



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

September 17th, 2023

The Twenty Fourth Sunday

In Ordinary Time

Lord, if my
brother sins
against me,
how often
must I forgive?

Jesus
answered,
“I say to you,
not seven
times
But
seventy-seven
times.”

Matthew 18:22

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted,
forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you.



“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 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
Lisa Keane, Maureen Burke, Nancy Sanders, Peter Suski, Sheila Cavooris

**Collections: ~Thanking you for your generosity
Financial Support Needed weekly to meet Parish budget:**

\$16,700

Weekly Collection: Sunday, September 10th, 2023:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$8,973.

Collections from mail: \$ 2,527.

Faith Direct(126Participants) WEEKLY \$3,374.04.

Total Collections: \$14,874.04

**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

CAPT. MICHAEL T. DOLAN- JR. -D.O, US ARMY

LT. COL. JOHN KAIRE

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

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

LT. COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER SHANK MD

MIDN ERIN NICASTRO, USN.

MAJ. BRENDAN JOHNSTON-USAF

CHRISTOPHER A. HIONIDIS-USAF

EMMETT MOLONEY -USN

HANK MOLONEY—USAF

LIVE-STREAMING THE 8:00AM SUNDAY MASS

The Sunday mass at 8:am is available to view on our SSPJ Church Facebook page, while it is live at the 8am mass, it can be recalled at any time.

Father Tom's Letter

Dear Friends,

Have you ever found it hard to forgive someone? I think at some time most of us have. Yet holding grudges is hard work. What might help us on the path of forgiveness? Fr. Jude Siciliano, OP, says:

Reflecting on what God has done for us, might also free us from the debts we hold against others. Being changed by the forgiveness always available to us can renew us and enable us to forgive.... To put it simply – God makes the first move towards us – grace. We can't do a thing about forgiving injustices against us until we have received the gift, unwrapped it and luxuriated in it.

I was so excited by Ms. Anderson's presentation at the opening SSPJ school meeting that I gave her a homework assignment – and am giving her another A+! Thanks to you, our supportive parishioners, what Diane writes is real. As pastor, the participation of the young ones in all aspects of liturgical ministry is most heartwarming for me. Special thanks for enabling that participation goes to Rita Byrne who trains the young lectors and Lou Guerra who prepares the altar servers. These ministries are open to all our young parishioners, not just the SSPJ school children. We welcome you all and are happy to provide training and support.

What Diane includes in her "homework" assignment and might sometimes be unknown is the outstanding success of SSPJ School and our total commitment to grow it in greatness. Please read what Ms. Anderson writes in today's bulletin. Thanks to you our parishioners and to the great faculty we have our school is second among all diocesan schools. Unlike other area schools, here at SSPJ students not only take two regents' exams but score terrifically. We have a real gem here and I not only thank you for making it happen but also ask that you spread the word as we begin our second century.

Hopefully, weather permitting, this weekend we will do the deed and finally gather to paint the parish center!!!

On September 25th we are hosting a dine around – an opportunity to taste the cuisine of many of our area restaurants in what is called the land of "fine dining". Please consider coming and kicking off the new season together.

Next week I look forward to sharing with you the hopes we have for our Religious Education program this coming year.

And finally,

*My friends and I have named our band 'Duvet'. It's a cover band.
I lost my girlfriend's audiobook, and now I'll never hear the end of it.
Why is 'dark' spelled with a k and not c? Because you can't see in the dark.
Why is it unwise to share your secrets with a clock? Well, time will tell.
Bono and The Edge walk into a Dublin bar and the bartender says,
"Oh no, not U2 again."
What do you say to comfort a friend who's struggling with grammar?
There, their, they're.*

Peace,

Father Tom

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

Mass Intentions, For the week of September 17th, 2023

*Our Bread & Wine
Are offered*

"In memory of our Dear Dad,"

Albert Specht

*"On your 5th Anniversary in
Heaven"*

*Love You,
Mary & Children
Steve, Brian, Sue Alan
Mike, Bill and Your
Grandchildren*

We Pray for those who are ill...

