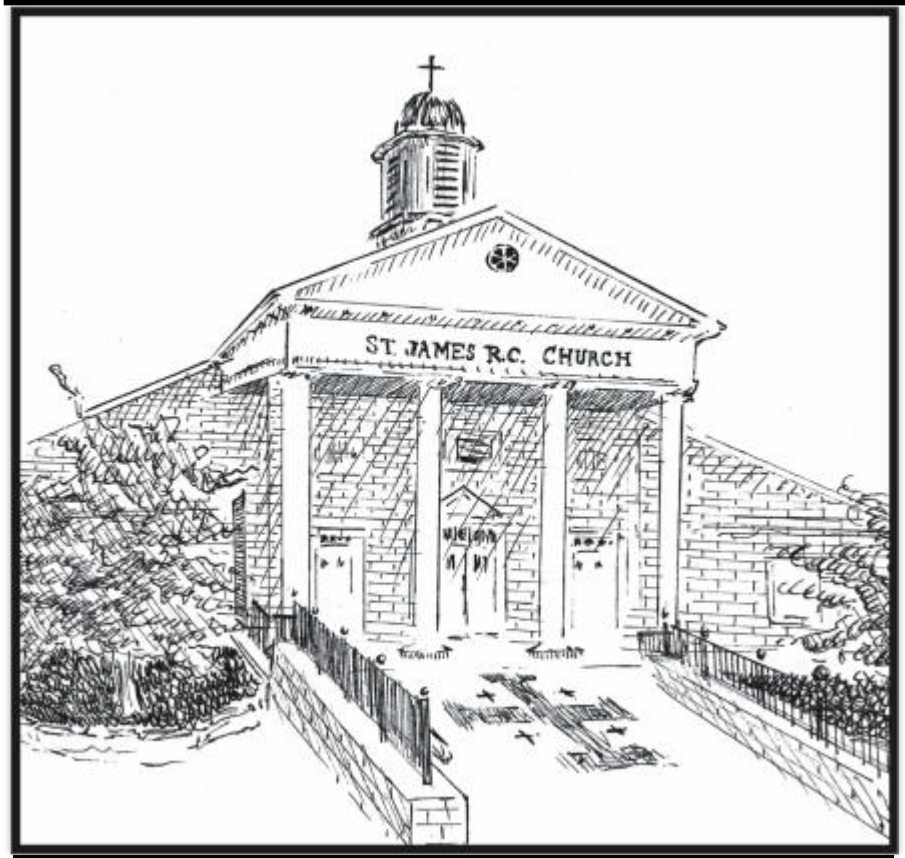
St. James R.C. Church
January 31, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



429 Route 25A, Setauket, New York 11733-3829

Parish Office: (631) 941.4141
Fax: (631) 751.6607
Faith Formation Office: (631) 751.7287

Email: parish@stjamessetauket.org
Website: www.stjamessetauket.org
Office Hours: M-F 9am-4pm *(closed for lunch 12-12:30)*
Sat. 9am-2pm

"Be doers of the word and not hearers only"

2020 Mission Statement

We, the Catholic community of the Three Village area, formed as the Body of Christ through the waters of Baptism, are a pilgrim community journeying toward the fullness of the Kingdom of God, guided by the Holy Spirit, nourished by the Eucharist and formed by the Gospel.

We strive to respond to Jesus' invitation: to be faithful and fruitful disciples; to be a Good Samaritan to (our) neighbor and enemy; stewards of and for God's creation and living witnesses of Faith, Hope and Charity … so that in Jesus' name, we may be a welcoming community, respectful of life in all its diversities.

Weekday Masses
Monday — Saturday: 8:00 am
Sunday Masses
Saturday: 5:00 pm (Youth)*
*live streamed & taped for viewing on our web-site and FB pages
Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:30 am (Family), 11:30am (Choir)
Holy Days of Obligation
Vigil: 7:30 pm
Day: 8:00am, 12 Noon
Special Needs Mass:
Second Saturday of the month at 1:00pm
Nocturnal Adoration:
First Friday of the Month, 7:30-8:30pm
Reconciliation
Saturdays 4:00 — 4:45 pm or by appointment
Rev. James-Patrick Mannion, Pastor
frjim@stjamessetauket.org (ext. 322)
Rev. Robert Scheckenback, Assoc. Pastor
frbob@stjamessetauket.org (ext. 320)
Dcn. Louis and Mrs. Eileen Anetrella
Rev. John Fitzgerald, *in residence*
Rev. Mike S. Ezeatu, *in residence* (ext. 326)
Business Manager: Todd Bradshaw(ext.312)
Dir. of Outreach: Kathy Vaeth (ext. 313)
Dir. of Faith Formation: Louise DiCarlo (ext. 329) Admin. Asst. Joanmarie Zipman (ext. 328)
Finance Manager: Theresa Ellner (ext. 335)
Music Co-Director: Richard Foley (631) 806.1794
Music Co-Director: Miriam Salerno (516) 263.5173
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Ueli Laeng (631)941.4141
Parish Receptionists:
Megan Peters (M-F)
Nancy Gallagher (Fri and Sat) Cemetery Admin.
Parish Facilities Supervisor: Jeff Fallon

