



The Parish of Saints Philip and James
1 Carow Place, St. James, NY 11780

631-584-5454

March 24th, 2024
Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord



*“Abba, Father, all things are possible to you.
Take this cup away from me,
but not what I will, but what you will.”*

Mark 14:36

*“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 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, March 10th, 2024:

Collections from Weekend masses: \$9,421.50

Mail Collections: \$1,061.00

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

Total Collection: \$13,856.54

Catholic Relief Services sent to DRVC

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

****MARCH 17TH COLLECTIONS**

UNAVAILABLE AT PRINT DATE**

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 KAIREZ
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
CARL JOSEPHSON-USAF
DANIEL JOSEPHSON-USAF
SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON-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,

Welcome to Holy Week! During this most holy time of year, I again ask each of us to be especially attentive to the many who join us during this time. Our active, warm welcome hopefully bespeaks our recognition that Christ comes among us in one another, prompting us as the second reading so powerfully speaks, to empty ourselves so we may be filled with God's presence

The palm we receive on Palm Sunday connects us with Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem when he was acclaimed as our Savior and greeted with choruses of Hosannas. On Monday the sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at SSPJ from 2-4pm and 6-9pm with a communal penance service at 7pm in the church. I encourage you to consider celebrating this sacrament of healing as one way of preparing to enter more fully into the mysteries of Holy Week.

Lent comes to a close Holy Thursday afternoon as we ready ourselves to enter into "The Triduum", the three days of commemorating and celebrating the Paschal Mystery - the death and resurrection of Jesus. The liturgy of these three days is actually one liturgy, beginning with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, continuing with the celebration of the Passion of Jesus on Good Friday, and culminating with the joy of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening. Let me set the scene for each day.

There are no Masses on the morning of Holy Thursday. Rather we begin with Morning Prayer at 9:15am in the Church. Then, that evening at 7pm we gather for the Mass of the Lord's Supper. As Mass begins, we receive the Sacred Oils blessed by the bishop which will be used in sacramental rituals throughout the year. These oils will be placed in our ambry. During this Mass we commemorate Jesus' call to service through the washing of the feet using the bowl, pitcher and towel located on the shelf, followed by the institution of the gift of Eucharist. This part of the Triduum Liturgy concludes with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, as we are invited to spend some time in silent prayer, reflecting on how we who have received the Body and Blood of Christ are called to be Christ through serving one another.

On Good Friday, we again begin with Morning Prayer at 9:15am in the Church. Then we gather at 3pm to celebrate the Passion of the Lord. We begin in silence, then listen to the Scripture readings. All are then invited to come forward in procession to reverence the Cross. An ancient tradition invites us to remove our shoes as we venerate the one cross. This is followed by a reception of Communion. Since there is no Mass on Good Friday, sufficient hosts were consecrated on Holy Thursday to provide our eucharistic food this day. This part of the Triduum Liturgy again ends in silence.

Holy Saturday, a day of waiting - of vigiling - begins with Morning Prayer at 9:15am in the Church, followed by the blessing of Easter food. At 7pm that evening, the culmination of the Triduum Liturgy begins with the Church in darkness. Outside, a fire is blessed, and the large Paschal Candle is lit from this fire. That light is spread throughout the church as we exult in being saved by Jesus. The Scripture readings of our faith history follow. Then we celebrate the Easter sacraments of our RCIA participants. Mass continues with the celebration of the Eucharist and our Triduum liturgy comes to a joyful close.

We continue to celebrate the joy of Easter for 50 days! To announce this joyful season to all, in the Easter Bulletin will be a graphic of a lamb, representing Jesus, the Lamb of God. Please place this lamb in your window, removing it 50 days later as we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost.

Let's pray with and for one another that Holy Week and the Easter season touches hearts and strengthens us to live our baptismal promises more deeply.

And finally, *Did you hear about the guy who invented the "knock-knock" joke? He won the "no-bell" prize. Where do bad rainbows go? Prism, it's a light sentence.
What does corn say when it gets a compliment? Aw, shucks!
How do astronomers find asteroids headed toward earth? With a collide-o-scope.*

Peace,

Father Tom

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

Mass Intentions, For the week of March 24th, 2024

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

WILL NOT BE HELD ON
MONDAY, MARCH 25TH, 2024

RECONCILIATION MONDAY



We Pray for those who are ill...