Andy
Anna Capizzio
Alfred Fox
Antonette Sabatino
Angie Mingione
Angela Amoroso
Arthur Gureck
Austin Rocky
Baby Ben
Baby Penny Grace
Candela
Barbara Bombace
Brian
Mattia Rose Lubrano
Barbara Sammarco
Belinda Groneman
Carol
Carolyn Nehl
Catherine Smith
Cathleen Henchey
Chase Addonisio
Christella Stewart
David Beleck
David McCue
Deirdre W.
Diane LaPorte
Donna Patrissi
Dorothy Mitchell
Eleanor Bayley
Elizabeth Martin
Elizabeth Smith
Eileen
Emily Schiaratta
Emily Souders
Flo Donohue
Gail Lumley
George Fitzpatrick
Gloria Montesano
Ginny & John Rief
Gregory Parker
Helen
Harold Scott
Jack Donohue
Jackie & Christine
Duffy
Jakob King
Jamie Accardi
Jean Saladino
Jenny Bonanno
Jerry
Joelle Nicholas
Joni Deleo
John Capizzio
John Cronin
John DeStefano
John Maynes
John Mattia
Joseph
Joe Benaburger
Joseph Domizzio
Judy Rampola

Joe Dorrian
Joseph Costa
Joseph Domizzio
Kaitlyn Remhild
Kathleen Draper
Kathleen N.
Kerry
Kitty Cronin
Kristin Galetta
Laura Bode
Leon Donach
Lola Santangelo
Lori Cearney
Mary Monte
Marty Rizzo
Margaret Remhild
Mark Wagner
Mary Ryan
Maria Clark
Maria Collaro
Marie del Ciello
Maureen Litten
Mary Ann Cesarski
Mary Beth McGovern
Matthew Parrella
Michael Fisher
Mike Lofaro
Michael
Nick Lella
Patricia Acker
Patricia Trippree
Pasquale Savarese
Pat McCumber
Peter Donach
Peter Portanova
P.I.
Phil Giaraputo
Ricardo Buffit
Riordan Cavooris
Rogelio Martinez
Rose
Ronnie Paciella
Ryan Duffy
Sara Jean Andersen
Stanley Stura
Stephen Dolce
Susanne Smith
Tonia Perdue
Tara Cesarski
Teresa Mattera
Tina Cafaro
Tiffany Lochan
Tom Devaney
Tom Ficht
Tom Ryan
Tom Focone
Vivien & John
Cordes
Wayne Smith Sr.

Saturday September 16th Cantor: K. Feeney	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Healy/Schor EM: Calderone/Mantia/ Anderson/Duffy/Urce	9:15am 5:00pm	Michael Corr Daniel Bouza
Sunday September 17th Cantor: L. Lupinacci	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Mantia/Dervan EM: Conti/Dervan/Diaz/ Sica/M. Tully	8am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: J. Hill	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Nicaastro/Ryan EM: Rizzp/Sisti/Keane/ Amen/McKie/Orlando	10:00a m	Henry Amen
Cantor: B. Meringolo	Collective Mass Presider: Father Tom Lector: Kenton/Wagner EM: Rubano/ Margaret/Settineri	12:00p m	Lia Gentile Living~ Joan Cooper George Pinnata & Living ~Mary Pinnata on their Anniversary
Monday September 18th		7:30am 9:15am	Louis & Renee De Ritis John Deutsch
Tuesday September 19th	St. Januarius	7:30am 9:15am	 Steven Carr
Wednesday September 20th	Sts. Andrew Kim Tae- gon Paul Chong Ha-sang	7:30am 9:15am	Kathy McGrath Peter Byrne
Thursday September 21st	St. Matthew, Apostle	7:30am 9:15am	Collective Mass Maria Fazio
Friday September 22nd	Our Lady of Sorrows	7:30am 9:15am	Kevin Whitrock Jo-Ann Mural
Saturday September 23rd Cantor: N. LoCastro St. Padre Pio	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Merlino/Student EM: D. Napolitano/Rizzo/ Rapp/Byrne/Duffy	9:15am 5:00pm	Lawrence T. Quinn George Pinnata
Sunday September 24th Cantor: J. Lohmann	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Koke/White EM: Czujko/Dunn/ Kenney/LaSerra/Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: L. Stefanowski	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Lombardi/ Zahorodny EM: Amen/Clarke/ Keane/Consenz/Suski	10:00a m	Living~ Michele & Michael Maldony
Cantor: L. Stefanowski	Collective Mass Presider: Father Tom Lector: O'Hara/Latino EM: Stack/Reichert/ C. Napolitano	12:00p m	Dominick DeFilippis Claudia Chandler Dee Dee Sprague Josephine Capillino Living~Kaitlyn & Robert Remhild