Please visit our parish website (www.stjamessetauket.org) for the latest parish information as well as weekly homilies and virtual weekly Masses. Visit the diocesan website (www.DRVC.org) for diocesan news and schedule of virtual Masses.

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions for the week of January 31, 2021

Sunday, January 31	
8am	Charles Conforti (L)
9:30am	Elizabeth K. Pierno
11:30am	Our parishioners living and deceased, June Lehnert Thomas & Laura Corrado Linus Grant Hanratty Marie Csorny
Monday, February 1	
8am	Kate Garnica
Tuesday, February 2	
8am	Eric Knorr
Wednesday, February 3	
8am	June Lehnert
Thursday, February 4	
8am	Rudy Bonitch
Friday, February 5	
8am	Deceased members of the Scalamandre Family
Saturday, February 6	
8am	Joseph Camarda
5pm	Our parishioners living and deceased,Mae Avella, Edie Hendry, Christine Guarneri (L)
Sunday, February 7	
8am	Charles Shane and Thomas Tiernan Jr.
9:30am	Mary Divine
11:30am	Adrienne Hubbs, John Rybka, Andrew Squires , Kenny Maher

MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Parish of St. James is pleased to provide a number of ways in which our parishioners can memorialize their loved ones. In addition to the celebration of a Mass in their name, parishioners are invited to consider a memorial donation of the bread and wine or altar flowers for the week. The name(s) of your loved one(s) will appear in the bulletin for that week.

In the rear of our church (25A side), near the statue of the Holy Family, you will find a set of candles that offers a top row that can be lit for one year, and holds a plaque showing the name of the person for whom the candle is lit. The offering for a memorial candle is $250. Please stop by the rectory office or call 631.941.4141 during normal business

Thank you for giving of your time, talent and treasure

COLLECTION UPDATE

January 26, 2020: $ 13,824
January 24, 2021: $ 6,233+2,556 (FD)=$8,789

Please consider making your weekly donations on-line by enrolling at **faith.direct/ny997**.

Doing so enables our ministries to continue to meet the physical and spiritual needs of those in our parish family as well as the larger community who have been impacted by COVID19 and related job losses.

E-giving simplifies your giving and provides consistent support to the parish. ***To provide additional assistance, please select the "offset fee option" when setting up your donation, which will help reduce our expenses.***

If you require assistance with the process, please call the parish office (Tuesday 9am-1pm or Friday 9:30-12pm) and make an appointment with Megan or Nancy to set up your Faith Direct on-line giving account.

Enroll today at: www.faithdirect.net

For your continued generosity to St. James Parish of your time, talent and treasure, I offer my deepest appreciation. May God reward your generosity a hundredfold.

~ Fr. Jim

Pope's Intention for Evangelization

Violence against women. We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

Welcome to the Parish of St. James

No matter your present or past status in the Catholic Church; **No** matter your current family or marital situation;
No matter your past or present affiliation; **No** matter your personal history, age, background, race or color, you are invited, welcomed and accepted at St. James RC Church.

If you are new to the area, we invite you to choose St. James as your parish family.

Sacraments

Baptism: Two Sundays per month at 1:30 pm. Please contact the office after the fourth month of pregnancy to make arrangements.

Holy Matrimony: Please contact the office at least nine months before your desired date.