Alan Piscak
Andy
Anna Capizzio
Anna Maria
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
Benito Fernandez
Betty DiSimone
Bob DelCiello
Rob Remhild
Carol
Carolyn Nehl
Cathleen Henchey
Chase Addonisio
Christella Stewart
David Beleck
David McCue
Deirdre W.
Diane LaPorte
Donna Patrissi
Dorothy Mitchell
Ed Ceraso
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
Jakob King
Jamie Accardi
Jean Saladino
Jenny Bonanno
Jerry
Jessie Lokai
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
Karl Walz
Kitty Cronin
Kristin Galetta
Lauretta Prague
Laura Bode
Leon Donach
Lola Santangelo
Lori Cearney
Marjorie Fox
Mary Monte
Margaret Remhild
Mark Hildreth
Mark Wagner
Mary Ryan
Marie Fecco
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
Ricardo Buffit
Rob Remhild & Family
Riordan Cavooris
Rogelio Martinez
Ronnie Paciella
Rose
Ryan Duffy
Sara Jean Andersen
Stanley Stura
Stephen Dolce
Susanne Smith
Tonia Perdue
Tara Cesarski
Teresa Matterna
Tina Cafaro
Tiffany Lochan
Thomas Liffrieri
Tom Ryan
Tom Focone
Vivien & John
Cordes
Wayne Smith Sr.

Saturday March 23rd Cantor: McCulloh	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Cullen/Merlino EM: Rapp/Damato/Sisti/Byrne/ Toto	9:15am 5:00pm	Barbara McDermott Benedetta Caltabiano
Sunday March 24th Cantor: . Meringolo	Presider: Father Joe Lector: Koke/Marino EM: Czujko/Kenney/Koke/ LaSerra/P. Tully	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Meringolo	Presider: Father Tom Lector: Cafaro/Piliero EM: Mulhall/Kenney/Koke/ LaSerra/Amen	10:00am	Albert Ales
Cantor: Lohmann	Collective Mass Presider: Father Tom Lector: Geier/Franco EM: Consenz/Chilton/ Rubano/Latino	12:00pm	Eugene Ingenito Maximo Collado Patrick Wilson
Monday March 25th		7:30am 9:15am	Living~Sgt. Joshua Mahoney USArmy Agnes Dunn
Tuesday March 26th		7:30am 9:15am	Living~Jennifer & Susan Wendel Louise Kelly
Wednesday March 27th		7:30am 9:15am	Living~Kevin Jones USCG Florence Dunn
Thursday March 28th		9:15am 7:00pm	<u>Morning Prayer</u> <u>Collective Mass:</u> Mass of the Lords Supper
Friday March 29th		9:15am 7:00pm	Morning Prayer Passion Liturgy
Saturday March 30th Cantor: Lupinacci	Presider: Father Tom Lector: EM:	9:15am 9:30am 7:00pm	Morning Prayer Blessing of Easter Bread Vigil mass
Sunday March 31st Cantor: Lohman	Presider: Father Tom Lector: EM:	8:00am	For the People of SSPJ Parish
Cantor: Hill	Presider: Father Joe Lector: EM:	10:00am	Easter Novena
Cantor: Feeny	Collective Mass Presider: Father Joe Lector: EM:	12:00pm	Easter Novena

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY
COMMUNION ASSISTANCE NEEDED**

Thank you for sharing in this ministry.

If you are able to share your hands in service during our Holy Week and Easter masses, kindly sign up in the Prayer Room.

The sign up sheet is in the cabinet on the wall in the Prayer Room

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. The pandemic hit particularly hard the Christians in the Holy Land. Most of them depend on pilgrimages to work. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is also necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land where the Church was born. When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS! For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday



**The 2025 MASS BOOK WILL BE
AVAILABLE
ON MONDAY, APRIL 8TH
AT THE PARISH CENTER OFFICE**

MUSIC MINISTRY

Palm Sunday

The start of Holy Week is upon us. Holy Week is filled with special music. All music is chosen to reflect the themes of all the Masses and prayer services. The choirs have been working hard through Lent to prepare these songs.

How wonderful music is that we can express our feelings through sung prayer.

We remember and make the story our own. Christ suffering and death. Darkness into light. Imagine what it must have been like the first Good Friday if you "were there".



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

"Am I aware of the immense gift that I carry in me through baptism? Do I recognize in my life the light of God's presence, who sees me as his beloved child, as his beloved daughter? Let us welcome God's presence within us. We can do this with the sign of the cross, which traces in us the memory of the grace of God, who loves us and desires to be with us. The sign of the cross reminds us of this. Let us make it together: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
Pope Francis

JOURNEY HOLY WEEK ...

