FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

DECEMBER 24, 2017

Merry Christmas to all! Christmas is a special time of year. Regardless to one’s age, the season seems to affect us all in a special way. The “true” Scrooges of the world seem to be few and far apart. Whatever our outward demeanor, it seems that inwardly each of us harbors an inner glow that makes us slower to judge, easier to forgive and more prone to an inner peace than at other times of the year. I have often thought about why this is so. Perhaps it is the image of the Holy Family, cuddled in that stable on this night, which brings us this inner peace. At least we conjure that image in our minds eye. The small babe hovered over by a loving father and mother while angels stand guard and shepherds offer their greetings: hard to be cruel or harsh in that scene.

Ask any clergyman, of any demonization or sect, and they will tell you that their place of worship will see more people on this day than at any other time of the year. Once again, I ask myself, why? What makes this time of year so different from any other? Perhaps it is guilt at not being present at any other time. I would suggest that it is the inner voice in all of us that says that we should be here. That voice, I believe is present all the days of the year but we tune it out. That voice speaks but we allow our own pettiness, desire for pleasure, our desire to be left alone, and the other voices to this age to drown out the song of the angels bidding us come to the stable. The truth of the matter is that the same child, cradled in that manger, is present all the days of the year. The “spirit” of Christmas lives in the land each of the days of the year, waiting for us to acknowledge it. All too often, a great many of us hear foreign voices telling us that peace, true happiness, fulfillment is found in other things or beliefs. We allow ourselves to be deafened and blinded by the sounds and visions of this world while we ignore the truth.

The Child of Bethlehem is alive and well all the days of the year and bids us come to him, to follow the will of the Father who sent him and to hear the message that his birth proclaims. At this Christmas season, let us stop a while and listen to the message of the angels, and make it resound in our hearts all the days of the year. Let us pray for the strength, courage and perseverance to live the Spirit of Christmas all the days of the year.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year and may God bless us every one.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK – THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 - King David plans to build a temple to honor God. But God tells Nathan the Prophet that instead he will give David rest from his enemies and ensure that his house will be protected forever.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27 - Paul explains that the gospel reveals the mystery that had been hidden for many ages. Now it has been made known to all, so that they may believe, obey, and give glory through Jesus Christ forever.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38 - The Virgin Mary is approached by the angel Gabriel, who tells her that she has been chosen to bear the Son of God.
ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS
ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2017
8:00AM    Andrew Knox
5:00PM    Anne Farrell Carmody & Michael Farrell

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017, 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:00AM    Anna Jordan
10:00AM   Kelly Anne Grimmer
12:00PM   Michael and Mary Metlicke

MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE
5:00PM    Charles, Sondra and Matthew Lamb
7:30PM    For the people of St. James & OLL
9:30PM    (Living) Kisek & Przytula Family
          (Mass in Polish)
MIDNIGHT Virginia McDonough

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2017 – CHRISTMAS DAY
8:00AM    James & Mary Bailey
10:00AM   Seamus & Kevin Callaghan
NOON      Stops and Talacko Families

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2017
7:30AM    Eileen Oliver
9:00AM    Louise Lotrecchio & Mary DeFrancesco

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2017
7:30AM    Al Diodati
9:00AM    Anna Jordan (1st Anniversary)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2017
7:30AM    Marie Cortale
9:00AM    Rose Ferrante

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2017
7:30AM    Maria Angelica Duran
9:00AM    Mary L. Walsh

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2017
8:00AM    Living - Unannounced Intentions
5:00PM    Roddy Butler

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017
8:00AM    Winfred and George Biolsi
10:00AM   Lucia Rotellini
12:00PM   Mario Bonito
5:00PM    Danny Pope

TIME FOR WAR: A TIME FOR PEACE: Please pray for all those in the armed forces and their families, especially Cory James Espejo, Jason Terwilliger, Anthony Schneider, and Peter Mango serving in Kandahar, Afghanistan, and Alexei Gazio serving in Syria.

ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS
OUR LADY OF THE LAKE / MOUNT CARMEL
CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2017
4:00PM    Morris & Hebrank Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017, 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:00AM    Clara Landi
11:00AM   Clifford and Louise Oster
12:30PM   For the People of St. James and OLL/ Mt. Carmel
          (Mass in Polish)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017, CHRISTMAS EVE
4:00PM    Leo Flanagan & William & Eileen Larkin
          Midnight    Arthur DeLuca

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2017, CHRISTMAS DAY
9:00AM    Andrew Mcardle
11:00AM   Muriel Hicks
12:30AM   Maria Marusik (Mass in Polish)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2017
4:00PM    Maria and Gary Guidi

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017
8:00AM    Marion Esposito
10:00AM   Vinko Sarac
12:30PM   Marzena Baran
          (Mass in Polish)

TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON
AND A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN

TIME TO BE BORN: BAPTISMS: Brianna Nana Aduoa Breo
                 WiRedu and Anthony Kobena Brew-Wiredu

TIME TO HEAL: THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Sharon Gunther,
                 James Murray, Katharine & Arthur Stanton, Arlene Flower,
                 Claudio Penze, Martha Bouchard, Jacob Santor, Michael
                 Dattero, Michele Stafford, Rich Scampoli, Ruth Werner,
                 5 year old Joseph Barbarino Giordano, 8 year old
                 Kennedy Finney, 3 year old Christopher Rice, 7 year old
                 Dillon, 11 year old Rebecca Toledo, Tom Lyons,
                 Joan O’Brien, Dolores Stout, A.J. Palattella, Cobine
                 Gammon, Brendan Macuire, Pam Farmer, Brenda Burdick,
                 Dan DiPierro, William McGreevy Jr., Barbara Dean,
                 Mary Ann Comey, Joel Rivera, Alyssa Ramos,
                 Mary Kenan, Jennifer Szczecowiak, Stanley
                 Markow, 14 year old Joshua Brennan, Eric, Joseph & Christopher
                 Hernandez, Maria Bertoli, William Biolsi, Gerard Biolsi,
                 Margaret Cunningham, Patricia Upton, Lawrence Gill,
                 Jeff Cook, Martha Bouchard, Robert Schenaher,
                 John Spagnoli, Barbara Maione, Sr. Katherine Siegel,
                 Willie Balbon, Mary Brady, Jack Mark, Stephanie
                 Fehrer, Sue Parascondo, Dolly O’Donnell and 7 month old Kira.

A TIME TO DIE: THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:
                 Veronica Byrne, Joseph Carl
STEWARDSHIP IN OUR PARISH

DECEMBER 17, 2017

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** $14,540.00

**GOLD ENVELOPES** $1,195.50

(REL. ED. BLDG. MORTGAGE)

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**TOTAL** $15,735.50

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES** $4,228.00

WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF ST. JAMES AND OUR LADY OF THE LAKE / MOUNT CARMEL

Thank you for joining in our Eucharistic celebration. We are glad that you are here with us today, especially if you are a visitor and hope that you will find nourishment for your faith and life here. If you have recently moved into our Parish, please introduce yourself to the priests, deacons and parish staff. You are invited to register in the Parish Office at St. James. Our parish currently has 4,500 registered families and we would be happy to have you join our parish family.

**MONDAY NIGHT NOVENA MASS**

Each Monday evening, we gather at 7:10pm to pray the Rosary and celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Following Mass, we pray the Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, which affords us an opportunity to pray for our particular intentions and intercessions. All are invited.

**SEPARATED AND DIVORCED MINISTRY**

The Separated and Divorced Ministry of St. James and Our Lady of the Lake/ Mount Carmel is a support group for those who have experienced loss or rejection through separation or divorce. Our meetings are open to all men and women of the community. Meetings are in the Carriage House on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month from 7:30PM to 9:00PM. For more information, call Dennis at 845-612-9720.

BONANZA 2018

Keep an eye out for Bonanza 2018. You should have received your tickets the first week in December. Drawings will begin in January. Please call the School or Parish Office if you did not receive your tickets or would like additional tickets. They make good Christmas gifts for the “hard to buy for” person on your list!

