

April 6, 2025

SAINT JAMES THE LESS PARISH

36 Lincoln Avenue, Jamesburg, NJ 08831

Go, and from now on
do not sin any more.

JOHN 8:11



Rev. Juan C. Gaviria

Parish Administrator

Rev. Peter A. Chakkunny, CMI

In Residence

Linda Rondinelli

Parish Catechetical Leader

Susan Carr

Parish Secretary

Frank Santiago

Maintenance

Music Ministry

Ellen Estallo - Music Director

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 to 6:00 pm. All are welcome to come for any amount of time. Confession from 4:30 to 4:50 pm.

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 Gospel for the fifth Sunday of Lent continues to offer lessons about God's mercy and forgiveness. Last Sunday we heard the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the Gospel of Luke. Today we hear not a parable, but the report from John's Gospel of an encounter among Jesus, the scribes and Pharisees, and a woman caught in adultery.

In John's Gospel, the conflict between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees occurs much earlier than in the Synoptic Gospels. Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem is reported at the beginning of John's Gospel.

In the chapter preceding today's Gospel, Jesus was teaching in the Temple area. Feeling threatened by his teaching and his actions, the chief priests and the Pharisees are already sending guards to arrest Jesus. The guards return, however, without arresting Jesus because they have been impressed by his words. Even more than this, some among the crowds are considering the possibility that Jesus is the Messiah. The chief priests and the Pharisees change their plan. Before making an arrest, they seek to gather more evidence against Jesus by posing a question intended to trap Jesus.

Today's Gospel begins by reporting that Jesus is again teaching the crowds in the vicinity of the Temple. The scribes and the Pharisees approach Jesus, bringing a woman who has been caught in the act of adultery. They put to Jesus the question of what ought to be done in this case.

The Pharisees state clearly that according to the Law of Moses, those caught in the act of adultery were to be stoned to death. Under Roman occupation, however, the Jewish people did not have the authority to execute people; this is cited in John's passion narrative. To answer the Pharisees' question, Jesus must propose an action that will be either contrary to the Law of Moses or contrary to Roman law. The purpose of the question appears to be similar to the question about paying taxes found in Mark 12:13-17. Either answer, yes or no, will support the Pharisees' case against Jesus.

Jesus avoids the trap, however, by offering an answer that was not anticipated by those who posed the question. Jesus, after writing on the ground with his finger, addresses those who stand before him and suggests that the one without sin cast the first stone. Jesus then returns to his writing. This Scripture reading, by the way, is the only evidence we have of Jesus writing. Yet there are no specific details about what he wrote.

We can easily imagine the scene as the Pharisees and the elders disperse, one by one. Jesus has eluded the trap they had prepared. We might also give credit to the elders and the Pharisees who do not, in the end, claim to be sinless and worthy of passing judgment. These Pharisees are not as self-righteous as the portrait found in the parable of the pharisee and the tax collector (See Luke 18:9-14).

Left alone with the woman, Jesus asks where the accusers have gone. With no one remaining to condemn the woman, Jesus (the one who truly is without sin) sends the woman on her way, refusing to pass judgment on her and exhorting her to avoid future sin.

Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners his mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.

Stewardship Scripture Reflection

April 6, 2025 - 5th Sunday of Lent

"...For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ..." (PHILIPPIANS 3:8)

The first commandment says that we should not put other gods before the Lord. Sharing all of our gifts - our time in prayer, our talent in charitable works, and our treasure to support the Church helps us keep God first in everything. It helps us from putting other gods before God. It helps us from becoming a slave to our possessions. It helps us to use our gifts for the glory of God and not for the glory of ourselves.

Ministry Schedule April 12th and April 13th

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
Saturday 4:00pm	Ed Moke & Carmen Ortiz	Pat Moke	Demi Dale & Gianna Scilingo
Sunday 8:00 am	Jeanne Bezerra & Carmen Ortiz	Denise Halpin	Misael & Sammy Ortiz
Sunday 10:00 am	Joann Malet & Carmen Ortiz	Jackie Roca	Jake Fiordaliso & Michael Palm
Sunday 2:00 pm	Lorena Bernal & Sonia Rodriguez	Alfredo Oleachea	Annette & Angelo Oleachea & Hailey Herrera
Sunday 5:00 pm	Susan Keating & Mary Desmond	Sean Desmond	Ryan Desmond & Nick Brady



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 7

8:30 AM + St James Memorial Society

TUESDAY, April 8

8:30 AM + Olga Enik
R/B: Charlotte & Ed Klecan

WEDNESDAY, April 9

8:30 AM + Craig Gonzalez
R/B: Family

THURSDAY, April 10

8:30 AM + John Cashin
R/B: Dino Sian

FRIDAY, April 11

8:30 AM Margie Klock (living intention)
R/B: St James Eucharistic Ministers

SATURDAY, April 12

4:00 PM + Senen Balmaceda
R/B: Cabredo Family

SUNDAY, April 13

8:00 AM + John Cashin
R/B: Mary Laresch

10:00 AM + Stephanie Germann

R/B: Mother, Jeanne

2:00 PM + Francisca Martinez

R/B: Francisca Vidal

5:00 PM + Joseph Casale

R/B: Theresa & Tom Dipaoli & Natalie



"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."

