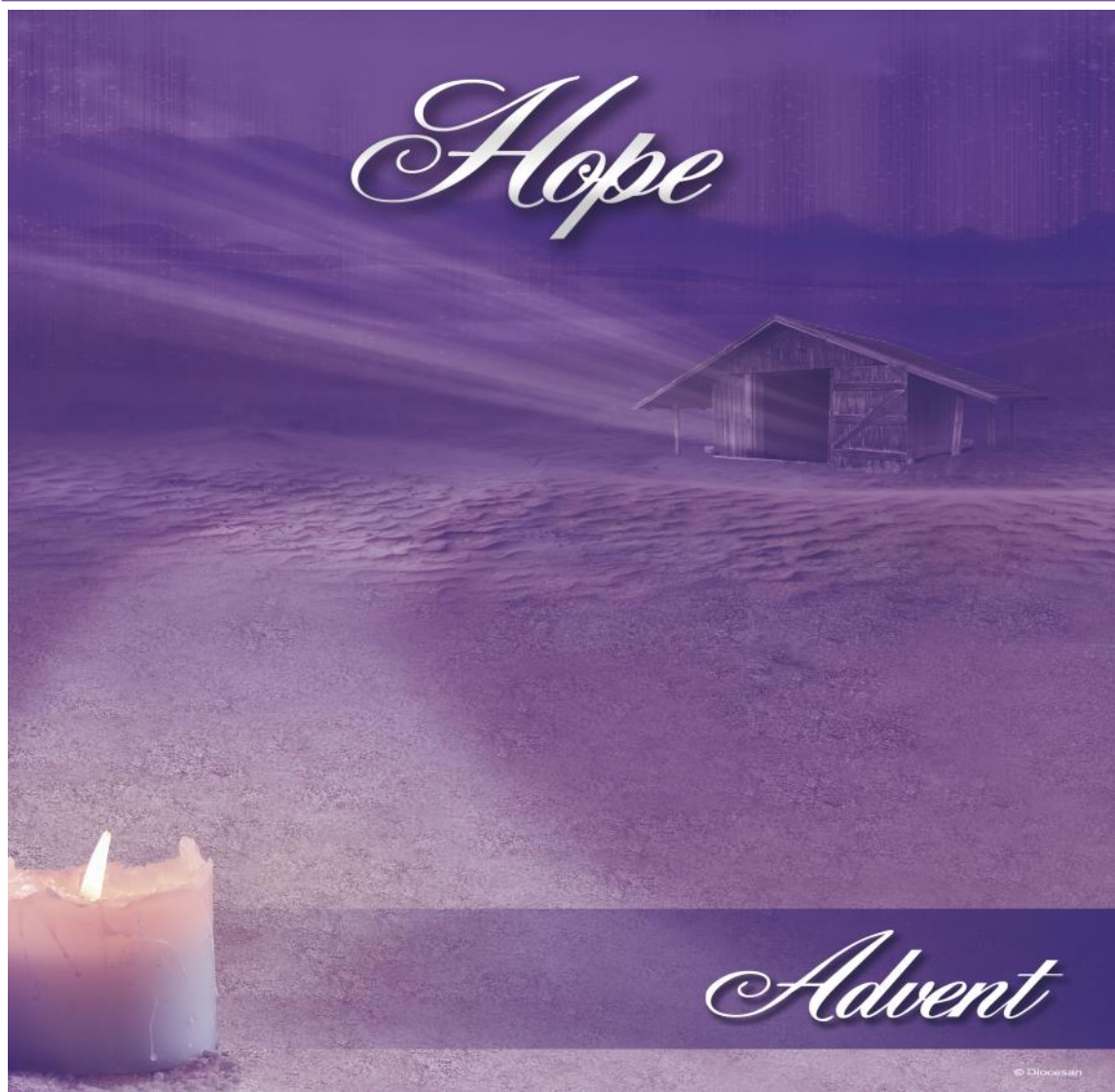




The Parish of Saints Philip and James  
1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780  
631-584-5454

November 28th, 2021  
First Sunday of Advent



*"Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life and that day catch you by surprise like a trap" Luke 21:34-36*

*"With Philip & James we pray to live lives worthy of the call to be Apostles of Hope"*

Daily Mass: 7:30am and 9:15 am  
Saturday 5pm Sunday: 8am 10 am 12noon

## STS. PHILIP & JAMES PASTORAL STAFF

Parish Center Phone: 631-584-5454 Parish Fax: 631-862-9675

Website—www.sspj.org

### PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Open Monday, Tuesday Wednesday 9am-6pm

Open Thursday 9am-6pm

Closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday

### CLERGY

Father Tom Haggerty, Pastor  
Father Joe Lobo-Associate Pastor  
Deacon Ronald Blasius  
Deacon John Keenan

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Sister Theresita Donach, CSFN

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Virginia Portanova

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: 631-584-3204

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 1-3

Charlotte Czujko~cczujko@sspj.org

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 4-6

Barbara Luna~bluna@sspj.org

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR Grades 7-8

Dominick Avento~davento@sspj.org

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Margaret Adams

### COORDINATOR OF PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Lynn Sisti

### DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Dominick Avento

### DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

John Cordes

### SSPJ SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Diane M. Anderson

School Phone-631-584-7896 School Fax: 631-584-3258

### TRUSTEES

Brendan McGovern ~ Tina Cafaro

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Michael Sharkey, Lou Guerra, Cynthia Lombardi, Paul Damato  
Martin Marut, Maureen Burke, Erin Nicastro

Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget: \$17,890

**\*\* COLLECTION FIGURES UNAVAILABLE AT BULLETIN PRINT DATE \*\***

Weekly Collection: November 20th, 2021: \$

Faith Direct : (131 Participants) 3,622

Total Collections: \$.

