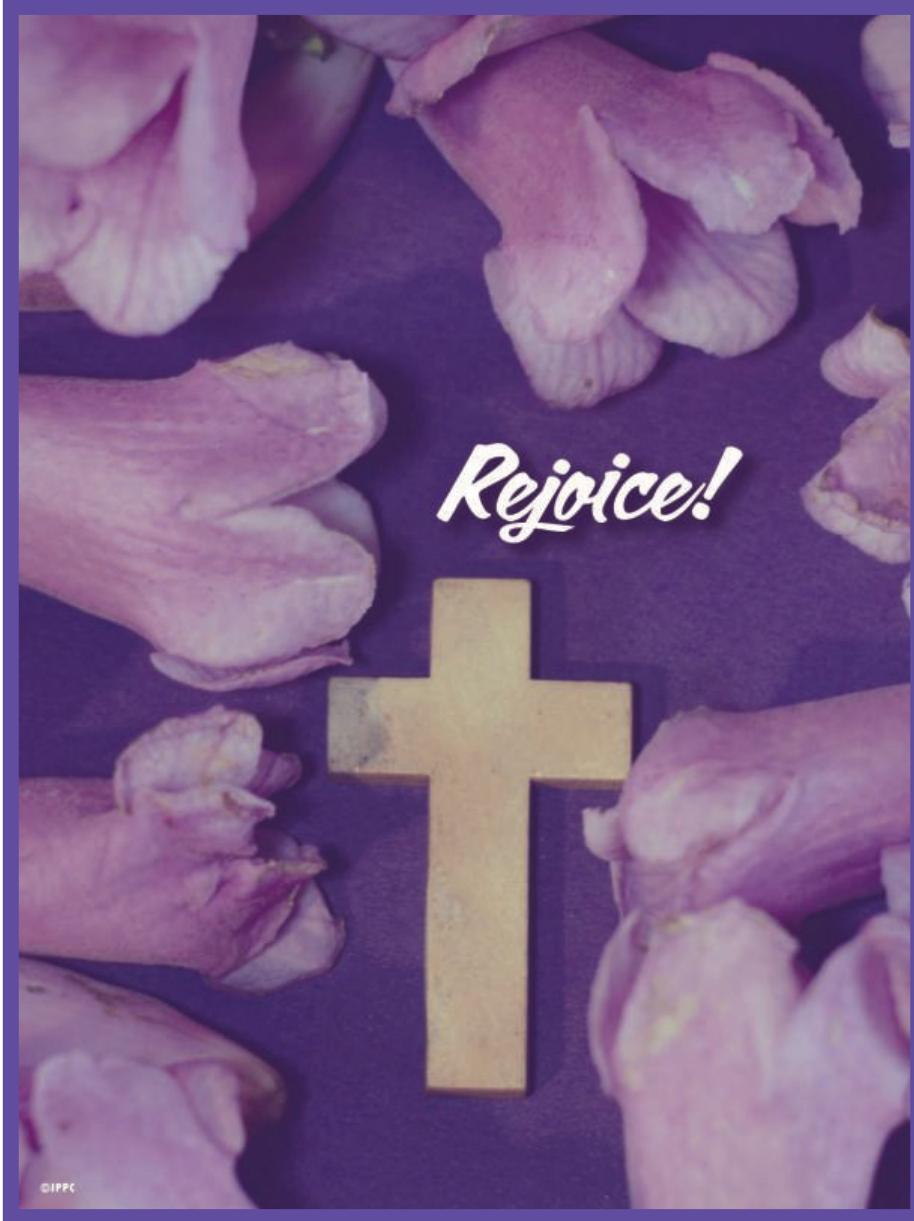


SAINT JAMES THE LESS PARISH

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Religious Services

Morning Prayer

Monday - Friday 8:15 am

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday 8:30 am

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm (Sp.), 5:00 pm

Confession

Thursday 4:30 pm, Saturday 3:00 pm or by Appointment

Holy Rosary

First Saturday 3:30 pm; First Sunday 9:30 am and 1:30 pm (Sp.) of each month

 On Thursdays, Adoration will be held in the Church from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. All are welcome to come for any amount of time.

Adoration

 On Thursdays, Adoration will be held in the Church from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. All are welcome to come for any amount of time.