David Addesso, Kristen Aikens, Neil Armorer, Bishop Bootkoski, Barbara Boyer, Denis Brady, Len Caglianone, Joe Conti, Charles Ferrito, Janice Gervasi, Elena Giglio, Finnley Hanway, Ellie K., Ronnie Kreutzer, Rev. Brian McCormick, Charlie Miller, Rosie Miller, Eileen R., Irene Resnick, Tony Rondinelli, Peggy Schiller, Bill Sharp, Annette Sowa, Rev. Louis Stingel, Richard G. Tittel, Antoinette Tumas, Cathy Valendo

IMPORTANT

If you wish to add a name to the list in the 2025 bulletins, please call the Parish Office. 2025 names will be added and remain on the list for 60 days. Please notify the office if you wish to remove it sooner, or by the 15th of the ending month if you wish to keep the name on the list.

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 7

MONDAY/LUNES

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or Dn 13:41c-62; Jn 8:12-20

TUESDAY/MARTES

Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

WEDNESDAY/MIÉRCOLES

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

THURSDAY/JUEVES

Gen 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

FRIDAY/VIERNES

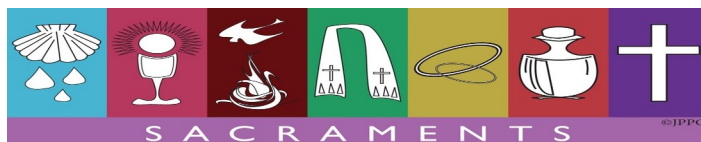
Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

SATURDAY/SÁBADO

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

SUNDAY/ DOMINGO

Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56 or Lk 23:1-49



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.** Mass attendance is confirmed by envelope use. Please call the parish office to obtain a sponsor letter or for additional information.

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.

OCIA (formerly 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. Gaviria

El evangelio de hoy nos sigue dando lecciones sobre la misericordia y el perdón. El domingo pasado leíamos la parábola del hijo pródigo. Hoy conocemos la historia del encuentro de Jesús y los fariseos y la mujer sorprendida en adulterio.

En el evangelio de San Juan, el conflicto de Jesús con los fariseos ocurre mas pronto que en el resto de los sinópticos. La limpieza del templo por parte de Jesús ocurre aquí antes que en los sinópticos. En el capítulo previo a la lectura de hoy, Jesús enseñaba en el Templo. Jesús se sentía amenazado por la presencia de los jefes de los sacerdotes y por los fariseos quienes ya enviaban guardias para arrestar a Jesús. Los guardias no arrestaban a Jesús porque se sentían impresionados por sus enseñanzas. Los fariseos y jefes de sacerdotes decidieron recolectar pruebas antes de arrestar a Jesús.

El evangelio de hoy comienza con el relato de que Jesús sigue enseñando en la zona cercana al Templo. Los fariseos y los escribas deciden aprovechar la ocasión cuando Jesús hablaba con una mujer capturada en adulterio. Ellos preguntan a Jesús que deben de hacer con aquella mujer.

Los fariseos establecen que, de acuerdo con la ley de Moisés, esa mujer debe de ser apedreada hasta morir. Pero bajo el régimen del imperio romano, los judíos no tienen la autoridad para hacer eso. La respuesta de Jesús a dicha pregunta debe de evitar la trampa legal formulada, pues apoyar la ley del imperio lo pondría contra la ley judía.

Jesús evita la trampa, decide agacharse y escribir en la arena y luego se levanta y pregunta a los que no tienen pecados que lancen la primera piedra. Luego Jesús continúa escribiendo. No tenemos evidencia sobre que escribía en la arena.

Solo imaginemos la escena de los fariseos y los ancianos marchando uno a uno. Jesús se escapó de la trampa. Aquellos fariseos no eran tan buenos como proclamaban.

Luego Jesús pregunta a la mujer, a quien habían dejado sola, sobre donde estaban quienes la acusaban. Luego Jesús, quien no era pecador, pide a la mujer que se vaya en paz, sin juzgarla y pidiéndole que no peque más.

La respuesta de Jesús a quienes acusaban a la mujer adúltera nos enseña acerca de la importancia de no juzgar a otros. Es una profunda lección sobre la misericordia y el perdón. Como pecadores, no somos dignos de juzgar los pecados de otros y debemos de pedir perdón a Dios por nuestros pecados. Jesús, quien nunca cometió pecado, es nuestro juez y nos ofrece misericordia y perdón. Redimidos por la compasión de Jesús, somos enviados a no pecar mas y a vivir en el amor y la paz de Dios.