**FAITH DIRECT: VISIT SSPJ.ORG CLICK ON FAITH DIRECT ICON:  
USING SSPJ PARISH CODE: NY232**

## Sacraments

**Baptism**— Celebrated twice per month. Parents are asked to register at the Pastoral Center for Pre-Baptism Program.

**Marriage**—Couples are asked to contact the Pastoral Center before visiting the reception hall. The Marriage Preparation process is nine months before your proposed wedding date.

**Confirmation**—Seventh and Eighth grade students are prepared to celebrate through Religious Ed or SSPJ School. Adults prepare through RCIA.

**Reconciliation**— Available Saturdays from 4:00pm-5:00pm in the Church or by contacting the Parish Center for an appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick**— In case of serious, unexpected illness, please contact the Parish Center office to arrange for a Priest to pray with the person who is ill. Anointing of the Sick is held on the first Sunday of the month following the 8:00am mass please see the Sacristan before mass.

**R.C.I.A.**— Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (non-Catholic adults desiring to become Catholic) are asked to contact the Parish Center Office.

**Eucharistic Adoration In The Church**— Monday 1:30pm -7pm

### PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVE FOR US IN YOUR PRAYERS



LCDR. MEGAN M. SHUTKA-VIK, USN

CAPT. WILSON MARKS- USN

CAPTAIN MICHAEL DOLAN- JR.

LT. COL. JOHN KAIRES

SPC. NICOLE A. CANNON

SGM. MICHAEL P. BORRELLI-US ARMY

CAPT. JOHN TULLY- USN

LT. COL. JAMES TULLY-US ARMY

JOSEPH SAGGIO- USNC

CAPTAIN PAUL WILLMS

STAFF SGT. MICHAEL LONGHENRY

LT. COL. PAUL T. JACKSON-

STAFF SGT ALEXANDER PARRELLA-USAF

RICHARD SOTOMAYER- USAF

SGT. CONNOR F. SCOTT- USMC

SGT. CORY O'HARA -USMC

CDR. ROBERT J. MARSH-USN

PFC. CHARLES CHRISTOPHER HOWELL

STEVEN CAVA-USN

ERIC SEELIN- USMC

CW2 CHRIS MUNZ

CW2 NATASHA WORTMAN

CORPORAL JAMES T. CASEY-USMC

SGT. JOSHUA MAHONEY- US ARMY

KEVIN JONES-USCG

PRIVATE JOSHUA OLSEN-USARNG

GLEN CRIMA-US ARMY

STAFF SGT. ANTHONY SCIAMETTA— US ARMY

MARIO CATANIA-USMC

RYAN ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-USMC

KYLE ANTHONY NASCIMENTO-US ARMY

ENS. RYAN M. SHOWS -USN

STAFF SGT. RYAN REXRODE-USMC

DR. KARA VANDEKIEFT, COL.-USAF

SGT. STEPHEN D. OUTCAULT-USMC

PAUL MUMOLO-USN

VICTORIA ZEMAN, USCG

KYLE J. GRUNER -US ARMY

MARK GIORDANO—US COASTGUARD

KELLI MCLAUGHLIN- LT. US ARMY NATL.GUARD

1 LT MICHAEL J BANG—MILITARY INTELLIGENCE US ARMY

MATTHEW PATRICK GALLAGHER US ARMY

MIDN ERIN NICASTRO, USN.

As you probably know, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has declared Bankruptcy under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Law.

In order to be as helpful as possible to the parties that may be affected by this bankruptcy, we will be publishing the following note regarding “proof of claim forms” for the next few months:

Information regarding the deadlines for filing proofs of claim in the Diocese’s chapter 11 case and the forms to use can be found by clicking on the following link to the Diocese’s bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>

# A Letter From Father Tom

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the season of Advent, a season of hope – one designed for Apostles of Hope. With the first Advent candle we light this weekend, we begin a new liturgical year. As we do, we are reminded that God constantly offers us new beginnings, and faithfully accompanies us as our journeys continue. The starkness of our Advent decor reminds us to “de-clutter”, to quiet down, and to wait in hope for Emmanuel, God-with-us.

We move from Mark's gospel to Luke's. Unlike the rapid-paced action of Mark, Luke has written a longer narrative that suggests readers need to slow down and take some time to reflect on what he has recorded. In this gospel one of the key themes is prayer. The whole gospel is set in a prayerful environment. Slowing down to reflect on this gospel could be our "New Year's resolution" as we begin this new liturgical year. Such a thoughtful reading can accomplish one of the purposes Luke seems to have in mind for his readers: to evoke and deepen in us a spirit of prayer and growth in discipleship as we journey with Jesus on the road to Jerusalem. During these busy days before Christmas perhaps lighting a candle before retiring and praying to feel the shaping, consoling, nurturing hands of God may bring a deeper sense of hope and calm to our Advent and Christmas preparations.

Thanks to the Finance Committee for their presentation to us last weekend and again thank you to all of you who so wonderfully make our parish happen. I would be totally remiss if I do not publicly thank our Parish Business Manager, Virginia Portanova, for being the anchor who keeps our parish not simply solvent but warm, loving, and alive with hope. Please join me in thanking her as once again our Apostle of Hope whose selfless service to us, the Body of Christ, keeps us afloat and faithful to the Lord who blesses us to be Sts. Philip and James Parish Community.

And to you – the faith-filled people of Sts. Philip and James! It is an honor and privilege to live and pray with you and to be blessed by you! Happily, as you heard last weekend our parish school, religious education program, outreach to those in need, and our many ministries desiring to be faithful to the gospel are all on course. We pause this weekend and once again give great thanks to God!