Tickets are $50 each. All Winning tickets are re-entered for subsequent drawings during the year, so it is possible to win multiply prizes with the same ticket. We draw two-$200 prizes each week for 42 weeks and have three-$2,000 prizes during the year.

Thank you for your continued support!

RESPECT LIFE GROUP

The Church is called to proclaim the gift of life, to serve life and to promote the culture of life. Life in abundance must be the heart of the new evangelization. Join the Respect Life Group every first Monday for Mass at 7:30pm in the Chapel of Life. The meeting is in the Carriage House after the Mass and Novena. Fr. Adolphus is the moderator.

MEN OF ST. JAMES

The “Men of St. James” come together for prayer and discussion the 2nd and 4th Saturday’s at 7:00AM in the Carriage House. It is a place to re-kindle the fire that may have grown dim in your prayer life. Come and meet other men who are also trying to be faithful Catholic men. For more information, please call Deacon Art, 845-803-3699 or Deacon Scott, 914-364-3551.
MEMORIAL OFFERINGS
FOR DECEMBER 23 TO DECEMBER 29

THE BREAD AND WINE being used in St James The Apostle Church is
IN MEMORY OF ROBERT CROMEWLL OWENS III
DONATED BY BETINA, JIM, SEAMUS, MAUDIE, AND OWEN CAREY

THE BREAD AND WINE being used in Our Lady of the Lake/Mt. Carmel
IN MEMORY OF LOU OLIVIERI
DONATED BY FRAN OLIVIERI AND LOVING FAMILY

THE BREAD AND WINE being used in The Chapel of Life is
IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL CROWLEY AND PETER CASSELS
DONATED BY MARY MARTIN CASSELS

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE buring in St James The Apostle
IS IN MEMORY OF BRIGANTI AND FENNESSEY FAMILY
DONATED BY TOM AND MARGARET FENNESSEY

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE buring in Our Lady of the Lake/ Mt. Carmel
IS IN MEMORY OF MARY LOUGHRAN AND CATHERINE MARY LYNCH
DONATED BY CATHY CLARKE

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE buring in The Chapel of Life
IS IN MEMORY OF ALBERT SCOGNA AND EDWARD PUCCINI
DONATED BY ELEANOR SCOGNA

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE GIFT SHOP

St. James Gift Shop will be open on Sundays during December from 8:00am-1:00pm. Stop in for that special Christmas gift! We have a selection of Christopher Radko ornaments on sale for $5.00 each in addition to many traditional religious gift items, children’s books, and Christmas CDs. Any questions please call Theresa at 278-8033.

ST. SEBASTIAN’S TERRACE AND COLUMBARIUM

214 Purchased - 236 Niches Still Available
109 Cremains Interred

The price of a niche is $2,500, which allows you to inter the cremains of two people. We have celebrated Mass at the Altar of our Terrace and Columbarium many times. If you have questions, or have been thinking of purchasing a niche, call Donna McCarthy at 845-225-2079 Ext. 105, on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday to schedule an appointment.

For those not familiar with a Columbarium, it is a Latin word, which describes a collection of niches to house urns containing, cremated human remains. The niches are inscribed with the person’s name and dates of birth and death. They are constructed to serve as permanent resting places for our loved ones in a ‘churchyard’ and landscaped terrace. We pray that this holy ground becomes a final resting place for many of our loved ones.

OUR COLUMBARIUM IS ADJACENT TO
OUR LADY OF THE LAKE/MT. Carmel Church
ON NOONAN DRIVE IN LAKE CARMEL.

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed Tuesday, December 26th. We wish everyone a wonderful Christmas.
St. James the Apostle School
Offering Children, the Best in Catholic Education since 1954

Why Should You Choose St. James the Apostle School for your Child's Education?

Our purpose is to integrate our Catholic beliefs into the spiritual, educational, physical and social development of the students. We are very proud of our school family. Recognizing that ours is a partnership with parents, we ensure an environment where each individual has worth and deserves respect and dignity. Excellence in our school is the result of the commitment of time, effort and funds, which is shared by teachers, parents and the parish.