Stations of the Cross Every Friday of Lent: English—7:00 pm, Spanish—7:45 pm.

Penance Service March 13, 2024, 5:00 pm

Rev. Juan C. Gaviria

Parish Administrator

Rev. Peter A. Chakkunny, CMI

In Residence

Linda Rondinelli

Parish Catechetical Leader

Frank Santiago

Maintenance

Music Ministry

George Cole - Cantor

Parish Office:

Phone 732-521-0100;

Fax 732-521-8287

Email jamestheless1880@gmail.com

Website: stjamesthelessrc.org

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Tuesday-Thursday, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Closed Friday

Religious Education: 732-521-1188

R.E. Email: sjtlccd@gmail.com

R.E. Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm (and by appointment)

A message from Fr Juan C. Gaviria

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy’s opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from John’s Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus’ reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today’s Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses’ prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today’s Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John’s Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John’s reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

Stewardship Scripture Reflection

March 10, 2024 - 4th Sunday of Lent

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son...” - John 3:16

Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us, the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest. How can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn, but He does ask that we are grateful and generous with our God-given gifts. That we nurture and develop our gifts, and in gratitude, generously give back and increase our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish and greater Church.

Ministry Schedule March 16th and 17th

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
Saturday 4:00pm	Pat Moke	Charlotte Klecan	Nathan & Nevin Panichiyil
Sunday 8:00 am	Susan Rudy	Anne Mendoker	Jake Fiordaliso & Misael Ortiz
Sunday 10:00 am	Carol Damiani	Linda Talmagi	Henry & Sean Alvarenga
Sunday 5:00 pm	Jennie Ludas	Barbara Cooper	Kayla, Madelyn & Tyler Dunn



If Requestors are in attendance for a mass intention and wish to bring offertory gifts to the priest, please advise the usher before the start of mass.

MONDAY, MARCH 11

8:30 AM + Ryan Carson
R/B: Pat and Ed Moke

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

8:30 AM + Stanley and Evelyn Lester
R/B: Pat and Greg Lester

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

8:30 AM + Cyde "Jackie" Iannacone
R/B: St. James Marines

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

8:30 AM + Berth U. Clemons

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

8:30 AM + John Cryan MD
R/B: Margie Duncan

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

4:00 PM + Tom Tolve
R/B: Wife, Linda

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

8:00 AM + Tommy and Brige Walker
R/B: Family

10:00 AM + Jane Lanza

R/B: Al Lanza

2:00 PM For the people of St. James

5:00 PM + Sophie Tamashuna
R/B: Clara



Week of March 11

MONDAY/LUNES

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

TUESDAY/MARTES

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

WEDNESDAY/MIÉRCOLES

Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

THURSDAY/JUEVES

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

FRIDAY/VIERNES

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

SATURDAY/SÁBADO

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

SUNDAY/ DOMINGO

Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33



Baptism: Parents who wish to have their child baptized need to call the Rectory. Preparation classes are required and are by appointment only.

Sponsors and Godparents: Church law mandates that a sponsor for baptism and confirmation be an active Confirmed Catholic. An active Catholic is a parishioner who is registered, attends Mass weekly, contributes to the support of the church, is in a valid Catholic marriage (if married), and leads a life compatible with Church teaching. We can only write letters of eligibility for parishioners who meet these criteria.

Matrimony: Couples contemplating this Sacrament must contact the Parish Office at least one year in advance. All couples planning marriage must attend Pre-Cana classes or Engaged Encounter.

Ministry of the Sick: Parishioners who are homebound and would like to receive the Eucharist, please call the Rectory.

Religious Education Classes: For information on Religious Education classes, please contact our Religious Education office at 732-521-1188.

RCIA: Adults inquiring about the Catholic Church with a desire to become Catholic are invited to call the Parish Office for more information about the Rite of Catholic Initiation of Adults which begins in September and runs through the following Easter.



"The Lord loves our brothers and sisters who are ill. With trust let us pray to him that he will comfort them with his grace."