During this coming month many of our young parishioners in religious education and SSPJ school will be celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation. Advent is a wonderful time for all of us to take advantage of the healing sacrament. We will have a parish celebration of the sacrament on Monday evening, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm in church. In the next few weeks sample preparations for the sacrament will be provided in the bulletin.

And,

*Ever since buying a digital camera, I can only think of its positive points. There just aren't any negatives.*

*I went to the gas station this morning to fill up my car. First pump didn't work. Neither did the second or the third. I went into the station and asked the person behind the counter, "Have you got your pumps on?" She said, "No, I'm wearing Ugg Boots."*

*I went to the fish shop and told the man behind the counter I wanted a large fish. He said, "it won't be long". I replied, "Well, then, it'd better be wide!"*

Peace,

*Father Tom*

*Apostles: We Who Are Sent...Hope: God's constant gift of new possibilities*



# Mass Intentions, For the week of November 28th, 2021

## Banns of Marriage

~ Second ~

**Eric Lewis**

and

**Samantha Donohue ~  
SSPJ Parish**



Eucharistic Adoration  
Monday in the church  
From 1:30pm-7:00pm

*A thousand years of enjoying  
human glory is not worth even  
an hour spent sweetly  
communing with Jesus in the  
Blessed Sacrament. Padre Pio*

## Remember in our hearts and prayers

Alan Evans  
Anthony J. Novellino, Sr.  
Antonette Sabatino  
Angie Mingione  
Angela Amoroso  
Anne Pell  
Anna & Harold Clayton  
Arthur Gureck  
Baby Ben  
Baby Penny Grace Candela  
Barbara Bombace  
Barbara Ruland  
Mattia Rose Lubrano  
Belinda Groneman  
Brendan McAlvin  
Cathy McCulloch  
Carol  
Carolyn Nehl  
Charles Figliosi  
Charlie Stangarone  
Claudia Chandler  
Deacon Ron Blasius  
Deirdre W.  
Donna Patrissi  
Dorothy Mitchell  
Elizabeth Martin  
Elizabeth Thorton  
Ellie Walsh  
Esther Styles  
Flo Donohue  
Gerald Maass  
Gloria Montesano  
Grace Bertolone  
Ginny & John Rief  
Gladys Blake  
Gregory Parker  
Helen  
Heidi Ray  
Jack Donohue  
Jamie Geiman  
Jennifer Clark  
Jessica Venditto  
John Cronin  
John DeStefano

John Scmillio  
Joseph H  
Joseph  
James Macchiano  
Judy Rampola  
Joseph Mazelis  
Joseph Costa  
Kenneth Cook  
Kathleen N.  
Kitty Cronin  
Kim Olofson  
Leon Donach  
Lynn McDonnell  
Mark Geld  
Marty Caltabiano  
Mary Ann Cesarski  
Mary Monte  
Mary Fressi  
Maryann Kevlin  
Maria Clark  
Marie del Cielo  
Marilyn Suli  
Matthew Parrella  
Marie & Frank Fiecco  
Melissa C.  
Michael Fisher  
Mike Lofaro  
Monsignor Iocavacci  
Nancy & Paul Bertran  
Nancy Cuccinotta  
Pasquale Savarese  
Pat LeDoux  
Peter Donach  
P.I.  
Ricardo Buffit  
Riordan Cavoors  
Richard Chiorando  
Robert Koop  
Sara Jean Andersen  
Stephen Dolce  
Suzanne Orlando  
Tara Cesarski  
Vivien Cordes  
Veronica Broderick  
Wayne Hendricks

<b>Saturday November 27th</b>	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lector: Schor/Smith  EM: Rapp/Lombardi/Sist</b>	<b>9:15am  5:00pm</b>	<b>Vincent Casano  Carmine Lorenzo</b>
<b>Sunday November 28th</b>	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lector: Auletta/O'Leary EM: Czujko/Kanuika/ Kenney</b>	<b>8am</b>	<b>For the People of SSPJ</b>
	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lector: Wos/Koke EM: Amen/Latino/ Mulhall</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Deacon Ken Maher</b>
	<b><u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Tom Lector: Just/Suski EM: Samson/Consenz/ Napolitano</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Vincent Casano Fred Boyce Gertrude Christy John Patrick Harney Delfina Santos</b>
<b>Monday November 29th</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Vera &amp; Vincent Mulvehill  James Edward O'Bray</b>
<b>Tuesday November 30th</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Living~Peter Castelotti  Lawrence T. Quinn</b>
<b>Wednesday December 1st</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Living~Sophia &amp; Tom McCormick  Jason Monte</b>
<b>Thursday December 2nd</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b><u>Living~Donna Regina</u>  <u>Collective Mass:</u> Marguerite O'Donohoe</b>
<b>Friday December 3rd</b>		<b>7:30am  9:15am</b>	<b>Donny Garzino, Jr.  John Purcell</b>
<b>Saturday December 4th</b>	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lectors: Halluska/Student EM: Anderson/Damato/ Dreschler</b>	<b>9:15am  5:00pm</b>	<b>Bob Remhild &amp; The Hearney Family  Nicholas Gargiulo</b>
<b>Sunday December 5th Second Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>Presider: Father Tom Lectors: Luna/Cavoors EM: Koke/Martin/Portanova</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>For the People of SSPJ</b>
	<b>Presider: Father Joe Lectors: Lombardi/Auletta EM: Orlando/Reichert/ McKie</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Deacon Ken Maher</b>
	<b><u>Collective Mass</u> Presider: Father Joe Lector: Smith/Wos EM: Consenz/Samson/ Napolitano</b>	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Robert Remhild</b>



## The Blessing of Time

Please join us at the 5:00 pm Mass on December 30<sup>th</sup> for the Blessing of Time. Bring your watches, clock, cell phone, planner, calendars, or any other instrument used to measure or track time to be blessed during Mass. Immediately after the 5:00 Mass please join us for a short celebration as we welcome in The New Year! More information to follow...