**St. Pius X Residence for
Retired Priests**

Caring for those who cared for us



Embracing the Legacy of Service

The mission of St. Pius X Residence is to provide a nurturing environment that respects and cherishes the lifelong commitment of our beloved priests. The Residence strives to create a warm and supportive community where they can enjoy their retirement years with dignity, surrounded by like-minded individuals who share their dedication to faith.

As our elderly priests enter this stage of their life, they often experience ongoing challenges that require added care and attention, and because of you, the St Pius X Residence is there for them. Even in retirement, our priests continue to make a profound impact on the spiritual and personal lives of Catholics of all ages. When they are able, they celebrate Mass in area parishes, visit the sick and homebound, and bring God's Word to those in prison.

Embrace the Legacy of Service by supporting our beloved priests in their retirement years.



June 2023— July 2024

Our Year of the Eucharistic Revival

What is this all about?

What is the National Eucharistic Revival or ER as we will be affectionally calling it? It is the Joyful, expectant, grassroots response of the entire Catholic Church in the United States to the invitation of recentering our lives on the Real Presence of the Eucharist. A movement to restore understanding to this great mystery of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

The Revival began June 19, 2022– July 2023, with programs designed by Dioceses. June 11, 2023- July 17, 2024 is the year for Parish Revival. The third year will feature a National Eucharist Congress July 17-21, 2024 in Indianapolis. That year will focus on sharing with others what we have learned.

We here at SSPJ are preparing a year that we hope will fulfill that goal. All of our activities will be identifiable by **the above logo** one of our parishioners has designed for our year of ER. If you look at the logo you see the image of the Emmaus Journey, where at the end the disciples recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Their journey was filled with Jesus explaining all the things that had happened in Jerusalem and the things he had taught. All of this helped them to recognize Him.

When you see the letters ER, I am sure most of you thought of the emergency room at the hospital. Well you are not far from wrong. The Bishops said "our world is hurting . We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source and summit of our faith... Jesus' Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist." (USCCB) We are all hurting and this coming year if we pay attention to the events for renewal "Revival", our prayer is that you will experience healing and a better understanding of Jesus, the Eucharist and the Mass.

Shoe Us the Love!



Donate your gently worn, used and new shoes today!

Help us raise funds just by donating gently worn, used and new shoes! Be sure to ask, friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to donate too!

Collected shoes not only help support us, but they will be reused and given a second life by those in need through #microenterprise. It's a WIN-WIN!



Location

Sts. Philip and James School
359 Clinton Ave. St. James, NY
11780



Dates

September 11th 2023
thru
November 10th 2023



Contact

Mrs. Jessica Leahy
631-413-9455
Jessicaguest@gmail.com

YES!

- Gently worn, used and new shoes
- ALL SHOES in wearable condition
- EVERY PAIR bound by tying the laces or rubber bands

NO!

- Extremely worn: tears, holes, broken heels
- Single shoes or mismatched
- Dirty, moldy, generally gross

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY

"LET THE LITTLE
ONES COME TO
ME"



CELEBRATING MASS TOGETHER

WE INVITE OUR
COMMUNION
I & II
STUDENTS AND
FAMILIES

To Attend Mass

ON SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 24TH
AT THE 8:00AM
MASS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES WILL BEGIN THE WEEK OF : OCTOBER 1ST, 2023

SSPJ YOUTH MINISTRY AND
CONFIRMATION I & II STUDENTS:

THERE WILL BE A "KICK OFF EVENT"

ON SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2023
From 3-4:45pm
In the Auditorium

THIS EVENT WILL BE FOLLOWED
BY A CELEBRATION OF MASS AT
5:00PM

All are invited to attend!