Kristen Aikens, Molly Barry, Kristi Berkenfield, Marlene Birello, Lou Bisignano, John Bouthilette, Mason Dent, Laura Hanish Dreifus, Charles Ferrito, Pat Flynn, Janice Gervasi, Gene Guerin, Finnley Hanway, Serge Hunt, Barbara Jolly, Keith Keller, Joann Kleinert, Lisa Krusniski, Felicia Mazzio, Rev. Brian McCormick, Magnus-Aodhan McCullough, Rosie Miller, Frank Muzio, Antonio Narciso, Anne Pinto, Mary Prince, Shannon Pross, Meadow Repsha, Joann Russell, Peggy Schiller, Bill Sharp, Annette Sowa and Rev. Louis Stingel.

To add or remove someone on the sick list, please call the Parish Office at 732-521-0100, or send an email to: jamestheless1880@gmail.com

Una carta de Rev Juan C. Gavíria

Este cuarto domingo de cuaresma es llamado algunas veces **Domingo Laetare** y es una expresión latina que significa “domingo del gozo.” Este domingo, de acuerdo con la antífona de entrada, somos llamados a alegrarnos por el gozo próximo de la Pascua.

El evangelio de hoy es tomado de San Juan y consiste en dos partes. La primera parte es en final de la respuesta de Jesús a Nicodemo, el fariseo quien se acerca a Jesús en la noche. Nicodemo reconoce que Jesús es alguien quien viene de Dios y por ello el desea seguirlo. Jesús saluda a Nicodemo con la advertencia de que todos debemos de nacer de arriba para contemplar el reino de Dios. El diálogo entre Jesús y Nicodemo que sigue es sobre el significado de esa frase. Nicodemo no entendió el mensaje o frases de Jesús, pero no estaba molesto por las preguntas que Jesús le hizo.

En la parte de la conversación con Nicodemo en el evangelio de hoy, Jesús se refería al incidente sobre el Antiguo Testamento. Cuando los israelitas murmuraban contra Dios por sus sufrimientos en el desierto, Dios les envió serpientes venenosas para castigarlos por sus reclamos. Los israelitas se arrepintieron y pidieron a Moisés que orara por ellos. Dios escuchó a Moisés y le pidió que hiciera una serpiente de bronce y la montara sobre una estaca. Todos aquellos que hubiesen sido picados por una serpiente y que mirasen luego a la serpiente del poste, sería sanados. Al recordar la historia, Jesús alude a la salvación que se obtendrá por medio de su muerte y resurrección.

La segunda parte del evangelio de hoy, es una reflexión teológica sobre las palabras de Jesús a Nicodemo. El evangelio de San Juan es conocido por esta clase de reflexiones. Las palabras del evangelista son una continuación de las palabras contenidas en el prólogo de este mismo evangelio. En dichas reflexiones, San Juan elabora un número de temas que se repiten en este libro, tales como: luz y oscuridad, creencia e incredulidad, bien y mal, salvación y condenación.

En la reflexión que hace San Juan, encontramos una observación sobre el pecado. Jesús es la luz que viene al mundo, pero el mundo prefiere las tinieblas. Deseamos que nuestros pecados se queden ocultos o en las tinieblas, escondidos aun de Dios. Jesús ha venido al mundo para develar nuestros pecados y para perdonarnos. Esta es la buena noticia; esta es la razón de nuestro gozo en este tiempo de Cuaresma y durante toda nuestra vida.

REFLEXION BIBLICA SOBRE CORRESPONSABILIDAD

10 de marzo de 2024 - 4º Domingo de Cuaresma

“Tanto amó Dios al mundo, que no dudó en entregarle a su Hijo único...” -Juan 3:16

De todos los dones maravillosos que Dios nos ha dado, el don de su propio Hijo es verdaderamente el mayor. ¿Cómo podremos agradecerle a Dios por un regalo como ese? Dios no nos pide sacrificar nuestros preciosos primogénitos, pero nos pide que seamos agradecidos y generosos con los dones que hemos recibido de Él. Que cuidemos y desarrollemos nuestros dones, y en gratitud y generosidad los demos de vuelta aumentando nuestro tiempo de oración, nuestro talento en obras de caridad y nuestros tesoros para apoyar la misión y el ministerio de nuestra parroquia, y de la Iglesia en general.

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for March

For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

March Parish Prayer Intention

As we honor Saint Joseph, protector of the Holy Family, we pray that he will protect the one holy Catholic and apostolic church from the physical and spiritual attacks that are currently being levied against it.

Bread & Wine

The Bread & Wine at our Eucharistic Celebrations this week are in memory of Barbara Narsavage. This is a loving gift from Tom Narsavage.