## CELEBRATE WITH SANTA



When: Sunday December 5th, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

Where: SSPJ Auditorium

Admission: \$5 per family

**Take pictures with Santa! Crafts! Fun For All!**

**Great Raffle baskets!!**

Movie Night Basket, Christmas Ice Cream Shop Basket, Topgolf Basket, Streaming Cinema Night Basket, Craft Basket, Mrs. Claus' Sweet Shoppe Basket, American Girl Doll Basket, Sports Theme Basket, Baking Basket, Lotto Scratch Off Basket

**A Family Fun Way To Start The Season!!**

Any questions, please contact Jennine Cullen at [jenninecullen@me.com](mailto:jenninecullen@me.com) or Andreanna Cotter at [drea91983@gmail.com](mailto:drea91983@gmail.com).

As per NY State mandate, masks to be worn during school events.



**WE ARE SO PLEASED TO WELCOME  
CHILDRENS LITURGY OF THE WORD  
BACK THIS WEEKEND~**

**NOVEMBER 27TH AT THE 5:00 MASS  
AND  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH AT THE  
10:00AM MASS**



*We ask all  
Extraordinary  
Ministers of Holy  
Communion to sign up  
for Christmas and New  
Years Masses.*

*We greatly appreciate  
your service,  
dedication and  
assistance.*

*Sign up sheets will be  
available in the Prayer  
Room.*

*Thank you*



**LOST AND FOUND**  
**FOUND: GOLD WEDDING BAND WITH  
INSCRIPTION INSIDE OF THE CHURCH**  
*Questions, kindly contact Parish Center Office*



## READING AND ENCOURAGING~ THE BARNABAS MINISTRY

Help is Needed~A small commitment with a Huge amount of Joy!

Can you share with us your time, and heart, reading the reflections of our students?

As you see, our Students offer their thoughts each Sunday, which reflect their understanding the Gospel message...

We are seeking kind words, encouraging hearts, and uplifting messages that we can share with our students.

Just a little time, can make a positive difference in the hearts of our Students and their families.

If you should be interested, kindly contact the Parish Center office at 631-584-5454



### MUSIC MINISTRY

Welcome to the first Sunday of Advent!!

Purple is the color of Advent and  
There are some music changes.

*There will be no singing of the Gloria and the Mass parts will change to the Mass of Resurrection #868 in the book. We will also be singing the same Gathering hymn for Advent. It is "Waiting in Silence" # 50 in our books. Readings start this weekend in our new Breaking Bread books.*

*Now there is no excuse not to sing and say the responses at Mass.*

*We need full and active participation!!*

*Happy Advent!!*

## ***SSPJ School Guild Christmas Tree Sale Set-Up was a BIG SUCCESS!***

Thank you to all of our dedicated DADS and volunteers  
who helped to make this happen.



### **TREES ARE SOLD:**

**Friday 11/26 from  
12pm to 8pm**

**Monday to Friday:  
5pm to 8:30pm**

**Saturdays:  
9am to 9pm**

**Sundays:  
9am to 8pm.**



Christmas trees and wreaths will go on sale Friday, November 26th.  
Be sure to shop early to get your perfect tree!



***Grateful for the Abundant Blessings that God, in his love,  
has blessed the hearts of, Sts. Philip & James Parish***

## **SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF THE PARISH**

Through the stewardship of our parishioners, we have been able to provide the following services to our members and larger communities:

September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021

<u>Sacraments</u>		<u>Outreach</u>		<u>Funerals</u>	
<u>Baptisms</u>	64 Children	Total Children Assisted	215		
<u>First Communion</u>	120 Children 1 Adult	Total Adults Assisted	362		
<u>Confirmation</u>	280 Children 1 Adult	Total Seniors Assisted	14		
<u>Weddings</u>	12 Couples				
		8 Families were assisted at Easter			97 Families were assisted by the Parish Ministry of Consolation
		10 Families were assisted at Thanksgiving			
		27 Families and Organizations were assisted at Christmas			

### **In Our Family of Faith Formation**

577 Religious Education students were served by REO Administrators supervising student lessons on Google Classroom

210 children attend SS. Philip & James School - 95 from within our parish, 101 from neighboring parishes, and 14 children who are not of the Catholic faith

SS Philip & James is presently being served by 30 Eucharistic Ministers and 21 of them serve homebound parishioners as well as bring communion to residents at the local Health Centers. Our Parish is also blessed with 40 lectors, 10 student lectors, 18 ushers, 60 altar servers (54 children and 6 adults) and 24 adults and 9 students in the Music Ministry.

The Stewardship and so much more was provided by:  
4,100 Registered Families

*God Bless you and God Bless SS. Philip & James*

***"With Philip & James we pray to live lives worthy of the call to be  
Apostles of Hope"***



## *A Reflection from Sister T~*

Dear Friends,

We are now entering advent, what a blessed time for us. However, many folks consider this one of the busiest seasons instead of the most reflective. I want to share with you a poem by [Jan Richardson](#). Here you go:

### ***Blessing in the Chaos***

***To all that is chaotic in you,  
let there come silence.  
Let there be a calming  
of the clamoring, a stilling  
of the voices that  
have laid their claim on you,  
that have made their home in you,  
That go with you even to the holy places  
but will not let you rest,  
will not let you hear your life with wholeness  
or feel the grace that fashioned you.  
Let what distracts you  
cease.  
Let what divides you  
cease.  
Let there come an end  
to what diminishes and demeans,  
and let depart all that keeps you in its cage.  
Let there be an opening  
into the quiet  
that lies beneath the chaos,  
where you find the peace  
you did not think possible  
and see what shimmers  
within the storm.***

***—Jan Richardson***

I share this poem with you because part of my reflection for Advent this year is to answer this question: ***“How do I resist transformation within myself?”***

It was a challenge to answer the question, and there doesn't seem to be enough time to figure it out. Happily, by chance, I had the opportunity to sit with one of our 'wisdom' sisters. We both came to the conclusion that we can become too comfortable in our life and that change is not looked upon kindly.