PARENT MEETINGS FOR THE UPCOMING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION YEAR

ALL PARENTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND
ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PARENT
MEETINGS
WHICH WILL BE OFFERED AFTER EACH OF
THE MASSES ON THE WEEKEND OF:

SEPTEMBER 16TH
AFTER THE 5:00PM MASS

SEPTEMBER 17TH AFTER
THE 8AM and 10AM MASS
AND THE 12 NOON MASS

These meetings will offer a chance to review the
Upcoming year and opportunities to grow in faith
and service.

Questions, please contact the RE office at 631-
584-3204

**HIS WORDS.
YOUR JOURNEY.
TOGETHER.**



"Saint John Chrysostom warns us: "Do you want to honour the body of Christ? Do not allow it to be despised in its members, that is, in the poor who lack clothes to cover themselves. Do not honour him here in the church with rich fabrics while outside you neglect him when he is suffering from cold and naked. The one who said, "this is my body", confirming the fact with his word, also said, "you saw me hungry and you did not feed me" and, "whenever you failed to do these things to one of the least of these, you failed to do it to me"."

Pope Francis

A PRAYER FOR SILENCE AND SOLITUDE

*Holy Source of Silence,
Beneath the clatter and din of the everyday
You offer your mysteries to our hearts.
You call us to pause,
To slow down and listen to the true longing
Planted in each of us by you, a seed of hold
desire.
Support us in letting go of the inner and outer
noise.
Open wide in us a sacred cave for stillness
Where we can attune to your presence.
Enliven us with the gift of your sweet music
And allow us to encounter your holy presence
Flaming in each of our hearts .
Help us to catch a note of your song
In the wind or in the voice of another,
In times of sadness and in the rush of our lives.
In a world so filled with distraction,
We listen for your whispers
Which call us to another way of being
And ask for the courage to respond to all
We discover in this tabernacle of silence.*

Amen

-Christine Valters Paintner, via the Abbey of the Arts

A Reflection from Sister T~

Dear Friends,

These days, most of us are settling into the routine that September can bring. Summer has ended and now it is time to get back to reality!

In all seriousness though, September can bring with it new beginnings. Throughout the Church family, we are continuing to work with and support the Eucharistic Revival, which is now in its second year. The focus for this year is on parish life and the understanding of the Eucharist itself.

I recently upon this quote from Pope Francis and felt that I should share it:

"It is easy to feel inadequate in our ordinary daily tasks – how much more so, then, at the thought of **living** the Eucharist in all that we do!"

Pope Francis reminds us that the Apostles must have felt much the same way, and yet were able to feed the large crowd with only five loaves and two fish.

The People also reminds us that "when we all work together, we become stronger, and our **individual gifts** become a powerful force for the good."

I often wonder what would happen if one day people took these words to heart and acted on them. Words like:

"Called to **Receive** and **Become...His Real Presence.**"

"Go in Peace and make God look good!"

Or the words that our Pope keeps sharing with us. Imagine all the energy that would fill the earth if we gathered our talents and used then for the good in God's kingdom! If you can't fathom it happening in the world at large, start smaller and imagine it happening in your family, at your place of work, or in your parish community. Don't hesitate! Now is the appointed time share your gifts!

I challenge you this week to see how you are becoming that Eucharist you receive, and how you are using your gifts to bring life-giving change to those you meet.

Also, if you think you are inadequate or not qualified to help in any way, remember that "God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the **Called!**"

Peace, Sister T

IT WOULD BE easier
for the world to
survive without the
sun than to do so
without the Holy
Mass.