Altar Candles

The Altar Candles, which burn during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for this week are in memory of Linda Narsavage. This is a loving gift from Tom Narsavage.

Weekly Collections

February 24th and 25th: \$6,497
 March 2nd and 3rd: First Collection \$7,048
 Second Collection \$1,915

**Choices Matter
A Critical Life Issues Conference
Saturday, March 16, 2024**

The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Human Life and Dignity presents "Choices Matter — A Critical Life Issues Conference" which will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway on Saturday, March 16, 2024. An Opening Mass will be celebrated by Bishop James Checchio at 9:00 AM and the conference will begin at 10:00 AM and end at 3:30 PM. This year's expert speakers are:

- Jim Towey — Author and advisor and personal friend of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta
- Kevin Dunn — An award-winning filmmaker and pro-life speaker
- Evie West — Author of "Revolving Choices: Playing Roulette With Life", pro-life speaker, adoption advocate

General registration is \$35 and student registration is \$15. The conference features Eucharistic Adoration, exhibits and more. The fee includes lunch and handouts.

To register, visit: www.diometuchen.org/choicesmatter, or call 732-562-1990 ext 1629 or ext 1543.

For questions or more information, please email amarshall@diometuchen.org. Seating is limited.

All Are Welcome!

The Altar Rosary Society of St James the Less extends an invitation to attend their meeting on Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM. After the recitation of the Rosary and Miraculous Medal Novena, Rev. Robert Pinnisi, Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Piscataway, will speak on the connection between Divine Mercy and Mary, Mother of Mercy. Light refreshments will follow in the parish hall.

- Location: St James the Less Church, 36 Lincoln Ave., Jamesburg, NJ
- RSVP by: Wed, March 27; call or text 732-228-2936

Adult Enrichment Classes – World Religions

10 Classes, April 18 – June 27, 2024 - Thursdays 10:00 AM - 11:30 PM. Fr. Comandini, S.T.D. will teach about Hinduism - Buddhism - Judaism - Christianity - Islam.

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway - Fee: \$15 for all 10 Classes. To register visit: www.diometuchen.org/faith-formation. For more information email amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1543

CRS Rice Bowls

The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl initiative has begun. Rice Bowls are available at all church entrances, next to the bulletin. Please consider taking one home and contributing this Lent, due on/before Easter Sunday. Proceeds from the Rice Bowl will reach 250 million people with lifesaving support. Even a small contribution will make a big difference in the lives of those in need.



2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal

STAY WITH US, LORD:

Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

Central to our understanding of Christian stewardship is the concept of accountability. To safeguard the gifts you have entrusted to our care, we recently set up a special foundation, a separate trust, where all the money from this Appeal goes so that it can be used only for those ministries advertised in the Appeal materials and website. You can be assured that your gift is well protected and well used; making a difference in meeting the spiritual, educational and social needs of the people we serve. A gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal is a worthy investment.

**St. Padre Pio Prayer Group
of St. Ambrose Parish**

Come join us in prayer as we celebrate mass together in honor of St Padre Pio by Celebrant Fr. Jack C. Grimes. Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 9:00 AM followed by veneration of a first class relic of St Padre Pio.



St Ambrose Parish
83 Throckmorton Lane, Old Bridge NJ 08857
(732) 679-5666

**Help Support
The Sisters At Flemington Carmel Monastery**

The Sisters of Carmel of Mary Immaculate and St. Mary Magdalen Monastery in Flemington, NJ are celebrating 75 years of their establishment this year. A speaker will provide more information at the 4 pm mass on March 16th and the 8 am and 10 am masses on March 17th.

Please consider sending prayer requests and/or vocation inquiries to flemingtoncarmel.org/contact. To donate, visit flemingtoncarmel.org/donate.



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St. James Columbiettes
2nd Monday of every month 7:00 pm
except July & August

St. James Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

St. James Knights of Columbus annual Fish Fry takes place every Friday during Lent through Good Friday (March 29) from 5:00-8:00 pm, at 83 E. Lincoln Ave., Jamesburg. Dine in and take out available.

**St James Columbiettes
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We thank all who purchased soup from us. We sold 113 quarts. We hope that you enjoyed eating it as much as we enjoyed making it for you.

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