In re-reading the excerpt from Jan Richardson's poem (above). A light bulb went on for me. I was inspired with this thought:

***We become comfortable (resisting transformation) because we don't allow the chaos to enter in. We don't sit with it in silence. For growth and transformation to occur, chaos and silence need to be a part of our lives. I don't mean the chaos that happens at this time of year like Christmas decorating or shopping. Instead, I mean the things and situations that enter in to our lives that we don't like -- something that causes us to stretch our minds and hearts.***

Hopefully during this Advent season some of this reflection might be relevant to what is happening in your life. Go with the chaos and silence and I bet you will be surprised and renewed as well as joyful for the growth!

Till next week~ Sister T

## **RCIA MINISTRY**

***“I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice,  
And there will be one flock, one shepherd.”***



The RCIA Team Meets Sunday Mornings in the SSPJ Room from 8:45am-9:45am

*The Following topics are open to all:*

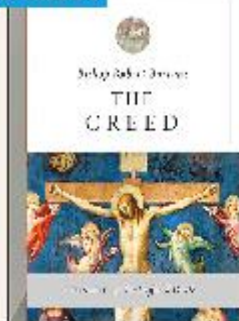
12/5	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun Advent	The People of God: Members of the Church
12/12	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun Advent	Faith & Hope; Rite of Acceptance
12/19	4 <sup>th</sup> Sun Advent	Charity



# THE MEN'S FORUM

AT THE CHURCH OF SAINTS PHILIP & JAMES  
A brotherhood of men dedicated to growing in their faith & discipleship in the Lord Jesus Christ.

## EPISODE 4



"He Suffered Death"

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2021

### Video Presentation & Discussion: Bishop Robert Barron: "The Creed" Episode 4: "He Suffered Death"

What matters most about Jesus? The Creed centers not on his ministry, his teachings, his miracles, or his words, but on the great drama of the Paschal Mystery, which is the Son of God's descent into God-forsakenness with his suffering, death, Resurrection and Ascension. The risen and ascended Christ is the King of the universe, Ruler of the Church and Judge of all. One day, he will come again to fully inaugurate his eternal kingdom.

Join us as we watch Bishop Robert Barron's new 6 episode video series "The Creed", a combination of documentary footage and dynamic talks. With Bishop Barron as our guide, we will explore a deeper meaning of the Creed—our profound statement of faith—recited at every Sunday mass.

6:00 to 7:00pm: Adoration: Main Church

7:00 to 8:30pm: Video Presentation & Discussion: Bethany Center (Old Church) • Optional Coffee Social (Off Site)

Come for all, or part of our evening's schedule. No membership required. Open to all men!

\* Please Note: Due to the threat of COVID face masks must be worn and social distancing maintained in the Bethany Center. Masks are optional in the main Church.



Website: [www.sspjmensforum.org](http://www.sspjmensforum.org)

Church of Saints Philip & James • 359 Clinton Avenue • St. James, NY 11780 • 631-584-5454



## Advent Prayer

In this season of Advent, inspire us to be a people of hope.  
Encourage us not to be greedy for material possessions, but  
for justice and truth.

Enflame us with a love for others, which crosses boundaries  
of race, religion and nationality.

Stir within us an appreciation of the immense beauty of the  
earth.

Be with us, Lord, at this time, that we may be a people of  
hope. Amen

## We Remember with love...SSPJ Lights of Love Christmas Tree

Those who wish to remember their loved ones with this special tribute are asked to complete the form below and return it to the Parish center office by the following dates:

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 6TH~** For your loved ones names to be printed in the  
Christmas bulletin and displayed upon the Christmas Altar

\$5.00 donation per each name being memorialized

Annual Tree Lighting Memorial

We Remember:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Remembered

by:

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact #:

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Names: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5.00 per name

= Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place this form in an envelope with payment and return to the Parish Center office by:  
Monday December 6th for inclusion in the Christmas bulletin.

# Religious Education News

## UPCOMING GRADE LEVEL MASSES:

COMMUNION II ~2ND GRADE MASS  
DECEMBER 4TH, 2021 AT 5PM

COMMUNION I~ 1ST GRADE MASS  
DECEMBER 5TH, 2021 AT 10AM



## FOURTH GRADE RECONCILIATION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 2021

5:30PM IN THE CHURCH



*If you are able to lend a helping hand offering time, patience, and love to our wonderful students with special needs, kindly contact the Religious Education office at 631-584-3204.*

*A simple commitment is needed twice a month to spend time and share faith, in person, in the auditorium on Saturday mornings from 9-10am.*

### *For Our Students~*

*Take a picture of this prayer with your phone and remember, when you are struggling, read it and call out to Jesus...*

### "A Teenager's Prayer"

Each day brings new beginnings  
Decisions I must make  
I am the only one to choose  
The road that I will take

I can choose to take the road of life  
That leads to great success  
Or travel down the darkened road  
That leads to great distress

Please open up my eyes, dear Lord  
That I might clearly see  
Help me stand for what is right  
Bring out the best in me

Help, Lord, to just say "no"  
When temptation comes my way  
That I might keep my body clean  
And fit for life each day

When my teenage years are over  
I know that I will see  
That life is lived its very best  
With you walking next to me.

