

State of THE Parish MID-YEAR UPDATE

- JUNE 2024 -



Message from **Father David Santos**

Dear Parishioners,

I am delighted to share with you the mid-year update for our beloved parish. The spirit of our community continues to flourish, and I am filled with gratitude for your partnership.

Many people have been commenting on how noticeably full and active the Masses and parish events have been. It is a great joy to welcome new families, greet returning parishioners, and engage with our loyal and long-time parish families. Wonderful things are happening here at St. James, and I feel blessed to work with you in building up the Kingdom of God here in Springfield, NJ!

As we approach the summer, I ask for your continued attention to the weekly bulletin for additional **News and Updates** regarding the Campus Redevelopment Project and other upcoming facility enhancements and parish programming.

I'd like to highlight **two** enhancements to our campus that will be taking place in the next few weeks. Members of the Finance Council have worked diligently to secure a series of federal, state, non-profit and private grants to fund various projects here at St. James.

We have been awarded the New Jersey Nonprofit Security Grant from the Department of Homeland Security. The purpose of this grant is to support security enhancements for houses of worship. In the next few weeks, **1)** a new black metal fence will be installed on the property line dividing the St. James property and the Florence M Gaudineer Middle School. The new fence will replace the old, dilapidated wood split rail fence. **2)** New enhanced LED light fixtures will be installed on the existing light posts in the parking lot and a new light post will be installed near the Catholic Charities clothing container.

A few months ago, we made important repairs to problematic areas of the church roof paid for by an Archdiocesan grant. This grant money will also enable us to do the following repairs and work to the church building:

- Repair and painting of the church narthex interior
- Repair and painting of the church worship space interior
- New sconce light fixtures for the exterior columns of the church

With our success in accessing grant money and your generous response to our appeals for giving (both to the regular weekend collection and the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal) we are making great headway towards solid financial footing while at the same time addressing longstanding physical infrastructure repairs.

Please know that your dedication to our parish's wellbeing and the Church's mission of spreading the Gospel continues to inspire me. Whether through volunteering, participating in liturgical ministries, or supporting our various initiatives, you all contribute to the vibrant life of our parish.

Thank you for being an integral part of our parish family. Let us continue to pray for one another, support each other, and grow together in faith.

May God bless you abundantly during the summer months.

Peace,


Fr. David C. Santos, Pastor



FINANCE
Parish Finance Council



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**POSITIVE STEPS TOWARDS IMPROVING
OUR FINANCIAL POSITION...**

STATUS REPORT FOR ST. JAMES

ANNUAL²⁰²⁴ APPEAL

AS OF 05/19/2024 183 DONORS PLEDGED

\$75,384

RECEIVED: \$64,004 GOAL: \$58,169



AVERAGE WEEKLY COLLECTIONS:

CURRENT YEAR - \$10,235*

LAST YEAR - \$9,738

**thru 9 months*

5.1%

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS:

CURRENT YEAR - \$67,119

LAST YEAR - \$63,316

6.0%

EASTER COLLECTIONS:

CURRENT YEAR - \$44,304

LAST YEAR - \$41,999

5.5%

ONLINE GIVING THROUGH ParishSOFT

Use our Online Giving option to help St. James.
Visit our website to set up your account for
automatic offerings donations.



SCAN ME