REFLEXION BIBLICA SOBRE CORRESPONSABILIDAD

6 de abril de 2025 - Domingo 5 de Cuaresma

"...Por Él lo he perdido todo, y lo considero como basura con tal de ganar a Cristo..." (Filipenses 3:8)

El primer mandamiento dice que no debemos poner otros dioses delante del Señor. Compartir todos nuestros dones, nuestro tiempo en oración, nuestro talento en obras de caridad, y nuestros tesoros para apoyar a la Iglesia, nos ayuda a mantener a Dios primero en todo. Nos ayuda a no poner otros dioses delante de Dios. Nos ayuda a no ser esclavos de nuestras posesiones. Nos ayuda a utilizar nuestros dones para la gloria de Dios y no para nuestra propia gloria.



The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl initiative is in progress. 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.

Food Donations

We will be collecting food for the Deacons' Food Pantry in Jamesburg this weekend.

Items needed include: Cereal, pasta, spaghetti, pasta sauce, canned tomato products such as diced, stewed, etc, peanut butter, jelly, small cans of soup, canned pineapple, applesauce, canned fruit and scalloped potatoes.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

WEEKLY ENVELOPES

Do you receive envelopes but never use them? The envelope printing and mailing service is a costly one for St James. Please use your envelopes when attending Mass.



In addition, the envelopes serve as a way of confirming your attendance at Mass, which is a criteria for sponsor letters.

Please call the Parish Office if you are registered and not receiving envelopes. Thank you!

Shop Rite and Stop & Shop Cards

Shop Rite (\$25 and \$100) and Stop & Shop (\$25) cards will be sold before all Masses on **April 12th** and **13th**. A percentage of each card sold will be given back to St. James Church.

Weekly Collections

March 29th & 30th:

1st Collection- \$6,079.50

Next week's 2nd Collection will be for the Annual Retired Diocesan Priests.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are on Fridays during lent at 7pm (English) and 7:45pm (Spanish).



Spiritual Gifts Week of April 5-11

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp that is lit during our Eucharistic Celebration is in honor of Michael Castiglia. This is requested by Vincent & Joan Buonocore.



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center • P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191
P: 732.562.2458 • F: 732.562.1427 • E: office.of.the.bishop@diometuchen.org

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

April 6, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What a blessing that we have so many good, holy priests faithfully serving in the Diocese of Metuchen in our parishes, hospitals and other important ministries! I write to remind you that we also have **forty retired priests** of our diocese who have dedicated many years of devotion to God and our parish communities.

While all of our retired diocesan priests receive a monthly stipend to assist them with expenses, some go to live with relatives, while twelve live at our ***Maria Regina Residence for Retired Priests***. Here our retired priests live each day with dignity while being able to live in community with brother priests. Those who are physically able continue to generously help in so many ways—offering Mass at local parishes, hearing confessions and sharing their spiritual and administrative wisdom with their brother priests. They also spend time in prayer in their chapel praying for the needs of everyone in our diocese, including you.

Our retired priests have served so many people over the course of their ministry, nourishing our Catholic faith, educating our youth and serving the poor and vulnerable. ***Next weekend, April 12 and 13, as we celebrate Palm Sunday***, the faithful of the diocese will have the opportunity to gratefully acknowledge the life-long dedication of these priests by contributing to the ***Annual Collection for our Retired Diocesan Priests***. All funds raised through this collection will be used exclusively to assist our retired priests.

Thank you for your generosity. Please keep all of our priests in your daily prayers. Please also continue to pray for vocations from our local Church to the holy priesthood for service in our diocese.

With renewed best wishes, I remain
Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

LENTEN

OBLIGATIONS

- + The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday (March 5) and Good Friday (April 18).
- + The other Fridays of Lent (Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28; April 4, and 11) are days of abstinence.
- + Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
- + Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.). The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.

2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

Journeying Together in Faith, Hope and Charity

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.

Bishop's Annual Appeal Campaign Report As Of 03/028/2025

Parish Goal:	\$70,000.00
Pledged & Received:	\$31,096.00
Percent of goal pledged & received:	44.42%

Please consider making a pledge to this very important endeavor. All pledges are deeply appreciated, big or small!

St James Knights of Columbus Fish Fry



St James Knights of Columbus annual Fish Fry takes place every Friday during Lent, beginning **March 7** through Good Friday, **April 18**.

The Fish Fry is held from **5:00-8:00pm** at **83 E Lincoln Ave, Jamesburg**. Dine in and take out available.



Knights of Columbus Council #6336

83 E. Lincoln Avenue, Monroe
1st & 3rd Monday of every month 8:00 pm



St. James Columbiettes

2nd Monday of every month 7:00 pm
except July & August