Author: J. Morse

## ACTS OF LOVE~A SERVANTS HANDS FOR DECEMBER, 2021

PACKETS FOR OUR ADVENT ACTS OF LOVE PROJECT ARE AVAILABLE AT THE PARISH CENTER OFFICE, FROM 9AM – 5PM MONDAY—THURSDAY.



*Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the  
beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.*



## My Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 1-3

The First Sunday of Advent ~ Sunday, November 28th, 2021

My Name Is: \_\_\_\_\_ My Grade IS: \_\_\_\_\_ SSPJ SCHOOL

Please share this time with Jesus, Complete your reflection from your heart,  
and bring it to mass with you next weekend

Saturday, December 4th, 2021 or Sunday December 5th, 2021

### The Gospel Message:



The first Advent candle is the candle of HOPE. Jesus is our hope. He died on the cross to save us and give us everlasting life. "The light of hope shines in the darkness and the darkness has never put it out."

### Let Us Pray

A candle is burning, a  
flame warm and bright;  
A candle of Hope in the  
darkest of night.

Though troubled and  
worried yet we will not  
fear. Our hearts are  
now hopeful, for Jesus  
is near.



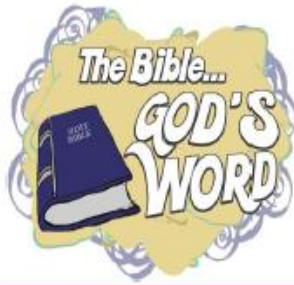


## Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 4-6

The First Sunday of Advent ~ Sunday, November 28th, 2021

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_ My Grade IS: \_\_\_\_\_ SSPJ SCHOOL

Please share this time with Jesus, Complete your reflection from your heart, and **bring it to mass with you next weekend Saturday, December 4th or Sunday, December 5th, 2021**



### The Gospel Message:

Jesus does not promise an end to daily worries and fears, but he does teach his disciples that they will have the strength to withstand anxiety if they stay focused on him, remaining vigilant for his return and praying for strength to endure all tribulations. Through prayer, God helps us stay focused on that which is most important in our lives. .

Dear Jesus,  
There are  
times when I  
worry and let  
fear take  
over me.  
Please remind  
me, as in  
today's psalm,  
Faith in you,  
will always  
teach me your  
path.  
Amen



### Christ Is Coming Again

At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Luke 21:27 (NIV)

Words are taken from Luke 21:25-36 (NIV).



T N A I D N H G C M W N S R Y  
H D A T O E E E C Y J P T F T  
F J F T K W V S A A H L A N W  
I I I F I B A L C V R D N M S  
L F B D W O A T Y A E E D V E  
I R S S H Y N Q C S P N F K A  
F E G U A L T S Z H D E J U E  
E D B G N X F U T G L O R Y L  
V E C H B O D R B A W O R L D  
D M L S E I L R U Y R H L D H  
Q P O S I G N S M F U S S T N  
G T U I P D R G Q Z P F R O S  
B I D P O W E R S Z D A O T X  
W O Q G R H E A D S E M W N V  
G N L P R A Y G Q J A Z J U E

careful  
cloud  
earth  
escape

glory  
heads  
heaven  
lift

moon  
nations  
power  
pray

redemption  
sea  
signs  
stand

stars  
sun  
watch  
world

## Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection For Grades 7-8

The First Sunday of Advent ~ Sunday, November 28th, 2021

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ SSPJ SCHOOL

Please share this time with Jesus, Complete your reflection from your heart, and **bring it to mass with you next weekend Saturday, December 4th or**

**Sunday, December 5th, 2021**

The Gospel Message: Luke 21:25-28,34-36



*Jesus teaches his disciples to be vigilant so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes in glory.*

*In today's Gospel, Jesus talks to his disciples about times and circumstances that many people will find troubling. But he tells his disciples that they are not to be frightened by these things. Let's listen carefully to this Gospel.*

### **Are You Ready?**

"Stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Luke 21:28 (NIV)

Based on Luke 21:25-36



R X V N A D F I R E S X T D U  
E I M A C D U E C W A T O T F  
D C S Z L P W N E A X R A R F  
E A A R N O R N S T U O T N E  
M A O R P Z U N C C N U U H D  
P W D G E S L Q A H Q S H R W  
T H E K V F C Y P T Z Q D K T  
I V F M B C U P E G I M O O N  
O C G L O R Y L B D H O W I C  
N J L H E A V E N F C U N O Y  
S H C O N J L I F T W Q A S W  
Q I E U U P S T A R S K J Y A  
X S G A B D V L M P T A A E V  
Q N M N D Q Y S Q B F R S N W  
M S W H S S F V Z W P V A J B

GLORY  
STAND  
SEA  
SIGNS

STARS  
HEAVEN  
EARTH  
WATCH

POWER  
LIFT  
REDEMPTION  
WORLD

ESCAPE  
NATIONS  
CLOUD  
CAREFUL

HEADS  
MOON  
SUN  
PRAY

Dear Jesus, help me to ready my heart . To be silent when I want to scream, to be merciful when I have not been my best, to be compassionate when my heart stirs and to be confident that with you, I can do anything. Amen



# CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL UPDATE~ AS OF NOVEMBER 15th, 2021

**We are \$4,319 AWAY FROM GOAL!**

**We are \$7,577 AWAY FROM OUR REBATE**

*In this season of thanks and gratitude we remain grateful for all your support.*

*Should your means allow, please consider making a contribution*

**GOAL  
\$105,300**

\*PLEASE NOTE: BULLETIN SUBMITTED EARLY-UPDATED FIGURES IN 12/5/21 BULLETIN\*

**2021  
CATHOLIC  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL**

DIOCESE OF  
ROCKVILLE CENTRE



*One Family in Mission*  
Creating Pathways to Faith

*'In the shoes of the other, we learn to have a great capacity for understanding, for getting to know difficult situations.'* Pope Francis

## Pause and Reflect this Advent Season

During the Advent Season we are called to slow down during the frenetic season of shopping, visiting friends and family, baking, wrapping gifts and perhaps even studying for finals.