MONDAY	March 25th	RECONCILIATION MONDAY	CONFESSIONS HEARD 2PM-4PM AND 6PM-9PM COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION 7PM IN THE CHURCH
THURSDAY	March 28th	HOLY THURSDAY	9:15AM 7:00PM MORNING PRAYERS MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
FRIDAY	March 29th	GOOD FRIDAY	9:15AM 3:00PM MORNING PRAYERS PASSION LITURGY
SATURDAY	March 30th	HOLY SATURDAY	9:15AM MORNING PRAYERS
	9:30AM	BLESSING OF EASTER BREAD	7:00PM VIGIL MASS
SUNDAY	March 31st	EASTER SUNDAY	8AM MASS 10AM MASS 12PM MASS

A Traditional Polish Easter Basket



Maslo (Butter) - This dairy product is often shaped into a lamb (Baranek Wielkanocny) or a cross. This reminds us of the good will of Christ that we should have towards all things.

Babka (Easter Bread) - A round or long loaf topped with a cross or a fish, symbolic of Jesus, who is the Bread of Life.

Chrzan (Horseradish) - Symbolic of the Passion of Christ still in our minds.

Jajka (Eggs) and Pisanki (decorated with symbols of Easter, of life, of prosperity) - Indicates new life and Christ's Resurrection from the tomb.

Kielbasa (Sausage) - A sausage product, symbolic of God's favor and generosity.

Szynka (Ham) - Symbolic of great joy and abundance. Some prefer lamb or veal. The lamb also reminds Christians that the Risen Christ is the "Lamb of God."

Slonina (Smoked Bacon) - A symbol of the overabundance of God's mercy and generosity.

Sól (Salt) - A necessary element in our physical life. Symbolic of prosperity and justice and to remind us that people are the flavor of the earth.

Ser (Cheese) - Symbolic of the moderation Christians should have at all times.

Candle - Represents Christ as the Light of the World.

Colorful Ribbons and Sprigs of Greenery - are attached to the basket as signs of joy and new life in the season of spring and in celebration of the Resurrection.

**BLESSING
OF
THE
EASTER
BREAD**

**SATURDAY
MARCH
30TH**

**AT 9:30AM
IN
THE
CHURCH**



Preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

RECONCILIATION MONDAY: March 25th, 2024

CONFESSIONS: 2-4PM and 6-9pm~
COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE 7:00PM

An Examination of Conscience

An examination of conscience is not a test. It is a tool. This tool is one way of helping us to reflect on how we have been living our lives as disciples of Jesus. These tools are usually a series of questions designed to help us to look at how well we've been loving as God loves. Sometimes we may find strengths in ourselves. Sometimes we may find weaknesses. Sometimes we may find times when the choices we've made or chose not to make have been sinful, have caused hurt to our relationship with God, with others, and with ourselves.

The following sample examination of conscience is based on a Scripture quote from the book of Micah.

"This is what the Lord asks of you, only this:

to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

We are asked to walk humbly with God.

Do I speak to God every day in prayer? Do I listen to God speaking to me through the Bible? through Mass and Communion? through other people?

Do I see my life, my time, my talents and abilities as gifts from God? Have I tried to develop my talents and abilities through work, study, and play?

Do I share what God has given me with others in my family? my parish? my community? my world?

Do I thank God for the people and the laughter in my life? Do I ask God to guide me, helping me to make good and loving choices in all I do?

For any times I have not walked humbly with you, Lord, have mercy.

God asks us to act justly.

Do I treat the people in my life fairly? Do I share what I have with those around me? with the poor of the world?

Do I treat people of all faiths, races and backgrounds with respect?

Am I faithful and honest in my work?

Have I hurt others by lying or gossiping or judging?

Do I treat God's gifts of nature with respect?

Do I try in whatever ways I can to help bring justice in my community and my world for all people?

For any times I have not acted justly,

God asks us to love tenderly.

Do I act in loving ways toward my family? my friends?

Do I show compassion for those who are hurting?

Do I try to help those who are ill or who are troubled?

When someone has hurt me and seeks forgiveness, do I

forgive? Do I hold on to hurts or grudges? Do I seek revenge?

Do I treasure and respect the gift of sexuality - my own and others?

How do I act toward or think about people who are different from me?

For any times I have not loved tenderly,

Lord, have mercy.

Time for more prayer -

Remember...just seven quiet minutes in prayer...