Saint Padre Pio



Mobile Outreach Bus

Free Health Screenings and Flu Vaccinations

The Community Outreach team is pleased to offer free health screenings and flu vaccinations in your community by a Catholic Health registered nurse.



St Philip and James RC Church
1 Carow Place
St James, NY 11780
Thursday 9/21/2023
10am-2pm

Services for adults (18 and older):

- Brief cardiac history
- Blood pressure screening
- BMI screening
- Simple blood test for cholesterol and glucose
- Health education
- Referrals as needed
- Resources for those without insurance
- Free flu vaccination (senior dose available)

**THE DINE AROUND IS
COMING BACK TO
SSPJ!!**

**Please Join us for our
Dine Around**

ON:

Monday September 25th

From:

5:00pm to 8:00pm

In the

SSPJ Auditorium

**Further details in next
weeks bulletin.**



Music Ministry~

*This weekend's theme is
forgiveness.*

*A challenge for sure.
We need the Holy Spirit to
give us the courage to love so
we can forgive a hurt. Jesus
forgives us time after time.
Are we up to the challenge?*

*The choirs have started
Advent/Christmas Music,
believe it or not.*

*Want to be a part of the
season?
Come and see what the Music
Ministry is all about.*

 **KELLENBERG
MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL**

OPEN HOUSE

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 14, 2023**

10AM - 1PM

KELLENBERG.ORG



God Bless SSPJ School~ Welcome Back!

SSPJ Students were all SMILES the first week of school. What a blessing it was to begin the 2023-2024 school year with our Pastor Fr. Tom, Pastoral Associate Sister Theresita, Administrator Ms. Anderson, Superintendent of DRVC Schools Mrs. Sanders and dedicated Faculty & Staff Members all greeting our students as they eagerly entered the halls and classrooms of SSPJ School.



This year, students are challenged with keeping the tradition of academic excellence. SSPJ School excelled in iReady as we were the second highest performing school in Reading and slightly higher than average in Math out of all the Diocesan Schools which consistently outperform statewide public schools.



Our Academy students have already begun Acts of Service. Eighth Graders are responsible for morning and afternoon prayers & announcements and Grades 6-8 help to set a good example by monitoring Nursery, Pre-K & Kinder Buddies during School Masses.



Our 8th graders will soon begin preparing for the TACHS Catholic High School Entrance Exam. Our 2023 Graduates earned over \$282,340 in scholarship money to the Catholic High School of their choice. SSPJ is one of the few schools that offer 2 High School level regent courses: Living Environment and Algebra I. Our students are well prepared for the rigors of high school.



God Bless SSPJ Students!

We are all looking forward to a successful school year!

YOUR GENEROUS HELP TOUCHES LIVES
Holy smokes!!! We are at 77% of our Goal!!!!
WE ARE AT 76% OF OUR GOAL as of September 5th, 2023
Our Pledges are \$77,555.
Our Payments are \$67,320.
Together we can reach our goal!

Updated figures at print date

GOAL: \$102,000
PAYMENTS AT
9/5/23
\$67,320.
PLEDGES AT
9/5/23
\$77,555.
We are on our
Way~
Thank you!

GOAL
\$102,000
PAYMENTS

\$60,000

\$10,000

Updated Figures unavailable at print date



**You can make a difference in the lives of those around us by
 making a gift to this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Every Gift Counts!

A gift of \$25 may help pay the gas for a Meals-On-Wheels van to deliver food for a day.

A gift of \$50 from an emergency fund may help pay the electric bill in a cold winter month for a family in need.

A gift of \$100 may help care for a new Mom get the guidance she needs through Regina Maternity Management Services.

A gift of \$250 may help subsidize a home for an adult who is developmentally disabled.

A gift of \$1,000 may help support a Seminarian's education.

Because of you, every year we serve more than 600,000 people in our Long Island Community. This support enables our children to continue to receive the gift of spiritual formation, sacramental preparation, and quality education. It allows seminarians and lay leaders to fulfill their calling to serve the community. With your support, Catholic Charities can maintain its services for the poor and disadvantaged, and we can continue to reach out to our young people and others to find the best ways to guide and pass on our faith from generation to generation.