St. James the Apostle School challenges students to develop academic excellence and inspires spirituality based on Gospel values, which give their lives passion and purpose. Clergy, administrators, teachers and parents are committed to the growth of the school and its active role in the community. All students are taught in a faith-based environment that instills self-discipline, respect for themselves and others, as well as responsibility.

For further information regarding our school, please contact the school office, 845-225-9365.

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Children’s Liturgy and Choir Family Mass Schedule

Director of Children’s Liturgy
Maura Crawford
(maura.crawford@stjamescarmel.org)

Director of Children’s Choir
Kim Dumont (k.dumont.88@gmail.com)

Christmas Eve - Children’s Liturgy
5:00pm - St. James

Sun. 01-28-18: 10:00am - St. James
Fifth & Sixth Grade Family Mass

Sun. 03-11-18: 10:00am - St. James
Scout Liturgy (Boy & Girl Scouts only)

Sun. 04-01-18: 10:00am Mass - St. James
Easter Sunday Children’s Liturgy (All Students)

Sun. 05-13-18: 11:00am at Our Lady of the Lake Church - (Second Grade students only)
May Crowning/Mother’s Day Children’s Liturgy

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Celebrants for Christmas Masses

St. James The Apostle Church

Sunday, December 24, 2017, Christmas Eve

5:00PM  Msgr. Anthony Marchitelli
7:30PM  Msgr. Joseph Martin
9:30PM  Fr. Szymon Kurpios (Mass in Polish)
Midnight Msgr. Marchitelli

Monday, December 25, 2017, Christmas Day

8:00AM  Fr. Adolphus Muoghalu
10:00AM Msgr. Anthony Marchitelli
12:00PM Fr. Adolphus Muoghalu

Our Lady of the Lake/Mt. Carmel Church

Sunday, December 24, 2017, Christmas Eve

4:00PM  Fr. Adolphus Muoghalu
Midnight Fr. Szymon Kurpios (Mass in English)

Monday, December 25, 2017, Christmas Day

9:00AM  Msgr. Joseph Martin
11:00AM Fr. Szymon Kurpios (Mass in English)
12:30PM Fr. Szymon Kurpios (Mass in Polish)

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Christmas Events at Mariapolis Luminosa

Throughout the month of December, Mariapolis Luminosa in Hyde Park displays over 200 Nativity scenes from 50 countries at the Chiara Lubich Conference Center. People come yearly to see this beautiful event. The display runs from December 8 until January 7 from 1:00pm-5:00pm. Suggested donation is $5. Call (845) 229-0230, ext. 127, or www.focolare.org/mariapolisluminosa.

Please Note

The Catholic Widows & Widowers of Dutchess & Putnam Counties will not meet in the month of December but will meet again on the Third Tuesday of the Month in January at 7:00 pm in the Parish Meeting Room at St. Kateri Church in LaGrangeville, (845) 223-3097.
HEALING MASS
Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Church, LaGrangeville

Jesus calls us to be healed and whole, spiritually, physically, mentally and in our relationships. All are welcome to join us on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

Praise and Worship: 7:00 P.M., Mass: 7:30
Healing Prayer Opportunity follows Mass
Celebrant, Fr. Matthew MacDonald,

Please call Pat or Joe at 845-440-3519 Spirit Wind Prayer Group for more information.
website: www.saintkateriparish.com
       catholiccharismaticny.org

ATTTENTION
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
AND LECTORS

Upcoming Schedule Requests
*PLEASE NOTE
ADDITIONAL AVAILABILITY DATES ARE REQUESTED

The next schedule begins February 18th- the First Sunday of Lent. This schedule includes Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday through Pentecost Sunday- May 20th.

*Please also give your availability to serve the following holydays so that I can make notations. The holydays are

*Ash Wednesday, February 14th,
*Ascension Thursday- May 10th.

I will contact EMs and Lectors if they are needed to serve these holydays as their dates get close.

All schedule changes and availability must be submitted in writing to Teri in the Parish Office or emailed to: teri.dumont@stjamesapostle.org by Wednesday, January 3rd. When sending by email please place ‘EM and Lector Schedule’ in the subject line. As always, thank you for your service.