Anointing of the Sick: By request

Pastoral Council: Mrs. Roni Groth, Mr. John Holownia, Mrs. Josephine Prokop, Mr. Fred Sawicki, Mr. Michael Vaeth, Mrs. Judi Wallace

Parish Finance Committee: Mr. Edward Gutleber, Chair; Mr. Todd Bradshaw *(Business Manager)* Mrs. Theresa Ellner *(Financial Manager),* Mr. Robert Freaso, *(Parish Trustee),* Mr. Thomas Powers *(Parish Trustee),* Mr. Matthew Berger, Mr. Christopher McGeever, Mrs. Judi Wallace

Prayer Opportunities

Nocturnal Adoration: First Fridays 7:30 — 8:30 pm
Recitation of the Rosary: Monday to Saturday after the 8am Mass

Ministries:

Alpha: Mrs. Roni Groth, Mrs. Barbara Jaeckel
Bereavement Ministry: Ms. Catherine Horgan, Mr. Dennis Reardon *(please call 631.941.4141 x341)*
Camino Café Ministry: Mrs. Sallie Culloton, Mrs. Doreen Corrado
Choir: Mr. Richard Foley, Mrs. Miriam Salerno
Sat 5pm Teen, Sun 9:30am Youth, Sun. 11:30am Adult
Christ in the Marketplace: Mr. Jack Herr *(631.941.4141)*
CYO Board: Mr. Charles Arasi, Chair; Mrs. Samantha Bradshaw, Mr. John Case, Mr. Michael (Mike) Specht, Mr. Patrick (Pat) Tunstead
Eucharistic Ministry to Homebound Parishioners: Joan Murray
If you or anyone you know is homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist at home, please call 631.941.4141
Fertility Care Services: Helen McCarthy, R.Ph, PharmD, CFCPI
(htmccarthy@optonline.net or 631.455.4137)
Knights of Columbus, Mother Teresa of Calcutta Council #12006:
Grand Knight, Mr. Jack Simpson
Laudato Si Environmental Ministry: Mr. Robert Becherer
Liturgy Committee: Ms. Louise DiCarlo
Liturgical Ministries:EMHC-Mrs. Kathy Brown, Mrs. Mary Berretta
Readers: Mrs. Peggie McHugh Eletto
Altar Servers: Mrs. Judi Wallace, Peter Morelli, MD
Ushers/Greeters: Mr. Robert Freaso
Men's Monthly Breakfast Gathering: Mr. Tony Casale
Ministry of Consolation: Mrs. Carol Simco
Nocturnal Adoration: Mr. Eric Waxman (631) 689.9759
Our Daily Bread: (631)941.2731 ODB@stjamessetauket.org
Parish Bulletin and Website: Editor, Ms. Catherine Horgan
Contact rectory office 631.941.4141
Parish Liturgical Environment Committee:
Contact rectory office 631.941.4141
Pre-Cana Ministry: Mr. and Mrs. Diane and James Santangelo
Contact rectory office 631.941.4141
RCIA: Mr. Ueli Laeng *Contact the rectory office 631.941.4141*
Respect Life Committee of St. James: Mr. Eric Waxman 631.689.9759. *The Respect Life Committee will meet in the Parish Center each month (September –June) on Coffee Sunday after the 9:30 Mass*
Rosary Altar Society of St. James: Mrs. Patricia Raptoulis at 631.473.3561
Spiritual Direction: Mr. Ueli Laeng *Please call the rectory office 631.941.4141*
St. James Rosary Makers: Mrs. Mary DiBenedetto 631.236.8899
St. James Vigil Ministry: Fr. Jim Mannion, Ms. Louise DiCarlo
Wedding Facilitators: Mrs. Maureen Denzler, Mrs. Chris Weisman
Women's Scripture Study: Mrs. Cathy Roberts SJA 631.689.2645

Parish Policy

Please be reminded that as a matter of policy, any and all events, conferences, meetings, plays, sporting events, fundraising efforts, etc. must have the expressed, written permission of the pastor (or his designee) before plans can be finalized. The parish is a legal entity with certain obligations that must be considered prior to approval of events. This includes the use of the name St. James in any way, shape or form, explicitly or implicitly. Contracts with outside vendors, speakers or service providers cannot be signed by anyone other than the pastor or his designee.

Join us in praying the Holy Rosary after the 8am Mass every 1st Saturday.

"I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all who on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, confess their sins, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, with the purpose of making reparation to my Immaculate Heart."
~Our Blessed Mother

READINGS AND OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK of January 31,2021

Sunday, January 31
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, February 1
Heb 11:32-40/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday, February 2
The Presentation of the Lord
Mal 3:1-4/Lk 2:22-40

Wednesday, February 3
St. Blaise, Bishop, Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop
Heb 12:4-7,11-15/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday, February 4
Heb 12:18-19,21-24/Mk 6:7-13

Friday, February 5
St. Agatha, Virgin, Martyr
Heb 13:1-8/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday, February 6
St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs
Heb 13:15-17,20-21/Mk 6:30-34

Sunday, February 7
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In compliance with Diocesan policy from the Office for the Protection of Children & Young People, (516) 678.5800, ext. 573: If you suspect any child abuse, first contact Child Protective Services at (800) 342.3720 and then contact the Diocesan Hotline at (516) 594.9063. If you believe ***someone is in immediate danger***, call Suffolk County Police at 911.

