SAINT JAMES THE LESS PARISH

36 Lincoln Avenue, Jamesburg, NJ 08831

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)

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 3:40 pm; First Sunday 9:40 am and 1:30 pm (Sp.) of each month

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.

Parish Mission Statement
St. James the Less Parish is a Christian Community of the Roman Catholic tradition. Our Parish Community is dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus, and as the people of God, are called to further the mission of Jesus. We will do this through the Word, Liturgy, Sacrament, Music, Ecumenism, Evangelization, Religious Education of our Children, Prayer and the Honoring of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will deepen our knowledge, skills and understanding of our Faith. We will be Faith based. Above all, we will foster Love by example and serve the needs of others to work towards economic and social development for all people.

A message from Fr Juan C. Gaviria

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.

Stewardship Scripture Reflection

April 21, 2024 - 4th Sunday of Easter

"I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep…and they will heed my voice."

- John 10:14-16

When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Jesus what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Many times Jesus responds in "quiet whispers" that are not so obvious. So, take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His voice.

Ministry Schedule
April 27th and 28th

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
Saturday 4:00pm	Lois Castrovince	Rosemary Iannacone	Nathan & Nevin Panichiyil
Sunday 8:00 am	Susanne Alvarez	Susan Fritz	Jake Fiordaliso & Misael Ortiz
Sunday 10:00 am	Mike Raimondi	Anne Mary Demetzky	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, April 22
8:30 AM + Victor Zapanta
R/B: St. James Marines

TUESDAY, April 23
8:30 AM + Jean Mattia
R/B: Pat Flathman

WEDNESDAY, April 24
8:30 AM + Jackie Iannacone
R./B: Lina Mercado

THURSDAY, April 25
8:30 AM + Antonia and Joseph Caputo
R/B: Family

FRIDAY, April 26
8:30 AM + Thomas J. Moran
R/B: Dot Bascik

SATURDAY, April 27
4:00 PM + James Farrell
R/B: St. James Homebound Eucharistic Ministers

SUNDAY, April 28
8:00 AM + Antoinette Hart
R/B: Aunt A.

10:00 AM + Francisco Roca
R/B: Roca Family

2:00 PM Sacred Heart of Jesus
R/B: Rodriguez Family

5:00 PM + Thomas Dolan
R/B: Laurie Lane

"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, Charlie Miller, Rosie Miller, 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

Week of April 22

MONDAY/LUNES
Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10

TUESDAY/MARTES
Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

WEDNESDAY/MIÉRCOLES
Acts 12:24-13:5a; Jn 12:44-50

THURSDAY/JUEVES
1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20

FRIDAY/VIERNES
Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

SATURDAY/SÁBADO
Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14

SUNDAY/ DOMINGO
Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

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.

Una carta de Rev Juan C. Gavíria

El cuarto domingo de pascua es llamado el domingo del Buen Pastor. In cada ciclo del leccionario, nuestro evangelio es tomado del capítulo 10 del evangelio de San Juan. En el ciclo B, el evangelio nos muestra la forma como Jesús se declara como Buen Pastor.

Este capítulo de San Juan sigue a la curación de un hombre ciego de nacimiento y el rechazo de dicho milagro por los líderes judíos quienes cuestionan la autoridad de Jesús de sanar. Jesús responde a dicha crítica llamándose a si mismo como el Buen Pastor. El critica el liderazgo de los fariseos y de los otros líderes judíos. Estos lideres y los fariseos están tan molestos que intentan apedrear y arrestar a Jesús (*ver Juan 10:31-39*). Esta controversia con dichos líderes continuará hasta la muerte de Jesús.

En esta parte del capítulo del evangelio proclamado hoy, Jesús describe su relación con sus seguidores como la que existe entre un pastor y sus ovejas. Al igual que un pastor arriesga su vida para proteger a su grey, igualmente Jesús sacrifica la suya por el bien de sus ovejas. Jesús contrasta los actos del bien samaritano con los actos de un pastor contratado que abandona a sus ovejas en caso de peligro. En los versos siguientes, encontramos que los fariseos y otros líderes religiosos comprenden que Jesús se refiere a ellos cuando habla de "pastores contratados."