Are you still struggling to get a unique present for someone special? Consider a gift for all seasons – a donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. It's a special gift that touches the lives of over 600,000 people by supporting programs that allow us to – create pathways to faith in our diocese and beyond..

How does the **Catholic Ministries Appeal Care for God's People**? It supports programs that help to feed people in our community each year through Catholic Charities and our Parish Outreach programs.



**Have you tried Text-to-Give to make a donation! It's fast and secure.**

**TEXT Keyword: 148ssphilipandjames  
To (516) 271-3338**

***Please consider donating to the Appeal and a difference in someone's life. Thank you!***

Make checks payable to: Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Down payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To make a donation, you can also visit **CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org**  
or call us at **516-678-5800 ext. 296**

Thank You!

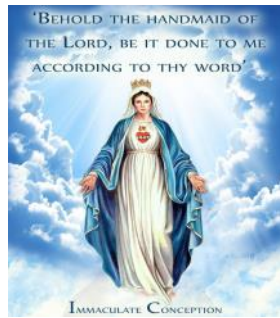
**Pledges at  
11/15/21  
\$100,981.**

**Payments at  
11/15/21  
\$97,723.**

**\$10,000**



## Parish Social Ministry



*What tenderness there is in Jesus' love for man! In His infinite goodness, He established with each of us bonds of sublime love.*

*During Eucharistic Adoration on December 8, following the 7 PM Mass, each of us has the opportunity to visit with Him, in person, between the hours of 8 and 10 PM. You do not have to stay the whole time, stop in when you can. What better gift to offer Jesus for Christmas than to spend some time with Him to pray for the most vulnerable in our society!*



A healthy relationship with creation is one dimension of overall personal conversion, which entails the recognition of our errors, sins, faults and failures, and leads to heartfelt repentance and desire to change.

### THE TRADITION OF ADVENT CANDLES

The word ADVENT comes from the Latin word ADVENTUS meaning arrival. It is the four week period leading up to Christmas. The four candles remind us that we are preparing for the coming of the CHRIST CHILD, who is the light of the world. Each candle reminds us of the virtues Jesus desires for the entire world.

**HOPE** The first candle symbolizes the hope that Christ's birth brings us. We pray for an outpouring of hope in our homes, families, and hearts. Lord, help us prepare our hearts by being open to the light of Christ in others.

**LOVE** The second candle symbolizes the love that comes from intimacy with Jesus. Lord Jesus, help us prepare our hearts for your coming by loving others as you love us. Let us be astounded by your closeness to us and allow love to expand within our homes.

**JOY** The third candle symbolizes the joy that comes with Christ in our lives. Lord, we thank you for the joy you bring us. Allow our lives to truly be joyful and simple. Help us to be receptive to the freedom you desire for us.

**PEACE** The fourth candle symbolizes the peace of a heart close to Christ. Loving God, we thank you for the gift of peace you give us. Help us prepare our homes for the birth of baby Jesus, by allowing Christ's peace to fill our hearts.



## Annual Pick A Star Program Begins This Weekend: November 27th-28th, 2021



*Our tree will be located in the front of the church near the statue of St. Joseph.*

*Please choose a star (s) indicating the items you would like to purchase for someone in need.*

*Unwrapped gifts should be placed in gift bags under the tree with the colored star tag securely attached.*

*The color of the ornament determines its destination.*

*Please place UNWRAPPED gift cards in the basket near the tree at weekend Masses, OR, put them in the collection basket, OR drop them off at the parish center during the week.*

*All our gifts will be delivered on Thursday, December 18th, 2021 to allow our families and organizations time to sort and determine the distribution*



## The Beautiful News at SSPJ School!

***Congratulations and God Bless Gabriella on her Baptism!***



Mr. & Mrs. Bodon, parents of Gabriella, a First Grade student at SSPJ School have committed to raising their daughter in the Catholic faith. Surrounded by classmates and friends, Gabriella received the sacrament of Baptism. Our Pastor, Fr. Tom and our Pastoral Associate, Sr. Theresita truly made this celebration special for all those in attendance.

***Blessed to be building a “BEAUTIFUL CITY” filled with Apostles of Hope!***



## Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Cycle C

Baruch 5:1-9  
Ps 126:1-6  
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11  
Luke 3:1-6

**Monday December 6**

Isaiah 35:1-10  
Ps 85:9-14  
Luke 5:17-26

**Tuesday December 7**

**St. Ambrose**  
Isaiah 40:1-11  
Ps 98:1-3, 10-13  
Matthew 18:12-14

**Wednesday December 8**  
**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Genesis 3:9-15, 20  
Ps 98:1-4  
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12  
Luke 1:26-38

**Thursday December 9**

Isaiah 41:13-20  
Ps 145:1, 9-13ab  
Matthew 11:11-15

**Friday December 10**

Isaiah 48:17-19  
Ps 1:1-4, 6  
Matthew 11:16-19

**Saturday December 11**

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11  
Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19  
Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

While we're shopping for gifts, decorating, and sending Christmas cards, what are we doing to make Christmas a new rebirth of Christ for our daily lives?

