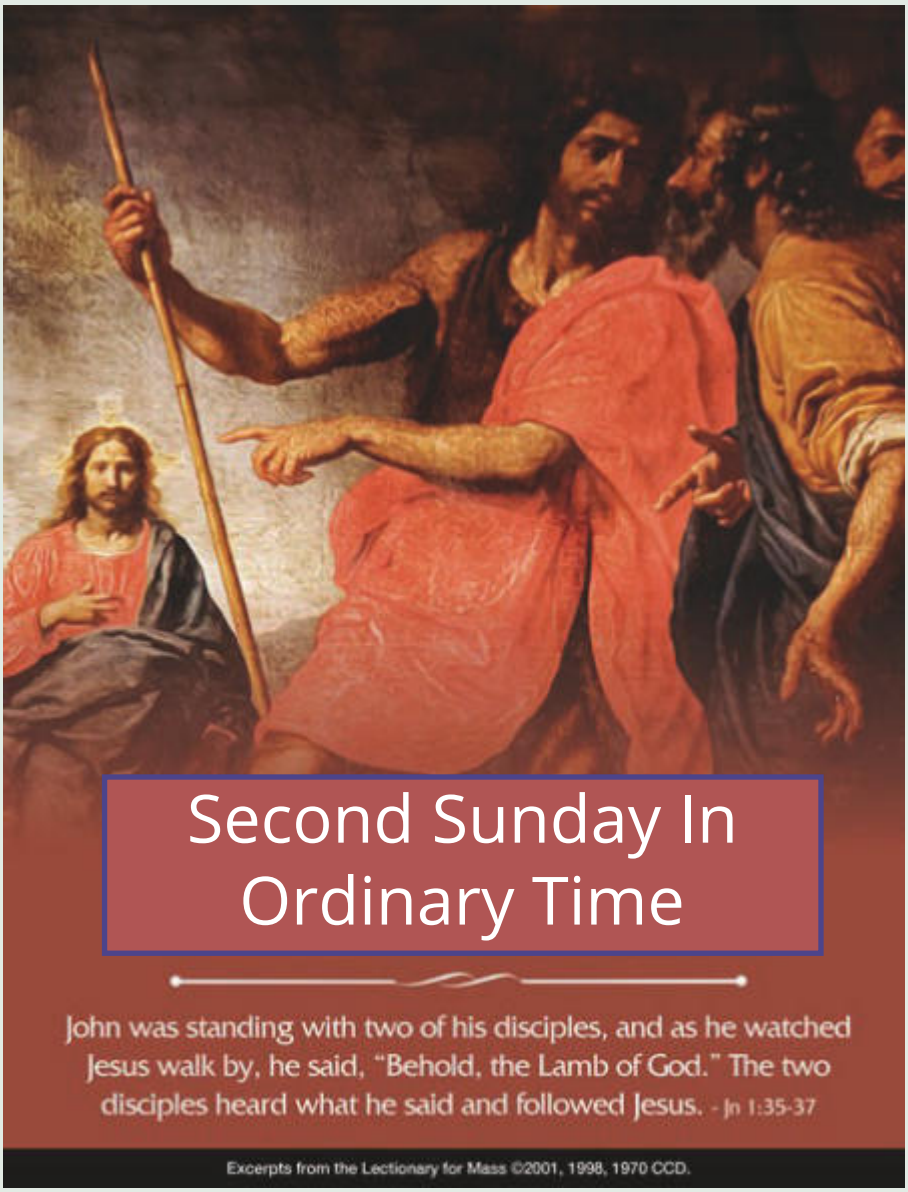
SAINT JAMES PARISH

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

JANUARY 17, 2021 | SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

MASS SCHEDULES

Saturday Vigil | 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Mass | 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Daily: Monday – Friday | 8:00 a.m.

SACRAMENTS

Marriage: Six month notification required

Baptism: By appointment

Penance: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. in Education Center or By appointment

Pastoral Emergencies: Contact Bishop-elect Kulick at 412-582-6082

PARISH OFFICE & STAFF

Bishop-elect
Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L., Pastor

Loretta Oken, Office Coordinator

Laura Nalevanko, Website Content Manager & Bulletin Editor

Missy DiRado, Payroll/Financial Officer

Denise Pencola, Director of Religious Formation

306 Saint James Lane
New Alexandria, PA 15670

Rectory & Office: (724) 668-2829

www.stjamesnewalexandria.org

Bulletin Deadline: Monday | 4:00 p.m.

