I will trust God and if I am in danger, then God will send a divine miracle to save me." The neighbors came by his house and said to him, "We're leaving and there is room for you in our car, please come with us!" But the man declined. "I have faith that God will save me."

As the man stood on his porch watching the water rise, a man in a canoe paddled by and called to him, "Hurry and come into my canoe, the waters are rising quickly!" But the man again said, "No thanks, God will save me."

The floodwaters rose higher pouring water into his living room and the man had to retreat to the second floor. A police motorboat came by and saw him at the window. "We will come up and rescue you!" they shouted. But the man refused, waving them off saying, "Use your time to save someone else! I have faith that God will save me!"

The flood waters rose higher and higher, and the man had to climb up to his rooftop. A helicopter spotted him and dropped a rope ladder. A rescue officer came down the ladder and pleaded with the man, "Grab my hand and I will pull you up!" But the man STILL refused, folding his arms tightly to his body. "No thank you! God will save me!"

Shortly after, the house broke up and the floodwaters swept the man away and he drowned. In death, the man stood before God and asked, "I put all of my faith in You. Why didn't You come and save me?"

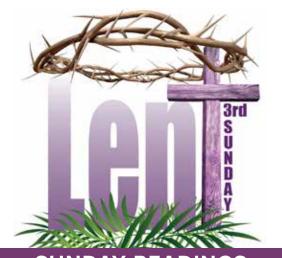
And God said, "Son, I sent you a **warning**. I sent you a **car**. I sent you a **canoe**. I sent you a **motorboat**. I sent you a **helicopter**. What more were you looking for?"

Friends, aren't we all able to apply this short story to our own lives? God does indeed provide so many opportunities for us to come to Him...but too often we prefer to wait.

Rev. David C. Santos, Pastor

#### **QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

If you tell me that you desire a fig, I answer that there must be time. Let it first blossom, then bear fruit, then ripen. —*Epictetus, Greek philosopher* 



#### **SUNDAY READINGS**

#### FIRST READING Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

God spoke further to Moses, "Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.

"This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations."

# RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 103

The Lord is kind and merciful.

#### SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

These things happened as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil things, as they did. Do not grumble as some of them did, and suffered death by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

#### GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9

"There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?' He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down."

Full Mass readings can be accessed at usccb.org

#### **FAMILY FAITH FORMATION 2024-2025**

#### This Sunday, March 23 is our Family Faith session.

It is so nice having everyone together at Mass and for our sessions!

# Family Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 11 at 6:30PM in the church

Any Family Faith families interested in leading (reading) one of the Stations at the Stations of the Cross on April 11, please use the QR code below to sign up or contact Mrs. Serra-Prescott if you have any questions or need more information.



What better way to spend a Friday evening of Lent but together, as a family of faith, prayerfully walking alongside Jesus to experience and meditate on the ways He showed us how much He loves us on that first Good Friday.

#### **NEXT SESSIONS** for Confirmation preparation groups:

**Confirmation Year 1 Group –** On <u>Tuesday, April 8</u> from 7PM to 8:30PM.

This will be our last session of this school year, but don't forget to complete all your other requirements by May 31 and submit your essay by June 9.

# **Confirmation Year 2 Group** – On <u>Tuesday, April 29</u> from 7PM to 8:30PM.

This will be our last session of this school year. A reminder that we have our meeting about Confirmation for parents and candidates on June 10 and all your requirements must be completed by no later than May 31. Your Works of Mercy reflection and your letter to the pastor is due April 22. (Please check your emails for details.)





Steubenville Youth Conference 2025 July 11-13, 2025

We are organizing a trip to the **Steubenville Youth Conference** at Franciscan University in
Steubenville, Ohio this summer for our teens
currently in 8th to 12th grades.



If you want to attend this Summer's Youth Conference, please use the QR code to register and reserve your spot.

#### To our parishioners,

We are raising funds to support our group of young teenagers who want to attend this summer's Steubenville Youth Conference.
Please prayerfully consider supporting our teens. Donations will go directly towards this trip.
If interested in donating, please use the QR code or contact Ana Serra-Prescott.