After taking time to consider these questions, ask God to guide you to whatever areas may need the most attention. Perhaps you found some questions difficult, or perhaps you were drawn to spend more time thinking about one of the areas mentioned. Perhaps you have concerns or questions. These might be good areas to bring to confession.

"Holy Spirit, help me to speak words of truth and humility and love as I confess my sins."

CMA 2024 TOGETHER WE CAN REACH IT!!

**TOTALS RECEIVED AS OF
MARCH 19TH, 2024**

GOAL: \$102,000

PLEDGES: \$36,645. PAYMENTS: \$20,475.



"By being with Jesus, we discover that his pastoral heart always beats for the person who is confused, lost, far away,"

- Pope Francis

Your donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal helps Catholic Charities and Parish Outreach provide love, care, and spiritual nourishment to those in need.

When Amanda's mom passed away in 2019, her mom's ex-husband left, leaving her three stepsisters alone with the threat that they would be put in foster care. Without any hesitation she took the children in to care for them. *"It's been a hard battle. We were homeless and in bad situations, but I know that God will not give you something you can't handle. You must keep the faith and push forward. With the help of the Parish Social Ministry program at St. John the Evangelist, Center Moriches, I was able to get through this hardship. In addition to food, the PSM has helped me to renew my lapsed insurance license and assisted in paying bills. If I need to talk to anyone, I can call or email to make an appointment. They have been there for me through everything. I really appreciate all they do for me and for everyone else. It is a blessing. They are angels on earth."*

- Amanda, Client of St. John the Evangelist's Parish Outreach



The Director of the Parish Outreach, Katie Spellman, shared how her work allows her to grow in her faith. *"Working in Parish Social Ministry has taken my faith outside of the Church. It's an opportunity for me to dig deeper into faith and think of the humble servant. It's a gift for me to work here - it feeds my soul."*

Please make check payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Name: _____ Parish: _____

Address: _____

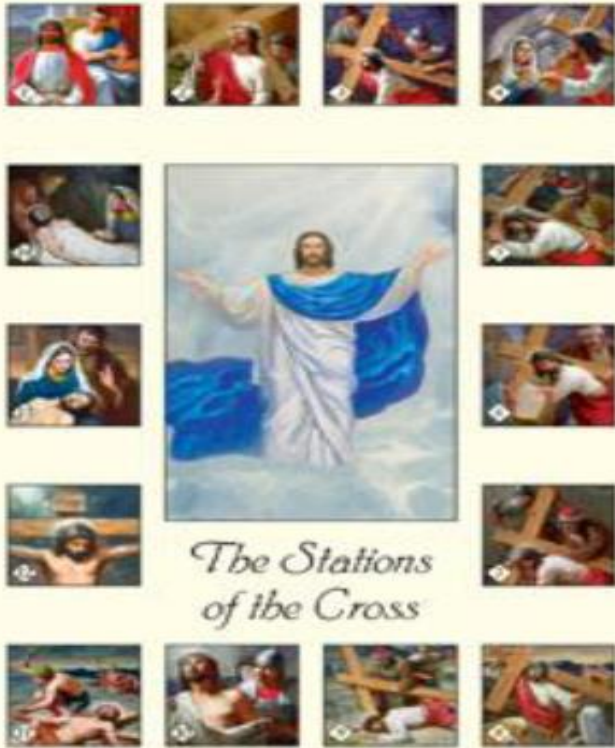
City, State and Zip Code: _____

Telephone number: Home _____ Cell: _____

Signature: _____

To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/> or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

THANK YOU



*The Stations
of the Cross*

Join us every Friday Evening

In the church

at 7:00 pm during Lent

as together we journey the Stations of the Cross focusing each week on hope and healing that unites Christ journey to the cross through prayer with our lives today.

*Praying as Witnessed by the Crowd
Friday March 29th*

*Prayers of the Resurrection
Friday April 5th*

Stations of the Cross Through the Eyes of Laudato Si



ELEVENTH STATION: Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Each nail that is pounded into the hands and feet of Jesus desecrates His body. Humanity pounds nails into the Earth: nails of corporate greed and nails of environmental destruction. We defile God's creation every time we drill into the earth for oil, gas, or minerals. We create arid desert lands when we cut forests and deplete the underground aquifers.

"The external deserts in the world are growing because the internal deserts [in us] have become so vast. For this reason, the ecological crisis is...a summons to profound interior conversion...Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or secondary aspect of our Christian experience." (LS 217)

TWELFTH STATION: Jesus Dies on the Cross

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an Eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit"; and when he had said this, he breathed his last.