Men’s Beef Steak Dinner
Hosted by the Knights of Columbus

Join us for our 3rd annual James J O’Neill Memorial men’s beef steak dinner on Saturday January 13th. Doors open at 3 p.m. for the afternoon playoff game and there is a cash bar.

Dinner starts at 5 p.m. which also includes Gourmet filet mignon, fries, unlimited draft beer, wine, dessert and coffee. Stay after dinner if you want and watch the evening playoff game with us.

Cost is $50 if prepaid by January 6th or $60 after January 7th.

Seating is Limited-this event will sell out!

Reserve today. Make reservations with GK Rob Fiorello at gka@Carmelknights.org or mail your check with list of guests to KOC Council 63188 10 Fair Street Carmel New York 10512. All proceeds to benefit Saint James the Apostle Parish!!!

Boy Scout Fundraiser for Putnam Woman’s Resource Center

Nicholas Rizzo is the Boy Scout who replaced the fence in the ballfield this past summer as part of his Scout Award. The next award he is working on is the Pope Pius Award. All donations collected will help local battered women.

A donation of the following will be appreciated: New Twin Size Sheets, New Bath Towels, New Socks for women and children and Gift Cards from Shoprite, Tops, Kohl’s and Gas Stations in the area.

There will be a donation box in the lobby of both churches from December 26th to January 14th 2018.
Christmas 2017

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES
Sunday, December 24TH

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE CHURCH
5:00 p.m. – Children’s Mass
7:30 p.m. – Family Mass
9:30 p.m. – Mass in Polish - Pasterka
12:00 - Midnight Mass
(Carols begin at 11:30 p.m.)

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE/MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH
4:00 p.m. – Family Mass
12:00 Midnight Mass
(Carols begin at 11:30 p.m.)

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
Monday, December 25th

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE CHURCH
8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
12:00 Noon
(No evening Mass on Christmas Day)

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE/MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH
9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
12:30 p.m. - Mass in Polish

MASSES on MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2018
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

St. James the Apostle Church
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and Noon

Our Lady of The Lake/ Mt. Carmel
12:30 p.m. - Mass in Polish
“Wisdom-God’s Vision for Life”
An Eight Week Study

Participants of Wisdom will receive a journal and will meet every week to view an engaging 30-minute video presentation followed by a group discussion and fellowship. The videos, presented by Jeff Cavins, will guide you through a variety of themes drawn from the wisdom literature of Scripture. Jeff will explain Scripture’s wisdom on decision-making, finances, relationships, peace of mind, and speaking to one another and will look at the beauty of wisdom gained through age and at how Christ himself is the embodiment and fulfillment of all wisdom.

The study will begin on Tuesday, January 23rd and run for eight weeks at 7:30PM in Doherty Hall. For more details contact Claire and Kevin Murray at 845-228-9401 or by email at kevnciair@hotmail.com. You will not only benefit personally from being part of this study; you will also help us to grow in fellowship as a parish as we grow closer to Christ together.

Please register at the Parish Office before January 14, 2018, with a check payable to St. James the Apostle Church for $23.00 to cover the cost of materials.

“Wisdom is seeing with God’s eyes.”

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BLOOD DRIVE.

Please give a life sustaining gift. Donate a pint of blood so others might have a chance. Unfortunately, because of the Christmas and New Year’s Holiday’s the blood supply is very low and the demand is high. Please come join the members of the Knights of Columbus along with Driscoll Lodge of the FOP, the FDNY, and the Putnam County Bureau of Emergency Service at the Daniel O’Brien VFW Hall, Carmel on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29th, from 2:00 till 8:00pm.

In appreciation of your donation you’ll receive a coupon for appetizers at Applebee’s restaurant along with a $5 Dunkin Donut gift card.

There will be food and refreshments on hand for your replenishment.
Any questions please call Denis Hanrahan (845) 225-3048, Rob Fiorriolo (845)225-6318, Brenden McDonnell (845)803-3443