Thank you for your generosity and for your prayers for our teens!

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

#### "LIGHT ON LENT"

#### **FASTING**

At the beginning of his ministry in the Gospel of Matthew, we read, "When He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, He became hungry." Hunger is that state in which we realize our dependence on something else—when we face the ultimate question: "on what does my life depend?" Satan tempted both Adam and Christ, saying: Eat, for your hunger is proof that you depend entirely on food, that your life is in food. Adam believed and ate. Christ said, "Man does NOT live by bread alone." (Mt. 4:4; Lk. 4:4) This liberates us from total dependence on food, on matter, on the world.

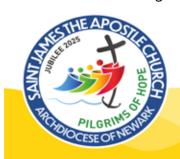
Thus, for the Christian, fasting is the only means by which man recovers his true spiritual nature. In order for fasting to be effective, then, the spirit must be a part of it. Christian fasting is not concerned with losing weight. It is a matter of prayer and the spirit. And because of that, because it is truly a place of the spirit, true fasting may well lead to temptation, and weakness and doubt and irritation. In other words, it will be a real fight between good and evil, and very likely we shall fail many times in these battles. But the very discovery of the Christian life as "fight" and "effort" is an essential aspect of fasting.

Author: Rev. Daniel Merz

https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/lent/catholic-reflection-on-lenten-fasting

#### **JUBILEE 2025**

Saint Helen's Church in Westfield has been chosen as a designated pilgrimage site for the Jubilee Year in Union County. Pilgrims are welcome to come here to pray, reflect, and deepen their relationship with God, preparing their hearts to celebrate this extraordinary Holy Year of grace and spiritual renewal. Please scan the QR code to visit the website and stay up-to-date on celebrations throughout the year. All are welcome!





# 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



# LENTEN REFLECTION

on the "Seven Last Words"

with

Fr. Luke Mary Fletcher, CFR, Chaplain of the Blue Army Shrine

> Monday, March 24, 2025 at 7 PM



The Adult Faith Formation Team Presents

# LUNCH AND LECTIO

Friday, April 4 at 11AM In the Narthex

Join us as we pray, meditate and reflect on Holy Scripture

Lunch Provided

PLEASE USE THE QR TO SIGN UP OR CALL THE RECTORY



## ST. JAMES LENTEN EVENTS & SCHEDULE



#### Lectio Divina Lenten Small Groups

Mondays, March 10 through April 7 School Gym, 7:00PM



#### Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Saturday, April 5 10:00AM - 12:00PM

Join us for breakfast with the Easter Bunny. We have games, crafts, and face painting.

#### Parish Family Day of Service

Saturday, April 12, 9:00AM - 12:00PM at the School Gymnasium

Individual Confessions in Church 10:00AM - 4:00PM



#### Lenten Reflection on the Seven Last Words

Monday, March 24 • 7:00FM with Fr. Luke Mary Flet Chaplain of the Blue Army Shrine

#### Individual Confessions

Wednesday, April 9 • 7:00PM

#### Lenten Holy Hour

Wednesdays • 7:00™ Except March 19, 26 & April 9

#### Stations of the Cross

Fridays + 6:30PM Except April 18

#### Holy Rosary & Novena

Mondays • 6:30PMo





# STATIONS CROSS

## **EVERY FRIDAY OF LENT**

6:30 PM

LED BY THE DEACONS AND PARISH MINISTRIES

#### WEEKLY MINISTRY LEADERS:

MARCH 7: Monday Rosary Group

MARCH 14 : Bereavement Ministry

MARCH 21: Saint James Lectors

MARCH 28: Adult Faith Formation &

Men's Ministry

APRIL 4: Saint James Choir APRIL 11: Family Faith Formation

MARCH 7 and APRIL 11:

MARCH 14: Sign up for the Pizza will be served in the Fish Fry and enjoy dinner Narthex after Stations. after Stations.

Every Friday, we will collect diapers and wipes as part of a parish Lenten almsgving activity. Please drop off donations in the Northex. The collection will support ABC Diaper Distribution in Summit.