Jesús afirma que los actos del buen pastor se basan en la buena relación entre el pastor y sus ovejas. Este es el corazón de la diferencia entre el buen pastor y aquel que es solo contratado. El buen pastor conoce a sus ovejas y actúa con amor. Para el buen pastor, su trabajo no es nunca algo rutinario, siempre actúa con amor.

Al igual que buena parte del evangelio de Juan, este pasaje se enfoca en una enseñanza cristológica. Así como las ovejas conocen a su pastor, así también el Padre conoce a Jesús y Jesús conoce al Padre. Hay una unidad esencial entre el Padre y el Hijo. La libertad con la cual Jesús actúa se basa en que su vida es una sola con la de su Padre.

En este contexto, Jesús se refiere a aquellos con quienes el comparte una relación. Al hacer esta referencia, San Juan quizás incluye a los Gentiles en la comunidad cristiana. Nuestros oídos modernos oyen esta referencia como la invitación a la unidad de los cristianos. El trabajo del ecumenismo es restaurar la unidad entre todos los cristianos, de manera que seamos una sola grey bajo un solo pastor, como Dios lo desea.

REFLEXION BIBLICA SOBRE CORRESPONSABILIDAD

21 de abril de 2024 - 4º Domingo de Pascua

"Yo soy el buen pastor... Y doy mi vida por mis ovejas.... Y ellas reconocerán mi voz."- Juan 10:14-16

Cuándo usted reza, ¿solo le pide a Jesús las cosas que usted quiere?¿Alguna vez le ha preguntado a Jesús lo que Él quiere de usted?¿Cómo escucha Su respuesta? Muchas veces Jesús responde en "suaves murmullos" que no son obvios. Por lo tanto, dedique tiempo cada día, en silencio, para escuchar activamente Su voz.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April

For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that women experience in different parts of the world.

Weekly Collections

April 13th and 14th: $6,614

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!

If anyone is interested in being part of this rewarding service to your parish community, contact the office at 732-521-0100. Altar Servers must be in Grade 3 or higher. Altar Serving counts towards community service hours for 7th and 8th grade.

McQuillen Memorial Scholarship

Agnes F. McQuillen, a deceased parishioner of St. James the Less left a bequest as a permanent fund to create an enduring memorial for her late son, William H. McQuillen, in the form of scholarships to assist parishioners with tuition expenses.

Any student attending a Catholic High School or Catholic/Public College interested in applying for the McQuillen Memorial Scholarship may obtain a Verification Form located next to the bulletins at church entrances. Verification Forms are due in the parish office by **Monday, May 6th**. These could be dropped off in the parish office during office hours or in collection baskets at Mass. Once the Verification Forms are received, an Application Form will be sent to the applicant.

The Completed Scholarship Packet is due at the parish office no later than **Monday, May 20th, 10 AM.**

O Sacrum Convivium

O sacred banquet,
In which Christ is received,
The memory of His passion is renewed,
The mind is filled with grace,
And a pledge of future glory is given to us.

2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal

STAY WITH US, LORD:

Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to: Diocese of Metuchen Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or give online at https://diometuchen.org/BAA.

Spiritual Gifts

Weekly Spiritual Gifts may be offered in honor of loved ones. Please visit the Rectory during business hours for available dates.

Sanctuary Lamp	$25.00
Bread and Wine	$25.00
Altar Candle	$35.00
Altar Flowers	$75.00

Crowning of the Blessed Mother

All are invited to join the 10 am mass on April 28th. Our First Holy Communicants will be crowning the Blessed Mother at the start of mass.

The Rosary Altar Society extends an invitation to join on Thursday, May 2nd, at 6 pm at the Rosary Garden for the May crowning of the Blessed Mother and Rosary. In case of inclement weather, the crowning and Rosary will be held in the church. All are welcome to come and join.

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