Mother Teresa Council,
Knights of Columbus

"Love is a fruit always in season, within reach of every hand"
~Mother Teresa

ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY

Take twenty minutes out of your day to pray the rosary and you will see the difference it will make in your life.

Family & Friends Annual Raffle

Now is the time to get your tickets after Mass or in the parish office for our popular raffle (18 years or older). Remember, each ticket keeps you in every monthly drawing, beginning in March and running through December, regardless of whether or not you have previously won a prize.

There will be at least **one $500 prize and several other monetary prizes** each month. The more tickets that are purchased, the more prizes will be returned to participants.

Each ticket, good for all drawings during the year, costs only $30. You may even increase your chances of winning with the discounted purchase of 4 tickets for $100. Don't miss out on becoming part of the best raffle in town, where *two-thirds* of the income is returned as prize money! What other raffle offers that kind of payout?

The funds raised by the Council in these raffles have allowed us to help many charities, including the purchase of new winter coats for needy children; helping to refill food pantries; assisting veterans, first responders and their families; supporting widows and children; providing funds for children's hospital needs and helping to support the parish.

As a practicing Catholic gentleman, if you'd like to get involved with our Council as a proud Knight, call Fred @ 631-751-7375 about joining this fraternal service organization, whose guiding principles are charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. Or, you may join the organization as an online member by visiting www.kofc.org

Greetings from the St. James Rosary Altar Society

GREETINGS FROM THE ST. JAMES ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

COME ONE, COME ALL!!!

The Rosary Altar Society will have its first meeting of the season on Tuesday, February 2nd at 12pm in rooms 101-102. We will have the recitation of the Rosary, followed by our meeting.

Please wear your **mask**, bring your **own lunch** and maintain **social distancing** while we are together. Coffee and tea will be served.

The meeting will be considered as a time to see our fellow members to keep up with our friendships and discuss our agenda for the new season.

Remember to say your Rosary daily for our members and their families, our parishioners and the communities in which we live.

To become a member of the Rosary Altar Society please call Pat Raptoulis at: 631.473.3561.

"Let us live as the Blessed Virgin lived: loving God only, desiring God only, trying to please God only in all that we do." St. John Vianney

In a particular way, St. Joseph is a perfect intercessor **during times of trial.** His presence can help preserve unity within the Church and bring peace during difficulties. Here is a prayer that encapsulates all of these sentiments and cries out to St. Joseph for help.

O most watchful Guardian of the Divine Family, defend the Church. Ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence. O, our most mighty Protector, look favorably upon us and from heaven assist us in this our struggle with the power of darkness; and, as once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity. Shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live virtuously, to die holily, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."

I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Pray for Our Sick

Please pray for all members of the parish family, especially :

Elvira Aliota, Julia Balzarno-Maglio, Robert Banish, Mary Barretta, Alexander Beck, Roberta Brown, Glenn Buro, Keith Buro, Caroline Caggiano, Tony Casale, Michael Carpenter, Carol Cirillo, Brian Darmody, Camille DiCarlo, Arleen Gargiulo, Lauren Giordano, Emma Giuliano, Tom Giuliano, Caleb Hernandez, Terence Hobbes, Nicole Juliano, Allan Krotz, Sr. ,George LaBriola, Jr., Joseph LaRosa, Marty Lindblad, Mary Maio, Kayla Marianetti, Rudy Mazurczak, Diane McDonald, John McGarvey, Tom McHugh, Gianna Morelli, Brian Newman, Christine El Qadah, Gloria Ruppert, Rose Sangiamo, Debby Saunders,Linda Shannon, Brady Spennato, John Stone, Anya Vulpis, Adelaide Marie Wardrope, Christine Wall, Robert Whitcomb

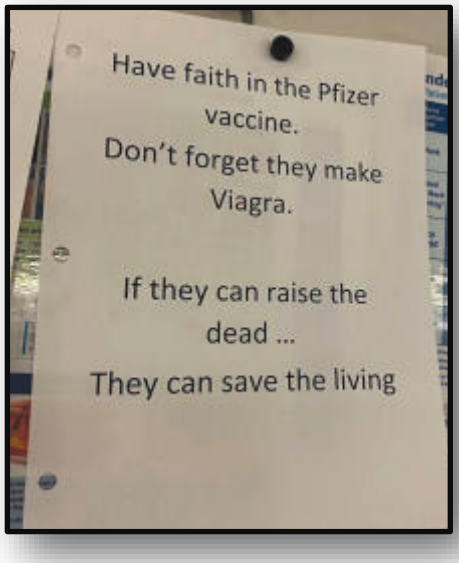
May they and their families, have health, strength and peace in you, O Lord. Amen.