All the readings at Mass during Advent remind us that this season is a time intended for spiritual preparation. It's tempting to let the busyness of December distract us from the most important purpose of Advent: our personal spiritual growth.

In our responsorial Psalm today, we proclaim: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!" Do you actually feel joyful when you mouth these words?

It takes faith to experience joy in the midst of hardships. Faith grows from knowing that the Lord does great things for us because of his mercy — not because we have earned it, as we'll never be good enough. Repenting from our sins opens us to become aware of this mercy.

Therefore, Saint John the Baptizer is proclaiming to us today: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"

Now is the time to ask: What preparations do I need to make? What am I doing to straighten out the messes in my life, the areas of sin that continually distract me from a close relationship with Christ?

What penances will help "make straight" my path?

What depressing or discouraging valley of hardship needs to get filled with the joy of the Lord? If it seems hopeless, what will I do to let Jesus take charge of it? What mountain of debt or difficult obstacle needs to be made low by having faith in the Lord's digging tools?

What's twisted and warped in my thinking, like a road that winds through a jungle of confusion? I pray, Holy Spirit, that you will lead me straight to holiness! What's rough about me? What's edgy and sharp and rubs others the wrong way? Lord Jesus, smooth me like a diamond polisher.

Throughout, let us examine the ways in which we still need to see the salvation of God. Let us make a plan of action to be holier and happier at the end of the Jubilee Year than we are today!

#### Reflect & Discuss:

1. Which of the above questions stand out most for you?
2. What will you do with this to prepare the way of the Lord so that your faith grows?
3. Name a tradition you grew up with that prepared you for Christmas. How did this affect your spiritual growth?
4. What's your favorite way of preparing for the holy celebration of Christmas? Why?



## *Spiritual Reflection by Ron Rolheiser, OMI*

OUR WOUNDS, OUR GIFTS, AND OUR POWER TO HEAL OTHERS  
(ARCHIVE NOVEMBER 2020)

Nearly fifty years ago Henri Nouwen wrote a book entitled, *The Wounded Healer*. Its reception established his reputation as unique spiritual mentor and he went on to become one of the most influential spiritual writers of the past half-century. What made his writings so powerful? His brilliance? His gift for expression? He was gifted, yes, but so are many others. What set him apart was that he was a deeply wounded man and from that disquieted place inside him issued forth words that were a healing balm to millions.

How does this work? How do our wounds help heal others? They don't. It's not our wounds that help heal others. Rather our wounds can color our gifts and talents in such a way so that they no longer educe resistance and envy in others but instead become what God meant them to be, gifts to grace others.

Sadly, the opposite is often true. Our gifts and talents often become the reason we're disliked and perhaps even hated. There's a curious dynamic here. We don't automatically, nor easily, let the gifts of others grace us. More often, we're reluctant to admit their beauty and power and we resist and envy those who possess them and sometimes even hate them for their gifts. That's one of the reasons we find it hard to simply admire someone.

But this reluctance in us doesn't just say something about us. Often it says something too about the persons who possess those gifts. Talent is an ambiguous thing, it can be used to assert ourselves, to separate ourselves from others, to stand out and to stand above, rather than as a gift to help others. Our talents can be used simply to point to how bright, talented, good-looking, and successful we are. Then they simply become a strength meant to dwarf others and set ourselves apart.

How can we make our talents a gift for others? How can we be loved for our talents rather than hated for them? Here's the difference: we will be loved and admired for our gifts when our gifts are colored by our wounds so that others do not see them as a threat or as something that sets us apart but rather as something that gifts them in their own shortcomings. When shared in a certain way, our gifts can become gifts for everyone else.

Here's how that algebra works: Our gifts are given us not for ourselves but for others. But, to be that, they need to be colored by compassion. We come to compassion by letting our wounds befriend our gifts. Here are two examples.

When Princess Diana died in 1997 there was a massive outpouring of love for her. Both by temperament and as a Catholic priest, I'm normally not given to grieving over celebrities, yet I felt a deep sorrow and love for this woman. Why? Because she was beautiful and famous? Not that. Many women who are beautiful and famous and are hated for it. Princess Diana was loved by so many because she was a wounded person, someone whose wounds colored her beauty and fame in a way that induced love, not envy.

Henri Nouwen, who popularized the phrase, "the wounded healer" shared a similar trait. He was a brilliant man, the author of more than forty books, one of the most popular religious speakers of his generation, tenured at both Harvard and Yale, a person with friends all over the world; but also a deeply wounded man who, by his own repeated admission, suffered restlessness, anxiety, jealousies, and obsessions that occasionally landed him in a clinic. As well, by his own repeated admission, amidst this success and popularity, for most of his adult life he struggled to simply accept love. His wounds forever got in the way. And this, his wounded self, colors basically every page of every book he wrote. His brilliance was forever colored by his wounds and that's why it was never self-assertive but always compassionate. No one envied Nouwen's brilliance; he was too wounded to be envied. Instead, his brilliance always touched us in a healing way. He was a wounded healer.

Those words, wounded and healer, ordain each other. I'm convinced that God calls each of us to a vocation and to a special work here on earth more on the basis of our wounds than on the basis of our gifts. Our gifts are real and important; but they only grace others when they are shaped into a special kind of compassion by the uniqueness of our own wounds. Our unique, special wounds can help make each of us a unique, special healer.

Our world is full of brilliant, talented, highly-successful, and beautiful people. Those gifts are real, come from God, and should never be denigrated in God's name. However, our gifts don't automatically help others; but they can if they are colored by our wounds so that they flow out as compassion and not as pride.