Public Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday - Office Closed

PRAYER & WORSHIP

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the parish family of Saint James Church, New Alexandria, consisting of diverse, dedicated hard working people, hold firm the traditions and beliefs of our Catholic faith. Our Mission is to keep this faith alive and growing through the love of the Eucharist, the Sacraments, and the Word of God.

Responding to our Baptismal call we are devoted to fostering spiritual formation, strengthening Christian values, evangelizing and caring for all. As we travel on our Journey of a Lifetime, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we help the community strive to seek the Kingdom of God.

SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

As a Roman Catholic Community we strive for environments where everyone is safe from abuse. Priests, staff & all volunteers are required to comply with the Pennsylvania Child Protective Services Law and must have the following completed before volunteering at Saint James Parish; FBI Fingerprint Clearance, PA State Police Clearance, PA Child Abuse History Report and individuals must complete Virtus and Mandated Reporter Training. We are also required to report any suspicious or inappropriate behavior. If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone, please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number & made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221.

WESHARE ONLINE GIVING

WeShare, provides an easy way to plan out your Mass Intentions, Fuel & Maintenance, Weekly Offertory or second collection donations for the whole year! Several of the benefits of using the on-line giving platform are:

· You can share your gifts anyway you want to.

· Leave your checkbook at home by setting up recurring gifts by credit card, savings or checking accounts.

· Your funds are protected with encrypted software and are automatically transferred directly to the Parish.

· Support our Parish consistently even if you are unable to attend Mass.

· Give on-the-go by accessing the site from your mobile phone or tablet. If you have never donated before, signing up is easy! Visit: **stjamesnewalexandria.org** and click *"Online Giving"* or contact the Parish Office for any questions.

Parishioners may find the on-line giving program to be beneficial if you wish to continue submitting your weekly offertory if you are not able to attend Mass.

PARISH APP

The Saint James Parish App gives users of *iPhone, iPad and Android* devices the ability to easily visit our *Events Calendar, Parish Notifications,* news and ministries; *Daily Readings*, *Latest Bulletin* and access to *WeShare*, our on-line giving site. There are additional features under the *More* button on the App that are available, even linking users directly to our website and the ability to immediately email or telephone Parish Staff! To download the new Parish App follow these simple steps:

iPhone Users Text the word: ParishApp1 to this number: **800-950-9952**

Android Users Text the word: ParishApp2 to this number: **800-950-9952**

Click on the link provided in the response text and download the *WeConnect Parish App*. Search for Saint James Parish and add as your Home Parish and you are all set! If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office.

PRAYER & WORSHIP

FROM THE DESK OF OUR PASTOR

Our faith is not just about ideas. It is really about having an encounter with God and, in particular, the Risen Christ! Once we give ourselves over to the notion of God's presence, we have to train ourselves to listen for God's voice and be attentive to God's call. Having companions on our faith journeys is so incredibly important as they can help us fine-tune our listening skills and discern God's voice from others we may be hearing. Faith is all about having these profound encounters not only with God but with our brothers and sisters, and creation itself. Anyone or anything that is alive with God's presence becomes an occasion for God to speak and call us to deeper graces and experiences. *"Come, and you will see."*

The example and teaching of Jesus, the lives of the saints, those living among us and those glorified in heaven, and the wonder and beauty of creation can all serve to help us listen more clearly and assist in positioning ourselves for this profound God meeting. It is an encounter that can quickly and easily lead to a friendship and intimate intertwining of our souls to their Maker, making a claim on us like no other. Then, the Word of God moves from being just a body of ideas to something we simply accept and do. The person of Jesus Christ swiftly moves from being just a good prophet in word and deed to the incarnate presence of God Himself, the Lamb of God. The voice leads us to the Person behind it.

The Gospel is hard to follow. We can intellectually debate whether what Jesus said is really what we are asked to do. The Gospel ideas may seem at times not to make sense in our practical, secular world. The person of God always does. We can debate the practicality and sense of ideas and doing so often keeps the more difficult ones at a safe distance away from us. Jesus said to love our enemy, but we really don't need to do that, our minds try to convince us. It just doesn't make sense. Yet, if we are truly in love with the God who is behind the voice of those words, they make perfect sense. Our deep and intimate love of this God would even find us laying down our lives for Him if necessary. Speak Lord, your servant is listening.