Pray for Our Military Personnel

Please remember in prayer all of the men and women from our parish and country who serve so selflessly in our Armed Forces. Keep them, their families, friends and loved ones in prayer as they serve our country at home and on foreign soil.

U.S. Marine Corp. 2nd Lieutenant Kyle Antonucci
U.S. Army, SPC Patrick Buckley, Afghanistan
U.S. Army Lt. Colonel Erika Holownia
U.S. Army Major Gregory C. Holownia, USA
U.S. Navy SHSN Quintin Lawrence Hurley
U.S. Army, PFC Brandon Leap
U.S. Sergeant Spec. Joseph Mandel, USA
U.S. Air Force SrA Sean T. Murray
U.S. Air Force Capt. Nicole Nowling
U.S. Army, Lt. Daniel Roberts
USMC 1st Lt. Brendan Rose, USA
USMC Lance Corp. Aeon Soler
U.S. Army Major Eric D. Waxman, USA

A little Corona Wedge Humor.... because as the saying goes, laughter is the best medicine!



Bubba had shingles.
Those of us who spend much time in a doctor's office should appreciate this! Doesn't it seem more and more that physicians are running their practices like an assembly line?
Here's what happened to Bubba:

Bubba walked into a doctor's office and the receptionist asked him what he had. Bubba said: 'Shingles.' So she wrote down his name, address, medical insurance number and told him to have a seat.

Fifteen minutes later a nurse's aide came out and asked Bubba what he had.
Bubba said, 'Shingles' So she wrote down his height, weight, a complete medical history and told Bubba to wait in the examining room.

A half hour later a nurse came in and asked Bubba what he had. Bubba said, 'Shingles..' So the nurse gave Bubba a blood test, a blood pressure test, an electrocardiogram, and told Bubba to take off all his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later the doctor came in and found Bubba sitting patiently in the nude and asked Bubba what he had.

Bubba said, 'Shingles.' The doctor asked, 'Where?'
Bubba said, 'Outside on the truck. Where do you want me to unload 'em??'

2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Thank you to all who donated to the 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Your support enables our "One Family in Mission" campaign to evangelize the Gospel to the four corners of Long Island.

Montauk We Hope, Inc,
Teleflex Matching Gift
St. James Church
Mr. Joseph Abramo
Ms. Alice Alessio
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ambrosino
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Arasi
Ms. Margo Arceri
Mr. and Mrs. George J. Attard
Dr. and Mrs. Mario Baguio
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Bailey
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Bany
Mr. and Mrs. John Barbieri
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J Basile
Mrs. Linda Belliveau
Dr. and Mrs. Aldo Betro
Mrs. Irene Biemer
Lawrence Binninger
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Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Brown
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Mr. and Mrs. Rocco F. Caruso
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Ms. Careen Castroll
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Mr. and Mrs. John Farrell
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Festa
Mr. and Mrs. Bruno Fiore
Jeffrey and Claudia Fishman
Rev. John J. Fitzgerald
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Fitzsimons
Mr. and Mrs. Regis Flynn
Ms. Mary Foley
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Fox
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Freaso
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fumai
Miss Josephine Fusco
Dr. Esther Fusco
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Gac
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Gallagher
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas J. Gargiulo
Dr. Marie Gelato
Mr. Sande T. Giaccone
Drs. Robert and Christine Giacobbe
Deacon and Mrs. Michael Gomes
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Gutleber
Mr. and Mrs. William Hall
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hammer
Ms. Virginia Harley
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hazlitt
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Mrs. Donna Higgins
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hiltunen
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Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Karlak
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Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kelaher
Mrs. Noreen Kelly
Mrs. Maryellen Kelly
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Keneally
Mrs. Anna Kerekes
Drs. Leslie Quinn and Steph Kottmeier
Carol M. Lane
Mr. Albert Lankau
Mr. Richard Laskowski
Mr. and Mrs. John Leister
Thomas and Lourdes Lento
Ms. Lois Ann Link
Mrs. Donna Liucci
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Long
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lundin
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Mac Avoy
Mr. James Maher
John and Cathryn Maher
Rev. James P. Mannion
Mr. Arnold Marianetti
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Martin
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Mrs. Lucille Mazza
Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Mc Adorey
Mrs. Catherine Mc Donnell
Mr. Michael Mc Geever
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Mc Grath
Mrs. Marie Mc Mahon
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McKenna
Ms. June Mellon and Ms. Katrena Mellon
Mr. Ronald E. Menin
Mr. Clyde L Miller
Dr. and Mrs. Carl Mills
Ms. Virginia Mirabelli
Mr. and Mrs. James Mongiello
Mr. and Mrs. Bryan J. Monti
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Moran
Mr. David Moran
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Morelli
Mrs. Dolores Murphy
Mr. and Mrs. James Murray
Mrs. Joan Murray
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Murrell
Joseph Netrda and Josette Langdon
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Newman
Ms. Sandra Nicoletti
Mr. Henry Nietzschmann
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Ninia
Ms. Regina O'Connor
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick O'Hara
Mr. and Mrs. Robert O'Rourk