For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit <https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/> or call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

Make checks payable to:
 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Parish _____ Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____ Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

GOAL
\$102,000
PLEDGES

\$60,000

\$10,000

Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:
Please check expiration dates



**Jars of Pasta Sauce
Canned Corn Niblets
Canned Fruit**

**Thank you for your kindness and
compassion**

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

If you can help the unborn, the
Smithtown Life Center is in great need of
a **SPANISH INTERPRETER**
to **VOLUNTEER** part time on **Mon.**
Tues. Thurs., as needed.
For details, call Mary at the Smithtown
Clinic, 91 Maple Ave. Smithtown at
631-656-0441



***Sts. Philip & James Consolation
Ministry is gathering names of anyone
grieving the loss of a loved one and may
be interested in joining our Bereavement
Program. The program will be held for
six weeks beginning Tuesday, October
10 at 1PM in the Bethany Center.
To register, please call the parish office
at 631-584-5454***



Collecting new and gently used baby items and delivering them to the
Life Center of Long Island. These items benefit mothers, children, and
expectant mothers in need. Your donations build a community that
supports mothers who choose life for their unborn children under
difficult circumstances. **Suggested donation items:** Diapers, wipes,
bottles. Gently used baby and toddler items such as car seats, high chairs,
strollers, clothing, toys, etc. New baby and toddler items, including
diapers, wipes, formula, baby food, clothing, etc.

PLEASE DROP OFF AT: 56 TILLOTSON AVENUE, ST.JAMES, NY



We remember the family and friends
of,

*Thomas Spellman
John Thomas Rhatigan*

Safely Home in the arms of our Lord

Celebrating Mass on the Beach...

***As part of the Care of Creation
celebrations, the Sts. Philip & James
Laudato Si Ministry is inviting
everyone to attend a Beach Mass on
Sunday, September 24 at 1 PM. Mass
will be on Long Beach/Shuberts Beach
in Nissequoque. Please bring your own
chair or blanket with you. If needed,
there will be assistance to help get you
and your equipment down to the
beach. In case of rain, Mass on the
beach will be canceled.***

Helpful Phone Numbers~ YOU ARE NEVER ALONE

Dept. of Social Services: 631-854-2300
Alcoholics Anonymous 24-Hour Hotline: 631-669-1124
Al-Anon Suffolk County: 631-669-2827
Alzheimer's Disease: 631-954-2323
American Red Cross L.I.: 516-747-3500
Birthright (Pregnancy Support): 631-821-9727 or 1-800-550-4900
Brighter Tomorrow (Domestic Violence): 631-395-1800
Brookhaven Youth Counseling: 631-451-8011
Catholic Charities (Food Stamp Info): 631-789-9546
Child Advocacy Center (CAC) (Child Abuse): 631-439-0480
Children's Community: 631-585-2020, 631-476-9698
www.childrenscommunityhs.org
Domestic Violence Hotline (Vibes): 631-360-3607
Elder Abuse: 631-761-7470
Fidelis Insurance (Family Health Plus): 1-888-343-3547
Gamblers Anonymous Hotline: 1-855-222-5542
Good Shepherd Hospice: 631-376-3758
Hope House Ministries: 631-473-6030
In Home Care- Home Instead: 631-724-2273
LI Against Domestic Violence: 631-666-8833
LI Head Start: 631-732-7100
L.I. Women's Coalition (Domestic Violence): 631-666-8833
Memory Care in NY: www.memorycare.com
Mental Health Emergency: 631-952-3333
Narcotics Anonymous: 631-689-6262
Nassau/Suffolk Law: 631-232-2400
National Aging in place-L.I. Chapter: 631-383-4341
National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-784-2433
Office for the Aging: 631-853-8200
Overeaters Anonymous 631-260-6615 www.SuffolkOA.org
Rachel's Hope (Post Abortion): 888-456-4673
Response Crisis Center: (Suicide Hotline): 631-751-7500
The Retreat (Domestic Violence Hotline): 631-329-2200

My Weekly Sunday Gospel Reflection

The Twenty fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time ~ Sunday, September 17th, 2023

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, September 23rd or Sunday, September 24th, 2023

The Gospel Message: Matthew 18:21-35

Dear Jesus,

Sometimes I find it very hard to forgive someone for maybe hurting my feelings, or leaving me out of a gathering.