LITURGICAL SERVICES OF THE WEEK

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2021 | VIGIL MASS - THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
4:30 p.m. † James Hornock (Daughter, Barbara)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021 | THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 a.m. † For the People

10:00 a.m. † Dale & Louise Shanefelt (Betty Nemchik)

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2021 | SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 a.m. † Rose Malluck (Family)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021 | WEEKDAY
8:00 a.m. † Jennie Mazzoni (Betty Nolan)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2021 | WEEKDAY
8:00 a.m. † Dorothy Litzinger (Ragan Family)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021| SAINT AGNES, VIRGIN & MARTYR
8:00 a.m. † Joseph & Olga Janoscrat (Daughter, Theresa)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2021| WEEKDAY

8:00 a.m. † Linda Deglau (Marge Forish)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021| VIGIL MASS - THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

4:30 p.m. † Dr. Lois Scaglione (Blase & Bernie Carnese)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021 | THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 a.m. † For the People

10:00 a.m. † John Nemchik (Georgeann & Terry Cavanaugh)

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

When Samuel went to sleep in his place,
the LORD came and revealed his presence,
calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!"
Samuel answered, "Speak, for you servant is listening." (1 Sm 3:9-10)

PSALM:

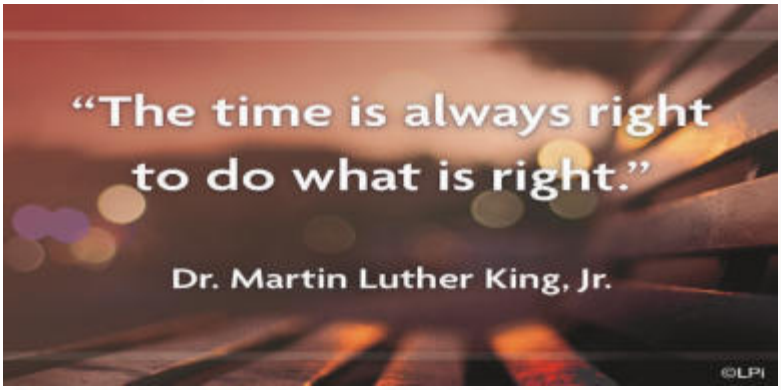
Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. (Ps 40)

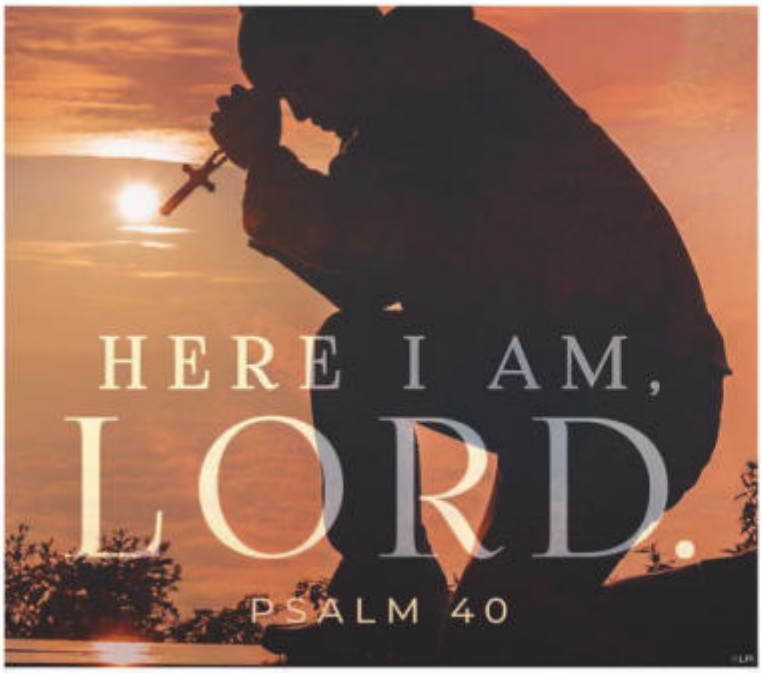
SECOND READING:

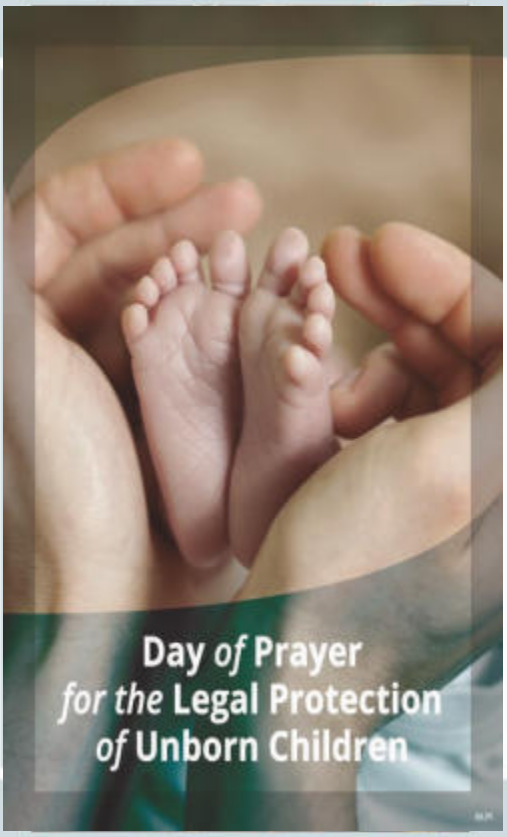
Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?
But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. (1 Cor 6:15, 17)

GOSPEL:

So they went and saw where Jesus was staying,
and they stayed with him that day. (Jn 1:39)







REFLECT

FIRST READING

Eli was the priest of the temple in Shiloh. He raised Samuel and helped Samuel to hear God's voice in his life. Who have you taught to hear God's voice?

SECOND READING

Paul taught the Corinthians that believers should "glorify God in your body" by avoiding immorality. What do you think is needed to live a good, moral life?

GOSPEL READING

In John's account of the call of the first disciples, Jesus poses the question, "What are you looking for?" In your own spiritual journey, how do you know you have found Jesus?

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ©LPi

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court legalized abortion throughout the United States in its companion decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*. Since that time, millions of children have lost their lives and millions of women and families have been wounded by abortion. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the **"Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children."** The Church directs: *In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.*

As individuals, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or almsgiving. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops provides resources to help parishes, schools, families, ministries, and individual Catholics participate in this important day of prayer and penance.

In addition, the USCCB also sponsors an annual, nationwide novena called **"9 Days for Life,"** which surrounds the liturgical observance of the Day of Prayer. Each day for nine days, a different intention is featured, accompanied by a short reflection, suggested actions, and related information as we pray for the respect and protection of every human life. In 2021, the novena will take place ***Thursday, January 21 – Friday, January 29, 2021.***

Reference: ***www.usccb.org*** *&*
https://www.respectlife.org

DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN OFFER MASS INVITATION

The Greensburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women welcomes everyone to a *"Pro-Life Prayer Day"* in memory of the 48th Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortions. This day of prayer will be held on ***Friday***, ***January 29, 2021*** at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg.

11:30 a.m.	Rosary for Priests
12:00 p.m.	Mass celebrated by Bishop-elect Larry J. Kulick Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
1:30 p.m.	Rosary for Life
2:15 p.m.	Stations of the Cross for Life
3:00 p.m.	Divine Mercy Chaplet
3:30 p.m.	Litany for Life with closing prayer and Benediction

No reservations are needed and you may attend at any time during the day. For more information, contact Betty Nemchik at 724-668-7436.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Birthway of Greensburg and LifeWay Pregnancy Center in Latrobe, are in need of donations: baby bottles, diapers, sleepers, onesies, baby blankets or any other monetary gifts can be donated. Please contact **lifewayspregnancycenter.org** or **birthright.org** for additional questions. Donations can be delivered to Saint James Parish no later than ***Thursday, January 28, 2021*** - a box will be placed in the back entrance of the church or they can be delivered at the *"Pro-Life Prayer Day"* at the Christ our Shepherd Center.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

COLLECTION REPORT

JANUARY 9, 2021 & JANUARY 10, 2021

Adult Envelopes:	$1,741.00
Offertory Loose:	$153.00
Fuel & Maintenance:	$415.00
Candles:	$77.50
Christmas:	$20.00
Catholic Accent:	$132.00
Solemnity of Mary:	$45.00
Oplatki:	$5.03
Children Family Services:	$10.00
Total:	**$2,598.53**

56 Adults - **24 %** out of **237** who choose to use regular Sunday envelopes

Income	Budget	Difference
$2,456.53	$3,688.85	$ - 1,232.32

PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

Good and gracious Father,
You created the human race as one human family,
yet formed a special people for Your own.
God of Abraham the Patriarch, God of King David,
watch over our nation!
May our government leaders be blessed with wisdom,
counsel, and prudent discernment
in creating just laws for our land.
May all service men and women be protected
as they defend our freedom and way of life.
May all citizens work together for the common good
and the protection of the least among us.
Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, it is in
Your coming kingdom that we place our trust.
Give us the grace here and now to love as you love
and to serve as you served.
Holy Spirit, inspire us to transform our communities
on earth as it is in heaven.
Amen.