Dr. and Mrs. Cyril Obi
Mrs. Jennifer Olsen
Mr. Dean Pantorno
Mr. and Mrs. James Parkinson
Mr. Robert J. Parmegiani
David and Mary Ann Payntar
Steve and Bonnie Paysen
Ken and Gina Pedroli
Mr. Andrew Pelosi
Joan and Kathy Pilkington
Mrs. Leslie Popko
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Posanka
Mr. Daniel Prosseda
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Rao
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Raptoulis
Dennis and Christine Reardon
Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Reilly

Catholic Ministries Appeal (continued)

Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Reilly
Dr. and Mrs. John Reitano

Mrs. Katherine Rihm
Mrs. Ruth Riordan
Mr. Fred Romeo

Ms. Irene E. Rosener
Mr. and Mrs. O. Russo
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sawicki
John and Anita Scalamandre
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Schreiber
Mr. Joseph Schuchman
John and Patty Seagriff

Michael and Kathleen Sheedy

Mrs. Carole Sheehan
Mr. and Mrs. John Simpson

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sims

Mr. Alan H. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. James Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Spahn
Mrs. Patricia Stagg

Mr. and Mrs. Clement Stancik

Mrs. Ellen Stankewick

Mr. and Mrs. Todd Stebbins
Mr. Ezio Stefani
Mr. and Mrs. James Swain
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Tartamella
Joachim and Margaret Terzi
Mr. and Mrs. Roberto Than
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Tomaino

Ms. Clementine Tousey - Kolodzinski

Mr. and Mrs. William Treanor

Michael and Kathy Vaeth
Mrs. Jacqueline Van Vechten
Julio and Maria C. Vega
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Visconti
Mr. and Mrs. William Wallace
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Warne
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Wasnick
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Waxman
Mr. and Mrs. Eric G. Waxman, III
Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Whelan
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whitcomb
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph White
Mrs. John White
William and Mary Wilcox

Mr. and Mrs. Mark S. Woolley
Ms. Patricia Zezellz

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Zoldak

Focus on Religious Freedom

www.cffor.org

The Decline - & Possible Fall - of Religious Freedom in America

"Historically, religion and its adherents have often been oppressed by government. By contrast, America has been singular in its dedication to preserving the freedom of its people to expect and experience religious freedom. **That is now rapidly changing,**" wrote Kelly Shackelford, president of First Liberty law firm. (1) In the past year there have been a number of violent attacks on churches, church gatherings, statues of Jesus, Virgin Mary, saints and monuments. Churches, synagogues and other church services have been banned or severely restricted, while liquor stores & casinos are allowed to be open. "A nation truly committed to religious freedom would, in a time of national crisis, welcome the essentiality of religion's exercise - not ban it." (2)

Religious liberty court cases have increased at an alarming rate. From the Constitution's ratification until 1940, there were only 3 Supreme Court cases challenging religious freedom. But since then, more than 75 cases have come before the high Court. Religious freedom has been under increasing siege for eight decades now. (3)

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people.
It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."
John Adams, Founding Father and second president.