It's hard to say its "ok" when my heart hurts so bad.

When I feel sad, please remind me to call your name, to talk to you about my hurt, and ask you to help me forgive and choose to smile instead of frown.

I love you Jesus.

Amen

My Prayer Intention~ Share with Jesus what is on your heart...he hears you and is right beside you...

In today's gospel reading Peter asks Jesus how many times we should forgive someone who hurt us. He asked if seven times is enough!

But, Jesus replies by extending Peter's proposal by an enormous amount; not just seven times should one forgive, but 77 times.!

This parable or story, tells us how important it is to forgive, even when it hurts. Why must we forgive? BECAUSE JESUS EXTENDS FORGIVENESS TO US ALWAYS! AND HE HOPES THAT WE WILL DO THE VERY SAME!

Keep on Forgiving Word Search

Keep On Forgiving

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?" Matthew 18:21 (NLT)

Based on Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)



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

MANY
SEVEN
ASKED

SINS
TIMES
BROTHER

PETER
JESUS
LORD

FORGIVE
TIMES
HOW

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday September 24

Isaiah 55:6-9
Ps 145:2-3,8-9,17-18
Philippians 1:20c-24,27a
Matthew 20:1-16a

Monday September 25

Ezra 1:1-6
Ps 126:1b-6
Luke 8:16-18

Tuesday September 26

Ezra 6:7-8,12b,14-20
Ps 122:1-5
Luke 8:19-21

Wednesday September 27

St. Vincent de Paul, Priest
Ezra 9:5-9
Tb 13:2-4a,6e-j,7-8
Luke 9:1-6

Thursday September 28

Haggai 1:1-8
Ps 149:1b-6a,9b
Luke 9:7-9

Friday September 29

Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and
Raphael, Archangels
Daniel 7:9-10,13-14 or
Revelation 12:7-12b
Ps 138:1-5
John 1:47-51

Saturday September 30

St. Jerome, Pr, Dr
Zechariah 2:5-9,14-15a
Jeremiah 31:10-12b,13
Luke 9:43b-45

which means being equally loving and kind to all, whether they deserve it or not.

We don't have to understand God's higher ways. We only have to be grateful that God loves us even when we are unloving. No matter how undeserving of his love we might be, he still

God's not fair! How many times have we felt that way? And it's true, at least by our standards. The parable in the Gospel reading is a fine example of this.

The landowner seems to be very unfair. We can begin to understand him, however, if we think of this parable in terms of parenthood. A loving father cares about each of his children equally. Although he gives more attention to the child who needs it more, he loves the others just as much.

God the Father is like a vineyard owner who gives equally to all. Since we cannot earn our way into heaven, equal benefits are not an injustice to those who labored longer. Rather, God gives complete and perfect love even to those who only discovered, at the last minute, the value of having a relationship with him. He can do no less.

The first reading reminds us that as high as the heavens are above the earth, God's ways are greater than our ways and his thoughts are higher than our thoughts. We think that justice (fairness) means equal treatment, but that harkens back to the Old Testament concept of justice: "an eye for an eye". Jesus raised justice to its highest level,



gives us the same amount of love that he gives to the holiest of saints. He loves us as much as he loves Mary the Blessed Mother of Christ! "Am I not free to do as I wish with my own love?" he asks.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † When have you felt undeserving of God's goodness?
- † What evidence proves that he never stopped loving you? What did he do for you?
- † How has your own opinion of yourself interfered with feeling his love?
- † Share the story of a time when you saw something good happen to a "bad" or undeserving person, or a time when you prayed for something that you didn't get while an unfaithful person received it without turning to God for help. Despite the unfairness of this, why are you glad that you have known God's love?
- † Can you also be glad for the blessings that unbelievers receive from God?