MASS ATTENDANCE

JANUARY 9, 2021 &
JANUARY 10, 2021

4:30 p.m. - 49
8:00 a.m. - 26
10:00 a.m. - 55

Total - 130

LECTORS OF THE WEEK

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021

4:30 p.m. - Marion Cowan

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2021

8:00 a.m. - Bridget Widdowson
10:00 a.m. - Bill Mauck

THE SANCTUARY LAMP

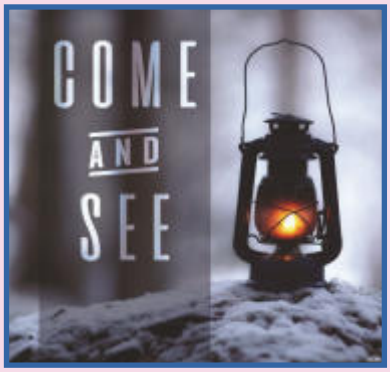
The Sanctuary Lamp acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ in the tabernacle is burning during the month of ***January 2021***

In Memory of:

Ann Loyacona

Requested by:

Gerry & Patty Loyacona & Family



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CORNER

BY: DENISE PENCOLA, DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS FORMATION

HEROES CORNER

Our hero this week is a young girl who loved God so much that she would willing undergo extreme torture to remain faithful, Saint Agnes of Rome, Virgin and Martyr.

We celebrate her feast day on January 21. While little is known for certain about her young life tradition tells us of her faithfulness and martyrdom during the persecution of the Emperor Diocletian around 304 AD.

Saint Ambrose of Milan places her age at 12 while Saint Augustine of Hippo claims she was 13 at the time of her martyrdom. Everything we do know about Saint Agnes comes from legends which are most likely correct but not able to be verified.

Her love for God was so intense that she made her vow of perpetual virginity. Pope Saint Damascus' account of her purity is attested to by his claim that she suffered martyrdom by fire for proclaiming herself a Christian. Agnes was stripped naked and put into the fire. Agnes covered her nakedness with her long hair. Legend says the wood would not burn so she was put to death by either beheading or being stabbed in the throat. Saint Agnes is the patron saint for chastity, virgins, young girls, Girl Scouts, rape victims, gardeners and crops.

Saint Agnes is a wonderful role model for all of us today. While we, Christians, may not be persecuted in the same way Christians were in the days of the Emperor Diocletian, it's not popular to be a Christian in our secular world today. May the faith of the young Saint Agnes inspire us to always be faithful to our Lord and His Church.

Saint Agnes, pray for us!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

As a reminder, Religious Education and Youth Ministry classes will resume on ***Wednesday, January 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.*** in the Education Center. Welcome back Religious Education teachers and students!

WHEN GOD WHISPERS...

"You don't need to shout. My hearing works just fine." Are you a parent that has used that one on your kids? I am not sure at what age they realize that the volume of their voice doesn't correlate to the likelihood of receiving a favorable reply — it might be sometime in the teenage years, when the talking slows down altogether.

But I've got to admit, it would be nice if God always gave us a loud and dramatic sign when He wanted something — the booming voice and the torn-open heavens *("This is my beloved Son!")* really get the message across. Sometimes I find myself envious of the Apostles, who were able to witness such things in person.

The fact of the matter is, in the year 2021, God is more likely to speak in a whisper than in a shout. The prophet Isaiah forewarns that Christ himself will not be a noisemaker — for all his preaching, he will not cry out or shout to bring forth justice to the nations. His way is altogether different than that.

We are not the Apostles, and we do not have the privilege of seeing the Holy Spirit descend on Christ like a dove. But here's the good news: God doesn't need to shout. Our spiritual hearing works just fine. We just have to be listening.

Let us wake up each morning ready to hear God's whispers throughout the day. Let's make a conscious effort to invite those whispers into our hearts, where they can become a catalyst for grace in this world.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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