Speaking at the Univ. of Notre Dame Law School on Oct. 11, 2019, A.G. William Barr said that attacks on religious liberty have contributed to a moral decline in this country. "Secularists and their allies have marshaled all the forces of mass communication, popular culture, the entertainment industry, and academia in an unremitting assault on religion and traditional values." (4)

"The moral problems Barr mentioned in his speech - plus murder, mayhem, and other forms of anti-social behavior - will continue until we regain our moral footing," wrote Dr. Walter E. Williams, professor of economics at George Mason University. "I am all too afraid that a historian, writing a few hundred years from now, will note that the liberty America enjoyed was simply a historical curiosity. Then it all returned to mankind's normal state of affairs - arbitrary abuse and control by the powerful elite." (5)

(newsweek.com, 8/5/20(1)(2)(3); dailysignal.com, 10/23/19(4)(5); the guardian.com, 10/19/19; deseret.com, 12/29/04; frc.org, 12/2/10)

"It's the duty of everyone to defend religious freedom and promote it for all people."
Pope Francis

On the weekend of February 13th/14th, just in time for Valentine's Day and the beginning of Lent, we will be offering for sale, candles created from the wax of the blessed Paschal Candles used in our church. A St. James parishioner, Vinny Eletto, who makes candles for a hobby, agreed to recycle the remnants of the old Paschal (Easter) Candles, as opposed to our sending them back to the manufacturer for credit.

The candles, made with 51% beeswax, some tinted and scented, have been poured into smaller molds in a variety of shapes, for a more practical use in your home. They can be used as gifts for a Valentine or as a Lenten prayer candle, reminding us of the *Paschal Mystery* of love that is always the light of the world that shatters the darkness of sin, fear and death.

They will be on display in the sacristy lobby after all Masses. A requested donation is $10 to $25 (or make a free-will offering). All donations will off-set the price of the 2021 Paschal Candle which is approximately $900 dollars.

Thank you for your constant support and generosity and thank you to both Vinny and his wife, Peggy, for putting up with wax melting on the stove!

Pax et Bonum

Fr. Jim

SAVE THE DATE!
BLOOD DRIVE
Thursday, March 11, 2021

Please mark you calendars…the next Parish Blood Drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus will be held on *Thursday, March 11, 2021* ***1:00 PM till 7:00 PM*** in the Parish Center.

As a result of COVID, there is a BLOOD EMERGENCY in effect. We need **NEW** volunteers to donate. Have a relative or friend sign up too!

PLEASE reach out to LI Blood Services to make your appointment at www.nybc.org or call 1-800-933-2566.
It only takes an hour out of your day to give someone in need a gift of life blood donation.

If you should need any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me; John Dahl

516. 768.5441

or

Jedahl44@gmail.com

Ordinary people performing extraordinary acts for others in need…

OUR NINEVEH MOMENT

This past Sunday's Old Testament reading (Jonah 3:1-5,10) was the story of Jonah and Nineveh, as we heard God speak loudly and boldly of the need for repentance/conversion, a return to God.

Many of us are worried about our families and what the future will bring. The relentless pandemic, the economy, our daily dose of political, racial, cultural and religious hostilities has resulted in far too many of us experiencing anxiety and depression. In an effort to help alleviate some of the stress brought about by living in these unprecedented times, we would like to offer a practice, or, perhaps, a discipline from our faith tradition which has grounded people, opened their hearts to the Lord and sensitized them to the common good—a discipline of ***prayer and fasting.***

In a sense, this can be our Nineveh moment. By embracing the discipline of fasting and prayer, we give ourselves the opportunity to experience a fruitful Lent. Our suggestion is simple and can be accomplished whether you are at work or home. Choose two days each week, preferably Wednesday and Friday, as your day(s) to pray and fast. The prayer regimen is one of your choosing - the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Stations of the Cross, the reading of scripture or other spiritual reading, or works of Mercy—but the key is to pray! Fasting in this case means only water and bread during the time frame you establish, i.e., 6am-6pm (bread may be taken with butter, olive oil or honey).

Spiritual exercises such as these are lived by monastic men and women and lay Christians as well as by people of all faiths around the world on a daily basis. There is strength in numbers, so we hope you will consider being part of this "Nineveh Moment" of repentance, at least for Lent.

Pax et Bonum
Fr. Jim, Roni Groth, Barbara Jaeckel

Natural Family Planning International exists to help people learn the practice of natural family planning within the context of the teaching of the Catholic Church.

Our approach to natural family planning is The Complete Approach because it regards you as a complete person who is much more than just your fertility. This approach is also the Original Content of the Triple Strand consisting of Ecological Breastfeeding, the Covenant theology of the marriage act, and the systematic natural family planning involving all the fertility signs.

For additional information, all are welcome to contact NFP International at www.nfpandmore.org.