Because of our disregard for God's creation, we witness death around us as we fail to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor as they breathe their last. With every climate catastrophe, there comes death: death of people who drown in floods, of people who die because their crops have failed, or who succumb to heat exhaustion. Climate change itself is already causing the extinction of many plants and animals. "Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us." (LS 33) Humanity itself may be headed down a path towards its own extinction as we approach the environmental tipping points from which there is no return. Because it is so overwhelming, we shut out the news of the ongoing dying of your Creation.

PLEASE KEEP OUR RCIA CANDIDATES IN YOUR PRAYERS

GOD BLESS

***MARIANNA
AVELLAN***



GOD BLESS

***KRISTINA
QUADRINO***



RCIA Prayer

Lord, we pray for those in the RCIA
process who journey to you.

Strengthen their faith.

Open their hearts to the fullness of your
love.

Deepen their understanding.

Set their hearts on fire for the
kingdom of God.

We ask this through Jesus, who is the
Way, the Truth, and the Life for all.

Amen.

GOD BLESS

***CHRISTI
GALLINA***



GOD BLESS

***NICK
HOFFMANN***



MEET THE GREAT SCIENTIST'S AT SSPJ SCHOOL!

Ms. Skoblicki's 5th and 6th grade students did an outstanding job presenting their science projects at the 2024 SSPJ Science Fair.

We are so proud of their creative and amazing work. A special thanks to all of the families for their support!



SSPJ students enjoyed visiting the Science Fair and learning all about the scientific method!





RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ALL GRADES WILL NOT BE HELD DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 24TH, 2024

CLASSES WILL RESUME DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 31ST, 2024

WISHING ALL OF OUR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES A BLESSED HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CELEBRATION!



SSPJ Spring Plant Sale

Orders Due By: April 10, 2024

10" HANGING BASKETS: \$ 20

Begonia: Miss Montreal (White/Ivory) _____ Miss Miami (Orange/Red) _____

f'Conia Portofino (Hot Orange) _____ Portofino (Yellow) _____ Boston fern: _____

Fuchsia: _____ Ivy Geranium: Red (Calliope) _____ Pink (Calliope) _____

New Guinea:

Red _____ White _____ Pink/Light Rose _____ Lavender _____ Salmon (Dark Leaf) _____

Wave Petunia:

Pink _____ White _____ Blue _____ Mix _____ Magenta (purple wave) _____

10" COMBO BASKETS \$22

Kombo Pink Limeade (yellow/rose star / lime green) _____

Kombo Curb Appeal (Yellow / White / Blue) _____

Kombo Mom's Chosen One (Purple / Gold / Rosey Pink) _____

12" Combo Baskets (Large & Beautiful Mix Garden) \$33 _____

6" Pots-\$10

New Guinea Impatiens:

Red _____ White _____ Pink/Light Rose _____ Lavender _____ Orange Flame Sun Standing _____

Perennials 8" Pot \$13

Astilbe (Deer Resistant/Shade/part sun/Attracts Butterflies)

Peach Blossom _____ Montgomery Red _____

Lavandula: (Full Sun/Deer/Rabbit Resistant/Attracts Butterflies) \$13 _____

10" Square Planter filled with a beautiful mix of annuals \$15 _____

(Great centerpiece for Bistro table or Picnic table)

Culinary Herb Garden 12" Oval pot (great for kitchen) \$16 _____

10" Round Simply Salad Mix (Red/Green Lettuce) \$ 11 _____

VEGETABLE SIX PACKS- \$13

2 Basil/ 2 Parsley/ 2 Roma Tomato (sauce in a six pack) _____

2 Large Tomato/2 Cherry Tomato/2 Plum (roma) Tomato _____

6 Cucumber _____ 6 Green Beans _____

6 Zucchini _____ 6 Bell Peppers _____

6 Eggplant _____

- All orders must be in no later than April 10, 2024
- Orders received after APRIL 10th cannot be guaranteed.
- All orders must be paid for in full at time of order. Checks can be made out to SSPJ School.
- Orders must be picked up at SSPJ School on Friday, May 3rd between 3:30-5pm (after the buses leave)
- SSPJ is not responsible for any orders not picked up.
- Please contact Nicole Butera at 631-624-2271 or Gladis Cortazar at 631-566-7255 with any questions.