HYPOCRISY'S TWO FACES

The subtlety of hypocrisy! How easy it is not to see our own inconsistencies, even as we so clearly see the faults of others. Are we willfully blind, or is it that we just don't see? Is this a moral problem or a visual one? Consider these examples:

In his travels, the eighteenth-century explorer, Captain James Cook, once spent several years in the Polynesian Islands. He learned the native language and was befriended by the people. One day, they took him to witness a human sacrifice. The tribe still practiced a certain animism and would sometimes offer a person as a sacrifice to their gods. Cook, a sophisticated English gentleman, was understandably appalled. He wrote in his diary that he expressed his indignation to the chief, telling him: This is awful! You're a primitive people. *In England we would hang you for that!*

The irony in Cook's reaction shouldn't be missed – and it isn't missed by anthropologists. When we kill someone in God's name, it doesn't matter whether we call it human sacrifice or capital punishment. Either way, we are sacrificing a human life and justifying it in God's name.

A second example comes to us from the writings of Bill Plotkin who once spent time studying various initiation rites which pre-modern tribes use to initiate young boys and young girls at the age of puberty. As we know, puberty can be a dangerous time for a young person. Puberty hits a young person with a certain violence which heats up both the body and the psyche. However, it must be kept in mind that this powerful unsettling force had been designed by God and nature with a definite purpose, namely, to drive you out of your home, to push you towards finding a home for yourself, and to end your childhood so as to enter adulthood. Understandably, powerful energies are needed to accomplish that.

But these energies can be hard to contain and hard to initiate in the direction of adulthood. Indeed, almost all pre-modern cultures had initiation rites to help direct that process. Today most cultures (not least our own) have precious little in terms of explicit initiation rites. What Plotkin found in his study of pre-modern initiation rites is that all of them were very demanding, physically, and emotionally, on the youths undergoing them that sometimes a youth undergoing them died during the process.

Looking at this, Plotkin comments that our modern sensitivities are offended by this seemingly primitive cruelty. We easily become morally indignant and see these practices as backward and cruel. However, he goes on to point out, these tribes actually lose very few young people in the passage from puberty to adulthood – while we, sophisticated modern cultures, lose thousands of young people every year who are trying to self-initiate through drugs, alcohol, sex, cars, gangs, and at-risk behavior.

Aye, as Jesus once said, it's easy to see the splinter in someone else's eye even as we are unaware of the beam in our own eye.

Now I say all this more in sympathy than in judgment because hypocrisy isn't all of a kind. There is a hypocrisy where the blindness is more willful, and there is a hypocrisy where the blindness is more innocent. Thomas Aquinas once distinguished between two kinds of ignorance. For Aquinas, there is *culpable ignorance* and there is *invincible ignorance*, that is, sometimes we don't see because we don't want to see, and sometimes we don't see simply because we can't see.

In *culpable ignorance* we do know better. We refuse to look at something because we don't want to see the truth. Our inability to see is predicated on rationalization and fear, a willful refusal to look lest we see what we don't want to see, some inconvenient truth. In *culpable ignorance*, we don't see the parallel between human sacrifice and capital punishment because we already intuitively sense the connection and we don't want to see it, and so refuse to look.

In *invincible ignorance* we don't know any better. Our shortcomings have to do with the limits of our humanity, our background, and our experience. We aren't afraid to look at reality. We look, but we simply don't see. Like Captain Cook, in all sincerity, we simply don't see the parallel between human sacrifice and capital punishment, and, unlike Bill Plotkin, we can easily judge pre-modern initiation rites as cruel and appalling, even as thousands of our own young people die cruel senseless deaths in trying to find the passage of life from puberty to adulthood.

All of us, liberal or conservative, have blind spots in terms of how we see and assess various social justice issues, be that climate change, poverty, abortion, immigration, refugees, racism, women's equality, or gender issues. Standing before these complex issues, are we willing to look them square in the face, or are we unwilling to really look at them because we already intuit what we might see? Is our blindness, our hypocrisy, culpable or invincible?