In light of the public health emergency surrounding the COVID 19 outbreak, let us continue to pray to St. Raphael the Archangel:

Because you are the "medicine of God" we humbly pray to you to calm our fears and anxieties, and to grant healing to those suffering from the Corona virus; offer your protection and strength to those in the medical professions offering care to those so afflicted.

May we trust in the Lord, who is our Shepherd, as we walk through this valley of "fear and death", in this time of darkness. May we be anointed in the Spirit's love and ask that you always direct us in the way of peace, health and salvation. Amen.

Tune in to "Religion and Rock" with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday mornings, 7:00am-8:00am on WBAB 102.3FM or 95.3FM on Long Island's East End. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00pm on Sirius radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11pm on XM Satellite, Channel 117.

Next Sunday's theme (February 7) is
"Forgiveness"

Help Wanted

STREAMING LIVE

Throughout the pandemic, our parish has been able to "live stream" our weekend Mass and we will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

We have been truly blessed to have parishioner Jim Townsend and his partner, Corey Arnold, (Bars and Tone Media Production) provide their services during this time. We have recently installed permanent cameras in the church which will facilitate our continued broadcasting capabilities.

This provides an exciting opportunity for members of our parish to learn the technology and become part of the team that makes this happen every week! No experience necessary—just a willingness to learn and to help St. James Parish. Ongoing training and support will be provided.

Contact Fr. Jim at 631.941.4141 ext. 322

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

Please be reminded that in accordance with our posted schedule of dates, any and all decorations which may have been placed at the graves in our cemetery during the recent Christmas holiday season, must be removed no later than ***Monday, January 25, 2021.***

This will provide our landscapers with an opportunity to perform a mid-winter cleanup and thereby enable us to maintain a beautiful resting place for our loved ones at St. James Parish Cemetery.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

An important announcement regarding Ash Wednesday

This year, Ash Wednesday is February 17. As has been the case with so many other aspects of our lives during the past year, the impact of COVID will be felt at our liturgical celebrations that day. Please see the announcement below which provides a full explanation of what we are (and are not) permitted to do during the ongoing pandemic.

The reception of blessed ashes by the Catholic faithful as the hallmark of the beginning of the season of Lent remains very important for our people. However, in the time of the pandemic, the imposition of ashes in the usual manner is not possible. ***It is also prudent to remind the faithful that Ash Wednesday is not a Holy Day of Obligation, and that one is not obliged to attend Mass, nor is one obliged to receive ashes.***

On January 12, 2021, Robert Cardinal Sarah, the Prefect of the Congregation of Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments, issued a note "Distribution of Ashes in Time of Pandemic". Because of the instruction from Cardinal Sarah and due to the current state of the pandemic, ***this year the Diocese of Rockville Centre will administer ashes to the faithful by sprinkling the blessed ashes on the top of the head of the recipient.*** This is the traditional practice of the Roman Rite, and is currently observed in Rome, throughout Europe, and in various other parts of the world. This method, rooted in the scriptural tradition, will allow for ashes to be given easily without making physical contact.

> *Sprinkling ashes on the crown of the head recalls the biblical method of putting on sackcloth and ashes as a sign of penance; this gesture, while not as dramatic, recalls that penitential practice. The ashes not being visible will also more clearly help those who receive them to put into practice the teaching of the Gospel appointed for the day to carry out one's penance in private. Additionally, it is helpful to recall that in Baptism, we have been anointed on the crown of the head. The ashes to be imposed on the crown signify our repentance from sin, which has marred the grace of Baptism.*
>
> *While imposition of ashes with the sign of the cross on the forehead has been customary in the United States, in many other parts of the world, the Roman Rite's tradition of sprinkling dry ashes on top of the head is, in fact, the more common practice. The faithful may be interested to know this is how Pope Francis always receives his ashes on Ash Wednesday!*

Therefore, in the Diocese of Rockville Centre this year, it is <u>not permitted</u> to impose ashes on the forehead of a member of the faithful with the thumb of the hand, even if that hand is gloved. *[Hands and gloves would be considered "contaminated" after each imposition of ashes if physical contact were made.]*

Ash Wednesday schedule of services at St. James Parish is as follows:

8am, 12 noon and 7:30pm: Mass

5pm: Liturgy of the Word

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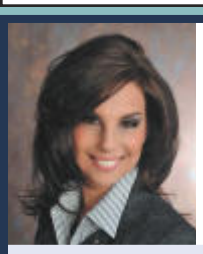
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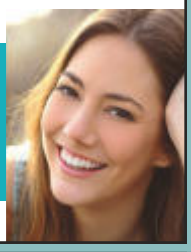

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