Thank you Sofia, Kaylee, Madison, and Nicky from Momentum Dance Academy For sharing your St. Patrick Dance with us!

#### **MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!**





#### **SIGN UP NOW!**





"SHARING OUR HOPE"

## FAMILY MORNING OF SERVICE

APRIL 12 9AM-12 NOON School Gym



ACTIVITIES:

Make cards for veterans, active military. & seniors

Wrap cutlery for the Hoboken Shelter

Wrap Baptismal Blankets for newly baptized babies

Make care packages for Seminarians

Make table centerpieces for the Sisters of Christian Charity Make car medallions for parishioners Play Freerice for the UN World Food Program

Confessions will be available at the church on the same day, from 10 am to 4 pm

#### SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS



Help us to provide Easter "Baskets" filled with personal items and treats for the men of our Diocese preparing for the Priesthood, Baskets will be assembled at our Parish Day of Service.

#### TWO OPTIONS TO PARTICIPATE:

Use the QR code to make a purchase directly from the Amazon Gift Registry



Donate a \$10 Dunkin Donuts Gift Card Drop off at Rectory by April 4

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



## 4th ANNUAL CASINO NIGHT

# **SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025**

Saint James Hatcher Hall 41 South Springfield Ave., Springfield NJ

Doors open after the 5:00™ mass | Dinner at 6:00™ | Casino Play at 7:00™

## \$75.00 PER PERSON

Buffet catered by Sofia's Restaurant in Springfield

# DRESS IN YOUR BEST BLUE & GOLD ATTIRE

Cash Bar • Play Money • 50/50
Cigar Tent • Cork Pull

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT SAINT JAMES PARISH





There is only <u>ONE</u> Anniversary Liturgy this year honoring couples in our Archdiocese celebrating their 5th, 25th, or 50th wedding anniversary

This liturgy will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin on **Sunday, June 1st at 3 p.m.** at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

The presence of these couples and their families will be a beautiful witness to the strength and stability of Christian marriage in today's society.



Please use the QR code to register online or visit our website www.rcan.org/family-life.

Once we receive a registration form, the couple will be contacted by our office directly with important information regarding the liturgy and directions to the Cathedral Basilica.

Couples please register by May 10th.

#### AROUND THE COMMUNITY





#### March 5 through April 13, 2025

7:00 AM to 7:00 PM 396 Bloomfield Ave. Montclair, NJ 07042

in the public thoroughfare across the street from a highvolume abortion facility (Pilgrim Medical Center)

To sign-up on-line: 40DaysforLife.com/Montclair or contact Lisa Hart at: LisaHartPT@yahoo.com or by cell: 973-769-4422



#### MSGR. Francis X. Coyle Council Columbiette #5560 Springfield, NJ

#### STUDENT GOOD CITIZEN AWARD

The award is being offered to a High School Senior Catholic Girl by the New Jersey State Council of Columbiettes.

To be eligible for the award, the student should demonstrate leadership, service, dependability and patriotism at home, school and the community.

The application deadline is **April 15th**.

Please see your high school guidance counselor for an application.



#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



#### **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, MARCH 22** 

Seymour Kahn 5:00pm

> r/b Olympia Lau Ronald SanFillipo r/b Annette Cipolla

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23 Third Sunday of Lent** 

8:00am **Della Garrity** 

r/b Keith and Joanne Guarnuccio

**Romeo Pineda** 

r/b Randy, Rose, and Jules Landicho

10:00am **Edward Drummond** 

r/b Angela Ragonese

**Maria Santos** 

r/b JoAnn and Jack Kovalcik

**Caesar and Edward Rivano** 12:00pm

> r/b Marion Rivano **Antonio Soares** r/b Family

**MONDAY, MARCH 24** 

7:30am **Shane Redmond** 

r/b Marie and Philip Hunrath

**TUESDAY, MARCH 25** 

The Annunciation of the Lord 7:30am Silvio David r/b Patricia David

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

7:30am Richard Masterson

r/b Keith and Joanne Guarnuccio

**THURSDAY, MARCH 27 Nelson Martins** 7:30am

r/b Linda and Bob Donnelly

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

5:00pm

7:30am **Charles Deeney** r/b Yannazzone Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 29 8:30am Theresa Blasi r/b Donna