SSPJ Guild Spring Plant Sale

Orders Due by: April 10, 2024

Orders received after 4/10 cannot be guaranteed.

Family Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Total: _____

Cash/Check # _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SSPJ SCHOOL.

A REFLECTION FROM SISTER T...

Dear Friends,

Well here we are with Palm Sunday staring us in the face. When I think of Lent, Holy week I truly believe that it speaks to us of being able to Be Patient and Persevere. I find those two words very challenging yet very necessary in order to grow in our spiritual lives.

With that I share with you some of the questions that arise as we come to the second to last 'Be Attitude' of Pope Francis,

Be Patient and Persevere

Am I willing to wait for things to happen in God's time? Or do I need to see immediate response to my prayers, the way my life is going and the world in general? How patient am I?

.. Do I believe that God has **Great** plans for me? Plans for the good? Do I believe that is really true for me or do I need to have control of my life? Do I believe that challenging times can lead to some fruitful ones. Look at the life of Jesus.

.. Am I willing to allow God, the Holy Spirit, to work through me? What is my trust level regarding God's plan for me? Do I have everything figured out? What happens when things turn out different than I wanted or expected?

In difficult times am I able to **Wait** and **Listen** for God's word? Perhaps we may be able to persevere but for most of us being patient during that time can be difficult. How patient are you?

As we get ready to enter Holy Week focus on the life of Jesus and your own life, reflecting on that model of Patience and Perseverance, He is for us.

Till next week,
Sister Theresita



Please open your hearts to these beautiful ministries;

The Lector Ministry and the ministry of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

If you are feeling a calling to either, kindly write a note to Father Tom describing your desire to share your time and gifts .

Kindly send your letter to Father Tom by April 10th, 2024

Liturgical Minister Training- Spring 2024

The Diocese of Rockville Center will offer training in Spanish and English for those who wish to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Lectors. No walk-ins permitted, all participants must be registered in advance with a letter from their pastor.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion: Part A - This training is required for all those who are beginning as Ministers. This "BASIC" training is required for all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who wish to minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to the homebound are required to attend Part B training in addition to BASIC training. One must attend Part A training prior to Part B training. A **Lector Workshop** is available for both new and experienced lectors.

Dates and Locations for Liturgical Minister Training

Training in SPANISH:

- **Lector Workshop:** Sat., April 20 – Our Lady of Loretto / Hempstead – Divine Mercy Chapel 9:00 – 1:00 pm
- **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Part A:**
Sat., April 27 - Our Lady of Loretto/ Hempstead – Divine Mercy Chapel 9:00 – 1:00 pm

Training in ENGLISH:

- **Lector Workshop and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion – Part A:**
Tuesday, April 16 - St. Elizabeth / Melville - Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm - 10 pm
Sat., April 27 – Immaculate Conception/Westhampton Beach - Parish Hall; 9 am – 12:00
Tuesday, May 21 – St. Christopher/Baldwin – McGoldrick Hall; 7 pm – 10 pm
You may register for EITHER Lector OR Extraordinary Minister training at each session.
Doors open 30 minutes before the training start time.
- **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Part B – presented in conjunction with Catholic Health**
Sat., April 27* – Immaculate Conception/Westhampton Beach - Parish Hall; 1 – 4 pm
Tuesday, May 14 - St. Elizabeth / Melville - Msgr. Kane Hall; 7 pm - 10 pm
Tuesday, June 4 - St. Christopher/Baldwin – McGoldrick Hall; 7 pm – 10 pm

*On April 27, we are offering Part A and Part B on the SAME day. Those who attend Part A in the morning are welcome to bring lunch or leave for lunch and return for the 1 pm Part B session. Please indicate if you are doing BOTH on your registration letter from your pastor. This will be in English only.

A letter from your pastor will be required to reserve your space at any of these trainings and must be received at least five days prior to the session you wish to attend. To request registration for any of these sessions, please contact your rectory. Do not call the host parishes with questions. For questions relating to the Spanish training, call Ingrid Oliva at 516-678-5800, ext. 560. For questions regarding the English training, call Suzanne Lynn at 516-744-6850. Thank you for your interest.

Parish Social Ministry

Our Food Pantry Needs:
CANNED CHICKEN
PREGO SAUCE
Thank you so very much!



We remember the family and friends of,

Anna M. Capissio
Mary Anne Grace

Safely Home in the arms of our Lord



O Creator God teach us to see Your footprints in the beauty of Creation. Inspire us to care for the earth, to respect the rights of all people and all living species, to share in your gifts today, and to be always mindful of those who come after us.



“So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!’” (John 12:13 ESV)

THE RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

***Invites all to join in Our Lady's rosary @
8 AM***

***Mon. thru Fri. in the prayer room as we
pray the***

***Holy Rosary petitioning Mary to
comfort all
mothers who mourn the loss of their
children.***

***Who better to turn to than our Blessed
Mother
who knew the loss of her son Jesus?***

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



Katie's Way

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**

Our Family Prayer Intention~ April, 2024

Your prayers will be offered to Jesus during all masses this month.

Look for them beside the Tabernacle

Please offer your intention at mass next weekend;

Palm Sunday March 24th, 2024

We as a Parish Family will be holding you in our prayers

FAMILY/STUDENT NAMES	STUDENT GRADE LEVEL/SSPJ SCHOOL

Dear Jesus,

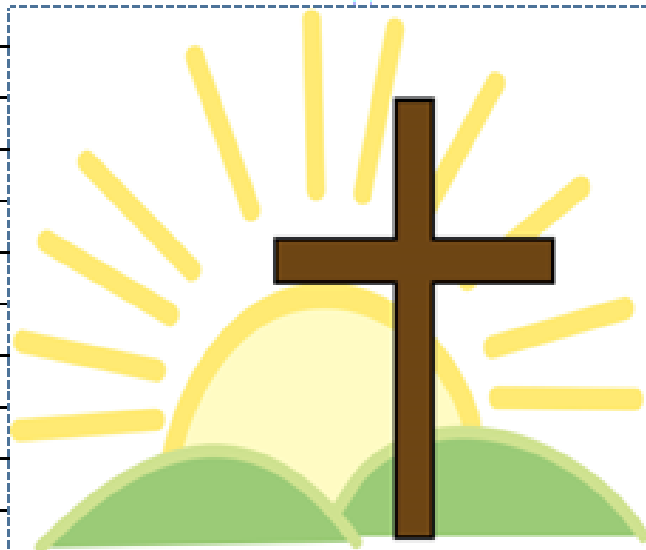
We thank you for all the blessings we have received by your grace and love. We pray that you will continually remind us that we are never alone, and that you are always by our side.

Jesus, we offer you our hearts, our needs, our intentions, knowing that you hear us. Let your will be done.

Amen

Who do you know that might need some special love, some kindness, or a smile to cheer them?

Together as a family we offer them in our prayers...



*Reflecting and Preparing for Next Sunday, March 31st, 2024
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*

Good News
INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31
Acts 10:34a,37-43
Ps 118:1-2,16-17,22-23
Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8
Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

Monday, April 1
Acts 2:14,22-33
Ps 16:1-2a,5,7-11
Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday, April 2
Acts 2:36-41
Ps 33:4-5,18-20,22
Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday, April 3
Acts 3:1-10
Ps 105:1-4,6-9
Lk 24:13-35

Thursday, April 4
Acts 3:11-26
Ps 8:2ab,5-9
Lk 24:35-48

Friday, April 5
Acts 4:1-12
Ps 118:1-2,4,22-27a
Jn 21:1-14

Saturday, April 6
Acts 4:13-21
Ps 118:1,14-15b,16-21
Mk 16:9-15

Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John accompanied Jesus on his final mission and were key witnesses to his inspirational teachings, astonishing miracles, traumatic suffering, and excruciating death on the cross. They were three of Jesus' most intimate friends and, besides his mother, they seemed to know him the best.

We see in Scripture how Jesus tried to prepare those he loved for what was going to happen. Still, on that Easter morning when first confronted with the empty tomb, their human weakness and broken hearts gave way to sadness, suspicion, and fear. It would take them a little while before they would fully understand that Jesus had to rise from the dead through the saving power of God and then Scripture would be fulfilled.

When we love Jesus with all our hearts and are sincerely trying to follow him, we must trust him and the Holy Spirit to help us be patient and guide our understanding of things we

don't quite understand so we can stay in line with God's holy will for our lives.

Is life giving you challenges? Are people in your life disappointing you or has grief, pain, illness, or other misfortune come your way somehow? Everyone has crosses we must bear at different seasons of our lives, and we are called to carry them with faith and trust even when we don't understand everything just yet.