> **Ronnie Fusco** r/b Carmela Fusco

**Mary Lane** 

r/b Dr. and Mrs. Nicholas Santoriello

**SUNDAY, MARCH 30 Fourth Sunday of Lent** 

8:00am Nancy O'Rourke

r/b Colleen O'Rourke-Heredia

Angelina Apicella

r/b Rob and Sue Hagenbush

**Robert Hudak** 10:00am

r/b Elaine Dante D'Sole

r/b Vicki Sarracino and

Dominick Barone

12:00pm Maria Soledade Santos

r/b Hyman Family

**Rose and Orlando Cicalese** 

r/b Family



#### **SANCTUARY LAMP:**

Rocco Secco r/b Martinez Family

#### **BREAD & WINE:**

Rocco Secco r/b Martinez Family

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

#### A TIME TO HEAL

Pat Annelli, 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, M.D., Ronald D'Angelo, Diane Deitz, Jean DePasquale, Carmela DeSarno, Robert Devon, Jr., Marguerite Duchantier, Victoria Egner, Luca Favia, Alfredo Fernandes, Berta Franco, Steven Hensle, Laura Hughes, Ann Jacques, Eddie Jenna, Mary Keegan, 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



# FINANCE COUNCIL CORNER



Did you know?...

You may be able to double the impact of your contribution to the **Annual Appeal** with a corporate matching gift. Ask your employer if they will match your donation to the Annual Appeal. You can also visit the Archdiocese of Newark 2025 Annual Appeal site for more information on how to match your gift.

Thank you to all who have made their **2025 Annual Appeal** gift so far. We're halfway to our goal! Will you help St. James reach our parish goal with a gift to the 2025 Annual Appeal today?

Remember... Pledges made by <u>June 30th</u> that exceed the stretch goal will be eligible for a rebate. And, if we meet or exceed our stretch goal in funds collected by <u>June 30th</u> the parish will be eligible for a 2% assessment rate reduction. This is a potential savings for our parish.

The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.

- Proverbs 22:9



Keep up-to-date with parish news, event updates, and more!

Text NEWSLETTER to 84576 *OR* Sign up on the website: saintjamestheapostle.flocknote.com



#### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

# Collection Totals Weekend of March 15 & 16

 Regular Collection:
 \$ 6,550.00

 Online Giving:
 \$ 4,405.00

 Total:
 \$ 10,955.00

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.



## Safe Environment Corner How to Report Abuse

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Call the Coordinator for the Office of Accompaniment in the Archdiocesan Department for the Protection of the Faithful at

201-407-3256

#### **OUR PARISH IS SERVED BY:**

**PASTOR** 

Rev. David C. Santos frsantos@saintjamesparish.org

**PERMANENT DEACONS** 

Dcn. Jerry Bongiovanni

Dcn. Hugh Keffer

hkeffer@saintjamesparish.org

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Rev. John Dennehy

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE/LSEC

Ms. Nancy Caputo

ncaputo@saintiamesparish.org

**DIRECTOR OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION** 

Mrs. Ana Serra-Prescott

aprescott@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

**TRUSTEES** 

Mrs. Janet Petino and Mr. John Pflug

PARISH MINISTRY EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Parish Council: pastoralcouncil@saintjamesparish.org

Parish Life: parishlife@saintjamesparish.org Lectors: lectorministry@saintjamesparish.org

Eucharistic Ministers: emministry@saintjamesparish.org

Men's Ministry: MensMinistry@saintjamesparish.org

Prayer Line: prayerlineministry@saintjamesparish.org

Adult Faith: adultfaith@saintjamesparish.org

**Bereavement Ministry:** 

bereavement@saintjamesparish.org

**Helping the Hungry:** 

helpingthehungry@saintjamesparish.org

**Wellness Ministry:** 

wellnessministry@saintjamesparish.org