We are also called to love others and share our faith with them as well. Sometimes it is our very crosses that connect us to the people to whom we are being

led to share the Gospel of Christ! By holding intimately close to Jesus and trusting him, just as his closest disciples did in today's Gospel, we show what it means to be "Easter people." We know that God will turn our hurts and sacrifices into something beautiful in time and we, too, will rise.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How can you share the love of Christ by helping someone you know carry their cross?
- † What can you do to allow Christ to carry more of the load of your cross? Can you recognize when Christ is working through others to help carry your cross?
- † When something bad in your life turned out good, how did this affect your faith in God? How have you experienced a time when you saw and believed as the disciple John did?
- † Think about a time when you prayed, and things did not go as you wanted. As God always brings something good out of bad for those who believe and have faith, what good things did you discover?

Spiritual Reflection by Ron Rolheiser, OMI ~Recommending a New Book

I recently finished reading John Mark Comer's new book *Practicing the Way – Be with Jesus; Become like him; Do as he did*. By way of a recommendation, I offer a series of sound bytes from the book which I hope will give you a nice taste of both the language and substance of the book.

- Grace is not opposed to effort; it is opposed to earning. Sadly, this tragic misunderstanding tends to produce consumers of Jesus' merit rather than disciples of Jesus' way.
- Without God, we cannot; without us, God will not. And, as Thomas Keating says, the chief act of the will is not effort but consent.
- The great enemy of the spiritual life is hurry. We must eliminate hurry from our lives. Most of us are just too busy to live emotionally healthy and spiritually vibrant lives. (In an attempt to slow down, Comer twice quit his job. His only regret is that he didn't do it sooner.)
- Salvation is a communal experience. *Jesus called disciples, not a disciple*. Living in community is not easy but worth it. We can all tell horror stories of living in community when things go terribly wrong but when it goes right, it's a glimpse of eternity.
- What do you want as the substance of your eulogy at your funeral?
- Are you growing in love not just for your friends and family but also for your enemies? When you are hurt, wounded, and treated unjustly (as we all are), are you finding yourself increasingly able to emotionally release the bitterness, to absorb the pain and not give back in kind? Can you pray for and even bless those who curse you?
- The genius of Jesus' ethical teaching was that you cannot keep the law by trying not to break the law. Don't weigh a possible behavior with 'Is this sinful or not?' but rather with the question, 'does this move me toward Jesus or away?'
- On healing: only one thing is required, open your pain to God. The beginning of salvation is to honestly face your own weaknesses. The more we hide, the less we heal. Not everything that is faced can be changed; but nothing can be changed until it is faced. Generally, we sin alone, but we heal together.
- Why do you struggle? Because Jesus may be in your heart, but grandpa is in your bones! When the devil came to Adam and Eve in the garden, he didn't come with a stick, he came with an idea. Pay attention to your jealousy. Push back on the forces that deform you.
- Our generation is witnessing a cosmic shift in human history, the shift from the industrial revolution to the digital world. The digital age has us more connected than ever before. But sociologists tell us that we are the loneliest generation ever. Could the way forward be as simple as meeting people in the place of pain? Regarding the use of electronic media: Choose your own constraints or they will be chosen for you.
- Our great cultural illusion is that our growth can be: *Easy, Fast, and Controllable*.
- In fasting you are literally praying with your body.
- You can't think your way to Christlikeness.
- You cannot apprentice under Jesus and not have it interfere with your life. To follow Jesus requires that you leave something behind. For Peter it was fishing nets. What is it for you? Following Jesus will cost you, but not following him will cost you more, that is, it will cost you happiness and peace. Quoting missionary/martyr, Jim Eliot: "He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose."
- Most people think they will grow to be more like Jesus through *trying* hard rather than through *training* hard when the exact opposite is true. *You don't run a marathon by trying hard, you do it through training*. Training, not trying, is the secret to becoming more like Jesus. What do monks do in a monastery? They fall and get up again, fall and get up again.
- There are four levels to prayer: Talking to God, talking with God, listening to God, being with God.
- If you want more of God, give him away.
- We cannot die on every cross, nor are we expected to.
- Quoting Isaac the Syrian: "Speech is the organ of the present world. Silence is the mystery of the world to come."
 - His nine rules of life for practicing the Way:
- Practice Sabbath in a culture of hurry and exhaustion.
- Practice solitude in a culture of anxiety and noise.
- Practice prayer in a culture of distraction and escapism.
- Practice community in a culture of individuality and superficiality.
- Practice scripture in a culture of ideological infection and compromise.
- Practice fasting in a culture of indulgence.
- Practice generosity in a culture of consumerism.
- Practice service in a culture of injustice and division.
- Practice hospitality in a culture of hostility.
-